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**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
June 15, 2022  
7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: JUNE 15, 2022**

### **DOJ**

- 10:00 AM: AG Merrick Garland to meet with families of Tops shooting victims during Buffalo (NY) visit today. After meeting with family members and survivors, AG Garland will hold a press conference at 11:45 a.m. at the Apollo Theater, 1346 Jefferson Ave.

### **SCOTUS**

- Opinions

## **CONGRESS**

- 10:00 AM: Senate Judiciary Committee: Protecting America's Children From Gun Violence.
- 2:30 PM: Senate Judiciary Committee: Baby Formula and Beyond: The Impact of Consolidation on Families and Consumers.
- 10:00 AM: House Judiciary Committee: H.R. 282, the Territorial Judgeship Retirement Equity Act of 2021; H.R. 3034, To amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes; H.R. 6538, the Active Shooter Alert Act of 2022; H.R. 5768, the Violent Incident Clearance and Technological Investigative Methods Act of 2021 or the VICTIM Act of 2021; H.R. 7181, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022; and H.R. 3285, the 21st Century President Act.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**CBS: Attorney General Garland to visit Buffalo mass shooting site and meet with victims' families and survivors**, Robert Legare, June 15, 2022, 5:22 AM

Just over a month after an 18-year-old White man opened fire inside a Buffalo Tops supermarket, killing 10 and wounding three others, Attorney General Merrick Garland is traveling to the site of the massacre to pay his respects to the victims' families. In the wake of the massacre, Garland announced the Justice Department would investigate the matter as a hate crime and an act of racially-motivated violent extremism. Investigators allege the suspect detailed his plans and his racist motivation for the violence in hundreds of pages of writings he posted online shortly before the shooting. According to authorities, 11 of the 13 individuals who were shot were Black.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Buffalo News \(Buffalo, NY\)](#), [Fox, Spectrum News \(New York, NY\)](#), [WGRZ-NBC \(Buffalo, NY\)](#), [WIVB-CBS \(Buffalo, NY\)](#)

**Fox: Missouri Sen. Hawley rips AG Garland for failing to act on protests at Supreme Court justices homes**, Bradford Betz, June 14, 2022, 5:20 PM

Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., is accusing Attorney General Merrick Garland of inaction on the protesters who flocked to the home of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh last week following an alleged assassination attempt on his life. In a Tuesday letter sent to Garland, Hawley raised concerns that despite demonstrations outside Kavanaugh's home and an increase in pro-abortion attacks on pregnancy resource centers, no significant action has been taken. Federal law stipulates that picketing at the homes of judges with the intent to intimidate them or influencing their rulings is illegal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**AP: Spy agencies' focus on China could snare Chinese Americans**, Nomaan Merchant And

Eric Tucker, June 14, 2022, 12:25 PM

As U.S. intelligence agencies ramp up their efforts against China, top officials acknowledge they may also end up collecting more phone calls and emails from Chinese Americans, raising new concerns about spying affecting civil liberties. A new report from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence makes several recommendations, including expanding unconscious bias training and reiterating internally that federal law bans targeting someone solely due to their ethnicity. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: Judge to decide trial for Confederate flag-toting dad, son**, Michael Kunzelman, June 14, 2022, 7:05 PM

A man carrying a Confederate battle flag stormed the U.S. Capitol with his son because they intended to stop Congress from certifying President Joe Biden's 2020 electoral victory, prosecutors argued Tuesday at the close of the men's trial. A federal judge, not a jury, will decide if Delaware residents Kevin Seefried and his adult son, Hunter, are guilty of a felony obstruction charge and several misdemeanor offenses stemming from the Capitol riot on Jan. 6, 2021.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg: A Ragtag Band of Hackers Is Waging Cyberwar on Putin's Supply Lines**, Ryan Gallagher, June 15, 2022, 12:01 AM

