



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

February 29, 2024

CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBILITY  
AND ETHICS IN WASHINGTON  
C/O NIKHEL SUS  
SUITE 900  
1331 F STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

FOIPA Request Nos.: 1486993 & 1492270  
Civil Action No.: 21-cv-572  
Subject: Records Relating to January 6, 2021  
Demonstrations in Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Sus:

The FBI reviewed records subject to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA), Title 5, United States Code, Sections 552/552a, that are responsive to your requests. Below you will find checked boxes under applicable statutes for the exemptions asserted to protect information exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the processed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely pursuant to applicable exemptions. An Explanation of Exemptions is enclosed to further explain justification for withheld information.

Section 552

☐ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(2)

☒ (b)(3)

Fed. R. Crim. Pro. 6(e)

☐ (b)(4)

☐ (b)(5)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☒ (b)(7)(D)

☒ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (b)(9)

Section 552a

☐ (d)(5)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

500 pages were reviewed and 128 pages are being released.

Please see the paragraphs below for relevant information specific to your request and the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for standard responses applicable to all requests.

In response to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) requests, enclosed is a processed copy of Bates-stamped pages, FBI (21-cv-572)-12736 through FBI (21-cv-572)-13235. The enclosed records represent the twenty-seventh interim release of information responsive to your requests.

Records were located which originated with, or contain information concerning, other government agencies. We are consulting with the other agencies and are awaiting their response. The FBI will correspond with you regarding those records when the consultation is completed.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. **"Part 1"** of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. **"Part 2"** includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. **"Part 3"** includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Although your request is in litigation, we are required by law to provide you the following information:

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by emailing the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison at [foipaquestions@fbi.gov](mailto:foipaquestions@fbi.gov). The subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Please direct any further inquiries about this case to the Attorney representing the Government in this matter. Please use the FOIPA Request Number and/or Civil Action Number in all correspondence or inquiries concerning your request.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel  
Section Chief  
Record/Information  
Dissemination Section  
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

## FBI FOIPA Addendum

As referenced in our letter responding to your Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request, the FBI FOIPA Addendum provides information applicable to your request. Part 1 of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. Part 2 includes standard responses that apply to requests for records about individuals to the extent your request seeks the listed information. Part 3 includes general information about FBI records, searches, and programs.

### Part 1: The standard responses below apply to all requests:

- (i) **5 U.S.C. § 552(c).** Congress excluded three categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIPA [5 U.S.C. § 552(c)]. FBI responses are limited to those records subject to the requirements of the FOIPA. Additional information about the FBI and the FOIPA can be found on the [www.fbi.gov/foia](http://www.fbi.gov/foia) website.
- (ii) **Intelligence Records.** To the extent your request seeks records of intelligence sources, methods, or activities, the FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3), and as applicable to requests for records about individuals, PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(1), (b)(3), and (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records is itself a classified fact protected by FOIA exemption (b)(1) and/or would reveal intelligence sources, methods, or activities protected by exemption (b)(3) [50 USC § 3024(i)(1)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that any such records do or do not exist.

### Part 2: The standard responses below apply to all requests for records on individuals:

- (i) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Watch Lists.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of any individual's name on a watch list pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(7)(E), (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that watch list records do or do not exist.
- (ii) **Requests for Records about any Individual—Witness Security Program Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of records which could identify any participant in the Witness Security Program pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(3) and PA exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552/552a (b)(3), 18 U.S.C. 3521, and (j)(2)]. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.
- (iii) **Requests for Confidential Informant Records.** The FBI can neither confirm nor deny the existence of confidential informant records pursuant to FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F) [5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(7)(D), (b)(7)(E), and (b)(7)(F)] and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552a (j)(2)]. The mere acknowledgment of the existence or nonexistence of such records would reveal confidential informant identities and information, expose law enforcement techniques, and endanger the life or physical safety of individuals. This is a standard response and should not be read to indicate that such records do or do not exist.

### Part 3: General Information:

- (i) **Record Searches and Standard Search Policy.** The Record/Information Dissemination Section (RIDS) searches for reasonably described records by searching systems, such as the Central Records System (CRS), or locations where responsive records would reasonably be found. The CRS is an extensive system of records consisting of applicant, investigative, intelligence, personnel, administrative, and general files compiled by the FBI per its law enforcement, intelligence, and administrative functions. The CRS spans the entire FBI organization, comprising records of FBI Headquarters, FBI Field Offices, and FBI Legal Attaché Offices (Legats) worldwide; Electronic Surveillance (ELSUR) records are included in the CRS. The standard search policy is a search for main entity records in the CRS. Unless specifically requested, a standard search does not include a search for reference entity records, administrative records of previous FOIPA requests, or civil litigation files.
  - a. *Main Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are the subjects or the focus of an investigation
  - b. *Reference Entity Records* – created for individuals or non-individuals who are associated with a case but are not known subjects or the focus of an investigation
- (ii) **FBI Records.** Founded in 1908, the FBI carries out a dual law enforcement and national security mission. As part of this dual mission, the FBI creates and maintains records on various subjects; however, the FBI does not maintain records on every person, subject, or entity.
- (iii) **Foreseeable Harm Standard.** As amended in 2016, the Freedom of Information Act provides that a federal agency may withhold responsive records only if: (1) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by one of the nine exemptions that FOIA enumerates, or (2) disclosure is prohibited by law (5 United States Code, Section 552(a)(8)(A)(i)). The FBI considers this foreseeable harm standard in the processing of its requests.
- (iv) **Requests for Criminal History Records or Rap Sheets.** The Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division provides Identity History Summary Checks – often referred to as a criminal history record or rap sheet. These criminal history records are not the same as material in an investigative “FBI file.” An Identity History Summary Check is a listing of information taken from fingerprint cards and documents submitted to the FBI in connection with arrests, federal employment, naturalization, or military service. For a fee, individuals can request a copy of their Identity History Summary Check. Forms and directions can be accessed at [www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks](http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks). Additionally, requests can be submitted electronically at [www.edo.cjis.gov](http://www.edo.cjis.gov). For additional information, please contact CJIS directly at (304) 625-5590.

## **EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS**

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information ( A ) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, ( B ) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, ( C ) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, ( D ) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, ( E ) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or ( F ) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

### **SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 21-cv-572

Total Deleted Page(s) = 45

Page 33 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 34 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 72 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 73 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 76 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 77 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 78 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 80 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 81 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 82 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 83 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 85 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 86 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 87 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 88 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 90 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 91 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 92 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 93 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 94 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 95 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 99 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 100 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 101 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 102 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 106 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 107 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 126 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 127 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 128 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 129 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 130 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 131 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 132 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 133 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 134 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 135 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 136 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 137 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 138 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 139 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 140 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 141 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 142 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 144 ~ Duplicate;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X Deleted Page(s) X  
X No Duplication Fee X  
X For this Page X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Monday, January 04, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 4, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-05:00)  
**Attached:** FBIDirBriefing210104.doc

b7E -3

This morning's Director's AM News Briefing is attached.

**Full-text Links:** Clicking the hypertext links in our write-ups will take you to the newspapers' original full-text articles.

**Interactive Table of Contents:** Clicking a page number on the table of contents page will take you directly to that story.

**Contractual Obligations and Copyright:** This copyrighted material is for the internal use of FBI employees only and, by contract, may not be redistributed without Bulletin Intelligence's express written consent.

**Contact Information:** Please contact us any time at 703-483-6100 or [REDACTED]  
Use of this email address will automatically result in your message being delivered to everyone involved with your service, including senior management. Thank you.

b7E -3

## **FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS – DIRECTOR’S AM NEWS BRIEFING**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021 5:00 AM EST**

**FBI Seeking Materials Nashville Bomber Mailed Prior To Explosion.** USA Today (1/3, Stephenson, Bacon, 12.7M) reports that in the days before Anthony Warner detonated a bomb in Nashville on Christmas morning, he sent packages that “espoused his viewpoints” to people around the country, which the FBI is investigating. FBI Special Agent Jason Pack said in a statement, “We’re aware the suspect sent materials which espoused his viewpoints to several acquaintances throughout the country” and encouraged anyone who received a package or material from Warner to contact the FBI.

Reuters (1/3) reports that a man who knew Warner received a package, without a return address, postmarked two days before the blast. The package contained “at least nine typed pages and two thumb drives,” which he turned over to the FBI. The letter “referenced various conspiracy theories, including that aliens have launched attacks on earth.” Reuters adds, “Warner’s writings also indicate he believed reptilians and lizard people controlled the earth and had altered human DNA.”

On NBC Nightly News (1/3, story 5, 2:00, Snow, 3.32M), Sarah Harman cited “a law enforcement source close to the investigation” who said that “they’re aware of a thumb drive and written pages from the bomber. The FBI now asking anyone who received them to come forward.” Harman added, “Investigators are exploring several conspiracy theories as potential motives behind the bombing outside an AT&T building, including evidence the bomber believed in lizard people and a so-called reptilian conspiracy theory, two senior law enforcement officials told NBC News last week.”

Additional coverage includes the Tennessean (1/3, 645K), CBS News (1/3, 5.39M), HuffPost (1/3, 363K), the AP (1/2), the Miami Herald (1/3, Feldman, 647K), The Hill (1/2, 5.69M), Fox News (12/31, Pagones, 23.99M), and Fox News (1/2, 23.99M).

**Nashville Police Department Releases Officer’s Bodycam Footage Before Christmas Bombing.** The Hill (12/31, Polus, 5.69M) reports the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department “released a police officer’s bodycam footage that documents the moments leading up to the Christmas bombing that rocked the city’s downtown, leaving eight people injured and several buildings damaged.”

**Inspectors: 10 Buildings In Blast Now Unsafe For Use Or Occupancy.** The Tennessean (1/1, Stephenson, 645K) reported that after structural assessments of more than 40 buildings in the blast area of the Nashville bombing, on Friday ten 2nd Avenue buildings were “deemed unsafe for use or occupancy” by Metro Nashville Codes inspectors. “At least two of the surveyed buildings will need to be demolished due to irreparable structural damage.” Additional coverage included the AP (12/31).

**Bombing Highlighted Telecommunication System Vulnerability.** USA Today (1/2, Mangrum, Slack, 12.7M) reported the Christmas Day Nashville bombing made clear “the vulnerability of the telecommunication system across the Southeast,” as it “crippled cell service, internet and even tools for law enforcement across a multistate region,” and raised questions about similar vulnerabilities in other regions. “The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency at the Department of Homeland Security said officials are working with partners in the region to assess what happened.” Back in 2017, “members of Congress raised questions about” the “reliability and redundancy” of AT&T’s public safety network, FirstNet. At the time, Chris Sambar, an AT&T senior vice president, said that given the current resources, it’s “not reasonable to think every tower will be at public-safety-grade level,” according to industry publication Mission Critical.

**Experts: Warner Had To Have Tested Devices Prior To Bombing.** The Daily Beast (1/1, Shannon, 933K) reported that “seasoned FBI bomb experts” say that Anthony Quinn Warner’s bomb “is unique in the annals of mayhem.” Dave Williams, who conducted the FBI’s on-scene investigations of the World Trade Center, Oklahoma City, Pan Am 103 and Unabomber bombings, said, “We’ve never seen an improvised thermobaric device before in this country or any country, “as “it’s very difficult to get the timing down to get an optimum mixture of air and a liquified carbonaceous fuel.” Williams added that Warner had to have performed tests ahead of time. A retired senior FBI agent and bomb expert who asked not to be named said, “Unfortunately it is only too easy to build an explosive.” They added that “the trick” is setting it off.

**British Judge To Rule On Assange Extradition Monday.** The New York Times (1/3, 20.6M) reports a judge in London will rule Monday on whether Wikileaks founder Julian Assange should be extradited to the US, where he “faces charges of conspiring to hack government computers and violating the Espionage Act by obtaining and releasing confidential documents in 2010 and 2011.” If the judge, Vanessa Baraitser, rules in favor of the extradition request, it “could pave the way for a high-stakes trial that Mr. Assange has sought to avoid for years, and which his supporters say poses a dangerous threat to press

freedom." But, if she rejects the request, "it would give Mr. Assange a major victory at a time when recent U.S. administrations have increasingly used the Espionage Act against journalists' sources."

The Washington Post (1/3, Weiner, 10.52M) says Assange's lawyers have argued before Baraitser "that the Trump administration is targeting the 49-year-old Australian for 'purely political' reasons." They, and their witnesses, "contend that his prosecution upends protections for journalists and publishers and that he would be denied a fair trial in a U.S. court, in part because he is a foreigner and an outspoken anti-authority figure."

Also reporting are the Washington Times (1/2, 626K) and Reuters (1/3).

### **Microsoft Says Alleged Russian Hackers Accessed Source Code.** Reuters (12/31, Satter)

reported Microsoft said Thursday that "the hacking group behind the SolarWinds compromise was able to...access some of its source code." Microsoft said its investigation "had turned up irregularities with a 'small number of internal accounts' and that one of the accounts 'had been used to view source code in a number of source code repositories.'" The New York Times (12/31, Perloth, 20.6M) reported that while the hackers, "suspected to be working for Russia's S.V.R. intelligence agency, did not appear to use Microsoft's systems to attack other victims, they were able to view some Microsoft source code by hacking into an employee account, the company said."

The Washington Post (12/31, Nakashima, 10.52M) reported Microsoft "did not specify what type of source code was accessed" and "said it has found no evidence of access to production services or customer data." The Wall Street Journal (12/31, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) has a brief report on the developing story.

**Canada's Biggest Pension Fund Took 5% Stake In Solar Winds Before Hacking Revelation.** The Washington Post (12/31, MacMillan, 10.52M) reports that "the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) was the unlucky recent buyer of a 5 percent stake in SolarWinds, the Texas-based business software maker that was compromised by a far-reaching Russian espionage attack discovered this month"

**US Officials Still Trying To Understand Scope, Intent Of Russian Cyber Attack On SolarWinds.** The New York Times (1/2, A1, Sanger, 20.6M) reports in a front page story that three weeks after the SolarWinds "intrusion came to light, American officials are still trying to understand whether what the Russians pulled off was simply an espionage operation inside the systems of the American bureaucracy or something more sinister, inserting 'backdoor' access into government agencies, major corporations, the electric grid and laboratories developing and transporting new generations of nuclear weapons." At the very least, the incident "has set off alarms about the vulnerability of government and private sector networks in the United States to attack and raised questions about how and why the nation's cyberdefenses failed so spectacularly."

The Wall Street Journal (1/2, Kantchev, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports similarly that "the sprawling SolarWinds hack by suspected Russian state-backed hackers is the latest sign of Moscow's growing resolve and improving technical ability to cause disruption and conduct espionage at a global scale in cyberspace."

### **FBI Investigating After Wisconsin Pharmacist Deliberately Spoiling COVID-19 Vaccines.** CNN

(12/31, Hanna, Feldman, 89.21M) reported on an FBI and police investigation following allegations that a worker at Aurora Medical Center in Wisconsin intentionally removed 57 vials of Covid-19 vaccine from a refrigerator overnight, forcing them to be discarded.

The AP (1/2) reported that a suburban Milwaukee pharmacist, who police did not identify, was arrested "on suspicion of reckless endangerment, adulterating a prescription drug and criminal damage to property." He "has been fired and police said in a news release that he was in jail." Advocate Aurora Health Care Chief Medical Group Officer Jeff Bahr told reporters that after a number of interviews the pharmacist acknowledged he removed the vaccine intentionally. The New York Times (12/31, Taylor, 20.6M) reports, "It was not clear what [the pharmacist's] motive may have been." The New York Post (1/2, Gray, 7.45M) reports that the Daily Mail named the pharmacist as Steven Brandenburg.

WISC-TV Madison, WI (1/1, 87K) reported that after the pharmacist's arrest "major vaccine storage hubs in Madison say they're reviewing their security protocols." Additional coverage includes USA Today (12/31, 12.7M), NBC News (12/31, 4.91M), CBS News (1/1, 5.39M), TIME (12/31, 18.1M), and Fox News (12/31, Casiano, 23.99M).

### **Law Enforcement Agencies Prepare For Trump Supporter Protests In DC On 1/6.** USA Today

(12/31, Jackson, Brown, 12.7M) reported that Washington, DC, "is gearing up for especially intense" mass protests as President Trump's "die-hard supporters are planning to descend on the nation's capital Jan. 6, to pressure Republican lawmakers into aligning themselves with the doomed effort to overturn Joe Biden's electoral victory." Previous demonstrations have include "organizations that the FBI has labeled as extremists who believe in white nationalism," with some roaming "streets taunting people, looking for confrontations over Trump's presidency." The demonstrations have included "knife fights, shouting matches,

and verbal harassment of Trump opponents,” And “federal and local law enforcement are bracing for what may be the most intense Trump protest.” While “law enforcement agencies did not detail their security strategies, they said they will be prepared as they have been for previous protests.”

The Washington Post (1/1, A1, Lang, 10.52M) reports on its front page that extremism experts “who study the far-right warn that D.C. is on a path to become the next battleground in increasingly violent confrontations with left-leaning counterdemonstrators.” The Post highlights that “since the 2020 presidential election, a coalition of loyalists of...Trump, conspiracy theory adherents, white nationalists, self-proclaimed militia members and other fringe figures have flocked to the nation’s capital to support the president’s baseless claims of election fraud.”

The Washington Post (1/3, Zauzmer, 10.52M) reports DC Mayor Muriel E. Bowser “said Sunday that she is making plans to protect public safety.” She will set up an emergency operations center to coordinate federal and local law enforcement responses to the demonstrations, and asked “city residents not to come downtown on Tuesday or Wednesday to avoid confrontation with the demonstrators” and not to counterprotest “to minimize potential conflict.” The Hill (1/3, Coleman, 5.69M) reports, “The mayor’s office issued a reminder on the capital’s gun laws, noting that protesters and others cannot carry a firearm within 1,000 feet of a demonstration and guns are illegal on U.S. Capitol and National Park Service grounds.”

The Washington Times (1/2, Blake, 626K) reports DC Attorney General Karl Racine told “The Takeout,” a podcast produced by CBS News, “My level of anxiety is high,” adding, “My preparation is even more intense than that.” He also “said his office is working with local and federal authorities from the Metropolitan Police Department and FBI in anticipation of the upcoming protests happening.”

In his Washington Post (12/31, King, 10.52M) column, Colbert King said that from Jan. 6 to Jan. 20, three events will take place “fraught with uncertainty because...Trump, a buffoonish one-term wannabe autocrat, will not accept his election loss.” According to King, “Trump isn’t calling his followers to Washington for sport. Or to make lawmakers nervous. Or to dominate the news cycle. Trump wants to overturn the 2020 election and take the presidential oath on Jan. 20.”

**Seven Individuals Facing Felony Charges Following Vandalization Of Federal Buildings In Philadelphia.** The AP (1/1) reports that individuals “dressed in black vandalized at least two federal buildings in downtown Philadelphia on New Year’s Eve, and police said they recovered Molotov cocktails and other suspicious devices as they arrested seven of them, authorities said Friday.” Officers saw roughly 50 individuals “around 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the historic U.S. Customs House, police said.” Moreover, a 25-year-old male was observed hurling “a brick through the windows of a federal building and courthouse shortly before 9 p.m., police said. He fled with a 24-year-old man and two 23-year-old women, all of whom were arrested.” The AP added, “Damage to the building was estimated at about \$3,000.”

The AP (1/2) reports, “Seven people are facing felony charges after at least two federal buildings in Philadelphia were vandalized on New Year’s Eve.”

**Protestors, Law Enforcement Clash During Riot In Portland.** The Hill (1/1, Coleman, 5.69M) reports, “Protesters and police clashed in Portland, Ore., on Thursday night during a New Year’s Eve demonstration that police declared a riot.” The Hill paraphrases the police as having said on Twitter “that a riot was declared after protesters used at least two Molotov cocktail-style firebombs and launched commercial-grade fireworks at the Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse building and the Justice Center.” It was unclear as to what the demonstrations pertained to, though “a flier for the event said ‘In Solidarity with [Black Lives Matter],’ KOIN reported, and posts for the protest were shared online.”

**Florida Man Indicted In Oregon Post-Election Mayhem.** The AP (12/31) reported Jarrod DeFerrari of Sunrise, Florida “faces riot and other charges in connection with post-election mayhem in downtown Portland, Oregon.” He was found with “a hammer, a gas mask, an empty can of spray paint and an illegal mortar firework” in his backpack.

**Homes Of McConnell, Pelosi Reported To Have Been Vandalized.** The New York Times (1/2, Waller, 20.6M) says the homes of Senator Majority Leader McConnell and House Speaker Pelosi “have been reported vandalized, days after the contentious passage of a stimulus bill that has been criticized as inadequate by a broad coalition ranging from progressive activists to President Trump.” In a Saturday statement, McConnell “lamented what he called a ‘radical tantrum’ drawn from a ‘toxic playbook.’” According to the Times, “The Louisville station WDRB-TV reported that the senator’s home was tagged overnight with red and white spray paint.” ABC World News Tonight (1/2, story 8, 0:21, Johnson, 839K) reported Pelosi’s San Francisco home and McConnell’s Louisville home were “both vandalized with similar messages protesting the failure by Congress to agree on a COVID-19 stimulus package with \$2,000 direct payments to Americans.”

**Court Clears Way For Execution Of Sole Woman On Federal Death Row.** The AP (1/1, Balsamo) reports, “A federal appeals court has cleared the way for the only woman on federal death row to be executed before...Joe Biden takes office.” The AP added, “The ruling, handed down Friday by a three-judge panel on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, concluded that a lower court judge erred when he vacated Lisa Montgomery’s execution date in an order last

week." US District Court Judge Randolph Moss "vacated an order from the director of the Bureau of Prisons scheduling her death for Jan. 12." Montgomery was slated to be executed in December, "but Moss delayed the execution after her attorneys contracted coronavirus visiting their client and asked him to extend the time to file a clemency petition."

**Body Cam Footage Of Columbus Police Killing Andre Hill Released.** The [AP](#) (12/31, Amiri, Welsh-Huggins) reported that a memorial service was held for Andre Hill, a Black man who was shot and killed by Columbus, Ohio Officer Adam Coy, who is white, as he responded to a "nonemergency complaint about someone stopping and starting a car outside." Coy, "who had a long history of complaints from citizens," was fired and, "beyond an internal police investigation, the Ohio attorney general, the U.S. attorney for central Ohio and the FBI have begun their own probes into the shooting."

[CNN](#) (12/31, Sgueglia, Romine, Moghe, Vera, 89.21M) reported the Columbus police released dozens of investigative materials, including body camera footage that shows the moments after Hill was shot, "including Hill's body being handcuffed as he lay on the ground and a woman telling police he was there to bring her Christmas money and 'didn't do anything.'" Officer Amy Detweiler was on scene when Hill was killed "said in a recorded investigative interview December 23 that she didn't observe any threats from Hill and that no verbal warnings were given to Hill by Coy."

Christy E. Lopez, in a column in the [Washington Post](#) (12/31, 10.52M), wrote that Hill might have been saved by "skilled first aid given immediately by the officers on the scene." Such medical care is a way that "police can reduce the harm of a officer-involved shooting," but failure to do so "is common in the United States." Some departments "have established protecting the 'sanctity of life' as a fundamental principle of police use of force," but for most places "what happened in Columbus remains the norm." Lopez concludes that "communities should demand a policing ethos under which failing to provide care to someone shot by police is an unthinkable response from any person entrusted with a badge and the power to take life and liberty," as part of "the broader shift we must have in policing from warrior to guardian."

**Minneapolis Police To Release Body Camera Video In Fatal Gas Station Shooting.** The [AP](#) (12/31, Glass) reported that Minneapolis police on Thursday "released body-camera video from a traffic stop one night earlier that ended with a man shot dead, an extraordinarily quick move aimed at stemming public anger over the city's first police-involved death since George Floyd died while being restrained by officers in May." On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/1, story 8, 1:36, Johnson, 6.88M), Elwyn Lopez reported police claimed the footage, which "shows just about 28 seconds of the incident," reveals "the driver's window shattering outward." The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (12/31, 855K) reported, "Dolal Idd, 23, was identified as the man shot following a stop for a felony warrant."

The [Washington Post](#) (12/31, Elfrink, 10.52M) reported that "scores of protesters quickly descended on the scene of the shooting in a gas station parking lot in South Minneapolis, about a mile from the intersection where Floyd was killed, facing off in below-freezing temperatures with police officers clad in riot gear, some clutching batons and cans of pepper spray." The [New York Times](#) (12/31, Bogel-Burroughs, 20.6M) reported Minneapolis officials "begged [protesters] not to revive the unrest that left parts of the city aflame in the spring." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (12/31, Raice, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provided similar coverage.

**Fugitive Kills Pastor In Texas Church Shooting.** The [New York Times](#) (1/3, Pietsch, 20.6M) reports a police chase in Starrville, Texas, "culminated in a fatal confrontation on Sunday morning in a church between its pastor and a fugitive who was hiding there, officials said." The Times adds the shooting at Starrville Methodist Church "left the pastor dead and three others, including the gunman, injured, the authorities said." According to the [Washington Post](#) (1/3, Kornfield, 10.52M), the pastor "was killed with his own gun after the suspect disarmed him and shot him, authorities said." The [Dallas Morning News](#) (1/3, Keomoungkhoun, Branham, 772K) reports Harrison County deputies later "arrested the suspect, a 21-year-old, in Marshall. A weapon and the stolen vehicle were both recovered, the sheriff's office told KYTX."

The [AP](#) (1/3) reports the shooting "came a little more than a year after a gunman opened fire at a church near Fort Worth, killing two people before he was fatally shot by a congregant." According to the AP, Texas officials "hailed the congregant's quick action, saying it prevented further killing and showed the effectiveness of the state's permissive gun laws, including a 2019 measure that affirmed the right of licensed handgun holders to carry a weapon in places of worship," and "since then, a cottage industry has sprung up in Texas and other states to train and arm civilians to protect their churches using the techniques and equipment of law enforcement." [ABC World News Tonight](#) (1/3, story 8, 0:25, Johnson, 4.42M) provided similar coverage in a brief report.

**FBI Expanded International Corruption Division.** The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/1, Sun, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) described how the FBI has assumed a larger role in foreign probes with US connections, with the agency in recent years

having enlarged its international corruption division. The FBI is addressing foreign bribery through enforcement of the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and kleptocracy violations under US money-laundering rules. The FBI's latest international corruption team was established in Miami in 2019 after case work related to bribery and money-laundering schemes there swelled, according to Leslie Backschie, chief of the FBI's international corruption unit. The team there has worked no less than five cases, several of which resulted in notable settlements.

### **FBI Issues PSA For Smart Home Users Warning Of Hacks For "Swatting."**

WXYZ-TV

Detroit

(12/31, Dewberry, 201K) reported that on Tuesday the FBI issued a public service announcement "warning users of smart home devices of being hacked for 'swatting' incidents." The FBI asked users to protect themselves by using "complex and unique passwords and enabl[ing] two-factor authentication."

UPI

(12/31) reported the PSA read, "To gain access to the smart devices, offenders are likely taking advantage of customers who re-use their email passwords for their smart device. The offenders use stolen email passwords to log into the smart device and hijack features, including the live stream camera and device features."

**Recording Indicates Trump Pressed Georgia's Raffensperger To "Find" Votes.** President Trump's Saturday telephone conversation with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (R) regarding the results of the presidential election in that state dominates news coverage. All three broadcast networks led their Sunday evening newscasts with the story.

On ABC World News Tonight (1/3, lead story, 4:55, 4.42M), Whit Johnson called it a "bombshell recording of a phone call, revealing President Trump pressuring an election official in Georgia to overturn his defeat to Joe Biden." Trump told Raffensperger "to recount the votes and find nearly 12,000 more...referencing several conspiracy theories that could justify the change, and suggesting that Raffensperger could face criminal prosecution if he doesn't comply. Raffensperger, a Republican who says he voted for the President, [is] heard repeatedly rejecting the President's claim, standing by the state's count." ABC's Rachel Scott called the call "stunning," and ABC legal analyst Dan Abrams said, "The President of the United States sounds like he's pressuring a state Secretary of State to help him win the election. I don't think you're going to see any criminal charges here in connection with what has happened, but there is certainly an argument that the President has walked right up to the line."

On NBC Nightly News (1/3, lead story, 3:05, 3.32M), Kate Snow said, "Throughout the Trump presidency, we've often used the word 'unprecedented' to describe his actions, and now with just over two weeks remaining in his term, President Trump has made a truly unprecedented phone call." NBC's Kelly O'Donnell: "Inside a stunning new pressure campaign, as President Trump tries to overturn his election defeat." Trump: "I just want to find, uh, 11,780 votes." O'Donnell: "Exerting the influence of the presidency, Mr. Trump leaned on [Raffensperger] to announce a reversal of certified Georgia results from Biden to Trump." Trump: "And there's nothing wrong with saying that, you know, uh, that you've recalculated." Jericka Duncan of the CBS Weekend News (1/3, lead story, 2:20, 1.68M) also called it "a stunning telephone call. ... The recorded hour-long conversation Saturday is filled with insults, compliments, and pleading. It follows nearly nine weeks of the President falsely claiming that voter fraud cost him reelection."

The Washington Post (1/3, Gardner, 10.52M), which broke the story, reported Trump urged Raffensperger "to 'find' enough votes to overturn his defeat in an extraordinary one-hour phone call Saturday that legal scholars described as a flagrant abuse of power and a potential criminal act." The Post "obtained a recording of the conversation in which Trump alternately berated Raffensperger, tried to flatter him, begged him to act and threatened him with vague criminal consequences if the secretary of state refused to pursue his false claims, at one point warning that Raffensperger was taking 'a big risk.'"

The New York Times (1/3, Shear, Saul, 20.6M) reports Trump, "who will be in charge of the Justice Department for the 17 days left in his administration, hinted that Mr. Raffensperger and Ryan Germany, the chief lawyer for secretary of state's office, could be prosecuted criminally if they did not do his bidding." Trump said on the call, "You know what they did and you're not reporting it. You know, that's a criminal – that's a criminal offense. And you know, you can't let that happen. That's a big risk to you and to Ryan, your lawyer. That's a big risk." The Times calls it "a remarkable act by a defeated president to crash through legal and ethical boundaries as he seeks to remain in power."

The AP (1/3, Amy, Superville, Brumback) reports the call "was the latest step in an unprecedented effort by a sitting president to pressure a state official to reverse the outcome of a free and fair election that he lost. ... Georgia counted its votes three times before certifying Biden's win by a 11,779 margin, Raffensperger noted: 'President Trump, we've had several lawsuits, and we've had to respond in court to the lawsuits and the contentions. We don't agree that you have won.'" USA Today (1/3, Brown, 12.7M) reports Trump "called Raffensperger a 'child,' a 'schmuck' and 'either dishonest or incompetent' for not supporting claims of widespread voter fraud in Atlanta."

The Wall Street Journal (1/3, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that Bob Bauer, a senior adviser to Joe Biden, said Sunday, "We now have irrefutable proof of a President pressuring and threatening an official of his own party to get



him to rescind a state's lawful, certified vote count and fabricate another in its place. It captures the whole, disgraceful story about Donald Trump's assault on American democracy." The Los Angeles Times (1/3, 3.37M) reports Senate Minority Whip Durbin "issued a strongly worded statement urging a criminal investigation, saying Trump sought to 'intimidate an elected official into deliberately changing and misrepresenting' a legally counted vote." The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (1/3, 1.46M) reports that while "there has been widespread criticism of the president's actions from Democrats," Republicans "have either been silent or continue to back Donald Trump in questioning Joe Biden's win in Georgia."

The New York Post (1/3, Moore, 7.45M) reports Chief of Staff Meadows and Cleta Mitchell, a lawyer "who had not been previously connected to the Trump campaign effort," were also on the call. In a statement, Mitchell "said Raffensperger's office 'has made many statements over the past two months that are simply not correct and everyone involved with the efforts on behalf of the President's election challenge has said the same thing: show us your records on which you rely to make these statements that our numbers are wrong.'"

Politico (1/3, Bice, Cheney, Kumar, 6.73M) reports, "Legal experts say the combination of Trump's request to 'find' a specific number of votes – just enough to put him ahead of Biden – and his veiled reference to criminal liability for Raffensperger and his aides could violate federal and state statutes aimed at guarding against the solicitation of election fraud. The potential violations of state law are particularly notable, given that they would fall outside the reach of a potential pardon by Trump or his successor."

Dan Balz of the Washington Post (1/3, 10.52M) writes, "There are but 16 days left in President Trump's term, but there is no doubt that he will use all of his remaining time in office to inflict as much damage as he can on democracy – with members of a now-divided Republican Party acting as enablers. ... Here was a desperate president alternately begging, pleading, cajoling and, yes, seeming to threaten a state official – and fellow Republican – by asking for a change in the outcome of an election that already had been recounted and then certified."

Reuters (1/3, Wolfe), Bloomberg (1/3, 3.57M), the New York Daily News (1/3, Shahrigian, 2.51M), The Hill (1/3, 5.69M), and the CNN (1/3, Duster, Cole, 89.21M) and Fox News (1/3, Singman, 23.99M) websites also have reports.

**Copyright 2021 by Bulletin Intelligence LLC** Reproduction or redistribution without permission prohibited. Content is drawn from thousands of newspapers, national magazines, national and local television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform's terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva's terms of use. Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Website's information and privacy policies. The FBI Director's Morning Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at [BulletinIntelligence.com](http://BulletinIntelligence.com), or called at (703) 483-6100.

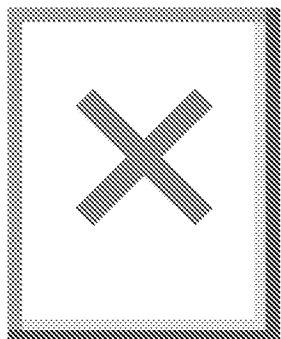
Please direct comments and concerns to

b7E -3

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs News Briefing Monday, January 04, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 4, 2021 6:23 AM (UTC-05:00)

b7E -3

Mobile version and searchable archives available at [REDACTED]



TO : THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF  
DATE : MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021 6:30 AM EST

## TODAY'S TABLE OF CONTENTS

### LEADING THE NEWS

- FBI Seeking Materials Nashville Bomber Mailed Prior To Explosion.

### COUNTER-TERRORISM

FBI(21-cv-572)-12743

- Arizona Man Arrested Following Bomb Threats In ICE Parking Lot.
- Alleged Ringleader In Plot To Kidnap Gov. Whitmer Requests Release From Custody.
- ISIS Claims Responsibility For Killing 11 Shiite Coal Miners In Pakistan.

## COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

- British Judge Denies US Bid To Extradite Assange.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

- FBI Investigating After Wisconsin Pharmacist Deliberately Spoiling COVID-19 Vaccines.
- Law Enforcement Agencies Prepare For Trump Supporter Protests In DC On 1/6.
- Court Clears Way For Execution Of Sole Woman On Federal Death Row.
- Body Cam Footage Of Columbus Police Killing Andre Hill Released.
- Minneapolis Police To Release Body Camera Video In Fatal Gas Station Shooting.
- Fugitive Kills Pastor In Texas Church Shooting.
- Judge Orders Hearing On Decision To Commit Man Charged With NY Machete Stabbings.
- Ahead Of DA Decision Regarding Blake Shooting, Kenosha Officials Readying For Unrest.
- Father Of Man Fatally Shot By Minneapolis Police Did Not Learn Of Son's Death Until After Officers Raided Home.
- DC Homicides Reach Highest Level Since 2004.
- Teenager, US Soldier Charged Over Death Of Fort Drum Corporal.
- Maryland Officer Will Not Be Charged In Deadly Shooting Of Duncan Lemp.
- Union For New Jersey Police Department Suspended Eight Members, Seven Of Whom Are Black.
- Attorney: No Charges Expected In Airplane Bomb Scare.
- Gay Man Almost Killed During Date Seeks Hate Crime Charge.
- FBI Renews Calls For Help Finding Cop-Killer.
- Maine Man Charged With Attempted Arson Of Massachusetts Church.
- Gunfire Hits Home Of Family Of Man Killed By Law Enforcement.
- Fourth Suspect In Murder Of Retired Chicago Firefighter Arrested.
- Drugs Or Drug Paraphernalia Seized 237 Times In Recent Years At Jail In State Of New York.
- Woman Sues Backpage.com, Salesforce Over Sex Trafficking.
- Hearing Pushed Back For Louisville Officers Facing Firing Over Breonna Taylor Case.

## FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

- FBI Expanded International Corruption Division.
- Man Pleads Guilty To Over \$200M Ponzi Scheme That Defrauded Police, Firefighters.
- FirstEnergy Faces Share-Holder Class-Action Suits Over Corruption Scandal.
- NDAA Includes Anticorruption Measures.

## CYBER DIVISION

- Microsoft Says Alleged Russian Hackers Accessed Source Code.
- NYC Education Department Hit By Ransomware Attack.
- China Urges Internet Platforms To Investigate Fintech Businesses.
- Social Media Companies Ramped Up Crackdown On Offensive Content Ahead Of Election.
- T-Mobile's Customer Call Records Targeted In December Data Breach.
- NDAA Provisions Boost Federal Government's Cybersecurity.
- Eliminating Section 230 Could Alter Americans' Online Lives.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

- FBI Issues PSA For Smart Home Users Warning Of Hacks For "Swatting."

## OTHER FBI NEWS

- Analysis: Biden Under Pressure To Nominate Diverse Leadership For DOJ.
- Families Of US Hostages, Detainees Now Looking To Biden To Continue Seeking Loved Ones'

Freedom.

- Lead FBI Investigator In Blackwater Criticizes Pardons.
- Former Prosecutor Writes Book About Case Against Pain Management Clinic Operator.

#### OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

- Recording Indicates Trump Pressed Georgia's Raffensperger To "Find" Votes.
- Roberts Expresses Gratitude To Judiciary For Performance Amid Pandemic.
- As US COVID Death Toll Passes 350K, Fauci And Adams Dispute Trump's Claim About Figure.
- Fauci, Adams Say COVID Vaccinations Ramped Up In US In Past Few Days.
- AP Analysis: Minority Business Owners Were Kept Waiting For PPP Loans.
- Some COVID Relief Money Frozen After Oregon Earmarked It Exclusively For Black Residents.
- Economists Optimistic About Economic Growth, Job Creation This Year.
- WPost Report: Administration Decision On Line Speeds At Chicken Plants Hastened COVID Spread.
- NYTimes Examines Impact Of IHS Decision To Cut Services At Hospital.

#### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- India Approves Two Coronavirus Vaccines.
- UK's Johnson Says England May Have Stricter Controls Soon.
- Norway Adds New Restrictions To Stop COVID Spread.
- Sullivan Says Biden Will Seek To Renew Arms Talks With Russia, Missile Negotiations With Iran.
- NYTimes Analysis: Xi's Recent Trade Deals Will Undermine Biden Efforts To Create United Front.
- Niger's PM Says 100 Killed In Attacks On Two Villages.
- CAR Rebels Attack, Enter Town Ahead Of Reading Of Election Results.

#### THE BIG PICTURE

- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

#### WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

- Today's Events In Washington.

#### LEADING THE NEWS

##### **FBI Seeking Materials Nashville Bomber Mailed Prior To Explosion.**

USA Today (1/3, Stephenson, Bacon, 12.7M) reports that in the days before Anthony Warner detonated a bomb in Nashville on Christmas morning, he sent packages that "espoused his viewpoints" to people around the country, which the FBI is investigating. FBI Special Agent Jason Pack said in a statement, "We're aware the suspect sent materials which espoused his viewpoints to several acquaintances throughout the country" and encouraged anyone who received a package or material from Warner to contact the FBI.

Reuters (1/3) reports that a man who knew Warner received a package, without a return address, postmarked two days before the blast. The package contained "at least nine typed pages and two thumb drives," which he turned over to the FBI. The letter "referenced various conspiracy theories, including that aliens have launched attacks on earth." Reuters adds, "Warner's writings also indicate he believed reptilians and lizard people controlled the earth and had altered human DNA."

On NBC Nightly News (1/3, story 5, 2:00, Snow, 3.32M), Sarah Harman cited "a law enforcement source close to the investigation" who said that "they're aware of a thumb drive and written pages from the bomber. The FBI now asking anyone who received them to come forward." Harman added, "Investigators are exploring several conspiracy theories as potential motives behind the bombing outside an AT&T building, including evidence the bomber believed in lizard people and a so-called reptilian conspiracy theory, two senior law enforcement officials told NBC News last week."

Additional coverage includes the Tennessean (1/3, 645K), CBS News (1/3, 5.39M), HuffPost

(1/3, 363K), the AP (1/2), the Miami Herald (1/3, Feldman, 647K), The Hill (1/2, 5.69M), Fox News (12/31, Pagones, 23.99M), and Fox News (1/2, 23.99M).

***Nashville Police Department Releases Officer's Bodycam Footage Before Christmas Bombing.*** The Hill (12/31, Polus, 5.69M) reports the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department "released a police officer's bodycam footage that documents the moments leading up to the Christmas bombing that rocked the city's downtown, leaving eight people injured and several buildings damaged."

***Inspectors: 10 Buildings In Blast Now Unsafe For Use Or Occupancy.*** The Tennessean (1/1, Stephenson, 645K) reported that after structural assessments of more than 40 buildings in the blast area of the Nashville bombing, on Friday ten 2nd Avenue buildings were "deemed unsafe for use or occupancy" by Metro Nashville Codes inspectors. "At least two of the surveyed buildings will need to be demolished due to irreparable structural damage." Additional coverage included the AP (12/31).

***Bombing Highlighted Telecommunication System Vulnerability.*** USA Today (1/2, Mangrum, Slack, 12.7M) reported the Christmas Day Nashville bombing made clear "the vulnerability of the telecommunication system across the Southeast," as it "crippled cell service, internet and even tools for law enforcement across a multistate region," and raised questions about similar vulnerabilities in other regions. "The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency at the Department of Homeland Security said officials are working with partners in the region to assess what happened." Back in 2017, "members of Congress raised questions about" the "reliability and redundancy" of AT&T's public safety network, FirstNet. At the time, Chris Sambar, an AT&T senior vice president, said that given the current resources, it's "not reasonable to think every tower will be at public-safety-grade level," according to industry publication Mission Critical.

***Experts: Warner Had To Have Tested Devices Prior To Bombing.*** The Daily Beast (1/1, Shannon, 933K) reported that "seasoned FBI bomb experts" say that Anthony Quinn Warner's bomb "is unique in the annals of mayhem." Dave Williams, who conducted the FBI's on-scene investigations of the World Trade Center, Oklahoma City, Pan Am 103 and Unabomber bombings, said, "We've never seen an improvised thermobaric device before in this country or any country, "as "it's very difficult to get the timing down to get an optimum mixture of air and a liquified carbonaceous fuel." Williams added that Warner had to have performed tests ahead of time. A retired senior FBI agent and bomb expert who asked not to be named said, "Unfortunately it is only too easy to build an explosive." They added that "the trick" is setting it off.

## COUNTER-TERRORISM

### **Arizona Man Arrested Following Bomb Threats In ICE Parking Lot.**

KNXV-TV Phoenix (12/31, 199K) reported Patrick Michael Gerola of Arizona was arrested after making bomb threats in the parking lot of an Immigration and Customs Enforcement building in Florence, Arizona. "Officials say the PCSO SWAT team, DPS Bomb Squad, Florence Fire, Pinal County Emergency Management, the FBI and ICE SRT were then activated due to the serious nature of the call."

### **Alleged Ringleader In Plot To Kidnap Gov. Whitmer Requests Release From Custody.**

Mlive (MI) (1/2, Waterman, 828K) reported that Barry G. Croft Jr., the allege "ringleader in a would-be coup to abduct Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer," is asking a court to have him released from custody. "Croft has not been able to appear in court in Michigan because of delays in prisoner transfers out of the Philadelphia federal prison where he is jailed," and his attorney argues that this "is 'frustrating' the ability to build a defense and that federal rules mandate the transfer of inmates should be timely." However, federal attorneys "said releasing Croft would be 'unreasonable' and that arguments invoking rules meant to ensure defendants receive a prompt trial are 'premature.'"

### **ISIS Claims Responsibility For Killing 11 Shiite Coal Miners In Pakistan.**

The AP (1/3, Sattar) reports a Pakistani official said Sunday that 11 people were killed in Pakistan's southwestern Baluchistan province early Sunday when "gunmen opened fire on a group of minority Shiite Hazara coal miners after abducting them." The AP adds, "Police video of the bodies revealed the miners were blindfolded and had their hands tied behind their backs before being shot." However, Reuters (1/3, Yousafzai) quotes a "security official," who said, "The throats of all coal miners have been slit, after their hands were tied behind their backs and [they were] blindfolded." The New York Times (1/3, Masood, 20.6M) reports ISIS "claimed responsibility for the carnage" late Sunday.

## COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

### British Judge Denies US Bid To Extradite Assange.

The AP (1/4) reports British District Judge Vanessa Baraitser "rejected the United States' request to extradite WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to face espionage charges," saying he would likely kill himself, as his clinical depression "would be exacerbated by the isolation he would likely face in U.S. prison." However, Baraitser "rejected claims by the defense that Assange was protected by free-speech guarantees, saying his 'conduct, if proved, would therefore amount to offenses in this jurisdiction that would not be protected by his right to freedom of speech.'"

Writing before the judge's decision, the New York Times (1/3, 20.6M) says that a ruling in Assange's favor would be "a major victory" for Assange "at a time when recent U.S. administrations have increasingly used the Espionage Act against journalists' sources." He "faces charges of conspiring to hack government computers and violating the Espionage Act by obtaining and releasing confidential documents in 2010 and 2011."

Also writing before the decision, the Washington Post (1/3, Weiner, 10.52M) says Assange's lawyers have argued before Baraitser "that the Trump administration is targeting the 49-year-old Australian for 'purely political' reasons." They, and their witnesses, "contend that his prosecution upends protections for journalists and publishers and that he would be denied a fair trial in a U.S. court, in part because he is a foreigner and an outspoken anti-authority figure."

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

### FBI Investigating After Wisconsin Pharmacist Deliberately Spoiling COVID-19 Vaccines.

CNN (12/31, Hanna, Feldman, 89.21M) reported on an FBI and police investigation following allegations that a worker at Aurora Medical Center in Wisconsin intentionally removed 57 vials of Covid-19 vaccine from a refrigerator overnight, forcing them to be discarded.

The AP (1/2) reported that a suburban Milwaukee pharmacist, who police did not identify, was arrested "on suspicion of reckless endangerment, adulterating a prescription drug and criminal damage to property." He "has been fired and police said in a news release that he was in jail." Advocate Aurora Health Care Chief Medical Group Officer Jeff Bahr told reporters that after a number of interviews the pharmacist acknowledged he removed the vaccine intentionally. The New York Times (12/31, Taylor, 20.6M) reports, "It was not clear what [the pharmacist's] motive may have been." The New York Post (1/2, Gray, 7.45M) reports that the Daily Mail named the pharmacist as Steven Brandenburg.

WISC-TV Madison, WI (1/1, 87K) reported that after the pharmacist's arrest "major vaccine storage hubs in Madison say they're reviewing their security protocols." Additional coverage includes USA Today (12/31, 12.7M), NBC News (12/31, Chuck, Kesslen, 4.91M), CBS News (1/1, 5.39M), TIME (12/31, 18.1M), and Fox News (12/31, Casiano, 23.99M).

### Law Enforcement Agencies Prepare For Trump Supporter Protests In DC On 1/6.

USA Today (12/31, Jackson, Brown, 12.7M) reported that Washington, DC, "is gearing up for especially intense" mass protests as President Trump's "die-hard supporters are planning to descend on the nation's capital Jan. 6, to pressure Republican lawmakers into aligning themselves with the doomed effort to overturn Joe Biden's electoral victory." Previous demonstrations have

include "organizations that the FBI has labeled as extremists who believe in white nationalism," with some roaming "streets taunting people, looking for confrontations over Trump's presidency." The demonstrations have included "knife fights, shouting matches, and verbal harassment of Trump opponents." And "federal and local law enforcement are bracing for what may be the most intense Trump protest." While "law enforcement agencies did not detail their security strategies, they said they will be prepared as they have been for previous protests."

The Washington Post (1/1, A1, Lang, 10.52M) reports on its front page that extremism experts "who study the far-right warn that D.C. is on a path to become the next battleground in increasingly violent confrontations with left-leaning counterdemonstrators." The Post highlights that "since the 2020 presidential election, a coalition of loyalists of... Trump, conspiracy theory adherents, white nationalists, self-proclaimed militia members and other fringe figures have flocked to the nation's capital to support the president's baseless claims of election fraud."

The CBS Weekend News (1/3, story 3, 0:30, 1.68M) reported the President is "encouraging his supporters to travel to Washington Wednesday for a protest."

The Washington Post (1/3, Zauzmer, 10.52M) reports DC Mayor Muriel E. Bowser "said Sunday that she is making plans to protect public safety." She will set up an emergency operations center to coordinate federal and local law enforcement responses to the demonstrations, and asked "city residents not to come downtown on Tuesday or Wednesday to avoid confrontation with the demonstrators" and not to counterprotest "to minimize potential conflict." The Hill (1/3, Coleman, 5.69M) reports, "The mayor's office issued a reminder on the capital's gun laws, noting that protesters and others cannot carry a firearm within 1,000 feet of a demonstration and guns are illegal on U.S. Capitol and National Park Service grounds."

The Washington Times (1/2, Blake, 626K) reports DC Attorney General Karl Racine told "The Takeout," a podcast produced by CBS News, "My level of anxiety is high," adding, "My preparation is even more intense than that." He also "said his office is working with local and federal authorities from the Metropolitan Police Department and FBI in anticipation of the upcoming protests happening."

In his Washington Post (12/31, King, 10.52M) column, Colbert King said that from Jan. 6 to Jan. 20, three events will take place "fraught with uncertainty because... Trump, a buffoonish one-term wannabe autocrat, will not accept his election loss." According to King, "Trump isn't calling his followers to Washington for sport. Or to make lawmakers nervous. Or to dominate the news cycle. Trump wants to overturn the 2020 election and take the presidential oath on Jan. 20."

***Seven Individuals Facing Felony Charges Following Vandalization Of Federal Buildings In Philadelphia.*** The AP (1/1) reports that individuals "dressed in black vandalized at least two federal buildings in downtown Philadelphia on New Year's Eve, and police said they recovered Molotov cocktails and other suspicious devices as they arrested seven of them, authorities said Friday." Officers saw roughly 50 individuals "around 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the historic U.S. Customs House, police said." Moreover, a 25-year-old male was observed hurling "a brick through the windows of a federal building and courthouse shortly before 9 p.m., police said. He fled with a 24-year-old man and two 23-year-old women, all of whom were arrested." The AP added, "Damage to the building was estimated at about \$3,000."

The AP (1/2) reports, "Seven people are facing felony charges after at least two federal buildings in Philadelphia were vandalized on New Year's Eve."

***Protestors, Law Enforcement Clash During Riot In Portland.*** The Hill (1/1, Coleman, 5.69M) reports, "Protesters and police clashed in Portland, Ore., on Thursday night during a New Year's Eve demonstration that police declared a riot." The Hill paraphrases the police as having said on Twitter "that a riot was declared after protesters used at least two Molotov cocktail-style firebombs and launched commercial-grade fireworks at the Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse building and the Justice Center." It was unclear as to what the demonstrations pertained to, though "a flier for the event said 'In Solidarity with [Black Lives Matter],' KOIN reported, and posts for the protest were shared online."

***Florida Man Indicted In Oregon Post-Election Mayhem.*** The AP (12/31) reported Jarrod DeFerrari of Sunrise, Florida "faces riot and other charges in connection with post-election mayhem in downtown Portland, Oregon." He was found with "a hammer, a gas mask, an empty



can of spray paint and an illegal mortar firework" in his backpack.

**Homes Of McConnell, Pelosi Reported To Have Been Vandalized.** The New York Times (1/2, Waller, 20.6M) says the homes of Senator Majority Leader McConnell and House Speaker Pelosi "have been reported vandalized, days after the contentious passage of a stimulus bill that has been criticized as inadequate by a broad coalition ranging from progressive activists to President Trump." In a Saturday statement, McConnell "lamented what he called a 'radical tantrum' drawn from a 'toxic playbook.'" According to the Times, "The Louisville station WDRB-TV reported that the senator's home was tagged overnight with red and white spray paint." ABC World News Tonight (1/2, story 8, 0:21, Johnson, 839K) reported Pelosi's San Francisco home and McConnell's Louisville home were "both vandalized with similar messages protesting the failure by Congress to agree on a COVID-19 stimulus package with \$2,000 direct payments to Americans."

### **Court Clears Way For Execution Of Sole Woman On Federal Death Row.**

The AP (1/1, Balsamo) reports, "A federal appeals court has cleared the way for the only woman on federal death row to be executed before...Joe Biden takes office." The AP added, "The ruling, handed down Friday by a three-judge panel on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, concluded that a lower court judge erred when he vacated Lisa Montgomery's execution date in an order last week." US District Court Judge Randolph Moss "vacated an order from the director of the Bureau of Prisons scheduling her death for Jan. 12." Montgomery was slated to be executed in December, "but Moss delayed the execution after her attorneys contracted coronavirus visiting their client and asked him to extend the time to file a clemency petition."

### **Body Cam Footage Of Columbus Police Killing Andre Hill Released.**

The AP (12/31, Amiri, Welsh-Huggins) reported that a memorial service was held for Andre Hill, a Black man who was shot and killed by Columbus, Ohio Officer Adam Coy, who is white, as he responded to a "nonemergency complaint about someone stopping and starting a car outside." Coy, "who had a long history of complaints from citizens," was fired and, "beyond an internal police investigation, the Ohio attorney general, the U.S. attorney for central Ohio and the FBI have begun their own probes into the shooting."

CNN (12/31, Sgueglia, Romine, Moghe, Vera, 89.21M) reported the Columbus police released dozens of investigative materials, including body camera footage that shows the moments after Hill was shot, "including Hill's body being handcuffed as he lay on the ground and a woman telling police he was there to bring her Christmas money and 'didn't do anything.'" Officer Amy Detweiler was on scene when Hill was killed "said in a recorded investigative interview December 23 that she didn't observe any threats from Hill and that no verbal warnings were given to Hill by Coy."

Christy E. Lopez, in a column in the Washington Post (12/31, 10.52M), wrote that Hill might have been saved by "skilled first aid given immediately by the officers on the scene." Such medical care is a way that "police can reduce the harm of a officer-involved shooting," but failure to do so "is common in the United States." Some departments "have established protecting the 'sanctity of life' as a fundamental principle of police use of force," but for most places "what happened in Columbus remains the norm." Lopez concludes that "communities should demand a policing ethos under which failing to provide care to someone shot by police is an unthinkable response from any person entrusted with a badge and the power to take life and liberty," as part of "the broader shift we must have in policing from warrior to guardian."

### **Minneapolis Police To Release Body Camera Video In Fatal Gas Station Shooting.**

The AP (12/31, Glass) reported that Minneapolis police on Thursday "released body-camera video from a traffic stop one night earlier that ended with a man shot dead, an extraordinarily quick move aimed at stemming public anger over the city's first police-involved death since George Floyd died while being restrained by officers in May." On ABC World News Tonight (1/1, story 8, 1:36, Johnson, 6.88M), Elwyn Lopez reported police claimed the footage, which "shows just about

28 seconds of the incident," reveals "the driver's window shattering outward." The Minneapolis Star Tribune (12/31, 855K) reported, "Dolal Idd, 23, was identified as the man shot following a stop for a felony warrant."

The Washington Post (12/31, Elfrink, 10.52M) reported that "scores of protesters quickly descended on the scene of the shooting in a gas station parking lot in South Minneapolis, about a mile from the intersection where Floyd was killed, facing off in below-freezing temperatures with police officers clad in riot gear, some clutching batons and cans of pepper spray." The New York Times (12/31, Bogel-Burroughs, 20.6M) reported Minneapolis officials "begged [protesters] not to revive the unrest that left parts of the city aflame in the spring." The Wall Street Journal (12/31, Raice, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provided similar coverage.

### **Fugitive Kills Pastor In Texas Church Shooting.**

The New York Times (1/3, Pietsch, 20.6M) reports a police chase in Starrville, Texas, "culminated in a fatal confrontation on Sunday morning in a church between its pastor and a fugitive who was hiding there, officials said." The Times adds the shooting at Starrville Methodist Church "left the pastor dead and three others, including the gunman, injured, the authorities said." According to the Washington Post (1/3, Kornfield, 10.52M), the pastor "was killed with his own gun after the suspect disarmed him and shot him, authorities said." The Dallas Morning News (1/3, Keomoungkhoun, Branham, 772K) reports Harrison County deputies later "arrested the suspect, a 21-year-old, in Marshall. A weapon and the stolen vehicle were both recovered, the sheriff's office told KYTX."

The AP (1/3) reports the shooting "came a little more than a year after a gunman opened fire at a church near Fort Worth, killing two people before he was fatally shot by a congregant." According to the AP, Texas officials "hailed the congregant's quick action, saying it prevented further killing and showed the effectiveness of the state's permissive gun laws, including a 2019 measure that affirmed the right of licensed handgun holders to carry a weapon in places of worship," and "since then, a cottage industry has sprung up in Texas and other states to train and arm civilians to protect their churches using the techniques and equipment of law enforcement." ABC World News Tonight (1/3, story 8, 0:25, Johnson, 4.42M) provided similar coverage in a brief report.

### **Judge Orders Hearing On Decision To Commit Man Charged With NY Machete Stabbings.**

The AP (1/1, Mustian) reports, "A federal judge has ordered a hearing to decide whether to civilly commit the man charged with stabbing five people with a machete at a suburban New York Hanukkah celebration in 2019."

### **Ahead Of DA Decision Regarding Blake Shooting, Kenosha Officials Ready For Unrest.**

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (1/2, 844K) reports, "Kenosha city officials are preparing for unrest as they wait for the Kenosha County district attorney to make a decision in the police shooting of Jacob Blake." It's expected that Monday will see the city council "vote on a resolution put forward by Mayor John Antaramian that, if approved, would create an emergency declaration for the city 'regarding potential civil unrest' in the event DA Michael Graveley makes a decision within the first two full weeks of January." The Journal Sentinel adds that Graveley "has said he would make an announcement during that time frame but has not been more specific."

### **Father Of Man Fatally Shot By Minneapolis Police Did Not Learn Of Son's Death Until After Officers Raided Home.**

The New York Times (1/2, Furber, Wright, 20.6M) reports that Bayle Gelle became aware that his 23-year-old son had been fatally shot by Minneapolis police officers only after officers raided Gelle's suburban Minneapolis home hours after the shooting, which occurred on Wednesday night. Mr. Gelle, whose wife, 18-year-old son, and 19-year-old daughter were also home during the raid, "said the deputies had neither showed him the warrant nor told him what they were looking for at

first, but the shouting from the officers as they arrived was frightening, he said." The Times adds, "Only as the officers were making their exit, Mr. Gelle said, did they tell him that his son had been killed."

### **DC Homicides Reach Highest Level Since 2004.**

The Washington Post (12/31, 10.52M) reported, "Homicides in the District rose for the third consecutive year in 2020, reaching nearly 200 for the first time since the previous decade and further stressing a city rattled by the pandemic and social and political unrest." As of Thursday evening, there had been 198 killings, "making the past year the deadliest in the city since 2004." Moreover, in excess of 920 individuals were shot during 2020, "a 64 percent increase from three years ago."

*Chicago Saw 769 Homicides During 2020.* The AP (1/1, Babwin) reports that statistics which police disclosed on Friday show that the amount "of homicides and shootings in Chicago spiked dramatically in 2020, ending with more bloodshed than in all but one year in more than two decades." Following three years of declining homicides, 2020 concluded "with 769 homicides – 274 more than the previous year and the most since the 784 homicides in 2016. The latest shooting victim figures told the same story, with the year ending with 4,033 shooting victims compared with 2,598 the year before."

*Killings Up In Akron, Ohio.* NBC News (1/3, 4.91M) reports that in Akron, Ohio "far more children lost their lives to gun violence in 2020 than in years past, police officials said." During one "four-month stretch, a total of six children under the age of 16 were killed." Additionally, "a total of 55 people were killed in Akron as of Dec. 30, up nearly 45 percent from last year." The violence is part of a trend, as "homicides rose sharply across the country, in cities big and small, in 2020."

*Anchorage Sees Decline In Killings.* The Anchorage (AK) Daily News (1/3, Williams, 461K) reports that in 2020, "18 people died by homicide in Anchorage and three men were fatally shot by police," nearly half the killings from a year prior. In contrast, "domestic violence shelters and crisis hotlines in Anchorage reported during the pandemic that the number of people who have reached out for help grew significantly during 2020."

### **Teenager, US Soldier Charged Over Death Of Fort Drum Corporal.**

The Hill (1/2, Deese, 5.69M) reports, "A 16-year-old and a U.S. Army soldier were charged following the death of a corporal at Fort Drum in New York, according to Sussex County, N.J., prosecutors." The Sussex County Prosecutor's Office indicates that an unidentified teen and Spc. Jamaal Mellish were charged in Cpl. Hayden Allen Harris' death. Mellish and the teen "face charges of felony murder and kidnapping as well as second-degree weapons charges. Additionally, Mellish was charged with third-degree suppression of evidence."

### **Maryland Officer Will Not Be Charged In Deadly Shooting Of Duncan Lemp.**

The Washington Post (12/31, Morse, 10.52M) reported, "A Maryland SWAT officer will not be charged in the fatal shooting of 21-year-old Duncan Lemp during a predawn weapons raid in Potomac that became part of the nationwide debate over no-knock warrants, prosecutors said in a 17-page report released Thursday." According to the Post, "The Montgomery County Police officer was legally justified when he fired five rounds at Lemp through a broken bedroom window in March because, prosecutors said, Lemp had ignored commands to raise his hands, gotten out of bed, grabbed an assault-style rifle and pointed it toward the officer."

### **Union For New Jersey Police Department Suspended Eight Members, Seven Of Whom Are Black.**

The New York Times (12/31, Tully, 20.6M) said, "The tensions within the Englewood Police Department had simmered for months: at disciplinary hearings, during Black Lives Matter marches and in the fallout over no-confidence votes by the officers' union in the chief and deputy chief." However, not many people in the New Jersey city were ready for what came after. The union during November suspended eight members who had voiced backing for the chiefs. The Times added, "Like the chief and deputy chief, seven of the eight officers who were suspended are Black."

Several other Black officers quit the union in solidarity, leaving it with few Black members." Englewood Police Benevolent Association Ron Layne "said the suspensions had nothing to do with race. He said the suspended officers had divulged private union information, in violation of the bylaws, when they sent a letter supporting the chiefs to the mayor and City Council."

### **Attorney: No Charges Expected In Airplane Bomb Scare.**

WDBD-TV Jackson, MS (12/31) reported, "No criminal charges are expected to be brought against the individuals who were held in connection with a bomb scare on a flight that left out of Jackson Wednesday." Mike Small, an attorney in the Alexandria area who was contacted by the family of a juvenile held in the case, said, "It is my understanding that no criminal charges would be filed." Officials with the FBI New Orleans Office "said there was ultimately no threat to public safety," and "the FBI would not say whether anyone would be charged in the matter when asked."

### **Gay Man Almost Killed During Date Seeks Hate Crime Charge.**

The Acadiana (LA) Advocate (1/3, Wyatt) reports Holden White, a gay man who "was brutally attacked" and almost killed during a Grindr date with Chance Seneca, "has felt frustration about how the case has been handled." He said that the police "department's failure to provide a rape kit to medical personnel to gather and preserve evidence in the case" has left him uncertain whether he was also textually assaulted. Sgt. Wayne Griffin, spokesperson for the Lafayette Police Department, "said he believes the case has been turned the case over to the FBI," and "White confirmed he has been working with the FBI." White also is "demanding" that Seneca be charged with a hate crime because he believes Seneca targeted and attacked him because of his sexuality.

### **FBI Renews Calls For Help Finding Cop-Killer.**

The New York Post (1/1, Salo, 7.45M) reported that on Friday the FBI "made renewed calls for help in tracking down" Joanne Chesimard, the "notorious cop-killer" who "was granted political asylum in Cuba after she busted out of a New Jersey prison in 1979."

### **Maine Man Charged With Attempted Arson Of Massachusetts Church.**

The AP (1/2) reported Dushko Vulchev of Houlton, Maine, was charged with trying to burn the Martin Luther King Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Massachusetts, which has "a predominantly Black congregation." WWLP-TV Springfield, MA (1/2, 453K) reported Department of Fire Services spokeswoman Jennifer Mieth said that prior to the December 28 fire at the church "there were previous attempts to burn the church down including one on December 13, 2020 and two on December 15."

### **Gunfire Hits Home Of Family Of Man Killed By Law Enforcement.**

WCMH-TV Columbus, OH (1/2, 352K) reported that police said that on New Year's Eve gunfire hit the home of the family of Casey Goodson Jr., a man killed by a Franklin County Sheriff's Deputy last month. "According to the family's attorney, the shot nearly hit one of Goodson's brothers." WBNS-TV Columbus, OH (1/2, 341K) reports, "A spokesperson for the Columbus Department of Public Safety says there is an investigation underway to see if this was a targeted incident or random."

### **Fourth Suspect In Murder Of Retired Chicago Firefighter Arrested.**

WLS-TV Chicago (1/1, 334K) reported, "A fourth suspect has been arrested in connection with the shooting death of retired Chicago Fire Lt. Dwain Williams." Chicago Police Superintendent David Brown tweeted that the individual was arrested on a separate warrant by the FBI. The AP (1/2) also covered this story.

### **Drugs Or Drug Paraphernalia Seized 237 Times In Recent Years At Jail In State Of New York.**

Newsday (NY) (1/2, 776K) reported that its own analysis of New York State Commission of

Correction records shows inmates "at the Nassau County jail have tapped into illicit supplies of narcotics and other drug contraband more than" 200 times in recent years. According to the analysis, which covered a 45-month period of time lasting "from 2016 through summer 2019," officials at that facility "seized drugs or drug paraphernalia 237 times." The AP (1/2) highlighted the Newsday article.

### **Woman Sues Backpage.com, Salesforce Over Sex Trafficking.**

The Tacoma (WA) News Tribune (1/1, Krell, 200K) reported a woman, identified by the initials S.P., "who was a victim of online sex trafficking at the age of 14 has sued Backpage.com and Salesforce, a company accused of helping the website with marketing." The FBI and other law enforcement seized and shut down Backpage.com in 2018. A previous suit against Salesforce by survivors of human trafficking was dismissed

### **Hearing Pushed Back For Louisville Officers Facing Firing Over Breonna Taylor Case.**

The Louisville (KY) Courier-Journal (12/31, Duvall, 554K) reported that Louisville Metro Police interim Chief Yvette Gentry postponed until Tuesday the hearings for detectives Joshua Jaynes and Myles Cosgrove, who are "facing dismissal for their roles in Breonna Taylor's death." The Courier-Journal added, "Gentry is seeking to fire Cosgrove for violating department policies for use of force and failing to use a body camera," while Jaynes' pre-termination letter "cited violations for preparing a search warrant and truthfulness." The FBI concluded that Cosgrove that fired the shot that killed Taylor, his pre-termination letter said that he sprayed the apartment with bullets and wasn't certain what he was shooting at.

## **FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS**

### **FBI Expanded International Corruption Division.**

The Wall Street Journal (1/1, Sun, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) described how the FBI has assumed a larger role in foreign probes with US connections, with the agency in recent years having enlarged its international corruption division. The FBI is addressing foreign bribery through enforcement of the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and kleptocracy violations under US money-laundering rules. The FBI's latest international corruption team was established in Miami in 2019 after case work related to bribery and money-laundering schemes there swelled, according to Leslie Backschies, chief of the FBI's international corruption unit. The team there has worked no less than five cases, several of which resulted in notable settlements.

### **Man Pleads Guilty To Over \$200M Ponzi Scheme That Defrauded Police, Firefighters.**

The New York Business Journal (12/31, Miller, 834K) reported wholesaler Gregory Altieri pleaded guilty to wire fraud in connection with "a \$200 million Ponzi scheme that targeted current and retired police officers and firefighters." Seth DuCharme, Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, said in a statement "Altieri is held accountable for duping dozens of investors, including retirees living off their pensions. The defendant's lies have caught up to him and he will now face the consequences of his fraudulent scheme."

### **FirstEnergy Faces Share-Holder Class-Action Suits Over Corruption Scandal.**

The AP (12/30, Gillispie) reported that FirstEnergy Corp., Ohio's largest electric utility, "has been besieged by more than a dozen lawsuits filed by angry shareholders," and, based on history, the company "and its insurers could find themselves paying millions to settle those complaints." FirstEnergy "is accused of secretly funding a \$60 million bribery scheme aimed at winning a \$1 billion legislative bailout in 2019 for two Ohio nuclear plants." Shareholder class-action lawsuits "seek damages to be paid by the company itself for having misled investors about its involvement in the bribery scheme."

### **NDAA Includes Anticorruption Measures.**

The Wall Street Journal (1/1, Hagel, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that in a win for anticorruption advocates, new rules included in the recently approved NDAA will help combat money laundering and terrorist financing. One provision in the NDAA targeting shell companies will require many US companies to register their true owners, while another is designed to encourage whistleblowers to report violations of anti-money-laundering laws.

## CYBER DIVISION

### **Microsoft Says Alleged Russian Hackers Accessed Source Code.**

Reuters (12/31, Satter) reported Microsoft said Thursday that "the hacking group behind the SolarWinds compromise was able to...access some of its source code." Microsoft said its investigation "had turned up irregularities with a 'small number of internal accounts' and that one of the accounts 'had been used to view source code in a number of source code repositories.'" The New York Times (12/31, Perloth, 20.6M) reported that while the hackers, "suspected to be working for Russia's S.V.R. intelligence agency, did not appear to use Microsoft's systems to attack other victims, they were able to view some Microsoft source code by hacking into an employee account, the company said."

The Washington Post (12/31, Nakashima, 10.52M) reported Microsoft "did not specify what type of source code was accessed" and "said it has found no evidence of access to production services or customer data." The Wall Street Journal (12/31, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) has a brief report on the developing story.

*Canada's Biggest Pension Fund Took 5% Stake In Solar Winds Before Hacking Revelation.* The Washington Post (12/31, MacMillan, 10.52M) reports that "the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB) was the unlucky recent buyer of a 5 percent stake in SolarWinds, the Texas-based business software maker that was compromised by a far-reaching Russian espionage attack discovered this month"

*US Officials Still Trying To Understand Scope, Intent Of Russian Cyber Attack On SolarWinds.* The New York Times (1/2, A1, Sanger, 20.6M) reports in a front page story that three weeks after the SolarWinds "intrusion came to light, American officials are still trying to understand whether what the Russians pulled off was simply an espionage operation inside the systems of the American bureaucracy or something more sinister, inserting 'backdoor' access into government agencies, major corporations, the electric grid and laboratories developing and transporting new generations of nuclear weapons." At the very least, the incident "has set off alarms about the vulnerability of government and private sector networks in the United States to attack and raised questions about how and why the nation's cyberdefenses failed so spectacularly."

The Wall Street Journal (1/2, Kantchev, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports similarly that "the sprawling SolarWinds hack by suspected Russian state-backed hackers is the latest sign of Moscow's growing resolve and improving technical ability to cause disruption and conduct espionage at a global scale in cyberspace."

### **NYC Education Department Hit By Ransomware Attack.**

The New York Post (1/2, Edelman, 7.45M) reports that a "ransomware attack has crippled" New York City's "teacher discipline system," according to the city's Department of Education. A contractor, the Ubiquis Group, said it "was hit by a ransomware-type cybersecurity incident" on December 4. The company stated, "As a precautionary measure, we have shut down all our IT systems across all our operating sites," though it did not state whether a ransom was demanded. The attack "shut down NYC termination hearings for tenured educators accused of incompetence or misconduct." According to a paralegal who called the New York state Education Department, "a 'forensic cyberteam' is investigating."

