

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 22-cv-149

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**From:** McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI); McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 4:00 PM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy (002 [redacted]) edits.docx

Stephen – please see below in blue and attached suggestions, thanks, DLM

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:26 AM  
**To:** McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
[redacted]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
[redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Thanks, Dawn.

Couple of quick questions/responses below in red. Also, my email did not include an attachment with edits. Did you intend to send an edited document?

Please let me know your thoughts.

Stephen

**From:** McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 3:35 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
[redacted]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]; Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
[redacted]; McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Thanks Stephen – Please see NSCLB’s comments:

b5 -1,2

Thanks! DLM

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

[Redacted]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents [Redacted]

b5 -1,2

b7E -27

[Redacted]

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[Redacted]

b7E -3

**From:**  
**Subject:** FW: Free for a call?  
**To:** Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 4:17 PM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy.docx,  
Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft  
06.17\_Reorganized.docx

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Here are the two versions that I got from IPO.



b5 -1,2

Also,

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 11:25 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Free for a call?

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Good morning Stephen,

Are you available at 1:30pm?



b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -1

I offer two versions -- the first version is a clean, reorganized version; the second version is the version sent last week with my comments/recommendations throughout.

Thank you,



**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:07 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Free for a call?

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

I wanted to check in on the BWC draft, as I have a few questions for you.

I'm free after 10:45.

Just let me know what works for you.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

**From:** [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI); McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 22, 2021 4:49 PM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 + FLU.docx

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Thanks Stephen.

I added one comment (which is basically just for clarity) and suggested one edit regarding the FOIA piece of this.



b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel  
JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

Office: [REDACTED]

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Confidentiality Statement:

This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling [REDACTED]

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**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

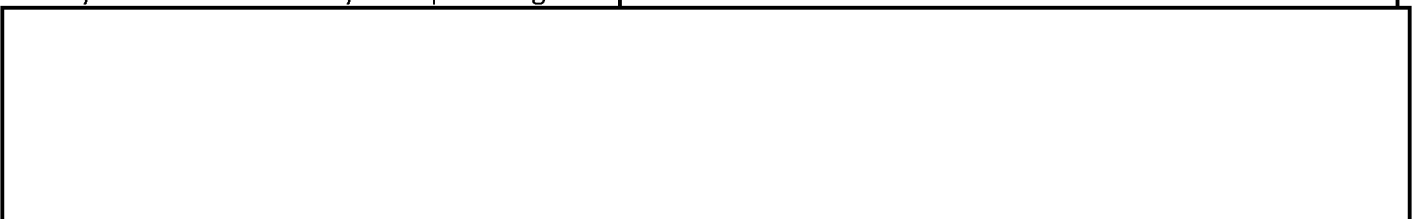
**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2



Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



**From:**  
**Subject:** Proposed Edits from OGC  
**To:** Feinberg, Matthew A. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)  
**Cc:** Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 23, 2021 10:51 AM (UTC-04:00)  
Matt [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
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Here are edits from OGC. These are pretty minor [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] The changes are underlined.

b5 -1,2

Thanks.

Stephen

b5 -1,2  
b7E -4,27

Stephen D. Kelly

Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

From:

[REDACTED] (OGC)

b6 -1  
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b7E -3

Date:

Wed Jun 23 2021 12:42:13 EDT

To:

[REDACTED]; Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)

[REDACTED] Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)

[REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI)

[REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI)

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Cc:

[redacted]  
Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)

[redacted]  
[redacted]; Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI)

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Bcc:

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Subject:

RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Attachments:

Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy (002) CLU  
revisions.docx

Thanks, [redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1

I have attached a version that contains proposed revisions and comments from the CLUs. I apologize that we worked off a version earlier than [redacted] most recent revisions.

I want to emphasize that we appreciate folks have had to develop and revise this document quickly and under mandates from the Department. So please read our comments in the spirit of our efforts to spot issues, and not to be hypercritical.

[redacted] b5 -1,2

Please let us know of any questions!

[redacted]  
b6 -1  
b7C -1

Associate General Counsel  
Civil Litigation Unit II  
FBI OGC  
935 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20535

Tel. [REDACTED]

b7E -3

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b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 4:49 PM  
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI)  
[REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI)  
[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Thanks Stephen.

I added one comment (which is basically just for clarity) and suggested one edit [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] of this.

b5 -1,2

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Unit Chief | FOIA Litigation Unit

Federal Bureau of Investigation | Office of the General Counsel

JEH Suite 10140, Room UC3

[REDACTED]  
E-mail: [REDACTED]

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b7E -3

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM  
To: Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI)  
[REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Subject: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents.

b5 -1,2

b7E 4,27

you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly

Chief, Operational Law Section

Office of the General Counsel

Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3



**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 23, 2021 1:11 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Great. Thanks.

Stephen

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 10:14 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

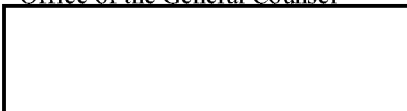
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Steve-

OTLU comments on the BWC policy.



Associate General Counsel  
Chief, Operational Technology Law Unit  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Office of the General Counsel



b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

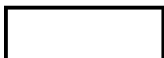
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 10:05 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

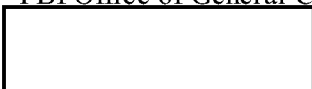
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3



I added a handful of comments into the document.



SSA [REDACTED]  
FBI Office of General Counsel, Operational Technology Law Unit



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FBI (22-cv-00149)-6287

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b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 7:31 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Subject: Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Please review and provide proposed comments back.

Thanks.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Associate General Counsel  
Chief, Operational Technology Law Unit  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Office of the General Counsel  
[REDACTED]

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From: McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 4:00 PM  
To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)  
[REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI)

Subject: RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Stephen – please see below in blue and attached suggestions, thanks, DLM

From: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 10:26 AM  
To: McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

FBI (22-cv-00149)-6288

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Thanks, Dawn.

Couple of quick questions/responses below in red. Also, my email did not include an attachment with edits. Did you intend to send an edited document?

Please let me know your thoughts.

Stephen

---

From: McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 3:35 PM

To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Cc: Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Thanks Stephen – Please see NSCLB’s comments:

b5 -1,2  
b7E -27

Thanks! DLM

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents.

b5 -1,2  
b7E -27

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 23, 2021 1:13 PM (UTC-04:00)

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Thank [REDACTED] Appreciate all the input.

- Stephen

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 11:38 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Hi Stephen,

Hot off the press from one of our CDCAC members, CV CDC [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 11:32 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Some additional comments/questions from me or [REDACTED] version.

SSA [REDACTED]  
Chief Division Counsel  
FBI Cleveland Division

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 1:56 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All,

I received word a little bit ago from Stephen Kelly that I was good to go with sharing this draft BWC PG with you. Attached is the one I sent to him with my own edits/comments FYSA.

FBI (22-cv-00149)-6292

Thanks,

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 3:26 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Hi Stephen,

Here are my edits/thoughts.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3



**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] (FBI) shared "Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy" with you. b6 -1  
b7C -1  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 23, 2021 1:33 PM (UTC-04:00)

Thank you. I will have conversation with the BWC team at 3 today, and I will let you know how it goes. We may have someone from ITB/ITADD on the team and we can get their input as well.

Stephen

**From:** [REDACTED] b6 -1  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:21 PM b7C -1  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] b7E -3  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) shared "Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy" with you.

Stephen,

Per our brief discussion, it sounds like ITADD [REDACTED] b5 -1,2

Thank-you,

[REDACTED]  
Unit Chief  
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit  
Office of the General Counsel, FBI  
935 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Room 7350  
Washington, DC 20535  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

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**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] b6 -1  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 11:52 AM b7C -1  
**To:** [REDACTED] b7E -3  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: [REDACTED] shared "Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy" with you.

b5 -1,2  
b7E -7,27

I can leave it as [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

Thoughts?

Stephen

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 11:18 AM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: [REDACTED] (FBI) shared "Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy" with you.

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Steve -

The operational lead [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We've had some  
conversations about this, but I don't know that a definitive answer was established. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Assistant General Counsel  
Privacy and Civil Liberties Unit  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 10:56 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] shared "Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy" with you.

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Thanks for this. A quick questions for clarification.

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

b7E -3

Stephen

**From:** [REDACTED]

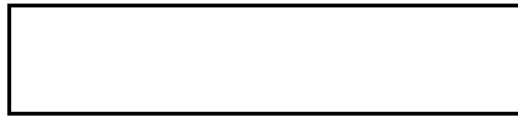
FBI (22-cv-00149)-6299

Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:08 PM

To: Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)

Subject: [REDACTED] shared "Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy" with you.

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3



**OGC) (FBI) shared a file with you**

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Steve -

Here's the draft policy w/PCLU's proposed edits in track changes. I will note that when I reviewed this, I posed a question or two to [REDACTED] and both Erin and I had questions for IMD. So you may hear from them separately.



[Use of Body Worn Cameras by FBI Special Agents PG Draft 06.17 - Copy](#)



This link only works for the direct recipients of this message.

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Microsoft

[Privacy Statement](#)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: IPO - Issues  
**To:** [REDACTED] (FBI); Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Cc:** McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
(OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 23, 2021 1:40 PM (UTC-04:00)  
Stephen summarized my concerns. The process and delays with IPO have been ridiculous.

b6 -1  
b7C -1

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:29 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: IPO - Issues

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Hi Erin,

Thanks to Stephen. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] seemed sympathetic, and suggested she had been hearing similar concerns from FFD, but I do think it would be compelling for her to hear the perspective of OGC top management.

b5 -1,2  
b6 -1  
b7C -1

Best Regards,

[REDACTED]  
Chief  
Fiscal and Contract Law Unit  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:20 PM  
**To:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** IPO - Issues

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Erin –

When you have a minute, I want to discuss some of the problems our folks are having with IPO. [REDACTED] and his team had to wait 6 months for final review of one of their policies, after all collaboration had been done and the GC had signed off [REDACTED] I just spoke to [REDACTED] and it sounds like she and her team have significant frustrations as well. And lastly, IPO has now

b5 -1,2  
b6 -1  
b7C -1

FBI (22-cv-00149)-6306

decided to [REDACTED] and I'm working through that as we speak. They have proposed [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

b6 -1

b7C -1

I will let [REDACTED] speak for themselves on this point, but I think they have similar concerns.

Adding Rick and my UCs in case they have additional views.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3

**From:** Bulletin Intelligence  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Thursday, June 24, 2021  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** June 24, 2021 5:00 AM (UTC-04:00)  
**Attached:** FBIDirBriefing210624.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.

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

**THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2021 5:00 AM EDT**

### **Wray Asks Congress For \$40M To Counter Ransomware Attacks.** The Hill (6/23, 5.69M)

reports FBI Director Wray “told a Senate panel that a request for a \$40 million increase in its cybersecurity budget for the upcoming fiscal year would go in part towards combating increasing and damaging ransomware attacks.” Wray said to the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, “Our budget request, the enhancements we requested, include 155 positions and \$40 million for cyber, and a huge part of that will be going very much to the ransomware campaign that we are working on.” He later “noted that the FBI is currently investigating over 100 types of ransomware variations, each of which he said had ‘scores and scores of victims,’ and that enhancing the FBI’s ability to address ransomware attacks is a top priority.”

Reuters (6/23, Lynch) reports that Director Wray “pleaded with public companies and other hacking victims to avoid paying ransom, saying he fears it will only embolden cyber criminals to ramp up future attacks. ‘In general, we would discourage paying the ransom because it encourages more of these attacks, and frankly, there is no guarantee whatsoever that you are going to get your data back,’ Wray testified before a U.S. Senate appropriations panel.” Wray “said on Wednesday that the FBI is seeing increasingly sophisticated types of ransomware attacks and that cyber thieves have been demanding larger sums of money. ‘We’ve seen the total volume of the money paid I think triple over the last year or so,’ Wray said. He said companies and municipal governments who become victims of ransomware attacks should consider going to the FBI as soon as possible, and not wait. ‘When they do, there’s all kinds of things that we can do,’ Wray said.”

**Biden Announces Plan To Counter Rising Gun Violence.** The Washington Post (6/22, Linskey, 10.52M) reports President Biden on Wednesday “laid out an anti-crime strategy from the White House that cracks down on gun stores that don’t follow federal rules, steps up programs for recently released convicts and provides more support for police departments across the country.” The Post describes his speech as coming amid “a spike in homicides across the country” and casts it as “an attempt by the White House to show it is being proactive on an issue that historically has been politically difficult for Democrats, and to refocus attention on its efforts to beef up gun regulations.”

Likewise, the New York Times (6/23, Kanno-Youngs, 20.6M) says Biden’s announcement “propel[s] the White House into the politically contentious debate over how to address a rise in violent crime in many U.S. cities.” The Times adds the President “also directed the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to revoke the licenses of gun dealers ‘the first time that they violate federal law’ by failing to run background checks.”

CNBC (6/23, Wilkie, 7.34M) reports on its website that Biden and Attorney General Garland “announced tougher enforcement policies for federal gun control laws, as well as new guidelines to help cities and states make better use of federal Covid relief funding to combat gun violence, including by hiring police officers.” CNBC adds the President and Garland “also held a meeting Wednesday with the mayors of Baltimore and Miami, the police chief of Baton Rouge, La., and several other stakeholders to discuss crime prevention.”

The Hill (6/23, Samuels, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports Biden “reiterated his call for Congress to pass an expansion of background checks for firearm purchases and a federal ban on assault weapons to curb gun violence, despite little progress on those policies in a gridlocked Washington.” On its website, Fox News (6/23, Phillips, 23.99M) reports Biden “also took aim at an argument used by Second Amendment advocates, that the right to self-defense needed to protect against potential government tyranny.”

The AP (6/23, Long) reports that while Biden said his Administration is “taking on the bad actors doing bad things to our communities,” questions “persist about how effective the efforts can be in what could be a turbulent summer.” According to the AP, the issue is mired in “tricky politics,” and “Biden’s plan shows how few options the Democratic president has on the issue.” Axios (6/23, Chen, 1.26M) reports the proposals “follow Biden’s initial executive actions, which were announced in April after weeks of high-profile mass shootings,” but Administration officials “emphasized that ‘no one size fits all’ and said states and cities should invest in the tools that make sense for their communities.”

On CNN’s Situation Room (6/23, 613K), Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council Director Susan Rice said the President “outlined a comprehensive gun-crime prevention strategy.” Rice added, “Beyond those measures, he made it very clear that there are billions of dollars in the American Rescue Plan...that can be and should be used to prevent and respond to crime. ... It also can be used for important strategies to tackle crime at its root causes: employment...mental help...social workers.” Rice also addressed GOP criticism that the spike in violent crime is the result of anti-police budget cuts in Democratic-

led cities, saying, "President Biden's approach is not to defund the police. He has been very explicit in opposing that. He wants to invest in our communities and in safety – that includes investing in public safety and giving police and police forces the resources they need – but it's much broader than that because you can't just deal with this problem through law enforcement. You need to deal with the root causes."

Politico (6/23, Korecki, Cadelago, 6.73M) says that for a White House "intensely focused on stamping out Covid-19 and shepherding trillions of dollars in spending on infrastructure and social-welfare programs through Congress, the violence presents a host of challenges that administration officials have so far struggled to get their arms around. First and foremost: determining how to stanch the bloodshed without exacerbating existing tensions on policing or hampering criminal justice reform efforts – a top Democratic priority."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/23) reports the Administration "faces growing impatience from gun-safety activists that want Biden to act more quickly to combat gun violence after he campaigned on a pledge to act against the 'epidemic' on the first day" of his presidency. USA Today (6/23, Garrison, 12.7M) reports that Biden "has been unable to gain Republican support in Congress to pass sweeping gun control legislation." According to USA Today, "Republicans plan to seize on the crime surge – and the 'defund the police' mantra of some liberals – to attack Democrats in a bid to take back control of the House and Senate in the 2022 midterm elections."

Axios (6/23, Allen, VandeHei, 1.26M) reports that "in private and public," Democrats are "warning that rising crime – and the old and new progressive calls to defund the police – represent the single biggest threat to their electoral chances in 2022." Bloomberg (6/23, Wingrove, Fabian, 3.57M) says that polls "signal growing unease over crime, a potential liability for Biden and Democrats in next year's midterm elections. A Yahoo News/YouGov poll released in May found that nearly 50% of respondents said crime is a very big problem in the U.S." In that poll, "About 36% of respondents at least somewhat approved of Biden's handling of crime, while 44% at least somewhat disapproved." Bloomberg adds, "The perception that Democrats are too cavalier about public safety led to the passage of the 1994 crime bill, which Biden supported as a senator. Biden came under fire during the 2020 campaign over his backing of the law, which civil-rights activists have decried as hitting Black and Brown Americans disproportionately hard." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Parti, Collins, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) as well as CNN (6/23, Wolf, 89.21M) and Fox News (6/23, Steinhauer, 23.99M) analyses provide similar coverage.

**Graham: Biden "Kowtowing" To "Most Radical People In The US" On Crime.** Fox News (6/23, 23.99M) reports on its website that Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-SC) "slammed...Biden for 'kowtowing to the far-left' on crime during 'The Story with Martha MacCallum' Wednesday, arguing the 'modern' Democratic Party is 'anti-cop.'"

**Major Cities Record Large Increases In Homicides, Assaults This Year.** On ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 3, 1:57, Muir, 5.89M), Mary Bruce reported, "32 cities have seen a rise in homicides and assaults so far this year, and when you look at some of the nation's biggest cities, homicides in New York up 13.5% since last year. Los Angeles up 22%, and Houston, 24%." On NBC Nightly News (6/23, story 5, 3:04, Holt, 4.91M), Kelly O'Donnell reported that in Portland, homicides are "up a staggering 530 percent this year. Philadelphia on track to see a new record for murder. Atlanta, homicides jumped 41 percent over last year." Likewise, Nancy Cordes reported on the CBS Evening News (6/23, story 4, 2:22, O'Donnell, 3.64M), "In the first quarter of this year, homicide rates in 34 US cities were up 24% from last year, 49% from the year before, and that's before the traditional summer spike."

**San Francisco Police Blame Rising Crime On Having Too Few Officers, Repeat Offenders.** CNN (6/23, Simon, 89.21M) reports on its website that San Francisco has been "gripped" by "a recent spate of brazen property crimes...since tourism picked back up. It's one of a handful of interwoven crises that San Francisco is facing as it casts away Covid-19 limits," which include "surges in violent crime to a housing crunch to confronting mental health and substance abuse emergencies." CNN adds that from the perspective of the San Francisco Police Department, "recent crime problems boil down to two factors: not enough cops on the street and a revolving door of criminals."

**Former NRA President, Gun Rights Advocate Speak At Fake High School Graduation For Kids Killed By Gun Violence.** The Hill (6/23, Pitofsky, 5.69M) reports in its "Briefing Room" blog that former NRA President David Keene and author and gun rights activist John Lott "both unknowingly delivered commencement speeches at a fake high school graduation that represented thousands of children who died from gun violence before they could graduate alongside the class of 2021." According to The Hill, "The speeches were organized by the group Change the Ref, which was founded by Manuel and Patricia Oliver, whose son was killed in the 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla."

**Sen. Cotton Accuses Biden Of Stacking DOJ With "Radicals."** Fox News (6/23, Keene, 23.99M) reports, "Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., accused President Biden of stacking the Department of Justice (DOJ) with 'radicals' aiming to defund law enforcement across America as the nation sees a rise in crime." Cotton "retweeted a video on Monday of Fox News' Peter Doocy questioning White House press secretary Jen Psaki on Tuesday about the rise of violent crime across America. In the tweet, the senator accused Biden of packing the DOJ with anti-police extremists looking to defund law enforcement. 'Biden has



stacked the Department of Justice with radicals who want to defund the police,' Cotton wrote." Cotton "expanded on his tweet in a Wednesday statement to Fox News, blasting Biden's controversial senior DOJ officials Kristen Clarke and Vanita Gupta as the 'anti-police radicals' in question."

**Indiana Woman Is First Person Sentenced In Capitol Siege Probe.** The New York Times (6/23, Feuer, 20.6M) reports District Judge Royce C. Lamberth on Wednesday sentenced "the first person...in connection with the riot at the Capitol," but the 49-year-old Indiana woman "will serve no time in prison after reaching an agreement with the government and pleading guilty...to a misdemeanor disorderly conduct charge." The Times says that in the "unusual hearing where she admitted guilt and was immediately sentenced," Anna Morgan-Lloyd "expressed remorse for her role in the attack of Jan. 6," and she "apologized to the court, her family and the 'American people,' saying it was wrong to have entered the Capitol even though she hurt no one, broke nothing and was inside for only about 10 minutes." Politico (6/23, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports Morgan-Lloyd will "serve 36 months probation, do 40 hours of community service and pay \$500 in restitution for damage incurred when demonstrators supporting former President Donald Trump stormed the Capitol in a bid to block Congress from certifying Joe Biden's victory in the November election."

However, the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports Judge Lamberth "castigated Republican lawmakers on Wednesday for downplaying the violence of the mob that stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6, saying in handing down the first sentence to a charged defendant that those who break the law must pay a penalty." He said, "I'm especially troubled by the accounts of some members of Congress that January 6 was just a day of tourists walking through the Capitol." He added, "I don't know what planet they were on." Lamberth continued, "This was not a peaceful demonstration. It was not an accident that it turned violent; it was intended to halt the very functioning of our government." Reuters (6/23) notes Lamberth "was appointed by former President Ronald Reagan – one of the heroes of the Republican Party."

**Second Alleged Oath Keepers Member Pleads Guilty To Felony Charges From Jan. 6 Riot.** The Washington Post (6/23, Hsu, 10.52M) says Graydon Young, 55, of Englewood, Florida on Wednesday became the "second alleged member of the Oath Keepers involved in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot" to plead guilty "to reduced charges and agreed to cooperate with U.S. prosecutors in hopes of lowering a recommended six-year prison term." The Post reports Young "admitted to two federal felony counts, including conspiracy and obstructing Congress's confirmation of the results of the 2020 presidential election."

Bloomberg (6/23, 3.57M) says Young "admitted to working with fellow Oath Keepers to storm the building in a military-style formation and said he would assist the government in its continuing investigation." Reuters (6/23, Hosenball) reports Young "agreed to cooperate with investigators as part of his plea deal," and when questioned by US District Judge Amit Mehta "about the extent of his possible cooperation, Young agreed to give grand jury testimony and to be interviewed by law enforcement investigators without his lawyers being present." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Levy, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provided similar coverage, as did a brief ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 5, 0:53, Muir, 5.89M) segment.

Meanwhile, Kris Van Cleave reported on the CBS Evening News (6/23, story 6, 2:02, O'Donnell, 3.64M) that while the defendants were in court, "video from January 6, just obtained by CBS News from the body camera of DC police officer Michael Fanone. He was pulled into the crowd, tased and beaten unconscious. He suffered a heart attack and a brain injury." Van Cleave also showed another "just-released video as rioters fight with police, knocking officers to the ground."

The AP (6/23, Richer, Kunzelman) says the cases "signal that [prosecutions of] those charged in the deadly siege are slowly advancing, even as the U.S. Department of Justice and the courthouse in Washington, D.C., struggle under the weight of roughly 500 federal arrests across the U.S. And it comes as Republicans in Washington attempt to downplay the violence committed by members of the mob supporting...Trump."

**Judge Denies Bail For Proud Boys Supporter Over Weapons Cache, Capitol Riot Threats.**

Reuters (6/23, Stempel) reports, "A Proud Boys supporter accused of keeping a large weapons cache and making social media threats tied to the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol was denied bail on Wednesday, despite evidence of what his lawyer said were signs of chronic kidney disease." US Magistrate Judge Lois Bloom in Brooklyn "said Eduard Florea 'presents a significant danger to the community,' and should not be released into confinement at his mother's Bronx, New York home on \$100,000 bond as his lawyer requested." Florea, "a 40-year-old married father of two, has been detained in a Brooklyn jail since January, when he pleaded not guilty to being a felon in possession of ammunition and making online threats. Prosecutors said an FBI search of his home in the Middle Village section of Queens found more than 900 rounds of ammunition, 72 military-style combat knives, two hatchets and two swords."

## **Proud Boys Leader To Remain Jailed Pending Trial In Capitol Siege Probe.**

USA Today

(6/23, Phillips, 12.7M) reports, "A federal judge ordered Proud Boys leader Charles Donohoe to remain in jail pending trial, rejecting his defense attorneys' arguments that the North Carolina man isn't a danger to the public and didn't have a leadership role in planning the violent attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6. 'Mr. Donohoe is charged with interfering in the nation's peaceful transfer of power,' U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly said during a detention hearing Wednesday, adding that the charges are 'gravely serious matters that favor detention.'" Donohoe, of Kernersville, North Carolina, "is among several Proud Boys leaders who were charged with conspiring to disrupt a joint session of Congress to count state-certified Electoral College votes. Others include Ethan Nordean and Joseph Biggs whom Kelly had previously ordered to remain in jail pending trial. The Justice Department has so far charged more than 500 people for their alleged involvement in storming the Capitol on Jan. 6."

## **Three Pennsylvania Men Charged In Capitol Siege Probe.**

The Greensburg (PA) Tribune-Review (6/23, Varine) reports, "A Westmoreland County man and two others from Beaver County are among the latest to face charges related to the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. Capitol." Samuel C. Fox of Scottdale, Mitchell P. Vukich of New Brighton and Nicholas Perretta of Baden "all face charges related to the incident. An officer patrolling the Bridgeport Dam on Tuesday night spotted a group there after dark, said Chief Henry Fontana of the Westmoreland County Park Police. Fox was with the group and authorities learned of the federal arrest warrant. 'They checked his ID and got a hit on him,' Fontana said." Fox "is accused of violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building, knowingly entering a restricted building without lawful authority and related charges."

## **Neo-Nazi Pleads Guilty To Unregistered Firearm Possession.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports Paul Miller, who "went by 'GypsyCrusader' online," was arrested by the FBI on March 2 following a raid because agents "discovered a rifle and almost 850 rounds of ammunition." He "pleaded guilty to three felony counts for possession of an unregistered firearm and ammunition and possession of a weapon as a felon" on Tuesday, and he "faces a maximum of 30 years in federal prison." Miller had "been cited by watchdog groups as an extremist using social media to spread racist, antisemitic and homophobic ideology," and the Anti-Defamation League "mentioned him in a blog post about 'extremist troll' on Omegle, labeling him a 'Florida-based white supremacist.'"

## **SOCOM Linguist Sentenced Following Terrorism Espionage Conviction.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Hsu, 10.52M) reports former SOCOM linguist Mariam Taha "was sentenced Wednesday to 23 years in prison in a rare terrorism espionage case, after she admitted she turned over names of informants and other classified data to a Lebanese man with ties to the militant group Hezbollah." She "pleaded guilty on March 26 to delivering national defense information to aid a foreign government," and prosecutors "alleged that she passed the information to a man with whom she fell in love, believing it would assist Lebanese Hezbollah, a U.S. designated terrorist group."

## **Fourth Circuit Upholds CIA, NSA Pre-Publication Review Process.**

Law360

(6/23, Subscription

Publication, 9K) reports the Fourth Circuit on Wednesday "upheld the constitutionality of the government's decades-old prepublication review system, agreeing that the regime blocking former military and intelligence officials from disclosing classified or secretive information in books or articles without first obtaining approval is reasonable." The unanimous ruling by "a three-judge panel is a blow to five former military and intelligence officials, represented by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, who sought to strike down the review system in its entirety."

Reuters

(6/23, Wiessner) reports a US appeals court on Wednesday "said the Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense and two other federal agencies do not violate former employees' free-speech rights by requiring them to seek review before publishing information that could be classified or otherwise implicate national security."

## **Jury Selection Begins In Trial Of Capital Gazette Newsroom Shooter.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Davies, Mettler, 10.52M) reports jury selection has begun in the trial of Jarrod Ramos, "the man who blasted through the glass doors of the Capital Gazette newsroom in Annapolis three years ago and fatally shot five of its employees." Ramos has "pleaded guilty to committing the mass shooting but said he should not be held criminally responsible because of a mental disorder." Ramos faces "life behind bars" or commitment "to a state hospital for an indefinite period."

## **Chauvin To Be Sentenced Friday.**

USA Today (6/23, Abdollah, 12.7M) reports former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, who was convicted of second- and third-degree murder and second degree manslaughter in the death of George Floyd, "will face a Minnesota judge Friday and receive a sentence of up to 30 years in prison." Although he is a first-time offender, "Hennepin County District Judge Peter Cahill found that Chauvin should face a higher sentence because his crimes

involved abusing his position of trust and authority and killing Floyd in the presence of children, among other aggravating factors.” While Chauvin’s defense attorney Eric Nelson “asked for probation or far less prison time,” prosecutors “argued that Chauvin deserves the maximum penalty for actions that ‘traumatized Mr. Floyd’s family, the bystanders who watched Mr. Floyd die and the community. And his conduct shocked the nation’s conscience.’”

**Judge Threatens To Throw Out Guilty Plea In DEA Agent’s Corruption Case.** The [AP](#) (6/23, Goodman, Mustian) reports US District Judge Charlene Edwards Honeywell on Wednesday “threatened to throw out the guilty plea of a veteran U.S. narcotics agent who conspired with a Colombian cartel money launderer.” Honeywell “was expected to sentence the disgraced agent, Jose I. Irizarry, but refused to do so over what she called a ‘totally unacceptable’ legal dispute.” The AP says the dispute is “over whether the money Irizarry raided from undercover DEA accounts amounted to a misuse of government funds, as Irizarry contends, or the laundering of drug proceeds – a more serious offense that could add a decade to what was already expected to be a lengthy prison sentence.” the AP calls Honeywell’s refusal to impose sentence “an unexpected twist that could derail one of the most egregious misconduct cases in the history of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.”

**Manafort Banker’s Bribery Trial Gets Underway.** [Bloomberg](#) (6/23, Voris, 3.57M) reports banker Stephen Calk, who is “charged with pushing through \$16 million in sketchy loans to Donald Trump’s former campaign chief Paul Manafort did it because he was greedy for prestige and power, not for money, a prosecutor told jurors at the start of a criminal bribery trial in Manhattan.” Assistant US Attorney Alexandra Rothman said in her opening statement that Calk “wanted a powerful government title and gave out millions of dollars in bank loans to try and get it.” The government alleges Calk “used the loans to Manafort as a bribe for help in landing a spot as an adviser on Donald Trump’s presidential campaign and, later, for a top job in the Trump administration.” [Politico](#) (6/23, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports Calk’s attorneys “contend that the loans were reasonable given the collateral Manafort was pledging and that there was no linkage between the loans and Calk’s ambitions to land a prestigious job in Washington.”

**US Charges Philadelphia Water Department Employee With Stealing Equipment.** The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (6/23, Roebuck) reports, “A Philadelphia Water Department supervisor stole more than \$164,000 worth of taxpayer-purchased equipment and sold it at scrapyards for profit, federal authorities said Wednesday.” Prosecutors said Thomas Staszak, 46, of Philadelphia “used his coworkers’ log-on credentials to submit requests for equipment between 2017 and 2018, including bales of bulk wire from warehouses the department maintains across the city. The equipment was intended for use repairing and maintaining the city’s water systems.” The Inquirer adds, “The 11-count indictment charging him with theft and computer fraud also points to irregularities in the Water Department’s system for tracking inventory, which Staszak allegedly exploited.”

**Man Awaiting Trial For PPP Fraud Becomes Repeat Offender.** The [New York Times](#) (6/23, Paybarah, 20.6M) reports that a Pennsylvania man “awaiting trial on charges that he fraudulently received more than \$2.5 million in Paycheck Protection Program loans filed an application last month seeking an additional \$500,000 in Covid-19 relief money, the authorities said.” According to the Times, the federal government in February seized four of Randy Frasinelli’s bank accounts “where that money had been deposited, saying the loan applications were fraudulent. In March, the man submitted a fifth application for a P.P.P. loan, intended to help struggling businesses during the pandemic, and received more than \$1.3 million. In April, he was arrested and charged with bank fraud and money laundering. While he was out on bond, federal officials said, he submitted a sixth loan application.” The Times adds Frasinelli on Monday “was arrested again and charged with another count of bank fraud.”

**US Cyber Command’s Cyber Flag To “Shape New Tactics For Changing Threats.”** [Defense News](#) (6/23, Pomerleau, 73K) reports, US Cyber Command will use its Cyber Flag annual training exercise “this week to codify best practices for defensive cyber teams.” Cyber Flag comes “on the heels of Cyber Command’s budget request that proposes adding more teams and potentially altering their composition to adapt to a rapidly changing threat landscape.” For the first time, “the exercise will help identify characteristics of successful cyber protection teams, which conduct defensive cyberspace operations.” This year’s exercise, Cyber Flag 21-2, “includes over 430 individuals from 17 teams from the U.S., UK, Canada, National Guard, House of Representatives and U.S. Postal Service and is taking place across eight time zones.”

**EU Outlines Plans For New Joint Cyber Unit.** The [Wall Street Journal](#) (6/23, Uberti, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports the EU plans to establish a joint cybersecurity unit intended to serve as an intelligence hub and to respond to cyberattacks. [Reuters](#) (6/23, Chee) reports the European Commission “proposed on Wednesday to pool resources and expertise from the EU’s 27 countries for a joint cyber unit to fight online criminals amid a spate of high profile hacks in Europe and

worldwide.” Commission Vice President Margaritis Schinas said in a statement, “Today, we can no longer distinguish between online and offline threats. We need to pool all our resources to defeat cyber risks and enhance our operational capacity.” The cyber unit aims “to be operational by June next year and fully set up in 2023. Funding will come from the Commission’s programme for digital technology and potentially from its defence research and development fund.” Members of the unit “will come from the EU Agency for Cybersecurity, experts from EU countries, Europol’s European Cybercrime Centre, the EU foreign service EEAS and the European Defence Agency.”

**SCOTUS Limits When Police Can Enter A Home Without A Warrant.** The [AP](#) (6/23, Gresko) reports the Supreme Court on Wednesday “put limits on when police officers pursuing a fleeing suspect can enter a home without a warrant.” In *Lange v. California*, the Court “ruled that when officers are pursuing someone suspected of a misdemeanor, a less serious crime, they cannot always enter a home without a warrant if a suspect enters.”

[Reuters](#) (6/23) report says in the 9-0 decision, the court “sent the case back to the California Court of Appeals. The justices rejected the lower court’s finding that warrants are not required in any situation in which police are in pursuit, even if the suspected crime is minor.” Justice Elena Kagan wrote in the decision, “The flight of a suspected misdemeanant does not always justify a warrantless entry into a home. ... An officer must consider all the circumstances in a pursuit case to determine whether there is a law enforcement emergency.” While the justices “were unanimous in tossing out the lower court decision, there was some disagreement among them on the law. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in a separate opinion joined by fellow conservative Justice Samuel Alito that police should be able to complete an arrest when they are in pursuit of someone, even if the suspect enters a home.”

**Scott Says Lawmakers Nearing Agreement On Policing Overhaul.** [Bloomberg](#) (6/23, Litvan, Dennis, 3.57M) reports Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) “said negotiations on legislation to overhaul policing practices in the U.S. are closing in on an agreement that could come as soon as Thursday.” Scott, who “has been working with two Democrats, Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey and Representative Karen Bass, of California on a bill to make law enforcement officers more accountable for injuries and deaths they cause,” said, “I don’t think there’s outstanding issues that need to be worked out, we just need to agree on the actual language that we’re using.” Booker said talks are “making progress” but he “declined to say whether a deal was imminent.”

**NYC To Train Entire Police Force In De-Escalation.** The [Washington Post](#) (6/23, Jackman, 10.52M) reports new York City’s police department announced Wednesday that “it will train all 35,000 of its officers in de-escalation, using the Police Executive Research Forum’s ‘Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics’ approach to reduce violent encounters and injuries to both officers and citizens.”

**Judge Strikes Down New York City’s Police Chokehold Ban.** The [New York Times](#) (6/23, Watkins, Southall, 20.6M) reports New York state Supreme Court Judge Laurence Love “struck down a [New York City] law banning police officers’ use of chokeholds and other physical restraints on Tuesday, saying the wording of the law was ‘unconstitutionally vague.’” Police unions “sued the city last fall over its passage,” arguing the language “was overly broad...and made it nearly impossible for officers to physically engage suspects, even if the use of force was in good faith.” Love agreed and wrote in his ruling, “The phrase ‘compresses the diaphragm’ cannot be adequately defined as written.” Love “encouraged the city to revise its law, and Mayor Bill de Blasio, at his daily news conference on Wednesday, urged lawmakers to move quickly to do so.”

**McAfee Found Dead In Spanish Jail Cell.** The [AP](#) (6/23, Parra) reports John David McAfee, creator of McAfee antivirus software, “was found dead in his jail cell near Barcelona in an apparent suicide Wednesday.” The [Washington Post](#) (6/23, 10.52M) says McAfee was found “hours after a Spanish court issued a preliminary ruling authorizing his extradition to the United States on tax evasion charges.” [Reuters](#) (6/23) reports, “McAfee’s lawyer, Javier Villalba, said the anti-virus software pioneer died by hanging as his nine months in prison brought him to despair.”

The [New York Times](#) (6/23, Marcos, 20.6M) reports McAfee “was arrested in Spain in 2020 after prosecutors in the United States accused him of not filing tax returns from 2014 to 2018.” McAfee “resisted extradition to the United States, claiming he faced political persecution by U.S. authorities in part because he opposed the fiat money system. But on Wednesday, the Spanish court said it would allow the Justice Department’s request to extradite him.” [NBC Nightly News](#) provided similar coverage.