Russia's military began sending large numbers of weapons and troops into Belarus in late January. The official purpose of the movement was a joint military exercise, but Belarus, which has a 650-mile border with Ukraine and a government closely aligned with Moscow, was also a logical staging point for Russian President Vladimir Putin to carry out an invasion. Several days after the troops arrived weird things started happening to the computer systems that ran the Belarus national railway system, which the Russian military was using as part of its mobilization.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: White House has security concerns about any deal for NSO hacking tools**, Ellen Nakashima and Craig Timberg, June 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A major American defense firm, L3Harris, is in talks with the blacklisted Israeli spyware company, NSO Group, to buy its phone-hacking capability in a deal that would give the U.S. company control of one of the world's most sophisticated and controversial hacking tools, according to people familiar with the talks. The unusual deal appears to be an attempt to salvage some utility from a firm facing serious financial straits, by selling its most valuable product — its hacking code and access to the software's developers — to a company that would restrict its use to the United States and trusted Western allies. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NBC: Federal judge to consider Steve Bannon's motion to dismiss contempt indictment**, Pete Williams, June 15, 2022, 4:32 AM

Lawyers for former Trump White House adviser Steve Bannon will urge a federal judge Wednesday to dismiss an indictment charging him with contempt of Congress for failing to respond to a subpoena from the House Jan. 6 committee. They argue that prosecuting Bannon violates longstanding Justice Department policies concerning executive branch officials. They also maintain that the committee had no authority to issue the subpoena and that the law making contempt of Congress a crime is unconstitutional. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: Biden administration eases terrorism-related restrictions for Afghan evacuees**, Priscilla Alvarez, June 15, 2022, 3:00 AM

The Biden administration is loosening certain terrorism-related exemptions for Afghan evacuees who worked with or on behalf of the US government so they can qualify for immigration benefits, the Department of Homeland Security announced Tuesday. "These actions will also ensure that individuals who have lived under Taliban rule, such as former civil servants, those required to pay service fees to the Taliban to do things like pass through a checkpoint or obtain a passport, and those who fought against the Taliban are not mistakenly barred because of overly broad applications of terrorism-related inadmissibility grounds (TRIG) in our immigration law," the department said in a statement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CBS: What is the Patriot Front? Prominent white supremacist group tied to mass arrest near Idaho Pride event**, Alex Sundby, June 14, 2022, 3:29 PM

The nearly three dozen people arrested for allegedly conspiring to riot near an Idaho Pride event over the weekend appear to be affiliated with the hate group Patriot Front, police said. The group was called "one of the most prominent white supremacist groups in the country" by the Southern Poverty Law Center earlier this year. [...] In 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland warned of an "elevated threat to the homeland" posed by domestic violent extremists. "In the FBI's view, the top domestic violent extremist threat comes from racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists, specifically those who advocated for the superiority of the white race," Garland said.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**ABC: Prolific ads featuring right-wing icons push questionable claims about US 'crime wave'**, Mike Levine, June 14, 2022, 7:23 AM

You may have seen ads for the anti-fraud service Home Title Lock on national TV, heard them on talk radio, or watched them on social media -- often featuring right-wing personalities such as Rudy Giuliani or Newt Gingrich. The prolific ads urgently warn of a scam called "home title theft," when a con artist fraudulently claims ownership of someone else's home to swindle lenders or even sell the property. In several commercials, Giuliani, Gingrich and other pitchmen claim the FBI classifies home title theft as "one of the fastest-growing" crimes in America. Some marketing materials also showcase people who've been identified as "real victims" -- a "devastated" Texas cowboy and a Florida-raised grandmother whose "heart-wrenching story of losing her rightfully-owned home is occurring all too often nationwide." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Proud Boys member who called for civil war days after Capitol riot pleads guilty**, Emily Zantow, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Getting the more serious charges against him dropped in the process, a 21-year-old member of the Proud Boys who called for a civil war days after rioting at the U.S. Capitol pleaded guilty on Tuesday to entering and remaining in a restricted area. Ryan Ashlock struck a plea deal with the Justice Department in which he admitted guilt to a misdemeanor charge that carries a statutory sentence of up to one year in prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Examiner: FBI official had unauthorized contacts with reporters for years: DOJ watchdog**, Jerry Dunleavy, June 14, 2022, 9:36 PM