### **China Urges Internet Platforms To Investigate Fintech Businesses.**

Reuters (12/31) reports that China's Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRBC) last week "said all internet platforms should investigate their fintech businesses to ensure they comply

with regulatory requirements, and rectify any failings as soon as possible." The country's "financial regulators have summoned Alibaba's financial technology affiliate Ant Group for talks recently over outstanding problems." CIRBC stated Ant's "problems are not individual, but universal to some extent." It "urged platforms conducting online micro-lending, insurance, wealth management and trusts business to speed up their internal investigation processes, and said it would arrange investigations in the near future." The statement also said the "rapid development of fintech has brought problems in cybersecurity, market monopoly, data ownership, consumer rights protection and other issues, affecting market fairness and financial stability."

### **Social Media Companies Ramped Up Crackdown On Offensive Content Ahead Of Election.**

The Washington Times (1/2, Lovelace, 626K) reports, "Facebook lined up with Twitter before the 2020 elections to restrict the distribution of news stories that were damaging to President-elect Joseph R. Biden's presidential campaign." The outlet says its Twitter account was "temporarily suspended...for sharing news of Mr. Biden's son Hunter's shady business dealings while also repeatedly flagging, tagging and restricting Mr. Trump's tweets in the final days of the presidential campaign." Meanwhile, "Snapchat withheld Mr. Trump's content from the Discover feature on its platform, Amazon-owned Twitch booted Mr. Trump temporarily from its platform, and Reddit booted the pro-Trump forum r/The\_Donald alongside approximately 2,000 other subreddit communities for violating new hate speech rules." The news roundup discusses other cyber stories from 2020.

### **T-Mobile's Customer Call Records Targeted In December Data Breach.**

TechCrunch (1/3, Whittaker, 502K) reports, "T-Mobile says hackers accessed some customer call records in data breach" in a "notice buried on its website." The cell carrier announced it "recently discovered unauthorized access to some customers' account information, including the data that T-Mobile makes and collects on its customers in order to provide cell service." The company stated, "Our cybersecurity team recently discovered and shut down malicious, unauthorized access to some information related to your T-Mobile account." Assisting in its investigation were "leading cybersecurity forensics experts," who helped "determine what happened and what information was involved," the statement read. T-Mobile "said that the hackers did not access names, home or email addresses, financial data, and account passwords (or PINs)." The breach took place in early December and affects approximately 200,00 of its customers.

### **NDAA Provisions Boost Federal Government's Cybersecurity.**

The Washington Examiner (12/31, Gross, 888K) reports that the NDAA "contains several cybersecurity provisions that are crucial for protecting government networks, lawmakers and observers said." It "includes a provision that would establish a White House national cybersecurity director," and would give CISA "the power to issue administrative subpoenas to internet service providers when it can't determine the owner of critical infrastructure with security vulnerabilities." CISA is permitted to "to hunt for threats in federal networks, and it implements several recommendations from the Cyberspace Solarium Commission." Under the provision, CISA is also permitted "to engage in threat-hunting activities is needed, added Jason Meller, CEO and founder of cybersecurity vendor Kolide."

### **Eliminating Section 230 Could Alter Americans' Online Lives.**

The Washington Times (12/31, Lovelace, 626K) reports, "President Trump's demand for Congress to eliminate" Section 230 "would not only punish companies such as Twitter and Facebook but also fundamentally alter Americans' online life." Eliminating the protection would expose social media companies to lawsuits, prompting a "crack down on a wider swath of content." It would mean "small businesses could face retribution for reviews and comments that visitors post on their websites," the Times says. Though President Trump and his supporters want it removed "so that they can swing back at social media platforms," removing Section 230 "would give Twitter and Facebook greater latitude to enforce broader restrictions because failing to do so could result in



heavy fines and expensive legal disputes.”

## LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

### **FBI Issues PSA For Smart Home Users Warning Of Hacks For “Swatting.”**

WXYZ-TV Detroit (12/31, Dewberry, 201K) reported that on Tuesday the FBI issued a public service announcement “warning users of smart home devices of being hacked for ‘swatting’ incidents.” The FBI asked users to protect themselves by using “complex and unique passwords and enabl[ing] two-factor authentication.”

UPI (12/31) reported the PSA read, “To gain access to the smart devices, offenders are likely taking advantage of customers who re-use their email passwords for their smart device. The offenders use stolen email passwords to log into the smart device and hijack features, including the live stream camera and device features.”

## OTHER FBI NEWS

### **Analysis: Biden Under Pressure To Nominate Diverse Leadership For DOJ.**

In an analysis, CNN (1/2, Schneider, Carrega, 89.21M) reported, “The longer that President-elect Joe Biden takes to select his pick for US attorney general, the more pressure builds on him to staff his Justice Department with a diverse leadership team,” as the position is “the most prominent job left for Biden to fill” and the attorney general “has purview over many of the issues feeding racial injustice.” However, “sources have told CNN the top candidates continue to be former Alabama Sen. Doug Jones, federal judge Merrick Garland and former acting Attorney General Sally Yates.”

#### ***Constitutional Scholar Calls For Biden To Name Obama As Attorney General.***

Pepperdine University School of Law professor emeritus of constitutional law Douglas W. Kmiec, in an op-ed in The Hill (1/1, 5.69M), argued that President-elect Joe Biden should nominate former President Barack Obama to serve as attorney general, calling it “the fastest way to re-establish the rule of law.” Kmiec argues Obama “has the intelligence, youth and character to do the job,” which is “perfect preparation for subsequent additional public service on the Supreme Court.” Newsweek (1/2, Roche, 2.67M) covered Kmiec’s op-ed.

### **Families Of US Hostages, Detainees Now Looking To Biden To Continue Seeking Loved Ones’ Freedom.**

CNN (1/1, Hansler, 89.21M) reported that the families of Americans unlawfully detained and held hostage abroad are “looking to the incoming administration to keep up the efforts to secure their relatives’ freedom,” and “the Biden team has pledged to ‘work tirelessly’ to reunite the families.”

### **Lead FBI Investigator In Blackwater Criticizes Pardons.**

In a letter to the editor of the New York Times (1/1, 20.6M), John M. Patarini, “the F.B.I. case agent who led the investigation of the Blackwater massacre in Baghdad,” called the shooting “a massacre along the lines of My Lai in Vietnam.” He said is “disgusted with” President Trump’s pardoning the four Blackwater personnel convicted in the shooting. The Guardian (UK) (1/2, Pengelly, 5.53M) reported on the letter.

### **Former Prosecutor Writes Book About Case Against Pain Management Clinic Operator.**

The New York Post (1/2, Hamilton, 7.45M) reported that Charlotte Bismuth, a former prosecutor who worked on a case that led to prison time for a pain management clinic operator, wrote “Bad Medicine: Catching New York’s Deadliest Pill Pusher.” That book focuses on the case, which was brought against Dr. Stan Li, “the first doctor in New York state to be convicted of killing his patients with pills.” The Post highlights that the 66-year-old Li “died in prison of COVID-19.”

## OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

## **Recording Indicates Trump Pressed Georgia's Raffensperger To "Find" Votes.**

President Trump's Saturday telephone conversation with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (R) regarding the results of the presidential election in that state dominates news coverage. All three broadcast networks led their Sunday evening newscasts with the story.

On ABC World News Tonight (1/3, lead story, 4:55, 4.42M), Whit Johnson called it a "bombshell recording of a phone call, revealing President Trump pressuring an election official in Georgia to overturn his defeat to Joe Biden." Trump told Raffensperger "to recount the votes and find nearly 12,000 more...referencing several conspiracy theories that could justify the change, and suggesting that Raffensperger could face criminal prosecution if he doesn't comply. Raffensperger, a Republican who says he voted for the President, [is] heard repeatedly rejecting the President's claim, standing by the state's count." ABC's Rachel Scott called the call "stunning," and ABC legal analyst Dan Abrams said, "The President of the United States sounds like he's pressuring a state Secretary of State to help him win the election. I don't think you're going to see any criminal charges here in connection with what has happened, but there is certainly an argument that the President has walked right up to the line."

On NBC Nightly News (1/3, lead story, 3:05, 3.32M), Kate Snow said, "Throughout the Trump presidency, we've often used the word 'unprecedented' to describe his actions, and now with just over two weeks remaining in his term, President Trump has made a truly unprecedented phone call." NBC's Kelly O'Donnell: "Inside a stunning new pressure campaign, as President Trump tries to overturn his election defeat." Trump: "I just want to find, uh, 11,780 votes." O'Donnell: "Exerting the influence of the presidency, Mr. Trump leaned on [Raffensperger] to announce a reversal of certified Georgia results from Biden to Trump." Trump: "And there's nothing wrong with saying that, you know, uh, that you've recalculated." Jericka Duncan of the CBS Weekend News (1/3, lead story, 2:20, 1.68M) also called it "a stunning telephone call. ... The recorded hour-long conversation Saturday is filled with insults, compliments, and pleading. It follows nearly nine weeks of the President falsely claiming that voter fraud cost him reelection."

The Washington Post (1/3, Gardner, 10.52M), which broke the story, reported Trump urged Raffensperger "to 'find' enough votes to overturn his defeat in an extraordinary one-hour phone call Saturday that legal scholars described as a flagrant abuse of power and a potential criminal act." The Post "obtained a recording of the conversation in which Trump alternately berated Raffensperger, tried to flatter him, begged him to act and threatened him with vague criminal consequences if the secretary of state refused to pursue his false claims, at one point warning that Raffensperger was taking 'a big risk.'"

The New York Times (1/3, Shear, Saul, 20.6M) reports Trump, "who will be in charge of the Justice Department for the 17 days left in his administration, hinted that Mr. Raffensperger and Ryan Germany, the chief lawyer for secretary of state's office, could be prosecuted criminally if they did not do his bidding." Trump said on the call, "You know what they did and you're not reporting it. You know, that's a criminal - that's a criminal offense. And you know, you can't let that happen. That's a big risk to you and to Ryan, your lawyer. That's a big risk." The Times calls it "a remarkable act by a defeated president to crash through legal and ethical boundaries as he seeks to remain in power."

The AP (1/3, Amy, Superville, Brumback) reports the call "was the latest step in an unprecedented effort by a sitting president to pressure a state official to reverse the outcome of a free and fair election that he lost. ... Georgia counted its votes three times before certifying Biden's win by a 11,779 margin, Raffensperger noted: 'President Trump, we've had several lawsuits, and we've had to respond in court to the lawsuits and the contentions. We don't agree that you have won.'" USA Today (1/3, Brown, 12.7M) reports Trump "called Raffensperger a 'child,' a 'schmuck' and 'either dishonest or incompetent' for not supporting claims of widespread voter fraud in Atlanta."

The Wall Street Journal (1/3, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that Bob Bauer, a senior adviser to Joe Biden, said Sunday, "We now have irrefutable proof of a President pressuring and threatening an official of his own party to get him to rescind a state's lawful, certified vote count and fabricate another in its place. It captures the whole, disgraceful story

about Donald Trump's assault on American democracy." The Los Angeles Times (1/3, 3.37M) reports Senate Minority Whip Durbin "issued a strongly worded statement urging a criminal investigation, saying Trump sought to 'intimidate an elected official into deliberately changing and misrepresenting' a legally counted vote." The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (1/3, 1.46M) reports that while "there has been widespread criticism of the president's actions from Democrats," Republicans "have either been silent or continue to back Donald Trump in questioning Joe Biden's win in Georgia."

The New York Post (1/3, Moore, 7.45M) reports Chief of Staff Meadows and Cieta Mitchell, a lawyer "who had not been previously connected to the Trump campaign effort," were also on the call. In a statement, Mitchell "said Raffensperger's office 'has made many statements over the past two months that are simply not correct and everyone involved with the efforts on behalf of the President's election challenge has said the same thing: show us your records on which you rely to make these statements that our numbers are wrong.'"

Politico (1/3, Bice, Cheney, Kumar, 6.73M) reports, "Legal experts say the combination of Trump's request to 'find' a specific number of votes – just enough to put him ahead of Biden – and his veiled reference to criminal liability for Raffensperger and his aides could violate federal and state statutes aimed at guarding against the solicitation of election fraud. The potential violations of state law are particularly notable, given that they would fall outside the reach of a potential pardon by Trump or his successor."

Dan Balz of the Washington Post (1/3, 10.52M) writes, "There are but 16 days left in President Trump's term, but there is no doubt that he will use all of his remaining time in office to inflict as much damage as he can on democracy – with members of a now-divided Republican Party acting as enablers. ... Here was a desperate president alternately begging, pleading, cajoling and, yes, seeming to threaten a state official – and fellow Republican – by asking for a change in the outcome of an election that already had been recounted and then certified."

Reuters (1/3, Wolfe), Bloomberg (1/3, 3.57M), the New York Daily News (1/3, Shahrighian, 2.51M), The Hill (1/3, 5.69M), and the CNN (1/3, Duster, Cole, 89.21M) and Fox News (1/3, Singman, 23.99M) websites also have reports.

***GOP Senators "Bitterly Divided" Over Wednesday Electoral Vote Count.*** The New York Times (1/3, Hulse, 20.6M) reports Republicans "entered the new Congress on Sunday bitterly divided over the basic question of whether to acknowledge the reality that Mr. Trump had lost the election, or to abet his unjustified and increasingly brazen attempts to overturn the results. The extraordinary conflict among congressional Republicans reflects the dilemma they face after four years of acquiescence" to the President's "whims and silence in the face of his most outrageous actions." The Washington Post (1/3, Kane, 10.52M) reports the new Congress convened "with Republicans in open warfare, as several GOP senators unleashed salvos against at least a dozen Republican colleagues who are planning to challenge the results of the presidential election later this week." The Post calls the "bitter split" inside the GOP "virtually unprecedented during the ironclad tenure" of Senate Majority Leader McConnell. The Los Angeles Times (1/3, 3.37M) reports McConnell "has urged Republicans not to object" to the verification of the electoral vote this week.

The AP (1/3, Mascaro, Jalonick) reports, "The extraordinary Republican effort to overturn the presidential election was condemned Sunday by an outpouring of current and former GOP officials warning the effort to sow doubt in Joe Biden's win" and keep Trump in office "is undermining Americans' faith in democracy." Reuters (1/3) reports Sens. Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Susan Collins (R-ME), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Mitt Romney (R-UT) joined several Democratic colleagues in signing a statement reading in part, "The voters have spoken, and Congress must now fulfill its responsibility to certify the election results."

USA Today (1/3, Hayes, 12.7M) reports former House Speaker Paul Ryan "excoriated fellow Republicans Sunday in a rare statement that called planned GOP efforts to challenge [Biden's] win 'anti-democratic and anti-conservative.'" The Baltimore Sun (1/3, Condon, 629K) reports Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) said in a statement, "The scheme by members of Congress to reject the certification of the presidential election makes a mockery of our system and who we are as Americans. President Trump and his team have had every opportunity to provide evidence supporting their claims, and they have failed to do so." The Denver Post (1/3, 660K) reports Rep.

Ken Buck (R-CO) also criticized the "attempt by many in his political party to overturn the results of the presidential election, calling it an unconstitutional power grab by Congress to the detriment of states and voters."

The New York Daily News (1/3, Shahrigan, 2.51M) reports, "Republican senators who object to the November presidential election results went on the defensive Sunday," with Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) "urging his critics to 'calm down.'" Cruz said on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (1/3), "We need to tone down the rhetoric. This is already a volatile situation. It's like a tinderbox and throwing lit matches into it." The New York Times (1/3, Broadwater, 20.6M) reports under the headline "Once A Foe Of Trump, Cruz Leads A Charge To Reverse His Election Loss" that Sens. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), Mike Braun (R-IN), Steve Daines (R-MT), Bill Hagerty (R-TN), Ron Johnson (R-WI), John Kennedy (R-LA), James Lankford (R-OK), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), Roger Marshall (R-KS), and Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) plan to join Cruz in objecting to the electoral slates from several states carried by Biden.

Sen. Johnson said on NBC's Meet The Press (1/3, 2.87M), "One of the points we make is we are not attempting to thwart the democratic process; we're acting to protect it. The fact of the matter is that we have an unsustainable state of affairs in this country where we have tens of millions of people that do not view this election result as legitimate. We've come off four years where the other side refused to acknowledge the legitimacy of President Trump and here we are again and what we're saying is we need transparency, and when you're trying to investigate wrongdoing in the election, we're suggesting let's set up a commission as they did, I know it's a long time ago, 1877 but let's take a look at a bipartisan commission to organize all the allegations."

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (1/3, 1.53M), said, "As Sen. Cruz said, it's about the Constitution. Article I Section IV says it's very clear, the time, manner, and place for holding elections is decided in each state by the legislature. Take Pennsylvania for example. Pennsylvania state law says Election Day ends at 8:00 on Election Day. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania says we're extending it three days until 5:00 on Friday. State law in Pennsylvania says for every absentee mail-in ballot there has to be a signature verification."

Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL), on Fox News' Sunday Morning Futures (1/3, 1.53M), said, "I intend to object to six: Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Arizona, and Nevada. ... There are different reasons for each of them, but for example, as [Jordan] just pointed out, some of them quite clearly violated Article I Section IV of the United States Constitution, the election clause, that empowers the United States Congress paramount authority and legislatures secondary authority to set the times, places and manner of elections."

Politico (1/3, Cheney, Zanona, 6.73M) reports the rules for the Wednesday session "governing the counting of Electoral College votes will remain identical to those used for decades, under a proposal set to be introduced Sunday" by McConnell.

All 10 Living Ex-Defense Secretaries Call For End To Questioning Of Results. The Washington Post (1/3, Lamothe, 10.52M) reports that "all 10 of the living former defense secretaries" – including former Vice President Richard Cheney, as well as Trump's two former Pentagon chiefs, James Mattis and Mark Esper – said "the time to question election results has passed, and there is no role for the military in changing them," in an "extraordinary rebuke" to Trump and "other Republicans who are backing unfounded claims of widespread fraud at the ballot box."

### **Roberts Expresses Gratitude To Judiciary For Performance Amid Pandemic.**

The Washington Post (12/31, Barnes, 10.52M) reported Chief Justice John Roberts on Thursday "steered clear of the controversy concerning President Trump's reelection loss and his continued demands for Supreme Court intervention, instead using his annual report to thank the judiciary for its performance during the pandemic." In his yearly Year-End Report on the Federal Judiciary, Roberts wrote, "For more than a century, the courts have not had to respond to such a widespread public health emergency." He also said, "This year, more than ever, I am privileged and honored to thank all of the judges, court staff, and other judicial branch personnel throughout the Nation for their outstanding service."

The New York Times (12/31, Liptak, 20.6M) said that due to the pandemic, the Supreme Court delayed "arguments that had been scheduled for March and April, and in May it embarked on a bold experiment, hearing arguments by telephone and letting the public listen in, both firsts." The Times added, "The court has now heard some 40 arguments in the new format." The Wall Street Journal (12/31, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provided similar coverage.

### **As US COVID Death Toll Passes 350K, Fauci And Adams Dispute Trump's Claim About Figure.**

Fox News (1/3, Wallace, 23.99M) reports on its website that the US coronavirus death toll "surpassed 350,000 early Sunday, as experts anticipate another surge in cases and fatalities stemming from Christmas and New Year's holiday gatherings," but the Washington Post (1/3, Jacobs, 10.52M) says President Trump "took a break from his election-focused tweetstorm to question the government's reported counts of infections and deaths from the coronavirus."

The Los Angeles Times (1/3, King, 3.37M) reports that while the President "claimed the country's fatality count toll was 'far exaggerated,'" NIAID Director Fauci in an interview with ABC "quickly refuted" Trump's assertion. Fauci said, "The deaths are real deaths." Fauci added, "That's not fake." On NBC's Meet The Press<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, 2.87M), Fauci warned that the pandemic "could and likely will get worse in the next couple of weeks or at least maintain this very terribly high level of infections and deaths that we're seeing." Fauci continued, "My concern is it could get worse over the next couple of weeks as we see the lag that happens when an event occurs like the Christmas and New Year's holiday you usually have a couple week lag before you see an additional uptick of cases, which is always followed by hospitalizations and deaths."

Reuters (1/3, Landay) reports that Surgeon General Adams on CNN's State Of The Union on Sunday "defended the accuracy of coronavirus data" published by the CDC after Trump "attacked the agency's tabulation methods." Adams said, "From a public health perspective, I have no reason to doubt those numbers and I think people need to be very aware that it's not just about the deaths." Adams added, "It's about the hospitalizations, the capacity." However, Politico (1/3, Cohen, 6.73M) says Adams "declined to condemn...Trump" even though he "did defend the numbers Trump attacked."

In addition, Adams said on CNN's State Of The Union<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, 1.16M), "The projections are pretty scary, but they are projections. What we do now matters. If you gathered over the holidays outside of your household without a mask, there are still measures you can take right now. You still can self-quarantine. You can still get tested knowing that greater than 50% of the spread is now among people who are asymptomatic. You can still wear a mask and wash your hands and watch your distance. If we do that we will be able to temper this surge. I want people to understand in the midst of tragedy I'm still optimistic."

Meanwhile, Whit Johnson reported on ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, story 2, 3:05, 4.42M) that more than 20 million Americans are "now testing positive," the equivalent of "one of every 16 people in the US," and "more than 123,000 COVID patients starting the new year in the hospital. No holiday for the front line workers fighting to save their lives. And despite advice, more than 16 million people traveling by air this holiday season." Trevor Ault added the TSA "screen[ed] more than 16 million people this holiday season, with today likely the busiest of the pandemic." On NBC Nightly News<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, story 3, 2:50, Snow, 3.32M), Meagan Fitzgerald reported airports are "packed with people heading home from holiday travel. From large crowds in LA to long lines in New York, as some travelers decided to get tested. Scenes the nation's top health officials say will trigger another surge, but Americans willing to roll the dice, with nearly 1.2 million people hitting the skies on Saturday. Doctors say the Christmas surge could be a week away."

Meanwhile, the AP (1/3) says Texas on Sunday "hit a new record high for COVID-19 hospitalizations as a surge in the disease caused by the coronavirus continued to strain state medical resources following holiday travel and gatherings," while health officials in Arizona "reported a big jump in coronavirus pandemic numbers on Sunday, including a record daily high of more than 17,200 new confirmed cases – a number they say is likely partially inflated by a lag in reporting during the holiday weekend."

On the CBS Weekend News<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, story 9, 2:45, Duncan, 1.68M), Tara Narula reported on a shortage of medical staff nationwide. She said, "At St. Alphonsus Hospital in Boise, Idaho, the increase in COVID patients is overwhelming the hospital staff." Narula added, "In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the state needs to hire 3,000 temporary contracted medical workers to help with increasing ICU hospitalization rates. And over 2,400 miles away in New Jersey, more than 170 employees at three hospitals have contracted COVID-19, causing staffing shortages. As coronavirus cases continue to rise, hospitals across the country are urgently in need of travel nurses who work on temporary contracts for higher fees."

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti (D), on CBS' Face The Nation<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, 2.7M), said, "We're seeing a person every six seconds contract COVID-19 here in Los Angeles County, the nation's largest county, 10 million people. And it's two reasons, one is just simple density. We're the densest metro area in the United States. But we're also seeing the household spread now." Garcetti added, "This is a worrying trend that the fatalities now are not just people with preexisting conditions. 92% of previous deaths were people who had an underlying condition." He continued, "There's no question that we have a shortage of medical personnel, but that's not why we think those deaths are happening. We think it is spreading. It may be mutating as well, but we do believe that this is just how widespread it is and that a lot of people who are younger or don't have preexisting conditions have become very comfortable." On the CBS Weekend News<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, story 5, 2:25, Duncan, 1.68M), Jonathan Vigliotti said that in Los Angeles County, "the number of COVID cases has spiked 1,000% since November alone. And tonight, there is a very real concern those numbers will continue to rise."

On CBS' Face The Nation<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, 1.93M), former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said, "We were hoping that we'd have more injections in people's arms at this point and the vaccine could be starting to have an impact on the trajectory of the epidemic. And the new variant certainly creates more risk that this epidemic peak could get extended."

### **Fauci, Adams Say COVID Vaccinations Ramped Up In US In Past Few Days.**

The AP (1/3, Robertson) reports that the US "ramped up COVID-19 vaccinations in the past few days after a slower-than-expected start, bringing the number of shots dispensed to about 4 million, government health officials said Sunday."

On ABC's This Week<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, 2.89M), NIAID Director Fauci asserted that despite "a couple glitches," what is "important...is to see what's happening in the next week to week and a half." Fauci added, "Some little glimmer of hope is that in the last 72 hours, they've gotten 1.5 million doses into people's arms, which is an average of about 500,000 a day, which is much better than the beginning when it was much, much less than that. We're not where we want to be. No doubt about that, but I think we can get there if we really accelerate, get some momentum going and see what happens as we get into the first couple weeks of January."

In addition, Bloomberg (1/3, Shields, Yang, Monteiro, 3.57M) reports that on CNN's "State Of The Union," Surgeon General Adams "said the initial vaccination program had been superimposed upon a surge of coronavirus cases, which has stressed health-care resources in many areas, and on the holiday season." The Hill (1/3, Bowden, 5.69M) reports Adams said, "Things are changing - 1.5 million doses in the last 72 hours. That's meaningful change." Adams continued, "There's what we delivered, and we hoped that would translate into vaccinations, that has not occurred to the way that we would like."

On CBS' Face The Nation<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, 2.7M), Moncef Slaoui, chief scientific adviser to Operation Warp Speed, said that the "progress that's been made...has been remarkable, and it's the work of tens of thousand or probably hundreds of thousands of people to have been able to have five vaccines in Phase 3 trials, two approved, probably one more to be approved in the next four to six weeks." Slaoui continued, "Our assumption has been that there is a plan in place to immunize. We stand by here to help any specific request. We will do the best we can, as we have done over the last eight months, to make these vaccines, indeed, make it into the arms of people."

Reuters (1/3, Maddipati) reported the CDC "said it had administered 4,225,756 first doses of COVID-19 vaccines in the country as of Saturday morning and distributed 13,071,925 doses. The

tally of vaccine doses distributed and the number of people who received the first dose are for both Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech, vaccines as of 9:00 a.m. ET on Saturday, the agency said."

However, the Washington Post (1/3, A1, Rozsa, 10.52M) reports Americans "trying to access shots are encountering systems that vary widely county to county and that, in many places, are overwhelmed." On NBC Nightly News (1/3, story 4, 3:00, Snow, 3.32M), Sam Brock said lines "continue to mushroom from Texas to Tennessee, and, of course, Florida, where one in five residents are 65 or older," while the New York Times (1/3, Tompkins, 20.6M) reports this "slow rollout is straining relations between the federal government and states and cities, and is adding one more huge challenge for overstressed health departments."

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine (R), on CNN's State Of The Union (1/3, 1.16M), discussed the vaccine distribution efforts in the state. DeWine said, "Every one of us – from the governor, everybody – has to have a sense of urgency of getting these shots out because they are life savers. Any time you have the vaccine sitting on a shelf and not out, we have a problem." DeWine added, "We have a moral imperative to move just as quickly as we can, and what I've told the people of Ohio and I told our team is this: We cannot control how much vaccine is coming to Ohio every week. But we have an obligation to get that vaccine out."

Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R), on CBS' Face The Nation (1/3, 1.93M), said, "There are a number of challenges and we've got to do better both at the federal and at the state level. One of the challenges is that we have a limited supply. And when you have a limited supply, that means you've got to prioritize and you've got to make sure you're giving it to those with the greatest needs, or those of the greatest risk. And that's a challenge in and of itself. Secondly, you do have some reluctance and that creates some complications. We're focusing on our long-term care facilities and that has to have consents in many instances and that slows up the process. But even with that, we have to do better. We have to act with a sense of urgency and we can do that. We have to learn whenever you're in a battle that you have to adjust to the circumstances of that battle."

AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins, on CBS' Face The Nation (1/3, 1.93M), said, "I think by every measure that [distribution of the vaccines] has not moved fast enough. Forty percent of the people who have died in this country live in nursing homes. We see this really as an unconscionable national disaster that 350,000 people in this country have died from COVID-19 and 40% of them have lived in nursing homes or work in nursing homes, and yet they only represent 1% of the population. So, no, we're not moving fast enough."

Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/3, A1, Wu, Robbins, 20.6M) says that as governments "rush to vaccinate their citizens against the surging coronavirus, scientists are locked in a heated debate over a surprising question: Is it wisest to hold back the second doses everyone will need, or to give as many people as possible an inoculation now – and push back the second doses until later?" The Times says that while UK officials "already elected to delay second doses of vaccines made by the pharmaceutical companies AstraZeneca and Pfizer as a way of more widely distributing the partial protection afforded by a single shot," US health officials remain "adamantly opposed to the idea," though Slaoui on Sunday "offered up an intriguing alternative: giving some Americans two half-doses of the Moderna vaccine, a way to possibly milk more immunity from the nation's limited vaccine supply." Reuters (1/3, Pierson) reports Slaoui "said...officials were in talks with Moderna and the Food and Drug Administration about the idea."

On ABC World News Tonight (1/3, story 3, 2:30, Johnson, 4.42M), Janai Norman described Operation Warp Speed's proposal as "a potential game-changer," though Slaoui conceded, "Ultimately, it will be an FDA decision to accelerate injecting half the volume." Norman added that it "could help speed up what's been a slow rollout. So far, the US vaccinating 4.2 million Americans, only about one in 100 people. A similar rate to the UK, but far behind Israel, which has already vaccinated 12 in 100 people." Politico (1/3, Ehley, 6.73M) reports federal officials have said the US "will need to vaccinate roughly 80 percent of the population to achieve herd immunity against the coronavirus and are looking for ways to quickly ramp up immunization efforts as cases continue to soar."

**AP Analysis: Minority Business Owners Were Kept Waiting For PPP Loans.**

FBI(21-cv-572)-12762



The AP (1/3, Rosenberg, Myers) reports an analysis of data from the Paycheck Protection Program released December 1 showed that "many minority owners desperate for a relief loan didn't receive one until the PPP's last few weeks while many more white business owners were able to get loans earlier in the program." The AP adds that in the first round of funding, "six loans were approved for every 1,000 people living in the 20% of ZIP codes with the greatest proportions of white residents, nearly twice the rate of loans approved for people living in the 20% of ZIP codes with the smallest proportions of whites." While "over the entire course of the program, the number of loans approved grew and evened out at 14 loans per 1,000 residents in the most ZIP codes with the most and fewest number of white-owned businesses," minority owners "were kept waiting while their companies were in jeopardy."

### **Some COVID Relief Money Frozen After Oregon Earmarked It Exclusively For Black Residents.**

The New York Times (1/3, A1, Eligon, 20.6M) reports that in July, Oregon state lawmakers approved earmarking "\$62 million of its \$1.4 billion in federal Covid-19 relief money to provide grants to Black residents, business owners and community organizations enduring pandemic-related hardships." Now, "millions of dollars in grants are on hold after one Mexican-American and two white business owners sued the state, arguing that the fund for Black residents discriminated against them." The Times says the "stakes are dire. Nearly \$50 million worth of grants have been awarded, but a court has frozen \$8.8 million, the remaining amount minus administrative costs, until the litigation is resolved, a process that could take years. With the Dec. 31 deadline having passed for states to spend their CARES Act funds or return what remains to the federal government, the litigation could mean the money is lost for good."

### **Economists Optimistic About Economic Growth, Job Creation This Year.**

The Wall Street Journal (1/3, Torry, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports economists it surveyed expect the Labor Department's September jobs report will show that employers added 68,000 new jobs in December, marking a decline from 245,000 a month earlier and the slowest month of the labor market recovery since May. However, economists also see a number of reasons to be optimistic about the economy as the year moves forward. While economists surveyed by the Journal last month cut their forecasts for economic growth and job creation in the first quarter of this year, they increased them for the second, third and fourth quarters.

A separate Wall Street Journal (1/3, Ramkumar, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) report says investors' buying as 2020 ended has increased speculation that markets will continue surging this year, aided by the delivery of coronavirus vaccines and by government stimulus programs.

### **WPost Report: Administration Decision On Line Speeds At Chicken Plants Hastened COVID Spread.**

The Washington Post (1/3, Kindy, Mellnik, Hernandez, 10.52M) reports that Administration "allowed 15 poultry plants to increase slaughter line speeds during the pandemic." While the move "boosts production," it "makes it more difficult for workers to maintain space between one another. It also appears to have hastened the spread of the coronavirus." Now, the Administration "is rushing to finalize a rule that would make the faster line speeds permanent and expand them to dozens of other poultry plants – a move at odds with views held" by Joe Biden. In response to an inquiry from the Post, USDA "said a 'direct link' between line speeds and the prevalence of coronavirus cases has not been established. The department also said it does not regulate worker safety and that, when determining line speeds, plants should follow guidance" from the CDC and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

### **NYTimes Examines Impact Of IHS Decision To Cut Services At Hospital.**

The New York Times (1/3, Walker, 20.6M) reports after "one of the two pueblos whose federal funding helped support the [Indian Health Service's] Acoma-Cañoncito-Laguna hospital in Acoma Pueblo, N.M., decided to take its share of the hospital's budget and start its own independently run clinic," the IHS was left "short of money for the hospital." Ultimately, IHS "slashed services at the

hospital in November." A "hospital that had been in operation since the mid-1970s and was serving 9,100 mostly poor tribal citizens would be reduced to only providing primary care on weekdays and only until 4:30 p.m." While the IHS "said it did not start the sequence of events that resulted in the cutbacks," its critics "said it fit into a larger pattern of managerial and financial problems that have focused new attention on its ability to deliver adequate care to some of the nation's most vulnerable populations."

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### India Approves Two Coronavirus Vaccines.

The New York Times (1/3, Schmall, Yasir, 20.6M) reports India has "approved two coronavirus vaccines, one made by AstraZeneca and Oxford University and the other developed in India, for emergency use, a major step toward halting the spread of the coronavirus in one of the world's hardest-hit countries." The Times adds Drugs Controller General Venugopal G. Somani "said the decision to approve the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine and a local vaccine developed by Bharat Biotech came after 'careful examination' of both by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, India's pharmaceutical regulator." The Washington Post (1/3, Masih, 10.52M) reports, "The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, known as Covishield in India, is being produced locally by the Serum Institute of India, the world's largest vaccine manufacturer."

The AP (1/3, Ghosal, Saaliq) reports Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi "called the vaccine approval a 'decisive turning point to strengthen a spirited fight,'" but "questions have been raised by health experts over the vaccine developed by Bharat Biotech. They point out that clinical trials began only recently, making it almost impossible for the firm to have analyzed and submitted data showing that its shots are effective in preventing illness from the coronavirus." Reuters (1/3, Varadhan, Das) and the Wall Street Journal (1/3, Bellman, Agarwal, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provide similar coverage.

### UK's Johnson Says England May Have Stricter Controls Soon.

The AP (1/3, Pylas) reports UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Sunday said that England would likely impose stricter lockdowns, while he also "insisted...that schools are safe and urged parents to send their children back into the classroom in areas of England where they can." On the BBC, Johnson said, "We are entirely reconciled to do what it takes to get the virus under control, that may involve tougher measures in the weeks ahead." Among possible actions Johnson mentioned were "school closures, curfews and the total banning of household mixing."

Reuters (1/3, James) reports Johnson "said on Sunday tougher lockdown restrictions were probably on the way as COVID-19 cases keep rising, but that schools were safe and children should continue to attend where permitted." Johnson said, "There are obviously a range of tougher measures that we would have to consider." Johnson added, "I'm not going to speculate now about what they would be." Politico Europe (1/3, Posaner, 15K) reports that England currently "operates a four-stage program of restrictions depending on local infection rates" and that "London and much of the rest of the country is in the highest tier."

Meanwhile, Elizabeth Palmer reported on the CBS Weekend News<sup>\*</sup> (1/3, story 6, 1:50, Duncan, 1.68M) that starting Monday "in the UK, the new AstraZeneca vaccine will be rolled out on a massive scale-up of the vaccination program. Already, more than a million people here have been inoculated with the Pfizer vaccine. But an extra contagious COVID virus strain is filling London hospitals at an alarming rate. Some elderly people, like patient zero Margaret Keenan, have already had two shots. But such is the urgency that for the next while, Britons will get only one vaccine dose instead of the recommended two to make supplies go further."

Greece Confirms Four Cases Of New UK Coronavirus Variant. Reuters (1/3, Papadimas) reports Greece "detected four cases of the new coronavirus variant in people who recently travelled from Britain, according to a Health Ministry official." According to Reuters, "Greece tightened coronavirus curbs for a week from Sunday, closing hair salons and bookstores that had been allowed to reopen in the run-up to Christmas, to contain the spread of the

coronavirus.”