**Administration Officials Consider Removal Of Bureau Of Prisons Director, Sources Say.** According to the [AP](#) (6/23, Balsamo, Sisak), “Senior Biden administration officials have discussed whether to remove the holdover director of the beleaguered federal Bureau of Prisons who has been at the center of the agency’s myriad crises.” Two sources told the AP

that the discussions “about whether to fire Michael Carvajal are in the preliminary stages and a final decision hasn’t yet been made,” but “there’s an indication that the bureau is shaking up its senior ranks following growing criticism of chronic mismanagement, blistering reports from the Justice Department’s inspector general and a bleak financial outlook.”

### **Rep. Gaetz Tweets “Defund The FBI” Then Deletes It Amid Probe.**

Newsweek

(6/23, Hill,

2.67M) reports, “Representative Matt Gaetz called for the FBI to be defunded by Democrats in a tweet on Wednesday, and then deleted it immediately. ‘If Democrats want to defund the police, they should start with the FBI,’ the tweet read.” Newsweek “has reached out to Rep. Gaetz’s team for comment but did not hear back by publication time. It is unclear why Gaetz deleted the tweet a minute after posting it.” Gaetz (R-FL) “is currently being investigated by the FBI for allegations that he violated sex trafficking laws and allegedly paid a 17-year-old to have sex with him, The New York Times first reported back in late March. Gaetz has denied these allegations and has not been charged.”

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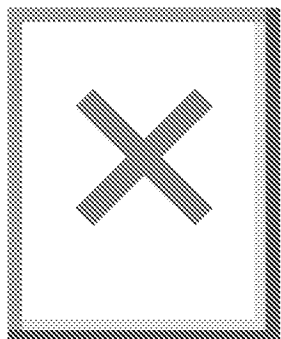
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- EU Outlines Plans For New Joint Cyber Unit.
- National Guard Holds Cyber Yankee Exercise.
- Deputy Defense Secretary: Military Leaders Concerned About AI Safety.

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

- SCOTUS Limits When Police Can Enter A Home Without A Warrant.
- Scott Says Lawmakers Nearing Agreement On Policing Overhaul.
- Lawmakers Moving Forward With Push To Overhaul Military Sexual Assault Prosecutions.

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- McAfee Found Dead In Spanish Jail Cell.

#### OTHER FBI NEWS

- Administration Officials Consider Removal Of Bureau Of Prisons Director, Sources Say.
- Rep. Gaetz Tweets "Defund The FBI" Then Deletes It Amid Probe.

#### OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

- Walensky Says Delta Variant Accounts For One Fifth Of COVID Cases In US.
- Health Officials Urge Americans To Get Vaccinated Despite New Warning.
- CREW Blames Trump Administration For Secret Service COVID Infections.
- Lawmakers Expand Probe Into Emergent's Maryland Vaccine Plant.
- Monmouth University Poll Finds Nearly 40% Still Wearing Masks At Usual Rates Despite CDC Guidance.
- New York To Lift State Of Emergency Thursday.
- CDC: US Births Dropped 8% In One Month Nine Months After COVID Emergency Declaration.
- Pharmaceutical Companies Emphasize Need For COVID Therapies.
- CBP Seizes Illicit COVID Drugs Headed For Mexico.
- Senate Confirms Carnahan To Lead GSA.
- Biden Announces McCain Among Three New Ambassadorial Nominees.
- Biden Removes FHFA Director After SCOTUS Ruling.
- Scott Steps Down As Border Patrol Chief.
- Warren Blocks Kvaal's Nomination Over Administration's Student Loan Policies.
- Scott Blocks Easterly's Nomination Until Harris Visits Border.
- Biden To Meet With Senators To Discuss "Framework Of Agreement" On Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal.
- Administration Reportedly Set To Extend CDC Eviction Ban Another Month.
- Gensler Describes Potential New Disclosure Requirements.
- GAO: Pentagon Should Detail Cleanup Expenses For "Forever Chemicals."
- SCOTUS Rules Union Organizers Do Not Have Right To Access Farms.
- House Judiciary Committee Begins Considering Tech Antitrust Bills.
- House Passes Bill To Make Workplace Age Discrimination Claims Easier.
- House Democrats' Legislative Spending Bill Would Raise Staff Pay, Keep Lawmaker Pay Freeze.
- Judge Stops Loan Forgiveness Program Directed At Black Farmers.
- Supreme Court Rules For Cheerleader Punished For Off-Campus Post.
- FDA Officials Defend Approval Of Alzheimer's Drug.
- American Red Cross Warns Of "Severe" Blood Shortage.



- Harris To Visit US-Mexico Border Days Before Trump.
- Austin, Milley Defend Military's Efforts To Counter Racism, Extremism.
- Judge Strikes Down Trump Administration EB-5 Visa Program Rule.
- Harris Meets With Abrams, Voting Rights Advocates As Democrats Regroup Following Defeat Of For The People Act.
- Biden Eulogizes Warner As "Reminder Of What We Can Do When We Come Together As One Nation."
- Pelosi, Schumer Prepare To Move Biden Agenda Forward.
- Lawmakers Urge Biden To Ban Sales Of Landmines.
- Biden Campaign Emails Show Tensions With Facebook Over Misinformation, Violent Rhetoric.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- US Scientist Retrieves Potentially Important Genetic COVID Data Deleted From NIH Archive.
- Pew Survey: World's Wealthiest Nations Increasingly Divided In Wake Of Pandemic.
- Pace Touts US Donation Of Vaccines To Latin American, Caribbean Countries.
- Japan Reaches PM's Target Of 1M Daily COVID Inoculations.
- Canada Accelerates COVID Vaccination Drive To Reach Milestone For Border Reopening.
- EU Officials Warn Delta Variant Will Compose 90% Of Cases By Late August.
- Johnson To Convene Summit To Boost Vaccines In London.
- South African COVID Cases Reach Third Peak.
- Uganda Closes Parliament For Two Weeks As COVID Cases Surge.
- US Votes Against UNGA Resolution Calling For End To Cuba Embargo.
- Ortega Under Pressure To Ease Crackdown On Nicaraguan Opposition.
- Olsen: Left-Wing Populism "Thriving" In Latin America.
- US, China Reportedly Planning Meeting During G20 Event.
- Pentagon Reports No Increased Violence Against US Soldiers In Afghanistan.
- Residential Bombing Kills Four In Pakistan.
- Pro-Democracy Newspaper Apple Daily Closes Amid China's Hong Kong Crackdown.
- NKorean FM: Kim "Not Considering" Any Resumption In Talks With The US.
- WPost: US Must Call Out India For Internet Censorship.
- Blinken Indicates US, Germany Remain At Impasse Over Nord Stream Pipeline.
- Russia Says It Used Bombs, Warning Shots To Deter UK Warship Near Sevastopol.
- Lukashenko Threatens To Allow Migrants, Smugglers Into EU.
- EU Criticizes Hungarian Anti-LGBT Law.
- EU Commission Approves French Euro Recovery Plan.
- Amnesty International Alleges Greece Deporting Registered Asylum Seekers.
- Greek Priest Arrested For Acid Attack On Bishops.
- Rouhani Aide: US Has Agreed To Lift Sanctions On Iranian Oil, Shipping Sectors.
- Biden Administration Reportedly Urging Israel To Include Sudanese Civilian Leadership In Normalization Talks.
- UN Secretary-General Guterres Calls On UNSC To Renew Cross Border Aid Program For Syria.
- International Leaders Call On Foreign Fighters To Leave Libya.
- Airstrike On Tigray Market Kills At Least 80; Health Workers Blocked By Ethiopian Military.
- African Nations Promise Military Support To Mozambique Over Insurgency Threat.
- Ivory Coast Sentenced Former Prime Minister Soro To Life Imprisonment.
- Mauritania Arrests Former President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz On Corruption Charges.

## THE BIG PICTURE

- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

## WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

- Today's Events In Washington.

### **Wray Asks Congress For \$40M To Counter Ransomware Attacks.**

The Hill (6/23, Miller, 5.69M) reports FBI Director Wray "told a Senate panel that a request for a \$40 million increase in its cybersecurity budget for the upcoming fiscal year would go in part towards combating increasing and damaging ransomware attacks." Wray said to the Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, "Our budget request, the enhancements we requested, include 155 positions and \$40 million for cyber, and a huge part of that will be going very much to the ransomware campaign that we are working on." He later "noted that the FBI is currently investigating over 100 types of ransomware variations, each of which he said had 'scores and scores of victims,' and that enhancing the FBI's ability to address ransomware attacks is a top priority."

Reuters (6/23, Lynch) reports that Director Wray "pleaded with public companies and other hacking victims to avoid paying ransom, saying he fears it will only embolden cyber criminals to ramp up future attacks. 'In general, we would discourage paying the ransom because it encourages more of these attacks, and frankly, there is no guarantee whatsoever that you are going to get your data back,' Wray testified before a U.S. Senate appropriations panel." Wray "said on Wednesday that the FBI is seeing increasingly sophisticated types of ransomware attacks and that cyber thieves have been demanding larger sums of money. 'We've seen the total volume of the money paid I think triple over the last year or so,' Wray said. He said companies and municipal governments who become victims of ransomware attacks should consider going to the FBI as soon as possible, and not wait. 'When they do, there's all kinds of things that we can do,' Wray said."

***Wray Seeks Funds To Boost FBI Staffing.*** Government Executive (6/23, Bubl , 29K) reports that on Wednesday, FBI Director Wray "defended the Biden administration's requested fiscal 2022 budget boost for additional staffing to better address pressing cyber, terrorism and foreign threats." Wray "said before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies he is 'extremely proud' of the 'men and women who tackle these threats and challenges every day.' Therefore, he said he 'would like to express my appreciation for the support you have given them in the past, ask for your continued support in the future and pledge to be the best possible stewards of the resources you provide.'"

### **Biden Announces Plan To Counter Rising Gun Violence.**

The Washington Post (6/22, Linskey, 10.52M) reports President Biden on Wednesday "laid out an anti-crime strategy from the White House that cracks down on gun stores that don't follow federal rules, steps up programs for recently released convicts and provides more support for police departments across the country." The Post describes his speech as coming amid "a spike in homicides across the country" and casts it as "an attempt by the White House to show it is being proactive on an issue that historically has been politically difficult for Democrats, and to refocus attention on its efforts to beef up gun regulations."

Likewise, the New York Times (6/23, Kanno-Youngs, 20.6M) says Biden's announcement "propel[s] the White House into the politically contentious debate over how to address a rise in violent crime in many U.S. cities." The Times adds the President "also directed the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to revoke the licenses of gun dealers 'the first time that they violate federal law' by failing to run background checks."

CNBC (6/23, Wilkie, 7.34M) reports on its website that Biden and Attorney General Garland "announced tougher enforcement policies for federal gun control laws, as well as new guidelines to help cities and states make better use of federal Covid relief funding to combat gun violence, including by hiring police officers." CNBC adds the President and Garland "also held a meeting Wednesday with the mayors of Baltimore and Miami, the police chief of Baton Rouge, La., and several other stakeholders to discuss crime prevention."

The Hill (6/23, Samuels, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports Biden "reiterated his call for Congress to pass an expansion of background checks for firearm purchases and a federal ban on assault

weapons to curb gun violence, despite little progress on those policies in a gridlocked Washington." On its website, Fox News (6/23, Phillips, 23.99M) reports Biden "also took aim at an argument used by Second Amendment advocates, that the right to self-defense needed to protect against potential government tyranny."

The AP (6/23, Long) reports that while Biden said his Administration is "taking on the bad actors doing bad things to our communities," questions "persist about how effective the efforts can be in what could be a turbulent summer." According to the AP, the issue is mired in "tricky politics," and "Biden's plan shows how few options the Democratic president has on the issue." Axios (6/23, Chen, 1.26M) reports the proposals "follow Biden's initial executive actions, which were announced in April after weeks of high-profile mass shootings," but Administration officials "emphasized that 'no one size fits all' and said states and cities should invest in the tools that make sense for their communities."

On CNN's Situation Room (6/23, 613K), Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council Director Susan Rice said the President "outlined a comprehensive gun-crime prevention strategy." Rice added, "Beyond those measures, he made it very clear that there are billions of dollars in the American Rescue Plan...that can be and should be used to prevent and respond to crime. ... It also can be used for important strategies to tackle crime at its root causes: employment...mental help...social workers." Rice also addressed GOP criticism that the spike in violent crime is the result of anti-police budget cuts in Democratic-led cities, saying, "President Biden's approach is not to defund the police. He has been very explicit in opposing that. He wants to invest in our communities and in safety – that includes investing in public safety and giving police and police forces the resources they need – but it's much broader than that because you can't just deal with this problem through law enforcement. You need to deal with the root causes."

Politico (6/23, Korecki, Cadelago, 6.73M) says that for a White House "intensely focused on stamping out Covid-19 and shepherding trillions of dollars in spending on infrastructure and social-welfare programs through Congress, the violence presents a host of challenges that administration officials have so far struggled to get their arms around. First and foremost: determining how to stanch the bloodshed without exacerbating existing tensions on policing or hampering criminal justice reform efforts – a top Democratic priority."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/23) reports the Administration "faces growing impatience from gun-safety activists that want Biden to act more quickly to combat gun violence after he campaigned on a pledge to act against the 'epidemic' on the first day" of his presidency. USA Today (6/23, Garrison, 12.7M) reports that Biden "has been unable to gain Republican support in Congress to pass sweeping gun control legislation." According to USA Today, "Republicans plan to seize on the crime surge – and the 'defund the police' mantra of some liberals – to attack Democrats in a bid to take back control of the House and Senate in the 2022 midterm elections."

Axios (6/23, Allen, VandeHei, 1.26M) reports that "in private and public," Democrats are "warning that rising crime – and the old and new progressive calls to defund the police – represent the single biggest threat to their electoral chances in 2022." Bloomberg (6/23, Wingrove, Fabian, 3.57M) says that polls "signal growing unease over crime, a potential liability for Biden and Democrats in next year's midterm elections. A Yahoo News/YouGov poll released in May found that nearly 50% of respondents said crime is a very big problem in the U.S." In that poll, "About 36% of respondents at least somewhat approved of Biden's handling of crime, while 44% at least somewhat disapproved." Bloomberg adds, "The perception that Democrats are too cavalier about public safety led to the passage of the 1994 crime bill, which Biden supported as a senator. Biden came under fire during the 2020 campaign over his backing of the law, which civil-rights activists have decried as hitting Black and Brown Americans disproportionately hard." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Parti, Collins, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) as well as CNN (6/23, Wolf, 89.21M) and Fox News (6/23, Steinhilber, 23.99M) analyses provide similar coverage.

***Graham: Biden "Kowtowing" To "Most Radical People In The US" On Crime.*** Fox News (6/23, 23.99M) reports on its website that Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-SC) "slammed...Biden for 'kowtowing to the far-left' on crime during 'The Story with Martha MacCallum' Wednesday, arguing the 'modern' Democratic Party is 'anti-cop.'"

***Major Cities Record Large Increases In Homicides, Assaults This Year.*** On ABC

World News Tonight (6/23, story 3, 1:57, Muir, 5.89M), Mary Bruce reported, "32 cities have seen a rise in homicides and assaults so far this year, and when you look at some of the nation's biggest cities, homicides in New York up 13.5% since last year. Los Angeles up 22%, and Houston, 24%." On NBC Nightly News (6/23, story 5, 3:04, Holt, 4.91M), Kelly O'Donnell reported that in Portland, homicides are "up a staggering 530 percent this year. Philadelphia on track to see a new record for murder. Atlanta, homicides jumped 41 percent over last year." Likewise, Nancy Cordes reported on the CBS Evening News (6/23, story 4, 2:22, O'Donnell, 3.64M), "In the first quarter of this year, homicide rates in 34 US cities were up 24% from last year, 49% from the year before, and that's before the traditional summer spike."

***San Francisco Police Blame Rising Crime On Having Too Few Officers, Repeat Offenders.*** CNN (6/23, Simon, 89.21M) reports on its website that San Francisco has been "gripped" by "a recent spate of brazen property crimes...since tourism picked back up. It's one of a handful of interwoven crises that San Francisco is facing as it casts away Covid-19 limits," which include "surges in violent crime to a housing crunch to confronting mental health and substance abuse emergencies." CNN adds that from the perspective of the San Francisco Police Department, "recent crime problems boil down to two factors: not enough cops on the street and a revolving door of criminals."

***Former NRA President, Gun Rights Advocate Speak At Fake High School Graduation For Kids Killed By Gun Violence.*** The Hill (6/23, Pitofsky, 5.69M) reports in its "Briefing Room" blog that former NRA President David Keene and author and gun rights activist John Lott "both unknowingly delivered commencement speeches at a fake high school graduation that represented thousands of children who died from gun violence before they could graduate alongside the class of 2021." According to The Hill, "The speeches were organized by the group Change the Ref, which was founded by Manuel and Patricia Oliver, whose son was killed in the 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla."

***Sen. Cotton Accuses Biden Of Stacking DOJ With "Radicals."*** Fox News (6/23, Keene, 23.99M) reports, "Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., accused President Biden of stacking the Department of Justice (DOJ) with 'radicals' aiming to defund law enforcement across America as the nation sees a rise in crime." Cotton "retweeted a video on Monday of Fox News' Peter Doocy questioning White House press secretary Jen Psaki on Tuesday about the rise of violent crime across America. In the tweet, the senator accused Biden of packing the DOJ with anti-police extremists looking to defund law enforcement. 'Biden has stacked the Department of Justice with radicals who want to defund the police,' Cotton wrote." Cotton "expanded on his tweet in a Wednesday statement to Fox News, blasting Biden's controversial senior DOJ officials Kristen Clarke and Vanita Gupta as the 'anti-police radicals' in question."

## CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

### **Indiana Woman Is First Person Sentenced In Capitol Siege Probe.**

The New York Times (6/23, Feuer, 20.6M) reports District Judge Royce C. Lamberth on Wednesday sentenced "the first person...in connection with the riot at the Capitol," but the 49-year-old Indiana woman "will serve no time in prison after reaching an agreement with the government and pleading guilty...to a misdemeanor disorderly conduct charge." The Times says that in the "unusual hearing where she admitted guilt and was immediately sentenced," Anna Morgan-Lloyd "expressed remorse for her role in the attack of Jan. 6," and she "apologized to the court, her family and the 'American people,' saying it was wrong to have entered the Capitol even though she hurt no one, broke nothing and was inside for only about 10 minutes." Politico (6/23, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports Morgan-Lloyd will "serve 36 months probation, do 40 hours of community service and pay \$500 in restitution for damage incurred when demonstrators supporting former President Donald Trump stormed the Capitol in a bid to block Congress from certifying Joe Biden's victory in the November election."

However, the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports Judge Lamberth "castigated Republican lawmakers on Wednesday for downplaying the violence of the mob that stormed the

Capitol on Jan. 6, saying in handing down the first sentence to a charged defendant that those who break the law must pay a penalty." He said, "I'm especially troubled by the accounts of some members of Congress that January 6 was just a day of tourists walking through the Capitol." He added, "I don't know what planet they were on." Lamberth continued, "This was not a peaceful demonstration. It was not an accident that it turned violent; it was intended to halt the very functioning of our government." [Reuters](#) (6/23) notes Lamberth "was appointed by former President Ronald Reagan – one of the heroes of the Republican Party."

### **Second Alleged Oath Keepers Member Pleads Guilty To Felony Charges From Jan. 6 Riot.**

The [Washington Post](#) (6/23, Hsu, 10.52M) says Graydon Young, 55, of Englewood, Florida on Wednesday became the "second alleged member of the Oath Keepers involved in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot" to plead guilty "to reduced charges and agreed to cooperate with U.S. prosecutors in hopes of lowering a recommended six-year prison term." The Post reports Young "admitted to two federal felony counts, including conspiracy and obstructing Congress's confirmation of the results of the 2020 presidential election."

[Bloomberg](#) (6/23, 3.57M) says Young "admitted to working with fellow Oath Keepers to storm the building in a military-style formation and said he would assist the government in its continuing investigation." [Reuters](#) (6/23, Hosenball) reports Young "agreed to cooperate with investigators as part of his plea deal," and when questioned by US District Judge Amit Mehta "about the extent of his possible cooperation, Young agreed to give grand jury testimony and to be interviewed by law enforcement investigators without his lawyers being present." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (6/23, Levy, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provided similar coverage, as did a brief [ABC World News Tonight](#) (6/23, story 5, 0:53, Muir, 5.89M) segment.

Meanwhile, Kris Van Cleave reported on the [CBS Evening News](#) (6/23, story 6, 2:02, O'Donnell, 3.64M) that while the defendants were in court, "video from January 6, just obtained by CBS News from the body camera of DC police officer Michael Fanone. He was pulled into the crowd, tased and beaten unconscious. He suffered a heart attack and a brain injury." Van Cleave also showed another "just-released video as rioters fight with police, knocking officers to the ground."

The [AP](#) (6/23, Richer, Kunzelman) says the cases "signal that [prosecutions of] those charged in the deadly siege are slowly advancing, even as the U.S. Department of Justice and the courthouse in Washington, D.C., struggle under the weight of roughly 500 federal arrests across the U.S. And it comes as Republicans in Washington attempt to downplay the violence committed by members of the mob supporting...Trump."

### **Judge Denies Bail For Proud Boys Supporter Over Weapons Cache, Capitol Riot Threats.**

[Reuters](#) (6/23, Stempel) reports, "A Proud Boys supporter accused of keeping a large weapons cache and making social media threats tied to the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol was denied bail on Wednesday, despite evidence of what his lawyer said were signs of chronic kidney disease." US Magistrate Judge Lois Bloom in Brooklyn "said Eduard Florea 'presents a significant danger to the community,' and should not be released into confinement at his mother's Bronx, New York home on \$100,000 bond as his lawyer requested." Florea, "a 40-year-old married father of two, has been detained in a Brooklyn jail since January, when he pleaded not guilty to being a felon in possession of ammunition and making online threats. Prosecutors said an FBI search of his home in the Middle Village section of Queens found more than 900 rounds of ammunition, 72 military-style combat knives, two hatchets and two swords."

### **Proud Boys Leader To Remain Jailed Pending Trial In Capitol Siege Probe.**

[USA Today](#) (6/23, Phillips, 12.7M) reports, "A federal judge ordered Proud Boys leader Charles Donohoe to remain in jail pending trial, rejecting his defense attorneys' arguments that the North Carolina man isn't a danger to the public and didn't have a leadership role in planning the violent attack on the Capitol on Jan. 6. 'Mr. Donohoe is charged with interfering in the nation's peaceful transfer of power,' U.S. District Judge Timothy Kelly said during a detention hearing Wednesday,

adding that the charges are 'gravely serious matters that favor detention.'" Donohoe, of Kernersville, North Carolina, "is among several Proud Boys leaders who were charged with conspiring to disrupt a joint session of Congress to count state-certified Electoral College votes. Others include Ethan Nordean and Joseph Biggs whom Kelly had previously ordered to remain in jail pending trial. The Justice Department has so far charged more than 500 people for their alleged involvement in storming the Capitol on Jan. 6."

### **Three Pennsylvania Men Charged In Capitol Siege Probe.**

The Greensburg (PA) Tribune-Review (6/23, Varine) reports, "A Westmoreland County man and two others from Beaver County are among the latest to face charges related to the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. Capitol." Samuel C. Fox of Scottdale, Mitchell P. Vukich of New Brighton and Nicholas Perretta of Baden "all face charges related to the incident. An officer patrolling the Bridgeport Dam on Tuesday night spotted a group there after dark, said Chief Henry Fontana of the Westmoreland County Park Police. Fox was with the group and authorities learned of the federal arrest warrant. 'They checked his ID and got a hit on him,' Fontana said." Fox "is accused of violent entry and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building, knowingly entering a restricted building without lawful authority and related charges."

### **Rep. Biggs Echoes Conspiracy Theory Blaming FBI For Capitol Siege.**

The Arizona Republic (6/23, Hansen, 1.05M) reports, "Rep. Andy Biggs is boosting a conspiracy theory spreading in conservative circles that the FBI may have helped instigate the deadly Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol, echoing a report on Fox News last week." Biggs (R-AZ) "noted FBI Director Christopher Wray didn't give credence to such allegations during a recent appearance before the House Judiciary Committee. Even so, Biggs said he wanted more information about the FBI's possible role." The Republic adds, "Appearing Tuesday on conservative commentator Charlie Kirk's radio show, Biggs was asked about allegations that were laid out last week by Fox News pundit Tucker Carlson suggesting unindicted co-conspirators in the probe of the Capitol riot could be people working with the FBI. 'It truly demands answers,' Biggs told Kirk."

## **OPERATION LEGEND**

### **Op-Ed: Launching Operation Legend-Like Initiative Would Be Good Anti-Crime Step.**

Katie Pavlich, "the editor for Townhall.com," argues in an op-ed for The Hill (6/23, 5.69M) that if President Biden wants to reduce violent crime, he should take several steps, including directing Attorney General Garland to launch an anti-crime initiative that is similar to Operation Legend. Pavlich writes about the outcome of that operation, which was launched by Garland's predecessor. According to Pavlich, Operation Legend resulted in the seizure of large amounts of illegal drugs.

## **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

### **Neo-Nazi Pleads Guilty To Unregistered Firearm Possession.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports Paul Miller, who "went by 'GypsyCrusader' online," was arrested by the FBI on March 2 following a raid because agents "discovered a rifle and almost 850 rounds of ammunition." He "pleaded guilty to three felony counts for possession of an unregistered firearm and ammunition and possession of a weapon as a felon" on Tuesday, and he "faces a maximum of 30 years in federal prison." Miller had "been cited by watchdog groups as an extremist using social media to spread racist, antisemitic and homophobic ideology," and the Anti-Defamation League "mentioned him in a blog post about 'extremist troll' on Omegle, labeling him a 'Florida-based white supremacist.'"

### **Live Grenade Found At Ohio Residence.**

Fox News (6/23, Ruiz, 23.99M) reports, "Ohio deputies responded to a private home for reports of a live grenade Tuesday night. 'Duct tape does not fix everything,' the Darke County Sheriff's Office

wrote in a Facebook post that included an image of the grenade with its spoon taped down." Fox News adds, "Authorities said the Wright-Patterson Bomb Squad detonated the device safely and reported no injuries. 'We ask the public if an explosive device is located, please call the Sheriff's Office immediately,' authorities said in a statement. 'Always remember any explosive device can become unstable even by picking it up.'" According to Fox News, "The new discovery comes two weeks after a utility crew in Arkansas found another grenade buried in a residential neighborhood in Conway. 'Conway Police, FBI, and US Air Force EOD responded to the area as well, and the device was safely removed,' the Conway Fire Department said at the time."

### **Bomb Squad Deploys To Connecticut Jewish Center After Threat.**

The New Haven (CT) Independent (6/23) reports that in Connecticut on Tuesday, "three hundred campers and other young people were evacuated from the Jewish Community Center and sent home as investigators looked into a phoned bomb threat – and found there was no bomb." The Independent explains "an anonymous caller began spouting anti-Semitic comments and made a threat about bombing the facility." The Center "promptly evacuated" its campus. "Agents from the FBI and local and state police, along with bomb-sniffing dogs, arrived to check out the premises and confirm no explosives were present."

### **Bomb Experts Clear Federal Court Building In Alabama After Suspicious Package Scare.**

WSFA-TV Montgomery, AL (6/23, 34K) reports "bomb experts determined a package, or some type of container, left at the federal courthouse" in Dothan, Alabama "does not pose a threat." The Dothan (AL) Eagle (6/23, Riley, 75K) reports the package was in fact a briefcase that contained "medical papers and magazines." The Eagle notes that the ATF, FBI, US Marshal's Service, and Dothan Police Department investigated the case.

## **COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE**

### **SOCOM Linguist Sentenced Following Terrorism Espionage Conviction.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Hsu, 10.52M) reports former SOCOM linguist Mariam Taha "was sentenced Wednesday to 23 years in prison in a rare terrorism espionage case, after she admitted she turned over names of informants and other classified data to a Lebanese man with ties to the militant group Hezbollah." She "pleaded guilty on March 26 to delivering national defense information to aid a foreign government," and prosecutors "alleged that she passed the information to a man with whom she fell in love, believing it would assist Lebanese Hezbollah, a U.S. designated terrorist group."

### **Sources Say Trump DOJ's Leak Investigation Targeted Staffers, Not Lawmakers.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Viswanatha, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports sources say the 2018 investigation by the Trump Administration's DOJ which included a subpoena of some Democratic lawmakers' communications records targeted congressional staffers who allegedly disclosed classified information to the press – not the lawmakers themselves.

*Rubin: Garland's Inaction On Trump DOJ Misconduct Shows He Is Wrong For Job.*

Jennifer Rubin writes in the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) that by "refusing to examine what occurred in the last administration," Attorney General Garland "is protecting former attorney general William P. Barr and his political hacks who intervened in prosecutions, looked the other way when a whistleblower revealed the disgraced former president's attempt to extort Ukraine, played along with phony accusations of election fraud and likely misrepresented facts in the census case that was before the Supreme Court." Garland "is also sheltering former president Donald Trump from investigation, since the only way to understand the extent of his effort to subvert the election is to examine in minute detail his interactions with the Justice Department." Rubin concludes Garland "is not the right person for his job, which requires determination to clean house and reestablish the highest standards for the department."

*Sargent: Biden Administration's Reluctance To Address Trump Corruption Is*



**Disappointing.** Greg Sargent writes for the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) that Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) told MSNBC this week "that he plans to introduce new legislation that will safeguard against the sort of epic corruption that former president Donald Trump brought to, well, just about every area of government he laid his hands upon," and "noted that he's been getting some 'pushback from the administration' about this effort." Sargent says the comment "again raises questions about how far the new administration will prove willing to go to undertake a full fumigation of Trump-era corruption and misdeeds. So far, by some indications, the answer has been disappointing." While the Administration "may well end up getting this right...Schiff's comments suggest vigilance is advised."

#### **Fourth Circuit Upholds CIA, NSA Pre-Publication Review Process.**

Law360 (6/23, Subscription Publication, 9K) reports the Fourth Circuit on Wednesday "upheld the constitutionality of the government's decades-old prepublication review system, agreeing that the regime blocking former military and intelligence officials from disclosing classified or secretive information in books or articles without first obtaining approval is reasonable." The unanimous ruling by "a three-judge panel is a blow to five former military and intelligence officials, represented by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, who sought to strike down the review system in its entirety."

Reuters (6/23, Wiessner) reports a US appeals court on Wednesday "said the Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense and two other federal agencies do not violate former employees' free-speech rights by requiring them to seek review before publishing information that could be classified or otherwise implicate national security."

#### **Treasury's OFAC Sees Significant Regulatory Shift Under Biden.**

Law360 (6/23, Subscription Publication, 9K) reports the first months of the Biden Administrations has "seen significant regulatory developments with respect to the economic sanctions programs administered by the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control." By contrast, OFAC enforcement "through the initial months of 2021 has been relatively modest, consistent with the final year of the Trump administration." The enforcement actions "announced to date continue to underscore OFAC's broad interpretation of its extraterritorial jurisdiction, an accelerating trend that has spanned multiple administrations."

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

#### **Jury Selection Begins In Trial Of Capital Gazette Newsroom Shooter.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Davies, Mettler, 10.52M) reports jury selection has begin in the trial of Jarrod Ramos, "the man who blasted through the glass doors of the Capital Gazette newsroom in Annapolis three years ago and fatally shot five of its employees." Ramos has "pleaded guilty to committing the mass shooting but said he should not be held criminally responsible because of a mental disorder." Ramos faces "life behind bars" or commitment "to a state hospital for an indefinite period."

#### **Chauvin To Be Sentenced Friday.**

USA Today (6/23, Abdollah, 12.7M) reports former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin, who was convicted of second- and third-degree murder and second degree manslaughter in the death of George Floyd, "will face a Minnesota judge Friday and receive a sentence of up to 30 years in prison." Although he is a first-time offender, "Hennepin County District Judge Peter Cahill found that Chauvin should face a higher sentence because his crimes involved abusing his position of trust and authority and killing Floyd in the presence of children, among other aggravating factors." While Chauvin's defense attorney Eric Nelson "asked for probation or far less prison time," prosecutors "argued that Chauvin deserves the maximum penalty for actions that 'traumatized Mr. Floyd's family, the bystanders who watched Mr. Floyd die and the community. And his conduct shocked the nation's conscience.'"



### **Connecticut Man Gets Prison Time For Selling Fentanyl, Crack.**

The [Connecticut Post](#) (6/22, O'Neill, 310K) reports Connecticut resident Joshua Jenkins has been sentenced to 21 months "in federal prison for selling fentanyl and crack cocaine." The sentence comes after gun-related violence in Hartford led to a law enforcement response that included the "FBI Northern Connecticut Gang Task Force" and the DEA. Investigators who were involved with that response targeted "gang-related drug sales and associated violence in" Hartford.

### **Judge Threatens To Throw Out Guilty Plea In DEA Agent's Corruption Case.**

The [AP](#) (6/23, Goodman, Mustian) reports US District Judge Charlene Edwards Honeywell on Wednesday "threatened to throw out the guilty plea of a veteran U.S. narcotics agent who conspired with a Colombian cartel money launderer." Honeywell "was expected to sentence the disgraced agent, Jose I. Irizarry, but refused to do so over what she called a 'totally unacceptable' legal dispute." The AP says the dispute is "over whether the money Irizarry raided from undercover DEA accounts amounted to a misuse of government funds, as Irizarry contends, or the laundering of drug proceeds – a more serious offense that could add a decade to what was already expected to be a lengthy prison sentence." the AP calls Honeywell's refusal to impose sentence "an unexpected twist that could derail one of the most egregious misconduct cases in the history of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration."

### **Man Sentenced For Rape In Scotland After Faking His Death In California.**

The [Washington Post](#) (6/23, Paul, 10.52M) reports on Kim Avis of Inverness, Scotland, who police say "may have faked his disappearance on a dangerous California beach to avoid going to prison for rape." Inverness, who was "out on bail for 24 charges, including sexual offenses against children and rape" arrived in Los Angeles in February 2019. He and his son "drove north to Monterey Bay in a rental car" and "nine days later, the Monterey County Sheriff's Office received a call from the teenager, saying his father had gone swimming and never made it back." Chief Deputy John Thornburg said the story was unraveling, and "the final twist in the investigation came two weeks later...when police received a call from" Scotland, saying Avis was wanted there. Avis was found in Colorado and "extradited to Scotland," where he was sentenced "to 12 years in prison for his sexual crimes and three years for not appearing in court in March 2019."

### **FBI, Michigan State Police Arrest Fourth Suspect In Shooting Death Of Flint 3-year-old.**

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (6/23, Keefer, 828K) reports that on Wednesday – after "months of searching" – the FBI and Michigan State Police arrested Shamir Banks, the fourth suspect in the shooting death of 3-year-old Messiah Williams on October 22, 2020. MLive explains that Messiah was shot in the head while in his home after the suspects opened fire from outside.

### **Multi-agency Human Trafficking Investigation Nabs Two In Boston.**

The [East Boston Times-Free Press](#) (6/23) reports that last week, a joint operation between the Boston Police, the Arlington Police and the FBI led to the arrests of Marquis Campbell and Kayleigh Santos, a Rhode Island resident, in Boston on human trafficking charges.

### **FBI Participation In Operation Iron Tide Training Exercise Noted.**

[WIOD-FM](#) Miami (6/23, Rodriguez, 439) reports that as the cruise industry resumes operations, multiple South Florida first responders participated in an active shooter training exercise as part of Operation Iron Tide. WIOD notes the FBI, Broward County Sheriff's Office, Coast Guard and Miami-Dade Fire Rescues "are all working together on the ground, on the water and in the air in a full-scale exercise trying to stop an active shooter on a large party boat about a mile off the Dania Beach Pier."

### **Texas Man Behind Child Obscenity Website Gets 40 Years.**

The [Washington Examiner](#) (6/23, Beaman, 888K) reports in Texas on Tuesday, a federal court sentenced Thomas Alan Arthur to 40 years in prison "after being convicted of running a website

that published materials depicting sexual abuse against children." Arthur's website, "Mr. Double," charged fees for users to access "writings detailing the rape, torture, and murder of infants and toddlers. Some drawings depicted children engaged in sexually explicit conduct." Arthur was also accused of sexually assaulting two females and molesting a young girl. The Examiner quotes FBI Special Agent in Charge Jeffrey Coburn as saying, "This repugnant exploitation of innocent children has no place in society. The FBI will vigorously pursue anyone that profits on the publishing of visual and textual depictions of the sexual abuse and murder of children."

### **Navy Vet Convicted In 1984 Florida Murder Now Faces Charges For Unsolved Murder In Hawaii.**

WFTV-TV Orlando, FL (6/22, Bonvillian, 272K) reports that on Friday, Thomas Lewis Garner has been indicted for the 1982 killing of Kathy Warnette Hicks. WFTV says Garner's indictment comes just 43 days into his life sentence for the 1984 murder of a Navy recruit. According to WFTV, "Garner's DNA, which had been collected in the Cahanes case and entered into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System," tied him to Hicks' murder.

### **Florida Man Pleads Guilty To Gun Charges.**

WSVN-TV Miami-Dade, FL (6/23, 39K) reports that Paul Miller has pleaded guilty to weapon charges. WSVN explains that Miller, who has "expressed hatred for Jews, Blacks and the LGBTQ community," was the target of a March raid in Fort Lauderdale by the FBI's terrorism task force. "The FBI said they picked him up because he is a convicted felon and was in possession of a firearm." The Orlando (FL) Sentinel (6/23, Baitinger, 599K) also reports on Miller's plea.

