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The Canadian Press



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Facing pressure, Biden to sign order on abortion access

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WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden will take executive action Friday to protect access to abortion, according to three people familiar with the matter, as he faces mounting pressure from Democrats to be more forceful on the subject after the Supreme Court ended a constitutional right to the procedure two weeks ago.



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Facing pressure, Biden to sign order on abortion access



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The White House said Biden will speak Friday morning “on protecting access to reproductive health care services,” but the actions Biden was to outline were expected to be limited in scope. He is expected to formalize instructions to the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services to push back on efforts to limit the ability of women to access federally approved abortion medication or to travel across state lines to access clinical abortion services. The people spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss Biden's actions before they were officially announced.

Biden's executive order will also direct agencies to work to educate medical providers and insurers about how and when

they are required to share privileged patient information with authorities — an effort to protect women who seek or utilize abortion services.

The order, coming two weeks after the high court's June 24 ruling that ended the nationwide right to abortion and left it to states to determine whether or how to allow the procedure, comes as Biden has

faced criticism from some in his own party for not acting with more urgency to protect women's access to abortion. The decision in the case known as *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* overturned the court's landmark 1973 *Roe v. Wade* ruling.

Since the ruling, Biden has stressed that his ability to protect abortion rights by executive action is limited without congressional action.

"Ultimately, Congress is going to have to act to codify *Roe* into federal law," Biden said last week during a [virtual meeting with Democratic governors](#).

The tasking to the Justice Department and HHS is expected to push the agencies to fight in court to protect women, but it conveys no guarantees that the judicial system will take their side against potential prosecution by states that have moved to outlaw abortion.

For AP's full coverage of the Supreme Court ruling on abortion, go to <https://apnews.com/hub/abortion>

Seung Min Kim And Zeke Miller, The Associated Press

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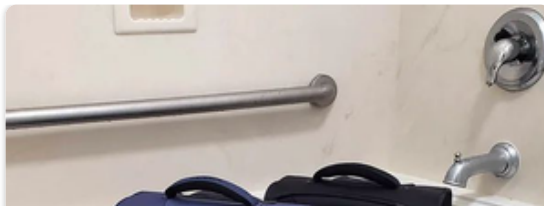
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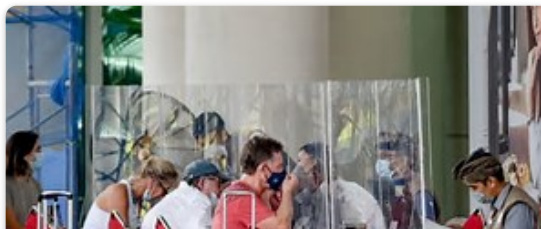
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Woman knocked unconscious in 'random' attack at Kipling Station

CBC/Radio-Canada - Yesterday 1:21 p.m.



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A woman was knocked unconscious in a "random attack" at Kipling Station on Thursday, Toronto police say.



© Spencer Gallichan-Lowe/CBC

A spokesperson with Toronto police said the woman — believed to be in her 60s — was walking through the

Police and paramedics were called to the station around 11:15 a.m.

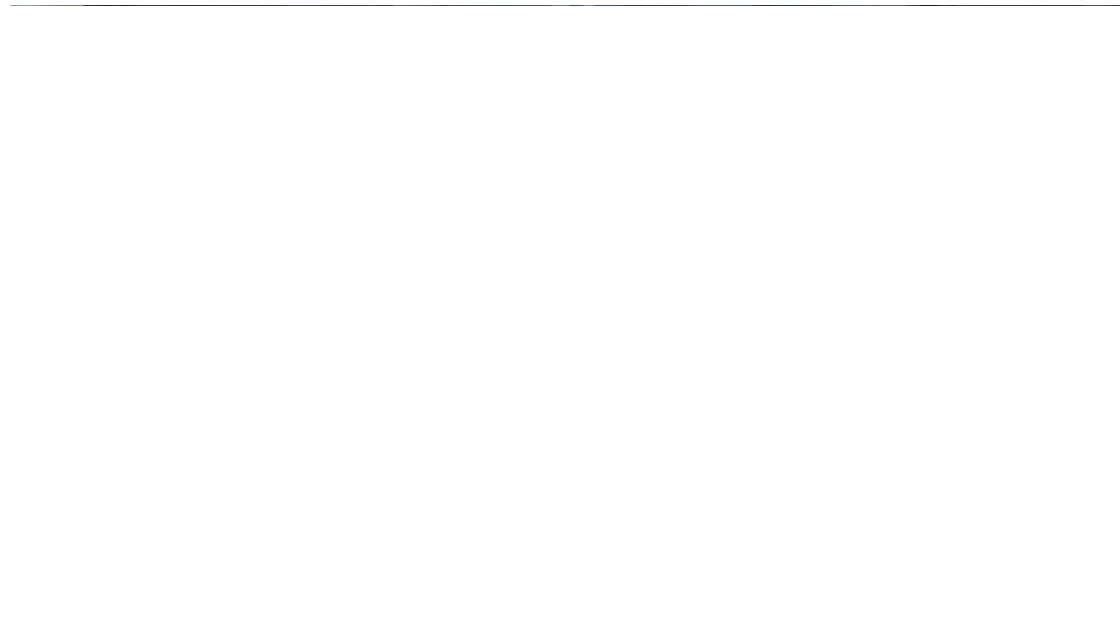
A spokesperson with Toronto police said the woman, believed to be in her 60s, was walking through the station when a man ran up to her and punched her in the face.

"She was unconscious and has been revived," police said.

The woman was taken to hospital in serious but not life-threatening condition.

The TTC said it's helping police with the investigation and confirmed the attack appeared to be random.

Related video: FROM THE SCENE: Woman set on fire in alleged random attack at Kipling Station



"Our thoughts are with the victim for a speedy recovery," TTC spokesperson Stuart Green said in an email to CBC News.

"As always, we will offer whatever assistance we can to aid TPS as they investigate this random attack."

Police say the suspect, believed to be in his 30s, was dressed in all black and was also wearing a white scarf.

TTC focusing resources in and around subway

system

Thursday's attack was the latest in a string of incidents on TTC property, and the second at Kipling Station in as many months.

Last month [a woman was allegedly set on fire](#) in another "random attack" at Kipling Station. She was rushed to hospital with second- and third-degree burns, but succumbed to her injuries earlier this week.

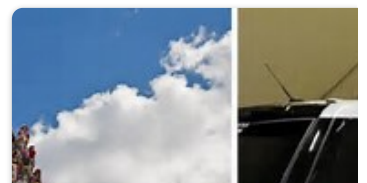
A man is facing multiple charges in connection with that incident.

According to Green, "Kipling Station is already a priority location for our Special Constables in their daily patrols and we are looking to increase our presence there further."

The TTC is in the process of hiring nearly 60 more special constables that were approved in 2021, Green said, adding that the hiring process takes approximately a year from posting the jobs to having constables on the job.

"In the wake of these recent incidents, we are focusing resources in and around the subway system to both give customers an added sense of safety and security as well as to respond in the unlikely event of a safety incident," he said.

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