### **Norway Adds New Restrictions To Stop COVID Spread.**

Reuters (1/3, Solsvik) reports that Norway “will impose fresh restrictions to prevent a resurgence in the spread of the coronavirus, Prime Minister Erna Solberg said on Sunday, including a nationwide ban on serving alcohol in restaurants and bars and not inviting guests home.” Reuters says Norway “estimates its R number – which represents the average number of people that one infected person will pass the virus on to – stands at 1.3.”

### **Sullivan Says Biden Will Seek To Renew Arms Talks With Russia, Missile Negotiations With Iran.**

The New York Times (1/3, Sanger, 20.6M) reports Jake Sullivan, Joe Biden’s choice national security adviser, “said on Sunday that the new administration would move quickly to renew the last remaining major nuclear arms treaty with Russia, even while seeking to make President Vladimir V. Putin pay for what appeared to be the largest-ever hacking of United States government networks.” On CNN, Sullivan “also said that as soon as Iran re-entered compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal...there would be a ‘follow-on negotiation’ over its missile capabilities.” The Times says the statements “indicated how quickly the new administration would be immersed in two complex arms control issues, even as Mr. Biden seeks to deal with the coronavirus pandemic and the economic shocks it has caused.”

### **NYTimes Analysis: Xi’s Recent Trade Deals Will Undermine Biden Efforts To Create United Front.**

A New York Times (1/3, Myers, 20.6M) reports that in recent weeks, Chinese leader Xi Jinping has “made deals and pledges that he hopes will position his country as an indispensable global leader, even after its handling of the coronavirus and increased belligerence at home and abroad have damaged its international standing.” The Times says Xi’s efforts “has underlined how difficult it will be” for Joe Biden “to forge a united front with allies against China’s authoritarian policies and trade practices, a central focus of the new administration’s plan to compete with Beijing and check its rising power. ... The deals show the leverage Mr. Xi has because of the strength of the Chinese economy, which is now the fastest-growing among major nations as the world continues to struggle with the pandemic.”

### **Niger’s PM Says 100 Killed In Attacks On Two Villages.**

Reuters (1/3, Aksar) reports Niger’s Prime Minister Brigi Rafini said Sunday that 100 people were killed Saturday in attacks on two villages in the western part of the country. Rafini’s remarks were “broadcast on national television on Sunday from a visit to the zone, near the border with Mali. He did not say who was responsible.” Reuters says the attacks “came on the same day that the electoral commission announced the results from the first round of the election to replace President Mahamadou Issoufou, who is stepping down after a decade in power. Ruling party candidate Mohamed Bazoum, who finished in first, expressed his condolences on Sunday to the victims. ... Bazoum will face former President Mahamane Ousmane in a second round run-off expected on Feb. 21.” The New York Times (1/3, Saley, Maclean, 20.6M) provides similar coverage.

### **CAR Rebels Attack, Enter Town Ahead Of Reading Of Election Results.**

Citing “four security and humanitarian sources,” Reuters (1/3, Rolland) reports, “Rebel fighters in Central African Republic attacked and partially occupied” the diamond-mining town of Bangassou on Sunday, “a day before authorities are due to declare results of the presidential election.” According to a statement from the UN Peacekeeping mission MINUSCA, at least “at least five rebels were killed and two army soldiers wounded in the clashes.” Rebels, “whom the government and United Nations say are backed by ex-president Francois Bozize, launched an offensive last month after the constitutional court rejected Bozize’s candidacy to challenge President Faustin-

Archange Touadera in last Sunday's vote." While Bozize's party "officially denies he is working with the rebels...some in the party have suggested they are working together."

## THE BIG PICTURE

### Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

#### **Wall Street Journal:**

[Trump Pressured Georgia Secretary Of State To 'Find' Votes](#)  
[MGM Seeks To Buy Ladbroke's Owner Entain](#)  
['It's A Desperate Time': Crush Of Covid-19 Patients Strains US Hospitals](#)  
[Covid-19 Pandemic Likely Improved Your Commute To Work](#)  
[Supreme Court Case During The Pandemic? Landline Essential, Business Suit Optional](#)

#### **New York Times:**

[Trump, In Taped Call, Pressured Georgia Official To 'Find' Votes To Overturn Election](#)  
[Republicans Begin New Congress Feuding Over Bid To Overturn Election](#)  
[Georgia Is Getting More Blue. The Senate Races Will Tell How Much.](#)  
[A Covid-19 Relief Fund Was Only For Black Residents. Then Came The Lawsuits.](#)  
[As Rollout Falters, Scientists Debate New Vaccination Tactics](#)

#### **Washington Post:**

[Trump Pressures GOP Official In Ga. To 'Find' Votes](#)  
[GOP Infighting Marks First Day Of New Congress](#)  
[Trump Knows No Limits In Bid To Undo Election Loss](#)  
[In Brazil, Steadfast Vows To Stay Home](#)  
[Sign-Up Systems Fluster Vaccine Seekers In US](#)  
[Cases Likelier At Poultry Plants Given Speed Waivers](#)

#### **Financial Times:**

[Bitcoin Tops \\$34,000 As Record-Breaking Rally Resumes](#)  
[European Countries Set To Extend Lockdowns As Covid Cases Surge](#)  
[Raphael Warnock Aims To Make History In Georgia](#)  
[South Korea Population Falls For First Time](#)

#### **Washington Times:**

[Hunter Biden Email Associate On Justice Department Transition Team](#)  
[Trump Presses Georgia's Secretary Of State In Phone Call About Alleged Election Fraud](#)  
[COVID-19 Forces Military Recruiters To Get Creative](#)  
[After Making History, Citizen Trump Will Regain Power To Block Twitter Followers](#)  
[Republicans Warn Of 'Generational Damage' From Left If Georgia Democrats Win Senate Races](#)  
[Satirical Babylon Bee: 'Paper Of Record' For Conservatives](#)

#### **Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:**

**ABC:** Trump-Phone Call; COVID Surge; Vaccines; Two Army Soldiers Found Dead Over Holiday; Michigan-Small Plane Crash; Weather Report; Pelosi-Re-Elected; Texas-Pastor Shot & Killed; Houston-Night Club Shooting; Nashville-Men Jump Off Rooftop Bar; College Basketball; Kindergartner & Friends Make Cards For Nursing Homes.  
**CBS:** Senate-Election Results; Trump-Phone Call; Trump-Protests; Georgia-Senate Run-Off; COVID Surge; Vaccines-Global Effort; Iran-US Drone Strike Anniversary; Nashville-Men Jump Off Rooftop Bar; Nurses Shortage; Missouri-Police Academy Opening On HBCU Campus; Puppy Brings Joy To Nursing Home Residents.  
**NBC:** Trump-Phone Call; Senate-Election Results; COVID Surge; Vaccines; Nashville Bomber; Alex

Trebek Farewell; Pelosi-Re-Elected; Georgia-Senate Run-Off; Group Donates Laptops to Disadvantaged Students.

**Network TV At A Glance:**

Trump-Phone Call – 9 minutes, 15 seconds

COVID Surge – 8 minutes, 20 seconds

Vaccines – 7 minutes, 20 seconds

**Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:**

**ABC:** Senate-Election Results; Trump-Phone Call; Georgia-Senate Run-Off; COVID Surge; Vaccines.

**CBS:** Trump-Phone Call; Georgia-Senate Run-Off; COVID Surge; Iran-US Drone Strike Anniversary; 10 Living Secretaries of Defense Rebuke Trump.

**FOX:** Trump-Phone Call; Georgia-Senate Run-Off; Pelosi-Reelected.

**NPR:** Trump-Phone Call; Pelosi-Reelected; Senate-Election Results; Nashville Bomber.

## WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

### Today's Events In Washington.

**White House:**

- President Trump — Departs White House for a victory rally in Dalton, GA.
- Vice President Pence — No public events scheduled.

**US Senate:**

- No scheduled events.

**US House:**

- No scheduled events.

**Cabinet Officers:**

- No scheduled events.

**Visitors:**

- No scheduled visitors.

**This Town:**

- Joe Biden travels to Georgia to campaign on behalf of Democratic ticket – Joe Biden travels to Georgia to campaign on behalf of Democratic senatorial candidates Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock and the rest of the Democratic ticket in the 5 Jan runoff elections

*Location: Atlanta, GA*

**Copyright 2021 by Bulletin Intelligence LLC** Reproduction or redistribution without permission prohibited.

Content is drawn from thousands of newspapers, national magazines, national and local television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform's terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva's terms of use. Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Website's information and privacy policies. The FBI News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at [BulletinIntelligence.com](http://BulletinIntelligence.com), or called at (703) 483-6100.

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Tuesday, January 05, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 5, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-05:00)  
**Attached:** FBIDirBriefing210105.doc

b7E -3

This morning's Director's AM News Briefing is attached.

**Full-text Links:** Clicking the hypertext links in our write-ups will take you to the newspapers' original full-text articles.

**Interactive Table of Contents:** Clicking a page number on the table of contents page will take you directly to that story.

**Contractual Obligations and Copyright:** This copyrighted material is for the internal use of FBI employees only and, by contract, may not be redistributed without Bulletin Intelligence's express written consent.

**Contact Information:** Please contact us any time at 703-483-6100 or [REDACTED]  
Use of this email address will automatically result in your message being delivered to everyone involved with your service, including senior management. Thank you.

b7E -3

## **FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS – DIRECTOR’S AM NEWS BRIEFING**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 5:00 AM EST**

### **Democrats Request FBI Criminal Investigation Of Trump Call With Georgia Secretary Of State.**

Norah O'Donnell said on the CBS Evening News (1/4, lead story, 4:35, O'Donnell, 4.51M) that “there are growing demands for federal and state investigations into President Trump’s unprecedented hour-long phone call” with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger. Congressional Democrats “are asking the FBI to open a probe.” CBS’ Weijia Jiang: “Trump called Georgia’s Secretary of State 18 times since Election Day before finally getting through on Saturday. Tonight, the White House is not commenting on the growing calls to investigate whether the President’s demands on that call were illegal.”

NBC News (1/4, 4.91M) reports that in a letter to FBI Director Christopher Wray, Reps. Ted Lieu (D-CA) and Kathleen Rice (D-N) requested he “open a criminal probe into President Donald Trump after a leaked phone call showed him pleading with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger to overturn his state’s election.” They wrote that they “believe Donald Trump engaged in solicitation of, or conspiracy to commit, a number of election crimes.” In the call, Trump asked Raffensperger “to find” enough votes to overturn President-elect Joe Biden’s victory in the state. Trump suggested Raffensperger might be criminally prosecuted if he didn’t accede to Trump’s demands.

CBS News (1/4, Quinn, 5.39M) reports that on Monday Raffensperger told ABC’s “Good Morning America” that his office would not open an investigation, as it could be a conflict of interest, “but he believes the Fulton County district attorney ‘wants to look at it.’” Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis said in a statement she found the call “disturbing” and said “I will enforce the law without fear or favor.”

HuffPost (1/4, Blumenthal, 363K) reports, “A potential problem for prosecuting Trump’s actions is that the person soliciting the crime must know that they are requesting election fraud to be committed. If Trump legitimately believes the falsehoods that he won” the vote in Georgia, then he wasn’t committing a crime.

USA Today (1/4, Cummings, Wu, Hayes, Bailey, 12.7M) reports, “More than 90 House Democrats on Monday signed on to a three-page censure resolution against” President Trump over the Georgia election call. Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) introduced the censure resolution, but “it’s unclear whether the resolution would get a vote in the House.”

Former federal and state prosecutor Elie Honig, in an op-ed on CNN (1/4, 89.21M), wrote, “We can no longer write off Trump’s dangerous, potentially criminal conduct” and instead “it’s time for prosecutors to do their jobs.” Honig acknowledged the difficulty in proving a crime based on the subject’s state of mind and “the political and practical issues that could accompany a potential criminal charge against the prior president,” but not even investigating “would be an abdication of prosecutorial duty.”

Additional coverage includes the Boston Globe (1/4, Prignano, 1.04M), The Hill (1/4, Budryk, 5.69M), the Atlanta Journal-Constitution (1/4, 1.46M), the Washington Examiner (1/4, Brest, 888K), Newsday (NY) (1/4, 776K), Newsweek (1/4, 2.67M), The Hill (1/4, Gstalter, 5.69M), the Boston Herald (1/4, 327K), MSNBC (1/4, 8.1M), KTLA-TV Los Angeles (1/4, 348K), WBZ-TV Boston (1/4, 92K), the Garden City (NY) Patch (1/4, 1.44M), the Washington Times (1/4, Boyer, 626K), Fox News (1/4, Blitzer, 23.99M), the Daily Caller (1/4, 375K), and Breitbart (1/4, 1.26M).

**Experts: Call Opens Trump To Charges, But Proving Them Could Be Difficult.** CNN (1/4, Polantz, Carrega, 89.21M) reports, “Georgia officials said the state could be considering a serious inquiry” into whether President Trump broke election fraud laws when he pressured Georgia officials to “find” 11,870 votes – which would reverse his loss in the state – “and the matter has already been referred to the FBI.” However, “prosecutions of former presidents in the US are unheard of in modern times, and the presidency has immense power that lends protection to Trump.”

Bloomberg (1/4, 3.57M) reports the call “may have ironically produced what Republicans have failed to put forth in dozens of lawsuits: smoking-gun evidence of election fraud.” However, prosecuting Trump “would cut against the stated desire of Biden and other Democrats to move on from Trump’s divisive term in office, and would be difficult to prove without clear evidence that the president knew he lost the election and wanted Georgia officials to overturn it anyway.”

USA Today (1/4, Johnson, Phillips, 12.7M) reports, “Nick Akerman, an assistant special prosecutor during the Watergate investigation, said Trump’s call to Raffensperger is ‘not much different’ from wiretapped conversations involving mafia bosses during his years as a federal prosecutor.” Akerman said Trump’s suggestion that not obeying him would “be very costly” was a “veiled threat,” and “characterized the call as part of ‘a pattern of criminal activity’ by the president.” However, “some former prosecutors said that building a criminal case would likely be more difficult,” citing the difficulty in proving Trump’s criminal intent.

Additional coverage includes NBC News (1/4, 4.91M).

**Rep. Cheney, Some Other Republicans Criticize Trump Over Call.** USA Today (1/4, Wu, 12.7M) reports top House Republican Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) said on Monday that Trump's "call with top Georgia election officials asking them to "find" more votes for him was 'deeply troubling.'"

Newsweek (1/4, Touchberry, 2.67M) reports that "most GOP lawmakers remained silent" on the issue, but "Cheney has become an increasingly outspoken critic, breaking from most of her GOP colleagues from time to time to offer rebuke for Trump's actions and remarks." Still, Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA), "who is retiring after his term ends in 2023, later issued a blistering statement, saying that Trump's actions represented 'a new low in this whole futile and sorry episode.'" Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) called the call "absolutely appalling."

Additional coverage includes the Washington Examiner (1/4, Soellner, 888K).

**Trump Attorney Criticizes Raffensperger For Recording Conversation.** Fox News (1/4, Singman, 23.99M) reports on its website that Trump attorney Kurt Hilbert said Monday that Trump and his legal team "were 'disappointed'" that Raffensperger "secretly recorded and released" a "confidential settlement discussion." However, US News & World Report (1/4, Milligan, 1.91M) reports, "Georgia is a 'one-party consent' state when it comes to recording conversations," meaning that just one participant in the conversation needs to consent to a recording.

**FBI Aware Of Threats Related To Georgia Runoff Election.** Fox News (1/4, Singman, 23.99M) reports the FBI Atlanta Field Office said that it is aware of threats to the state's Senate runoff election on Tuesday. An FBI spokesperson told Fox News, "We take all threats seriously and are communicating with our local, state and federal partners." The FBI and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation "were notified after Georgia's Cherokee County Sheriff's Office said it learned of a 'threatening email' that was sent to several Cherokee County employees 'regarding threats to polling locations on Election Day.'"

**DC Mobilizes National Guard In Advance Of Pro-Trump Protests.** The AP (1/4, Khalil, Baldor) reports, "Bracing for possible violence, the nation's capital has mobilized the National Guard ahead of planned protests" by Trump's supporters on Tuesday and Wednesday. A "pro-Trump rally in December ended in violence as hundreds of Trump supporters, wearing the signature black and yellow of the Proud Boys faction, sought out confrontations with a collective of local activists attempting to bar them from Black Lives Matter Plaza, an area near the White House." District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) warned, "we will not allow people to incite violence, intimidate our residents or cause destruction in our city."

Newsweek (1/4, Arkin, 2.67M) reports, "The FBI is working furiously with Metropolitan DC police behind the scenes to understand just how many pro-Trump supporters will flood the capital and whether they plan to resort to violence." Official sources directly involved in security planning and intelligence gathering say that their planning is complicated "by the potential for Republican leaders in Congress who may choose to stand down or hold back the U.S. Capitol Police, and by a Department of Homeland Security that has become politicized and partisan in support of Donald Trump."

Reuters (1/4, Landay) reports city officials warned Trump supporters "not to bring guns to protests this week against congressional certification of his election defeat and enlisted hundreds of National Guard troops to help keep order." The Washington Post (1/4, 10.52M) reports, "Members of right-wing groups have taken to social media sites such as Parler and Telegram to discuss how to bring guns into the District despite laws banning open carry throughout the city and prohibiting guns on federal lands such as the Mall and Freedom Plaza or anywhere within 1,000 feet of a protest."

Politico (1/4, Zanona, Ferris, Cheney, 6.73M) reports, "The prospect of violence comes as some Democrats, particularly members of color, have seen an increase in personal threats against them and their offices throughout the 2020 protests," and "Many lawmakers and senior aides privately say they're spooked by the growing safety threats gripping the Capitol this week." They have been acute enough "that the House's sergeant-at-arms sent a memo Monday urging lawmakers to traverse the underground tunnel network rather than the public streets," contrary to guidelines for reducing COVID-19 risk.

Additional coverage includes USA Today (1/4, Carless, 12.7M), Politico (1/4, Nguyen, 6.73M), NPR (1/4, Moore, 3.69M), USA Today (1/4, 12.7M), Politico (1/4, Feldscher, 6.73M), The Hill (1/4, Coleman, 5.69M), the Washington Times (1/4, Zantow, 626K), and the Washington Times (1/4, Zantow, 626K).

**Proud Boys Chairman Arrested Over Burnt Black Lives Matter Banner.** Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/4, Steinhauer, Benner, Schmitt, Cooper, 20.6M) reports Proud Boys Chairman Enrique Tarrio was arrested in Washington on Monday "on suspicion of burning a Black Lives Matter banner that was torn from a historic Black church in Washington during protests last month that led to several violent clashes, including stabbings, around the city." The Washington Post (1/4, Weil, 10.52M) reports a DC police spokesman "said Tarrio is charged with one misdemeanor count of destruction of property in connection with the Dec. 12 burning of a banner stolen from Asbury United Methodist Church."

NBC News (1/5, 4.91M) reports police said that Tarrio "was arrested upon entering the city Monday and found to have two high-capacity magazines"; he faces an additional gun charge. "Separately Monday, Metropolitan African



Methodist Episcopal Church sued Tarrio and the Proud Boys in connection with the destruction of a Black Lives Matter sign during the same Dec. 12 pro-Trump rally.”

The Houston Chronicle (1/4, 982K) reports Tarrio’s arrest “is in line with a tactic used by law enforcement officials to arrest key organizers of large protests just before they occur in an effort to gain intelligence about what might be coming,” as such arrests “can trigger sudden movements by other group members, as well as communications that can be monitored through court-authorized electronic surveillance.”

Additional coverage includes the New York Times (1/4, Benner, 20.6M), The Hill (1/4, Coleman, 5.69M), and the Daily Caller (1/4, 375K).

### **FBI Aggressively Questions Michigan Senate Staffer About Zoom Call On Proposed Legislation.**

The Detroit Free Press (1/4, Boucher, 2.16M) reports, “Two law enforcement officers, including one from the FBI, recently questioned” Michigan state Sen. Rosemary Bayer’s (D) chief of staff of about a private Zoom conversation with Bayer and others on “draft legislation to curtail the use of tear gas by law enforcement.” The chief of staff, Katie Reiter, was “so surprised...that she called local law enforcement to make sure the people at her door actually worked for the FBI.” Reiter said, “I was scared, to be honest. They were very aggressive.” She added that “the FBI agents clearly did not know who she was or that she worked for a state lawmaker.” Meanwhile, “Bayer questioned how the FBI would have known about the conversation in the first place,” and argued that the FBI couldn’t have known about Reiter and where she lives without knowing who she was or where she worked. Michigan state Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D) tweeted, “The FBI needs to be transparent about how this improper interrogation came to happen.”

The Intercept (1/4, 80K) reports, “The conversation was a routine work call – and the FBI’s visit and insistent questioning raised alarming questions about how and why the legislative discussion warranted police scrutiny.” Civil rights advocates argue the questioning “was highly inappropriate for the agents to interrogate an elected official’s aide about legislative matters.” Bayer said, “The whole thing feels political.” Former FBI special agent Mike German “noted that there are severe restrictions on the FBI’s political activities” and said, “the police officers or task force officers should have recognized that as soon as the witness said that she was a staffer discussing legislation.” He cast the tactic as “indicative of a long-standing problem with the FBI’s war on terror-era policy to investigate every tip it receives, no matter how implausible or far-fetched,” which “he says wastes resources while putting civil liberties at risk and hindering the FBI’s ability to pursue the most credible threats.”

**FBI Tracked Down Ghislaine Maxwell Through Her Cellphone Data.** The Daily Beast (1/4, Briquet, 933K) reports a newly unsealed affidavit in support of an application for a search warrant, filed by an FBI agent, indicates that authorities tracked Ghislaine Maxwell “to a New Hampshire hideaway using her cellphone data.” While “authorities previously obtained a search warrant in New York to receive GPS and historical cell site data for Maxwell’s cellphone account,” they didn’t know what building she was in. Details in the affidavit “seem to indicate that the FBI used a ‘stingray’ device,” which simulates a cell tower and captures the phones’ “exact location and the registered user’s identifying information,” to locate Maxwell.

Additional coverage includes the Daily Mail (UK) (1/4, 4.11M).

**Source: Barr Personally Questioned Epstein’s Cellmate.** The New York Daily News (1/4, Brown, 2.51M) reports Attorney General William Barr personally questioned Efrain “Stone” Reyes, “the last inmate to share a cell with Jeffrey Epstein” prior to his suicide, according to a source “who became close friends with Reyes while they were both held at the Queens jail.” The Daily News adds that the questioning “illustrates the significance of the feds’ failure in the Epstein case.”

### **Police Say Wisconsin Pharmacist Accused Of Tampering With Vaccine Believed In Conspiracy Theory.**

The New York Times (1/4, Dewan, Nolan, 20.6M) reports police in Grafton, Wisconsin, said Steven Brandenburg, “who worked the night shift at the Aurora Medical Center” and was arrested on charges that he “intentionally” had “twice removed a box of vials of the Moderna vaccine from the refrigerator for periods of 12 hours, rendering them ‘useless,’” has admitted to believing a conspiracy theory that the vaccine “could harm people and ‘change their DNA.’” The AP (1/4, Richmond) reports officials “say [the 57 damaged vials] contained enough doses to inoculate more than 500 people. Charges are pending.” ABC World News Tonight (1/4, story 9, 0:20, Muir, 7.47M) provided similar coverage in a brief report.

However, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (1/4, Vielmetti, 844K) reports Brandenburg “was released from jail Monday, after a prosecutor indicated he’s not positive the vaccine was actually destroyed.” The Journal Sentinel says that he “had been ordered held on a probable cause statement from Grafton police that he likely committed two felonies – first-degree recklessly endangering safety, and criminal damage to property.”

Additional coverage includes NPR (1/4, Romo, 3.69M) and the Washington Times (1/4, 626K).

**British Judge Blocks Assange Extradition Over Concerns About US Prisons.** The AP (1/4) reports that on Monday, a British judge “rejected the United States’ request to extradite WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to face espionage charges over the publication of secret U.S. documents a decade ago, saying he was likely to kill himself if held under harsh U.S. prison conditions.” The AP adds, “In a mixed ruling for Assange and his supporters, District Judge Vanessa Baraitser rejected defense arguments that the 49-year-old Australian faces a politically motivated American prosecution that rides roughshod over free-speech protections. But she said Assange’s precarious mental health would likely deteriorate further under the conditions of ‘near total isolation’ he would face in a U.S. prison.”

According to the New York Times (1/4, Specia, 20.6M), “Rights groups and advocates applauded the ruling, but many expressed concern about the its rationale.” The Times says the judge “focused on Mr. Assange’s mental health issues, but rejected the defense argument that the charges were an attack on press freedom and were politically motivated.” The Times reports that Baraitser “said in Monday’s ruling that she was satisfied that the American authorities had brought forth the case ‘in good faith,’ and that Mr. Assange’s actions went beyond simply encouraging a journalist.”

The Washington Post (1/4, Weiner, 10.52M) reports that Justice Department prosecutors “want [Assange] flown to Northern Virginia to face the charges, which could lead to a life sentence in a maximum-security prison if he is convicted.” According to the Post, Baraitser “rejected claims by Assange’s legal team that the U.S. government was seeking to punish” him “for his political opinions and that President Trump wanted his head on a pike.” The Post adds that the judge “said she had no doubt that Assange could have a fair trial with an impartial jury in the United States and was not concerned that his prosecution would upend protections for journalists and publishers.”

Bloomberg (1/4, Milligan, Browning, 3.57M) reports that Assange is “accused of working with U.S. Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning to get classified documents from databases containing about 90,000 Afghanistan war-related activity reports, 400,000 Iraq war-related reports and 250,000 State Department cables.” Bloomberg adds that the appeals process “could take years.”

Reuters (1/4, Holden) reports that the US “said it would continue to seek the extradition of...Assange and U.S. prosecutors are set to appeal Monday’s decision to London’s High Court.” According to Reuters, “The U.S. authorities accuse Assange of 18 offences relating to the release by WikiLeaks of vast troves of confidential U.S. military records and diplomatic cables which they say put lives in danger.” Reuters also reports that Assange’s lawyers “will seek bail on Wednesday for” Assange, “who has spent most of the last decade either in prison or self-imposed confinement.” Reuters adds that “a spokeswoman for the transition team of President-elect Joe Biden, who takes office on Jan. 20, had no comment.” Reuters says the Obama administration “decided not to prosecute Assange over concerns about the precedent the case could set for free speech and journalists.”

The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Douglas, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) calls the ruling a significant setback in the US’s effort to hold Assange accountable for publishing the secret documents, and Reuters (1/4, Holden) reports that the US “said it would continue to seek” his extradition “and U.S. prosecutors are set to appeal Monday’s decision to London’s High Court.” NBC Nightly News (1/4, story 8, 1:45, 6M) reported Assange’s “defense will argue for bail while the US appeals.”

**Mexico Offers Assange Pardon And “Protection.”** Bloomberg (1/4, 3.57M) reports that Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador “said Monday he celebrated a decision by a U.K. judge blocking Assange’s extradition to the U.S., citing the risk of suicide in a American jail,” and indicated that Mexico is “ready to offer...Assange political asylum and is in favor of him being granted a pardon.” Lopez Obrador is quoted as saying, “Assange is a journalist and he deserves an opportunity. I’m in favor of pardoning him. We’ll give him protection.” The Hill (1/4, Choi, 5.69M) also reports.

**FBI Warns Of Cyberattacks Against Distance Learning.** ABC News (1/4, 2.44M) reports, “The FBI is warning students, teachers and parents that cyber criminals and bad actors are looking to exploit online classrooms.” FBI Cyber Section Chief Dave Ring said they are seeing “things like distributed denial of service attacks, even ransomware and of course, domain spoofing, because parents are interacting so much more with the schools online.” The FBI and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency previously warned of “a nearly 30% increase in ransomware attacks against schools.” Ring “urged schools to work together with law enforcement and if something happens to report it to the FBI and local law enforcement.”

**FBI Background Checks For Guns Jumped 40% In 2020.** Contributor Aaron Smith, in a blog on Forbes (1/4, Smith, 10.33M), wrote that the FBI said that during 2020 it conducted a record 39.7 million background checks for gun purchases, up 40% from the year before. Coinciding with the increase in FBI checks, “gun violence is on the rise,” with 2020 seeing 43,413 gun violence deaths, “an increase of 10% from the year before,” accoting to the Gun Violence Archive.

Breitbart (1/4, 1.26M) reports, "Figures from the FBI show there were 3,937,066 NICS checks in December, breaking the previous record of 3,314,594 checks, set in December 2015."

**Copyright 2021 by Bulletin Intelligence LLC** Reproduction or redistribution without permission prohibited. Content is drawn from thousands of newspapers, national magazines, national and local television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform's terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva's terms of use. Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Website's information and privacy policies. The FBI Director's Morning Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at [BulletinIntelligence.com](http://BulletinIntelligence.com), or called at (703) 483-6100.

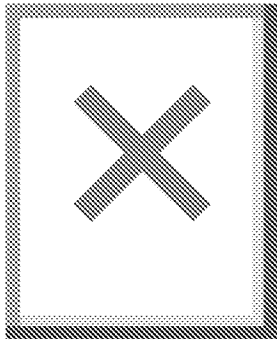
Please direct comments and concerns to

b7E -3

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs News Briefing Tuesday, January 05, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 5, 2021 6:26 AM (UTC-05:00)

b7E -3

Mobile version and searchable archives available at [REDACTED]



TO : THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF  
DATE : TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 6:30 AM EST

## **TODAY'S TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### LEADING THE NEWS

- Democrats Request FBI Criminal Investigation Of Trump Call With Georgia Secretary Of State.

### COUNTER-TERRORISM

FBI(21-cv-572)-12776

- FBI: Nashville Bomber Sent Packages That May Shed Light On Motives.
- Woman Pleads Guilty To Threatening To Bomb School Over Same-sex Marriage Announcements.
- FBI Assisting Investigation Of Pittsburgh Explosions.
- FBI Clears Suspicious Package In North Las Vegas.
- Facebook Post Calling For Bombing Restaurant Investigated.

#### COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

- British Judge Blocks Assange Extradition Over Concerns About US Prisons.

#### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

- DC Mobilizes National Guard In Advance Of Pro-Trump Protests.
- FBI Aggressively Questions Michigan Senate Staffer About Zoom Call On Proposed Legislation.
- FBI Tracked Down Ghislaine Maxwell Through Her Cellphone Data.
- Hearings For Officers Facing Firings Over Breonna Taylor Shooting Held.
- FBI Investigating Illinois Bank Robbery.
- Tennessee Man Arrested Over Racist Graffiti.
- Louisiana Police Investigating Armed Robbery.
- Indicted Kentucky Police Officers Face New Lawsuit.
- Continuing Coverage: New Jersey Man Arrested Over New York Bank Robberies.
- Maine Man Charged With Attempted Arson Of Massachusetts Church.

#### FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

- Police Say Wisconsin Pharmacist Accused Of Tampering With Vaccine Believed In Conspiracy Theory.
- French Bank Agrees To \$8.6 Million Fine To Settle Syria Sanctions Allegations.
- NDAA Provision Bans Anonymous Shell Companies.
- Despite Federal Corruption Investigation, Ohio Legislators Haven't Addressed Dark Money.

#### CYBER DIVISION

- Biden Sees SolarWinds Hack As Top Priority.
- FBI Warns Of Cyberattacks Against Distance Learning.
- Class Action Lawsuit Claims SolarWinds Misled Investors About Hack.
- Researchers Find Insider Trading Occurs After A Cyberattack.
- Christmas Cyberattack Targeted Canadian Firm Aurora Cannabis.
- Balkan States Not Doing Enough To Protect Against Cyberattacks.
- T-Mobile Acknowledges Major Customer Data Breach.
- Report: China Looking To Dominate Global Flash Memory Market.
- Navy SEAL To Plead Guilty To 2017 Killing Of Green Beret.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

- FBI Background Checks For Guns Jumped 40% In 2020.

#### OTHER FBI NEWS

- Biden Delaying Longer Than Most Former Presidents Before Naming Attorney General.

#### OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

- Media Analyses: GOP Splits Over Wednesday Electoral Vote Count.
- More Than 18,400 People Died Of COVID In US Over Past Week.
- FDA Considers Cutting COVID Vaccine Doses Amid Concerns About Slow Rollout.
- Cuomo Announces New York's First Case Of UK COVID Variant.
- Some Emergency Physicians Who Worked On Pandemic Frontlines Now Struggling To Find Jobs.
- DOJ Official Says Reapportionment Data Will Not Be Ready Until February.
- Judge Blocks Administration From Sanctioning Human Rights Lawyers.
- CIA Launches New Hiring Website As Part Of Diversity Push.

- DC Police Chief Warns Boebert About Carrying Pistol In City.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Administration Working On Response To Mexico's Foreign Agents Law.
- European Commission Defends Coronavirus Vaccine Strategy.
- Lockdowns Announced For England, Scotland As UK Starts Administering AstraZeneca Oxford Vaccine.
- France Moving To Speed Vaccinations After Slow Start.
- China Hopes To Vaccinate 50M By Mid-February.
- North Korea Seeks Vaccines From Gavi.
- Tokyo Adds Tougher Restrictions To Limit Spread Of COVID.
- Mexico Approves Oxford-AstraZeneca Vaccine For Emergency Use.
- Israel Says 12% Of Residents Have Had Initial Vaccination Doses.
- Iran Resumes Enriching Uranium To 20% Amid Escalating Tensions.
- Iran Seizes South Korean Chemical Tanker.
- NYTimes Analysis: Economic Crisis Threatens To Destabilize Iraq.
- Trump Administration Brokers Saudi-Qatar Deal.
- Pompeo Acknowledges "Work Remains To Be Done" On China And North Korea.
- China Targets Lawyers Who Represented Hong Kong Pro-Democracy Activists.
- Data Show South Korea's Population Fell For First Time On Record Last Year.

## THE BIG PICTURE

- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

## WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

- Today's Events In Washington.

## LEADING THE NEWS

### **Democrats Request FBI Criminal Investigation Of Trump Call With Georgia Secretary Of State.**

Norah O'Donnell said on the CBS Evening News (1/4, lead story, 4:35, O'Donnell, 4.51M) that "there are growing demands for federal and state investigations into President Trump's unprecedented hour-long phone call" with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger. Congressional Democrats "are asking the FBI to open a probe." CBS' Weijia Jiang: "Trump called Georgia's Secretary of State 18 times since Election Day before finally getting through on Saturday. Tonight, the White House is not commenting on the growing calls to investigate whether the President's demands on that call were illegal."

NBC News (1/4, 4.91M) reports that in a letter to FBI Director Christopher Wray, Reps. Ted Lieu (D-CA) and Kathleen Rice (D-N) requested he "open a criminal probe into President Donald Trump after a leaked phone call showed him pleading with Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger to overturn his state's election." They wrote that they "believe Donald Trump engaged in solicitation of, or conspiracy to commit, a number of election crimes." In the call, Trump asked Raffensperger "to find" enough votes to overturn President-elect Joe Biden's victory in the state. Trump suggested Raffensperger might be criminally prosecuted if he didn't accede to Trump's demands.

CBS News (1/4, Quinn, 5.39M) reports that on Monday Raffensperger told ABC's "Good Morning America" that his office would not open an investigation, as it could be a conflict of interest, "but he believes the Fulton County district attorney 'wants to look at it.'" Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis said in a statement she found the call "disturbing" and said "I will enforce the law without fear or favor."

HuffPost (1/4, Blumenthal, 363K) reports, "A potential problem for prosecuting Trump's actions is that the person soliciting the crime must know that they are requesting election fraud to

be committed. If Trump legitimately believes the falsehoods that he won" the vote in Georgia, then he wasn't committing a crime.

USA Today (1/4, Cummings, Wu, Hayes, Bailey, 12.7M) reports, "More than 90 House Democrats on Monday signed on to a three-page censure resolution against" President Trump over the Georgia election call. Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) introduced the censure resolution, but "it's unclear whether the resolution would get a vote in the House."

Former federal and state prosecutor Elie Honig, in an op-ed on CNN (1/4, 89.21M), wrote, "We can no longer write off Trump's dangerous, potentially criminal conduct" and instead "it's time for prosecutors to do their jobs." Honig acknowledged the difficulty in proving a crime based on the subject's state of mind and "the political and practical issues that could accompany a potential criminal charge against the prior president," but not even investigating "would be an abdication of prosecutorial duty."