### **Victims Attorneys Says Feds Probing Louisiana State Police For Racist Abuses.**

The New Orleans Times-Picayune (6/23, Simerman, 691K) reports that according to Lee, the attorney representing the family of Ronald Greene, "a federal investigation into a series of beatings of Black motorists by Monroe-based state troopers has spawned a broader probe into systemic problems within Louisiana State Police." Merritt "said federal authorities last week outlined an expansive investigation into the embattled state agency in a briefing with Greene's family."

### **Trial Set For Louisiana Man Who Lured Gay Man Over Grindr In Attempted Murder Plot.**

The Acadiana (LA) Advocate (6/23) reports that a federal judge has scheduled the trial of Chance Seneca, the Louisiana man accused of using the Grindr dating app "to lure a gay man before attempting to kill him," for March 2022. "The 19-year-old's charges stem from an attack on Holden White...and the targeting of two other men on Grindr, a dating app targeted to gay and bisexual men, the day before White was brutalized, his federal indictment said. The app was referred to as his 'hunting ground.'"

### **Victim's Hijab Is Pulled In Attack On Muslim Women In NYC.**

Newsweek (6/23, Fung, 2.67M) reports "a victim wearing a hijab had her veil pulled in what authorities said was a string of anti-Muslim attacks in New York City." Newsweek says "the first attack took place...when the suspect," who remains at large, followed a man and a woman "while making anti-Muslim statements." Police "said the suspect punched the man in the back and then tugged on the woman's hijab and punched her in the arm." Newsweek continues that in the second attack, which happened just an hour later...the same suspect followed a man and a woman "while making anti-Muslim statements again." The suspect "then attacked the woman, punching her multiple times in the face and head before running off."

### **Louisiana Woman Faces Charges For Soliciting Murder Of Ex's New Boyfriend.**

The AP (6/23) reports that Mykia Tyson, a Louisiana resident, faces charges of soliciting murder after "trying to get four teenagers to kill her former girlfriend's boyfriend." One of the teenagers, Delester Magee, "decided at the last minute against carrying out the plan but did shoot multiple

rounds into the house in Lacombe where Tyson had driven him and three juveniles on June 5."

### **Detroit Police Arrest Person Of Interest In Double Homicide.**

The AP (6/23) reports that Detroit police have arrested a man in connection with "the fatal shootings of two adults found dead inside a home with an unharmed infant." Investigators said "the man surrendered to authorities" after they released his photograph and identified him as a person of interest in the killings on Detroit's northwest side.

### **Two North Carolina Men Get Prison Time For Trafficking Drugs.**

Robesonian (NC) (6/23, 45K) reports North Carolina residents Tushombi Take Wallace and Joel Armando Rodriguez have been sentenced to 96 and 150 months, respectively, in prison "for trafficking drugs." The FBI was involved with the investigation of the Wallace case.

### **Two Suspects Arrested For Allegedly Participating In Maryland Drug Trafficking Ring.**

The Annapolis (MD) Capital Gazette (6/23, Conaway, 85K) reports two unnamed individuals "have been arrested and charged with" participating in a "drug trafficking ring that conspired to distribute heroin, cocaine, crack cocaine and fentanyl" in Maryland. The Capital Gazette highlights the involvement of the DEA and the FBI in the investigation that led to those arrests.

### **Pennsylvania Man Sentenced To Six Years In Prison Following Meth Case Guilty Plea.**

The Pottsville (PA) Republican Herald (6/23, Bortner, 64K) reports Pennsylvania resident Shaquane Scott, who "pleaded guilty to distribution of crystal methamphetamine," has been sentenced to six years in prison. The sentence is the result of an investigation that was conducted by the FBI, the Pennsylvania State Police, and the Schuylkill County Drug Task Force.

### **Massachusetts Drug Investigation Leads To Nine Arrests.**

The Pittsfield (MA) Berkshire Eagle (6/23, Burke, 44K) reports the FBI was involved with a Massachusetts drug investigation that led to nine arrests. The Eagle adds, "Approximately 1,752 grams of cocaine, 80 grams of heroin and 26 grams of assorted pills were recovered" as a result of the investigation. The WRGB-TV Albany, NY (6/23, Staff, 35K) website, the Springfield (MA) Republican (6/23, DeForge, 592K), and the WWLP-TV Springfield, MA (6/23, Asiamah, 453K) also cover this story.

## **FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS**

### **Manafort Banker's Bribery Trial Gets Underway.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Voris, 3.57M) reports banker Stephen Calk, who is "charged with pushing through \$16 million in sketchy loans to Donald Trump's former campaign chief Paul Manafort did it because he was greedy for prestige and power, not for money, a prosecutor told jurors at the start of a criminal bribery trial in Manhattan." Assistant US Attorney Alexandra Rothman said in her opening statement that Calk "wanted a powerful government title and gave out millions of dollars in bank loans to try and get it." The government alleges Calk "used the loans to Manafort as a bribe for help in landing a spot as an adviser on Donald Trump's presidential campaign and, later, for a top job in the Trump administration." Politico (6/23, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports Calk's attorneys "contend that the loans were reasonable given the collateral Manafort was pledging and that there was no linkage between the loans and Calk's ambitions to land a prestigious job in Washington."

### **US Charges Philadelphia Water Department Employee With Stealing Equipment.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer (6/23, Roebuck) reports, "A Philadelphia Water Department supervisor stole more than \$164,000 worth of taxpayer-purchased equipment and sold it at scrapyards for profit, federal authorities said Wednesday." Prosecutors said Thomas Staszak, 46, of Philadelphia "used his coworkers' log-on credentials to submit requests for equipment between 2017 and 2018,

including bales of bulk wire from warehouses the department maintains across the city. The equipment was intended for use repairing and maintaining the city's water systems." The Inquirer adds, "The 11-count indictment charging him with theft and computer fraud also points to irregularities in the Water Department's system for tracking inventory, which Staszak allegedly exploited."

### **Man Awaiting Trial For PPP Fraud Becomes Repeat Offender.**

The New York Times (6/23, Paybarah, 20.6M) reports that a Pennsylvania man "awaiting trial on charges that he fraudulently received more than \$2.5 million in Paycheck Protection Program loans filed an application last month seeking an additional \$500,000 in Covid-19 relief money, the authorities said." According to the Times, the federal government in February seized four of Randy Frasinelli's bank accounts "where that money had been deposited, saying the loan applications were fraudulent. In March, the man submitted a fifth application for a P.P.P. loan, intended to help struggling businesses during the pandemic, and received more than \$1.3 million. In April, he was arrested and charged with bank fraud and money laundering. While he was out on bond, federal officials said, he submitted a sixth loan application." The Times adds Frasinelli on Monday "was arrested again and charged with another count of bank fraud."

### **Judge Blocks FBI From Keeping Cash, Valuables Seized In California Raid.**

The Los Angeles Times (6/23, Finnegan, 3.37M) reports, "A federal judge has blocked the FBI from confiscating some of the valuables it seized from safe deposit boxes at a Beverly Hills business, saying the government appeared to be violating the owners' rights." The Times adds, "The temporary restraining order issued Tuesday by U.S. District Judge R. Gary Klausner marked a setback for the FBI in its attempt to keep as much as \$86 million in cash and millions of dollars more in jewelry, gold and other valuables that agents took from 369 safe deposit boxes at the U.S. Private Vaults store on Olympic Boulevard." The FBI "has claimed the owners of the cash and valuables were engaged in criminal activity that justifies the confiscation of their property. The agency, however, has not publicly disclosed evidence to support the allegation."

### **Federal Prosecutor Urges Public To Be Vigilant As FBI Report Reveals \$10 million In Losses For South Carolina Seniors.**

The Gaffney (SC) Ledger (6/23, 73K) reports that on Wednesday, acting United States Attorney M. Rhett DeHart announced that according to the FBI's 2020 Elder Fraud Report, "1,350 South Carolinians aged 60 or over fell victim to cyber scammers. The report states that these South Carolinians reported losses of nearly \$10 million in 2020." WMBF-TV Myrtle Beach, SC (6/23, 56K) quotes the prosecutor as saying, "'Criminals often prey on those they believe are most susceptible to their schemes.' ... 'Unfortunately, this means our elder neighbors are highly targeted by exploitative cybercriminals. It is critical that all South Carolinians, particularly those over the age of 60, be vigilant of such crimes and that, when and where able, family members assist in protecting their elders to prevent them from falling victim to such crimes.'" WMBF-TV Myrtle Beach, SC (6/23, 56K) also reports.

### **Former Illinois Mayor Gets Two Years For Bribery.**

The Oak Forest (IL) Patch (6/23, 1.44M) reports that a federal court sentenced David Webb, the former mayor of Markham, Illinois, to two years in prison for wire fraud and tax evasion. The ex-mayor had previously admitted to participating in "a \$300,000 bribery scheme while in office." The Patch adds, "authorities said the bribes included payments made through campaign contributions, shell companies and small amounts of cash hidden in coffee cups."

## **CYBER DIVISION**

### **US Cyber Command's Cyber Flag To "Shape New Tactics For Changing Threats."**

Defense News (6/23, Pomerleau, 73K) reports, US Cyber Command will use its Cyber Flag annual

training exercise "this week to codify best practices for defensive cyber teams." Cyber Flag comes "on the heels of Cyber Command's budget request that proposes adding more teams and potentially altering their composition to adapt to a rapidly changing threat landscape." For the first time, "the exercise will help identify characteristics of successful cyber protection teams, which conduct defensive cyberspace operations." This year's exercise, Cyber Flag 21-2, "includes over 430 individuals from 17 teams from the U.S., UK, Canada, National Guard, House of Representatives and U.S. Postal Service and is taking place across eight time zones."

### **NSA Increasing Industry Collaboration In "Major Institutional Shift."**

The Washington Post (6/23, Schaffer, 10.52M) reports the NSA is "evolving into a far more public institution that's eager to cooperate with parts of the private sector." The "most visible symbol of that shift" is the agency's cybersecurity collaboration center "that opened in January and is custom-designed for agency officials to host industry cybersecurity pros and hash out responses to major hacking challenges." The agency has arranged partnerships "with numerous defense and technology companies to make regular visits to the center, said Rob Joyce, director of NSA's Cybersecurity Directorate, although he declined to name the companies or provide a specific number that have joined." The goal is for "some company officials to be based in the center full time, though that has been delayed by the pandemic, Joyce said."

Bloomberg (6/23, Turton, 3.57M) reports the NSA "hopes that increasing partnerships with the private sector will provide insights the agency can't get on its own, said Rob Joyce, the NSA's director of cybersecurity." Joyce explained, "What we get from the private sector is we get reach into places that NSA doesn't go, into that domestic space." The NSA looks to "work with internet service providers, cloud computing companies and cybersecurity firms, said Morgan Adamski, chief of the collaboration center."

CBS News (6/23, Gazis, 5.39M) reports the center is "meant to serve as a gathering point for government and private sector cybersecurity experts to exchange information about hacking threats from adversaries in real time." One of the center's "early mitigation efforts, Adamski said, involved the NSA's disclosure in January of 2020 of a critical vulnerability in Microsoft Windows 10." It was also behind a "subsequent public disclosure, in April, of a series of vulnerabilities in the Microsoft Exchange email app."

### **NSA Announces Mitre-Based Cyber Defense Framework.**

ExecutiveGov (6/23, Martin) reports the NSA has announced a "Mitre-developed framework designed to bolster the cyber resilience of national security systems, as well as the defense industrial base." The NSA-funded D3FEND framework "provides defensive countermeasures that cybersecurity professionals can use against common cyberattacks, NSA said Tuesday." D3FEND complements Mitre's "existing ATT&CK framework, which focuses on the behavior and common tactics employed by malicious cyber actors."

### **EU Outlines Plans For New Joint Cyber Unit.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Uberti, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports the EU plans to establish a joint cybersecurity unit intended to serve as an intelligence hub and to respond to cyberattacks. Reuters (6/23, Chee) reports the European Commission "proposed on Wednesday to pool resources and expertise from the EU's 27 countries for a joint cyber unit to fight online criminals amid a spate of high profile hacks in Europe and worldwide." Commission Vice President Margaritis Schinas said in a statement, "Today, we can no longer distinguish between online and offline threats. We need to pool all our resources to defeat cyber risks and enhance our operational capacity." The cyber unit aims "to be operational by June next year and fully set up in 2023. Funding will come from the Commission's programme for digital technology and potentially from its defence research and development fund." Members of the unit "will come from the EU Agency for Cybersecurity, experts from EU countries, Europol's European Cybercrime Centre, the EU foreign service EEAS and the European Defence Agency."

### **National Guard Holds Cyber Yankee Exercise.**

Defense News (6/23, Pomerleau, 73K) reports in its annual Cyber Yankee exercise, the National Guard hopes to "make it as realistic as possible to help Guardsmen not only improve their cyber skills but collaborate better for holistic response across New England states." To provide a real-life feel, "members of the Guard worked hand in hand with partners in the private sector, just as they would if an actual cyberattack occurred." Participants also practiced "using a new tool in cooperation with Cyber Command called the Cyber 9-Line. It is a channel that allows states' Guard units to pass potential threats to Cyber Command to defeat in foreign cyberspace and conversely provides Cyber Command a way to alert states of potential threats discovered during operations."

### **Deputy Defense Secretary: Military Leaders Concerned About AI Safety.**

NextGov (6/23, Tucker) reports as the Pentagon rapidly "builds and adopts artificial intelligence tools, Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks said military leaders increasingly are worried about a second-hand problem: AI safety." AI safety is often "seen as an afterthought as companies rush to build, sell, and adopt machine learning tools," but DOD "is obligated to put a little more attention into the issue, Hicks said Monday at the Defense One Tech Summit."

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

### **SCOTUS Limits When Police Can Enter A Home Without A Warrant.**

The AP (6/23, Gresko) reports the Supreme Court on Wednesday "put limits on when police officers pursuing a fleeing suspect can enter a home without a warrant." In *Lange v. California*, the Court "ruled that when officers are pursuing someone suspected of a misdemeanor, a less serious crime, they cannot always enter a home without a warrant if a suspect enters."

Reuters (6/23) report says in the 9-0 decision, the court "sent the case back to the California Court of Appeals. The justices rejected the lower court's finding that warrants are not required in any situation in which police are in pursuit, even if the suspected crime is minor." Justice Elena Kagan wrote in the decision, "The flight of a suspected misdemeanant does not always justify a warrantless entry into a home. ... An officer must consider all the circumstances in a pursuit case to determine whether there is a law enforcement emergency." While the justices "were unanimous in tossing out the lower court decision, there was some disagreement among them on the law. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in a separate opinion joined by fellow conservative Justice Samuel Alito that police should be able to complete an arrest when they are in pursuit of someone, even if the suspect enters a home."

### **Scott Says Lawmakers Nearing Agreement On Policing Overhaul.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Litvan, Dennis, 3.57M) reports Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) "said negotiations on legislation to overhaul policing practices in the U.S. are closing in on an agreement that could come as soon as Thursday." Scott, who "has been working with two Democrats, Senator Cory Booker of New Jersey and Representative Karen Bass, of California on a bill to make law enforcement officers more accountable for injuries and deaths they cause," said, "I don't think there's outstanding issues that need to be worked out, we just need to agree on the actual language that we're using." Booker said talks are "making progress" but he "declined to say whether a deal was imminent."

***NYC To Train Entire Police Force In De-Escalation.*** The Washington Post (6/23, Jackman, 10.52M) reports new York City's police department announced Wednesday that "it will train all 35,000 of its officers in de-escalation, using the Police Executive Research Forum's 'Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics' approach to reduce violent encounters and injuries to both officers and citizens."

***Judge Strikes Down New York City's Police Chokehold Ban.*** The New York Times (6/23, Watkins, Southall, 20.6M) reports New York state Supreme Court Judge Laurence Love "struck down a [New York City] law banning police officers' use of chokeholds and other physical restraints on Tuesday, saying the wording of the law was 'unconstitutionally vague.'" Police unions "sued the city last fall over its passage," arguing the language "was overly broad...and made it

nearly impossible for officers to physically engage suspects, even if the use of force was in good faith." Love agreed and wrote in his ruling, "The phrase 'compresses the diaphragm' cannot be adequately defined as written." Love "encouraged the city to revise its law, and Mayor Bill de Blasio, at his daily news conference on Wednesday, urged lawmakers to move quickly to do so."

### **Lawmakers Moving Forward With Push To Overhaul Military Sexual Assault Prosecutions.**

Reuters (6/23) reports members of Congress from both parties "said on Wednesday they would press ahead with efforts to overhaul how the military prosecutes sexual assault and related crimes, while welcoming Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin's unprecedented support for the shift." The lawmakers "announced the introduction in the House of Representatives of legislation to shift prosecution of such cases from the chain of command and make it the responsibility of trained military prosecutors." Companion legislation "is co-sponsored by two-thirds of the Senate, although it has been held up by opposition from the Democratic and Republican leaders of the Senate Armed Services Committee." Advocates have called "for commanders to be taken out of the decision-making process when it comes to prosecuting the thousands of cases of sexual assault and related crimes among service members every year." Austin "said on Tuesday he supported the change and would work with Congress to make changes."

The CBS Evening News<sup>8</sup> reported, "In letters to the Senate Armed Services Committee, members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff expressed concerns about breaking the chain of command, but seemed to acknowledge this will happen with or without them." NBC Nightly News<sup>9</sup> provided similar coverage Wednesday evening.

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

### **McAfee Found Dead In Spanish Jail Cell.**

The AP (6/23, Parra) reports John David McAfee, creator of McAfee antivirus software, "was found dead in his jail cell near Barcelona in an apparent suicide Wednesday." The Washington Post (6/23, Rifkin, 10.52M) says McAfee was found "hours after a Spanish court issued a preliminary ruling authorizing his extradition to the United States on tax evasion charges." Reuters (6/23) reports, "McAfee's lawyer, Javier Villalba, said the anti-virus software pioneer died by hanging as his nine months in prison brought him to despair."

The New York Times (6/23, Marcos, 20.6M) reports McAfee "was arrested in Spain in 2020 after prosecutors in the United States accused him of not filing tax returns from 2014 to 2018." McAfee "resisted extradition to the United States, claiming he faced political persecution by U.S. authorities in part because he opposed the fiat money system. But on Wednesday, the Spanish court said it would allow the Justice Department's request to extradite him." NBC Nightly News<sup>9</sup> provided similar coverage.

## **OTHER FBI NEWS**

### **Administration Officials Consider Removal Of Bureau Of Prisons Director, Sources Say.**

According to the AP (6/23, Balsamo, Sisak), "Senior Biden administration officials have discussed whether to remove the holdover director of the beleaguered federal Bureau of Prisons who has been at the center of the agency's myriad crises." Two sources told the AP that the discussions "about whether to fire Michael Carvajal are in the preliminary stages and a final decision hasn't yet been made," but "there's an indication that the bureau is shaking up its senior ranks following growing criticism of chronic mismanagement, blistering reports from the Justice Department's inspector general and a bleak financial outlook."

### **Rep. Gaetz Tweets "Defund The FBI" Then Deletes It Amid Probe.**

Newsweek (6/23, Hill, 2.67M) reports, "Representative Matt Gaetz called for the FBI to be

defunded by Democrats in a tweet on Wednesday, and then deleted it immediately. 'If Democrats want to defund the police, they should start with the FBI,' the tweet read." Newsweek "has reached out to Rep. Gaetz's team for comment but did not hear back by publication time. It is unclear why Gaetz deleted the tweet a minute after posting it." Gaetz (R-FL) "is currently being investigated by the FBI for allegations that he violated sex trafficking laws and allegedly paid a 17-year-old to have sex with him, The New York Times first reported back in late March. Gaetz has denied these allegations and has not been charged."

## OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

### **Walensky Says Delta Variant Accounts For One Fifth Of COVID Cases In US.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Chen, 3.57M) reports CDC Director Walensky on Wednesday warned "the delta variant is spreading rapidly in the U.S. and now accounts for a fifth of recent coronavirus cases." In an appearance at the Milken Institute Future of Health Summit, Walensky warned "the rapid growth in the delta variant, which first emerged in India, was seen after the strain accounted for just 3% of cases analyzed several weeks ago." In an interview with NBC Nightly News (6/23, story 2, 2:56, Holt, 4.91M), Walensky said, "What we're finding is this Delta Variant is even more transmissible than the UK variant. Not only is it more transmissible, but there is some concern that it may lead to more severe illness or watching that very carefully." Walensky added, "The data that we have so far are that the mRNA vaccines, if you received both doses, they should work very well against the Delta variant. Their early data from the UK that if you only received one dose it may not be as protective, and we are encouraging everybody to not only get the first dose of the vaccine and also get the second dose of the vaccine. The AstraZeneca vaccine also looks like it's protective against a severe and deadly disease. We are looking at examining the data for the J&J, vaccine here."

Meanwhile, CNBC (6/23, Kopecki, 7.34M) reports on its website that NIAID Director Fauci on NBC's Today "said...the delta variant now accounts for roughly 20% of newly diagnosed cases in the U.S. and will become the dominant Covid strain in the nation in a matter of weeks." Fauci is quoted as saying, "It just exploded in the U.K. It went from a minor variant to now more than 90% of the isolates in the U.K. ... So you would expect, just the doubling time, you know, in several weeks to a month or so it's going to be quite dominant, that's the sobering news." Fauci also appeared on CBS This Morning (6/23, 2.32M).

On ABC World News Tonight (6/23, lead story, 4:38, Muir, 5.89M), Eva Pilgrim reported, "Just a third of 18 to 24-year-olds have been vaccinated. That age group now experiencing one of the highest rates of infection. Hospitals in Missouri are seeing it up close. The more contagious Delta variant now in at least 48 states, accounting for nearly half of all infections across parts of the west and Midwest."

The Washington Post (6/23, Cha, Adam, Guarino, Bernstein, 10.52M) reports that "the rapid spread of the delta variant of the coronavirus is poised to divide the United States again, with highly vaccinated areas continuing toward post-pandemic freedom and poorly vaccinated regions threatened by greater caseloads and hospitalizations, health officials warned this week." According to a Washington Post (6/23, Bump, 10.52M) analysis, "the partisan reticence to get vaccinated shows up in the actual vaccine numbers. Washington Post analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows an obvious correlation between 2020 presidential vote and vaccinations."

In an editorial, the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) says that while the US will fall short of President Biden's goal of 70% of the country to be vaccinated by July Fourth, "the current level of vaccine immunity is insufficient to end the pandemic in the United States." According to the Post, COVID has "become far more contagious" via the Delta variant, so "the goal posts must move." The Post contends that to "really end the pandemic, a chunk of the unvaccinated in the United States must gain immunity, and the best way is through vaccines."

*Missouri Becomes "Cautionary Tale" Of Importance Of COVID Vaccinations As Cases Grow.* The AP (6/23, Hollingsworth) reports, "As the U.S. emerges from the COVID-19



crisis, Missouri is becoming a cautionary tale for the rest of the country: It is seeing an alarming rise in cases because of a combination of the fast-spreading delta variant and stubborn resistance among many people to getting vaccinated." The AP adds, "Intensive care beds are filling up with surprisingly young, unvaccinated patients, and staff members are getting burned out fighting a battle that was supposed to be in its final throes." They "hope among some health leaders is that the rest of the U.S. might at least learn something from Missouri's plight." On the CBS Evening News (6/23, lead story, 3:26, O'Donnell, 3.64M), Omar Villfranca reported that in parts of Missouri, hospitalizations "are up more than 160% in just the last month. One doctor here tells me he's seeing young people getting very sick who are not vaccinated, and that's why the CDC...still wants teens to get vaccinated."

### **Health Officials Urge Americans To Get Vaccinated Despite New Warning.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Griffin, 3.57M) reports US health officials "sought to reassure Americans that Covid-19 shots are safe and to get vaccinated after reports that a relatively small number of mostly young men had suffered a heart problem after being immunized."

Reuters (6/23, Erman, Maddipati) reports that the COVID-19 Vaccine Safety Technical (VaST) Work Group, "a group of doctors advising" the CDC, said Wednesday that "rare cases of heart inflammation in adolescents and young adults is likely linked to vaccination with the Pfizer/BioNTech, and Moderna COVID-19 shots." The VaST Work Group "said in their report that the risk of myocarditis or pericarditis following vaccination with the mRNA-based shots in adolescents and young adults is notably higher after the second dose and in males." Reuters also reports that the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is "meeting on Wednesday to assess the possibility of a link between the heart condition and the mRNA vaccines." Reuters says VaST is "a sub-group of ACIP."

On NBC Nightly News (6/23, lead story, 2:55, Holt, 4.91M), Morgan Chesky reported the CDC is investigating "more than 1,200 cases of myocarditis and pericarditis" tied to the Pfizer or Moderna mRNA vaccines. However, the New York Times (6/23, Mandavilli, 20.6M) says the "benefits" of the vaccines "greatly outweighed the risks, and advisers to the C.D.C. strongly recommended vaccination for all Americans 12 and older." The Times adds that the inflammatory heart conditions occur most frequently after the second dose, but "is very uncommon – just 12.6 cases per million second doses administered." Researchers estimate the issue is more likely to occur due to contracting COVID-19 than through vaccination. CDC investigators "estimated that out of a million second doses given to boys ages 12 to 17, the vaccines might cause a maximum of 70 myocarditis cases, but would prevent 5,700 infections, 2,215 hospitalizations and two deaths."

The Hill (6/23, Weixel, 5.69M) reports in response to the CDC panel's meeting, "top administration health officials joined with a host of groups representing physicians, hospitals, nurses and others to endorse the safety of COVID-19 vaccines for adolescents." In the statement, the CDC, HHS, American Medical Association, American Hospital Association, and Infectious Disease Society of America said, "The facts are clear: this is an extremely rare side effect, and only an exceedingly small number of people will experience it after vaccination. Importantly, for the young people who do, most cases are mild, and individuals recover often on their own or with minimal treatment."

Politico (6/23, Gardner, 6.73M) reports the FDA "plans to 'move rapidly' to add a warning to fact sheets for Pfizer and Moderna's Covid-19 vaccines about the rare risk of developing inflammatory heart conditions." Doran Fink, deputy director of FDA's vaccines division, said, "Based on the available data, a warning statement in the fact sheets for both health care providers and vaccine recipients and caregivers would be warranted in this situation." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Ansari, Abbott, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Leana Wen writes in the Washington Post (6/23, Wen, 10.52M) that advisers to the CDC determined Wednesday "that while there is an association between" the Pfizer and Moderna COVID vaccines and myocarditis, "all age groups eligible to receive them should continue to, including adolescents 12 and over." Wen argues this was "the right decision" because although "myocarditis and an associated condition, pericarditis (inflammation of the lining around the heart), could be serious, the likelihood of this occurring is low and most cases are mild. By comparison, the risk of

severe and lasting outcomes from covid-19 are much higher and can be prevented through vaccination."

***Emhoff Insists Vaccines Are "Safe," "Effective," "Free," "Available," And "They Work."*** Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff was asked in an interview with NBC News (6/23, 4.91M) how to convince holdouts to get the COVID vaccine. Emhoff said it is "really just...trying to talk about facts. They are safe, they are effective, they are free, they are available and they work. And if you don't want to hear it from me, talk to the barber, talk to the pastor, talk to the trusted advisor who has had the vaccinations and they can debunk some of this misinformation that is out there." Emhoff added, "The other thing we are finding now with the Delta variant, so much more dangerous, so [much] more communicable and you see the numbers where the spikes in cases and deaths, that's where the vaccinations are the lowest." NBC News' full interview with the Second Gentleman will air on NBC's "Today" Thursday morning.

***CDC Scientists: Not Enough Data To Back COVID Booster Shots For General Population.*** CNBC (6/23, Mendez, 7.34M) reports a group of CDC scientists "said Wednesday that currently there isn't enough data to support recommending Covid-19 booster shots to the general population but that more-vulnerable groups, such as elderly people or transplant recipients, may need an extra dose." The COVID-19 "working group of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices didn't rule out the possibility that the general population eventually may need booster shots if immunity from the vaccines wanes or a variant reduces the effectiveness of current shots." Sarah Oliver, a medical epidemiologist with the CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, said, "Boosters may be required for a broad population. However, it could also be that the need for boosters of Covid vaccine may only be demonstrated in some populations."

***NIH Launches Study To Evaluate COVID Vaccine In Pregnant Women.*** Reuters (6/23, Nadeem) reports the NIH "said on Wednesday it had begun a study to evaluate the immune responses generated by COVID-19 vaccines in pregnant or postpartum women." Pregnant women "are at higher risk of complications including premature birth, high blood pressure with organ failure risk, need for intensive care and possible death, according to the NIH." A research study "conducted in February in Israel showed that antibodies were detected in all 20 women administered with both the doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine during their third trimester of pregnancy and also in their newborns." The NIH study, "MOMI-VAX, will measure the development and durability of antibodies against the coronavirus in women vaccinated during pregnancy or the first two postpartum months."

***Big Banks Tell Employees To Get Vaccinated To Return To Office.*** The AP (6/23, Sweet) reports the biggest banks in the US are "sending a message to their employees this summer: Get bank into the office and bring your vaccination card." Earlier this week, Morgan Stanley said that employees will need to inform the company about their vaccination status. The bank will not be allowing unvaccinated employees back to the office, which "could potentially put their jobs at risk, since the bank's top executives have said they want everyone back in the office by September." Goldman Sachs has also required employees to disclose their vaccine status, but is not requiring proof. Goldman asked most of its employees to be back in the office by June 14, but gave some workers until September 30. While technology continues to change the industry, it's top executives "still operate under a culture that prizes in-person meetings to carve out deals."

### **CREW Blames Trump Administration For Secret Service COVID Infections.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Bella, 10.52M) reports the nonprofit Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington released a report Tuesday stating "881 Secret Service employees had tested positive [for COVID] between March 1, 2020, and March 9, 2021. The data, which came from a Freedom of Information Act request to the Secret Service, found that 477 members of the Special Agent division had been infected." While the data did not reveal the assignments of specific agents, "the watchdog placed much of the blame on former president Donald Trump and former vice president Mike Pence for holding 'large-scale rallies against public health guidelines.'"

### **Lawmakers Expand Probe Into Emergent's Maryland Vaccine Plant.**

The New York Times (6/23, LaFraniere, 20.6M) reports Congressional investigators "are expanding their inquiry of Emergent BioSolutions, the operator of a troubled Maryland vaccine-making plant, to encompass the firm's relationship with the two companies that hired it to produce their shots." The Times says the House Oversight and Reform Committee and the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis on Tuesday "asked the companies, AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson, to document their efforts to supervise production of their vaccines at Emergent's factory and to produce all records related to their decisions to hire Emergent as a subcontractor."

### **Monmouth University Poll Finds Nearly 40% Still Wearing Masks At Usual Rates Despite CDC Guidance.**

The Hill (6/23, Choi, 5.69M) reports a Monmouth University Poll survey of 810 adults (6/9-6/14) released on Wednesday found that 38% "are still wearing masks about as often as they were before federal health officials announced updated guidance on the issue," but 34% "said they wore masks 'less often' following the updated guidance," and 12% "said they were 'not at all' wearing masks and 15 percent said they 'rarely wore one.'" Monmouth University Polling Institute Director Patrick Murray said, "Most of the public may trust the scientific aspects of the CDC guidance on mask wearing. It is not clear, though, how much they – especially those who are already vaccinated – trust their fellow Americans to abide by that guidance."

### **New York To Lift State Of Emergency Thursday.**

The New York Times (6/23, Slotnik, 20.6M) reports, "New York's state of emergency will end on Thursday." Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) said "federal guidance advising people to go on wearing masks in many situations if they are unvaccinated, and on public transportation and in settings like homeless shelters even if they are vaccinated, will still be in effect." The AP (6/23, Villeneuve) reports "businesses can keep stricter COVID-19 restrictions in place." Additionally, "COVID-19 restrictions remain in place for large indoor venues that hold more than 5,000 people: Attendees must produce proof of vaccination, or wear masks and present proof of negative test results."

### **CDC: US Births Dropped 8% In One Month Nine Months After COVID Emergency Declaration.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Tanzi, 3.57M) reports "nine months after the declaration of a national emergency due to the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic, U.S. births fell by 8% in a month." The drop in December "marked an acceleration in declines in the second part of the year." For all of 2020, "the number of babies born in the country fell 4% to about 3.6 million, the largest decline since 1973, according to a Wednesday report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention."

*Study: Pandemic Increased Life Expectancy Gap Between US And Other High-Income Countries.* USA Today (6/23, Rodriguez, 12.7M) reports the pandemic "widened the life expectancy gap between the U.S. and other high-income countries, a new study shows, and experts say it could take decades to overcome." USA Today adds the life expectancy gap "between the U.S. and other comparable countries already had increased from 1.88 years in 2010 to 3.05 years in 2018, according to a study published Wednesday in *The BMJ*, a peer-reviewed journal by the British Medical Association. But researchers from Virginia Commonwealth University found the gap substantially increased to 4.69 years between 2018 and 2020. This decrease in life expectancy over the past two years was 8.5 times the average decrease in peer countries."

### **Pharmaceutical Companies Emphasize Need For COVID Therapies.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Chen, 3.57M) reports that as COVID cases "decline, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Vir Biotechnology Inc. are seeking new life for their monoclonal antibody therapies as preventative drugs, targeting millions of people worldwide with compromised immune systems." Bloomberg adds financial analysts have "questioned the therapies' longterm prospects. But drugmakers say Covid won't be gone any time soon, and their antibodies may have the potential to protect people with compromised immune systems moving forward." According to Bloomberg, their "pitch comes with pandemic restrictions ending, low inoculation rates in some U.S. states and

emerging research suggesting vaccines don't fully protect many within this vulnerable patient group."

### **CBP Seizes Illicit COVID Drugs Headed For Mexico.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Hopkins, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that over the past few months, US Customs and Border Protection officers have seized unauthorized versions of COVID treatment remdesivir bound for Mexico at a number of US airports. The Journal says the FDA authorized remdesivir in October of last year.

### **Senate Confirms Carnahan To Lead GSA.**

McClatchy (6/23, Lowry, 29K) reports the Senate on Wednesday "confirmed former Missouri Secretary of State Robin Carnahan to lead the General Services Administration." McClatchy says Carnahan "easily found broad bipartisan support," and her nomination "sailed through the Senate with a voice vote, in contrast to the bitter debate Tuesday over Kiran Ahuja's confirmation to lead the Office of Personnel Management," who had Vice President Harris "cast a tie-breaking vote." McClatchy adds Carnahan "had the enthusiastic backing of Missouri Republican Sen. Roy Blunt, who squared off against the Democrat for an open Senate seat in 2010."

### **Biden Announces McCain Among Three New Ambassadorial Nominees.**

The New York Times (6/23, Karni, 20.6M) reports President Biden "announced Wednesday that he was nominating Cindy McCain, the widow of former Senator John McCain, as ambassador to the United Nations World Food Programme, giving the post to a longtime Republican friend as he continues to emphasize the importance of bipartisanship in a deeply divided Washington." The Times adds McCain "participated in a video supporting Mr. Biden's candidacy during the all-virtual Democratic National Convention last summer [and] was seen as a 'must do' for an ambassador posting in the Biden administration, according to sources." The Times says Biden "also announced on Wednesday that he was nominating Claire Cronin, a Massachusetts state representative, as ambassador to Ireland," while "a third nominee was Jack Markell — a former governor of Mr. Biden's home state, Delaware — who is the president's choice for U.S. representative to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, with the rank of ambassador."

According to the Washington Post (6/23, Pager, 10.52M), "Many other high-profile political ambassadors will probably be announced in the coming weeks and months, but many of the nominees are still in the vetting and financial disclosure processes." The Post adds the announcements were "slowed in part because of diversity concerns, people familiar with the process say. Many of the president's longtime friends and donors are White men, and the administration is working to ensure that the ambassadors reflect gender and racial diversity." The AP (6/23, Boak), Politico (6/23, Sheehey, 6.73M), and the Wall Street Journal (6/23, Siddiqui, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provide similar coverage.

### **Biden Removes FHFA Director After SCOTUS Ruling.**

The New York Times (6/23, Goldstein, Liptak, Tankersley, 20.6M) reports that President Biden on Wednesday "removed the chief of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, which oversees the mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, acting immediately after the Supreme Court ruled that the president had the authority to dismiss the agency's director," though Biden "did not immediately name a replacement." In a statement, Mark Calabria, a Trump appointee, "issued a statement wishing his successor well and noting that he respected the decision of the court and the president's authority to remove him." The Times says Calabria's removal "gives Mr. Biden more control over the fate of the mortgage giants, which play an outsize role in the housing market and are central to many homeowners' ability to afford homes," as does the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M), which reports the Administration "signaled it would replace Calabria with someone more aligned with the administration's housing policies." In addition, the AP (6/23, Gresko) reports White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki "did not give a timeline" on when the President would name a new FHFA Director, though The Hill (6/23, Lane, 5.69M) reports that the President on Wednesday designated Sandra L. Thompson as acting FHFA director.

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/23, Hurley) reports that the Supreme Court in a 7-2 decision "upheld part of a lower court's ruling that the FHFA's structure was unconstitutional under the separation of powers doctrine that distributes authority among the government's three branches because its lone director was insufficiently accountable to the president." Bloomberg (6/23, Stohr, Light, 3.57M) describes the Supreme Court ruling as "a punishing blow to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac investors in their challenge to the government's collection of more than \$100 billion in profits from the government-sponsored enterprises." Bloomberg says that the justices "threw out a core part of the investors' lawsuit, rejecting claims that the Federal Housing Finance Agency exceeded its authority under federal law." In addition, another Bloomberg (6/23, Fabian, 3.57M) article says the Supreme Court's ruling "made clear the president had the authority to oust the regulator."