A top FBI national security official involved in Crossfire Hurricane had dozens of unauthorized contacts with the media over several years, the Department of Justice's watchdog concluded. Justice Department inspector general Michael Horowitz's office concluded in a newly released investigative report that retired FBI official Michael Steinbach violated numerous bureau rules through his meetings and communications with reporters, though prosecution against him was declined by DOJ. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Patriot-News (Harrisburg, PA): Pa. Capitol riot suspect pens letter from jail saying politicians ‘need to go,’ a woodchipper ‘sounds good’,** Jonathan Bergmueller, June 14, 2022, 6:54 PM

A Jan. 6 defendant accused of toppling a police barricade is now accused of writing a letter talking about getting rid of politicians with a woodchipper, according to court documents filed Monday. ‘All these poltions(sic) in office need to go, a woodchiper(sic) sounds good’ Ryan Samsel, 38, of Bristol, Bucks County, said in the June 2 letter riddled with misspellings from the Federal Detention Center in Philadelphia. “I’ll tell people get your wepons (sic) kiss your kidds (sic) goodbye and let’s (expletive) go!” [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Newsweek: Jan. 6 Defendant Blames Stephen Colbert for Negative Media Coverage,** Jack Dutton, June 14, 2022, 12:42 PM

An attorney representing Joseph Biggs, a Proud Boys organizer linked to the deadly January 6 Capitol riot, has argued that Biggs' trial should be moved out of Washington D.C. due to negative coverage of the far-right group by CBS' The Late Show With Stephen Colbert and MSNBC's Morning Joe. Biggs is charged with conspiracy, as well as obstructing an official Congress proceeding, illegal entry and disorderly conduct on restricted Capitol grounds. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JAN. 6 HEARINGS

**AP: Jan. 6 hearings: What we’ve learned, and what’s next,** Mary Clare Jalonick, June 14, 2022, 8:00 PM

House investigators are trying to make a methodical case that President Donald Trump’s lies about the 2020 election led directly to his supporters’ insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. The House panel investigating the attack has held the first two in a series of hearings providing its initial findings after a yearlong probe and more than 1,000 interviews. The committee has shown clips not only from the violent attack on the Capitol, but also from its own closed-door interviews with Trump aides and associates who were trying to dissuade him from spreading falsehoods about an election he lost. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: Police: House Republican’s tour of Capitol wasn’t suspicious,** Michael Balsamo, June 14, 2022, 12:16 PM

Police have determined that there is nothing suspicious about a tour of U.S. Capitol office buildings that a House Republican gave about 15 people the day before the Jan. 6 attack by rioting supporters of then-President Donald Trump. The House committee investigating the 2021 insurrection examined whether rioters had been involved in reconnaissance and surveillance before the attack, and Democrats suggested some Republican members may have helped them. But there has been no public evidence of that. Rep. Barry Loudermilk, a Republican from Georgia, was simply showing his constituents around, Capitol Police Chief Tom Manger in a letter sent Monday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: 1/6 Panel postpones hearing with ex-Justice Dept. officials,** Eric Tucker, June 14, 2022, 12:00 PM

The House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021 riot at the U.S. Capitol has postponed a hearing that was to feature Trump-era Justice Department officials. The hearing had been set for Wednesday, but the committee on Tuesday morning said that it had been postponed. It did not

give a reason or a new date for the hearing. The next hearing is set to take place on Thursday. The witnesses at Wednesday's hearing were to include Jeffrey Rosen, who was the acting attorney general at the time of the Capitol insurrection, as well as two other former top officials, Richard Donoghue and Steven Engel. [Continue Reading] See also: [NBC](#), [NPR](#)

**USA Today: Bill Barr's complicated relationship with Donald Trump: From vital advocate to damning witness**, Kevin Johnson, June 15, 2022, 5:00 AM