Additional coverage includes the Boston Globe (1/4, Prignano, 1.04M), The Hill (1/4, Budryk, 5.69M), the Atlanta Journal-Constitution (1/4, 1.46M), the Washington Examiner (1/4, Brest, 888K), Newsday (NY) (1/4, 776K), Newsweek (1/4, 2.67M), The Hill (1/4, Gstalter, 5.69M), the Boston Herald (1/4, 327K), MSNBC (1/4, 8.1M), KTLA-TV Los Angeles (1/4, 348K), WBZ-TV Boston (1/4, 92K), the Garden City (NY) Patch (1/4, 1.44M), the Washington Times (1/4, Boyer, 626K), Fox News (1/4, Blitzer, 23.99M), the Daily Caller (1/4, 375K), and Breitbart (1/4, 1.26M).

***Experts: Call Opens Trump To Charges, But Proving Them Could Be Difficult.*** CNN (1/4, Polantz, Carrega, 89.21M) reports, "Georgia officials said the state could be considering a serious inquiry" into whether President Trump broke election fraud laws when he pressured Georgia officials to "find" 11,870 votes – which would reverse his loss in the state – "and the matter has already been referred to the FBI." However, "prosecutions of former presidents in the US are unheard of in modern times, and the presidency has immense power that lends protection to Trump."

Bloomberg (1/4, 3.57M) reports the call "may have ironically produced what Republicans have failed to put forth in dozens of lawsuits: smoking-gun evidence of election fraud." However, prosecuting Trump "would cut against the stated desire of Biden and other Democrats to move on from Trump's divisive term in office, and would be difficult to prove without clear evidence that the president knew he lost the election and wanted Georgia officials to overturn it anyway."

USA Today (1/4, Johnson, Phillips, 12.7M) reports, "Nick Akerman, an assistant special prosecutor during the Watergate investigation, said Trump's call to Raffensperger is 'not much different' from wiretapped conversations involving mafia bosses during his years as a federal prosecutor." Akerman said Trump's suggestion that not obeying him would "be very costly" was a "veiled threat," and "characterized the call as part of 'a pattern of criminal activity' by the president." However, "some former prosecutors said that building a criminal case would likely be more difficult," citing the difficulty in proving Trump's criminal intent.

Additional coverage includes NBC News (1/4, 4.91M).

***Rep. Cheney, Some Other Republicans Criticize Trump Over Call.*** USA Today (1/4, Wu, 12.7M) reports top House Republican Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY) said on Monday that Trump's "call with top Georgia election officials asking them to "find" more votes for him was 'deeply troubling.'"

Newsweek (1/4, Touchberry, 2.67M) reports that "most GOP lawmakers remained silent" on the issue, but "Cheney has become an increasingly outspoken critic, breaking from most of her GOP colleagues from time to time to offer rebuke for Trump's actions and remarks." Still, Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA), "who is retiring after his term ends in 2023, later issued a blistering statement, saying that Trump's actions represented 'a new low in this whole futile and sorry episode.'" Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) called the call "absolutely appalling."

Additional coverage includes the Washington Examiner (1/4, Soellner, 888K).

***Trump Attorney Criticizes Raffensperger For Recording Conversation.*** Fox News (1/4, Singman, 23.99M) reports on its website that Trump attorney Kurt Hilbert said Monday that Trump and his legal team "were 'disappointed'" that Raffensperger "secretly recorded and released" a "confidential settlement discussion." However, US News & World Report (1/4, Milligan, 1.91M) reports, "Georgia is a 'one-party consent' state when it comes to recording conversations,"

meaning that just one participant in the conversation needs to consent to a recording.

***FBI Aware Of Threats Related To Georgia Runoff Election.*** Fox News (1/4, Singman, 23.99M) reports the FBI Atlanta Field Office said that it is aware of threats to the state's Senate runoff election on Tuesday. An FBI spokesperson told Fox News, "We take all threats seriously and are communicating with our local, state and federal partners." The FBI and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation "were notified after Georgia's Cherokee County Sheriff's Office said it learned of a 'threatening email' that was sent to several Cherokee County employees 'regarding threats to polling locations on Election Day.'"

## COUNTER-TERRORISM

### **FBI: Nashville Bomber Sent Packages That May Shed Light On Motives.**

In continuing coverage, CNN (1/4, Levenson, Riess, 89.21M) reports FBI public affairs officer Darrell DeBusk said that Anthony Quinn Warner, who detonated a vehicle bomb in downtown Nashville on Christmas morning, sent acquaintances "materials which espoused his viewpoints" and which might provide information on his motives.

***No Decision On Whether To Label Bombing As Terrorism.*** The Tennessean (1/4, Tamburin, Timms, 645K) reports Nashville Police Chief John Drake "said he had spoken with investigators and indicated the bombing would not be considered an act of domestic terrorism." However, the FBI said in a statement, "In our conversations with law enforcement partners, we have discussed criteria for a terrorism designation. However, we continue to assess the evidence collected and this remains an active investigation. At the appropriate time, we will make a final determination when we have been able to review the maximum amount of information." Drake also said that Second Avenue will remain closed indefinitely in the wake of the Christmas morning bombing. Drake said, "We're in the middle of the recovery and it's gonna take years to come."

### **Woman Pleads Guilty To Threatening To Bomb School Over Same-sex Marriage Announcements.**

The Daily Caller (1/4, Greenlee, 375K) reports the Department of Justice announced that Sonia Tabizada pleaded guilty to threatening to bomb "the Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School, an all-girls Catholic school, after they said they would allow same-sex marriage announcements to be published in the school's alumni magazine." Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI Washington Field Office Steven M. D'Antuono said in a statement, "Tabizada used threats of violence to intimidate others because of differing religious views." He added, "Every citizen and community has the Constitutional right to exercise their own religious beliefs free from fear and discrimination. Defending civil rights is a top priority for the FBI and we will continue to work to protect the civil rights and freedoms granted to all Americans."

### **FBI Assisting Investigation Of Pittsburgh Explosions.**

WPXI-TV Pittsburgh (1/4, 149K) reports, "The FBI is assisting Pittsburgh police to investigate explosions in two different neighborhoods Sunday evening." Police said that video shows one incident involved an incendiary device that was thrown out of a white pickup truck before it exploded, while the other "is now believed to have been caused by an aerial firework." The two incidents aren't believed to be related.

Additional coverage includes KDKA-TV Pittsburgh (1/4, 144K), the Pittsburgh City Paper (1/4, Deto, 193K), and the AP (1/4).

### **FBI Clears Suspicious Package In North Las Vegas.**

The Las Vegas Review-Journal (1/4, Apgar, 372K) reports North Las Vegas police closed roads and evacuated buildings in response to a suspicious package that "turned out to be a tackle box, a police spokesman said." Spokesman Alexander Cuevas said that a bomb squad and FBI cleared the package.



## Facebook Post Calling For Bombing Restaurant Investigated.

The Oklahoman (1/4, 205K) reports that records filed by an Edmond police officer on the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force "about a search for evidence concerning the Facebook group, 'drivefor45'" indicate that Scott Albert Himes was investigated "over a Facebook post about blowing up a barbecue restaurant in Edmond," Oklahoma. He posted the comment after the "restaurant owner called police about Trump supporters gathering outside for a Sept. 26 rally." Himes said, "I guess someone took it out of proportion and the FBI come to the house a couple of months ago."

## COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

### British Judge Blocks Assange Extradition Over Concerns About US Prisons.

The AP (1/4) reports that on Monday, a British judge "rejected the United States' request to extradite WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to face espionage charges over the publication of secret U.S. documents a decade ago, saying he was likely to kill himself if held under harsh U.S. prison conditions." The AP adds, "In a mixed ruling for Assange and his supporters, District Judge Vanessa Baraitser rejected defense arguments that the 49-year-old Australian faces a politically motivated American prosecution that rides roughshod over free-speech protections. But she said Assange's precarious mental health would likely deteriorate further under the conditions of 'near total isolation' he would face in a U.S. prison."

According to the New York Times (1/4, Specia, 20.6M), "Rights groups and advocates applauded the ruling, but many expressed concern about the its rationale." The Times says the judge "focused on Mr. Assange's mental health issues, but rejected the defense argument that the charges were an attack on press freedom and were politically motivated." The Times reports that Baraitser "said in Monday's ruling that she was satisfied that the American authorities had brought forth the case 'in good faith,' and that Mr. Assange's actions went beyond simply encouraging a journalist."

The Washington Post (1/4, Weiner, 10.52M) reports that Justice Department prosecutors "want [Assange] flown to Northern Virginia to face the charges, which could lead to a life sentence in a maximum-security prison if he is convicted." According to the Post, Baraitser "rejected claims by Assange's legal team that the U.S. government was seeking to punish" him "for his political opinions and that President Trump wanted his head on a pike." The Post adds that the judge "said she had no doubt that Assange could have a fair trial with an impartial jury in the United States and was not concerned that his prosecution would upend protections for journalists and publishers."

Bloomberg (1/4, Milligan, Browning, 3.57M) reports that Assange is "accused of working with U.S. Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning to get classified documents from databases containing about 90,000 Afghanistan war-related activity reports, 400,000 Iraq war-related reports and 250,000 State Department cables." Bloomberg adds that the appeals process "could take years."

Reuters (1/4, Holden) reports that the US "said it would continue to seek the extradition of...Assange and U.S. prosecutors are set to appeal Monday's decision to London's High Court." According to Reuters, "The U.S. authorities accuse Assange of 18 offences relating to the release by WikiLeaks of vast troves of confidential U.S. military records and diplomatic cables which they say put lives in danger." Reuters also reports that Assange's lawyers "will seek bail on Wednesday for" Assange, "who has spent most of the last decade either in prison or self-imposed confinement." Reuters adds that "a spokeswoman for the transition team of President-elect Joe Biden, who takes office on Jan. 20, had no comment." Reuters says the Obama administration "decided not to prosecute Assange over concerns about the precedent the case could set for free speech and journalists."

The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Douglas, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) calls the ruling a significant setback in the US's effort to hold Assange accountable for publishing the secret documents, and Reuters (1/4, Holden) reports that the US "said it would continue to seek" his extradition "and U.S. prosecutors are set to appeal Monday's decision to London's High Court."

NBC Nightly News (1/4, story 8, 1:45, 6M) reported Assange's "defense will argue for bail while the US appeals."

*Mexico Offers Assange Pardon And "Protection."* Bloomberg (1/4, 3.57M) reports that Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador "said Monday he celebrated a decision by a U.K. judge blocking Assange's extradition to the U.S., citing the risk of suicide in a American jail," and indicated that Mexico is "ready to offer...Assange political asylum and is in favor of him being granted a pardon." Lopez Obrador is quoted as saying, "Assange is a journalist and he deserves an opportunity. I'm in favor of pardoning him. We'll give him protection." The Hill (1/4, Choi, 5.69M) also reports.

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

### **DC Mobilizes National Guard In Advance Of Pro-Trump Protests.**

The AP (1/4, Khalil, Baldor) reports, "Bracing for possible violence, the nation's capital has mobilized the National Guard ahead of planned protests" by Trump's supporters on Tuesday and Wednesday. A "pro-Trump rally in December ended in violence as hundreds of Trump supporters, wearing the signature black and yellow of the Proud Boys faction, sought out confrontations with a collective of local activists attempting to bar them from Black Lives Matter Plaza, an area near the White House." District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) warned, "we will not allow people to incite violence, intimidate our residents or cause destruction in our city."

Newsweek (1/4, Arkin, 2.67M) reports, "The FBI is working furiously with Metropolitan DC police behind the scenes to understand just how many pro-Trump supporters will flood the capital and whether they plan to resort to violence." Official sources directly involved in security planning and intelligence gathering say that their planning is complicated "by the potential for Republican leaders in Congress who may choose to stand down or hold back the U.S. Capitol Police, and by a Department of Homeland Security that has become politicized and partisan in support of Donald Trump."

Reuters (1/4, Landay) reports city officials warned Trump supporters "not to bring guns to protests this week against congressional certification of his election defeat and enlisted hundreds of National Guard troops to help keep order." The Washington Post (1/4, 10.52M) reports, "Members of right-wing groups have taken to social media sites such as Parler and Telegram to discuss how to bring guns into the District despite laws banning open carry throughout the city and prohibiting guns on federal lands such as the Mall and Freedom Plaza or anywhere within 1,000 feet of a protest."

Politico (1/4, Zanona, Ferris, Cheney, 6.73M) reports, "The prospect of violence comes as some Democrats, particularly members of color, have seen an increase in personal threats against them and their offices throughout the 2020 protests," and "Many lawmakers and senior aides privately say they're spooked by the growing safety threats gripping the Capitol this week." The have are acute enough "that the House's sergeant-at-arms sent a memo Monday urging lawmakers to traverse the underground tunnel network rather than the public streets," contrary to guidelines for reducing COVID-19 risk.

Additional coverage includes USA Today (1/4, Carless, 12.7M), Politico (1/4, Nguyen, 6.73M), NPR (1/4, Moore, 3.69M), USA Today (1/4, 12.7M), Politico (1/4, Feldscher, 6.73M), The Hill (1/4, Coleman, 5.69M), the Washington Times (1/4, Zantow, 626K), and the Washington Times (1/4, Zantow, 626K).

*Proud Boys Chairman Arrested Over Burnt Black Lives Matter Banner.* Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/4, Steinhauer, Benner, Schmitt, Cooper, 20.6M) reports Proud Boys Chairman Enrique Tarrio was arrested in Washington on Monday "on suspicion of burning a Black Lives Matter banner that was torn from a historic Black church in Washington during protests last month that led to several violent clashes, including stabbings, around the city." The Washington Post (1/4, Weil, 10.52M) reports a DC police spokesman "said Tarrio is charged with one misdemeanor count of destruction of property in connection with the Dec. 12 burning of a banner stolen from Asbury United Methodist Church."

NBC News (1/5, 4.91M) reports police said that Tarrio "was arrested upon entering the city Monday and found to have two high-capacity magazines"; he faces an additional gun charge. "Separately Monday, Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church sued Tarrio and the Proud Boys in connection with the destruction of a Black Lives Matter sign during the same Dec. 12 pro-Trump rally."

The Houston Chronicle (1/4, 982K) reports Tarrio's arrest "is in line with a tactic used by law enforcement officials to arrest key organizers of large protests just before they occur in an effort to gain intelligence about what might be coming," as such arrests "can trigger sudden movements by other group members, as well as communications that can be monitored through court-authorized electronic surveillance."

Additional coverage includes the New York Times (1/4, Benner, 20.6M), The Hill (1/4, Coleman, 5.69M), and the Daily Caller (1/4, 375K).

### **FBI Aggressively Questions Michigan Senate Staffer About Zoom Call On Proposed Legislation.**

The Detroit Free Press (1/4, Boucher, 2.16M) reports, "Two law enforcement officers, including one from the FBI, recently questioned" Michigan state Sen. Rosemary Bayer's (D) chief of staff of about a private Zoom conversation with Bayer and others on "draft legislation to curtail the use of tear gas by law enforcement." The chief of staff, Katie Reiter, was "so surprised...that she called local law enforcement to make sure the people at her door actually worked for the FBI." Reiter said, "I was scared, to be honest. They were very aggressive." She added that "the FBI agents clearly did not know who she was or that she worked for a state lawmaker." Meanwhile, "Bayer questioned how the FBI would have known about the conversation in the first place," and argued that the FBI couldn't have known about Reiter and where she lives without knowing who she was or where she worked. Michigan state Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D) tweeted, "The FBI needs to be transparent about how this improper interrogation came to happen."

The Intercept (1/4, 80K) reports, "The conversation was a routine work call – and the FBI's visit and insistent questioning raised alarming questions about how and why the legislative discussion warranted police scrutiny." Civil rights advocates argue the questioning "was highly inappropriate for the agents to interrogate an elected official's aide about legislative matters." Bayer said, "The whole thing feels political." Former FBI special agent Mike German "noted that there are severe restrictions on the FBI's political activities" and said, "the police officers or task force officers should have recognized that as soon as the witness said that she was a staffer discussing legislation." He cast the tactic as "indicative of a long-standing problem with the FBI's war on terror-era policy to investigate every tip it receives, no matter how implausible or far-fetched," which "he says wastes resources while putting civil liberties at risk and hindering the FBI's ability to pursue the most credible threats."

### **FBI Tracked Down Ghislaine Maxwell Through Her Cellphone Data.**

The Daily Beast (1/4, Briquet, 933K) reports a newly unsealed affidavit in support of an application for a search warrant, filed by an FBI agent, indicates that authorities tracked Ghislaine Maxwell "to a New Hampshire hideaway using her cellphone data." While "authorities previously obtained a search warrant in New York to receive GPS and historical cell site data for Maxwell's cellphone account," they didn't know what building she was in. Details in the affidavit "seem to indicate that the FBI used a 'stingray' device," which simulates a cell tower and captures the phones' "exact location and the registered user's identifying information," to locate Maxwell.

Additional coverage includes the Daily Mail (UK) (1/4, 4.11M).

*Source: Barr Personally Questioned Epstein's Cellmate.* The New York Daily News (1/4, Brown, 2.51M) reports Attorney General William Barr personally questioned Efrain "Stone" Reyes, "the last inmate to share a cell with Jeffrey Epstein" prior to his suicide, according to a source "who became close friends with Reyes while they were both held at the Queens jail." The Daily News adds that the questioning "illustrates the significance of the feds' failure in the Epstein case."

### **Hearings For Officers Facing Firings Over Breonna Taylor Shooting Held.**

The Louisville (KY) Courier-Journal (1/4, Duvall, 554K) reports Louisville Metro Police interim Chief Yvette Gentry on Monday held hearings for detectives Myles Cosgrove and Joshua Jaynes, who are "facing termination for their connections to the raid that left Breonna Taylor dead in her apartment." However, the hearings' results have not been disclosed. "More officers involved in the raid and a connected narcotics investigation could face additional discipline."

### **FBI Investigating Illinois Bank Robbery.**

The Northbrook (IL) Patch (1/4, 1.44M) reports that the FBI is investigating the Byline Bank branch in Wilmette, where two men "passed a note implying they had a gun to bank staff in an apparent non-takeover robbery before fleeing in a lime green-colored Dodge Challenger."

The Wilmette (IL) Life (1/4, Cullotta, 1.12M) also reports.

### **Tennessee Man Arrested Over Racist Graffiti.**

WKRN-TV Nashville, TN (1/4, 172K) reports Ian Grau, who is "accused of spray painting racially inappropriate words and symbols on a family's home," has been arrested by Spring Hill Police. He "was quickly identified, handcuffed and charged with aggravated stalking, vandalism and civil rights intimidation."

### **Louisiana Police Investigating Armed Robbery.**

WVLA-TV Baton Rouge, LA (1/4) reports that the Baton Rouge Police Department is investigating the armed robbery of an unidentified store last December.

### **Indicted Kentucky Police Officers Face New Lawsuit.**

The Somerset (KY) Commonwealth Journal (1/4, 23K) reports Pulaski County constables Michael Wallace and Gary Baldock "are facing yet another federal civil suit, the third filed against them since their arrest for conspiracy to deny civil rights against those they arrested." Kayla Dobbs filed the suit, which "alleges the two elected officials violated her rights through illegal searches and seizures, false arrest and false imprisonment; physically assaulted her while searching her person; used intimidation and force to deprive her of her rights; did physical damage to her property with no reason; and took valuables from her that they did not register as evidence or return to her."

### **Continuing Coverage: New Jersey Man Arrested Over New York Bank Robberies.**

The Parsippany (NJ) Patch (1/4, 1.44M) reports George Martin, who "had an outstanding criminal warrant for bank robberies in New York City," was arrested by the Boonton Township Police Detective Bureau.

WRNJ-AM Hackettstown, NJ (1/4) reports Martin "was located and arrested without incident," and he "was lodged at the Morris County Correctional Facility pending extradition to New York."

### **Maine Man Charged With Attempted Arson Of Massachusetts Church.**

WWLP-TV Springfield, MA (1/4, 453K) reports Dushko Vulchev, who "was arrested on attempted arson charges to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Presbyterian Church," will be "arraigned in court on Tuesday." The Pittsfield Police Department "arrested Dushko Vulchev of Houlton, Maine on Friday."

## **FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS**

### **Police Say Wisconsin Pharmacist Accused Of Tampering With Vaccine Believed In Conspiracy Theory.**

The New York Times (1/4, Dewan, Nolan, 20.6M) reports police in Grafton, Wisconsin, said Steven Brandenburg, "who worked the night shift at the Aurora Medical Center" and was arrested on charges that he "intentionally" had "twice removed a box of vials of the Moderna vaccine from the refrigerator for periods of 12 hours, rendering them 'useless,'" has admitted to believing a

conspiracy theory that the vaccine "could harm people and 'change their DNA.'" The AP (1/4, Richmond) reports officials "say [the 57 damaged vials] contained enough doses to inoculate more than 500 people. Charges are pending." ABC World News Tonight (1/4, story 9, 0:20, Muir, 7.47M) provided similar coverage in a brief report.

However, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (1/4, Vielmetti, 844K) reports Brandenburg "was released from jail Monday, after a prosecutor indicated he's not positive the vaccine was actually destroyed." The Journal Sentinel says that he "had been ordered held on a probable cause statement from Grafton police that he likely committed two felonies – first-degree recklessly endangering safety, and criminal damage to property."

Additional coverage includes NPR (1/4, Romo, 3.69M) and the Washington Times (1/4, 626K).

### **French Bank Agrees To \$8.6 Million Fine To Settle Syria Sanctions Allegations.**

The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Tokar, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports French bank Union de Banques Arabes et Françaises SA agreed to pay a \$8.6 million fine to settle its potential civil liability over allegations that it processed payments for blacklisted Syrian financial institutions.

### **NDAA Provision Bans Anonymous Shell Companies.**

Vox (1/4, Kirby, 1.88M) reports that a provision in the NDAA "will effectively ban anonymous shell companies," meaning that "when someone opens a shell corporation, they'll be required to provide the owner's name and some basic identifying information." The new measure "will give law enforcement and national security officials a powerful tool to crack down on corruption." Financial Accountability and Corporate Transparency (FACT) Coalition senior policy adviser Clark Gascoigne said, "This is the biggest anti-money-laundering update that we've had in 20 years." Gascoigne said when someone forms a company in the US, they will "have to disclose the identity of the true human being who owns the company" to the Treasury Department. They will also have to update Treasury on changes in ownership.

### **Despite Federal Corruption Investigation, Ohio Legislators Haven't Addressed Dark Money.**

The Columbus (OH) Dispatch (1/4, Balmert, 526K) reports that in spite of the "bright light on the influence of dark money in state politics" provided by "a federal investigation into a nearly \$61 million bribery scandal at the Ohio Statehouse," the state's legislators "have done nothing to curtail dark money's influence."

## **CYBER DIVISION**

### **Biden Sees SolarWinds Hack As Top Priority.**

Politico (1/4, Geller, 6.73M) reports, "The SolarWinds campaign promises to be one of the biggest problems confronting Biden's administration in a year already full of daunting challenges. Jake Sullivan, whom Biden has tapped to be his national security adviser, told CNN's Fareed Zakaria on Sunday that the president-elect 'has made clear to us that from day one this is going to be a top national security priority of his administration.'" Politico adds, "The cyber campaign has infected the networks of more than a dozen companies operating critical infrastructure facilities such as power plants, along with at least three companies that supply technology to those facilities and have extensive remote access to them, according to The Intercept. Microsoft, which initially denied being hacked, said on New Year's Eve that an intrusion had exposed some of its products' source code."

The Atlantic (1/4, Zegart, 3.53M) reports, "President-elect Joe Biden issued a statement vowing to 'disrupt and deter our adversaries from undertaking significant cyber attacks in the first place' by 'imposing substantial costs.' Members of Congress were far less measured, issuing ever more forceful threats of retaliation." According to the Atlantic, "The only thing universal about deterrence is the misguided faith in its applicability. In reality, deterrence works in very limited circumstances: when the culprit can be identified quickly, when the behavior has crossed clear red

lines defining unacceptable behavior, and when the punishment for crossing them is credible and known in advance to would-be attackers. These conditions are rare in cyberspace."

The Telegraph (UK) (1/4, Dodds, 249K) reports, "United States officials are investigating whether the massive SolarWinds cyber attack began at one of the company's satellite offices in Belarus, Poland and the Czech Republic, according to reports." The Telegraph adds, "Texas-based SolarWinds, whose widely-used computer networking service unwittingly delivered malicious code to around 18,000 companies and government agencies, has long boasted of its skilled software engineers in former Soviet states," and "now US investigators reportedly fear that one of those workforces may have been the starting point for the hack, which is thought to be the work of Russia's notorious SVR intelligence agency."

Government Computer News (1/4) reports, "One of the most concerning consequences of the SolarWinds hack is that neither U.S. Cyber Command nor the National Security Agency uncovered the breach, which was first found by the cybersecurity firm FireEye. 'If FireEye had not come forward, I'm not sure we would be fully aware of it to this day,' Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), ranking member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, told The New York Times. 'The size of it keeps expanding. It's clear the United States government missed it.'" GCN adds, "According to The Times, the breach is much broader than first estimated, with experts now saying Russia exploited as many as 250 government and private-sector networks."

ZDNet (1/4, Vaughan-Nichols, 298K) reports that the Hack was "the Pearl Harbor of American IT. Russia, we now know, used SolarWinds' hacked program to infiltrate at least 18,000 government and private networks. The data within these networks, user IDs, passwords, financial records, source code, you name it, can be presumed now to be in the hands of Russian intelligence agents." Russia "may even have the crown-jewels of Microsoft software stack: Windows and Office. In a twist, which would be hilarious if it weren't so serious, Microsoft claims it's no big deal. That's because Microsoft has 'an inner-source approach – the use of open-source software development best practices and an open-source-like culture – to make source code viewable within Microsoft.' It's nice that Microsoft is admitting that the open-source approach is the right one for security," but "inner source isn't the same thing as open source."

SC Magazine (1/4, Johnson) reports, "In the course of investigating the impacts of its own breach, Microsoft security specialists discovered "unusual activity" within a number of internal accounts, including one that was used to view the company's internal source code. For many companies, this would be cause for alarm. Source code can include things like API or encryption keys, or contain intellectual property, unique algorithms or other sensitive business assets that can be reverse engineered. It also theoretically allows an attacker to spot or infer weak points in your network and system security that can be exploited," but "thus far, however, Microsoft believes the impact was extremely limited. "

### **FBI Warns Of Cyberattacks Against Distance Learning.**

ABC News (1/4, 2.44M) reports, "The FBI is warning students, teachers and parents that cyber criminals and bad actors are looking to exploit online classrooms." FBI Cyber Section Chief Dave Ring said they are seeing "things like distributed denial of service attacks, even ransomware and of course, domain spoofing, because parents are interacting so much more with the schools online." The FBI and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency previously warned of "a nearly 30% increase in ransomware attacks against schools." Ring "urged schools to work together with law enforcement and if something happens to report it to the FBI and local law enforcement."

### **Class Action Lawsuit Claims SolarWinds Misled Investors About Hack.**

Newsweek (1/4, 2.67M) reports, "A man named Timothy Bremer has filed a class-action against the CEO and CFO of SolarWinds, a U.S. company offering information technology monitoring and management tools." According to Newsweek, "Bremer's lawsuit accuses CEO Kevin B. Thompson and CFO J. Barton Kalsu of allegedly making false statements leading up to the December 2020 discovery that vulnerabilities in SolarWinds' software had allowed Russian hackers to access accounts of over 250 federal agencies and businesses. Bremer filed the suit on behalf of people and entities that purchased or otherwise acquired publicly traded SolarWinds stock from February 24 to

December 15." The lawsuit "alleges that Thompson and Kalsu allowed the company to release 'materially false and misleading' statements and public documents that influenced stockholders to keep their stock even as the company began realizing software vulnerabilities that led to the massive hack."

### **Researchers Find Insider Trading Occurs After A Cyberattack.**

Andy Naranjo, a professor at the University of Florida, and Svetlana Petrova, an assistant professor at the University of New Hampshire, write in an op-ed in Institutional Investor (1/4) that when "companies get hacked," sometimes their "own employees and informed outsiders use that information in trading before the breach is disclosed." For instance, in the Equifax case, the "weeks-long disclosure gap provided abundant opportunity for those in the know to take advantage of the information, and insiders did." The authors used "firm-level historical options trading activity from OptionMetrics" to investigate "informed trading activity in equity options prior to firms' cybersecurity breach disclosures." They found "pervasive directional options activity, consistent with strategies that yield abnormal returns to investors with private information."

### **Christmas Cyberattack Targeted Canadian Firm Aurora Cannabis.**

CTV News (CAN) (1/4, 278K) reports, "Aurora Cannabis Inc. says it experienced a 'cybersecurity incident' over the holidays." The company "says the incident took place on Dec. 25, but did not share what data was involved or how it was accessed." The company has taken "steps to mitigate it" and is "following all security protocols and consulting with security experts." Its "patient systems were not compromised and the company's network of operations is unaffected."

### **Balkan States Not Doing Enough To Protect Against Cyberattacks.**

Foreign Policy (1/4, Stojkovski, 323K) reports that many countries in the Balkans "aren't doing enough when it comes to having strong cyberdefense systems." Often, "individuals prove to be the weakest link because they have not been trained and educated on how to defend against such attacks." Though North Macedonia is now "putting its hopes on NATO's assets and expertise when it comes to improving its cybersecurity," other NATO member states "across the region have also been hit hard by various cyberattacks" in recent years. In 2019, Bulgaria, for instance, "suffered the largest theft of personal data in the region, after its National Revenue Agency was hacked." Ransomware attacks, DDoS, and malware attacks "are some of the most common tools that hackers have been using to target state institutions."

### **T-Mobile Acknowledges Major Customer Data Breach.**

The Washington Times (1/4, Lovelace, 626K) reports, "T-Mobile acknowledged Monday a major hack involving customers' cellphone data." Hackers targeted customers' "phone call-related information," but they "did not gain access to financial data, Social Security numbers, or physical addresses." They "appear to have instead opted for information revealing who customers called, when they did so, how long they talked, and related information." However, there "is no indication that the breach at T-Mobile is connected to the SolarWinds hack."

### **Report: China Looking To Dominate Global Flash Memory Market.**

Senior contributor Roslyn Layton writes in Forbes (1/4, 10.33M) that a "new report by Chinese military expert James Mulvenon at SOS International details YMTC and the PRC's use of subsidy, espionage, and anticompetitive and illegal practices to support it." China, seeking to dominate the flash memory market, is "is pulling out the stops...especially with Yangtze Memory Technologies Co. (YMTC)." Additionally, democratic countries in the US, EU, and Asia "accelerate this trend by actively selling and sharing advanced technology with PRC-affiliated actors like YMTC." Mulvenon, who "specializes in strategic intelligence for US defense and government and runs a team of some 30 linguists and intelligence analysts," said YMTC "plans to start volume production of the 128-layer products later this year and targets having half of its available capacity utilized for 128-layer products by 2021 with estimates ranging of capturing 7% to 15% of global production by 2024."

## **Navy SEAL To Plead Guilty To 2017 Killing Of Green Beret.**

The Daily Beast (1/4, Maurer, 933K) reports that Chief Petty Officer Tony DeDolph, a "Navy SEAL who admitted to choking a Special Forces soldier to death in 2017...has agreed to plead guilty, according to his attorney." DeDolph "was formally charged with another SEAL and two special operations Marines in November 2018 with felony murder, conspiracy, obstruction of justice, burglary, hazing, and involuntary manslaughter in the strangulation death of Army Staff Sgt. Logan Melgar, a Special Forces soldier assigned to the 3rd Special Forces Group." He will "will plead guilty on January 14 to involuntary manslaughter, obstruction of justice, and hazing. The prosecution will dismiss felony murder and burglary in exchange for the guilty plea." According to unnamed sources, "DeDolph also agreed to a provision that bars him from profiting from the case in any way, including writing books or earning a living based on his experience at SEAL Team 6."

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

### **FBI Background Checks For Guns Jumped 40% In 2020.**

Contributor Aaron Smith, in a blog on Forbes (1/4, Smith, 10.33M), wrote that the FBI said that during 2020 it conducted a record 39.7 million background checks for gun purchases, up 40% from the year before. Coinciding with the increase in FBI checks, "gun violence is on the rise," with 2020 seeing 43,413 gun violence deaths, "an increase of 10% from the year before," according to the Gun Violence Archive.

Breitbart (1/4, 1.26M) reports, "Figures from the FBI show there were 3,937,066 NICS checks in December, breaking the previous record of 3,314,594 checks, set in December 2015."

## **OTHER FBI NEWS**

### **Biden Delaying Longer Than Most Former Presidents Before Naming Attorney General.**

NBC News (1/4, Holzberg, 4.91M) reports President-elect Joe Biden "is on track to announce his attorney general pick later than the last 7 seven presidents." Before Biden, records dating back to former President Jimmy Carter's Cabinet picks had Carter with "the longest gap (48 days) between Election Day and announcing his attorney general designee."

## **OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS**

### **Media Analyses: GOP Splits Over Wednesday Electoral Vote Count.**

Kasie Hunt reported on NBC Nightly News (1/4, story 6, 1:40, Holt, 6.06M), "As President Trump refuses to accept the results of the 2020 election, his Republican Party [is] splintering in two. ... Dozens of his allies in the House planning to object to the Electoral College count on Wednesday," and Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO) "has said he'll sign on, forcing an up-or-down vote" on whether Joe Biden won. But "establishment Republicans are warning objecting is a political and moral disaster." On the CBS Evening News (1/4, story 3, 2:30, O'Donnell, 4.51M), Nancy Cordes said, "GOP lawmakers plan to object Wednesday to Electoral College tallies in up to half a dozen battleground states. ... But the lack of any evidence of fraud has led other Republicans to dub the effort unconstitutional, even dangerous, arguing it undermines the voters and has zero chance of success."

The AP (1/4, Mascaro, Jalonick) reports that Trump, "with mounting desperation," appealed to Republicans on Monday "to reverse his election loss...when Congress convenes for a joint session this week to confirm the Electoral College vote. Trump's unprecedented attempt to overturn the presidential election is splitting the Republican Party. Some GOP lawmakers backing Trump are rushing ahead, despite an outpouring of condemnation from current and former party officials warning the effort is undermining Americans' faith in democracy." Bloomberg (1/4, Wingrove, Flatley, 3.57M) also says GOP lawmakers "are fracturing over [Trump's] futile effort to persuade Congress to overturn his re-election defeat."



The New York Times (1/4, Edmondson, Cochrane, 20.6M) reports, "Republican divisions deepened on Monday over an insurgency in the party's ranks seeking to overturn [Biden's] victory. .. The last-ditch bid to deny Mr. Biden the presidency has unleashed open warfare among Republicans, leaving them scrambling to stake out a defensible stance on a test that carried heavy repercussions for their careers and their party." The Washington Post (1/4, 10.52M) says Trump "is effectively sabotaging the Republican Party on his way out of office, obsessed with overturning his election loss and nursing pangs of betrayal from allies whom he had expected to bend the instruments of democracy to his will."

Politico (1/4, Levine, Zanona, 6.73M) reports that "at least 12 Senate Republicans plan to object to Biden's win, following Trump's baseless claims of widespread voter fraud." But Fox News (1/4, DeMarche, 23.99M) reports on its website that Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR), "who is seen as a rising star in the Republican Party and a major ally for President Trump," said Monday that he will not oppose certifying Biden's win, and The Hill (1/4, Carney, 5.69M) reports "a growing number of Senate Republicans" including Sens. Kevin Cramer (R-ND), John Hoeven (R-ND), and Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV) – "are formally coming out against challenging the Electoral College results."

The New York Times (1/4, Karni, Haberman, 20.6M) reports advisers to Vice President Pence, who as President of the Senate "is expected to preside over the pro forma certification of the Electoral College vote count," have been "bracing themselves" for the event. There is "no chance of Mr. Pence not being there, people close to him said. Mr. Pence's aides have told people that they view the vice president's role as largely ceremonial."