Politico (6/23, O'Donnell, 6.73M) reports Senate Banking Chair Sherrod Brown "cheered the court's decision and urged Biden to replace Calabria with a director 'who is committed to addressing the housing needs of renters and homeowners, and to making our housing system work for everyone,'" while Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA), the ranking member of the Senate Banking Committee, "said he agreed with the court's constitutional interpretation but said Biden was 'making a tremendous mistake' by getting rid of Calabria." According to Politico, Calabria "sought to reduce the government's role in the housing market since he took office in 2019." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, A1, Ackerman, Kendall, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

### **Scott Steps Down As Border Patrol Chief.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Miroff, 10.52M) reports the Administration has "forced out the head of the U.S. Border Patrol, Rodney Scott, clearing a path for a leadership overhaul at an agency strained by a 20-year high in illegal border crossings, and whose top officials were broadly sympathetic to President Donald Trump." In a statement, Scott on Wednesday said he "received a letter offering him the option to resign, retire or relocate," and "said the notice did not provide a rationale for his removal, describing it a pro forma notice 'so the new administration can place the person they want in the position.'" However, the Post adds his "departure was widely anticipated, with several of his current and former colleagues surprised he remained in the post long after...Biden's inauguration," and the New York Times (6/23, Sullivan, 20.6M) says that he "was a supporter of President Donald J. Trump's signature border policy, a plan to complete a wall between the United States and Mexico."

The AP (6/23, Spagat) says Scott served "less than two years in a position that lies in the crosshairs of polarizing political debate." On its website, CNN (6/23, Alvarez, 89.21M) reports that Deputy Chief Raul Ortiz "is expected to step into the role on an acting basis." ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 8, 0:10, Muir, 5.89M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

### **Warren Blocks Kvaal's Nomination Over Administration's Student Loan Policies.**

Politico (6/23, Stratford, 6.73M) reports that a source on Tuesday confirmed Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) has "placed a hold on the nomination of James Kvaal to be undersecretary of education" as she "presses the administration over its management of the \$1.6 trillion portfolio of federal student loans." According to Politico, "Warren's roadblock is the latest escalation of pressure on the Biden administration from progressives who want to see more aggressive and quicker action on student loan debt." However, Politico adds Warren's hold "is not over the \$50,000 student debt cancellation proposal, according to the source. Instead, Warren is seeking concessions on longstanding issues that she's raised about how the Education Department runs the student loan program."

### **Scott Blocks Easterly's Nomination Until Harris Visits Border.**

The Hill (6/23, 5.69M) reports Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL) on Wednesday "blocked a proposed unanimous consent vote on President Biden's nominee to lead the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) until Vice President Harris visits the U.S.-Mexico border later this week." The Hill says Scott "made clear on the Senate floor that he is not opposed to Jen Easterly serving as CISA director but said the block is meant to hold the Biden administration accountable for

addressing migration concerns at the southern border."

## **Biden To Meet With Senators To Discuss "Framework Of Agreement" On Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal.**

According to the New York Times (6/23, Tankersley, Cochrane, 20.6M), "President Biden's ambitions for a large-scale investment in the nation's aging public works system along with other parts of his economic agenda hinge on what has always been the most difficult problem for lawmakers: agreeing on how to pay for the spending." The Times reports this "has sent a group of centrist senators scrounging to find creative ways to cover nearly \$600 billion in new spending that they want to include as part of a potential compromise plan to invest in roads, broadband internet, electric utilities and other federal infrastructure projects." The Times says they discussed "repurposing unspent coronavirus relief funds, increasing enforcement by the I.R.S. and establishing user fees for drivers, including indexing the gas tax to inflation," but the Wall Street Journal (6/23, Lucey, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports the President is opposed to raising on households making under \$400,000, which limits the available options.

Reuters (6/23, Cowan, Morgan) reports that several Senators will "meet with...Biden on Thursday to discuss the framework for a possible deal on infrastructure, although some cautioned that unresolved issues remained." On Wednesday, Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) said, "We came to an agreement on a plan that we have and we're just going to try to wrap it up tomorrow." In addition, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said, "The group made progress towards an outline of a potential agreement, and the president has invited the group to come to the White House tomorrow to discuss this in person."

The Washington Post (6/23, Kim, 10.52M) reports the senators "tentatively reached an agreement with White House officials," which would allocate "hundreds of billions of dollars in new spending for the nation's infrastructure system, giving a significant boost toward one of...Biden's biggest domestic policy ambitions." According to the Post, "Multiple senators leaving an evening negotiating session at the Capitol said the group – which included five Democrats, five Republicans and top White House officials – had reached a framework of a deal. They said senators would go to the White House on Thursday to brief Biden personally on the details."

The AP (6/24, Mascaro, Freking) reports that while the President has "sweeping \$4 trillion infrastructure plans," the proposal would allocate "far less, with \$559 billion in new spending," but "launch a broader process this summer that could open the door to Biden's big proposals." House Speaker Pelosi said, "We're very excited about the prospect of a bipartisan agreement." The Hill (6/23, Carney, 5.69M) reports Senate Majority Leader Schumer on Wednesday "vowed to advance [the] bipartisan infrastructure plan" and a separate "Democratic-only bill next month." Schumer told reporters, "One can't be done without the other. ... We can't get the bipartisan bill done unless we're sure of getting the budget reconciliation bill done. We can't get the budget reconciliation bill done unless we're sure to get the bipartisan – and I think our members, across the spectrum, realize that."

However, according to Politico (6/23, LeVine, Everett, 6.73M), some Senate Republicans are "questioning" Biden's "willingness to reach a bipartisan deal on infrastructure, a new and potentially troubling sign as talks threaten to drag into July." Politico says a "growing number of GOP senators" including Sens. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) and John Cornyn (R-TX) "say the Biden administration isn't showing enough flexibility when it comes to how to pay for any agreement." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Peterson, Duehren, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

In a New York Times (6/23, 20.6M) guest essay, Brian Highsmith, a senior researcher at Yale Law School's Arthur Liman Center for Public Interest Law who was a tax policy adviser on former President Barack Obama's National Economic Council, argues that Republicans are struggling to agree on how to fund the infrastructure package "because for the past three decades, the Republican Party has organized its agenda around an absolutist principle: no new taxes, ever. But despite the senators' insistence, these arrangements do not actually avoid extractive charges on residents. They just launder the new fees through private investors." He concludes that as negotiations "continue, we can learn from the harmful consequences brought about by the

privatization of local public goods – and opt instead for an inclusive public infrastructure that is available, and affordable, to everyone.”

Writing at Politico (6/23, 6.73M), Pete K. Rahn, a former president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, contends that the way to fund infrastructure improvements “is to get rid of the existing federal gas tax entirely, which is obsolete in an era when more and more of the cars and trucks on the roads are hybrid, electric or powered with alternative fuels,” and “return to the original principle behind the gas tax, which is that it should be sufficient to support our highway system and be efficient to collect.” He concludes, “A commercial activity surcharge is easy and fair. It’s time to ditch the gas tax for good.”

***Five People Injured When Pedestrian Bridge Collapses Onto DC’s Anacostia Freeway.*** The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports five people were injured on Wednesday “when a truck apparently hit a pedestrian bridge over Route 295 in Northeast Washington, causing the massive structure to come loose from its moorings and collapse, officials said.” The Post adds, “None of the injuries were described as life-threatening.” According to the Post, “The people who were hurt, including the truck driver, were in vehicles on Route 295 – also known as the Anacostia Freeway – when the incident occurred near Kenilworth Avenue and Polk Street NE shortly before noon, snarling traffic for miles.” ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 2, 1:44, Muir, 5.89M), the CBS Evening News (6/23, story 3, 0:20, O’Donnell, 3.64M), and NBC Nightly News (6/23, story 4, 1:27, Holt, 4.91M) provided similar coverage.

### **Administration Reportedly Set To Extend CDC Eviction Ban Another Month.**

The AP (6/23, Khalil, Casey) reports White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki “said Wednesday that the separate bans on evictions for renters and mortgage holders were ‘always intended to be temporary,’” but she “would not say whether the administration was planning another extension. That decision, she said, lies with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which imposed the bans on the rationale that allowing people to lose their housing during a pandemic was an unacceptable public health risk.”

However, the New York Times (6/23, Thrush, 20.6M) says the Administration “plans to extend the national moratorium on evictions, scheduled to expire on June 30, by one month to buy more time to distribute billions of dollars in federal pandemic housing aid, according to two officials with knowledge of the situation.” The Times says the moratorium “has significantly limited the economic damage to renters and sharply reduced eviction filings.” The Times adds that “Congressional Democrats, local officials and tenant groups have been warning that the expiration of the moratorium at the end of the month, and the lapsing of similar state and local measures, might touch off a new – if somewhat less severe – eviction crisis.”

***Renters Worried As California’s Eviction Moratorium Is Set To Expire.*** The Los Angeles Times (6/23, 3.37M) reports that with the statewide moratorium on evictions set to expire June 30, many California renters are “worried about how they will stay housed.” While Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) “is expected to announce an agreement with legislative leaders for an extension this week,” the Times says “tenants and their advocates say the uncertainty hanging over what happens next – and layers of rules that many people find confusing – is sowing anxiety and fear. ... A lapse in the state protections would leave people at risk of losing their housing next month if they can’t pay July’s rent, as well as a portion of the accumulated debt they owe.”

### **Gensler Describes Potential New Disclosure Requirements.**

Reuters (6/23) reports the SEC “may require public companies to publish data on a whole range of new areas, including greenhouse gas emissions, workforce turnover and diversity, as its new chairman looks to enhance the SEC’s disclosure regime.” SEC Chair Gensler on Wednesday “told a financial services industry audience during the annual London City Week he has also asked staff to consider potential requirements for companies that have made ‘forward-looking’ climate commitments and have significant operations in foreign jurisdictions with required climate-related targets.” Gensler said, “I’ve asked staff to propose recommendations for the commission’s consideration on human capital disclosure. This builds on past agency work and could include a number of metrics, such as workforce turnover, skills and development training, compensation,



benefits, workforce demographics including diversity, and health and safety.”

Gensler was asked on Bloomberg TV (6/23, 3.57M) about GOP criticism of the proposals. He said, “It is foremost about investors. ... Investors want to know more about this very important risk, climate risk and how do companies deal with whatever transitions might be in the future, whatever physical risks they have, how are they managing it, how are they governing it, and what are some of the basic metrics. So investors want to see information, and then the role of the SEC is to try to bring consistency, some comparability, and, yes, reliability to that.”

Meanwhile, the Wall Street Journal (6/23, Ackerman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Gensler says he has asked commission staff to consider accelerating the deadline for investors to disclose when they accumulate more than a 5% ownership stake in a company’s stock.

***WSJournal: Administration Easing Regulation Of Companies That Back Its Climate Goals.*** A Wall Street Journal (6/23, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorial cites SEC Chair Gensler’s push to revise rules governing proxy advisory firms as evidence the Biden Administration is moving to ease regulations on businesses that serve its climate goals.

### **GAO: Pentagon Should Detail Cleanup Expenses For “Forever Chemicals.”**

The Hill (6/23, 5.69M) says that in a report released Tuesday, the GAO called on the Pentagon “to detail its cleanup expenses for ‘forever chemicals’ from water supply sources near military bases.” The GAO report “said the Pentagon has not reported how much it would cost to address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a class of chemicals found in firefighting foams used by the military.” The Defense Department “has been working to address PFAS contamination in drinking water on its bases and has estimated that it would cost more than \$2.1 billion beginning in fiscal 2021 to clean up.” But the GAO report said the department “has not reported future PFAS cost estimates, or the scope and limitations of those estimates, in its annual environmental reports to Congress. ... By reporting this information to Congress, DOD would ensure that Congress has increased visibility into the significant costs and efforts associated with PFAS investigation and cleanup at or near military installations.”

### **SCOTUS Rules Union Organizers Do Not Have Right To Access Farms.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports the Supreme Court in a 6-3 ruling “split along ideological lines Wednesday in ruling that a California regulation that gives union organizers access to workers on the state’s farms violates the rights of the property owners.” The New York Times (6/23, Liptak, 20.6M) reports Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., writing for the majority, “said that ‘the access regulation grants labor organizations a right to invade the growers’ property.’ That meant, he wrote, that it was a taking of private property without just compensation.” According to the Times, “The decision did away with a major achievement of the farmworkers’ movement led by Cesar Chavez in the 1970s, which had argued that allowing organizers to enter workplaces was the only practical way to give farmworkers, who can be nomadic and poorly educated, a realistic chance to consider joining a union.”

Bloomberg (6/23, Stohr, 3.57M) reports Justices Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan “dissented, and said the majority’s conclusion ‘threatens to make many ordinary forms of regulation unusually complex or impractical.’” Bloomberg adds Breyer “argued that the union access rule doesn’t automatically invade the property rights of the growers.” The AP (6/23, Gresko) cast the ruling as “another potential setback for unions as a result of a high court decision.” Reuters (6/23) and the Wall Street Journal (6/23, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provide similar coverage.

A Wall Street Journal (6/23, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorial lauds the Supreme Court’s Cedar Point Nursery ruling as an important victory for property rights. However, Ruth Marcus writes in the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) that the Supreme Court’s “conservative majority continued its passion project: limiting the reach of government regulation.”

### **House Judiciary Committee Begins Considering Tech Antitrust Bills.**

According to Bloomberg (6/23, Edgerton, Kern, McLaughlin, 3.57M), “The House Judiciary Committee’s consideration of antitrust bills targeting big tech began Wednesday with bipartisan



pledges to use legislation to break the hold that the largest companies have on the internet economy." Bloomberg reports lawmakers "approved a bill revising the fees companies pay when they seek antitrust approval for mergers" that "would increase fees for the biggest deals, and the money would provide additional funding for the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department to pursue antitrust cases." In addition, Judiciary Chair Jerry Nadler "cited the 16-month investigation that the panel's antitrust subcommittee conducted last year, which accused Apple Inc., Facebook Inc., Amazon.com Inc. and Alphabet Inc.'s Google of anticompetitive behavior."

However, Politico (6/23, Nylén, Lima, 6.73M) reports that Democrats "are split on whether the legislation goes too far," while Politico (6/23, Zanona, Beavers, Birnbaum, 6.73M) reports in another article that Republicans are "openly clashing with each other over a bipartisan effort" to "go after Big Tech." Politico says the legislation has "exposed deep divisions in the GOP over how best to rein in Silicon Valley's power, with House Republicans sparring over the legislative push. Some GOP lawmakers have blamed leadership-aligned lobbyists for working behind the scenes to tank the measures, while others in the conference claim their colleagues went behind leaders' backs to hash out a deal with Democrats."

Hugh Hewitt writes in the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) that tech companies, "like the Chinese Communist Party, like hackers everywhere, are amassing vast dossiers of information – on you, your children and your grandchildren." Republicans, he argues, "must defend individual liberty by defending every individual's privacy. Data is the new frontier of that battle. Forget how big any company is; there is always another competitor ready to enter the space, and most of them from abroad. Protect instead the citizen."

***Tech Industry "Aggressively Lobbying" Lawmakers Against Antitrust Bills.*** Under the headline "Tech Giants Are Aggressively Lobbying Washington To Back Off On Antitrust Rules," the New York Times (6/23, Kang, McCabe, Vogel, 20.6M) reports that after lawmakers "introduced legislation that could break the dominance of tech companies, Apple's chief executive, Tim Cook, called Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other members of Congress to deliver a warning. The antitrust bills were rushed, he said. They would crimp innovation. And they would hurt consumers by disrupting the services that power Apple's lucrative iPhone, Mr. Cook cautioned at various points, according to five people with knowledge of the conversations." The Times describes Cook as engaged in "a forceful and wide-ranging pushback by the tech industry since the proposals were announced this month." Meanwhile, the Wall Street Journal (6/23, Higgins, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) says Apple on Wednesday issued a report defending its app store policies amid US and EU pushback.

***Klobuchar Presses Amazon, Google On Smart-Home Ecosystems.*** Reuters (6/23, Dave) reports Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), the chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee's antitrust subcommittee, called on Apple and Google to "offer more details about how their smart-home devices and virtual assistants will support competition and user privacy." Klobuchar also "said testimony last week by attorneys from the companies left her with concerns about their dominance of the fast-growing field."

***LAPD Investigating Officers' Relationship With Ring.*** The Los Angeles Times (6/23, Bhuiyan, 3.37M) reports the Los Angeles Police Department "has launched an internal investigation into its officers' communications with the Amazon-owned security company Ring, after a Times report revealed the camera maker provided at least 100 officers free devices or discounts and encouraged them to promote the products to colleagues and members of the community." LAPD Chief Michel Moore on Tuesday "said...the investigation by the department's Professional Standards Bureau would seek to 'determine whether any of the communications violated department policy and any actions of our personnel violated department policy,'" and "said he recognizes that officers' relationship with Ring is a matter of public interest and that agency rules prohibit personnel from placing themselves in a 'position of compromise by soliciting or accepting a gratuity.'"

***Amazon Adds More Renewable Energy Purchasing Agreements To Power Its Data Centers.*** In an exclusive, the Wall Street Journal (6/23, A1, Schechner, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Amazon on Wednesday announced agreements to purchase 1.5 gigawatts of

renewable energy from 14 solar and wind power plants all over the world, as part of its goal to have its data centers be completely powered by renewable energy by 2025. The Journal says Amazon's deals to buy green power for its data centers are part of a wider trend in the tech industry to help fund renewable energy projects.

**Amazon Announces Prime Day Results.** CNBC (6/23, Palmer, 7.34M) reports online that Amazon on Wednesday "announced the results of its annual Prime Day sale, which ended Tuesday, highlighting how the event gave a lift to its third-party sellers." According to CNBC, Amazon "for the second year...said merchants' Prime Day sales grew more than its first-party retail business. Sellers netted \$1.9 billion from pre-Prime Day promotions that gave customers a \$10 discount if they shopped with small businesses, the company said." However, CNBC adds Amazon's announcement of the Prime Day results "was muted compared with previous years, lacking the sales superlatives it typically offers to show how consumers flocked to the site to snap up heavily marked down goods." CNBC says that it is "likely that Amazon still hauled in record sales during Prime Day, but growth could be slower compared to previous years."

### **House Passes Bill To Make Workplace Age Discrimination Claims Easier.**

The Hill (6/23, Marcos, 5.69M) reports the House passed a measure Wednesday "that would make it easier for people to make claims alleging age discrimination in the workplace." In a 247-178 vote, lawmakers passed the bill which "would effectively reject a 2009 Supreme Court decision, *Gross v. FBL Financial Services*, which held that people bringing age discrimination claims must prove that it was the decisive factor in an employment decision. Instead, workers alleging discrimination would only have to demonstrate that it was a motivating factor, even if other factors were involved."

### **House Democrats' Legislative Spending Bill Would Raise Staff Pay, Keep Lawmaker Pay Freeze.**

The Hill (6/23, Marcos, 5.69M) reports House Democrats have "unveiled an annual legislative branch spending bill that includes \$134 million to help boost congressional staffer pay while maintaining the lawmaker pay freeze that's been in place for more than a decade." House Appropriations Chair Rosa DeLauro said the measure would help Congress "recruit and retain a talented and diverse workforce to help Congress deliver for the people."

### **Judge Stops Loan Forgiveness Program Directed At Black Farmers.**

The Hill (6/23, Lonas, 5.69M) reports US District Judge Marcia Morales "cited racial discrimination in a ruling that halted the loan forgiveness program aimed at Black farmers that was part of the Biden administration's COVID-19 relief package that forgave debts related to agriculture." IN her ruling, Morales said Congress should "do away with governmentally imposed discrimination based on race." Howard said that "it appears that in adopting Section 1005's strict race-based debt relief remedy Congress moved with great speed to address the history of discrimination, but did not move with great care."

### **Supreme Court Rules For Cheerleader Punished For Off-Campus Post.**

The New York Times (6/23, Liptak, 20.6M) reports the Supreme Court in an 8-1 decision "ruled on Wednesday that a Pennsylvania school district had violated the First Amendment by punishing a student for a vulgar social media message sent while she was not on school grounds." The Times says the Supreme Court "did not establish a categorical ban on regulating student speech outside of school, citing the need of school systems to be able to deal with issues like bullying and threats," but "set out factors that courts should assess in weighing the right of administrators to punish speech in nonschool settings, with one important component being whether parents are better suited to handle the situation." However, the Times adds the outcome "was the first time in more than 50 years that a high school student won a free-speech case in the Supreme Court, and the decision emphasized that courts should be skeptical of efforts to constrain off-campus speech."

The Washington Post (6/23, Barnes, 10.52M) reports Justice Stephen G. Breyer's 11-page majority opinion, which "attempted to find middle ground, saying school authorities have a duty to

monitor speech but also to encourage it as part of the educational process," was "joined by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Samuel A. Alito Jr., Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Neil M. Gorsuch, Brett M. Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett." Alito also "penned a long concurring opinion and said he did not understand the opinion to apply to students at public colleges and universities," while Justice Clarence Thomas, in a dissenting opinion, "repeated his view that 'schools historically could discipline students in circumstances like those presented here,'" and said that "because the majority does not attempt to explain why we should not apply this historical rule and does not attempt to tether its approach to anything stable, I respectfully dissent."

According to Reuters (6/23), "The case involved the free speech rights of America's roughly 50 million public school students in the internet and social media era." Reuters adds, "Many schools and educators have argued that their ability to curb bullying, threats, cheating and harassment – all frequently occurring online – should not be limited to school grounds." Politico (6/23, Gerstein, Quilantan, 6.73M) reports the case was the Supreme Court's "first big student free-speech case of the internet era," and "was framed as a test of school officials' power to regulate student speech on the web." Likewise, Terry Moran said on ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 6, 2:06, Muir, 5.89M) that the decision is "a landmark first amendment ruling."

Bloomberg (6/23, Robinson, Stohr, 3.57M) reports the ruling "is a victory for Brandi Levy, who was a freshman at Pennsylvania's Mahanoy Area High School when she took to Snapchat to voice her frustration over not making the varsity cheerleading team and being put on the junior varsity." The AP (6/23, Sherman) says that Levy, who had been a 14-year-old freshman "when she expressed her disappointment over not making the varsity cheerleading team with a string of curse words and a raised middle finger on Snapchat," is now 18 and she "recently finished her first year of college."

On the CBS Evening News (6/23, story 2, 1:49, O'Donnell, 3.64M), Levy said, "I don't think it really sunk in yet. I was screaming. I was cheering. I'm not even going to lie, in my living room, when I found out." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Bravin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) and a brief NBC Nightly News (6/23, story 6, 1:26, Holt, 4.91M) segment provided similar coverage.

### **FDA Officials Defend Approval Of Alzheimer's Drug.**

In an op-ed for the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M), Patrizia Cavazzoni, director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) at the FDA; Billy Dunn, director of CDER's Office of Neuroscience; and Peter Stein, director of CDER's Office of New Drugs, explain their decision to approve "aducanumab (under the brand name Aduhelm), the first new drug for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease in nearly 20 years." They write that the decision "was based on rigorous science, with thorough evaluation of data from clinical studies." While "aducanumab's trials suggested – but did not confirm – clinical benefit, they did convincingly and consistently show that the drug reduces amyloid plaque in the brain, a defining pathological characteristic of Alzheimer's disease. ... The clinical benefit we believe to be associated with aducanumab could make a difference for patients with Alzheimer's. ... Hopefully, that means they have more time to live independent lives."

### **American Red Cross Warns Of "Severe" Blood Shortage.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Firozi, 10.52M) reports, "The American Red Cross is warning of a 'severe' blood shortage as more people undergo elective surgeries, organ transplants and require emergency care as they return to their pre-pandemic activities." This year, "the Red Cross said it has experienced a 10 percent increase in red blood cell demand from hospital trauma centers compared with 2019." The organization is "also distributing about 75,000 more blood products than expected over the past three months." The New York Times (6/23, Jimenez, 20.6M) reports Red Cross Biomedical Services President Chris Hrouda said "the lack of blood is so great that some hospitals are pumping the brakes on the pace of elective surgeries and 'delaying crucial patient care,' until blood supply levels rebound."

### **Harris To Visit US-Mexico Border Days Before Trump.**

Politico (6/23, Lippman, 6.73M) reports that Vice President Harris is "heading to the U.S.-Mexico border...amid an unrelenting chorus of criticism from Republicans over her failure to visit there." Politico adds that Harris, "who was tasked by President Joe Biden to lead diplomatic efforts to stem the flow of migrants arriving on the southern border, will visit El Paso, Texas, on Friday," and "will be accompanied by" Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas. According to Politico, "Harris and her team have repeatedly pushed back against criticism that neither she nor the president have gone to visit the U.S.-Mexico border, arguing that she is more focused on tackling the destabilizing conditions that are causing thousands of migrants from Central America to head to the border seeking refuge." Politico says "the number of migrants arriving at the U.S. southern border has soared in the months since the Biden administration took office," and in May, "more than 180,000 migrants were apprehended at the border."

The New York Times (6/23, Kanno-Youngs, Rogers, 20.6M) says, "Even during a trip to Guatemala and Mexico earlier this month," Harris "continued to face questions over her absence at the border." According to the Times, "Her answers on the matter fueled criticism, frustrated agents tasked with responding to the surge of migrants and perplexed some within the administration." The Times says the Vice President's "comments...distracted from her efforts to refocus attention on initiatives to combat corruption, gun trafficking and illegal border crossings."

According to the Washington Post (6/23, Pager, Wootson, 10.52M), "Since immigration was added to Harris's portfolio, both she and Biden have stressed that her efforts were diplomatic in nature – not managerial – and aimed at addressing the root causes of migration." The Post points out that "Harris's trip will come just two days before former president Donald Trump will join Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) at the border." The Post says Trump "pounced on the news of Harris's trip, saying pressure he exerted was responsible. 'After months of ignoring the crisis at the Southern Border, it is great that we got...Harris to finally go and see the tremendous destruction and death that they've created – a direct result of Biden ending my very tough but fair Border policies.'" Politico (6/23, Beavers, 6.73M) reports that "about a dozen members of the Republican Study Committee, the biggest caucus in the House GOP, plan to join the former president on the trip." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Parti, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) as well as brief ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 9, 0:15, Muir, 5.89M), CBS Evening News (6/23, story 5, 0:38, O'Donnell, 3.64M), and NBC Nightly News (6/23, story 8, 1:52, Holt, 4.91M) segments provided similar coverage.

### **Austin, Milley Defend Military's Efforts To Counter Racism, Extremism.**

According to the AP (6/23, Burns, Baldor), "Top Pentagon leaders on Wednesday passionately defended the military's approach to addressing racism and extremism, pushing back against accusations by Republican lawmakers that the effort is creating division and hurting morale." The AP says the "testy" House Armed Services Committee hearing "showed that the political dimension of a national debate over racism and extremism weighs on the military even as it attempts to address social problems within its own ranks."

Bloomberg (6/23, Tiron, 3.57M) says the hearing "was ostensibly on the Defense Department's budget request, but" Defense Secretary Austin and Gen. Mark Milley, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "found themselves having to rebut questions about whether efforts to root out extremists in the military ranks meant going after soldiers' political views." Austin said, "We are focused on extremist behaviors and not ideology, not people's thoughts, not people's political orientation." In addition, Bloomberg says Milley "in an extraordinary response...took direct aim at the accusations" from Rep. Michael Waltz (R-FL) "and similar, separate comments" from Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL) alleging that critical race theory is taught at West Point and "said the military need not apologize for fostering open-mindedness."

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports Milley "admonished lawmakers over questions about critical race theory at a Wednesday hearing, saying it is important for leaders to be well-versed in many schools of thought." The Post says Milley delivered "an impassioned defense of inquiry about U.S. society and its racial dynamics" and "emphasized that the U.S. Military Academy is a university." Similarly, ABC World News Tonight (6/23, story 4, 2:13, Muir, 5.89M) chief Washington correspondent Jonathan Karl said Milley "made an impassioned defense of the

education soldiers receive at West Point."

Likewise, Politico (6/23, O'Brien, 6.73M) reports Milley "gave a fiery defense of open-mindedness in the ranks...saying he's offended at the accusation that those efforts have undercut the military's mission and cohesiveness," and Reuters (6/23) reports Milley "hit back against a growing conservative movement opposed to teaching certain theories about racism at educational institutions, saying military university graduates should be 'open-minded and be widely read.'" Milley asked, "What is wrong with understanding -- having some situational understanding -- about the country for which we are here to defend?" He added, "I personally find it offensive that we are accusing the United States military, our general officers, our commissioned and noncommissioned officers, of being, 'woke' or something else, because we're studying some theories that are out there."

### **Judge Strikes Down Trump Administration EB-5 Visa Program Rule.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports US Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Scott Corley of the Northern District of California announced a ruling striking down a series of Trump Administration rules targeting the EB-5 visa program, which provides green cards to foreign investors. The Trump Administration DHS had raised the minimum investment requirement to \$900,000 from \$500,000, and Judge Corley struck down the changes because then-acting Secretary McAleenan was not properly appointed to his position.

### **Harris Meets With Abrams, Voting Rights Advocates As Democrats Regroup Following Defeat Of For The People Act.**

The Hill (6/23, Samuels, 5.69M) reports Vice President Harris met virtually with Stacey Abrams and "leaders from the NAACP, the AFL-CIO, the Center for American Progress, Black Lives Matter, the American Federation of Teachers and several progressive groups" on Wednesday to discuss "how to move forward after a sweeping elections bill stalled in the Senate." Harris said the talks "focus[ed] on strategies for passing federal legislation and building grassroots coalitions to protect and strengthen access to the ballot box." She said, "The right to vote is fundamental to our democracy. ... And when we look in particular at the challenges, at the attempts to attack our democracy and most recently one of the most vivid, outrageous examples being Jan. 6, we know that our democracy is under attack in many ways, and that we must preserve the promises of a democracy, including appreciating that the right to vote is fundamental to that democracy. That truth remains."

Meanwhile, Meanwhile, The Hill (6/23, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki on Wednesday announced President Biden "will deliver remarks next week on expanding access to voting, amid uncertainty about how Democrats can advance their voting rights agenda after Senate Republicans blocked a sweeping election reform bill." Psaki said, "This is a continuation of his efforts to use the bully pulpit to elevate this issue, just as he did last week when he marked Juneteenth and also as he did in Tulsa, Oklahoma, just a week before that." She continued, "What you should expect to hear from him is that there are many ways to work across the country with activists, with states, with legislators, using every lever at our disposal to expand access, improve access to voting across the country." Psaki added, "He'll talk about some of the ways he wants to continue to do that" and "reiterate that it's his view that it's a fundamental right and that people across the country should be able to exercise that."

The AP (6/23, Jaffe) reports that while the White House "has characterized the issue as 'the fight of his presidency,' Biden has prioritized his economic initiatives, measures more likely to win Republican support in the Senate. And he's shown little interest thus far in diving into a messy debate over changing Senate rules to pass the legislation on Democratic votes alone." However, the AP adds progressives "argued Biden could not avoid that fight much longer and must use all his leverage to find a path forward. The criticism suggested the voting debate may prove to be among Biden's first major, public rifts with the left of his presidency." According to Axios (6/23, Kight, Nather, 1.26M), "Some Democrats are frustrated that [Biden and Harris] haven't more aggressively sought to shame Republicans into supporting codification of some expanded voter protections -- or resistant Democrats into modifying the filibuster."

Nate Cohen of the New York Times (6/23, 20.6M) writes that while the defeat of the For The People Act "will come as a crushing blow to progressives and reformers, who have portrayed the law as an essential tool for saving democracy," it "was a flawed bill that had little chance of testing the limits of what, if anything, is still possible in Washington." According to Cohen, "Voting rights activists and Democratic lawmakers may even find that the collapse of this law opens up more plausible, if still highly unlikely, paths to reform." Reuters (6/23) reports Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) "told reporters on Tuesday that she is continuing to negotiate with moderate Democratic Senator Joe Manchin over the details of a compromise proposal he has floated," which "could become the basis for another Senate vote."

Meanwhile, McClatchy (6/23, Catanese, 29K) reports Senate Minority Leader McConnell "held his entire Republican caucus together to effectively kill the Democrats' highest legislative priority of the year, a transformative 888-page bill intended to make it easier to vote, rein in the wealthy's impact on elections and outlaw the gerrymandering process that constructs partisan congressional districts," Democrats "stuck together too," and they and "their progressive allies now intend to launch a multi-faceted national political campaign that targets Republican senators, keeps the pressure on moderate Democrats and further villainizes the Senate Minority Leader."

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) editorializes that while Senate Republicans "torpedoed the For the People Act," as "Republican legislatures in state after state" have been "ratifying new voting restrictions and politicizing election administration, this cannot be the end of the effort to reform federal voting standards." According to the Post, "Democrats could press standards that no one committed to democracy could legitimately oppose" such as "simple measures to promote access to the ballot box, such as requiring early voting, making Election Day a holiday or allowing people to cast provisional ballots if they show up to the wrong precinct," and "pursue important reforms that they did not put into the For the People Act, but that the 2020 election showed were necessary. These include rewriting the archaic Electoral Count Act to ensure that Congress may not overturn free and fair voting results. Another idea is to erect safeguards against meddling in election results by state officials or state legislatures."

E.J. Dionne writes in the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) while the Senate's vote on the For The People Act was "a defeat," what "mattered is that Democrats stuck together in insisting that their party would not sit by as access to the ballot box is impeded in more than a dozen states with measures aimed especially at Black and Latino voters as well as young people." Now "will come a wave of organization and political action across the nation around voting issues not seen since the civil rights years." Dionne says Sens. Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) "will have to come up with a new understanding of what their pledges to save the filibuster mean. They're not being asked to abandon the filibuster altogether. They are being called upon to accept that if the current rule is left unchanged, partisan majorities in Republican states will be able to make it harder to vote while Democrats in Washington render themselves powerless to do anything about it."

In a guest essay for the New York Times (6/22, 20.6M), Richard H. Pildes, a professor at New York University's School of Law, argues that with the For the People Act "on indefinite hold after a filibuster by Republicans in the Senate on Tuesday, the Voting Rights Act is about to return to center stage in Washington." Pildes says that with the Supreme Court poised to rule "on how a crucial part of the landmark law applies to voting laws challenged as racially discriminatory," the John Lewis Act "might well offer the best chance of new national legislation protecting the right to vote in America, and its significance is best seen in historical context, especially that of two Supreme Court cases."

***House Appropriations Committee Includes \$500M Election Security Grant In Proposed Appropriations Bill.*** The Hill (6/23, 5.69M) reports the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday "included \$500 million for election security grants in one of the proposed appropriations bills for next year." According to The Hill, "The proposed fiscal year 2022 Financial Services and General Government bill would give \$500 million to the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to distribute to states and territories to help address election security concerns. This includes moving to voting machines with voter-verified paper ballots and improving election administration."

**Michigan Senate Report Finds No Evidence Of Widespread Voter Fraud But Calls For New Election Restrictions.** The New York Times (6/23, Epstein, 20.6M) reports Michigan Republicans on Wednesday "published an extraordinary debunking of voter fraud claims in the state, delivering a comprehensive rebuke to a litany of accusations about improprieties in the 2020 election and its aftermath." The Times says the 55-page report from a Michigan State Senate committee made of three Republicans and one Democrat "is a systematic rebuttal to an array of false claims about the election from supporters of former President Donald J. Trump. The authors focus overwhelmingly on Michigan, but they also expose lies perpetuated about the vote-counting process in Georgia." According to the Times, "The report is unsparing in its criticism of those who have promoted false theories about the election. It debunks claims from Trump allies including Mike Lindell, the chief executive of MyPillow; Rudolph W. Giuliani, the former president's lawyer; and Mr. Trump himself."

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) says that while the report "forcefully rejecting the claims of widespread fraud in the state, saying citizens should be confident in the results and skeptical of 'those who have pushed demonstrably false theories for their own personal gain,'" it also "recommended changes to the election system, providing fodder for Republican officials who – like their counterparts in other states – are seeking to pass strict new voting rules, hoping to use a quirk in state law to sidestep an expected veto from the Democratic governor." The AP (6/23, Eggert) and Axios (6/23, 1.26M) provide similar coverage.

**Ballot Access Is Dividing On Geographic Lines.** In a more than 2,200-word article, the Washington Post (6/22, 10.52M) reports that Republicans have "embraced voting restrictions in GOP-controlled states such as Georgia, Florida and Iowa," but "more than half of U.S. states have lowered some barriers to voting since the 2020 election, making permanent practices that helped produce record voter turnout during the coronavirus pandemic – a striking countertrend to...restrictions in key Republican-controlled states." According to the Post, "The overall result is a widening difference in ballot access depending on where voters live – one shaped by how lawmakers have reacted to the pandemic and to former president Donald Trump's false claims that he lost the 2020 election because of massive fraud."

### **Biden Eulogizes Warner As "Reminder Of What We Can Do When We Come Together As One Nation."**

The Washington Post (6/22, 10.52M) reports that President Biden "joined dignitaries from across the political spectrum Wednesday in paying their last respects to five-term senator John W. Warner at his funeral at Washington National Cathedral." The Post says Biden's voice "echoed through the cathedral as he spoke about Warner, the second-longest-serving U.S. senator in Virginia's history." The President said, "In the battle for the soul of America today, John Warner is a reminder of what we can do when we come together as one nation." The Post adds he "acknowledged their difference in parties but applauded Warner's ability to reach across the political aisle – his understanding, Biden said, that 'empathy is the fuel of democracy.'" The Hill (6/23, Gangitano, 5.69M) reports Biden also noted that the former Senate Armed Services Committee chairman had endorsed him for president last year.