Just more than a month after the 2020 election, Bill Barr recalled a meeting with Donald Trump in which the then-attorney general began to question the state of mind of his boss – the president of the United States. Over and over, Barr recently told a House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, he tried to convince Trump that his efforts to cling to power based on false claims of election fraud were “nonsense.” [Continue Reading]

**NYT: Jan. 6 Panel Puts Trump Fund-Raising Tactics Under Scrutiny**, Kenneth P. Vogel and Rachel Shorey, June 15, 2022, 12:22 AM

Since Election Day in 2020, Donald J. Trump and his close allies have raised more than \$390 million through aggressive fund-raising solicitations promising bold political actions, including fighting to overturn his re-election campaign defeat, helping allied candidates win their own campaigns and fighting “to save America from Joe Biden and the radical left.” [Continue Reading]

**LAT: [EDITORIAL] Even if the DOJ prosecutes Trump, it's the American people who need to repudiate the ‘Big Lie’**, Harry Litman, June 14, 2022, 3:32 PM

As the Jan. 6 committee continues to roll out an overwhelming case of corrupt conduct by Donald Trump, the calls grow louder for the Department of Justice to bring criminal charges against the former president. Even if that happens, it would be a fundamental mistake to view the department as the avenging angel that alone can restore accountability and truth to our deeply damaged politics. [Continue Reading]

**WSJ: Jan. 6 Committee Splits Over Possible Criminal Referral for Trump**, Scott Patterson and Sadie Gurman, June 14, 2022, 1:44 PM

As the Jan. 6 select committee investigating the attack on the Capitol continues its public hearings, a public disagreement has emerged between committee members about whether it would consider referring criminal charges against former President Donald Trump to the Justice Department. In comments to reporters late Monday, Rep. Bennie Thompson (D., Miss.), chairman of the committee, cast doubt on whether it would make a criminal referral to the Justice Department. “We’re going to tell the facts,” Mr. Thompson said. [Continue Reading] See also: [WaPo](#)

**CNN: January 6 committee teases next hearing with video of Trump lawyer warning John Eastman**, Ryan Nobles, Kristin Wilson, Zachary Cohen and Annie Grayer, June 15, 2022, 1:00 AM

The House select committee investigating the January 6 attack on the Capitol teased their upcoming hearing on Thursday, by releasing a video clip from their deposition of former Trump White House attorney Eric Herschmann. In the clip, Herschmann outlines how he warned conservative attorney John Eastman to back off plans to file appeals in Georgia based on the election results after the events of January 6, 2021. Thursday's hearing is expected to focus on the pressure campaign applied to former Vice President Mike Pence to stand in the way of the certification of the election. [Continue Reading] See also: [NBC](#)

**NBC: Trump's pick for Pennsylvania governor says he sees 'parallels' to Hitler's power grab in Capitol riot**, Ryan J. Reilly, June 14, 2022, 3:24 PM

The Donald Trump-endorsed nominee for Pennsylvania governor compared the Jan. 6 attack to historical events staged by Nazis, responding to a question by saying that he saw 'parallels' between the response to the Jan. 6 attack and the 1933 Reichstag fire, which Adolf Hitler used to seize additional power. Doug Mastriano was at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Mastriano, a Pennsylvania state senator, has been subpoenaed by the House Jan. 6 committee. He organized buses to D.C. that day, according to receipts his campaign's lawyer previously acknowledged turning over to the Jan. 6 committee. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**MSNBC: The battle that preceded the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol**, Steve Vladeck, June 15, 2022, 5:36 AM

If there was a single moment when President Donald Trump's effort to remain in power and unlawfully overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election hung in the balance, it appears to have been not sometime on Jan. 6, 2021, as a violent mob disrupted the joint congressional session while it formally certified Joe Biden's victory, but three days earlier, on Jan. 3. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Democrats pressure Jan. 6 panel to pursue criminal referrals of Trump**, Mike Lillis, June 15, 2022, 5:30 AM