The New York Times (1/4, Fandos, 20.6M) looks at the role of Hawley in pushing the electoral count challenge, and how it could impact Hawley's own presidential ambitions.

***Georgia US Attorney Steps Down.*** The AP (1/4, Brumback) reports US Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia Byung Pak stepped down Monday. His resignation statement "did not say why Pak was leaving or what he plans to do next." The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (1/4, 1.46M) reports that in his call with Raffensberger, Trump "references a 'never-Trumper U.S. attorney there.' It's unclear if that's a reference to Pak. But Atlanta and Fulton County are within the Northern District of Georgia, and in the recording, Trump talks repeatedly of debunked accusations of electoral fraud in Georgia, including in Fulton."

***Cheney Reportedly Spearheaded Statement From Ex-Defense Secretaries.*** ABC World News Tonight (1/4, story 6, 0:45, Muir, 7.47M) reported on the news that all 10 living former defense secretaries, "including two who served under President Trump, are saying it's time – that the military shouldn't be involved in any way – that we should acknowledge that Joe Biden won." ABC's Jonathan Karl: "The former secretaries of defense came together under the initiative of Dick Cheney. Their words are strong. They write, 'Our elections have occurred. Recounts and audits have been conducted. Appropriate challenges have been addressed from the courts. The time for questioning the results has passed.'" NBC Nightly News (1/4, story 7, 1:30, Holt, 6M) also covered the statement, while USA Today (1/4, Brook, 12.7M) reports that ex-Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel "warned of 'bloodshed and riots' after [Trump's] latest attempt to overturn the election."

***Business Leaders Call For Ratification Of Biden Win.*** The Washington Post (1/4, Dawsey, 10.52M) reports that nearly 200 top industry leaders have written to Congress encouraging legislators to certify Biden's election, saying that "attempts to thwart or delay this process run counter to the essential tenets of our democracy." The letter, organized by the Partnership for New York City and signed by leaders from firms including BlackRock, Blackstone, and the Carlyle Group, said, "The presidential election has been decided and it is time for the country to move forward." The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Glazer, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) also covers the letter.

***Report Says Trump May Travel To Scotland On Day Before Inauguration.*** Scotland's Sunday Post (1/3) reported Trump "could be planning a trip to Scotland to avoid attending his successor Joe Biden's inauguration, according to aviation sources. Prestwick airport has been told to expect the arrival of a US military Boeing 757 aircraft, that is occasionally used by Trump, on January 19. ... Speculation surrounding Trump's plans has been fuelled by the activity of US Army aircraft, which were based at Prestwick airport for a week and said to be carrying out 3D

reconnaissance of the president's Turnberry resort."

### **More Than 18,400 People Died Of COVID In US Over Past Week.**

Reuters (1/4, Canipe) reports December "was the deadliest month of the coronavirus pandemic in the United States with nearly 78,000 deaths, and health officials warned that even more people will likely die in January despite the rollout of vaccines." In addition, a Reuters analysis found that for "the week ended Jan. 3, more than 18,400 people died from COVID-19, bringing the pandemic's total to over 351,000 deaths, or one in every 930 U.S. residents."

On the CBS Evening News<sup>\*</sup> (1/4, story 4, 2:50, 4.36M), Norah O'Donnell said, "Right now, one American is dying from COVID about every 30 seconds." Jonathan Vigliotti added, "Southern California hospitals are so overwhelmed, one doctor calls it 'World War Three.' The emotional toll, off the charts." Vigliotti also reported Los Angeles County is "now averaging 133 deaths a day, it was 25 on Thanksgiving. Bodies now stored in refrigerated trucks." On NBC Nightly News<sup>\*</sup> (1/4, story 3, 2:10, Holt, 6M), Miguel Almaguer reported, "The current crisis in California is the kind of holiday surge the rest of the nation is now bracing for. In just one month, hospitalizations and ICU occupancy has doubled. In Los Angeles, ambulances are waiting up to eight hours to offload patients." He added, "At one hospital in northern California, 44 employees became infected with the virus, one losing their life overnight. Officials investigating whether an air powered inflatable costume may have been the source of the outbreak."

On ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (1/4, story 4, 2:05, Muir, 7.47M), Matt Gutman reported, "Across the nation, a record number of Americans hospitalized. More than 125,000. And 50,000 deaths in the last three weeks." Gutman added, "Much of the spike attributed to Thanksgiving travel, yet 17 million Americans traveled over the Christmas and New Year's holidays."

Citing the Transportation Security Administration, the Washington Post (1/4, Aratani, 10.52M) reports that on Sunday, "more than 1.3 million people moved through U.S. airport security checkpoints...the most since the beginning of the pandemic." According to the Post, "The number was still far below what it was in 2019 when more than 2.4 million people were screened on the same day." Nevertheless, the Post says that "despite recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that people not travel during the holiday season, December proved to be one of the busiest months at airports across the country, with the number of people screened exceeding 1 million on nine separate days."

### **FDA Considers Cutting COVID Vaccine Doses Amid Concerns About Slow Rollout.**

In the lead NBC Nightly News<sup>\*</sup> (1/4, lead story, 2:45, 6M) segment, Lester Holt reported that "alarms are sounding...about the slow pace of vaccinations, doses distributed, but not yet in people's arms. Across the country, many of the most vulnerable left confused and frustrated as they wait their turn." Tom Costello added, "So far, fewer than five million doses have been administered after the Trump administration promised 20 million shots by the end of last week. With 50 different states and distribution plans, the hang-up seems to be at the local and state levels."

HHS Secretary Azar in a USA Today (1/4, 12.7M) op-ed defends the Administration's vaccine distribution effort and argues "our manufacturing projections show that we are on track to have 200 million doses available by the end of the first quarter, with the possibility of more if another vaccine receives Food and Drug Administration authorization. This is a projection, made based on the best available data we have." Azar added, "We would much rather provide the most accurate projections we have, with some chance we could miss them, than set intentionally pessimistic goals just to be sure we can say they were met. Real transparency is what the American people deserve, and it's what we'll continue to deliver."

NIAID Director Fauci was asked on MSNBC's All In<sup>\*</sup> (1/4, 2.02M) why vaccinations are going so slowly in the US. Fauci said, "Actually we don't know really, precisely why. If you look at the allocation versus what's shipped, what's distributed, but the bottom line is what's getting into people's arms. So, we were supposed to get 20 million doses that were distributed. We have about 14 million of those. So, we're a little bit short on that. Hopefully we'll catch up with that in the next

few days. But the real question is we have about four-plus million in the arms of people. We've got to get that up. We've got to get the pace up. We're not where we want to be. There's no doubt about it. No excuses."

On the CBS Evening News<sup>8</sup> (1/4, story 5, 2:35, 4.36M), Norah O'Donnell said that "with US vaccination numbers far behind schedule, the FDA is considering cutting doses of one COVID vaccine in half to double its supply and speed up distribution." Manuel Bojorquez added, "The debate is now turning to giving half doses of the Moderna vaccine to people between 18 and 55, doubling the amount of people who can take it." Operation Warp Speed Chief Scientific Adviser Moncef Slaoui: "We know it induces identical immune response. And therefore, we are in discussion with Moderna and with the FDA."

According to the Washington Post (1/4, Farzan, 10.52M), "The current vaccine schedule is two doses, three to four weeks apart," and "health officials have several unknowns to consider if the government moves to delay the second dose, including how it would affect the immune response and whether it would increase the likelihood that patients forget or skip their eventual second dose." The Post reports that on Monday, former FDA commissioner Scott Gottlieb "suggested that halving doses for younger patients could extend the vaccine supply while still allowing older, more vulnerable patients to maintain the recommended vaccine schedule."

On ABC World News Tonight<sup>8</sup> (1/4, story 2, 1:10, Muir, 7.47M), Ashish Jha, the Dean of Brown University School of Public Health, said, "There's pretty good evidence from the clinical trials that one dose is effective at least out to four weeks and probably, potentially longer. So, I think that this is not a huge stray out of the clinical data that we have. It certainly would potentially save a lot of lives. I think it is worth exploring."

However, the Washington Post (1/4, Johnson, 10.52M) reports FDA Commissioner Hahn and Peter Marks, Director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, on Monday "said it would be 'premature' and 'not rooted solidly in the available evidence' to change the way the two authorized vaccines are administered." The Post adds they "said the available data 'continue to support the use of two specified doses of each authorized vaccine at specified intervals.'"

**Moderna Plans To Produce 1B Vaccine Doses This Year.** CNBC (1/4, Higgins-Dunn, 7.34M) reports on its website that Moderna announced on Monday that it is "increasing its Covid-19 vaccine production this year, upping the minimum number of doses it expects to make by 20% to 600 million." According to CNBC, Moderna "said it's working to produce up to 1 billion doses of its Covid vaccine this year." CNBC adds that the US "is on track to secure 100 million shots of Moderna's vaccine by the end of March and additional 100 million by June."

**Florida Giving Hospitals That Vaccinate More Rapidly Additional Doses.** Reuters (1/4, O'Donnell, Spalding, Szekely, Allen) reports that "in Florida, where officials have put senior citizens ahead of many essential workers for getting the vaccine," Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) "announced a policy under which the state would allocate doses to hospitals that dispense them most quickly. 'Hospitals that do not do a good job of getting the vaccine out will have their allocations transferred to hospitals that are doing a good job at getting the vaccine out,' DeSantis said at a briefing." DeSantis added, "We do not want vaccine to just be idle at some hospital system."

On ABC World News Tonight<sup>8</sup> (1/4, lead story, 4:35, Muir, 7.47M), Victor Oquendo reported, "Vaccinations are under way here in Daytona Beach, but the demand is so high, the lines are so long, thousands have been turned away. The advice, if you can, wait."

**Cuomo Demands Hospitals Increase Pace Of Vaccinations.** The New York Times (1/4, Slotnik, Rosa, Shapiro, 20.6M) reports New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) warned on Monday that "hospitals...will now face fines and potentially lose the opportunity to distribute the coronavirus vaccine if they do not step up the pace of inoculations." Cuomo "said hospitals could face fines of up to \$100,000 if they did not use their current supplies of vaccine by the end of the week, and that facilities would be required to use future shipments within seven days of receipt." According to the Times, New York "lags behind other large states," and Cuomo is "facing pressure to fast-track the vaccinations as deaths and hospitalizations continue to rise." The Times adds Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) on Monday "said that New York City will double the number of coronavirus vaccination sites in the city and broaden the pool of people who are eligible to be inoculated in order to

achieve his goal of administering one million doses...during January."

According to the New York Times (1/4, A1, McKinley, Ferré-Sadurní, Fitzsimmons, 20.6M), "The small number of vaccine recipients is particularly striking in New York City, where roughly 110,000 people – in a city of more than eight million – have received the first of two doses necessary to help prevent serious cases of the disease. That is about a quarter of the total number received by the city." In addition, the AP (1/4) reports the discovery of the UK variant in New York "seemed to underscore the need for more urgency in a vaccination campaign that has, so far, moved at a snail's pace."

***Newsom Pledges To Ramp Up Vaccine Roll Out After Slow Start.*** The Los Angeles Times (1/4, Shalby, 3.37M) reports, "Only about 35% of the COVID-19 vaccine doses that have arrived in California have been administered so far," a rate Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) "acknowledged Monday was 'not good enough' as he pledged new funding and efforts aimed at ramping up the rollout." The state "has received just under 1.3 million vaccine doses, but only a touch more than 454,000 people have actually received the shots, according to figures Newsom presented." While Newsom "has regularly maintained that distribution of the long-awaited vaccines is 'like a flywheel, the first 10, 15 days we're going to slowly start building pace, then you're going to start seeing more rapid distribution,' he said the process had, to this point, 'gone too slowly, I know, for many of us.'"

***Companies Face Staffing Shortages In Push To Meet Demand To Distribute Vaccines.*** The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Koh, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports the contract-manufacturing companies that are working to expedite the availability of COVID vaccines worldwide are struggling with staffing shortages, hampering efforts to meet production demand.

***Some In US Pushing For Prisons To Get Priority Vaccine Access.*** The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Maher, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports on the push by some in the US for prisons to get early access to COVID vaccines.

### **Cuomo Announces New York's First Case Of UK COVID Variant.**

Bloomberg (1/4, Clukey, 3.57M) reports New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) on Monday announced the state's first case of the SARS-CoV-2 variant from the UK known as B117. The New York Post (1/4, Hogan, Hicks, Feis, 7.45M) reports the 60-year-old male patient is believed to have "contracted the disease at a jewelry store in Saratoga Springs." Politico (1/4, Young, 6.73M) reports Cuomo "said three other people connected with the store have tested positive for Covid-19, but it's unclear whether they also have the variant form of the virus."

Reuters (1/4, Brooks) report Cuomo "says it could be a 'game changer' if the new strain increases hospitalizations and forces regions to close down." USA Today (1/4, Hauck, 12.7M) reports Henry Walke, incident manager for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's COVID response, said, "Because the variants spread more rapidly, they could lead to more cases and put even more strain on our heavily burdened health care systems."

In addition, the New York Daily News (1/4, Slattery, 2.51M) reports Cuomo "said there are currently 8,251 people being treated for the virus in hospitals and a statewide positivity rate of 8.34%. Another 170 New Yorkers died of COVID-19 on Sunday." The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Vielkind, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports hospitalization figure is New York's highest since early May.

### **Some Emergency Physicians Who Worked On Pandemic Frontlines Now Struggling To Find Jobs.**

The Washington Post (1/4, A1, Guarino, 10.52M) reports some young emergency physicians who have worked on the front lines of the pandemic are now struggling to find jobs. According to a survey from the American College of Emergency Physicians, 20% of emergency medicine group practices "laid off doctors this year, almost one-third furloughed them and more than half cut hours or wages." The Post says the "dearth of jobs is the result of a domino effect: Many people stayed away from hospital emergency rooms this past year, wary of contracting the virus," and "as patient numbers dropped, emergency departments brought in less money," resulting in "cash-strapped employers" who "stopped recruiting new doctors."

### **DOJ Official Says Reapportionment Data Will Not Be Ready Until February.**

The AP (1/4, Schneider) reports Deputy Assistant Attorney General John Coghlan said during a court hearing Monday "that the numbers used for deciding how many congressional seats each state gets won't be ready until February, putting in jeopardy" President Trump's effort "to exclude people in the country illegally from those figures." Coghlan said the US Census Bureau "has found new irregularities in the head count data that determines congressional seat allocations and the distribution of \$1.5 trillion in federal spending each year."

### **Judge Blocks Administration From Sanctioning Human Rights Lawyers.**

Reuters (1/4, Stempel) reports US District Judge Katherine Polk Failla in Manhattan "on Monday blocked the Trump administration from sanctioning human rights lawyers for supporting the work of the world's war crimes tribunal, the International Criminal Court." Failla "issued a preliminary injunction against the White House from imposing criminal or civil penalties against four law professors under an executive order from President Donald Trump last June" that "authorized economic and travel sanctions against employees of the Hague-based ICC and anyone supporting its work, including a probe into whether U.S. forces committed war crimes in Afghanistan between 2003 and 2014." Reuters adds, "Failla said the plaintiffs would likely succeed in showing that Trump's order unconstitutionally stifled their speech, resulting in irreparable harm."

### **CIA Launches New Hiring Website As Part Of Diversity Push.**

The AP (1/4, Riechmann) reports that the CIA, "striving to further diversify its ranks," has launched a new website "to find top-tier candidates who will bring a broader range of life experiences. ... While the CIA has been diversifying for years, intelligence agencies still lag the federal workforce in minority representation. With thousands of job applicants annually, the CIA wants to do more to ensure its workforce reflects national demographics." CIA Director Haspel "said in a statement that she hopes the new website piques the interest of talented Americans and gives them a sense of the 'dynamic environment that awaits them here.'"

### **DC Police Chief Warns Boebert About Carrying Pistol In City.**

Reuters (1/4) reports Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO), "who has vowed to carry her Glock pistol when she is at work in the U.S. Capitol, has so far failed to fulfill that promise and earned a rebuke on Monday from the D.C. police chief." Police Chief Robert Contee said at a Monday news conference that Boebert "will be 'subjected to the same penalties as anyone else caught on a District of Columbia street carrying a firearm unlawfully.'" The Washington Post (1/4, Flynn, 10.52M) reports Boebert released a video ad Sunday "proclaiming her right to carry a Glock on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol and in the streets of Washington," but "on Monday, those efforts appeared poised to fail."

The Denver Post (1/4, 660K) reports, "Nonresidents are prohibited from carrying guns in D.C. unless they register with the police department. Members of Congress can carry guns on the Capitol grounds, which is federal land, but not on the city streets of D.C. without a concealed carry permit. D.C. does not recognize permits from other states and territories." Contee said, "We plan to reach out to the congresswoman's office to make sure that she is aware what the laws of the District of Columbia are, what the restrictions are." Politico (1/4, Cheney, 6.73M) and The Hill (1/4, Mastrangelo, 5.69M) also have reports.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **Administration Working On Response To Mexico's Foreign Agents Law.**

The Daily Beast (1/4, 933K) reports the Administration "is searching for a work-around" in response to the recent passing of a law in Mexico that affects foreign agents operating in that country. The law "was rushed through the Mexican legislature last month amid the fallout over the arrest of the country's former defense chief on U.S. drug trafficking charges." It has "generated intense concern" at DOJ, where "where investigations into Mexico's powerful drug cartels have

been imperiled by new requirements for agents to share intelligence with the country's government." Among the transition officials working on the issue for President-elect Biden is Roberta Jacobson, a former State Department official. Council on Foreign Relations Mexico expert Shannon O'Neil said about Jacobson, "She will definitely be a thoughtful voice in what one can and can't do in the relationship and potentially how to find various voices and allies and others to rebuild the U.S.-Mexico security relationship."

### **European Commission Defends Coronavirus Vaccine Strategy.**

The AP (1/4, Petrequin) reports that the European Commission "defended its coronavirus vaccination strategy Monday amid growing criticism in member states about the slow rollout of COVID-19 shots." EC spokesman Eric Mamer blamed "production capacity, an issue that everybody is facing." Mamer said, "We have actually signed contracts that would allow member states to get access to 2 billion doses, largely enough to vaccinate the whole of the EU population." The EU, adds the AP, "has sealed six vaccines contracts, with Moderna, AstraZeneca, Sanofi-GSK, Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, Pfizer-BioNTech and CureVac."

However, the New York Times (1/4, Wu, Robbins, 20.6M) reports that with scientists and policymakers "debating whether to reserve the second doses everyone will need, or give as many people as possible just one shot now – potentially at the expense of giving second doses on schedule," several European countries "are considering the options, or moving forward with the delay, despite a lack of evidence about how much protection a single dose of vaccine will provide and how long it will last."

### **Lockdowns Announced For England, Scotland As UK Starts Administering AstraZeneca Oxford Vaccine.**

The Washington Post (1/4, Adam, Hassan, 10.52M) reports that UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday "ordered a third national lockdown for England amid a surging coronavirus outbreak driven by a U.K. variant that appears to be more contagious and may have greater implications for children." On NBC Nightly News (1/4, story 2, 1:50, Holt, 6.06M), Richard Engel said Johnson "acknowledged [that the UK is] losing its battle against the new strain of the virus, up to 70% more contagious, and needs to lockdown immediately."

Reuters (1/4, Schornberg, Piper) reports that in England, "non-essential shops and hospitality would have to remain closed, while primary and secondary schools would close from Tuesday for all pupils except vulnerable children and those whose parents are key workers." The New York Times (1/4, A1, Castle, Landler, 20.6M) reports Johnson "appealed to Britons to stay at home for all but a few necessary purposes, including essential work and buying food and medicine."

The AP (1/4) says the lockdown came "even as Britain ramped up its vaccination program by becoming the first nation to start using the shot developed by Oxford University and drugmaker AstraZeneca." Bloomberg (1/4, Ashton, Ross, 3.57M) reports that Johnson "warned of hard weeks ahead but announced a target to give shots to 13.9 million people at the highest risk from the disease by mid-February." On ABC World News Tonight (1/4, story 3, 1:00, Muir, 7.47M), Maggie Rulli reported Johnson "did say if the vaccine rollout goes according to plan, we could see some of the restrictions lifted by mid-February."

Meanwhile, Reuters (1/4, Faulconbridge) reports Scotland "will go into a new lockdown with people ordered to stay at home for January" as First Minister Nicola Sturgeon "told the Scottish parliament that from midnight on Monday people would face a legal requirement to stay at home except for essential purposes." Axios (1/4, Perano, 1.26M) reports Wales and Northern Ireland had been "under tight restrictions since December, and it's unclear whether a stricter lockdown will follow." The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Colchester, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

### **France Moving To Speed Vaccinations After Slow Start.**

The AP (1/4, Charlton) reports, "France's cautious approach to rolling out a coronavirus vaccination program appears to have backfired, leaving barely 500 people inoculated in the first week and

rekindling anger over the government's handling of the pandemic." French President Emmanuel Macron held "a special meeting with top government officials Monday to address the vaccine strategy." While France vaccinated "only 516 people...in the first six days ... Germany's first-week total surpassed 200,000 and Italy's was over 100,000," while the US and China "have vaccinated millions." One reason for the slow rate in France may be that "polls suggest the French are unusually wary of vaccines."

The Los Angeles Times (1/4, El-Faizy, 3.37M) reports that France is "one of the most reluctant nations in the world to get the COVID-19 shot, leading to the lowest uptake so far of any developed country to start inoculating its citizens." According to one poll "only 40% of French residents said they intended to get vaccinated." The French government "added healthcare workers over 50 to the list of those eligible for the shot" initially reserved for the elderly.

Bloomberg (1/4, Ruitenberg, Amiel, 3.57M) reports, "The French government is trying to make up for a slow start to its Covid-19 vaccination program" as "several thousand people were given a shot on Monday" and according to the health minister "a total of 1 million doses will be available by the end of the week."

Reuters (1/4) reports that France "reported 4,022 new coronavirus infections over the past 24 hours on Monday, a figure three times lower as Sunday's 12,489 but higher than last Monday's 2,960 and the number of people hospitalised for the disease was up for the third day running."

### **China Hopes To Vaccinate 50M By Mid-February.**

The Washington Post (1/4, Dou, 10.52M) reports that China "has begun a nationwide drive to vaccinate some 50 million front-line workers against the coronavirus before the Lunar New Year travel rush next month, in hopes of avoiding a repeat of last year's grim holiday season." According to the Post, "Workers in a range of industries will receive their first of two vaccine shots by the middle of this month, with the next shot two to four weeks afterward." The Post says "there's urgency to complete these vaccinations before Lunar New Year – often called the world's largest annual human migration – which takes place Feb. 11-17. Last year, some 1.5 billion trips were made over the holiday in China, half the normal number, as people sheltered in place against the growing coronavirus outbreak."

The New York Times (1/4, Yuan, 20.6M) says, "While many countries are still reeling from Covid-19, China...has become one of the safest places in the world." According to the Times, whereas China "reported fewer than 100,000 infections for all of 2020," the US "has been reporting more than that every day since early November." The Times adds, "The country will be the only major economy to have grown this past year," and "one outfit is forecasting that the Chinese economy will surpass that of the United States in 2028 – five years earlier than previously predicted."

### **North Korea Seeks Vaccines From Gavi.**

The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Martin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that North Korea has reached out to the international vaccine alliance, Gavi, about procuring COVID vaccines from a stash intended for developing nations. Sources also note that North Korea has been putting out feelers to European countries about acquiring doses.

### **Tokyo Adds Tougher Restrictions To Limit Spread Of COVID.**

The New York Times (1/4, Rich, 20.6M) reports Tokyo officials "requested on Monday that restaurants and bars close by 8 p.m. to prevent further spread of the coronavirus, an announcement that came after the Japanese prime minister, Yoshihide Suga, said that the central government would consider declaring a state of emergency in the capital and in three surrounding prefectures for the first time since April." The Times adds that with Tokyo "recording a record high of 1,337 cases in one day last week, Governor Yuriko Koike said, 'We should clearly recognize that the infection situation is in a completely different stage.'"

### **Mexico Approves Oxford-AstraZeneca Vaccine For Emergency Use.**

The New York Times (1/4, Pietsch, 20.6M) reports that Mexico "approved the Oxford-AstraZeneca



coronavirus vaccine for emergency use on Monday, the country's top epidemiologist, Hugo López-Gatell, announced in a tweet on Monday evening," becoming "the fourth country to approve the vaccine." The Times adds Mexican Foreign Secretary Marcelo Ebrard "celebrated the approval on Monday evening as 'very good news,' tweeting that it would allow the country to start production 'very soon.'"

### **Israel Says 12% Of Residents Have Had Initial Vaccination Doses.**

The Washington Post (1/4, Hendrix, Rubin, 10.52M) reports that Israel, "which has inoculated a higher proportion of its population against the coronavirus than any other country, is delivering shots so quickly that it is outstripping its supply of vaccine." According to the Post, "Health officials are scrambling to buy more doses and said they may pause giving the first round of shots to younger citizens to deliver the second, final injections to the elderly." Israel "has reached 12 percent of its residents with the initial dose." The Post says "the situation is essentially the opposite of that in many parts of the United States, where vaccines are sitting unused as mass inoculation programs struggle to build momentum."

### **Iran Resumes Enriching Uranium To 20% Amid Escalating Tensions.**

The AP (1/4, Gambrell, DeBre) reports that on Monday, Iran "began enriching uranium...to levels unseen since its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers and also seized a South Korean-flagged tanker near the crucial Strait of Hormuz." The AP calls it "a double-barreled challenge to the West that further raised Mideast tensions." The AP adds, "Increasing enrichment at its underground Fordo facility puts Tehran a technical step away from weapons-grade levels of 90%, while also pressuring" Joe Biden to negotiate. The Washington Post (1/4, Fahim, 10.52M) reports that an International Atomic Energy Agency spokesman "said Monday that its inspectors were monitoring activities" at Fordo and that IAEA Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi "was expected to submit a report to the watchdog's member states later in the day." The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Egbali, Malsin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

*Trump Personally Ordered Aircraft Carrier To Remain In Middle East.* The New York Times (1/4, Santora, 20.6M) reports the Pentagon "further add[ed] to the tensions," with its announcement Sunday "that it had ordered the aircraft carrier Nimitz to remain in the Middle East, just three days after directing the ship to head for home in an effort to de-escalate rising tensions with Tehran." Politico (1/4, Seligman, 6.73M) reports that President Trump personally "was behind the abrupt decision announced on Sunday night to reverse course and keep the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz in the Middle East due to Iranian threats against top U.S. officials." On its website, CNN (1/4, Sciutto, Starr, Gaouette, 89.21M) says Trump directed Acting Defense Secretary Miller to "reverse course" and order the carrier back to return to the Middle East "following a White House meeting Sunday, according to a senior defense official." The Hill (1/4, Pitofsky, 5.69M) provides similar coverage..

*Netanyahu Says Israel Will Not Allow Iran To Build Nuclear Weapons.* Reuters (1/4, Hafezi) reports Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "said the move was aimed at developing nuclear weapons and Israel would never allow Tehran to build them." Reuters reports that Netanyahu "said Iran's enrichment decision could be explained only as a bid to 'continue to carry out its intention to develop a military nuclear programme.'" Netanyahu is quoted as saying, "Israel will not allow Iran to produce nuclear weapons."

### **Iran Seizes South Korean Chemical Tanker.**

Reuters (1/4, Hafezi, Shin) reports that Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps "seized a South Korean-flagged tanker in Gulf waters and detained its crew...amid tensions between Tehran and Seoul over Iranian funds frozen in South Korean banks due to U.S. sanctions." According to Reuters, the government of South Korea "confirmed the seizure of a South Korean chemical tanker by Iranian authorities in the waters off Oman, and demanded its immediate release." Reuters adds that "several Iranian media outlets, including state TV, said the Guards navy captured the vessel for polluting the Gulf with chemicals."

Bloomberg (1/4, Ratcliffe, Motevalli, Sykes, 3.57M) reports that Iran's Foreign Ministry



"appeared to play down the incident, saying the seizure was related to a 'technical issue' and stressed that it's nuclear move was easily reversible." According to Bloomberg, "Relations between Tehran and Seoul have been strained since the U.S. reimposed tough sanctions on Iran and banned countries, including major Asian customers, from buying its petroleum." Bloomberg adds that Iran "says it has at least \$7 billion from oil sales trapped in South Korea and the money is needed to purchase humanitarian goods, including coronavirus vaccines," and South Korea's deputy foreign minister was "scheduled to visit Iran to discuss the trapped funds...just before the tanker was seized."

### **NYTimes Analysis: Economic Crisis Threatens To Destabilize Iraq.**

The New York Times (1/4, Arraf, 20.6M) reports on "what economists say is the biggest financial threat to Iraq since Saddam Hussein's time." According to the Times, Iraq "is running out of money to pay its bills, threatening the country on several fronts." In December, Iraq "devalued its currency, the dinar, for the first time in decades, immediately raising prices on almost everything in a country that relies heavily on imports. And last week, Iran cut Iraq's supply of electricity and natural gas, citing nonpayment, leaving large parts of the country in the dark for hours a day." The Times adds that "the financial crisis holds the potential to destabilize the government, which was ousted a year ago after mass protests over corruption and unemployment, touch off fighting among armed groups, and empower Iraq's neighbor and longtime rival, Iran."

### **Trump Administration Brokers Saudi-Qatar Deal.**

Citing "a senior Trump administration official," Reuters (1/4) reports that "a breakthrough has been reached in Qatar's three-year-old dispute with Saudi Arabia and three other Arab countries and an agreement aimed at ending their rift is to be signed in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday." Reuters says it is "the latest in a series of Middle East deals sought by Washington -- the others involving Israel and Arab states -- aimed at building a united front against Iran."

The Wall Street Journal (1/4, Nissenbaum, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) US officials said that under the agreement, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt will end a blockade of Qatar that began in June 2017 when they accused Qatar's leaders of supporting terrorism. The AP (1/4, Batrawy, DeBre) says, "It was unclear what concessions Qatar had made or is promising to make regarding a shift in its policies."

The Washington Post (1/4, Hudson, 10.52M) cites "a senior U.S. official" who "said that Saudi Arabia, along with the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain, would sign an agreement ending their dispute with Qatar at the Saudi summit Tuesday. Jared Kushner, a White House senior adviser and Trump's son-in-law, helped broker the deal, the official said." In a separate story, Reuters (1/4) reports that the US and Kuwait "have been trying to end the row" that "shatter[ed] regional unity which Washington says hinders efforts to contain Iran."

The New York Times (1/4, Yee, 20.6M) says "the announcement was seen as good news" in Washington. Coming "during the transition from one American president to another, the deal sits at a rare overlap of interests for President Trump, whose administration has been urging its allies to stop quarreling and unify against Iran," and Joe Biden, "whose team would prefer not to inherit a crisis centered on one of the globe's most strategic regions." Axios (1/4, Ravid, 1.26M) provides similar coverage.

### **Pompeo Acknowledges "Work Remains To Be Done" On China And North Korea.**

Bloomberg (1/4, Wadhams, 3.57M) reports that on Monday, Secretary of State Pompeo "said...that he regrets the U.S. hadn't made more progress in resolving 'hard issues' with China or getting North Korea to shed its nuclear arsenal, while saying that the Trump administration has made the world a safer place than it was four years ago." Pompeo is quoted as saying, "The regret is that the big issues, the hard issues and the trade relationship between the United States and China have not been resolved. ... That work remains to be done." On North Korea, Pompeo said after two summits with the President, Kim Jong-un "has not yet made the decision that he is actually prepared to execute" on a commitment to give up his nuclear weapons.

## **China Targets Lawyers Who Represented Hong Kong Pro-Democracy Activists.**

The [New York Times](#) (1/4, Ramzy, 20.6M) reports that "the Chinese legal authorities have threatened to revoke the licenses of two lawyers hired to help a group of Hong Kong protesters who were arrested last year while trying to flee to Taiwan by speedboat." The Times says "ten of the activists were convicted last week by a court in the mainland Chinese city of Shenzhen of illegal boundary crossing and sentenced to prison terms ranging from seven months to three years." The lawyers, Lu Siwei and Ren Quanniu, "were hired by family members of the activists but were barred from representing them. Instead, the defendants were forced to rely on government-appointed lawyers." The Times says the two lawyers "have taken on many sensitive cases."

## **Data Show South Korea's Population Fell For First Time On Record Last Year.**

The [New York Times](#) (1/4, Gladstone, 20.6M) reports that census data released over the weekend "showed South Korea's population fell in 2020 for the first time on record. A declining number of newborns was exceeded by a growing number of deaths, according to census data reported Sunday by Yonhap, the South Korean news agency." According to the news agency, "data from the Ministry of Interior and Safety showed that South Korea's population totaled 51,829,023 as of Dec. 31, down 20,838 from the end of 2019. There were 275,815 births, down 10.65 percent from 2019, and 307,764 deaths, up 3.1 percent from 2019." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (1/4, Jeong, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says the trend was likely exacerbated by the pandemic.

## **THE BIG PICTURE**

### **Headlines From Today's Front Pages.**

#### ***Wall Street Journal:***

[Trump Criticizes Some Republicans As 'Surrender Caucus'](#)  
[Qatar, Saudi Arabia Set To End Feud That Hampered US Interests](#)  
[Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway, JPMorgan End Health-Care Venture Haven](#)  
[Fed Had A Loan Plan For Midsize Firms Hurt By Covid. It Found Few Takers.](#)  
[Cold Sweat: Gyms Test Winter Workouts During The Pandemic](#)  
[Fiat Chrysler, PSA Aim To Complete Trans-Atlantic Merger In Mid-January](#)

#### ***New York Times:***

[As Georgians Prepare To Vote, Trump Interference Draws Rebuke](#)  
[An Insurgency From Inside The Oval Office](#)  
[Britain Re-Enters Sweeping Lockdown As Virus Variant Rages](#)  
[Republicans, Fearing Trump's Wrath, Splinter Over Bid To Overturn Election](#)  
[\\$900 Billion Won't Carry Biden Very Far](#)  
[New Variant Detected In New York Amid Growing Crisis Over Vaccine Rollout](#)

#### ***Washington Post:***

[Maneuvering By Trump Creates Deep Rift In GOP](#)  
[False Claims Weigh On Last Hours Of Ga. Races](#)  
[More Than 1 Million Still Await Vital Jobless Benefits](#)  
[Pandemic Leaves New ER Doctors In Dire Straits](#)  
[Brazil's Military Push Is Failing To Save The Amazon](#)

#### ***Financial Times:***

[Johnson Orders Third Lockdown For England](#)  
[Republican Divisions Deepen Over Certification Of Biden Victory](#)  
[Rolling Out Driverless Cars Is 'Extraordinary Grind', Says Waymo Boss](#)  
[EU Share Trading Flees London On First Day After Full Brexit](#)

**Washington Times:**

Heavyweights Seek Knockout Blow In High-Stakes Georgia Senate Runoffs

EXCLUSIVE: Republican AGs Unveil New Initiative To Undercut Biden-Harris Agenda

Chamber Of Commerce Eyes New Dawn Under Divided Government After Rankling Republicans

Changing Course: USS Nimitz To Stay In Middle East Amid Threats From Iran

GOP Pushes Back As Trump Divides Party With Electoral College Challenge

Top Pentagon Official Dismissed US Alliances With Taiwan, Australia

**Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:**

**ABC:** COVID Variant; Vaccines; UK-Lockdown; COVID Surge; Trump-Phone Call; Defense Secretaries; Georgia-Runoff; Julian Assange; Wisconsin-Pharmacist Sabotages Vaccine; Alex Trebek Farewell.

**CBS:** Trump-Phone Call; Brad Raffensperger Interview; Election Certification; COVID Surge; Vaccines; New York-Ski Resort Rescue; March Madness; Jigsaw Puzzles Popularity.

**NBC:** Vaccines; UK-Lockdown; COVID Surge; Trump-Phone Call; House Dems-Investigate Phone Call; Election Certification; Defense Secretaries; Julian Assange; Gas Prices; Healthy New Year Resolutions; Hawaii-Surfer Saves Swimmer.

**Network TV At A Glance:**

Trump-Phone Call – 9 minutes, 50 seconds

COVID Surge – 7 minutes, 5 seconds

Vaccines – 6 minutes, 30 seconds

**Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:**

**ABC:** Biden-Campaigning in Georgia; Trump-Georgia Rally; COVID Surge; Wisconsin-Jacob Blake Protests.

**CBS:** Trump-Georgia Rally; Biden-Campaigning in Georgia; Proud Boys Leader Arrested; Vaccines; UK-Lockdown; Actress in Critical Condition.