### **Pelosi, Schumer Prepare To Move Biden Agenda Forward.**

Politico (6/23, Ferris, Everett, 6.73M) reports that even as "a gang of self-appointed Senate negotiators rack up headlines," House Speaker Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Schumer "are quietly steering their party's infrastructure mess to a conclusion they insist will be a huge win." Politico adds Pelosi and Schumer on Wednesday met with White House officials "at a critical apex for President Joe Biden's spending plan, which has been muddled for weeks by bipartisan negotiations that still haven't won widespread consensus between parties – or even among Democrats." According to Politico, "Publicly, the Speaker and Senate Majority Leader are giving space to the Senate's bipartisan gang to work toward a compromise that could achieve Biden's desire for cross-aisle cooperation. But as Pelosi's and Schumer's members attempt to scrape together a bipartisan bill, they're signaling they will take up a Democrat-only bill, too, encompassing as much of Biden's sprawling \$4 trillion spending plan as the party can swallow."



In a Wall Street Journal (6/23, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) op-ed, Karl Rove warns that Democrats have a long list of legislation to address over the next few weeks despite a lack of available time, which could disappoint Americans who want Congress to get things done.

### **Lawmakers Urge Biden To Ban Sales Of Landmines.**

The Hill (6/23, Mitchell, 5.69M) reports that a bipartisan group of 21 US legislators "want President Biden to reinstate an Obama administration-era policy that restricted certain antipersonnel landmines and limited their use to only the Korean Peninsula." The group "want[s] Biden to direct the Pentagon to 'expeditiously review its plans for the defense of the Republic of Korea and provide a classified report to you and the Congress describing the options for defending the Republic of Korea with alternatives to anti-personnel mines.'"

### **Biden Campaign Emails Show Tensions With Facebook Over Misinformation, Violent Rhetoric.**

CNN (6/23, O'Sullivan, Merica, 89.21M) reports that "a cache of emails obtained by" the network "highlight just how worried Democrats had become about misinformation on Facebook as Election Day approached – and how frustrated they were with Facebook's response." According to CNN, "people working with Joe Biden's presidential campaign repeatedly warned Facebook about violent campaign-related rhetoric on its platform during the heat of the 2020 election," the emails show "the social media giant sometimes brushed them off."

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **US Scientist Retrieves Potentially Important Genetic COVID Data Deleted From NIH Archive.**

The Washington Post (6/23, Achenbach, Guarino, Abutaleb, 10.52M) reports "an American scientist has incited a new skirmish over the origin of the coronavirus, reporting that he has retrieved potentially significant genetic data about SARS-CoV-2 that had been stored on a digital archive at the National Institutes of Health and later deleted." Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center computational biologist Jesse Bloom "posted his findings on the preprint server bioRxiv." The data that were cited by Bloom are "not alone in being removed by NIH during the pandemic." NIH "said the National Library of Medicine has so far identified eight instances since the start of the pandemic when researchers had withdrawn submissions to the library – the data retrieved by Bloom, originally submitted from China, and 'the rest from submitters predominantly in the U.S.'"

The New York Times (6/23, Zimmer, 20.6M) reports that "about a year ago, genetic sequences from more than 200 viruses that caused early cases of Covid-19 in Wuhan disappeared from an online scientific database." By examining "files stored on Google Cloud," Bloom "reports that he has recovered 13 of those original sequences – intriguing new information for discerning when and how the virus may have spilled over from a bat or another animal into humans." NIH spokeswoman Renata Myles said, "These SARS-CoV-2 sequences were submitted for posting in SRA [Sequence Read Archive] in March 2020 and subsequently requested to be withdrawn by the submitting investigator in June 2020." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, McKay, Hinshaw, Marcus, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

***White House Challenges McCarthy's Claim That Biden Not Critical Enough Of China On Pandemic.*** The Hill (6/23, Mastrangelo, 5.69M) reports White House Communications Director Kate Bedingfield on Wednesday "quoted former President Trump to respond to attacks from" House Minority Leader McCarthy, who in an earlier tweet "suggest[ed] President Biden has not done enough to hold China accountable for the coronavirus pandemic." According to The Hill, "The spat comes as Republicans have sought to undermine Biden's agenda in Congress and blast him for not being more forceful in demanding China be transparent about the origins of the virus."

***Fox News Poll: 60% Believes COVID Leaked From Chinese Lab.*** Fox News (6/23, Blanton, 23.99M) reports on its website that a new Fox News poll of 1,001 registered voters (6/19-6/22) found 60% "believes COVID-19 was created by scientists and leaked from a lab in China,"



which is “nearly double the 31 percent who think the pandemic started naturally.” According to Fox News, “That majority is largely comprised of 79 percent of Republicans and 58 percent of independents who blame a lab leak. Forty-one percent of Democrats agree, while 46 percent believe the virus evolved from nature.”

### **Pew Survey: World’s Wealthiest Nations Increasingly Divided In Wake Of Pandemic.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports that even as world leaders “have drawn comparisons between the coronavirus pandemic and wartime,” for “many of the world’s wealthiest countries, arguably those best equipped to handle the pandemic and attendant economic challenges, covid-19 has not only failed to foster national unity but has instead sowed new divisions, according to survey results released Wednesday.” The Post adds, “In the United States, which has seen bitter debates and even violent clashes over mask mandates, lockdowns and vaccines, 88 percent of respondents to a Pew Research Center survey of 17 advanced economies said they saw the country as more divided now than before the pandemic – the highest percentage among the countries surveyed.”

### **Pace Touts US Donation Of Vaccines To Latin American, Caribbean Countries.**

Asked on CNN Newsroom (6/23, 614K) whether the Biden Administration’s donation of 55 million vaccine doses to countries in Latin America and the Caribbean will make a difference in mitigating the spread of COVID among the large populations in those regions, HHS Director of Global Affairs Loyce Pace said, “This is the largest investment or commitment that a nation has made ever with regards to vaccines...but we know that our work continues. ... We anticipate rolling out even more given the need is so great.” Pace also explained how the Administration determined where to send the first COVID vaccines, saying, “We have a clear sense of where these hot spots are emerging – so we know that needs to drive our decisions. But most importantly, we need to look across public health and understand which countries are really ready to receive these vaccines.”

*COVAX Planning Shakeup To Reduce Financial Risks Amid Insufficient Vaccinations.* Reuters (6/23, Guarascio) reports that having been “shunned by rich countries and failing to meet the needs of the poorest,” the COVAX program, which is “co-led by the World Health Organization (WHO) for fair distribution of COVID-19 vaccines is planning a shake-up, internal documents seen by Reuters show.” Reuters says that despite having a target “of delivering 2 billion doses by the end of the year,” COVAX “so far...has distributed a mere 90 million vaccines.” Reuters adds, “The overhaul is meant to reduce COVAX’s financial risks, increase its focus on the countries most in need and reduce the participation of richer countries as both donors and recipients, according to a paper prepared by Gavi.”

### **Japan Reaches PM’s Target OF 1M Daily COVID Inoculations.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Jackman, 3.57M) reports, “Japan has surpassed 1 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine administered on a single day, meeting Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga’s target as the inoculation drive accelerates ahead of the political pressure points of the Tokyo Olympics and a general election.” The target was reached “on June 14, according to data compiled by Bloomberg using figures released from the prime minister’s office on Wednesday.”

### **Canada Accelerates COVID Vaccination Drive To Reach Milestone For Border Reopening.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Hertzberg, Bolongaro, 3.57M) reports, “Canada’s accelerating vaccination effort has put the country on track to reach key benchmarks for reopening the U.S. border as early as next month.” About 20% of population have received two-dose vaccination, but Prime Minister Justin Trudeau say a 75% two-dose vaccination rate is “the threshold to lift border restrictions.”

### **EU Officials Warn Delta Variant Will Compose 90% Of Cases By Late August.**

The New York Times (6/23, 20.6M) reports the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control Director Andrea Ammon warned on Wednesday that “residents of the European Union should be fully vaccinated against the coronavirus as quickly as possible this summer...as concerns

grew that the contagious Delta variant would sweep across the bloc." Ammon "said the variant was expected to account for 90 percent of all coronavirus cases in the European Union by the end of August. The variant has already spread to 23 European countries; in some it is linked to a limited share of cases, but it is responsible for more than 66 percent of new cases in Portugal, which has faced a recent surge of infections. In Moscow, 90 percent of new cases are reported to be the Delta variant, according to the local authorities."

### **Johnson To Convene Summit To Boost Vaccines In London.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Morales, 3.57M) reports UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson "will convene a London summit to help tackle the lagging Covid-19 vaccination uptake in the U.K. capital, as the government tries to inoculate the most vulnerable groups ahead of the planned lifting of pandemic curbs next month." According to Bloomberg, "Johnson is counting on the vaccine rollout to free Britons from the bulk of coronavirus restrictions that have been in place for the past 15 months."

### **South African COVID Cases Reach Third Peak.**

According to Bloomberg (6/23, Sguazzin, 3.57M), "South Africa's daily Covid-19 infections rose to 17,493, the highest number recorded in the country's third resurgence of the virus." Bloomberg reports the National Institute of Communicable Diseases tally released on Wednesday "is the highest since Jan. 14. Of those tested 24.9% were positive for Covid-19 and 62% of the new infections were in the commercial hub of Gauteng, the NICD said. The number excess deaths, thought to be a more accurate representation of mortality from Covid-19 than official statistics, in the week to Jun. 13 was also the highest since the last week of January, according to a separate report released on Wednesday by the South African Medical Research Council."

### **Uganda Closes Parliament For Two Weeks As COVID Cases Surge.**

Bloomberg (6/23, Ojambo, 3.57M) reports the Ugandan parliament "will close for two weeks after 160 people, including 14 lawmakers, who accessed its premises tested positive for the coronavirus." According to Bloomberg, "Uganda is battling a new wave of Covid-19 infections, having confirmed 73,401 cases and 714 deaths as of Tuesday."

### **US Votes Against UNGA Resolution Calling For End To Cuba Embargo.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that the Biden Administration "continued Washington's tradition of voting against an annual United Nations General Assembly resolution calling for an end to a U.S. economic embargo on Cuba." The resolution "was adopted for the 29th time with 184 votes in favor, three abstentions and two no votes." While the vote "can carry political weight," the embargo can only be lifted by Congress.

*Cubans Complain Of "Odyssey" To Attend US Embassy Interviews.* The Miami Herald (6/23, Martinez, 647K) reports Cubans who are required "to fly to Guyana for visa interviews at the U.S. Embassy there are complaining that Havana-Georgetown tickets are selling on the black market for between \$4,700 and \$7,000, five months after the Cuban government suspended direct flights to Guyana because of the coronavirus pandemic." As a result, what had been a four-hour flight "is now an odyssey for Cubans who have visa interview appointments at the U.S. Embassy, sometimes requiring stops in countries as far as Russia and Turkey, and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates." Cubans now "scour social media in search of information about tickets, hotels and tips from others who have made the trek."

### **Ortega Under Pressure To Ease Crackdown On Nicaraguan Opposition.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports that the Nicaraguan government is "facing growing international pressure this week to halt a crackdown on political opponents amid reports that a prominent journalist fled the country and a former first lady was placed under house arrest. In a joint statement Tuesday, 59 countries at the United Nations Human Rights Council, including the United States, urged the government of President Daniel Ortega to roll back the campaign that has targeted opposition leaders, journalists, human rights activists and prominent business executives

for harassment and arrest ahead of a presidential election in November." Also Tuesday, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet "warned of an 'accelerating deterioration of the human rights situation' in the Central American nation, where she said 'a climate of fear' made it unlikely that a free and fair vote would be held."

### **Olsen: Left-Wing Populism "Thriving" In Latin America.**

Henry Olsen writes for the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) that "left-wing populism is thriving...as recent elections in Mexico and Peru show." Parties backing Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador "won a decisive victory in June's congressional election, capturing 184 of the 300 lower house seats up for election." Peru's recent presidential election "ended in a near tie and the outcome is still under dispute. But what's not disputed is that the left-wing populist candidate, Pedro Castillo, decisively won Peru's poorest eight regions with as much as 89 percent of the vote." These results, Olsen argues, show "how cultural or societal exclusion creates fertile ground for populism." Olsen writes, "Nationalism, economic fairness, cultural inclusion: Less-educated voters want the same types of things worldwide. Elites – on the left or the right – will need to deliver what these voters want. If not, voters will find someone – on the left or the right – who will."

#### ***Levitsky, Vergara: Peruvian Politicians Have Learned From President Trump.***

Harvard professor Steven Levitsky and Universidad del Pacífico professor Alberto Vergara argue in the New York Times (6/23, Levitsky, Vergara, 20.6M) that the recent Peruvian presidential elections were the "most polarized presidential runoff election in 30 years," and they add that candidate Keiko Fujimori's post-election tactics echo former President Trump. Fujimori "has refused to accept defeat, baselessly claiming the election was fraudulent," and she "is trying to make her opponent's votes disappear" as part of a campaign that is "preposterous." The authors warn that the situation is growing increasingly perilous, and they call on the Biden Administration to push back on the delegitimization campaign before it is too late.

### **US, China Reportedly Planning Meeting During G20 Event.**

Bloomberg (6/23, 3.57M) reports that, according to the Financial Times, top US and Chinese diplomats "may hold talks during a Group of 20 meeting next week in Italy...a sign the governments of the world's biggest economies may be taking steps toward easing tensions." Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken could meet as part of the planning, though no details are confirmed.

***Xi Speaks To Astronauts Aboard China's Space Station.*** The AP (6/23) reports Chinese President Xi Jinping spoke Wednesday with three astronauts who are spending the next three months on China's permanent space station, "and called their mission an important milestone in China's space industry." Xi told Nie Haisheng, Liu Boming, and Tang Hongbo, "We are all very happy to see you are in good shape and the work is going well. ... The building of the space station is an important milestone in China's space industry and it will make a pioneering contribution to the peaceful use of...space by mankind. ... We in Beijing await your triumphant return."

James Hohmann writes in The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) that the US needs to "worry more about a rising and militarizing China than a revanchist Russia. The new space race helps illustrate why." Hohmann cites examples of China having made "cosmic strides that, unlike the Kremlin's advances during the Cold War, have yet to rouse Washington out of its relative complacency." He adds, "Fortunately, most leaders in both U.S. political parties recognize the need to counter China and support our space program. In 2019, the Trump administration moved up by four years, to 2024, the timetable for returning astronauts to the moon. The Biden team embraces this aggressive, if underfunded, goal. NASA Administrator Bill Nelson held up a photograph of China's Mars rover during a recent House hearing as he requested more funding for the Human Landing System." Nelson said, "That should tell us something about our need to get off our duff."

### **Pentagon Reports No Increased Violence Against US Soldiers In Afghanistan.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that, according to White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki, the Pentagon "is

overseeing an orderly withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan and the United States has not seen an increase in violence directed against its troops in the country in the past year." She "told a news briefing that while there had been increased attacks on Afghan forces and the government compared with a year ago 'we have not seen an increase in attacks on our military or presence since February 2020.'"

***US Intelligence Report Predicts Collapse Of Afghan Government Within Six Months Of Withdrawal.*** The Wall Street Journal (6/23, A1, Lubold, Trofimov, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that, according to US intelligence sources, the US intelligence community has concluded the Afghan government could fall as soon as six months after the final US forces withdraw. Prior reports were invalidated after Taliban forces "swept through northern Afghanistan last week, seizing dozens of districts and surrounding major cities."

***Congressional Lawmakers Call On The Biden Administration To Evacuate Afghan Support Staff Before September 11.*** The AP (6/23, Watson) reports that a growing bipartisan group of lawmakers are calling on the Biden Administration to "evacuate thousands of Afghans who worked as interpreters or otherwise helped U.S. military operations there in the past two decades" because of growing fears that the Taliban will execute them. Rep. Peter Meijer (R-MI) said last week, "We have a moral obligation to protect our brave allies who put their lives on the line for us, and we've been working for months to engage the administration and make sure there's a plan, with few concrete results." Current proposals cite Guam as a useful holding location, and Guam's government "wrote to President Joe Biden to say the territory was ready to help if needed."

### **Residential Bombing Kills Four In Pakistan.**

Reuters (6/23, Bukhari) reports a bombing in the residential area of Lahore "killed four people on Wednesday, including a child, and wounded 14, police said, but there was no immediate claim of responsibility." Among those wounded "in the powerful blast were some police officers manning a checkpoint next to the house of Hafiz Saeed, the jailed founder of Islamist militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)." Provincial police chief Inam Ghani told reporters, "what we see is that our law enforcement agencies are the target."

### **Pro-Democracy Newspaper Apple Daily Closes Amid China's Hong Kong Crackdown.**

The New York Times (6/23, Ramzy, May, 20.6M) reports the "pro-democracy" Hong Kong newspaper Apple Daily "said on Wednesday that it was closing less than a week after the police froze its accounts, raided its offices and arrested top editors, as the government's escalating campaign against dissent takes aim at the city's once vaunted media freedoms." The Times says the "popular" newspaper had "long needled Beijing with its rambunctious support of pro-democracy protesters, aggressive investigations of officials and lampooning of China's Communist Party leadership," but "now China has effectively silenced the paper – and along with it, one of its most defiant critics," a move that "struck a blow to the unique character of the city itself."

Likewise, the Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports the newspaper's "forced closure...after the arrest of its founder, top executives and a government asset seizure, is the starkest example yet of the seismic changes underway in Hong Kong, the once-autonomous Chinese territory. Bedrocks of the city – the right to assembly, to a free press, to one's opinion – have crumbled swiftly in the months since Beijing passed a national security law designed to remake Hong Kong in its image." The Post adds that with "street demonstrations quashed, elections postponed and electoral rules changed, the simple act of reading Apple Daily was one of the last remaining forms of free expression in Hong Kong."

Similarly, the AP (6/23, Soo, Cheng) says "the silencing of a prominent pro-democracy voice is the latest sign of China's determination to exert greater control over the city," as does Reuters (6/23), which reports it "marks the end of an era for media freedom in the Chinese-ruled city, critics say." Axios (6/23, Falconer, 1.26M) and The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provide similar coverage while The Hill (6/23, Vakil, 5.69M) reports Sens. Rob Portman (R-OH) and Jim Risch (R-ID) on Wednesday "voiced concerns about the closure of the only remaining pro-democracy newspaper in Hong Kong following the arrest of five of its editors and executives."

***Hong Kong Opens First Trial Under National Security Law.*** The New York Times (6/23, Ramzy, 20.6M) reports that Hong Kong opened the trial against Tong Ying-kit, who "collided into several riot police officers" as he "rode a motorcycle through a Hong Kong neighborhood, flying a large flag emblazoned with a popular antigovernment protest slogan." Prosecutors "have accused Mr. Tong of terrorism, for crashing his motorcycle into the police officers, and incitement to commit secession, for displaying a protest slogan the authorities say is a call for independence for the semiautonomous Chinese territory." The trial "is a test of how the city's vaunted judicial system, based on British common law principles of fairness and independence, will interpret and enforce Beijing's far-reaching security law, in which political crimes are vaguely defined." China "says the law is necessary to root out threats to Beijing's sovereignty," but activists "said the law puts the city's judicial independence in peril." Reuters (6/23) reports that while Hong Kong common law "has traditionally allowed defendants to seek release unless prosecutors can show lawful grounds for their detention," the new national security legislation forces the defendant to "prove they will not break the law if released on bail."

### **NKorean FM: Kim "Not Considering" Any Resumption In Talks With The US.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Son Gwon insisted on Wednesday that the Kim regime is "not considering any contact with the United States." State media quoted Ri as saying, "We are not considering even the possibility of any contact with the U.S., let alone having it, which would get us nowhere, only taking up precious time." Reuters notes that on Monday, "the new U.S. envoy for North Korea said in Seoul...that he looked forward to a 'positive response soon' on dialogue from Pyongyang."

***Kim Jong Un Publishes New Guide For North Korean Family Life.*** The Washington Post (6/22, 10.52M) examines the Seventh Congress of the Socialist Women's Union of Korea, which seeks to guide North Korean woman on how to interact with North Korean society as well as raise their families. North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un "didn't attend," but he wrote a letter that an official read aloud to the audience. Kim "warned women to protect their children from 'alien ideology, culture and lifestyles,'" and he added that they "should wear traditional clothing that helps make 'all the aspects of life brim over with our flavor, taste and national emotions.'"

### **WPost: US Must Call Out India For Internet Censorship.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) criticizes Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his administration for "playing a political pressure game with technology companies" as it is "demanding takedowns not only of misinformation but also of plain old criticism and plain old truth, and threatening firms with legal action should they fail to comply." The Post argues that the US cannot ignore India's threats because censorship "matters a great deal even in nations thousands of miles away – because it sends a signal about what one populous and prominent country thinks still-developing national Internets should look like, and also because it sends a signal about what other countries are willing to tolerate."

### **Blinken Indicates US, Germany Remain At Impasse Over Nord Stream Pipeline.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that before meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin on Wednesday, Secretary of State Blinken said, "I think it's fair to say that the United States has no better partner, no better friend in the world than Germany." However, the AP (6/23, Lee) reports that Blinken and German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas "struggled Wednesday to resolve a major dispute over a Russian gas pipeline," and "there was no sign of progress in talks to overcome the impasse over the Nord Stream 2 pipeline. And neither Blinken nor Maas could offer a timetable for a possible resolution." Reuters (6/23) reports Blinken "described the Nordstream 2 gas pipeline as a Russian geopolitical project that undermines the security of Ukraine, adding the United States wants to ensure Russia does not use energy as a coercive tool against any European state."

***France, Germany Back EU-Putin Summit.*** Reuters (6/23) reports the governments of France and Germany "proposed on Wednesday a European Union summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin to try to improve relations...potentially paving the way for the first such meeting since 2014." According to Reuters, there is "concern in Paris and Berlin that the EU's approach to

Russia in recent years has mainly been focused on sanctions on Moscow. 'We need to have a discussion about how to get away from this negative spiral ... but we need to advance united,' one senior EU diplomat said, adding that some Baltic countries wary of Russia may not agree to a summit."

### **Russia Says It Used Bombs, Warning Shots To Deter UK Warship Near Sevastopol.**

The AP (6/23, Isachenkov) reports the Russian Defense Ministry "said one of its warships in the Black Sea fired warning shots and a warplane dropped bombs Wednesday to force a British destroyer out of an area near Crimea that Moscow claims as its territorial waters, but Britain denied that account and insisted its ship wasn't fired upon." According to the AP, "It was the first time since the Cold War that Moscow acknowledged using live ammunition to deter a NATO warship, reflecting the growing risk of military incidents amid soaring tensions between Russia and the West." The AP says that according to Russian officials, "a patrol ship fired warning shots after the HMS Defender had ignored a notice against intrusion and sailed 3 kilometers...into Russia's territorial waters near Sevastopol, the main Russian naval base in Crimea. It said a Russian...bomber also dropped four bombs ahead of the vessel to persuade the Defender to change course."

Axios (6/23, Basu, 1.26M) reports the UK Ministry of Defense "disputed that any warning shots were fired, saying in a statement, 'We believe the Russians were undertaking a gunnery exercise in the Black Sea and provided the maritime community with prior-warning of their activity. ... No shots were directed at HMS Defender and we do not recognise the claim that bombs were dropped in her path.'" According to Reuters (6/23), "Military experts said that whether or not the details of the Russian or British accounts were accurate, the incident appeared to represent an escalation in confrontation between the West and Russia over disputed sea lanes. ... 'This was done to test Russian resolve over Crimea,' Mark Gray, a maritime security specialist and a retired colonel with Britain's Royal Marines, told Reuters. 'Russia is trying to create facts on the ground and get them respected internationally, so that their annexation is in effect rubber-stamped by the world,' he said."

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports that Jonathan Beale, "a BBC journalist on board the Defender, reported that shots were heard, out of range. He said that Russian warplanes buzzed the vessel but that it did not deviate from its course to Georgia." The New York Times (6/23, Nechepurenko, 20.6M) reports that "in a statement on Wednesday reacting to reports of the Russian actions, Ukraine's foreign minister, Dmytro Kuleba, called Russia's actions in the Black Sea routinely 'aggressive and provocative,' adding that Russia's 'militarization of Crimea poses a lasting threat to Ukraine.'" Bloomberg (6/23, Meyer, Donaldson, 3.57M) and The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provide similar coverage.

### **Lukashenko Threatens To Allow Migrants, Smugglers Into EU.**

The AP (6/23, Karmanau) reports that Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko "has warned that his country will not try to stem a flow of illegal migrants to the European Union, a move that comes after the EU tightened its sanctions on the country." Lukashenko "denounced the sanctions as what he called a 'hybrid war' waged by the West against Belarus and warned the country's EU neighbors – Latvia, Lithuania and Poland – that they shouldn't expect Belarusian authorities to stop illegal migrants from crossing the border." Lukashenko is quoted as saying, "They are wailing: 'Ah, Belarusians are not protecting them – thousands of illegal immigrants are rushing into Lithuania, Latvia and Poland.' They demand that we protect them from smuggling and drugs. I just want to ask, are you mad? You have unleashed a hybrid war against us and now you demand that we protect you as we did before."

### **EU Criticizes Hungarian Anti-LGBT Law.**

The Washington Post (6/23, 10.52M) reports that EU leaders "issued a sharp challenge to a new law in Hungary that critics say targets gays, lesbians and transgender people, threatening to sue Budapest over violations of fundamental human rights if it does not back down immediately." European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen led the way, and her warning "was an

unusually swift intervention." She said to reporters, "I strongly believe in a European Union where you are free to love who you want, and I believe in a European Union that embraces diversity." She continued, "So I will use all the powers of the commission to ensure that the rights of all E.U. citizens are guaranteed, whoever you are and wherever you live."

The New York Times (6/23, Erlanger, 20.6M) reports Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban "has defended the law," and he will "come under pressure to withdraw it during a European Union meeting of heads of state and government on Thursday and Friday." European ambassadors have "excoriated the bill in pre-summit background briefings on Wednesday, saying it violated European Union treaties and crossed red lines."

The AP (6/23, Spike) and Bloomberg (6/23, Roskopf, Simon, 3.57M) provide additional coverage.

***Union of European Football Associations Denies German Petition To Light Stadium In Rainbow Colors.*** Reuters (6/22) reports that the Union of European Football Associations "has refused a request from Munich's mayor for the stadium to be lit in rainbow colours for Germany's Euro 2020 match against Hungary on Wednesday in protest at an anti-LGBTQ law." Mayor Dieter Reiter "wanted to highlight legislation in Hungary banning school materials deemed to promote homosexuality and gender change and restricting the media from showing such content in programmed accessible to minors," but the UEFA responded, "UEFA, through its statutes, is a politically and religiously neutral organization."

### **EU Commission Approves French Euro Recovery Plan.**

Reuters (6/23) reports the European Commission on Wednesday approved "France's 39.5 billion euro plan to recover from the pandemic and transform the economy to become greener and more digitalised in coming years." The scheme will be "financed from EU grants until 2026." Once the plan is "also approved by EU finance ministers in July, France will get 5.1 billion euros in pre-financing for projects foreseen under the plan." The French plan devotes "another 21% of the total to make the economy more fit for the digital era, including investment in research, new digital technologies, the digitalisation of public administration, cybersecurity, electronic identity and eHealth."

### **Amnesty International Alleges Greece Deporting Registered Asylum Seekers.**

The AP (6/23) reports Amnesty International "said Wednesday that the practice of migrant pushbacks in Greece has become so bad that even people who have applied for asylum and been in the country for some time are being summarily picked up and deported." Charity groups and media outlets "routinely accuse Greek authorities and the EU's border agency Frontex of denying people their right to apply for asylum – which is illegal under EU law and refugee treaties – often in the Aegean Sea between Turkey and the Greek islands." Greece and Frontex "strenuously deny conducting such pushbacks," but in a new report Amnesty says pushbacks have become so "entrenched" that it has documented four cases "where people affected had a registered protection status in Greece or had been in the country days or weeks before, and were apprehended well inland."

### **Greek Priest Arrested For Acid Attack On Bishops.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that Greek police "have arrested a priest who attacked metropolitan bishops at the Petraki Monastery in Athens on Wednesday by dousing them with acid." The bishops "were meeting to consider deposing the priest," and they "suffered burns on their faces and hands and were rushed to hospital."

### **Rouhani Aide: US Has Agreed To Lift Sanctions On Iranian Oil, Shipping Sectors.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that on Wednesday, "outgoing" Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's chief of staff Mahmoud Vaezi "said...the United States had agreed to remove all sanctions on Iran's oil and shipping, although Germany cautioned that major issues remained at talks between Tehran and world powers to revive a 2015 nuclear deal. ... 'An agreement has been reached to remove all insurance, oil and shipping sanctions that were imposed by (former U.S. President Donald) Trump,'



Vaezi was quoted as saying by Iranian state media." According to Reuters, "The Iranian remarks...echoed previous assertions by officials in Rouhani's pragmatist camp that Washington is prepared to make major concessions at the talks, which have been under way since April in Vienna."

Reuters (6/23) reports that Vaezi also said Iran "will decide whether to extend its monitoring deal with the International Atomic Energy Agency after its expiry on June 24. ... 'It has been decided that after the expiration of the agreement's deadline, Iran's Supreme National Security Council (will) decide about the agreement's extension at its first meeting,' Vaezi said." Bloomberg (6/23, Motevalli, 3.57M) reports that Iran "had said it was focused on removing the Trump-era sanctions" in prior statements, so Vaezi's comments "may indicate that the scope of the negotiations has widened."

***Iran Claims To Have Thwarted Sabotage Attack On IAEA Building Near Tehran.*** The AP (6/23, Karimi, DeBre) reports that Iranian state media claimed on Wednesday that "Iranian authorities have thwarted what they called a 'sabotage attack' targeting a civilian nuclear facility...as details about the incident remained scarce. The attempted attack against a building belonging to Iran's Atomic Energy Organization 'left no casualties or damages and was unable to disrupt the Iranian nuclear program,' Iranian state television reported." According to the AP, "Iranian media offered no details on the kind of attack, saying only that the move targeted a sprawling nuclear center located in Karaj city, just some 40 kilometers (25 miles) northwest of Tehran." The Wall Street Journal (6/23, Rasmussen, Eqbali, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

***Iran, IAEA Facing Inspection Deadline.*** Bloomberg (6/23, Tirone, 3.57M) reports that Iran and IAEA investigators "are on the clock to renew a temporary atomic-monitoring pact due to expire Thursday, a key step before broader negotiations resume on reviving the oil-rich Islamic Republic's nuclear agreement with world powers." International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi "has been forced to press Iran into prolonging the pact" two times over the past month, and he has "been warning for weeks that failure to extend the pact would degrade international understanding of the Persian Gulf country's nuclear program just as Iran is massively expanding uranium enrichment with advanced new technologies."

***Iran Reportedly Failed To Launch Space Rocket.*** The AP (6/23, Gambrell) reports that, according to anonymous sources, Iran "likely conducted a failed launch of a satellite-carrying rocket in recent days and now appears to be preparing to try again, the country's latest effort to advance its space program amid tensions with the West over its tattered nuclear deal." The attempt "comes as Iran's space program has suffered a series of high-profile losses, while its paramilitary Revolutionary Guard runs its own parallel program that launched a satellite into orbit last year."

***White House, Israel Reportedly Preparing For New Iranian Drone Threat.*** Axios (6/23, Ravid, 1.26M) reports that, according to anonymous Israeli and US sources, the Biden Administration and the Israeli government "held talks recently on countering the proliferation of Iranian drones and cruise missiles among its proxies in Iraq, Yemen, Syria and Lebanon." The two countries "are highly concerned" about the growth of drone attacks, which could "spread to additional groups who could target their forces in the region."

***MTN Group, ZTE Accused Of Indirectly Supporting Iranian Terror Campaign In Iraq.*** Bloomberg (6/23, Prinsloo, Hurtado, 3.57M) reports African wireless carrier MTN Group Ltd and Chinese technology company ZTE Corp "were accused in a U.S. lawsuit of indirectly supporting an Iranian terrorist campaign that resulted in Americans being injured and killed in Iraq." 50 Americans "claim MTN and ZTE did business with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, even though they knew the transactions would help finance, arm and support the Iranian group's terror campaign in neighboring Iraq," in a lawsuit filed on Tuesday in New York.

### **Biden Administration Reportedly Urging Israel To Include Sudanese Civilian Leadership In Normalization Talks.**

Axios (6/23, Ravid, 1.26M) reports that, according to Israeli sources, the Biden Administration "is urging the Israeli government to start engaging with Sudan's civilian leaders, rather than just the



military, as part of the normalization process between the countries." The Israeli government "has communicated almost exclusively with the military, starting with a summit 18 months ago between then-Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Gen. Abdel Fatah al-Burhan," but the civilian leadership remains locked out of the process.

***Israel Demanding Qatari Funds Not Be Used To Re-Arm Hamas.*** Barak Ravid of Axios (6/23, Ravid, 1.26M) says, "The indirect talks between Israel and Hamas to stabilize the ceasefire in Gaza and begin the reconstruction process have made little progress, raising concerns of renewed violence." According to Ravid, "Israel is threatening to hold up the reconstruction process, and Hamas this week rejected a UN plan to fund it." Ravid says "the main stumbling block at the moment is the transfer of Qatari funds to Gaza." Ravid goes on to say that Qatar "has been providing \$30-60 million in cash each month to Hamas," and "has also pledged \$500 million for the reconstruction." But "after last month's fighting, Israel asked the UN to develop a mechanism to ensure the funds go toward humanitarian purposes and not to re-arm Hamas."

***Poll Finds Liberal Democrats Believe The US Should Do More For Palestinians.*** The AP (6/23, Knickmeyer, Swanson) says "a new poll on American attitudes toward a core conflict in the Middle East finds about half of Democrats want the U.S. to do more to support the Palestinians, showing that a growing rift among Democratic lawmakers is also reflected in the party's base." The AP reports that the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll "shows more Americans disapprove of President Joe Biden's approach to the conflict than approve of it. Among Democrats, 51% say the U.S. is not supportive enough of the Palestinians. The sentiment jumps to 62% among Democrats who describe themselves as liberal. On the other hand, 49% of Republicans say the U.S. is not supportive enough of the Israelis, a number that rises to 61% among those who say they're conservative."

### **UN Secretary-General Guterres Calls On UNSC To Renew Cross Border Aid Program For Syria.**

Reuters (6/23) reports UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres "appealed to the Security Council on Wednesday to renew a cross-border aid operation into war-torn Syria for another year, warning that a failure to do so would be devastating for millions of people." He "addressed the 15-member body ahead of a likely showdown next month between Western members and Russia and China over the renewal of the mandate for the long-running aid operation, which expires on July 10," saying, "A failure to extend the council's authorization would have devastating consequences."

### **International Leaders Call On Foreign Fighters To Leave Libya.**

Bloomberg (6/23, El-Tablawy, Nicola, 3.57M) reports that international leaders "stressed Wednesday the need for foreign fighters and mercenaries to be gradually withdrawn from Libya to avoid a lopsided power balance, tackling head on a major sticking point in the conflict that has ravaged the OPEC member." The comments were made during an international conference "hosted by Germany and the United Nations in Berlin," and the call "was accompanied by a renewed commitment to push ahead with December elections critical to stabilizing the country after a decade of turmoil."

Reuters (6/23) reports Libyan Foreign Minister Najla Mangoush "said there was progress on the issues of foreign mercenaries in the country and that 'hopefully within coming days' they would be withdrawn on both sides of the conflict, after an international meeting in Berlin." According to Reuters, German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas "said he believed there was an understanding between Turkey and Russia that any withdrawal would be step-by-step to maintain balance and would not happen overnight."

### **Airstrike On Tigray Market Kills At Least 80; Health Workers Blocked By Ethiopian Military.**

The AP (6/23) reports that "an airstrike hit a busy market in Ethiopia's northern Tigray village of Togoga on Tuesday and killed at least 51 people," and "an official with Tigray's health bureau" says "more than 100 other people were wounded, more than 50 seriously, and at least 33 people were still missing." The AP says "the alleged airstrike comes amid some of the fiercest fighting in the

Tigray region since the conflict began in November as Ethiopian forces supported by those from neighboring Eritrea pursue Tigray's former leaders."

Reuters (6/23) reports that Ethiopian military spokesman Colonel Getnet Adane "did not confirm or deny the incident." According to Reuters, "Health workers helping with the response in Togoga told Reuters on Wednesday that Ethiopian soldiers were blocking the main road from Mekelle to the town and preventing ambulances from reaching the scene." The New York Times (6/23, Dahir, 20.6M) is reporting that "at least 80 people were killed and 43 others wounded in Togoga." The Times adds that a UN official "said several ambulances operated by the Ethiopian Red Cross had been denied access to the scene of the bombing by troops in Mekelle."

### **African Nations Promise Military Support To Mozambique Over Insurgency Threat.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that the Southern African Development Community "approved on Wednesday the deployment of troops to Mozambique to help it combat an escalating Islamic State-linked insurgency that threatens stability in the relatively peaceful region." The organization had "been grappling with how to respond to the conflict, which is concentrated in Mozambique's northern province of Cabo Delgado."

### **Ivory Coast Sentenced Former Prime Minister Soro To Life Imprisonment.**

Reuters (6/23) reports the Ivory Coast "sentenced former prime minister and rebel leader Guillaume Soro in absentia to life in prison on charges of plotting a coup against his former ally President Alassane Ouattara." Soro "is in exile in Europe," and he "denied the charges and denounced them as politically motivated."