**FOX:** Trump-Georgia Rally; Biden-Campaigning in Georgia; UK-Lockdown.

**NPR:** Trump-Phone Call; Georgia-Runoff; COVID Variant; UK-Lockdown; Stocks.

**WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE****Today's Events In Washington.****White House:**

- President Trump — Will work from early in the morning until late in the evening. He will make many calls and have many meetings.
- Vice President Pence — Leads a White House Coronavirus Task Force meeting.

**US Senate:**

- No votes scheduled in the Senate.

**US House:**

- House meets for legislative business – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda including consideration of 'H.R. XX – FedRAMP Authorization Act', 'H.R. XX – Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2021', 'H.R. XX – Inspector General Protection Act', 'H.R. XX – Construction Consensus Procurement Improvement Act of 2021', and 'H.R. XX – Settlement Agreement Information Database Act of 2021' under suspension of the rules

*Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC*

**Cabinet Officers:**

- No public schedules released.

**Visitors:**

- No visitors scheduled.

***This Town:***

- CSIS hosts conversation with FCC Chairman Pai (virtual) – Center for Strategic and International Studies hosts online conversation with Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai, who discusses 'how the U.S. can outpace its competitors on 5G while protecting national security'; 3:00 PM
- Transportation Research Board 100th Annual Meeting, held virtually – Transportation Research Board 100th Annual Meeting – conducted as a virtual event over a series of dates throughout January 2021, due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Theme this year is 'Launching a New Century of Mobility and Quality of Life'

**Copyright 2021 by Bulletin Intelligence LLC** Reproduction or redistribution without permission prohibited. Content is drawn from thousands of newspapers, national magazines, national and local television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform's terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva's terms of use. Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Website's information and privacy policies. The FBI News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at [BulletinIntelligence.com](http://BulletinIntelligence.com), or called at (703) 483-6100.

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Wednesday, January 06, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-05:00)  
**Attached:** FBIDirBriefing210106.doc

b7E -3

This morning's Director's AM News Briefing is attached.

**Full-text Links:** Clicking the hypertext links in our write-ups will take you to the newspapers' original full-text articles.

**Interactive Table of Contents:** Clicking a page number on the table of contents page will take you directly to that story.

**Contractual Obligations and Copyright:** This copyrighted material is for the internal use of FBI employees only and, by contract, may not be redistributed without Bulletin Intelligence's express written consent.

**Contact Information:** Please contact us any time at 703-483-6100 or [REDACTED]  
Use of this email address will automatically result in your message being delivered to everyone involved with your service, including senior management. Thank you.

b7E -3

## **FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS – DIRECTOR’S AM NEWS BRIEFING**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021 5:00 AM EST**

**Intel Agencies Say Russia Was Likely Behind Hacking Of Government Departments.** The CBS Evening News (1/5, story 4, 0:25, O'Donnell, 4.65M) reported “the FBI and three other national security agencies” issued “a rare joint statement saying Russia was likely behind the cyber hacking of multiple government departments.” NBC Nightly News (1/5, story 7, 0:15, Holt, 6.11M) said the agencies’ “assessment is a rebuke of President Trump’s suggestion that China might have been behind it.” Likewise, Bloomberg (1/5, Sebenius, 3.57M) says the statement “is the latest contradiction of Trump’s assessment of the hack,” and the New York Times (1/5, Sanger, Barnes, 20.6M) that it is “a clear rebuke of President Trump’s efforts” to cast blame on China. Politico (1/5, Geller, 6.73M) says the statement “had been approved two weeks ago but was delayed at the White House’s insistence, a person familiar with the matter told Politico.”

The AP (1/5, Tucker) says Trump, “in a series of tweets late last month, sought to downplay the severity of the hack and raised the unsubstantiated idea that China could be responsible. Tuesday’s statement makes clear that that is not the case, saying the intrusions are likely ‘Russian in origin.’”

Reuters (1/5, Menn) says the statement from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the FBI, the National Security Agency, and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency said that the hacker, “likely Russian in origin, is responsible for most or all of the recently discovered, ongoing cyber compromises of both government and non-governmental networks.” The Washington Post (1/5, Nakashima, 10.52M) reports the statement “said that fewer than 10 federal entities had their networks breached, though that list includes major agencies such as the Departments of State, Treasury, Homeland Security, Energy and Commerce. U.S. officials have told The Washington Post that they think that as many as 300 government and private-sector entities at most have been compromised, though investigators are working to ascertain the scope of the hacks and to notify nongovernment entities affected.”

USA Today (1/5, Johnson, 12.7M) says the statement is “the most definitive accounting yet after separate statements last month by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and then-Attorney General William Barr who both pointed to the Kremlin.”

CNN (1/5, Cohen, 89.21M) reports, “While top US officials, including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, have previously suggested that the hacking campaign was carried out by a Russian-backed group, Tuesday’s joint statement offers the most definitive and concrete assessment about the attack’s origins from agencies investigating the incident. In short, the statement issued by the Cyber Unified Coordination Group (UCG) clearly acknowledges what US officials and experts have suspected since the data breach was first disclosed last month: the Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) actor responsible is ‘likely Russian in origin.’”

The Washington Times (1/5, Gertz, 626K) reports, “The Russian government has denied any involvement in the attack, which has raised serious questions about the security of public and private computer networks in both the U.S. and abroad. The cyberattack affected about 18,000 government and private networks, including computers at key federal agencies such as the Energy, Treasury and Commerce departments.”

Yahoo! News (1/5, McLaughlin, 10.87M), The Hill (1/5, 5.69M), CNBC (1/5, Haselton, 7.34M), Forbes (1/5, Beer, 10.33M), the Financial Times (1/5, Subscription Publication, 1.48M), ABC News (1/5, Barr, 2.44M), TechCrunch (1/5, Whittaker, 502K), the Telegraph (UK) (1/5, Murphy, 249K), US News & World Report (1/5, Shinkman, 1.91M), Fox News (1/5, Betz, 23.99M), NBC News (1/5, Dilanian, 4.91M), NPR (1/5, Myre, 3.69M), NextGov (1/5, Baksh), Bloomberg (1/5, Korte, Sebenius, 3.57M), the Washington Examiner (1/5, Dunleavy, 888K), the Wall Street Journal (1/5, Volz, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), BBC News (1/5, 876K), Axios (1/5, Rummler, 1.26M) and The Daily Caller (1/5, Datoc, 375K) provide similar coverage.

In an editorial, the Washington Post (1/5, 10.52M) says protecting the government from the next cyber attack and developing a “strategy for speedy recovery from infiltration” must be “an urgent priority for the Biden administration.”

**Top Admiral Says SolarWinds Hack Did Not Harm US-Based Nukes.** The Washington Times (1/5, Glenn, 626K) reports, “America’s nuclear arsenal wasn’t compromised by a recent cyber attack that targeted thousands of sensitive computer networks used by government agencies and private companies, the Navy admiral in charge of the U.S. Strategic Command said.” According to the Times, “The hack exploited a flaw in network monitoring software produced by Texas-based SolarWinds that allowed an Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) actor – most likely Russia – to covertly install back door access points in computer networks, officials said. ‘We believe this was, and continues to be, an intelligence gathering effort,’ according to a joint statement from the FBI, the National Security Agency, the Director of National Intelligence and other federal officials.”

**FBI, FAA Investigate Threat To US Capitol To Avenge Soleimani.** The CBS Evening News (1/5, story 3, 1:55, O'Donnell, 4.65M) reported that "the FBI and FAA are looking into a breach of the air traffic control system tonight after someone broadcast a threat to attack the US Capitol over the radio frequencies used by pilots." CBS' Jeff Pegues added that a "chilling threat obtained exclusively by CBS News was heard by multiple air traffic controllers Monday afternoon in New York." Unidentified Speaker: "We are flying a plane into is it Capitol Wednesday. Soleimani will be avenged." CBS cited "sources" who said "the Pentagon and other agencies were briefed today about the digitized voice recording and believe it was designed to suggest hitting the Capitol on the same day Congress is set to count the electoral college results."

On its website, CBS News (1/5, Pegues, 5.39M) reports, "While the government does not believe the warning of an attack is credible, it is being investigated as a breach of aviation frequencies." CBS adds, "The FBI is not commenting but said it takes 'all threats of violence to public safety seriously.'"

The Hill (1/5, Budryk, 5.69M) reports, "The message was received on Jan. 3, the first anniversary of the U.S. killing of Soleimani at a Baghdad airport." Additional coverage includes Fox News (1/5, Singman, 23.99M).

**FBI Warns Of COVID-19 Related Fraud Schemes.** USA Today (1/5, Phillips, 12.7M) reports, "For the past year, federal law enforcement agencies have received tens of thousands of complaints of fraud tied to the coronavirus pandemic." FBI Financial Crimes Section Chief Steven Merrill said, "We've been concerned about fraud schemes regarding the vaccine as soon as the vaccine went from an idea to reality ... The one thing that we've learned throughout this pandemic is that when there's money to be made, criminals will figure out how to do it." He added, "We want to make sure that the public understands that the information they should be getting about the vaccine should not be coming from an advertisement or unsolicited information; it should be coming from an official government website." Warned against "medical providers asking patients to undergo unnecessary tests and procedures, bad actors seeking personal information from unsuspecting victims in order to fraudulently bill Medicare, fraudsters asking people to pay out of pocket to obtain vaccines, and marketing representatives offering wholesale shipments of vaccines in exchange for fees."

Reuters (1/5, Bellon) reports, "Scams include emails promising entry to supposedly secret lists for early vaccine access and robocallers impersonating government agencies." Message boards on the dark web offer purported COVID-19 vaccines for sale.

The Houston Chronicle (1/5, Forward, 982K) reports indicators of fraud include "advertisements for paying for early access to the vaccine or requests for patients to pay out of pocket to get the vaccine or to enter personal medical information," offers for additional medical testing or procedures when obtaining a vaccine, "as well as marketers offering to sell or ship doses of a vaccine, domestically or internationally, in exchange for payment of a deposit or fee."

**FBI Says It Was Unaware Agent Was Interrogating Legislative Staffer About Conversation On Legislation.** The Detroit Free Press (1/5, Boucher, 2.16M) reports that in a statement, the FBI said that while it interrogated Michigan state Sen. Rosemary Bayer's chief of staff Katie Reiter about a conversation Bayer and her staff had about discussing draft legislation on tear gas, it was unaware of "Reiter's job before coming to her home to question her." While "Bayer suggested the FBI may have eavesdropped on the call," Special Agent Mara Schneider, a spokeswoman for the FBI in Detroit, wrote in an email that the agency "received a complaint from a concerned citizen who overheard comments about the use of tear gas during the upcoming election." She added, "At no time prior to that interview did the citizen or the FBI know the reported comments were made in the context of proposed legislation."

**Officials, Law Enforcement Prepare For Possible Violence As Trump Supporters Flock To DC For Protests.** The AP (1/5, Khalil, Balsamo) reports hundreds of supporters of President Trump gather in Washington, DC, "to cheer his baseless claims of election fraud a day before a congressional vote to affirm Joe Biden's victory." Local officials and law enforcement have been "bracing for potential violent street clashes" and many businesses boarded up their windows in case the protest devolves "into the unrest seen in May and June when dozens of businesses were vandalized." Both the National Guard and federal agents "were on standby, in case they were quickly needed in the city this week." Meanwhile, Trump expressed support on Twitter for the protesters and "president was expected to personally address his supporters in Washington on Wednesday during a rally on the Ellipse."

The New York Times (1/5, 20.6M) reports, "Local authorities have enhanced security and warned residents in and around the city to steer clear of potentially violent agitators." The Times says that protestors' "vitriol had already begun on a rainy Tuesday," and, "after dark, groups of men wearing body armor and helmets began showing up," some armed.

Additional coverage includes the Wall Street Journal (1/5, Levy, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) and the Washington Post (1/5, 10.52M).

**Proud Boys Leader Tarrio Barred From DC.** The AP (1/5, Balsamo, Long) reports, "A judge has banned the leader of the Proud Boys, a far-right extremist group, from the nation's capital after he was accused of vandalizing a Black Lives Matter banner at a historic Black church and found with high-capacity firearm magazines when he was arrested." Enrique Tarrio is barred "from entering the District of Columbia, with very limited exceptions to meet with his attorney or appear in court." He was arrested in Washington a the day before as he was arriving ahead of protests. He is "accused of burning a Black Lives Matter banner that was torn down from a historic Black church in downtown Washington last month." Police say he "posted a confession on the right-wing site Parler that he had set fire to the sign."

The Washington Post (1/5, 10.52M) reports that in charging Tarrio "police relied on his statement to the news media and videos that show him crouched with others near the banner as it was being set on fire." The Post adds, "The FBI's Washington Field Office enhanced some of the videos to obtain a clearer look." District police "said they also charged Tarrio with two felony counts of possessing high-capacity ammunition feeding devices, which is a legal term for a magazine that allows guns to hold additional bullets."

Additional coverage includes WTOP-FM Washington (1/5, Moore, 164K).

**Far-Right Forums Urge Violence During Protests.** The Washington Post (1/5, Harwell, 10.52M) reports, "Far-right online forums are seething with references to potential violence and urging supporters of President Trump to bring guns to Wednesday's protests in Washington." Trump's tweet promoting his baseless electoral fraud claims and promoting the January 6 protest "has become a central rallying cry," and "talk of guns and potential violence is rife on the encrypted messaging app Telegram, the conservative social media site Parler and on thedonald.win, an online forum that previously operated on Reddit before the company banned it in June after years of racism, misogyny, anti-Semitism and calls for violence."

**Pentagon Seeks To Avoid Political Entanglements.** The Washington Post (1/5, Ryan, 10.52M) reports, "Pentagon leaders are bracing for any renewed presidential attempts to employ the military for political ends." President Trump's effort "to use expansive military force to put down widespread protests over police violence against Black citizens" in June "served as a wake-up call to many top officials at the Pentagon and in Congress about Trump's willingness to reach for the military to advance his personal and political interests." As part of the careful posture and "the Pentagon's wariness in the final days of" Trump's presidency, it emphasized that National Guard units deployed at DC Mayor Muriel Bowser's request "wouldn't carry firearms, use armored vehicles or helicopters, or receive backup from units in other states."

David Ignatius, in a column in the Washington Post (1/5, 10.52M), writes that "senior government officials appear confident that the chaotic situation can be handled by the D.C. police, federal law-enforcement agencies and the National Guard – without requiring any use of regular-duty military troops." Police officers, joined by the guard, will establish control points near the main march sites. Officials' assessment is "based partly on experience," but officials also anticipate that left-wing counterprotesters will mostly not attend, lessening "the likelihood of confrontations that could escalate into bloodshed and serious disorder." While there are concerns that after dark on Wednesday "small bands of Proud Boys and other extremists" may "go looking for trouble," but "officials expect that the planned force would be adequate."

**DC Mayor Urges Against Deployment Of "Unidentifiable Personnel."** The Washington Times (1/5, Zantow, 626K) reports that in a letter to federal officials, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser urged against deploying "unidentifiable personnel" at pro-Trump rallies, writing, "Unidentifiable personnel – in many cases, armed – caused confusion among residents and visitors and could become a national security threat with no way for [D.C. police] and federal law enforcement to decipher armed groups."

**Legislators Advised To Use Tunnels Amid Protests.** The AP (1/5) reports the House sergeant-at-arm, in a memo to members of Congress, advised that, with "potential violence in Washington tied to protests," they should "use underground tunnels while traveling between chambers in the Capitol and to nearby office buildings during the day."

**Kenosha DA Will Not Bring Charges In Police Shooting Of Jacob Blake.** In the lead story, NBC Nightly News (1/5, lead story, 2:25, Holt, 6.11M) reported, "There's breaking news tonight from Wisconsin, where a prosecutor has announced there will be no charges filed against" Rusten Sheskey, "a white Kenosha police officer who shot" Jacob Blake "in the back as he leaned into a car last August." Blake "was left paralyzed after the shooting that was captured on video and led to angry protests and even deadly violence on the streets." NBC's Gabe Gutierrez added that Kenosha County District Attorney Michael Graveley "says Blake was armed with a knife, and the officer could have successfully argued self-defense." Graveley said the officers were "called to the scene on a designated domestic abuse call" with the knowledge that there was an arrest warrant for Blake at the time.

On ABC World News Tonight (1/5, story 3, 2:00, Muir, 7.66M), Alex Perez reported that Kenosha is "bracing for more protests after" Graveley's decision. The August 23 shooting took place "after police responded to a call about a domestic



dispute,” and cell phone footage of the incident “shows 29-year-old Blake struggling with Officer Rusten Sheskey and another officer,” who “both deployed their tasers, but...were unsuccessful.” Perez reported that Blake then “appears to lean into the driver’s side of the car,” and Sheskey “opens fire” with “Blake’s three young boys in the backseat.” Graveley said, “We say with confidence, based on Blake’s admission, based on all the officers saying it, and this video evidence, he clearly is armed with a knife.”

The CBS Evening News (1/5, story 6, 1:50, O'Donnell, 4.65M) reported, “Tonight Kenosha, Wisconsin is on edge after prosecutors announced the police officer who shot Jacob Blake will not face criminal charges, nor will any other officers.” The August shooting “sparked unrest in Kenosha, and the National Guard is on patrol tonight.” Graveley said, “This case is really all about self-defense and can it be proven that it does not exist. It is really evidence about the perspective of Officer Sheskey.” Blake’s father, Jacob Blake, Sr., said, “We’ll find federal ways that justice will find for my son. We’re not done yet.”

The AP (1/5, Richmond) reports that Graveley “announced Tuesday that he will not file criminal charges against” Sheskey, the white police officer who shot Blake “in the back in Kenosha last summer, leaving him paralyzed and setting off sometimes violent protests in the city.” The August 23 shooting, “captured on bystander video, turned the nation’s spotlight on Wisconsin during a summer marked by protests over police brutality and racism.” Over 250 arrests were made “in the days that followed, including 17-year-old Kyle Rittenhouse.”

Reuters (1/5) reports that Graveley “found police officer Rusten Sheskey acted in self-defense while shooting Blake seven times at close range, saying Blake was armed with a knife and had resisted arrest, withstanding multiple Taser shots.” The decision, which also clears two other officers, “could incite more demonstrations, which have frequently broken out in the United States in recent years after police have been cleared of wrongdoing in shootings of African Americans.” Ben Crump, an attorney for Blake, tweeted, “We are immensely disappointed and feel this decision failed not only Jacob and his family but the community that protested and demanded justice.”

The Washington Post (1/5, Guarino, Berman, Bellware, 10.52M) reports that witness accounts differ from Graveley’s depiction, describing Blake “trying to break up an argument between two women” and unarmed when he was shot while walking “back toward his vehicle.”

The Wall Street Journal (1/5, Ailworth, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that Graveley also said that no charges will be brought against Blake following a review of the incident. Civil Rights Division Assistant Attorney General Eric Dreiband said that a separate investigation being carried out by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in cooperation with the Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation is ongoing. Bloomberg (1/5, Joyce, 3.57M) reports that Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers (D) “activated about 500 National Guard soldiers and airmen in an effort to ensure public safety” on Monday, ahead of the announcement.

The New York Times (1/5, A1, Chiarito, Bosman, Eligon, 20.6M) reports, Evers said after the announcement, “Today’s decision is further evidence that our work is not done — we must work each day in earnest toward a more just, more fair, and more equitable state and country, and to combat the racism experienced by Black Wisconsinites.” The Kenosha City Council had “unanimously passed an emergency declaration Monday that would allow the mayor to implement a curfew” after the announcement, while the Kenosha County sheriff “declared a state of emergency” ahead of expected protests.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (1/5, Barton, Spicuzza, Linnane, 844K) reports that Graveley “said he relied both on an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Justice and on an outside assessment of that investigation, conducted by former Madison Police Chief Noble Wray,” who “served as a federal police reform specialist during the Obama administration after his retirement in 2013.” The Daily Caller (1/5, Dima, 375K) reports that Graveley said he made the decision “independent of political forces or outside winds that swirl about.” Breitbart (1/5, Pollak, 1.26M) has more on the decision.

**Rittenhouse Pleads Not Guilty To All Charges.** The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (1/5, Vielmetti, 844K) reports, “More than four months after he was charged with killing two protesters and wounding a third during civil unrest in Kenosha, Kyle Rittenhouse formally entered not guilty pleas Tuesday, triggering the next phases of what is still expected to be a very drawn-out case.” The Sentinel says, “Rittenhouse has become a symbol to both sides in the national debate over race and justice, law and order, and guns.” Rittenhouse “is charged with five felonies: first-degree intentional homicide in the death of Joseph Rosenbaum, 36; first-degree reckless homicide of Anthony Huber, 26; attempted first-degree intentional homicide of Gaige Grosskreutz, 26; and two counts of recklessly endangering safety, for shots fired at others.”

Fox News (1/5, Ruiz, 23.99M) reports that Rittenhouse “and his legal team have argued self-defense, maintaining that he only fired his rifle after being attacked from behind.” Prosecutors allege that Rittenhouse traveled “from his home in Antioch, Ill., across state lines to nearby Kenosha, after learning of a call for militia to protect businesses during protests on Aug. 25.” The case is set to go to trial “on March 29, but the start date could be delayed. A pretrial hearing was scheduled for March 10.”

### **Attorneys For Woman On Death Row Ask Trump To Commute Sentence.**

USA Today

(1/5,

Timms, 12.7M) reports that lawyers for Lisa Montgomery, “the only woman on federal death row,” filed a clemency petition on Tuesday asking the President to commute her sentence to life without parole. Montgomery “was convicted of killing 23-year-old Bobbie Jo Stinnett in the northwest Missouri town of Skidmore in December 2004.” Her attorneys, Kelley Henry and Amy Harwell, have argued that congenital brain damage and multiple traumatic brain injuries “have resulted in incurable and significant psychiatric disabilities.” Montgomery, who is set to be executed on January 12, “would be the ninth federal inmate put to death since the Justice Department resumed executions in July after a nearly 20-year hiatus,” and the first woman since 1953.

### **Islamic State Support Trial Pushed Back.**

The AP (1/5, Selsky) reports Judge Marco Hernandez moved back the trial of Hawazen Sameer Mothafar, whose trial on allegedly producing and disseminating “Islamic State propaganda and recruiting material through social media platforms” had been scheduled to begin Tuesday, to November 1. Mothafar’s attorney, Mark Ahlemeyer, “told the judge he needed time to determine what evidence will be presented, what pretrial motions he would file and how much investigating his team needs to do, adding that he assumed it would involve international travel.” Judge Hernandez “noted the case is complicated because of its international aspects, the requirements of classified discovery and other issues.”

### **Pro-Trump Website Targeting “Enemies,” Attributed To Iran, Reappears.**

The Washington Times (1/5, Blake, 626K) reports the pro-Trump website “Enemies of the People” reappeared, listing the addresses of purported “traitors” along with images of their faces in crosshairs. “The FBI and the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, CISA, ultimately determined Iranian were responsible for the original ‘Enemies’ site and related web addresses and accounts.”

### **Sharpton: Firing Not Enough For Officer Who Killed Andre Hill.**

The AP (1/5, Amiri, Welsh) reports, “Dozens gathered at the First Church of God” in Columbus, Ohio to commemorate Andre Hill, “as family and lawmakers called for justice to be brought against the white Columbus police officer who fatally shot” Hill. The Rev. Al Sharpton said, when delivering Hill’s eulogy, “We don’t want your sympathy. We want justice.” He added that firing the officer, Adam Coy, was not enough, saying, “We cannot have a precedent that if you kill us, you just lose your job and keep living your life as you were.” Meanwhile, “Ohio’s attorney general, the U.S. attorney for central Ohio and the FBI have begun their own probes into the shooting.”

### **Appeals Court Upholds Corruption Conviction Of Former Texas State Judge.**

KRGV-TV

Harlingen, TX (1/5) reports, “The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the conviction of former” Texas state District Judge Rudy Delgado. The court rejected Delgado’s arguments that his conviction wasn’t supported by the evidence. The FBI recorded conversations between attorney Noe Perez, a federal informant, and Delgado, “who accepted cash during conversations about pending cases.”

**Copyright 2021 by Bulletin Intelligence LLC** Reproduction or redistribution without permission prohibited. Content is drawn from thousands of newspapers, national magazines, national and local television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform’s terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva’s terms of use. Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Website’s information and privacy policies. The FBI Director’s Morning Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at [BulletinIntelligence.com](http://BulletinIntelligence.com), or called at (703) 483-6100.

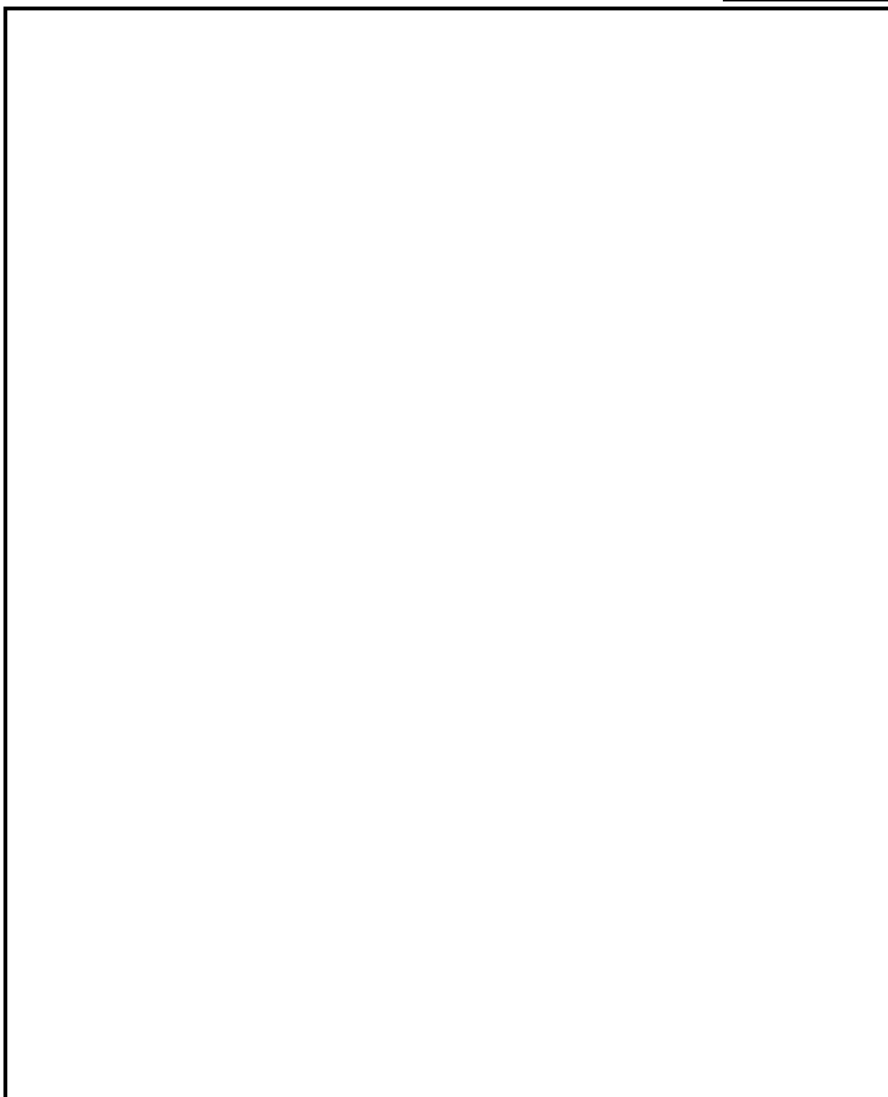
Please direct comments and concerns to

b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]  
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL - (U//FOUO)] [REDACTED] b6 -6  
[REDACTED] b7C -6  
To: [REDACTED] b7D -5  
Sent: January 6, 2021 2:30 PM (UTC-05:00) b7E -1,8  
Attached: [REDACTED] (1) [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached [REDACTED] The next SITREP will be issued at 1600 hours, unless emerging events occur. Please report any updates or new information to [REDACTED]



b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

Distribution to [REDACTED]

Thank you,



This is ~~NOT~~ OFFICIAL USE ONLY information protected by Virginia Code Section 12-48, unless otherwise noted. Further dissemination of this information outside of your organization is prohibited unless written approval is obtained from [REDACTED] prior to dissemination. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 12-48(D), anyone violating distribution restrictions may be prosecuted and may be prohibited from receiving future reports.

FBI(21-cv-572)-12809

The information in this email and any attachments may be ~~confidential and privileged~~. Access to this email by anyone other than the intended addressee is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient (or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this information to the intended recipient) please notify the sender by reply email and immediately delete this email and any copies from your computer and/or storage system. The sender does not authorize the use, distribution, disclosure or reproduction of this email (or any part of its contents) by anyone other than the intended recipient(s). No representation is made that this email and any attachments are free of viruses. Virus scanning is recommended and is the responsibility of the recipient.

b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

From: [redacted]  
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - (U//FOUO) [redacted]  
[redacted]  
To: [redacted]  
Sent: January 6, 2021 3:21 PM (UTC-05:00)  
Attached: (LES) [redacted]  
[redacted]

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached [redacted] The next SITREP will be issued at 1600 hours, unless emerging events occur. Please report any updates or new information to [redacted]

[redacted]

b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

Distribution to [redacted]

Thank you,

[redacted]

This is ~~FOUO~~ information protected by Virginia Code Section 52-48, unless otherwise noted. Further dissemination of this information outside of your organization is prohibited unless written approval is obtained from [redacted] prior to dissemination. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 52-48(D), anyone violating distribution restrictions may be prosecuted and may be prohibited from receiving future reports.

From:  
Subject:

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] - (U//FOUO)

b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

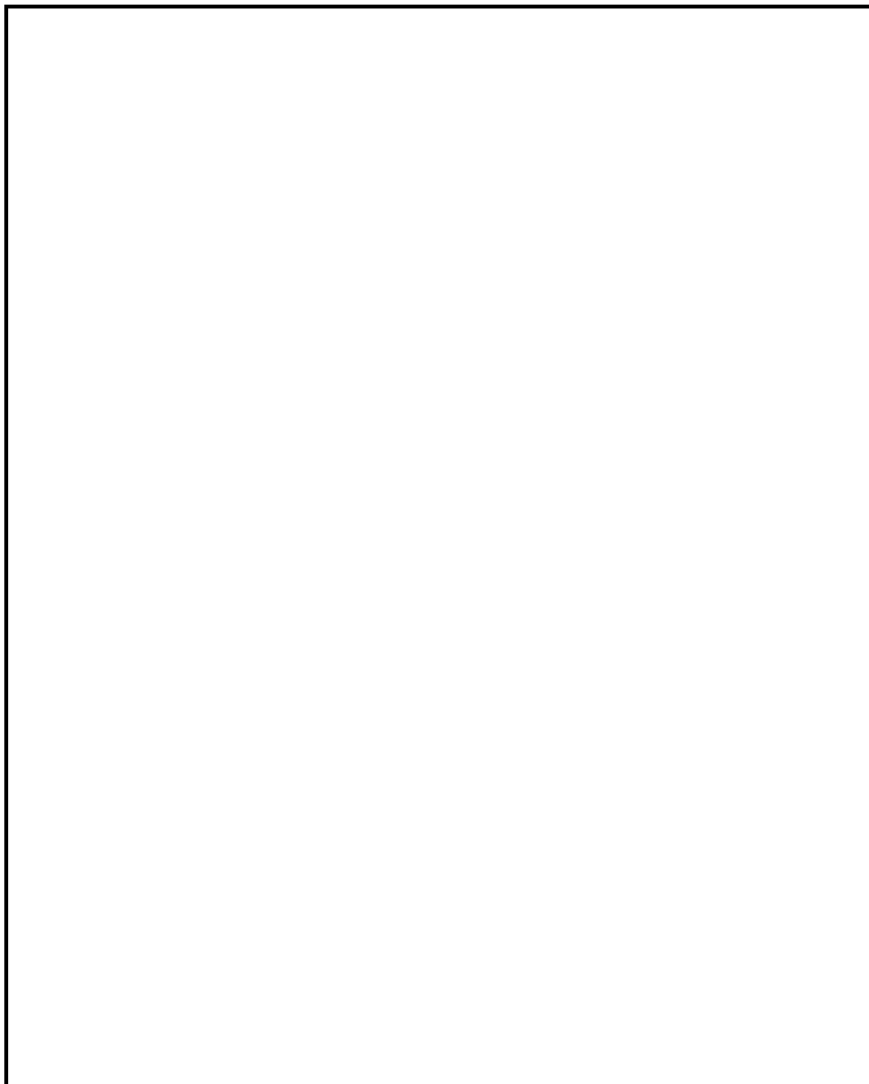
To:  
Sent:  
Attached:

January 6, 2021 4:10 PM (UTC-05:00)

(LES)

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached [REDACTED] The next SITREP will be issued at 1800 hours, unless emerging events occur. Please report any updates or new information to [REDACTED]



b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

Distribution to

Thank you,



This is ~~Not~~ a ~~Confidential~~ ~~Source~~ ~~Information~~ protected by Virginia Code Section 12-48, unless otherwise noted. Further dissemination of this information outside of your organization is prohibited unless written approval is obtained from [REDACTED] prior to dissemination. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 12-48(D), anyone violating distribution restrictions may be prosecuted and may be prohibited from receiving future reports.

FBI(21-cv-572)-12819

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Washington, DC  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Thompson, Jonathan  
**Cc:** Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI); Hurley, James B. Jr. (OPE) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 5:21 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

Partners,

FBI and [REDACTED] continue to monitor the ongoing violence in Washington, DC and support our federal and local partners. As we learn of any additional information that has a direct nexus or threat to other cities in the Homeland we will immediately inform our partners.

We will also alert partners should there be any follow up national-level communications regarding this incident.

Available products and information will continue to be shared via [REDACTED] and pertinent reports should also be provided via eGuardian.

b7E -5,8,13

We also encourage folks to monitor [REDACTED] for pertinent alerts and updates.

As a reminder, this information may include ~~For Official Use Only (FOUO)~~ and/or ~~Law Enforcement Sensitive (LES)~~ information and should be handled accordingly.

Questions regarding access to [REDACTED] can be directed to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] via email at [REDACTED] or by phone at [REDACTED]

Thanks,

Office of Partner Engagement  
Federal Bureau Of Investigation

Partner Engagement  
[REDACTED]

-

**From:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** WDC status  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** [redacted]

Copy for [redacted] Hopefully the violence will abate and [redacted] will not be needed beyond what WFO can handle.

[redacted]

On [redacted] wrote:  
Mighty [redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

By now, you all are aware of the violence occurring in Washington DC at the Capitol. [redacted]

[redacted] This is the only request  
currently pending for [redacted] assets to assist with the events in WDC. If there are additional requests of [redacted] we will keep  
you informed.

[redacted]

Special Agent in Charge

FBI [redacted] Division

Desk:

Mobile: [redacted]



From: [REDACTED]  
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - (U//LES) [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]  
Sent: January 6, 2021 6:06 PM (UTC-05:00)  
Attached: (LES) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

Good Evening,

Please see attached [REDACTED] The next SITREP will be issued at 1600 hours, unless emerging events occur. Please report any updates or new information to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6 -6  
b7C -6  
b7D -5  
b7E -1,8

Distribution to [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Thank you,

--  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This is ~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~ information protected by Virginia Code Section 52-48, unless otherwise noted. Further dissemination of this information outside of your organization is prohibited unless written approval is obtained from [REDACTED] prior to dissemination. Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 52-48(D), anyone violating distribution restrictions may be prosecuted and may be prohibited from receiving future reports.

The information in this email and any attachments may be confidential and privileged. Access to this email by anyone other than the intended addressee is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient (or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this information to the intended recipient) please notify the sender by reply email and immediately delete this email and any copies from your computer and/or storage system. The sender does not authorize the use, distribution, disclosure or reproduction of this email (or any part of its contents) by anyone other than the intended recipient(s). No representation is made that this email and any attachments are free of viruses. Virus scanning is recommended and is the responsibility of the recipient.

**From:**  
**Subject:**  
**To:**  
**Sent:**

[redacted]  
Fwd: [redacted] Security Peronnel  
[redacted]  
January 6, 2021 6:40 PM (UTC-05:00)

[redacted]  
Thank you for working it up. We're glad to have you in [redacted] Be safe.

[redacted]  
Special Agent in Charge  
FBI [redacted] Division  
Desk: [redacted]  
Mobile [redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [redacted]  
Date: Jan 6, 2021 6:32 PM  
Subject: [redacted] Security Peronnel  
To: [redacted]  
[redacted]

Cc: [redacted]  
[redacted]

From: [redacted]  
Subject: Fwd: [redacted] Security Peronnel  
To: [redacted]  
Sent: January 6, 2021 6:40 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

[redacted]  
Thank you for working it up. We're glad to have you in [redacted] Be safe.

[redacted]  
Special Agent in Charge  
FBI [redacted] Division  
Desk: [redacted]  
Mobile: [redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [redacted]  
Date: Jan 6, 2021 6:32 PM  
Subject: [redacted] Security Peronnel  
To: [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

Please see below the names of [redacted] Agents who will be available to support you if needed:

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

[redacted]  
[redacted] (ccd) is their SSRA out of [redacted] Please let me know if you need anything else. [redacted] will be standing by....thanks.

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
Assistant Special Agent In Charge  
[redacted]  
[redacted] (Office)  
[redacted] (Cell)

**From:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: WDC status  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** [redacted]

Copy and thanks.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

[redacted]  
Special Agent in Charge  
FBI [redacted] Division  
Desk: [redacted]  
Mobile: [redacted]

---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** [redacted]  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** WDC status

Copy for [redacted] Hopefully the violence will abate and [redacted] will not be needed beyond what WFO can handle.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

[redacted]  
On [redacted] wrote:  
Mighty [redacted]

By now, you all are aware of the violence occurring in Washington DC at the Capitol. [redacted]  
[redacted] This is the only request  
currently pending for [redacted] assets to assist with the events in WDC. If there are additional requests of [redacted] we will keep  
you informed.

[redacted]  
Special Agent in Charge  
FBI [redacted] Division  
Desk: [redacted]  
Mobile: [redacted]

**From:**  
**Subject:**  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Sent:**

[redacted]  
[redacted] Security Peronnel  
[redacted]  
January 6, 2021 6:40 PM (UTC-05:00)

Thank you sir

-

On Jan 6, 2021 6:32 PM, [redacted] wrote:

[redacted]

Please see below the names of [redacted] Agents who will be available to support you if needed:

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

[redacted]

[redacted] (ccd) is their SSRA out of [redacted] Please let me know if you need anything else.. [redacted] will be standing by....thanks.

[redacted]

Assistant Special Agent In Charge

[redacted]  
[redacted] (Office)  
[redacted] (Cell)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 21-cv-572

Total Deleted Page(s) = 240

Page 2 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 4 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 5 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 6 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 7 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 8 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 9 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 10 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 11 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 12 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 13 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 14 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 15 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 16 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 17 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 18 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 19 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 20 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 21 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 22 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 23 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 24 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 25 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 26 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 27 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 28 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 29 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 30 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 31 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 32 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 33 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 34 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 35 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 36 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 37 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 38 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 39 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 40 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 41 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 42 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 43 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 44 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 45 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 46 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 47 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 48 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 49 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 50 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 51 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 52 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 53 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 54 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 55 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 56 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 57 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 58 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 59 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 60 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 61 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 62 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 63 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 64 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 65 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 66 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 67 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 68 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 69 ~ Duplicate;

Page 70 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 71 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 72 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 73 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 75 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 76 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 77 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 78 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 79 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 80 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 81 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 82 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 83 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 84 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 85 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 86 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 87 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 88 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 89 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 90 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 91 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 92 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 93 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 94 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 95 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 96 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 97 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 98 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 99 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 100 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 101 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 102 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 103 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 104 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 105 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 106 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 107 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 108 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 109 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 110 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 111 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 112 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 113 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 114 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 115 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 116 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 117 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 118 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 119 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 120 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 121 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 122 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 123 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 124 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 125 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 127 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 128 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 129 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 130 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 131 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 132 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 133 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 134 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 135 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 136 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 138 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 139 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 140 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 141 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 142 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 143 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 144 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 145 ~ Duplicate;



Page 146 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 147 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 148 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 149 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 150 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 151 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 152 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 153 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 154 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 155 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 156 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 157 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 158 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 159 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 160 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 161 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 162 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 163 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 164 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 165 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 166 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 167 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 168 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 169 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 170 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 171 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 172 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 173 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 174 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 175 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 176 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 177 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 178 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 179 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 180 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 181 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 182 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 183 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 184 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 185 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 186 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 187 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 188 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 189 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 190 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 191 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 192 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 193 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 194 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 195 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 196 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 197 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 198 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 199 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 200 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 201 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 202 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 203 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 204 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 205 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 206 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 207 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 208 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 209 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 210 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 211 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 212 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 213 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 214 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 215 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 216 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 217 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 218 ~ Duplicate;

Page 219 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 220 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 221 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 222 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 223 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 224 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 225 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 226 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 227 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 228 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 229 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 230 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 231 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 232 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 233 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 234 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 235 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 236 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 237 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 238 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 239 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 240 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 241 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 242 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 243 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 244 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 245 ~ Duplicate;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X Deleted Page(s) X  
X No Duplication Fee X  
X For this Page X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 21-cv-572

Total Deleted Page(s) = 87

Page 16 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 17 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 18 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 19 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 21 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 22 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 23 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 24 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 26 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 27 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 28 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 29 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 31 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 32 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 33 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 34 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 36 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 37 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 38 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 39 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 40 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 41 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 42 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 43 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 44 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 45 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 49 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 52 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 53 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 54 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 55 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 56 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 57 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 58 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 59 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 60 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 61 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 62 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 63 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 64 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 65 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 66 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 70 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 71 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 72 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 75 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 76 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 77 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 78 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 79 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 80 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 81 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 82 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 84 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 85 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 86 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 87 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 88 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 90 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 91 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 92 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 93 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 94 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 98 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 101 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 103 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 105 ~ Duplicate;

Page 107 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 108 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 110 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 112 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 114 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 115 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 116 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 117 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 118 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 119 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 120 ~ Referral/Consult;  
Page 121 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 123 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 125 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 127 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 129 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 132 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 133 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 134 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 135 ~ Duplicate;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X Deleted Page(s) X  
X No Duplication Fee X  
X For this Page X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

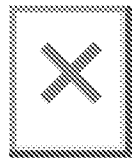
**From:** The Washington Post  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - [MARKETING] The Post Most: D.C. is becoming a protest battleground. In a polarized nation, experts say that's unlikely to change.  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 2, 2021 12:00 PM (UTC-05:00)

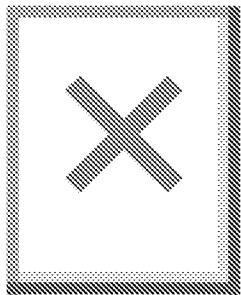


[Sign up for this newsletter](#)



[Read online](#)





(Ricky Carioti/The Washington Post)

## **D.C. is becoming a protest battleground. In a polarized nation, experts say that's unlikely to change.**

Protesters are expected to converge in the city on Wednesday, the day Congress is set to certify President-elect Joe Biden's win. Violent melees ensued during similar protests in November and December.

By Marissa J. Lang • [Read more »](#)

## **Pelosi's likely final term as speaker is set to begin with a scramble for votes**

By Mike DeBonis • [Read more »](#)

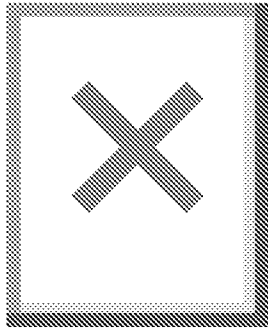
---

## **Pregnant women agonize over whether to get coronavirus vaccine**

By Frances Stead Sellers • [Read more »](#)

---





## **Illegal French New Year's Eve party that drew 2,500 ends after 36 hours and a failed attempt to shut it down**

By Rick Noack • [Read more »](#)

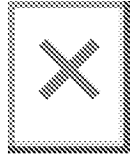
---

## **Fourteen days that will test our democracy**

**Opinion** • By Colbert I. King • [Read more »](#)

---

ADVERTISEMENT



---

## **A high school student needed help with tuition, so some prison inmates started saving up**

By Kellie B. Gormly • [Read more »](#)

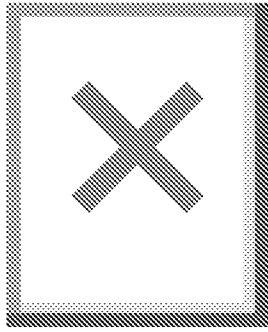
---

---

## **Sneezed on, cussed at, ignored: Airline workers battle mask resistance with scant government backup**

By Michael Laris • [Read more »](#)

---



## **Justin Fields put No. 1 Alabama — and the NFL — on notice with a masterful Sugar Bowl**

**Perspective** • By Barry Svrluga • [Read more »](#)

---

## **‘Grace and humor’: The vice presidents who certified their own election losses**

By Gillian Brockell • [Read more »](#)

---

## 2021 could be a huge year for space. Here's what's to come from NASA, Elon Musk, Richard Branson and Jeff Bezos.

By Christian Davenport • [Read more »](#)

---

ADVERTISEMENT

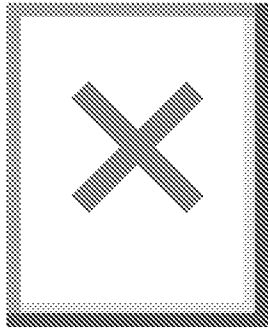


---

## How the Dalai Lama's reincarnation ended up in Congress's \$900 billion relief bill

By Paul O'Donnell • [Read more »](#)

---



## **‘I said goodbye to my sister through a computer screen’**

By Holly Bailey • [Read more »](#)

---

## **How Raphael Warnock’s identity as a Black preacher has shaped his Senate campaign in Georgia**

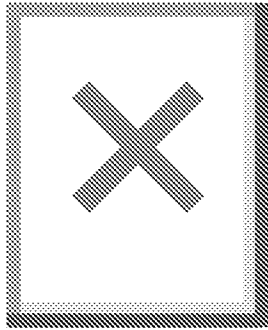
By Clyde McGrady • [Read more »](#)

---

## The most anticipated video games of 2021

By Washington Post Staff • [Read more »](#)

---



## From ferocious fires to a historic hurricane season, 2020 took weather to new extremes

By Matthew Cappucci and Jason Samenow • [Read more »](#)

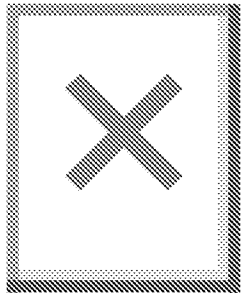
---

## Five myths about nutrition

**Perspective** • By Jessica Wilson • [Read more »](#)

---

## Weekend reads



*(John McDonnell/The Washington Post)*

## **Edward Valentine sculpted images of Confederate leaders that defined the Lost Cause. Now his family is confronting the legacy.**

The Valentine museum wants to display Richmond's statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis — not in its former glory, but tipped over, dented and covered with paint from protesters.

By Gregory S. Schneider • [Read more »](#)



---

## How Big Cardboard is handling the 2020 box boom

By Hannah Denham • [Read more »](#)

---

## The isolation of the pandemic caused her to form a new and intense relationship to nature. She was hardly alone.

By Sadie Dingfelder • [Read more »](#)

---



### We think you'll like this newsletter

Check out **Must Reads** for a curated selection of our best journalism in your inbox every Saturday, plus a peek behind the scenes into how one story came together. [Sign up »](#)



[Manage my email newsletters and alerts](#) | [Unsubscribe from The Post Most](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Help](#)  
You received this email because you signed up for The Post Most or because it is included in your subscription.

©2021 The Washington Post | 1301 K St NW, Washington DC 20071



**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events  
**To:** Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 3, 2021 10:50 AM (UTC-05:00)

Sir,

I asked my team last night to put together the intel picture we have at the moment which is what you see below. Hopefully, this provides you with the current picture and assists with your meeting with the Principals. In addition, we will have [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We will also have an Intel component embedded with the MPD JOC.

Please let me know if you need anything else and I will keep you updated as we get closer to the 6th. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Let me know if you have any questions or require any more information.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5,8

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office  
[REDACTED] (mobile)  
[REDACTED] (office)

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 10:01 AM  
**To:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED] Alcoke, Matthew R. (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events

*(U//FOUO) The following list of events is being maintained per request of WFO Executive Management. The items on this list are compiled by FBI partner agencies. FBI WFO does not have any information to suggest these events will involve anything other than first amendment protected activity and is being distributed for situational awareness. Their inclusion here is not intended to associate the protected activity with criminality or a threat to national security, or to infer that such protected activity itself violates federal law. However, based on known intelligence and/or specific, historical observations, it is possible the protected activity could invite a violent reaction towards the subject individual or others in retaliation or with the goal of stopping the protected activity from occurring in the first instance. In the event no violent reaction occurs, FBI policy and federal law dictates that no further record be made of the protected activity.*

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

The following information is current as of 3 January 2021 at 0800. This is for FBI internal use only.

(U) EVENT OVERVIEW:

[REDACTED]

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events  
**To:** Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI); Ritzman, Marlin L. (NSB) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 3, 2021 11:13 AM (UTC-05:00)

Jill and Marlin,

FYI this is what I sent the Deputy this morning about our preparations for the 6th and intel that we currently have. He had mentioned last night he has a Principals meeting this afternoon.

Marlin,

Knowing that components of the [redacted] asked [redacted] I will make sure you and [redacted] are both on the SitReps going out. Please, [redacted]  
[redacted]

Happy New Year and here is hoping for a calm democratic process on the 6th.

Steve

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,8,13

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office  
[redacted] (mobile)  
[redacted] (office)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Cc:** Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5,8

Sir,

I asked my team last night to put together the intel picture we have at the moment which is what you see below. Hopefully, this provides you with the current picture and assists with your meeting with the Principals. In addition, we will have [redacted]  
[redacted]

[redacted] We will also have an Intel component embedded with the MPD JOC.

Please let me know if you need anything else and I will keep you updated as we get closer to the 6th. [redacted]

[redacted] Let me know if you have any questions or require any more information.

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office  
[redacted] (mobile)  
[redacted] (office)

**From:** Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 3, 2021 11:25 AM (UTC-05:00)  
Great, thanks for the follow up Steve. I appreciate it.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -5

DB

On Jan 3, 2021 10:50 AM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Sir,

I asked my team last night to put together the intel picture we have at the moment which is what you see below. Hopefully, this provides you with the current picture and assists with your meeting with the Principals. In addition, we will have [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We will also have an Intel component embedded with the MPD JOC.

b7E -3,5,8

Please let me know if you need anything else and I will keep you updated as we get closer to the 6th. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Let me know if you have any questions or require any more information.

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] (mobile)  
[REDACTED] (office)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 10:01 AM  
**To:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED] Alcoke, Matthew R. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events

*(U//FOUO) The following list of events is being maintained per request of WFO Executive Management. The items on this list are compiled by FBI partner agencies. FBI WFO does not have any information to suggest these events will involve anything other than first amendment protected activity and is being distributed for situational awareness. Their inclusion here is not intended to associate the protected activity with criminality or a threat to national security, or to infer that such protected activity itself violates federal law. However, based on known intelligence and/or specific, historical observations, it is possible the protected activity could invite a violent reaction towards the subject individual or others in retaliation or with the goal of stopping the protected activity from occurring in the first instance. In the event no violent reaction occurs, FBI policy and federal law dictates that no further record be made of the protected activity.*

The following information is current as of 3 January 2021 at 0800. This is for FBI internal use only.

FBI(21-cv-572)-13126

**From:** Ritzman, Marlin L. (NSB) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 3, 2021 11:46 AM (UTC-05:00)  
Thanks Steve,

Marlin

On Jan 3, 2021 11:13 AM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Jill and Marlin,

FYI this is what I sent the Deputy this morning about our preparations for the 6th and intel that we currently have. He had mentioned last night he has a Principals meeting this afternoon.

Marlin,  
Knowing that components of the [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] I will make sure you and [REDACTED] are both on the SitReps going out. Please, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b7E -3,8,13

Happy New Year and here is hoping for a calm democratic process on the 6th.

Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office  
[REDACTED] (mobile)  
[REDACTED] (office)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5,8

Sir,  
I asked my team last night to put together the intel picture we have at the moment which is what you see below. Hopefully, this provides you with the current picture and assists with your meeting with the Principals. In addition, we will have [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We will also have an Intel component embedded with the MPD JOC.

Please let me know if you need anything else and I will keep you updated as we get closer to the 6th. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Let me know if you have any questions or require any more information.

Regards,  
Steve

FBI(21-cv-572)-13131

**From:** Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); Ritzman, Marlin L. (NSB) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 3, 2021 11:52 AM (UTC-05:00)  
Thank you

Jill Sanborn  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[redacted] cell  
[redacted]

On Jan 3, 2021 11:13 AM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [redacted] wrote:  
Jill and Marlin,

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,8,13

FYI this is what I sent the Deputy this morning about our preparations for the 6th and intel that we currently have. He had mentioned last night he has a Principals meeting this afternoon.

Marlin,

Knowing that components of the [redacted] asked [redacted] I will make sure you and [redacted] are both on the SitReps going out. Please, [redacted]  
[redacted]

Happy New Year and here is hoping for a calm democratic process on the 6th.

Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office  
[redacted] (mobile)  
[redacted] (office)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 10:49 AM  
**To:** Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Cc:** Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Subject:** Fw: FBI WFO Update for January 6th Events

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5,8

Sir,  
I asked my team last night to put together the intel picture we have at the moment which is what you see below. Hopefully, this provides you with the current picture and assists with your meeting with the Principals. In addition, we will have [redacted]  
[redacted]

[redacted] We will also have an Intel component embedded with the MPD JOC.

Please let me know if you need anything else and I will keep you updated as we get closer to the 6th. [redacted]

[redacted] Let me know if you have any questions or require any more information.

Regards,

FBI(21-cv-572)-13136

[Redacted]

**Subject:** DELAYED - Coordination call re 1/6 protest activity - DELAYED 30 Minutes

**Location:** Conference ID [Redacted] Access ID [Redacted]

**Start:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:30 PM

**End:** Monday, January 4, 2021 4:00 PM

**Show Time As:** Tentatively accepted

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

b6 -5  
b7C -5  
b7E -8,13

**Organizer:** [Redacted]

**Required Attendees:** [Redacted]; D'Antuono,

Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); MPD Chief Robert Contee [Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Good afternoon All – This meeting will be delayed by 30 minutes and start at 4:00 p.m.**

**Conference ID** [Redacted] **Access ID** [Redacted]



[Redacted]

**Subject:** Coordination call re 1/6 protest activity

**Location:** Conference ID [Redacted] Access ID [Redacted]

**Start:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:00 PM

**End:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:30 PM

**Show Time As:** Tentatively accepted

**Recurrence:** (none)

b6 -5  
b7C -5  
b7E -8,13

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** [Redacted]

**Required Attendees:** [Redacted] D'Antuono,  
Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); MPD Chief Robert Contee; [Redacted]

**Conference ID** [Redacted] **Access ID** [Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Subject:** DELAYED - Coordination call re 1/6 protest activity - DELAYED 30 Minutes

**Location:** Conference ID [Redacted] Access ID [Redacted]

**Start:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:30 PM

**End:** Monday, January 4, 2021 4:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

b6 -5  
b7C -5  
b7E -8,13

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

**Organizer:** [Redacted]

**Required Attendees:** [Redacted] D'Antuono,  
Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); MPD Chief Robert Contee; [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Good afternoon All – This meeting will be delayed by 30 minutes and start at 3:30 p.m. – my apologies.**

**Conference ID** [Redacted] **Access ID** [Redacted]

[Redacted]

**Subject:** DELAYED - Coordination call re 1/6 protest activity - DELAYED 30 Minutes  
**Location:** Conference ID [Redacted] Access ID [Redacted]

**Start:** Monday, January 4, 2021 3:30 PM  
**End:** Monday, January 4, 2021 4:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

b6 -5  
b7C -5  
b7E -8,13

**Organizer:** [Redacted]  
**Required Attendees:** [Redacted] D'Antuono,  
Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); MPD Chief Robert Contee [Redacted]  
[Redacted]

**Good afternoon All – This meeting will be delayed by 30 minutes and start at 4:00 p.m.**

**Conference ID** [Redacted] **Access ID** [Redacted]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 4, 2021 10:33 AM (UTC-05:00)  
Mr. D'Antuono,

First, happy New Year. Hope you had a great holiday.

[REDACTED] the [REDACTED] (CC'd), and I (the [REDACTED]) just wanted to reach out to you regarding the potential for another civil unrest situation that could present itself in the coming weeks and what the office's response might look like in that type of circumstance.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

The events of June 2020, and WFO's response, are still fresh on the minds of most of WFO's Agents. And, while we are no way implying that the office's response to any new challenges would mirror those of this past summer, we wanted to reach out to you to let you know we are available to offer [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

So, if/when the time comes, please know [REDACTED] and I are available as a resource to you and your team, if interested.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

Special Agent [REDACTED]  
FBI  
Washington Field Office/NVRA  
[REDACTED] (desk)  
[REDACTED] (cell)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - DELAYED - Coordination call re 1/6 protest activity - DELAYED 30 Minutes  
**To:** [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF)  
(FBI); MPD Chief Robert Contee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 4, 2021 2:56 PM (UTC-05:00)

**Good afternoon All – This meeting will be delayed by 30 minutes and start at 4:00 p.m.**

**Conference ID** [REDACTED] **Access ID** [REDACTED]

b6 -5  
b7C -5  
b7E -8,13

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - DELAYED - Coordination call re 1/6 protest activity - DELAYED 30 Minutes  
**To:** [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF)  
(FBI); MPD Chief Robert Contee; [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 4, 2021 3:02 PM (UTC-05:00)

**Good afternoon All – This meeting will be delayed by 30 minutes and start at 3:30 p.m. – my apologies.**

**Conference ID** [REDACTED] **Access ID** [REDACTED]

b6 -5  
b7C -5  
b7E -8,13

**From:**  
**Subject:** RE: WFO Update of events for January 6th  
**To:** Laycock, Stephen C. (IB) (FBI); Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI); Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 4, 2021 3:17 PM (UTC-05:00)

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[Redacted] (Desk)  
[Redacted] (Cell)

b7E -3

**From:** Laycock, Stephen C. (IB) (FBI) [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2021 2:19 PM  
**To:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI) [Redacted] Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI) [Redacted]  
**Cc:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [Redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: WFO Update of events for January 6th

Thanks Jen. The DD has a call with the other principles at 5pm today and I am sure this topic will come up.

**From:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI) [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2021 12:23 PM  
**To:** Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI) [Redacted] Laycock, Stephen C. (IB) (FBI) [Redacted]  
**Cc:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [Redacted]  
**Subject:** WFO Update of events for January 6th

b7E -3

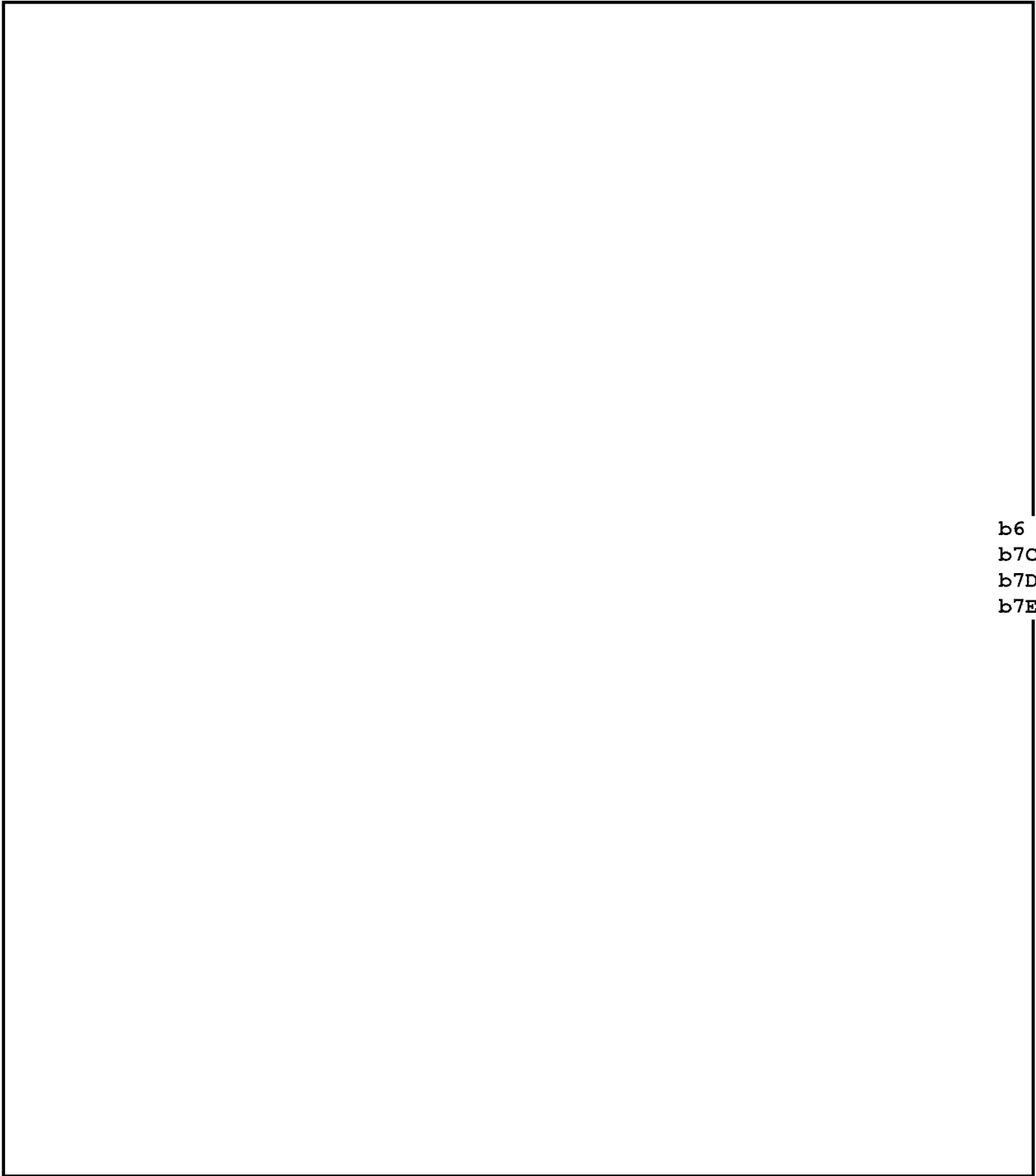
George,

Below is what was previously provided to the Deputy Director. I believe this is the document you were looking for. After reviewing the information, if you believe this is not what you are looking for, please let me know and we can work through figuring out what it was. Again, it was not a formal product and is simply our roll up of information leading up to January 6<sup>th</sup>, and is for internal use only.

=====  
==

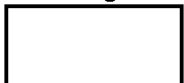
(U//~~FOUO~~) The following list of events is being maintained per request of WFO Executive Management. The items on this list are compiled by FBI partner agencies. FBI WFO does not have any information to suggest these events will involve anything other than first amendment protected activity and is being

FBI(21-cv-572)-13170



b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7D -2  
b7E -1,2,4,5,8

-----  
Jennifer Leigh Moore  
Special Agent in Charge - Intelligence  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office



desk  
cell

b7E -3



Image not available for this document, ID:



b7E -3

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] [REDACTED]  
**To:** Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 5, 2021 5:38 PM (UTC-05:00)

Fyi...for the Boss. We can't definitively say [REDACTED] but as SAC Alcoke states below [REDACTED]

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8,13

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 4:56 PM  
**To:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Alcoke, Matthew R. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] [REDACTED]

Thought these might be useful, doesn't answer the exact questions about [REDACTED] We are tracking [REDACTED] it is incredibly hard to determine how [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Per SAC Alcoke, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI)

**Subject:** [REDACTED]

**To:** Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)

**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED]

**Sent:** January 6, 2021 11:26 AM (UTC-05:00)

Larissa and SecD,

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -1,2,3,5

I was just informed by the DD's office that WFO is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

According to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have copied in ADIC WFO on this communication.

Please ensure you are latched up with WFO and are executing a heightened posture for JEH and WFO.

Please let me know what our plan is on a real time basis.

Thank You.

Jeff

Jeffrey S. Sallet

Human Resources Branch, Finance and Facilities

Executive Assistant: [REDACTED]

**From:** Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 11:40 AM (UTC-05:00)

Copy. Tracking

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5

-  
On Jan 6, 2021 11:25 AM, "Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Larissa and SecD,

I was just informed by the DD's office that WFO is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] According to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have copied in ADIC WFO on this communication. Please ensure you are latched up with WFO and are executing a heightened posture for JEH and WFO. Please let me know what our plan is on a real time basis.

Thank You.

Jeff

Jeffrey S. Sallet  
Human Resources Branch, Finance and Facilities  
Executive Assistant [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI); Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

**Sent:** January 6, 2021 11:40 AM (UTC-05:00)

Good Morning All,

We have an [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] At this time, we are open for business at all access points but  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

We are also in communication with [REDACTED] and in the event [REDACTED] s needed at JEH.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need anything!

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5,8

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Office [REDACTED]  
Mobile [REDACTED]  
Unet email [REDACTED]  
FBI net email [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2021 11:26 AM  
**To:** Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3,5

Image not available for this document, ID:



b7E -3

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI); Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 11:58 AM (UTC-05:00)

Paul, Jeff and company,

Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are attempting to ascertain the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and conduct a logical investigation there.

Steve

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

[REDACTED] (Desk)

[REDACTED] (Cell)

**From:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:26 AM  
**To:** Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI)  
[REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5

Larissa and SecD,

I was just informed by the DD's office that WFO is [REDACTED]

According to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] have copied in ADIC WFO on this communication.

Please ensure you are latched up with WFO and are executing a heightened posture for JEH and WFO.

Please let me know what our plan is on a real time basis.

Thank You.

Jeff

Jeffrey S. Sallet

FBI(21-cv-572)-13200

**From:** Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 12:44 PM (UTC-05:00)

b7E -2,5,8

Thank you Steve,

We are setting [REDACTED] for FBI Police.

This will [REDACTED]

This also [REDACTED]

Jeff

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM

**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Paul, Jeff and company,

Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are attempting to ascertain the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and conduct a logical investigation there.

Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

[REDACTED] (Desk)

[REDACTED] (Cell)

**From:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:26 AM

**To:** Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI)

[REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)

**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b7E -3



**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI); Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 12:52 PM (UTC-05:00)  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

b3 -2  
b6 -1,3  
b7C -1,3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

[REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Paul, Jeff and company,  
Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We are attempting to ascertain the [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] and conduct a logical investigation there.

Steve

**From:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 12:57 PM (UTC-05:00)

Thanks Steve.

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Paul, Jeff and company,

Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are attempting to ascertain the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and conduct a logical investigation there.

Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

---

**From:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:26 AM  
**To:** Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED]

**From:** Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 12:59 PM (UTC-05:00)

Will do re FBI Police.

Thank you for the updates.

Jeff

-

On Jan 6, 2021 12:52 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

b3 -2  
b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

[REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Paul, Jeff and company,

Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We are attempting to ascertain the [REDACTED] and conduct a logical investigation there.

Steve

FBI(21-cv-572)-13209

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]  
**To:** Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 1:00 PM (UTC-05:00)

Absolutely dude

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

b7E -2,3

[REDACTED]  
(Desk)  
(Cell)

---

**From:** Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 12:59 PM  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]

Will do re FBI Police.

Thank you for the updates.

Jeff

-

On Jan 6, 2021 12:52 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]  
Photos will be pushed out  
Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

b3 -2  
b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

[REDACTED]  
(Desk)  
(Cell)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI)

FBI(21-cv-572)-13211

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]  
**To:** Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI); Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 1:01 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

Thank you Sir, we'll get the photos to our team as soon as they are received.

[REDACTED]

-  
On Jan 6, 2021 12:52 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

b3 -2  
b6 -1,3  
b7C -1,3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Paul, Jeff and company,

Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We are attempting to ascertain the [REDACTED] and conduct a logical investigation there.

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 1:52 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

FYI.. [REDACTED] Agents on route to attempt interview

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

On Jan 6, 2021 12:51 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

Regards,  
Steve

b3 -2  
b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Paul, Jeff and company,

Initial reporting from an interview of [REDACTED] is that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My agents are [REDACTED]

FBI(21-cv-572)-13222

**From:** Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 1:54 PM (UTC-05:00)

10-4

b7E -2,3,5

On Jan 6, 2021 1:52 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
FYI, [REDACTED] Agents on route to attempt interview

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office  
[REDACTED] Desk)  
[REDACTED] Cell)

On Jan 6, 2021 12:51 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

b3 -2  
b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*  
[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]

Paul, Jeff and company,

FBI(21-cv-572)-13224

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 2:04 PM (UTC-05:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

Copy sir thank you.

-  
On Jan 6, 2021 1:52 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
FYI, [REDACTED] Agents on route to attempt interview

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office  
[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

On Jan 6, 2021 12:51 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

b3 -2  
b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
*Assistant Director in Charge*  
*Federal Bureau of Investigation*  
*Washington Field Office*  
[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]

Paul, Jeff and company,

FBI(21-cv-572)-13226



**From:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE [REDACTED]  
**To:** Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI); Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI); D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI); Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI); Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 6, 2021 2:46 PM (UTC-05:00)

Thank you.

-

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

On Jan 6, 2021 1:52 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
FYI, [REDACTED] Agents on route to attempt interview

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

On Jan 6, 2021 12:51 PM, "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] wrote:  
Further information from investigation at [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Obtaining subpoena for [REDACTED]
- Photos will be pushed out
- Let me know if FBI Police and/or security does not get the photos

b3 -2  
b6 -3  
b7C -3  
b7E -1,2,3,5,8

Regards,  
Steve

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] (Desk)  
[REDACTED] (Cell)

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

---

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** Sallet, Jeffrey S. (HRB) (FBI) [REDACTED] Knapp, Larissa L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dutton, Jeffrey C. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Cannon, Jeffrey L. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Catalan, Angel M. (SecD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, James H. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED]

FBI(21-cv-572)-13228

**From:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** quick update or [REDACTED]  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Moy, Stacey R. (WF) (FBI); Oneill, Christine E. (WF) (FBI); Dawson, James A. (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 5, 2021 11:30 AM (UTC-05:00)

FYI, this is a super quick update or [REDACTED] We will get a sitrep written up asap, but I know you are getting peppered from the 7<sup>th</sup> floor boss so I just wanted you to have this quickly

----also, there are currently [REDACTED] guardians tagged to this event

b6 -1,3  
b7C -1,3  
b7E -1,2,3,4,5

An update or [REDACTED]

(U//~~FOUO~~) As of 5 January at 1000 hours, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----  
Jennifer Leigh Moore  
Special Agent in Charge - Intelligence  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office

[REDACTED] desk  
[REDACTED] cell

**From:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Re: quick update on [REDACTED]  
**To:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Moy, Stacey R. (WF) (FBI); Oneill, Christine E. (WF) (FBI); Dawson, James A. (WF) (FBI)  
**Sent:** January 5, 2021 11:54 AM (UTC-05:00)  
Thanks Jenn, this is much needed. The Deputy this morning mentioned to me [REDACTED]  
Any info on that?

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -2,3,5

Steven M. D'Antuono  
Assistant Director in Charge  
FBI – Washington Field Office  
[REDACTED] (mobile)  
[REDACTED] (office)

---

**From:** Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 5, 2021 11:30 AM  
**To:** D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Moy, Stacey R. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED] Oneill, Christine E. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED] Dawson, James A. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** quick update on [REDACTED]

FYI, this is a super quick update on [REDACTED] We will get a sitrep written up asap, but I know you are getting peppered from the 7<sup>th</sup> floor boss so I just wanted you to have this quickly

----also, there are currently [REDACTED] guardians tagged to this event

b6 -1,3  
b7C -1,3  
b7E -1,2,3,4,5

An update on [REDACTED]

(U//FOUO) As of 5 January at 1000 hours, [REDACTED]

---

Jennifer Leigh Moore  
Special Agent in Charge - Intelligence  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington Field Office  
[REDACTED] desk  
[REDACTED] cell