### **Mauritania Arrests Former President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz On Corruption Charges.**

Reuters (6/23) reports that Mauritanian authorities "have arrested former president Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, one of his lawyers said on Wednesday, amid an ongoing investigation into alleged high-level corruption during his time in office." He "was indicted in March and placed under house arrest in May, following a parliamentary investigation into suspected graft during his administration."

## **THE BIG PICTURE**

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

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

Biden Administration Removes Fannie, Freddie Overseer After Court Ruling

Jack Ma's Ant In Talks To Share Data Trove With State Firms

Amazon And Other Tech Giants Race To Buy Up Renewable Energy

Afghan Government Could Collapse Six Months After US Withdrawal, New Intelligence Assessment Says

Inside Comcast's Plan To Become A Streaming Giant

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

Supreme Court Rules For Cheerleader Punished For Vulgar Snapchat Message

How Adams Built A Diverse Coalition That Put Him Ahead In The Mayor's Race

Biden Aims To Bolster Police Departments As Homicides Increase

Staving Off GOP Attacks, Democrats Show New Urgency On Crime

'Forbidden Fruit': Apple Daily, Pro-Democracy Newspaper In Hong Kong, Is Forced To Close

Britney Spears: 'I Just Want My Life Back'

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

Delta Variant A Rising Threat To Unvaccinated

Biden Lays Out Plan To Reduce Crime Rate

[Court Backs Cheerleader In Free-Speech Dispute](#)

[MLB In A Sticky Spot With New Rules](#)

[Vote Access Disparities Grow With New Laws](#)

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

[Berlin And Paris Propose Reset For EU Relations With Moscow](#)

[GSK Chief Shrugs Off Concerns Over Leadership As She Outlines Vision](#)

[Africa's Third Wave: 'What Haunts Me A Lot Is The Indian Scenario'](#)

[Lego Makes Breakthrough In Quest For Greener Bricks](#)

[Greensill Sent All Loans Under Government Scheme To Gupta-Linked Companies](#)

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

**ABC:** Covid Update; Washington, DC-Bridge Collapse; Biden-Gun Violence; JCS Chairman-West Point; January 6th Cases; Supreme Court-Cheerleader; Britney Spears; Border Patrol Chief; Harris-Border Visit; Wildfires.

**CBS:** Covid Update; Supreme Court-Cheerleader; Washington, DC-Bridge Collapse; Biden-Gun Violence; Harris-Border Visit; January 6th Cases; Military-Sexual Assault; Britney Spears.

**NBC:** Covid Update; CDC Director; Britney Spears; Washington, DC-Bridge Collapse; Biden-Gun Violence; Supreme Court-Cheerleader; McAfee Dead; Harris-Border Visit; Emhoff-Interview; Military-Sexual Assault.

### ***Network TV At A Glance:***

Covid Update – 11 minutes, 9 seconds

Biden-Gun Violence – 7 minutes, 20 seconds

Britney Spears – 5 minutes, 25 seconds

Supreme Court-Cheerleader – 5 minutes, 20 seconds

Military-Sexual Assault – 3 minutes, 35 seconds

Washington, DC-Bridge Collapse – 3 minutes, 35 seconds

January 6th Cases – 2 minutes, 50 seconds

Harris-Border Visit – 2 minutes, 45 seconds

## **WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE**

### **Today's Events In Washington.**

#### **White House:**

- President Biden — [President Biden visits North Carolina as part of nationwide tour on COVID-19 vaccinations](#) – President Joe Biden visits North Carolina as part of nationwide tour 'to reach millions of Americans who still need protection against coronavirus (COVID-19), highlight the ease of getting vaccinated, encourage vaccinations, and mobilize grassroots vaccine education and outreach efforts'

*Location: Raleigh, NC*

- Vice President Harris — No public schedule.
- First Lady Jill Biden — [Jill Biden visits Florida as part of nationwide tour on COVID-19 vaccinations](#) – First Lady Dr Jill Biden visits Florida as part of nationwide tour 'to reach millions of Americans who still need protection against coronavirus (COVID-19), highlight the ease of getting vaccinated, encourage vaccinations, and mobilize grassroots vaccine education and outreach efforts'. She visits a drive-through vaccination site at Osceola Community Health Services in Kissimmee (2:00 PM EDT), and joins the Tampa Bay Lightning for the AdventHealth Shots On Ice vaccination event – at which Floridians can receive vaccinations, take shots on net from the ice, take photos with ThunderBug and the Zamboni, receive Lightning merchandise, and partake in sweepstakes – at AMALIE Arena in Tampa (4:45 PM EDT).

#### **US Senate:**

- [Senate Judiciary Committee Executive Business Meeting](#) – Executive Business Meeting, to

consider the nominations of Margaret Irene Strickland to be U.S. District Judge for the District of New Mexico, David Chipman to be Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives Director, Ur Mendoza Jaddou to be U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director, Eunice Lee to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Veronica Rossman to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, and David Estudillo, Lauren King, and Tana Lin to be U.S. District Judges for the Western District of Washington; and 'S. 807, Cameras in the Courtroom Act of 2021' and 'S. 818, Sunshine in the Courtroom Act of 2021'

*Location: Rm 216, Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 9:00 AM*

- Energy Secretary Granholm testifies to Senate Armed Services Committee on atomic energy defense activities – Hearing on 'Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration on Atomic Energy Defense Activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program', with testimony from Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm; and NNSA Acting Administrator Charles Verdon \* Held in a partly closed format

*Location: Rm G50, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 9:00 AM*

- Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing on infrastructure – Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources hearing to examine the infrastructure needs of the U.S. energy sector, western water, and public lands, and to consider 'S. XXXX, the Energy Infrastructure Act', with testimony from Acting Under Secretary of Energy for Science and Energy Dr Kathleen Hogan; Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science Tanya Trujillo; National Forest System Deputy Chief Chris French; American Action Forum President Dr Douglas Holtz-Eakin; The National Wildlife Federation President and CEO Collin O'Mara; and Manhattan Institute Senior Fellow Mark Mills

*Location: Rm 366, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 9:30 AM*

- Senate Housing Committee hearing on bipartisan bills to increase access to housing – Hearing on 'Examining Bipartisan Bills to Increase Access to Housing', with testimony from Opportunity Finance Network President and CEO Lisa Mensah; National Alliance to End Homelessness President and CEO Nan Roman; and American Enterprise Institute Adjunct Scholar Howard Husock

*Location: Rm 538, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- Senate Transportation Committee nominations hearing – Hybrid nominations hearing considers Jennifer Homendy to be National Transportation Safety Board Chair; Karen Hedlund to be a Surface Transportation Board member; Dr Robert Hampshire to be Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Research and Technology; and Carol Petsonk to be Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Aviation and International Affairs \* Held virtually and in-person

*Location: Rm 253, Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- Senate Environment and Public Works Committee oversight hearing on role of natural features in water resources projects – Oversight hearing on 'The Role of Natural and Nature-Based Features in Water Resources Projects', with testimony from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center Senior Research Scientist and National Program Lead for Engineering with Nature Dr Todd Bridges; University of Maryland Research Professor (Emeritus) Dr Gerald Galloway; Greater Lafourche Port Commission Executive Director Chett Chiasson; National Waterways Conference President and CEO Julie Ufner; and Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency Executive Director Richard Johnson

*Location: Rm 406, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing on U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps budget – Defense Subcommittee hearing on 'Navy and Marine Corps Budget', with testimony from Acting Secretary of the Navy Thomas Harker; Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday; and U.S. Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger

*Location: Rm 192, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- Senate Finance Committee nominations hearing – Nominations hearing considers Sarah Bianchi to be Deputy U.S. Trade Representative for Asia, Africa, Investment, Services, Textiles, and

Industrial Competitiveness, with the rank of ambassador; Jayme Ray White to be Deputy U.S. Trade Representative for Western Hemisphere, Europe, the Middle East, Labor, and Environment, with the rank of ambassador; and Melanie Anne Egorin to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services

*Location: Rm 215, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:30 AM*

- Senate Foreign Relations Committee Business Meeting – Business Meeting, with agenda including nominations of Michele Jeanne Sison to be Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, Larry Edward Andre Jr. to be U.S. Ambassador to Somalia, Maria Brewer to be U.S. Ambassador to Lesotho, Tulinabo Mushingi to be U.S. Ambassador to Angola and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as U.S. Ambassador to Sao Tome and Principe, Elizabeth Moore Aubin to be U.S. Ambassador to Algeria, Eugene Young to be U.S. Ambassador to the Congo, Christopher John Lamora to be U.S. Ambassador to Cameroon, Todd Robinson to be Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, and Daniel Kritenbrink to be Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs; plus 'S. 65, Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act', with an amendment, and 'S. 1061, Israel Relations Normalization Act of 2021', with an amendment

*Location: Rm 106, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC; 11:00 AM*

**US House:**

- Dem Rep. Seth Moulton launches 'Evacuation Plan for Afghan Allies' – Democratic Rep. Seth Moulton and Afghanistan and Iraq veterans unveil a 'detailed' plan to evacuate Afghans who worked with U.S. armed forces during the war as translators, recruiters and guides before the end of the drawdown of U.S. troops. Speakers include interpreters Samey Honaryar and Khalil Arab, former Marine Corps officer Reed Bonadonna, and former U.S. Air Force officer Kristen Babicki

*Location: House Triangle, Washington, DC; 9:00 AM*

- House Reform Committee hearing on 'the need for comprehensive paid leave' – Virtual hearing on 'Leading by Example: The Need for Comprehensive Paid Leave for the Federal Workforce and Beyond', held via Zoom, with testimony from American Federation of Government Employees National President Everett Kelley; New America Better Life Lab Senior Fellow for Paid Leave Policy and Strategy Vicki Shabo; National Partnership for Women & Families Interim Vice President for Economic Justice and Congressional Relations Lelaine Bigelow; and Runamok Maple co-owner and CEO Eric Sorkin

*Location: Virtual Event; 10:00 AM*

- House Administration subcommittee hearing on 'Voting in America' – Elections Subcommittee hybrid hearing on 'Voting in America: A National Perspective on the Right to Vote, Methods of Election, Jurisdictional Boundaries, and Redistricting' \* Held virtually and in-person

*Location: Rm 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- House Foreign Affairs subcommittee / NATO Parliamentary Assembly joint hearing (virtual) – House Committee on Foreign Affairs Europe, Energy, the Environment and Cyber Subcommittee and NATO Parliamentary Assembly joint virtual hearing on 'NATO 2030: A Celebration of Origins and an Eye Toward the Future', held via Cisco Webex, with testimony from former NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen; former NATO Deputy Secretary General Rose Gottemoeller; former U.S. Ambassador to NATO Dr Ivo Daalder; and NATO 2030 Reflection Group Co-Chair Dr A. Wess Mitchell

*Location: Virtual Event; 10:00 AM*

- House Science subcommittee hearing on plastic waste reduction and recycling research – Research and Technology Subcommittee hybrid hearing on 'Plastic Waste Reduction and Recycling Research: Moving from Staggering Statistics to Sustainable Systems', with testimony from The Recycling Partnership CEO Keefe Harrison; University of Minnesota National Science Foundation Center for Sustainable Polymers Director and Principal Investigator Dr Marc Hillmyer; Center for Sustainable Systems Director Dr Gregory Keoleian; and American Chemistry Council Plastics Division Vice President Joshua Baca \* Held via Zoom and in-person

*Location: Rm 2318, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- House Small Business subcommittee hearing on CMMC implementation – Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations Subcommittee hybrid hearing on ‘CMMC Implementation: What It Means for Small Businesses’, with testimony from PillieroMazza partner Jonathan Williams; CyberNINES President Scott Singer; T47 International CEO Tina Wilson; and Ryzhka International President Michael Dunbar (on behalf of HUBZone Contractors National Council) \* Held via Zoom and in-person

*Location: Rm 2360, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM*

- Education Secretary Cardona testifies to House committee (virtual) – Virtual hearing on ‘Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Education’, held via Zoom, with testimony from Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona

*Location: Virtual Event; 10:15 AM*

- House Budget Committee hearing on FY’22 DoD budget – Hybrid hearing on ‘Department of Defense’s Fiscal Year 2022 Budget’, with testimony from Under Secretary of Defense and DoD Comptroller/CFO Michael McCord; and Joint Staff Director of Force Structure, Resources and Assessment (J8) Vice Adm. Ronald Boxall \* Held via Zoom and in-person

*Location: Rm 210, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:30 AM*

- House Commerce subcommittee hearing on ‘legislation to advance equity and public health’ – Health Subcommittee hybrid hearing on ‘Empowered by Data: Legislation to Advance Equity and Public Health’, with testimony from SCAN Health Plan Chief Medical Officer Romilla Batra; Johns Hopkins University Centers for Civic Impact Executive Director Beth Blauer; Google Health Chief Health Officer Karen DeSalvo; ChenMed National Director of Primary Care Faisal Syed; and Nemours Children’s Health System Executive Vice President and Chief Population Health Officer Kara Odom Walker \* Held via Cisco Webex and in-person

*Location: Rm 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:30 AM*

- House Transportation and Infrastructure subcommittee first hearing on President Biden’s FY’22 budget – Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee hybrid hearing on ‘President Biden’s Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request: Agency Policies and Perspectives (Part I)’, with testimony from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chief of Engineers and Commanding General Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon; Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jaime Pinkham; Tennessee Valley Authority President and CEO Jeff Lyash; and U.S. Sector of the International Boundary and Water Commission (U.S. IBWC) Acting Commissioner Daniel Avila \* Held virtually and in-person

*Location: Rm 2167, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 11:00 AM*

- House meets for legislative business – House of Representatives meets for legislative business, with agenda for the week including consideration of ‘H.R. 2062 – Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act of 2021’, ‘H.R. 239 – Equal Access to Contraception for Veterans Act’, ‘H.R. 1443 – LGBTQ Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act’, and three resolutions of disapproval to reverse regulatory actions made under the prior administration

*Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC; 12:00 PM*

- House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on advancing and protecting LGBTQI+ rights abroad – Hybrid hearing on ‘Advancing and Protecting LGBTQI+ Rights Abroad’, with testimony from Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor Scott Busby; Council for Global Equality Senior Advisor Julie Dorf; National Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission Executive Director Njeri Gateru; Asociacion Colectivo Alejandria El Salvador activist Isabela Gonzalez; and Brigham Young University Law School International Center for Law and Religion Studies Professor of Law and Founding Director W. Cole Durham Jr. \* Held via Cisco Webex and in-person

*Location: Rm 2172, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 1:00 PM*

- House Judiciary subcommittee hearing on ‘outdated U.S. immigration policies’ – Immigration and Citizenship Subcommittee hearing on ‘Oh, Canada! How Outdated U.S. Immigration Policies Push Top Talent to Other Countries’, with testimony from National Foundation for

American Policy Executive Director Stuart Anderson; Howard University Associate Professor Dr Ronil Hira; American Association for the Advancement of Science CEO and Executive Publisher of Science Journals Dr Sudip Parikh; and Technology Councils of North America CEO Jennifer Young

*Location: Rm 2141, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC; 2:00 PM*

- House Veterans Affairs markup hearing – Hybrid markup hearing on 'H.R. 3967, Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2021' \* Held virtually and in-person

*Location: HVC-210, U.S. Capitol Visitor Center, Washington, DC; 2:00 PM*

**Cabinet Officers:**

- Secretary of State Blinken continues trip to Germany, France, Italy, and Vatican City – Secretary of State Antony Blinken continues trip to Germany, France, Italy, and Vatican City, with agenda for travel including attending the Second Berlin Conference on Libya, meeting German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Foreign Minister Heiko Maas, and meeting Libyan and other foreign leaders on the margins of the Conference in Berlin; meeting French President Emmanuel Macron and Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, and meeting OECD Secretary General Mathias Cormann in Paris; co-chairing a Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio, participating in a Syria Ministerial on the sidelines, and having bilateral meetings with Minister Di Maio and Italian President Sergio Mattarella in Rome; meeting senior Holy See officials in Vatican City; and joining foreign ministers at the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Bari and Matera, Italy \* Acting Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Philip Reeker accompanies him

**Visitors:**

- No visitors scheduled.

**General Events:**

- Dem Sens. Kyrsten Sinema and Tammy Baldwin celebrate Pride Month with the SBA – Small Business Administration holds an online panel to celebrate LGBT Pride Month and how economic relief programs can help LGBT entrepreneurs. Speakers include Democratic Sens. Kyrsten Sinema and Tammy Baldwin, SBA Office of Field Operations Associate Administrator Julie Verratti, Bubba founding partner Christopher Diebel, Chez Est President John Pepe, Uptown Studios President Tina Reynolds, and Weave Gotcha Covered co-founder Kelly Wilson

*Location: Virtual Event; 1:00 PM*

- President Biden's national security advisors discuss trip to Europe – 'Biden in Europe: A White House Conversation' Wilson Center online discussion, with National Economic Council Deputy National Security Advisor Daleep Singh, National Security Council Senior Director for Europe Amanda Sloat, and Senior Director for China Laura Rosenberger

*Location: Virtual Event; 4:00 PM*

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b7E -3

**From:** [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 24, 2021 5:27 PM (UTC-04:00)  
Hi Stephen,

b6 -1  
b7C -1

Please see below and let me know - I understand if you can't wait for more feedback. If the CDCAC does canvass the field community, I'll ask that [REDACTED] gather the responses and provide them in one batch. That way you and/or I won't be getting dozens of emails from the field.

Thanks,

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 2:44 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Mr. Kelly originally asked for comments by yesterday. If we can get an extension, I will canvass to the community. Sorry I did not ask sooner but I've been on leave.

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Agree.

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 2:07:47 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

I say yes

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 10:38:39 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3



**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Should we share with the community at large?

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 11:33 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Subject:** RE: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

Some additional comments/questions from me or [REDACTED] ersion.

SSA [REDACTED]

Chief Division Counsel

FBI Cleveland Division

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 1:56 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All,

I received word a little bit ago from Stephen Kelly that I was good to go with sharing this draft BWC PG with you. Attached is the one I sent to him with my own edits/comments FYSA.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]

Counsel, Field Legal Program

Office of General Counsel

Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 3:26 PM

**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Hi Stephen,

Here are my edits/thoughts.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[redacted]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

---

**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]  
[redacted]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]; Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]  
[redacted]

**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [redacted]

b5 -1,2  
b7E -27

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation



b7E -3

**From:** [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI)  
**Sent:** June 24, 2021 5:28 PM (UTC-04:00)  
Stephen,

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

I'm not sure who sent this one to [REDACTED] (since he hadn't canvassed the field) - maybe it was one of the CDCAC members, or someone in his field office. But it does make a good point.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 2:47 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b5 -1,2  
b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -27

Here's one comment I received. Don't know if you are collecting/consolidating and forwarding to Mr. Kelly or if would you like me to send directly to him. Please let me know. Thanks.

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 1:56 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

**Subject:** Fw: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All,

I received word a little bit ago from Stephen Kelly that I was good to go with sharing this draft BWC PG with you. Attached is the one I sent to him with my own edits/comments FYSA.

FBI (22-cv-00149)-6404

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 3:26 PM  
**To:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Re: Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

Hi Stephen,

Here are my edits/thoughts.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Counsel, Field Legal Program  
Office of General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Kelly, Stephen D. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** Bessee, Cecilia O. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McNally, Richard (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] McCarthy, Dawn L. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1  
b7C -1  
b7E -3

[REDACTED]

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**Cc:** Prest, Erin M. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Browning, Dawn Marie (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Draft FBI Policy: Use of BWCs by FBI Special Agents

All -

Please find attached CID's latest proposed draft policy for use of BWCs by SAs.

As many of you know, the DAG recently directed the the FBI (and other DoJ LE agencies) issue a policy within 30 days for use of BWCs by our Special Agents. [REDACTED]

b5 -1,2

[REDACTED]

FBI (22-cv-00149)-6405

Thanks in advance for everyone's input, and feel free to touch base with me if you have questions as you are reviewing.

Stephen

Stephen D. Kelly  
Chief, Operational Law Section  
Office of the General Counsel  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7E -3

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From: Bulletin  
[REDACTED]  
Date: Fri Jun 25 2021 05:00:12 EDT  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: Blank  
Bcc: Blank  
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FBI Public Affairs - Director's AM News Briefing Friday, June 25, 2021  
Attachments: FBI Dir Briefing 210625.doc

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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.

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b7E -3

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

**FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2021 5:00 AM EDT**

### **DHS Official Warns Congress Of Threat Posed By Trump Reinstatement Conspiracy Theory.**

According to Politico (6/24, Swan, 6.73M), John Cohen, the “top counterterrorism official” at the Department of Homeland Security, on Wednesday warned “the conspiracy theory that Donald Trump will be reinstated as president in August has sparked concerns” at DHS, three sources said. Politico says Cohen reportedly told Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) that DHS “is not aware of any specific, credible threats of violence linked to the conspiracy theory about Trump being reinstated. But he added that DHS is following discussion of the topic online among extremist communities. And he said department officials are highly concerned about it because it fuels the false narrative that the election was rigged – a narrative that may trigger a violent response from extremists.”

The Hill (6/24, Choi, 5.69M) reports a Hill-HarrisX poll “released last week found that 30 percent of Republican voters believe Trump will be reinstated in August, though there is no legal or constitutional maneuver that could feasibly return the former U.S. president to office in the midst of President Biden’s own term.” CNN (6/24, Cohen, 89.21M) reports on its website that new polls from the nonpartisan Democracy Fund “released Thursday show just how far Republicans were willing to go to support then-President Donald Trump’s unprecedented efforts to subvert the 2020 election.” CNN adds the polls “found that after the election, a supermajority of Republicans backed Trump’s efforts to overturn the results: 86% said his legal challenges were appropriate, 79% said they weren’t confident in the national vote tally, and 68% said Trump really won. Another 54% said Trump should never concede, and a plurality said state legislatures should override the popular vote.”

In a more than 4,100-word article, the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) chronicles how the “baseless assertion” of “a vast conspiracy to steal the White House” from Trump is still “reverberating across [the] alternative media ecosphere five months after Trump and many of his backers were pushed off Facebook and Twitter for spreading disinformation that inspired a mob to attack the U.S. Capitol. While largely unnoticed by Americans who have accepted the fact of President Biden’s victory, the deluge of content has captured the attention of many who think the election was rigged, a belief that is an animating force inside the Republican Party.” Meanwhile, a Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) analysis says One America News has played a key role in creating the “ecosystem of delusion that has moved past QAnon in terms of scale.”

***New York Court Suspends Giuliani’s Law License For Advancing Trump’s Lies About Election.*** The New York Times (6/24, Hong, Protesse, 20.6M) reports the New York State appellate court on Thursday temporarily suspended Trump’s former lawyer Rudolph W. Giuliani’s law license and “ruled...that he made ‘demonstrably false and misleading statements’ while fighting the results of the 2020 election on behalf of...Trump.” The Times describes the ruling as “a humbling blow to a man who was once known as a law-and-order crusader and whose political ambitions and creative courtroom tactics against mob bosses turned him into a fixture on national television.”

The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports the judges in a 33-page opinion “said Giuliani is not fit to continue practicing law after he ‘communicated demonstrably false and misleading statements to courts, lawmakers and the public at large in his capacity as lawyer for [Trump] and the Trump campaign in connection with Trump’s failed effort at reelection in 2020.’” In addition, the court’s disciplinary committee “found that his conduct ‘immediately threatens the public interest and warrants interim suspension from the practice of law,’ the opinion said.”

The AP (6/24, Mustian) reports Trump “called the suspension a politically motivated ‘witch hunt,’” while The Hill (6/24, Schnell, 5.69M) reports Trump “hours later...likened Giuliani to Ness, one of law enforcement’s most acclaimed federal agents whose group the Untouchables is credited with busting the illicit operations of Prohibition-era gangster Al Capone.”

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/24, Stempel) says a “combative” Giuliani told reporters that the suspension “a one-sided decision not based on evidence,” and he “blamed Democrats for his growing legal troubles, including over his dealings in Ukraine, and he said dozens of witnesses could back up his election fraud claims.” Bloomberg (6/24, Dolmetsch, Farrell, 3.57M) reports that his suspension “comes at a time when Giuliani is being investigated by the Manhattan U.S. attorney’s office, which he led in the 1980s, for possibly illegally lobbying the Trump administration on behalf of Ukrainian interests who sought the ouster of then-U.S. Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch. Federal Bureau of Investigation agents conducted April 28 raids on his home and office pursuant to warrants from that probe, seizing his personal electronic devices.”

Politico (6/24, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports Giuliani “will have the right to contest the charges at a formal hearing, but the court made clear it was not impressed by his initial submissions, calling some of his claims ‘simply untrue.’” The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Paul, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) as well as brief ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 5, 0:15, Muir, 5.95M) and CBS Evening News (6/24, story 5, 0:25, O’Donnell, 3.76M) segments provided similar coverage.



In her Washington Post (6/24, Marcus, 10.52M) column, Ruth Marcus writes that attorneys “are supposed to – they are ethically bound to – zealously represent their clients, however unpopular,” but Giuliani “it is safe to say, is no John Adams. One man defended the defenseless in the greater service of the rule of law; the other asserted the indefensible in the service of overturning the results of an election.” She adds the suspension of Giuliani’s law license is “a welcome and entirely justified development.”

**Trump Allies Ask Judge To Dismiss Dominion Defamation Lawsuit.** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports former Trump attorneys Sidney Powell and Rudolph Giuliani and MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell on Thursday called on US District Judge Carl J. Nichols to “throw out a trio of billion-dollar defamation lawsuits filed by Dominion Voting Systems over false claims that the company’s technology was used to rig the 2020 presidential election.” According to the Post, “If Nichols allows the cases to proceed, the voluminous examples included in the lawsuits will probably be whittled down to a smaller set of critical statements. The cases could also serve as a guidepost for people who appear on TV to advocate for one side of a political debate.” The Post says Judge Nichols “seemed skeptical...of the argument from Lindell’s attorney that the Republican donor was merely opining on the important issue of election security.”

Likewise, The Hill (6/24, Neidig, 5.69M), which reports he “appeared skeptical” of their argument, which USA Today (6/24, Phillips, 12.7M) reports is “that the First Amendment protects them from being sued over claims they made about the 2020 presidential election because Dominion – a private company that manufactures voting machines – is a public figure that took on a governmental role.” USA Today adds Dominion’s attorney, Tom Clare, “said calling the company a government actor is a ‘nonsensical argument.’” Clare added, “Dominion doesn’t administer elections. Election officials do using the tools made by Dominion.” He continued, “That is a critical distinction.”

**Georgia Judge Dismisses Most Of Lawsuit Alleging Fraudulent Absentee Ballots In Fulton County.** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports Georgia Superior Court Judge Brian Amero on Thursday “dismissed most of a lawsuit that alleged there were fraudulent mail-in ballots in Fulton County from the 2020 presidential election, dealing a potential blow to a group of local voters that has pushed to inspect all 147,000 absentee ballots cast in the state’s largest county last November.” According to the Post, Amero “dismissed seven of the lawsuit’s nine claims against Fulton County officials on the basis of Georgia’s sovereign immunity laws,” though he “did not dismiss two counts in the lawsuit that sought digital images of the mail-in ballots through the state’s open records law.”

**Congressional Negotiators On Police Reform Agree To “Framework,” But Issues Remain.** The AP (6/24, Fram) reports that on Thursday, Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC), Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), and Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA) – three of the five key lawmakers involved in negotiations over police reform – “said...they’ve agreed to a bipartisan framework for overhauling policing procedures, producing an upbeat but bare-bones statement that provided no details, conceded that disagreements remained and left uncertain their prospects for crafting a compromise that has eluded them for a year.” The AP adds that it is “unclear” why the announcement omitted the names of the other two negotiators, Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC).

The Hill (6/24, Johnson, 5.69M) says “the final outline of the bill is still unclear, though it’s believed that qualified immunity – the powerful legal doctrine that shields law enforcement and other public officials from liability in civil lawsuits – was one of the main sticking points.” Politico (6/24, Wu, LeVine, 6.73M) reports that the lawmakers have also “struggled to close the gap on major issues like restrictions on officers’ use of force.” The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) adds that “further progress could be a tall order despite the positive tone negotiators sought to strike on Thursday. The talks are now set to continue into the recess, and they could be easily sidelined by a planned July legislative sprint, where the Senate is expected to try to advance President Biden’s double-barreled economic agenda, which includes infrastructure and social policy legislation moving in parallel.”

Axios (6/24, Chen, 1.26M) adds that the development comes as the “lawmakers have been working toward a bipartisan deal for months,” explaining that Sen. Scott, “the Senate’s lone Black Republican...committed to working with Bass and Booker in the wake of Derek Chauvin’s trial” for the death of George Floyd.

**Progressives Back Off Calls To Defund Police.** The Hill (6/24, Lillis, Wong, 5.69M) reports that progressive Democrats “are toning it down on police reform as a growing stack of evidence suggests it is hurting” their party’s standing with voters. “The rhetorical shift reflects not only the lessons learned” from disappointing results in the 2020 House elections, but also “the drastic change in the political landscape over the past year.” The Hill explains that while “last summer, the country was roiled by the televised murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police” this summer, “the national spotlight has moved away from Floyd’s death and toward the spike in violent crime that’s struck cities across the country.”

**NYTimes Details Huge Spike In Police Officer Retirements, Resignations.** The New York Times (6/24, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports that “a survey of almost 200 police departments indicated that retirements were up 45 percent and resignations

rose by 18 percent in the year from April 2020 to April 2021 when compared with the previous 12 months, according to the Police Executive Research Forum, a Washington policy institute.” The Times adds, “New York City saw 2,600 officers retire in 2020 compared with 1,509 the year before. Resignations in Seattle increased to 123 from 34 and retirements to 96 from 43. Minneapolis, which had 912 uniformed officers in May 2019, is now down to 699.”

**Biden Offers Federal Assistance As Crews Comb Rubble Of Collapsed Florida Condo.** The Miami Herald (6/24, Klas, Daugherty, 647K) reports that “seventeen hours after the deadly partial collapse of the Champlain Towers condominium in Surfside, Florida,” Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) on Thursday “declared a state of emergency for Miami-Dade County Thursday, enabling federal rescue, housing and financial assistance,” and hours after President Biden “said the Federal Emergency Management Agency was standing by to help.”

The Hill (6/24, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports Biden told reporters that FEMA is “inspecting what they think is needed” and said he is “ready to move...federal resources immediately, immediately, if in fact we are asked for it.” The President added, “I say to the people of Florida, whatever help you want that the federal government can provide, we are waiting, just ask us, we’ll be there.” In addition, Biden “said that he spoke with Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava (D) earlier in the day about the situation,” and Cava, who had been at the White House “for an unrelated event Wednesday, also urged DeSantis to declare a state of emergency.”

The AP (6/24, Lee, Spencer) reports the 12-story building “came down with a roar around 1:30 a.m. By late evening, nearly 100 people were still unaccounted for, authorities said, raising fears that the death toll could climb sharply. Officials did not know how many were in the tower when it fell.” Reuters (6/24) reports search teams “detected sounds of banging and other noises but no voices coming from the mounds of debris hours after a large section of the Champlain Towers South condominium in Surfside, a barrier island town across Biscayne Bay from the city, crumbled to the ground, authorities said.”

On the CBS Evening News (6/24, lead story, 12:55, O'Donnell, 3.76M), Manuel Bojorquez reported surveillance video “captured the moment this 12-story condo building collapsed in Surfside, Florida just after 1:30 this morning. One section teetered before also giving way. ... These 3D map view shows what the building looked like before. This is what it looks like now. An entire structure collapsing, floors pancaked on top of one another. When the dust settled, the building appeared to be sheered in two with bunk beds, dining rooms and entire homes left blowing in the wind. Some indoor surveillance cameras appeared to have captured the moments before the deadly collapse.” Bojorquez added, “Officials say 55 of the 136 apartments collapsed on the northeast side of the building, sparking a desperate search and rescue in the rubble that continues right now.”

Lester Holt opened NBC Nightly News (6/24, lead story, 11:00, Holt, 4.91M) reporting on the “disaster of almost unprecedented scale.” Sam Brock added, “In the wake of destruction and tragedy, a critical question hangs over this ocean front community. How could this have happened.” He continued, “The south condo building constructed in 1981 is 12 stories high, containing 134 units. It began sinking years ago, according to recent report from Florida international university looking at house of buildings. That says in the ‘90s it was sinking two millimeters a year, unclear if it continued or contributed to today’s collapse. Officials say work on the building’s roof has been ongoing, would have likely involved an inspection and permit. Structural inspections are required after 40 years.”

Meanwhile, the Washington Post (6/24, A1, 10.52M) reports authorities “did not identify the first person reported dead and they were unable to say whether anyone else had been killed. They emphasized that search-and-rescue operations were ongoing.” The New York Times (6/24, Petri, Gross, 20.6M) reports residents “said that a mix of people lived there, including retirees and affluent professionals with young families.”

The Washington Post (6/24, A1, 10.52M) reports the missing include “aging denizens of Miami Beach and affluent Latin Americans whose condominiums by the sea were part-time homes. They were snowbirds who hadn’t quite made it back north for the summer and year-round residents hunkered down for South Florida’s stickiest months. They lived in a 40-year-old beachfront building that offered views of the ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway, of sunrise and sunset. The missing included 20 citizens of Israel, 10 from Argentina, six from Paraguay, six from Colombia and four from Venezuela, according to those countries’ diplomats and news reports.” The Wall Street Journal (6/24, A1, Acosta, Bauerlein, Campo-Flores, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) and the ABC World News Tonight (6/24, lead story, 13:40, Muir, 5.95M), ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 6, 0:30, Muir, 5.95M), CBS Evening News (6/24, story 6, 0:55, O'Donnell, 3.76M), and NBC Nightly News (6/24, story 6, 2:30, Holt, 4.91M) segments provided similar coverage.

**Garland Says 500 People Have Been Arrested In Capitol Riot Probe.** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports Attorney General Garland announced the Justice Department on Thursday “arrested the first defendant in the Jan. 6 Capitol riots to face charges including assaulting a journalist, as the total number of people arrested topped 500.” The Post says Garland “praised prosecutors, agents and the public’s assistance for reaching the benchmarks, adding, ‘I assure the American

people that the Department of Justice will continue to follow the facts in this case and charge what the evidence supports to hold all January 6th perpetrators accountable.” On its website, [CNBC](#) (6/24, Mangan, 7.34M) quotes Garland as saying the DOJ so far has received “more than 200,000 digital tips” from the public.

Meanwhile, [Reuters](#) (6/24) reports Shane Jason Woods, 43, of Auburn, Illinois on Thursday “became the first person charged for attacking journalists during the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump.” Reuters says court documents claim Woods “was recorded on video wearing a Trump baseball cap and Trump face mask while walking around in a restricted area at the Capitol, and assaulting a U.S. Capitol Police officer, causing her to trip and fall to the ground.” [The Hill](#) (6/24, Lonas, 5.69M) reports Woods “is facing eight federal charges, including assault in special maritime and territorial jurisdiction, assault on a law enforcement officer and disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building or grounds.”

**CNN: DOJ Hesitant To Bring Sedition Charges In Capitol Siege Probe.** [CNN](#) (6/24, Perez, 89.21M) reports, “In the weeks after the January 6 insurrection at the US Capitol, the Justice Department looked at the possibility of pursuing charges under the rarely used seditious conspiracy law,” and “since then, and particularly since the start of the Biden administration, skepticism among top officials has made that possibility increasingly unlikely,” and “instead, prosecutors have turned to traditional obstruction, conspiracy and weapons charges that could yield prison sentences similar to a novel sedition charge.” Attorney General Garland, “speaking to reporters at the Justice Department on Tuesday, wouldn’t say whether sedition-related charges are still being considered,” but “behind the scenes, according to people familiar with the discussions, Garland has been among the top Justice Department officials who have counseled prosecutors to use legally comparable laws to make sure cases being brought against the attackers of the Capitol are on firm ground.”

**Pelosi Says She Will Establish Select Committee On Capitol Riot.** The [Washington Post](#) (6/24, 10.52M) reports House Speaker Pelosi “announced Thursday that the House will form a select committee to investigate the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol by a pro-Trump mob, one month after Senate Republicans blocked an effort to form an independent, bipartisan commission.” Pelosi said she made the decision “with great solemnity and sadness” to investigate “the Jan. 6 insurrection,” which she described as “one of the darkest days in our nation’s history.” She added, “It is imperative that we establish the truth of that day and ensure that an attack of that kind cannot happen and that we root out the causes of it all.”

The [New York Times](#) (6/24, Broadwater, 20.6M) reports Pelosi “had signaled for weeks that she planned to take such a step to scrutinize the storming of the Capitol by a mob of supporters of President Donald J. Trump, who sought to disrupt Congress’s counting of electoral votes to formalize President Biden’s victory.” According to the Times, the Speaker “has maintained that her preference was for the Senate to approve a bipartisan commission, modeled after the one that investigated the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. But with Republicans opposed and many G.O.P. lawmakers working to whitewash and downplay the riot, she has conceded that no longer seemed possible. Fewer than 10 Republicans – the amount needed to overcome a legislative filibuster – supported such an inquiry when it came to a vote in the Senate this month.”

The [AP](#) (6/24, Jalonick) reports the announcement “means Democrats will lead what probably will be the most comprehensive look at the siege.” However, [Bloomberg](#) (6/24, House, 3.57M) reports Pelosi “didn’t offer a timeline, saying the investigation will run as long as it takes,” and “didn’t say when she will appoint its Democratic members or whom she might choose to lead the panel.” Bloomberg adds Pelosi “said the Democratic-led inquiry will look beyond the causes of the insurrection at how to better protect the Capitol against such an insurrection.”

[Politico](#) (6/24, Ferris, Wu, 6.73M) reports that House Majority Whip Clyburn and other lawmakers have “privately pushed for Homeland Security Chair Bennie Thompson” to lead the committee, and he “seems to be the caucus favorite with few other names circulating.” Thompson “told POLITICO Wednesday the path for the investigation was ultimately the speaker’s decision but noted his committee has ‘dealt with domestic terrorism for a long time.’” Meanwhile, [Reuters](#) (6/24) reports Pelosi “made clear both parties would be expected to name members, saying she hoped that House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy will appoint ‘responsible people’ to the panel.” Pelosi added, “We see this as complementary, not instead of, and hopeful that there could be a commission at some point.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (6/24, Wise, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) and a brief [CBS Evening News](#) (6/24, story 4, 0:25, O’Donnell, 3.76M) segment provided similar coverage.

**Newly Released Capitol Siege Videos Show Close-Up View Of Police Battling Mob.** [CBS News](#) (6/24, McDonald, 5.39M) reports, “The Justice Department released video evidence Wednesday that was initially shown in court proceedings for two cases of alleged assaults on officers during the January 6 Capitol riot. The footage provides a new, up-close look at what officers experienced as they battled with the mob at the Capitol that day.” CBS News adds, “The videos had been played in court proceedings in cases against two men: Brian Mock, a Minnesota man accused of kicking and shoving officers, and Grady Owens, a Texas native accused of hitting an officer with a skateboard. The videos, which includes body camera

footage from law enforcement officers, was released for public viewing after a coalition of media outlets, including CBS News, filed a motion to access the evidence.”

**New Jersey Native Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe.** The New Jersey Star-Ledger (6/24, Atmonavage, 1.47M) reports, “A New Jersey native was charged this week for his role in the attempted insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, including for allegedly assaulting an officer, after three people he reportedly served with in the Army tipped off the FBI that the Pennsville native was pictured inside the government building.” Brian Glenn Bingham “was arrested in Alabama earlier this week after federal authorities received the tips of him being inside the U.S. Capitol, as well as reviewed video footage showing the 35-year-old entering the building and later allegedly assaulting an officer who was trying to get Bingham to leave, according to the criminal complaint. Multiple videos show Bingham shouting at a group of officers inside the Capitol and at one point, ‘grabbing at and pushing’ an officer, according to the complaint. The officer told federal authorities that Bingham scratched his left eye.”

**New York Man Charged In Capitol Siege Probe Is Denied Bail.** The Staten Island (NY) Advance (6/24, 234K) reports, “Despite a serious medical condition and a request to be placed on house arrest under the supervision of his mother, a former Staten Islander charged in the Capitol riot investigation was denied bail Wednesday by a Brooklyn Federal Court judge.” Eduard Florea “was arrested Jan. 12 when the FBI raided his Queens home and discovered more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition, 72 military-style combat knives, two hatchets and two swords. Investigators were eyeing alleged threats posted by Florea on the social media site Parler prior to the insurrection and on the date it was happening.” US Magistrate Judge Lois Bloom “said she’s not convinced Florea wouldn’t pose a danger to the public. She cited the fact that he was sentenced in 2014 to jail time after police seized 13 firearms from his Tottenville home, which allegedly didn’t deter him from compiling another stockpile of weapons following his release.”

**Chauvin To Be Sentenced For Floyd Murder On Friday.** The Hill (6/24, Johnson, 5.69M) reports that “Derek Chauvin, the former police officer convicted of murdering George Floyd, faces what is expected to at least be a 12-year prison term on Friday when he will be formally sentenced to at the Hennepin County courthouse in downtown Minneapolis.” The Hill explains that even though Chauvin “was convicted of three charges, since those charges all stemmed from the same action – killing Floyd – the length of the sentence will correlate to the guidelines for his most serious crime, unintentional second-degree murder.” Under state guidelines, “the maximum sentence for unintentional murder in the second degree is 40 years, but because Chauvin has no previous criminal record, the presumptive sentence is 12.5 years.”

Paul Butler writes in his column for the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) that 18 years would be “the most appropriate sentence for Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer convicted of second-degree murder in the death of George Floyd in one of the most high-profile criminal trials in U.S. history.” Butler argues while the “desire for retribution is understandable when someone has taken an innocent life,” punishment “ought, in a civilized society, to be constrained by dictates of justice and mercy, even when the criminal himself has acted inhumanely.” Butler says “18 years is a very long time in prison. Chauvin would not be getting away with anything, and it’s in the best long-term interests of racial justice in America if punishment is based less on emotion and more on reason.”

In an op-ed for the Washington Post (6/24, Martin, 10.52M)W. Seth Martin, the lead pastor of the Brook Community Church in Minneapolis, writes, “Notwithstanding my — our — hesitation to accept that this moment of accountability has permanently shifted America’s posture toward Black people and policing, the point remains: We have reason to celebrate. And this may yet signify a reason to hope. I push myself to embrace the idea of a hopeful tomorrow, and encourage others to do the same. But my true hope lies in the day when God will right every wrong. On that day, the relief won’t be temporary, or blunted by hesitation. Instead, we will experience peace. I look forward to it. In the meantime, this moment will do.”

**Floyd Statue Vandalized With Hate Symbol.** The New York Times (6/24, Watkins, 20.6M) reports that “a statue of George Floyd that was installed in Brooklyn less than a week ago was spray-painted and marked with a white supremacist group’s logo in an act of vandalism that the police were investigating as a hate crime.” Police discovered the defacement of the statue on Thursday. According to the Times, “it was covered with black spray paint and marked with a stencil for Patriot Front, a white supremacist group with a small but growing presence in New York City.”

**Gen. Milley Rejected Trump Pressure For Violent Response To Floyd Protests, Book Claims.** CNN (6/24, Cohen, 89.21M) reports that according to a new book by Wall Street Journal reporter Michael Bender, Gen. Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, “repeatedly pushed back on then-President Donald Trump’s argument that the military should intervene violently in order to quell the civil unrest that erupted around the country last year.” The book, titled “Frankly, We Did Win This Election,” claims Milley “often found he was the lone voice of opposition to those demands during heated Oval Office discussions.”

**Balko: DOJ IG Report Doesn't Exonerate Trump Administration.** Radley Balko writes in the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) that although Trump and his supporters claimed the Interior Department inspector general's report on the police operation to evict protesters from Lafayette Square last summer "vindicated him and his administration," and "media critics cited the affair as more evidence of the Washington press corps' bias and anti-Trump agenda" the report "doesn't vindicate the Trump administration. Nor does it prove that media accounts of the incident were erroneous."

**Protester Pleads Guilty To Breaking Reno, Nevada Federal Courthouse Window.** The AP (6/24) reports from Reno, Nevada, "A man accused of breaking a window in the federal courthouse in downtown Reno during a protest tied to the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer last year faces up to 10 years in prison after pleading guilty Thursday to destruction of government property." According to the AP, "Police arrested Keith Moreno, 28, Reno, last June based on witness statements and news video footage that showed him among a crowd of 30 to 40 protesters at the courthouse on May 30, 2020. One witnesses said Moreno later bragged about throwing a cigarette receptacle through the courthouse window and another said he was 'bragging that he busted out a city hall window and the cops are not smart enough to find him,' FBI special agent Christopher Johnson said in an affidavit filed in U.S. District Court."

**Facebook Arrest Video Triggers Protests In South Carolina.** The AP (6/24, Collins) reports that for a second day Thursday, "demonstrators converged outside" the Rock Hill Police Department in South Carolina to protest "the arrest of two men by officers...who were recorded on a Facebook video wrestling and throwing punches with the two." The AP adds, "Eight people were arrested on the second day of protests, just hours after the police chief and a civil rights leader had asked for calm. Most of the arrests were for disorderly conduct or being a pedestrian in the roadway as protesters blocked several streets near the police station."

**Man Arrested After Ramming Security Gate At Houston's FBI Building.** The Houston Chronicle (6/24, 982K) reports, "Federal authorities on Wednesday arrested a man accused of ramming his vehicle into a security gate at Houston's FBI building, officials said. No one was hurt in the incident at around 12:30 p.m. at 1 Justice Park Drive in northwest Houston. The driver, who was not armed, was taken into custody. He was not identified."

**Administration Developing New Tools To Police Domestic Terrorism.** McClatchy (6/24, Wilner, 29K) reports, "The Biden administration with 'a sense of urgency' is developing new tools such as a mobile app and handheld booklets to help local law enforcement combat violent domestic extremists, a senior White House official said." McClatchy adds, "After intelligence agencies concluded earlier this year that domestic terrorism posed an elevated threat to the country, the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) is moving quickly to build a new mobile app that will provide police with unclassified, yet sensitive federal intelligence information on potential threats, two White House officials said. Once the app is ready, 'you can, if you're a cop on the beat, get those sorts of FOUO [For Official Use Only] products from your federal partners on your phone,' said the senior White House official." The NCTC "is also working with the FBI to revise a handbook...within the next few months to include for the first time warning signs and indicators of mobilization by domestic terrorists."

**US Judge Holds Man Facing Extradition Over His Role In Mumbai Terror Attack.** The AP (6/25, Dazio) reports that on Thursday, a federal judge ruled that Tahawwur Rana, a Pakistani-born Canadian man, must remain in federal custody as the court weighs whether to extradite him to India for his "for his alleged role in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack that killed more than 160 people." The AP explains that "Indian authorities allege that Rana conspired with his childhood friend David Coleman Headley to assist the Pakistani terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba, or 'Army of the Good,' in the orchestration of the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai that killed 166 people, injured more than 200 and caused \$1.5 billion in damage." The AP adds that "in 2011, Rana was convicted in federal court in Illinois of conspiracy to provide material support to terrorism in Denmark for a thwarted plot to attack a Danish newspaper to retaliate for its publication of cartoons that depicted the Prophet Mohamed in 2005."

**Lawmakers Seek DOJ Probe Of China Initiative After Tennessee Mistrial.** FedScoop (6/24, Nyczepir) reports, "Democratic lawmakers urged the Department of Justice to investigate FBI misconduct under an initiative for prosecuting people stealing trade secrets, hacking or spying for China, in a letter published last week." The letter "specifically asks DOJ Inspector General Michael Horowitz to look into the failed prosecution of Anming Hu, a former engineering professor at the University of Tennessee, who was fired after FBI agents told his employer he was suspected of stealing government secrets for the Chinese military." Hu "was the first person prosecuted under the Trump administration's China Initiative, the methods of

which are being questioned after a jury deadlocked in his trial on June 16 – following testimony from the investigating FBI agent that he spent 21 months surveilling Hu but doesn't believe he was ever a spy, reported the Knoxville News Sentinel."

### **WPost: ODNI To Release UAP Report On Friday.**

Reuters

(6/24, Gorman, George, Dunham) reports

the US government "is poised to issue an expansive account of what it calls 'unidentified aerial phenomena,' based heavily on observations by American military pilots." The intelligence community, "in conjunction with the Pentagon, is due in the coming days to submit a report to Congress on the subject." Reuters says the forthcoming report "report marks a turning point for the U.S. military after decades of deflecting, debunking and discrediting observations of unidentified flying objects and 'flying saucers.'" The report, to be issued by ODNI, "will include the work of a U.S. Navy-led task force established by the Pentagon."

The Washington Post (6/24, Andrews, 10.52M) reports ODNI is expected on Friday "to release a report that will share everything unclassified that the U.S. government knows about unidentified aerial phenomena (UAPs), as mandated by last year's pandemic relief package." The Post says while it "reportedly will not offer firm conclusions as to what the UAPs might be," the report "has had many in the UFO community buzzing with anticipation. Some think it could mark a sea change in how the public considers the possibility of UFOs and all the implications that come with them." Others "have still felt some trepidation. The report might be too vague to make a dent in the skepticism, and after all, it's not like believing in UFOs is the best way to win friends and influence people."

The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Queenan, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), US News & World Report (6/24, Shinkman, 1.91M), and WNBC-TV New York (6/24, Glorioso, Pavlovic Sola, 289K) also report.

**Dozens Arrested In New York Drug Bust.** The AP (6/24) reports from Albany, New York, "Dozens of people were arrested for their involvement in criminal rings trafficking heroin, cocaine, oxycodone and firearms in Albany and the surrounding region, state Attorney General Letitia James announced Thursday." James "said the indictments against 47 people followed a yearlong investigation of two rival gangs and will help combat the recent surge of violent crime in this upstate city. James' joint investigation with Albany police and the FBI resulted in the seizure of almost 1.2 kilograms of cocaine and 140 grams of heroin mixed with fentanyl, along with oxycodone, \$40,000 in cash and nine firearms, according to the attorney general."

The Amsterdam (NY) Recorder (6/24) reports, "Seven people from Schenectady County and one from Montgomery County were among 47 people indicted Thursday in a large-scale drug and gun trafficking investigation in the Capital Region, the state Attorney General's Office said. The year-long investigation, dubbed 'Operation Crosstown Quarantine' centered around two rival gangs in Albany-Uptown Associates and Downtown Associates, according to a press release. The investigations comes as Albany County has seen a surge in gun violence." The Recorder adds, "In the joint operation between the Office of the Attorney General's Organized Crime Task Force, the Albany Police Department and the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force used undercover operations and physical and electronic surveillance to garner evidence."

### **FBI Arrests Alleged Washington Child Rapist In Malaysia.**

KAPP-TV

Yakima, WA (6/24) reports

from Seattle, Washington, "A 38-year-old Seattle man accused of multiple counts of child rape in King County was arrested in Kepong, Malaysia following a widescale effort led by the FBI." KAPP-TV adds, "According to a press release issued by the FBI Seattle Division on June 24, Scott Barry Uchida was detained by Royal Malaysia Police on April 21, 2021, without incident. He is wanted for second-degree rape, second-degree rape of a child, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, and third-degree rape of a child. Court documents compiled by the FBI show that the Kirkland Police Department opened an investigation into the rape, unlawful imprisonment, and commercial sexual exploitation of three underaged victims between Summer 2015 and January 2018."

**AP Examines Police Killings, Other Racial Injustice Cases Pending In US.** The AP (6/24) reports, "Former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin's sentencing Friday in George Floyd's death will hardly be the last word in the case, with federal civil rights charges still pending, appeals expected and three more officers facing trial." The AP adds, "Even as that case grinds forward, many other cases are being closely watched as the U.S. grapples with the racial injustice exposed anew by Floyd's death. Most involve killings by police, although some – like Ahmaud Arbery's death in Georgia – are being scrutinized for other reasons." The AP then gives "a rundown of some of the most high-profile cases."

**School Shootings Surge Across US.** In a 2,964 word article, the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) profiles multiple school shootings. The Post writes that the incidents are "part of a disturbing surge of campus gun violence that made this spring unlike any other in modern U.S. history. Despite thousands of elementary, middle and high schools remaining partially, or entirely, closed because of the pandemic, there have been 14 school shootings since March – the highest total over that period

during any year since at least 1999.” The Post adds that “while such shootings remain rare, this latest string has pushed the country past a bleak and uniquely American milestone: More than a quarter of a million children have been exposed to gun violence during school hours since the massacre 22 years ago at Columbine High School near Denver.”

### **Scaramucci Testifies At Trial Of Manafort Banker.**

Politico

(6/24, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports, “One of

the best-known but short-lived members of former President Donald Trump’s White House staff, Anthony Scaramucci, took the stand as a prosecution witness Thursday at a federal trial of a Chicago banker accused of trying to trade millions of dollars in loans for a senior post in the Trump administration.” Scaramucci “testified for more than an hour about his interactions with the banker, Stephen Calk, and the persistent efforts that former Trump campaign chair Paul Manafort made to try to get Calk a top role at the Pentagon or elsewhere. Scaramucci, who served as White House communications director for less than two weeks in July 2019, said Manafort’s advocacy during the presidential transition helped Calk land an interview with a so-called ‘tiger team’ that was screening prospects for top jobs in the new administration. ‘He had suggested and recommended Mr. Calk and he wanted us to interview him ... The original position was secretary of the Army,’ said Scaramucci.”

### **Jury Hears Closing Arguments In Corruption Trial Of Texas Developer.**

The Dallas Morning News (6/24, Gonzales, 772K) reports, “The latest Dallas City Hall corruption case to hit the federal courts is now in the jury’s hands.” The Morning News adds, “Jurors in Ruel Hamilton’s federal bribery trial heard closing arguments from both sides Thursday, marking the end of nearly two-weeks of testimony before Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara Lynn.” Hamilton, “a 65-year-old local developer of affordable housing, is accused of bribing two former Dallas City Council members, Dwaine Caraway and Carolyn Davis, for support and approval of his development projects. He faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted. The case is notable because it targets a white businessman who is said to have paid the bribes. Previous federal corruption trials in Dallas have mainly involved local Black politicians, leading to accusations of racial bias in prosecutorial decision making.”

### **Gig App Blurs Line Between Government Surveillance, Consumer Services.**

The Wall Street Journal (6/24, A1, Tau, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that the US military as well as foreign governments have used an app offered by Premise Data Corp. to deploy the gig-based workforce in performing reconnaissance tasks and gauge public opinion. The Journal says the app and others like it blur the line between government surveillance and consumer services.

### **TSA, FAA Report Rise In Unruly Passengers.**

Contributor Joe Walsh writes in Forbes (6/24, 10.33M) that TSA has “tallied at least 69 physical assaults against its security staff since the pandemic’s early days in March 2020, the agency told Forbes, including one passenger who bit a pair of TSA agents in Denver earlier this month.” TSA didn’t “release pre-pandemic data, but it says violent confrontations between passengers and airport security agents have become unusually common.” The FAA has also reported an increase in unruly passengers. The agency has “opened 487 investigations into unruly passengers so far this year, up from just 183 for all of 2020, after airline crews reported over 3,000 unruly travelers to the FAA.”

The Hill

(6/24, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports that in a press release Thursday, TSA “said the incidents of unruly passengers at security checkpoints and aboard public transportation ‘needlessly interrupt travel, delaying flights and other transportation operations across the country.’” The press release added, “TSA, in coordination with our air carrier and airport management partners, as well as the FAA, will not tolerate such actions, and may pursue criminal charges and a civil penalty up to the maximum allowable by law.”

The Denver Gazette (6/24, Metzger) reports on the incident involving a passenger allegedly biting two TSA agents at Denver International Airport in June. The Gazette says TSA did not “release any information about what led to the incident but said it remains under investigation.” The passenger “faces a potential civil fine of up to \$13,910 for each violation of airport security requirements, the agency said.”

Also reporting is WXYZ-TV Detroit (6/24, 201K).

### **Senate Committee Split Along Party Lines Over Biden Choice To Head ATF.**

Reuters

(6/24)

reports the Senate Judiciary Committee divided along party lines Thursday over whether to advance President Biden’s nomination of “gun control advocate David Chipman” to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Ahead of the tie vote, “Republicans vocally opposed Chipman’s nomination, citing his history of advocating stronger gun regulations.” Sen. Charles Grassley (R-IA) the ranking Republican on the committee, said, “Mr. Chipman wants to ban assault weapons. ... This nomination is like a Republican putting the NRA in charge of ATF.” Reuters says because the position is “so politically fraught,” the Senate “has only confirmed one ATF director nominee in the last 15 years. The rest of the ATF’s leaders served in

an acting capacity.” Judiciary Chairman Durbin said, Thursday, “This nomination is a test. Can we put someone in charge of the ATF?”

**Pandemic Hastens Increase In Overdose Deaths Trend Among Black US Citizens.** The AP (6/24, Galofaro) reports the US opioid crisis “portrait...has long been painted as a rural white affliction, but the demographics have been shifting” as fatal overdoses surge among Black people. According to the AP, the COVID pandemic “hastened the trend by further flooding the streets with fentanyl, a potent synthetic opioid, in communities with scant” substance use disorder prevention resources.

**FBI Sought Warrant Amid Fears Pennsylvania Would Seize Fabled Gold.** The AP (6/24, Rubinkam) reports, “An FBI agent applied for a federal warrant in 2018 to seize a fabled cache of U.S. government gold he said was ‘stolen during the Civil War’ and hidden in a Pennsylvania cave, saying the state might take the gold for itself if the feds asked for permission, according to court documents unsealed Thursday.” The AP adds, “The newly unsealed affidavit confirms previous reporting by The Associated Press that the government had been looking for a legendary cache of gold at the site, which federal authorities had long refused to confirm. In any case, the FBI said, the dig came up empty. The AP and The Philadelphia Inquirer petitioned a federal judge to unseal the case. Federal prosecutors did not oppose the request, and the judge agreed, paving the way for Thursday’s release of documents.”

The Philadelphia Inquirer (6/24, Nark) reports, “The FBI in Philadelphia spent several frigid days in March 2018 digging for gold at Dents Run and has long said nothing was found in the excavation. The treasure hunters who had been studying the site for decades had always thought the agency was lying. A March 2018 application for a warrant to seize property, unsealed on behalf of the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Associated Press, reveals the FBI had done its homework on the gold, even if the story turned out to be a fairy tale.” The Inquirer adds, “The legend of the Elk County gold dates back to the summer of 1863, when a special Union detachment was tasked with transporting 26 gold bars, each weighing 50 pounds, from West Virginia to the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia. That detachment, as the story goes, was ambushed, the gold lost and supposedly buried.”

**Texas Police, Trump Supporters Sued Over Highway Incident.** The AP (6/24, Coronado) reports from Austin, Texas, “Civil rights organizations and people who were part of a Biden campaign caravan last fall that was surrounded on a Texas highway by Trump supporters filed two federal lawsuits Thursday, alleging local law enforcement failed to respond to efforts to intimidate them.” The AP adds, “Videos shared on social media from Oct. 30 show a group of cars and pickup trucks – many adorned with large Trump flags – riding alongside the campaign bus as it traveled from San Antonio to Austin. The Trump supporters at times boxed in the bus. At one point, one of the pickups can be seen colliding with an SUV that was driving behind the bus. The incident led Democrats to cancel an event later in the day. Then-President Donald Trump criticized the FBI at the time after the agency said it was investigating.”

Reuters (6/24, Ax) reports, “One lawsuit, which named more than a half-dozen members of the ‘Trump Train’ as defendants, accused the Trump supporters of violating the Ku Klux Klan Act, an 1871 law named after the violent white supremacist organization and intended to prohibit groups from engaging in voter intimidation. The second lawsuit claims the public safety director in San Marcos, Chase Stapp, and several unnamed local law enforcement officers failed to provide emergency assistance as Trump backers played a ‘madcap game of highway ‘chicken,’” swerving within inches of the bus and sideswiping one staffer’s vehicle.”

The Houston Chronicle (6/24, Harris, 982K) reports, “The plaintiffs include former state Sen. Wendy Davis, a Democrat, and others who were traveling on a Biden campaign bus from San Antonio to Austin just days before the 2020 presidential election. The incident was one of the most high-profile ‘Trump Train’ events in the lead-up to the election, even as the former president’s supporters blocked major roadways in New York, New Jersey and other states. The FBI said in November it was investigating the Texas incident, though a spokesperson did not respond to a request for an update on Thursday.”

**Co-Host Of “The View” Calls On FBI To “Extradite” Britney Spears Following Conservatorship Testimony.** Fox News (6/24, Gillespie, 23.99M) reports, “‘The View’ co-host Meghan McCain reacted strongly Thursday to singer Britney Spears’ court testimony this week asking for her conservatorship to be removed from her father.” Fox News adds, “Discussing Spears’ arguments with her co-hosts, McCain said the testimony made her feel ‘physically ill,’ likened her circumstances to a victim of human trafficking, and called on the FBI to immediately ‘extradite her from her home’ to stop what she called abuse from her family.” Spears “appeared in court Wednesday, breaking her silence on the conservatorship. ‘I actually believe this has reached the level that the FBI needs to be involved and extradite her from her home away from these



people this very moment because these are people that could continue the abuse in real time. I think it's that extreme,' McCain said."

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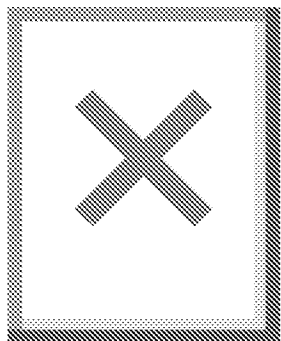
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## LEADING THE NEWS

### **DHS Official Warns Congress Of Threat Posed By Trump Reinstatement Conspiracy Theory.**

According to [Politico](#) (6/24, Swan, 6.73M), John Cohen, the "top counterterrorism official" at the Department of Homeland Security, on Wednesday warned "the conspiracy theory that Donald Trump will be reinstated as president in August has sparked concerns" at DHS, three sources said. Politico says Cohen reportedly told Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) that DHS "is not aware of any specific, credible threats of violence linked to the conspiracy theory about Trump being reinstated. But he added that DHS is following discussion of the topic online among extremist communities. And he said department officials are highly concerned about it because it fuels the false narrative that the election was rigged – a narrative that may trigger a violent response from extremists."

[The Hill](#) (6/24, Choi, 5.69M) reports a Hill-HarrisX poll "released last week found that 30 percent of Republican voters believe Trump will be reinstated in August, though there is no legal or constitutional maneuver that could feasibly return the former U.S. president to office in the midst of President Biden's own term." [CNN](#) (6/24, Cohen, 89.21M) reports on its website that new polls from the nonpartisan Democracy Fund "released Thursday show just how far Republicans were willing to go to support then-President Donald Trump's unprecedented efforts to subvert the 2020 election." CNN adds the polls "found that after the election, a supermajority of Republicans backed Trump's efforts to overturn the results: 86% said his legal challenges were appropriate, 79% said they weren't confident in the national vote tally, and 68% said Trump really won. Another 54% said Trump should never concede, and a plurality said state legislatures should override the popular vote."

In a more than 4,100-word article, the [Washington Post](#) (6/24, 10.52M) chronicles how the "baseless assertion" of "a vast conspiracy to steal the White House" from Trump is still "reverberating across [the] alternative media ecosphere five months after Trump and many of his backers were pushed off Facebook and Twitter for spreading disinformation that inspired a mob to attack the U.S. Capitol. While largely unnoticed by Americans who have accepted the fact of President Biden's victory, the deluge of content has captured the attention of many who think the election was rigged, a belief that is an animating force inside the Republican Party." Meanwhile, a [Washington Post](#) (6/24, 10.52M) analysis says One America News has played a key role in creating the "ecosystem of delusion that has moved past QAnon in terms of scale."

***New York Court Suspends Giuliani's Law License For Advancing Trump's Lies About Election.*** The [New York Times](#) (6/24, Hong, Protesse, 20.6M) reports the New York State appellate court on Thursday temporarily suspended Trump's former lawyer Rudolph W. Giuliani's law license and "ruled...that he made 'demonstrably false and misleading statements' while fighting the results of the 2020 election on behalf of...Trump." The Times describes the ruling as "a humbling blow to a man who was once known as a law-and-order crusader and whose political ambitions and creative courtroom tactics against mob bosses turned him into a fixture on national television."

The [Washington Post](#) (6/24, 10.52M) reports the judges in a 33-page opinion "said Giuliani is not fit to continue practicing law after he 'communicated demonstrably false and misleading statements to courts, lawmakers and the public at large in his capacity as lawyer for [Trump] and

the Trump campaign in connection with Trump's failed effort at reelection in 2020." In addition, the court's disciplinary committee "found that his conduct 'immediately threatens the public interest and warrants interim suspension from the practice of law,' the opinion said."

The AP (6/24, Mustian) reports Trump "called the suspension a politically motivated 'witch hunt,'" while The Hill (6/24, Schnell, 5.69M) reports Trump "hours later...likened Giuliani to Ness, one of law enforcement's most acclaimed federal agents whose group the Untouchables is credited with busting the illicit operations of Prohibition-era gangster Al Capone."

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/24, Stempel) says a "combative" Giuliani told reporters that the suspension "a one-sided decision not based on evidence," and he "blamed Democrats for his growing legal troubles, including over his dealings in Ukraine, and he said dozens of witnesses could back up his election fraud claims." Bloomberg (6/24, Dolmetsch, Farrell, 3.57M) reports that his suspension "comes at a time when Giuliani is being investigated by the Manhattan U.S. attorney's office, which he led in the 1980s, for possibly illegally lobbying the Trump administration on behalf of Ukrainian interests who sought the ouster of then-U.S. Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch. Federal Bureau of Investigation agents conducted April 28 raids on his home and office pursuant to warrants from that probe, seizing his personal electronic devices."

Politico (6/24, Gerstein, 6.73M) reports Giuliani "will have the right to contest the charges at a formal hearing, but the court made clear it was not impressed by his initial submissions, calling some of his claims 'simply untrue.'" The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Paul, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) as well as brief ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 5, 0:15, Muir, 5.95M) and CBS Evening News (6/24, story 5, 0:25, O'Donnell, 3.76M) segments provided similar coverage.

In her Washington Post (6/24, Marcus, 10.52M) column, Ruth Marcus writes that attorneys "are supposed to – they are ethically bound to – zealously represent their clients, however unpopular," but Giuliani "it is safe to say, is no John Adams. One man defended the defenseless in the greater service of the rule of law; the other asserted the indefensible in the service of overturning the results of an election." She adds the suspension of Giuliani's law license is "a welcome and entirely justified development."

***Trump Allies Ask Judge To Dismiss Dominion Defamation Lawsuit.*** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports former Trump attorneys Sidney Powell and Rudolph Giuliani and MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell on Thursday called on US District Judge Carl J. Nichols to "throw out a trio of billion-dollar defamation lawsuits filed by Dominion Voting Systems over false claims that the company's technology was used to rig the 2020 presidential election." According to the Post, "If Nichols allows the cases to proceed, the voluminous examples included in the lawsuits will probably be whittled down to a smaller set of critical statements. The cases could also serve as a guidepost for people who appear on TV to advocate for one side of a political debate." The Post says Judge Nichols "seemed skeptical...of the argument from Lindell's attorney that the Republican donor was merely opining on the important issue of election security."

Likewise, The Hill (6/24, Neidig, 5.69M), which reports he "appeared skeptical" of their argument, which USA Today (6/24, Phillips, 12.7M) reports is "that the First Amendment protects them from being sued over claims they made about the 2020 presidential election because Dominion – a private company that manufactures voting machines – is a public figure that took on a governmental role." USA Today adds Dominion's attorney, Tom Clare, "said calling the company a government actor is a 'nonsensical argument.'" Clare added, "Dominion doesn't administer elections. Election officials do using the tools made by Dominion" He continued, "That is a critical distinction."

***Georgia Judge Dismisses Most Of Lawsuit Alleging Fraudulent Absentee Ballots In Fulton County.*** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports Georgia Superior Court Judge Brian Amero on Thursday "dismissed most of a lawsuit that alleged there were fraudulent mail-in ballots in Fulton County from the 2020 presidential election, dealing a potential blow to a group of local voters that has pushed to inspect all 147,000 absentee ballots cast in the state's largest county last November." According to the Post, Amero "dismissed seven of the lawsuit's nine claims against Fulton County officials on the basis of Georgia's sovereign immunity laws," though he "did not dismiss two counts in the lawsuit that sought digital images of the mail-in ballots through the state's open records law."

## **Congressional Negotiators On Police Reform Agree To "Framework," But Issues Remain.**

The AP (6/24, Fram) reports that on Thursday, Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC), Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ), and Rep. Karen Bass (D-CA) – three of the five key lawmakers involved in negotiations over police reform – “said...they’ve agreed to a bipartisan framework for overhauling policing procedures, producing an upbeat but bare-bones statement that provided no details, conceded that disagreements remained and left uncertain their prospects for crafting a compromise that has eluded them for a year.” The AP adds that it is “unclear” why the announcement omitted the names of the other two negotiators, Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC).

The Hill (6/24, Johnson, 5.69M) says “the final outline of the bill is still unclear, though it’s believed that qualified immunity – the powerful legal doctrine that shields law enforcement and other public officials from liability in civil lawsuits – was one of the main sticking points.” Politico (6/24, Wu, LeVine, 6.73M) reports that the lawmakers have also “struggled to close the gap on major issues like restrictions on officers’ use of force.” The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) adds that “further progress could be a tall order despite the positive tone negotiators sought to strike on Thursday. The talks are now set to continue into the recess, and they could be easily sidelined by a planned July legislative sprint, where the Senate is expected to try to advance President Biden’s double-barreled economic agenda, which includes infrastructure and social policy legislation moving in parallel.”

Axios (6/24, Chen, 1.26M) adds that the development comes as the “lawmakers have been working toward a bipartisan deal for months,” explaining that Sen. Scott, “the Senate’s lone Black Republican...committed to working with Bass and Booker in the wake of Derek Chauvin’s trial” for the death of George Floyd.

***Progressives Back Off Calls To Defund Police.*** The Hill (6/24, Lillis, Wong, 5.69M) reports that progressive Democrats “are toning it down on police reform as a growing stack of evidence suggests it is hurting” their party’s standing with voters. “The rhetorical shift reflects not only the lessons learned” from disappointing results in the 2020 House elections, but also “the drastic change in the political landscape over the past year.” The Hill explains that while “last summer, the country was roiled by the televised murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police” this summer, “the national spotlight has moved away from Floyd’s death and toward the spike in violent crime that’s struck cities across the country.”

***NYTimes Details Huge Spike In Police Officer Retirements, Resignations.*** The New York Times (6/24, A1, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports that “a survey of almost 200 police departments indicated that retirements were up 45 percent and resignations rose by 18 percent in the year from April 2020 to April 2021 when compared with the previous 12 months, according to the Police Executive Research Forum, a Washington policy institute.” The Times adds, “New York City saw 2,600 officers retire in 2020 compared with 1,509 the year before. Resignations in Seattle increased to 123 from 34 and retirements to 96 from 43. Minneapolis, which had 912 uniformed officers in May 2019, is now down to 699.”

## **Biden Offers Federal Assistance As Crews Comb Rubble Of Collapsed Florida Condo.**

The Miami Herald (6/24, Klas, Daugherty, 647K) reports that “seventeen hours after the deadly partial collapse of the Champlain Towers condominium in Surfside, Florida,” Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) on Thursday “declared a state of emergency for Miami-Dade County Thursday, enabling federal rescue, housing and financial assistance,” and hours after President Biden “said the Federal Emergency Management Agency was standing by to help.”

The Hill (6/24, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports Biden told reporters that FEMA is “inspecting what they think is needed” and said he is “ready to move...federal resources immediately, immediately, if in fact we are asked for it.” The President added, “I say to the people of Florida, whatever help you want that the federal government can provide, we are waiting, just ask us, we’ll be there.” In addition, Biden “said that he spoke with Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava (D) earlier in the day about the situation,” and Cava, who had been at the White House “for an unrelated event Wednesday, also urged DeSantis to declare a state of emergency.”

The AP (6/24, Lee, Spencer) reports the 12-story building “came down with a roar around



1:30 a.m. By late evening, nearly 100 people were still unaccounted for, authorities said, raising fears that the death toll could climb sharply. Officials did not know how many were in the tower when it fell." Reuters (6/24) reports search teams "detected sounds of banging and other noises but no voices coming from the mounds of debris hours after a large section of the Champlain Towers South condominium in Surfside, a barrier island town across Biscayne Bay from the city, crumbled to the ground, authorities said."

On the CBS Evening News<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, lead story, 12:55, O'Donnell, 3.76M), Manuel Bojorquez reported surveillance video "captured the moment this 12-story condo building collapsed in Surfside, Florida just after 1:30 this morning. One section teetered before also giving way. ... These 3D map view shows what the building looked like before. This is what it looks like now. An entire structure collapsing, floors pancaked on top of one another. When the dust settled, the building appeared to be sheered in two with bunk beds, dining rooms and entire homes left blowing in the wind. Some indoor surveillance cameras appeared to have captured the moments before the deadly collapse." Bojorquez added, "Officials say 55 of the 136 apartments collapsed on the northeast side of the building, sparking a desperate search and rescue in the rubble that continues right now."

Lester Holt opened NBC Nightly News<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, lead story, 11:00, Holt, 4.91M) reporting on the "disaster of almost unprecedented scale." Sam Brock added, "In the wake of destruction and tragedy, a critical question hangs over this ocean front community. How could this have happened." He continued, "The south condo building constructed in 1981 is 12 stories high, containing 134 units. It began sinking years ago, according to recent report from Florida international university looking at house of buildings. That says in the '90s it was sinking two millimeters a year, unclear if it continued or contributed to today's collapse. Officials say work on the building's roof has been ongoing, would have likely involved an inspection and permit. Structural inspections are required after 40 years."

Meanwhile, the Washington Post (6/24, A1, 10.52M) reports authorities "did not identify the first person reported dead and they were unable to say whether anyone else had been killed. They emphasized that search-and-rescue operations were ongoing." The New York Times (6/24, Petri, Gross, 20.6M) reports residents "said that a mix of people lived there, including retirees and affluent professionals with young families."

The Washington Post (6/24, A1, 10.52M) reports the missing include "aging denizens of Miami Beach and affluent Latin Americans whose condominiums by the sea were part-time homes. They were snowbirds who hadn't quite made it back north for the summer and year-round residents hunkered down for South Florida's stickiest months. They lived in a 40-year-old beachfront building that offered views of the ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway, of sunrise and sunset. The missing included 20 citizens of Israel, 10 from Argentina, six from Paraguay, six from Colombia and four from Venezuela, according to those countries' diplomats and news reports." The Wall Street Journal (6/24, A1, Acosta, Bauerlein, Campo-Flores, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) and the ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, lead story, 13:40, Muir, 5.95M), ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, story 6, 0:30, Muir, 5.95M), CBS Evening News<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, story 6, 0:55, O'Donnell, 3.76M), and NBC Nightly News<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, story 6, 2:30, Holt, 4.91M) segments provided similar coverage.

### **Biden Endorses \$1.2T Bipartisan Infrastructure Spending Deal.**

The Washington Post (6/24, Kim, DeBonis, Stein, 10.52M) reports President Biden "signed off Thursday on a bipartisan agreement that would pump hundreds of billions of dollars in new spending into infrastructure projects across the country – handing him, if it passes congressional muster, a significant cross-party achievement and a top goal of his administration." However, the Post says that "shortly after triumphantly announcing the deal with Republican and Democratic senators outside the West Wing of the White House," the President "immediately pledged to abandon the compromise if Democrats on Capitol Hill do not simultaneously send him a sweeping package of Democratic spending priorities, opposed by most Republicans, to shore up the nation's social safety net." He warned, "If this is the only thing that comes to me, I'm not signing it," adding, "It's in tandem."

To the New York Times (6/24, Cochrane, Tankersley, Weisman, 20.6M), "Biden's endorsement marked a breakthrough in his efforts to forge an infrastructure compromise, but it was far from a guarantee that the package would be enacted," since he "and top Democrats say the plan, which constitutes a fraction of the \$4 trillion economic proposal Mr. Biden has put forth, can only move together with a much larger package of spending and tax increases that Democrats are planning to try to push through Congress unilaterally, over the opposition of Republicans." The Times adds that the President, standing with Vice President Harris, nonetheless "signaled optimism about the success of the compromise, calling it a major win for his economic agenda, for America's competitive stance against China and for democracy itself."

Bloomberg (6/24, Wasson, Litvan, 3.57M) reports Biden "called the investments 'long overdue' and said that 'this agreement signals to the world that we can function, deliver and do significant things.'" The AP (6/24, Lemire, Boak, Mascaro) reports that even though the "hard-earned bipartisan agreement on [the] pared-down infrastructure plan...would make a start on his top legislative priority and validate his efforts to reach across the political aisle," the President "openly acknowledged that Democrats will likely have to tackle much of the rest on their own." According to the AP, "The bill's price tag at \$973 billion over five years, or \$1.2 trillion over eight years, is a scaled-back but still significant piece of Biden's broader proposals."

Meanwhile, CNN (6/24, Mattingly, 89.21M) reports on its website that White House officials "worked to carefully choreograph Thursday in an effort to secure maximum impact – and momentum – for the bipartisan agreement." CNN says Biden "thanked each senator in the bipartisan group, which" was consists of Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Susan Collins (R-ME), Jon Tester (D-MT), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Rob Portman (R-OH), Mitt Romney (R-UT), Mark Warner (D-VA), and Joe Manchin (D-WV). CNN adds that as the President "spoke to reporters...after the meeting, his top negotiating team – Steve Ricchetti, counselor to the president, National Economic Council Director Brian Deese and Louisa Terrell, Biden's legislative affairs chief, stood with...Harris about 20 feet away near the entrance to the West Wing with wide smiles on their faces." A Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) article credits Ricchetti with "playing a key role" in the talks.

Fox News (6/24, Schultz, 23.99M) reports on its website that the President "and the senators Thursday were happy to celebrate some actual movement on pent-up projects. 'It's infrastructure week!' tweeted...Cassidy, who was part of the bipartisan group of senators. 'Sure is,' responded White House press secretary Jen Psaki." To Politico (6/24, Everett, LeVine, 6.73M), "The Senate's centrist core is suddenly on a hot streak, pushing forward the largest infrastructure proposal in U.S. history after helping clinch a \$900 billion coronavirus package late last year. There's still a chance their work goes down, but Thursday's Biden endorsement set them apart from the failed array of congressional gangs that have tried in vain to make ambitious aisle-crossing laws."

On CNN (6/24, 583K), National Economic Council Director Brian Deese said, "This is the largest long-term investment in our nation's infrastructure in nearly a century. It would invest in key elements of our physical infrastructure: so roads and bridges – this would be the largest investment in bridges ever in our country's history, not just large economically significant bridges, but 10,000 bridges all around the country. But it would also invest in our modern physical infrastructure: high speed, affordable internet to all Americans, replacing all lead service lines to finally provide clean water to all families in the country, building transmission lines all across the country to facilitate the transition to clean energy, and a national network of electrical vehicle chargers. ... So across the board, this is a big and bold plan."

On Bloomberg TV (6/24, 3.57M), White House Council of Economic Advisors Member Jared Bernstein said, "The President has always talked about building back better. And at the core there are investments in advanced manufacturing, in clean energy, in electric vehicles, in making sure we have the kind of productivity capacities to compete in this global economy. And that is what he is negotiating over and that is what this infrastructure plan can do for this economy."

On PBS (6/24, 672K), White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said the President "believes that compromise isn't a dirty word and that it's important to find ways to work together where there can be agreement, even when you reserve the option – as he has done – of moving forward alone where there isn't agreement." On MSNBC Deadline: White House (6/24, 1.07M), Psaki

continued, "This is exactly who he is and exactly what he ran on -- which is I'm going to work to bring the country together, bring Democrats and Republicans together, but also see if there's common ground to work with Democrats and Republicans in Congress. ... He came down in is proposal...because he felt there was an opportunity to work together -- and that's sending a powerful message to the American people." Psaki continued, "At the same time they got a really good deal here. This is a historic investment bigger than it has been in 100 years in infrastructure."

Asked on CNN (6/24, 584K) whether there is adequate support in the Senate to pass a newly negotiated infrastructure package, Psaki said, "There's no question there's hard work ahead. There were five Republicans and five Democrats here today with the President finalizing this deal. There were more Republicans and of course more Democrats who were involved in negotiating the deal. So we're confident that we have a good path forward, but we also know there's going to be hard work."

On CNN (6/24, 534K), Anita Dunn, Senior Advisor to President Biden, said, "People have talked about infrastructure for decades in Washington. Now is their chance to actually vote on it." On MSNBC (6/24, 1.44M), Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement Cedric Richmond explained Biden expects the new infrastructure package will be bolstered later by a strong budget reconciliation bill, saying, "This is a two-track, dual-track process to get the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan done."

The Hill (6/24, Chalfant, Gangitano, 5.69M) reports the deal "was reached after weeks of negotiations, and with progressive Democrats repeatedly calling on the White House to back away from the talks, which some liberals fear could prevent a much larger package from moving forward." The Hill (6/24, Carney, 5.69M) reports in another article that Senate Budget Chair Bernie Sanders, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT), and other progressives are "signaling they aren't ready to bless a bipartisan infrastructure deal unless they can secure firm commitments on a separate Democratic-only bill."

The Hill (6/24, Carney, 5.69M) also reports Manchin "said...that it was 'inevitable' that Democrats would move forward with a separate, Democrat-only infrastructure package -- it was just a question of what the size and scope will be." The Wall Street Journal (6/24, A1, Duehren, Peterson, Siddiqui, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Manchin and Sinema indicated they would likely support a reconciliation bill, even though Manchin said that he is concerned by the "extremely, extremely high" cost of the proposed legislation.

However, The Hill (6/24, Bolton, 5.69M) says Senate Minority Leader McConnell "slammed...Biden for 'caving' to his left flank after the president endorsed a bipartisan \$579 billion, five-year infrastructure framework and then threatened to veto it if it's not accompanied by a much larger reconciliation package." According to The Hill, "McConnell's criticism is the latest sign that the Democratic strategy of trying to pass Biden's infrastructure on two tracks consisting of a scaled-down bipartisan package and a larger partisan reconciliation package will be difficult to pull off." Reuters (6/24, Cowan, Morgan) reports that McConnell, Senate Majority Leader Schumer, and House Speaker Pelosi "have not been directly involved with the bipartisan infrastructure talks," and McConnell "has not publicly stated if he would back the initiative, though he called it "encouraging" in his floor remarks."

The Hill (6/24, Gangitano, Chalfant, 5.69M) reports that when asked to "clarify the president's remarks, White House principal deputy press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre wouldn't say whether Biden was drawing a 'red line' but said it is Biden's intention to pass both an infrastructure bill and his families plan." She told reporters, "His intention is to make sure that we move forward with both." Jean-Pierre continued, "He is saying that he wants to do both at the same time."

Politico (6/24, LeVine, Everett, Korecki, 6.73M) reports that "according to an outline of the bipartisan framework," the proposals to pay for the infrastructure deal "include extending customs user fees, reinstatement of Superfund fees for chemicals and 5G spectrum auction proceeds," and "increase IRS enforcement and reshuffle unused coronavirus relief money. A separate outline states that the emerging agreement would dedicate \$312 billion in new spending to transportation infrastructure and \$266 billion to other infrastructure, including water and broadband."

Likewise, CNBC (6/24, Pramuk, 7.34M) reports on its website that the senators "proposed various methods to pay for the plan" that "do not include an increased gas tax or electric vehicle

user fee, which Democrats opposed, or an increase to the corporate tax rate, which Republicans resisted." According to CNBC, "The proposal calls to increase IRS enforcement to ensure wealthy people pay the taxes they owe," and "also would redirect unused state and local coronavirus relief funds to infrastructure." CNBC adds, "The framework proposes private-public partnerships and bonds, among a bevy of other potential funding mechanisms."

On its website, CNBC (6/24, Newburger, 7.34M) reports in another article that the "narrow" infrastructure deal "would leave...Biden's proposals on climate change to a separate bill that Democrats could attempt to pass through Congress using reconciliation." However, Reuters (6/24, Shepardson) reports the deal "would spend \$15 billion to boost EV charging stations and buy electric school and transit buses, the White House said in a fact sheet."

In addition, Reuters (6/24) reports the deal "includes partial funding by a proposed \$6 billion sale from the U.S. emergency oil reserve, according to a document circulated by Republican lawmakers." Reuters says that such a sale "equals a drawdown of about 82 million barrels, based on Thursday's price of \$73 a barrel for West Texas Intermediate crude. That represents about 13% of the reserve's current holdings of nearly 624 million barrels of oil, though if prices rise, the volume of oil would shrink."

A New York Times (6/24, Thrush, 20.6M) analysis touts "some key highlights of the \$579 billion framework," as did CNN (6/24, Lobosco, Luhby, 89.21M), Fox Business (6/24, Henney, 3.06M), and Wall Street Journal (6/24, Rubin, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) articles. On the CBS Evening News (6/24, story 2, 2:10, O'Donnell, 3.76M), Ed O'Keefe said the deal "has money for bridges, airports, train stations, public transit and to expand broadband internet or rebuild power grids." On ABC World News Tonight (6/24, story 2, 2:10, Muir, 5.95M), Rachel Scott said, "The \$1.2 trillion plan includes including \$579 billion in new spending, for things like transportation, roads, bridges and broadband in rural communities. It also calls for the largest investment in the rail system since Amtrak began. Still, the President says he wanted more." Biden: "I asked for 90, I got 66 billion. Electric buses, 7.5 billion. I asked for 15, I couldn't get all of it but we compromised."

In an analysis, CNN (6/24, 89.21M) Editor-At-Large Chris Cillizza says the deal "proved" skeptics of Biden's pursuit of bipartisanship "wrong," and it "is, to borrow a famous/infamous Biden-ism, a 'big [expletive] deal' for his presidency." Cillizza adds the agreement is "a clear victory for Biden – and his first-term agenda. And there's no question that his political advisers are leaping for joy behind the scenes right now." On NBC Nightly News (6/24, story 2, 1:30, Holt, 4.91M), Geoff Bennett touted it as "a major development for bipartisanship and the Biden agenda."

While a Los Angeles Times (6/24, 3.37M) editorial casts the deal as "probably necessary, but not nearly sufficient," a Wall Street Journal (6/24, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) editorial argues the bipartisan infrastructure agreement was undercut by the President and Pelosi committing to a reconciliation bill at the same time. The Journal also credits McConnell for his skepticism.

**Stocks Hit Record On Infrastructure Optimism.** According to Bloomberg (6/23, Nazareth, Leach, 3.57M), "Stocks climbed to an all-time high as...Biden's bipartisan \$579 billion infrastructure deal added to optimism the economic recovery is taking hold. The dollar fell." Bloomberg adds companies that would "benefit the most from a rebound in activity outperformed – with financial and energy shares leading gains in the S&P 500. Caterpillar Inc., the world's biggest maker of mining and construction equipment, jumped alongside raw-material producers such as U.S. Steel Corp. and Nucor Corp." Meanwhile, CNBC (6/24, Fitzgerald, 7.34M) reports investors "will be watching for a key inflation indicator on Friday morning when the Commerce Department releases the core personal consumption expenditures index. Economists polled by Dow Jones are expecting prices rose 3.4% in May from a year earlier. Economists also estimate prices increased by 0.6% from April to May."

**Officials Reopen Route 295 After Collapse Of Pedestrian Bridge.** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports Route 295 "reopened about 1 a.m. Thursday after crews worked into the night to clear" the 65-year-old pedestrian bridge that "collapsed after it was struck by a truck Wednesday." The Post adds the bridge "was deemed to be in poor condition in its most recent inspection and did not meet standards for height clearance." According to the Post, "The only remnants of the bridge are the ramps on either side of the highway leading to columns with

nothing to hold." ABC World News Tonight<sup>\*</sup> (6/24, story 4, 0:20, Muir, 5.95M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

***Baltimore Opposes High-Speed Maglev Train Project Along Washington-Baltimore Corridor.*** The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports Baltimore is urging federal and state transportation officials to reject "a proposal to bring a high-speed maglev train line to the Washington-Baltimore corridor." The city "is joining towns, transportation leaders and federal agencies on the project's path in opposing the multibillion-dollar, privately funded project." In May, "Chris Ryer and Steve Sharkey, Baltimore's planning and transportation chiefs, respectively, wrote to the Federal Railroad Administration," that the city "has several concerns...related to equity, environmental justice and community impacts." The letter, written in response "to the project's draft environmental impact statement," stated, "The draft lacks a sufficient level of detail regarding current and future plans for the project which make a comprehensive analysis difficult. The proposed project is also not aligned with significant efforts underway to upgrade existing rail infrastructure in the corridor."

***DC Metro Plans To Transform Bus Fleet To Electric By 2045.*** The Washington Post (6/24, George, 10.52M) reports Washington DC's Metro "will phase in an electric-powered bus fleet over the next two decades under a plan that the transit agency's board of directors approved Thursday." The plan transitions the agency's "annual purchase of buses away from those powered by natural gas and diesel." Metro plans to add electric buses yearly starting in 2023 "until it phases out the purchasing of nonelectric buses by 2030." Its entire bus fleet will be electric by 2045. While critics say the shift is not fast enough, "transit officials said Metro needs time to find and allocate billions of dollars needed for the conversion."

## CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

### **Garland Says 500 People Have Been Arrested In Capitol Riot Probe.**

The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports Attorney General Garland announced the Justice Department on Thursday "arrested the first defendant in the Jan. 6 Capitol riots to face charges including assaulting a journalist, as the total number of people arrested topped 500." The Post says Garland "praised prosecutors, agents and the public's assistance for reaching the benchmarks, adding, 'I assure the American people that the Department of Justice will continue to follow the facts in this case and charge what the evidence supports to hold all January 6th perpetrators accountable.'" On its website, CNBC (6/24, Mangan, 7.34M) quotes Garland as saying the DOJ so far has received "more than 200,000 digital tips" from the public.

Meanwhile, Reuters (6/24) reports Shane Jason Woods, 43, of Auburn, Illinois on Thursday "became the first person charged for attacking journalists during the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump." Reuters says court documents claim Woods "was recorded on video wearing a Trump baseball cap and Trump face mask while walking around in a restricted area at the Capitol, and assaulting a U.S. Capitol Police officer, causing her to trip and fall to the ground." The Hill (6/24, Lonas, 5.69M) reports Woods "is facing eight federal charges, including assault in special maritime and territorial jurisdiction, assault on a law enforcement officer and disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building or grounds."

***CNN: DOJ Hesitant To Bring Sedition Charges In Capitol Siege Probe.*** CNN (6/24, Perez, 89.21M) reports, "In the weeks after the January 6 insurrection at the US Capitol, the Justice Department looked at the possibility of pursuing charges under the rarely used seditious conspiracy law," and "since then, and particularly since the start of the Biden administration, skepticism among top officials has made that possibility increasingly unlikely," and "instead, prosecutors have turned to traditional obstruction, conspiracy and weapons charges that could yield prison sentences similar to a novel sedition charge." Attorney General Garland, "speaking to reporters at the Justice Department on Tuesday, wouldn't say whether sedition-related charges are still being considered," but "behind the scenes, according to people familiar with the discussions, Garland has been among the top Justice Department officials who have counseled prosecutors to use legally comparable laws to make sure cases being brought against the

attackers of the Capitol are on firm ground."

### **Pelosi Says She Will Establish Select Committee On Capitol Riot.**

The Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) reports House Speaker Pelosi "announced Thursday that the House will form a select committee to investigate the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol by a pro-Trump mob, one month after Senate Republicans blocked an effort to form an independent, bipartisan commission." Pelosi said she made the decision "with great solemnity and sadness" to investigate "the Jan. 6 insurrection," which she described as "one of the darkest days in our nation's history." She added, "It is imperative that we establish the truth of that day and ensure that an attack of that kind cannot happen and that we root out the causes of it all."

The New York Times (6/24, Broadwater, 20.6M) reports Pelosi "had signaled for weeks that she planned to take such a step to scrutinize the storming of the Capitol by a mob of supporters of President Donald J. Trump, who sought to disrupt Congress's counting of electoral votes to formalize President Biden's victory." According to the Times, the Speaker "has maintained that her preference was for the Senate to approve a bipartisan commission, modeled after the one that investigated the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. But with Republicans opposed and many G.O.P. lawmakers working to whitewash and downplay the riot, she has conceded that no longer seemed possible. Fewer than 10 Republicans – the amount needed to overcome a legislative filibuster – supported such an inquiry when it came to a vote in the Senate this month."

The AP (6/24, Jalonick) reports the announcement "means Democrats will lead what probably will be the most comprehensive look at the siege." However, Bloomberg (6/24, House, 3.57M) reports Pelosi "didn't offer a timeline, saying the investigation will run as long as it takes," and "didn't say when she will appoint its Democratic members or whom she might choose to lead the panel." Bloomberg adds Pelosi "said the Democratic-led inquiry will look beyond the causes of the insurrection at how to better protect the Capitol against such an insurrection."

Politico (6/24, Ferris, Wu, 6.73M) reports that House Majority Whip Clyburn and other lawmakers have "privately pushed for Homeland Security Chair Bennie Thompson" to lead the committee, and he "seems to be the caucus favorite with few other names circulating." Thompson "told POLITICO Wednesday the path for the investigation was ultimately the speaker's decision but noted his committee has 'dealt with domestic terrorism for a long time.'" Meanwhile, Reuters (6/24) reports Pelosi "made clear both parties would be expected to name members, saying she hoped that House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy will appoint 'responsible people' to the panel." Pelosi added, "We see this as complementary, not instead of, and hopeful that there could be a commission at some point." The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Wise, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) and a brief CBS Evening News (6/24, story 4, 0:25, O'Donnell, 3.76M) segment provided similar coverage.

### **Newly Released Capitol Siege Videos Show Close-Up View Of Police Battling Mob.**

CBS News (6/24, McDonald, 5.39M) reports, "The Justice Department released video evidence Wednesday that was initially shown in court proceedings for two cases of alleged assaults on officers during the January 6 Capitol riot. The footage provides a new, up-close look at what officers experienced as they battled with the mob at the Capitol that day." CBS News adds, "The videos had been played in court proceedings in cases against two men: Brian Mock, a Minnesota man accused of kicking and shoving officers, and Grady Owens, a Texas native accused of hitting an officer with a skateboard. The videos, which includes body camera footage from law enforcement officers, was released for public viewing after a coalition of media outlets, including CBS News, filed a motion to access the evidence."

### **New Jersey Native Arrested In Capitol Siege Probe.**

The New Jersey Star-Ledger (6/24, Atmonavage, 1.47M) reports, "A New Jersey native was charged this week for his role in the attempted insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, including for allegedly assaulting an officer, after three people he reportedly served with in the Army tipped off the FBI that the Pennsville native was pictured inside the government building." Brian Glenn Bingham "was arrested in Alabama earlier this week after federal authorities received the tips of

him being inside the U.S. Capitol, as well as reviewed video footage showing the 35-year-old entering the building and later allegedly assaulting an officer who was trying to get Bingham to leave, according to the criminal complaint. Multiple videos show Bingham shouting at a group of officers inside the Capitol and at one point, 'grabbing at and pushing' an officer, according to the complaint. The officer told federal authorities that Bingham scratched his left eye."

### **New York Man Charged In Capitol Siege Probe Is Denied Bail.**

The Staten Island (NY) Advance (6/24, 234K) reports, "Despite a serious medical condition and a request to be placed on house arrest under the supervision of his mother, a former Staten Islander charged in the Capitol riot investigation was denied bail Wednesday by a Brooklyn Federal Court judge." Eduard Florea "was arrested Jan. 12 when the FBI raided his Queens home and discovered more than 1,000 rounds of ammunition, 72 military-style combat knives, two hatchets and two swords. Investigators were eyeing alleged threats posted by Florea on the social media site Parler prior to the insurrection and on the date it was happening." US Magistrate Judge Lois Bloom "said she's not convinced Florea wouldn't pose a danger to the public. She cited the fact that he was sentenced in 2014 to jail time after police seized 13 firearms from his Tottenville home, which allegedly didn't deter him from compiling another stockpile of weapons following his release."

## **PROTESTS**

### **Chauvin To Be Sentenced For Floyd Murder On Friday.**

The Hill (6/24, Johnson, 5.69M) reports that "Derek Chauvin, the former police officer convicted of murdering George Floyd, faces what is expected to at least be a 12-year prison term on Friday when he will be formally sentenced to at the Hennepin County courthouse in downtown Minneapolis." The Hill explains that even though Chauvin "was convicted of three charges, since those charges all stemmed from the same action – killing Floyd – the length of the sentence will correlate to the guidelines for his most serious crime, unintentional second-degree murder." Under state guidelines, "the maximum sentence for unintentional murder in the second degree is 40 years, but because Chauvin has no previous criminal record, the presumptive sentence is 12.5 years."

Paul Butler writes in his column for the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) that 18 years would be "the most appropriate sentence for Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer convicted of second-degree murder in the death of George Floyd in one of the most high-profile criminal trials in U.S. history." Butler argues while the "desire for retribution is understandable when someone has taken an innocent life," punishment "ought, in a civilized society, to be constrained by dictates of justice and mercy, even when the criminal himself has acted inhumanely." Butler says "18 years is a very long time in prison. Chauvin would not be getting away with anything, and it's in the best long-term interests of racial justice in America if punishment is based less on emotion and more on reason."

In an op-ed for the Washington Post (6/24, Martin, 10.52M) W. Seth Martin, the lead pastor of the Brook Community Church in Minneapolis, writes, "Notwithstanding my — our — hesitation to accept that this moment of accountability has permanently shifted America's posture toward Black people and policing, the point remains: We have reason to celebrate. And this may yet signify a reason to hope. I push myself to embrace the idea of a hopeful tomorrow, and encourage others to do the same. But my true hope lies in the day when God will right every wrong. On that day, the relief won't be temporary, or blunted by hesitation. Instead, we will experience peace. I look forward to it. In the meantime, this moment will do."

**Floyd Statue Vandalized With Hate Symbol.** The New York Times (6/24, Watkins, 20.6M) reports that "a statue of George Floyd that was installed in Brooklyn less than a week ago was spray-painted and marked with a white supremacist group's logo in an act of vandalism that the police were investigating as a hate crime." Police discovered the defacement of the statue on Thursday. According to the Times, "it was covered with black spray paint and marked with a stencil for Patriot Front, a white supremacist group with a small but growing presence in New York



City."

**Gen. Milley Rejected Trump Pressure For Violent Response To Floyd Protests, Book Claims.** CNN (6/24, Cohen, 89.21M) reports that according to a new book by Wall Street Journal reporter Michael Bender, Gen. Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "repeatedly pushed back on then-President Donald Trump's argument that the military should intervene violently in order to quell the civil unrest that erupted around the country last year." The book, titled "Frankly, We Did Win This Election," claims Milley "often found he was the lone voice of opposition to those demands during heated Oval Office discussions."

**Balko: DOI IG Report Doesn't Exonerate Trump Administration.** Radley Balko writes in the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) that although Trump and his supporters claimed the Interior Department inspector general's report on the police operation to evict protesters from Lafayette Square last summer "vindicated him and his administration," and "media critics cited the affair as more evidence of the Washington press corps' bias and anti-Trump agenda" the report "doesn't vindicate the Trump administration. Nor does it prove that media accounts of the incident were erroneous."

### **Protester Pleads Guilty To Breaking Reno, Nevada Federal Courthouse Window.**

The AP (6/24) reports from Reno, Nevada, "A man accused of breaking a window in the federal courthouse in downtown Reno during a protest tied to the killing of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer last year faces up to 10 years in prison after pleading guilty Thursday to destruction of government property." According to the AP, "Police arrested Keith Moreno, 28, Reno, last June based on witness statements and news video footage that showed him among a crowd of 30 to 40 protesters at the courthouse on May 30, 2020. One witnesses said Moreno later bragged about throwing a cigarette receptacle through the courthouse window and another said he was 'bragging that he busted out a city hall window and the cops are not smart enough to find him,' FBI special agent Christopher Johnson said in an affidavit filed in U.S. District Court."

### **Facebook Arrest Video Triggers Protests In South Carolina.**

The AP (6/24, Collins) reports that for a second day Thursday, "demonstrators converged outside" the Rock Hill Police Department in South Carolina to protest "the arrest of two men by officers...who were recorded on a Facebook video wrestling and throwing punches with the two." The AP adds, "Eight people were arrested on the second day of protests, just hours after the police chief and a civil rights leader had asked for calm. Most of the arrests were for disorderly conduct or being a pedestrian in the roadway as protesters blocked several streets near the police station."

## **COUNTER-TERRORISM**

### **Man Arrested After Ramming Security Gate At Houston's FBI Building.**

The Houston Chronicle (6/24, 982K) reports, "Federal authorities on Wednesday arrested a man accused of ramming his vehicle into a security gate at Houston's FBI building, officials said. No one was hurt in the incident at around 12:30 p.m. at 1 Justice Park Drive in northwest Houston. The driver, who was not armed, was taken into custody. He was not identified."

### **Seattle Man Denies Charge Of Attempting To Join ISIS.**

The AP (6/24) reports that Elvin Hunter Bgorn Williams pleaded not guilty to a federal charge "that he tried to join the Islamic State group." KAPP says the FBI arrested Williams last month at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport "as he checked in for a flight to Cairo." KAPP-TV Yakima, WA (6/24) says that according to court papers, "members of a Seattle-area mosque who had been trying to de-radicalize Williams were the ones who tipped off the FBI that he continued to espouse violence and extremism."

### **Authorities Say KKK Fliers Found In Northern Virginia.**

The Washington Post (6/24, Moyer, 10.52M) reports, "Fliers promoting the Ku Klux Klan were



found outside homes and a police station in Northern Virginia on Thursday morning, authorities said." The Post adds, "In a statement, the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office said it had received reports of the fliers, which were found in the driveways of several homes in Ashburn. The fliers were found in plastic bags weighed down with birdseed, the statement said, and referenced topics discussed at recent Loudoun County School Board meetings. There was no indication that the households where the fliers were left were targeted, according to the statement. The sheriff's office said it was following up with Fairfax County after a similar incident there earlier this month."

### **Administration Developing New Tools To Police Domestic Terrorism.**

McClatchy (6/24, Wilner, 29K) reports, "The Biden administration with 'a sense of urgency' is developing new tools such as a mobile app and handheld booklets to help local law enforcement combat violent domestic extremists, a senior White House official said." McClatchy adds, "After intelligence agencies concluded earlier this year that domestic terrorism posed an elevated threat to the country, the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) is moving quickly to build a new mobile app that will provide police with unclassified, yet sensitive federal intelligence information on potential threats, two White House officials said. Once the app is ready, 'you can, if you're a cop on the beat, get those sorts of FOUO [For Official Use Only] products from your federal partners on your phone,' said the senior White House official." The NCTC "is also working with the FBI to revise a handbook...within the next few months to include for the first time warning signs and indicators of mobilization by domestic terrorists."

### **US Judge Holds Man Facing Extradition Over His Role In Mumbai Terror Attack.**

The AP (6/25, Dazio) reports that on Thursday, a federal judge ruled that Tahawwur Rana, a Pakistani-born Canadian man, must remain in federal custody as the court weighs whether to extradite him to India for his "for his alleged role in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack that killed more than 160 people." The AP explains that "Indian authorities allege that Rana conspired with his childhood friend David Coleman Headley to assist the Pakistani terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba, or 'Army of the Good,' in the orchestration of the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai that killed 166 people, injured more than 200 and caused \$1.5 billion in damage." The AP adds that "in 2011, Rana was convicted in federal court in Illinois of conspiracy to provide material support to terrorism in Denmark for a thwarted plot to attack a Danish newspaper to retaliate for its publication of cartoons that depicted the Prophet Mohamed in 2005."

### **Guantanamo Detainee Hambali To Face Court.**

Public Radio International (6/24, Winn, 15K) reports the Indonesian detainee in Guantanamo bay who goes only by Hambali is being prepared to face a criminal court for charges of plotting with al-Qaeda to carry out terror attacks on the US. PRI says his case "may double as a de facto trial of the American justice system at its most secretive," as it "hinges on claims, made at the height of the so-called global war on terror," that "enhanced interrogation techniques" were justified. Hambali's lawyers believe this case is a "symbol of the fact that America can no longer claim the moral or ethical high ground. We're no better than Russia or China or Iran."

## **COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE**

### **Lawmakers Seek DOJ Probe Of China Initiative After Tennessee Mistrial.**

FedScoop (6/24, Nyczepir) reports, "Democratic lawmakers urged the Department of Justice to investigate FBI misconduct under an initiative for prosecuting people stealing trade secrets, hacking or spying for China, in a letter published last week." The letter "specifically asks DOJ Inspector General Michael Horowitz to look into the failed prosecution of Anming Hu, a former engineering professor at the University of Tennessee, who was fired after FBI agents told his employer he was suspected of stealing government secrets for the Chinese military." Hu "was the first person prosecuted under the Trump administration's China Initiative, the methods of which are being questioned after a jury deadlocked in his trial on June 16 - following testimony from the

investigating FBI agent that he spent 21 months surveilling Hu but doesn't believe he was ever a spy, reported the Knoxville News Sentinel."

### **WPost: ODNI To Release UAP Report On Friday.**

Reuters (6/24, Gorman, George, Dunham) reports the US government "is poised to issue an expansive account of what it calls 'unidentified aerial phenomena,' based heavily on observations by American military pilots." The intelligence community, "in conjunction with the Pentagon, is due in the coming days to submit a report to Congress on the subject." Reuters says the forthcoming report "report marks a turning point for the U.S. military after decades of deflecting, debunking and discrediting observations of unidentified flying objects and 'flying saucers.'" The report, to be issued by ODNI, "will include the work of a U.S. Navy-led task force established by the Pentagon."

The Washington Post (6/24, Andrews, 10.52M) reports ODNI is expected on Friday "to release a report that will share everything unclassified that the U.S. government knows about unidentified aerial phenomena (UAPs), as mandated by last year's pandemic relief package." The Post says while it "reportedly will not offer firm conclusions as to what the UAPs might be," the report "has had many in the UFO community buzzing with anticipation. Some think it could mark a sea change in how the public considers the possibility of UFOs and all the implications that come with them." Others "have still felt some trepidation. The report might be too vague to make a dent in the skepticism, and after all, it's not like believing in UFOs is the best way to win friends and influence people."

The Wall Street Journal (6/24, Queenan, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), US News & World Report (6/24, Shinkman, 1.91M), and WNBC-TV New York (6/24, Glorioso, Pavlovic Sola, 289K) also report.

### **Former NSA Cyber Adviser Named To NSC.**

ExecutiveGov (6/24, Martin) reports Teddy Nemeroff, formerly a "senior adviser for cyber policy at the National Security Agency (NSA), has been appointed to serve on the White House's National Security Council, MeriTalk reported Wednesday."

## **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

### **Dozens Arrested In New York Drug Bust.**

The AP (6/24) reports from Albany, New York, "Dozens of people were arrested for their involvement in criminal rings trafficking heroin, cocaine, oxycodone and firearms in Albany and the surrounding region, state Attorney General Letitia James announced Thursday." James "said the indictments against 47 people followed a yearlong investigation of two rival gangs and will help combat the recent surge of violent crime in this upstate city. James' joint investigation with Albany police and the FBI resulted in the seizure of almost 1.2 kilograms of cocaine and 140 grams of heroin mixed with fentanyl, along wit oxycodone, \$40,000 in cash and nine firearms, according to the attorney general."

The Amsterdam (NY) Recorder (6/24) reports, "Seven people from Schenectady County and one from Montgomery County were among 47 people indicted Thursday in a large-scale drug and gun trafficking investigation in the Capital Region, the state Attorney General's Office said. The year-long investigation, dubbed 'Operation Crosstown Quarantine' centered around two rival gangs in Albany-Uptown Associates and Downtown Associates, according to a press release. The investigations comes as Albany County has seen a surge in gun violence." The Recorder adds, "In the joint operation between the Office of the Attorney General's Organized Crime Task Force, the Albany Police Department and the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force used undercover operations and physical and electronic surveillance to garner evidence."

### **FBI Arrests Alleged Washington Child Rapist In Malaysia.**

KAPP-TV Yakima, WA (6/24) reports from Seattle, Washington, "A 38-year-old Seattle man accused of multiple counts of child rape in King County was arrested in Kepong, Malaysia following

a widescale effort led by the FBI.” KAPP-TV adds, “According to a press release issued by the FBI Seattle Division on June 24, Scott Barry Uchida was detained by Royal Malaysia Police on April 21, 2021, without incident. He is wanted for second-degree rape, second-degree rape of a child, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, and third-degree rape of a child. Court documents compiled by the FBI show that the Kirkland Police Department opened an investigation into the rape, unlawful imprisonment, and commercial sexual exploitation of three underaged victims between Summer 2015 and January 2018.”

### **AP Examines Police Killings, Other Racial Injustice Cases Pending In US.**

The AP (6/24) reports, “Former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin’s sentencing Friday in George Floyd’s death will hardly be the last word in the case, with federal civil rights charges still pending, appeals expected and three more officers facing trial.” The AP adds, “Even as that case grinds forward, many other cases are being closely watched as the U.S. grapples with the racial injustice exposed anew by Floyd’s death. Most involve killings by police, although some – like Ahmaud Arbery’s death in Georgia – are being scrutinized for other reasons.” The AP then gives “a rundown of some of the most high-profile cases.”

### **School Shootings Surge Across US.**

In a 2,964 word article, the Washington Post (6/24, 10.52M) profiles multiple school shootings. The Post writes that the incidents are “part of a disturbing surge of campus gun violence that made this spring unlike any other in modern U.S. history. Despite thousands of elementary, middle and high schools remaining partially, or entirely, closed because of the pandemic, there have been 14 school shootings since March – the highest total over that period during any year since at least 1999.” The Post adds that “while such shootings remain rare, this latest string has pushed the country past a bleak and uniquely American milestone: More than a quarter of a million children have been exposed to gun violence during school hours since the massacre 22 years ago at Columbine High School near Denver.”

### **Kentucky Man Gets Two Life Sentences For Killing Black Shoppers At Grocery Store.**

The Louisville (KY) Courier-Journal (6/24, Robin, 554K) reports that on Thursday, a federal court sentenced Gregory Bush to life in prison for murdering Vickie Lee Jones and Maurice Stallard while they shopped at Kroger because they were black. The Courier-Journal adds that the federal sentence will be added to a life sentence he received after pleading “guilty but mentally ill” to state charges for the murders in 2018.

### **Texas Men Get Decades In Prison For Targeting Gay Men On Grindr.**

KAVU-TV Victoria, TX (6/24, Seibel) reports that on Wednesday in Dallas, a federal court sentenced Pablo Cenicerros-Deleon and Daryl Henry to 22 years in prison “for their involvement in a scheme to target gay men for violent crimes” through Grindr, a social media dating platform used primarily by gay men. A third defendant, Michael Atkinson received an 11-year sentence. The Fort Worth (TX) Star-Telegram (6/24, Rodriguez, 431K) says that according to court records, “the three defendants targeted as many as nine men in and around Dallas for crimes such as kidnapping, assaulting and other hate crimes. ... While the victims were held at gunpoint, some of the victims were physically assaulted, at least one man was sexually assaulted, and all of the victims were taunted by gay slurs.”

### **FBI Searching For Kentucky Man Involved In Lexington Standoff.**

Lexington (KY) Herald-Leader (6/24, Chisenhall, Eads, 205K) reports that the FBI is searching for Antonio “Tony” Cotton after “exchanging gunfire with him in Lexington.” Fox News (6/24, Casiano, 23.99M) says the FBI agents “were serving a fugitive warrant” against Cotton when he fired on them. WDRB-TV Louisville, KY (6/24, 303K), WVFX-TV Bangor, ME (6/24), WKYT-TV Lexington, KY (6/24, 50K), WLEX-TV Lexington, KY (6/24, 114K), and, WTVQ-TV Lexington, KY (6/24, 11K) also report on the manhunt.