The committee investigating last year's attack on the U.S. Capitol says it is undecided on the question of whether to issue a criminal referral of former President Trump for his role in the rampage. For a growing number of Democrats watching from the sidelines, however, the answer is already clear. "I think they should do criminal referrals," said Rep. Juan Vargas (D-Calif.). "Obviously, with what they've uncovered, there's criminal conspiracy there. And having the information, I think they should refer it to the Department of Justice for prosecution. It all starts at the top." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Forbes: Can Trump Be Charged As Result Of The Jan. 6 Committee Investigation? Here's What To Know**, Alison Durkee, June 14, 2022, 3:59 PM

The House January 6 Committee has started making a public case against former President Donald Trump and his allies in a series of hearings, arguing the former president "oversaw and coordinated" an unlawful plan to overturn the 2020 election but the Justice Department, not Congress, is the only entity that could bring criminal charges against Trump or his allies. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: Guilty plea entered in theft of COVID-19 relief funds**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A former West Haven City Hall employee has pleaded guilty to a federal wire fraud charge for his part in the theft of more than \$600,000 in federal money that was supposed to be spent for pandemic relief. John Bernardo, 66, who served as a housing specialist for the city, pleaded guilty Tuesday in U.S. District Court. According to state business records, Bernardo and former state Rep. Michael DiMassa, a West Haven Democrat, formed Compass Investment Group LLC, which received federal COVID-19 relief funds from the city of West Haven for consulting,

lobbying and legal services to its health department that were never provided. [[Continue Reading](#)]

See also: [CT Mirror](#)

**WaPo: Agent allegedly used law enforcement database to track acquaintances**, Devlin Barrett, June 14, 2022, 4:04 PM

A federal agent has been charged with misusing cellphone tracking technology to look up the locations of people with whom he had personal relationships and lying to investigators when confronted about it, according to an indictment unsealed Tuesday. Deputy U.S. Marshal Adrian Pena was charged in a 14-count indictment with misconduct dating back to 2016. Officials say he misused law enforcement data for personal reasons while assigned to a task force in the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office one of the law enforcement agencies now under intense scrutiny for waiting more than an hour to confront a gunman who killed 19 children and two teachers inside an elementary school last month. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Beast](#), [WRIC-ABC \(Richmond, VA\)](#)

**Daily Beast: Florida Exec Wanted for Fraud Is Nabbed on a Jet Ski Bound for Cuba**, Alan Halaly, June 14, 2022, 5:06 PM

A Florida man awaiting trial for allegedly submitting more than \$4 million in fraudulent health-care claims was detained on a jet ski as he tried to vamoose to Cuba, authorities said Tuesday. Ernesto Cruz Graveran, a 54-year-old Cuban citizen, owned Xiko Enterprises, Inc., a company based in Hialeah that provided equipment to Medicare beneficiaries, according to a criminal complaint filed in federal court in Florida. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bradenton Herald \(Bradenton, FL\)](#), [Times Union \(Albany, NY\)](#)

**NY Daily News: Federal jury finds Brooklyn English teacher guilty of tricking children into sending him sexually explicit images, videos**, John Annese, June 14, 2022, 10:51 PM

A popular Brooklyn teacher was found guilty of tricking young children into sending him sexually explicit photos by posing as someone else to seduce them in creepy Facebook chats. A federal jury Tuesday found Jonathan Deutsch, 38, guilty of multiple counts of sexual exploitation of a minor and attempted sexual exploitation of a minor. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Chattanooga Times Free Press (Chattanooga, TN): Chattanooga police still asking for public's help after three suspects charged in McCallie Avenue shooting**, La Shawn Pagan, June 14, 2022, 10:13 PM

Chattanooga police continue to ask for the public's help in identifying suspects in the June 5 mass shooting on McCallie Avenue even as another individual was charged in connection with the case Tuesday. Tuesday's developments brought to three the number of individuals who face charges in relation to the incident in front of Mary's Bar & Grill that injured 14 people and left three dead. Two individuals died from gunshots, and another was struck and killed by a car fleeing the scene. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WDEF-CBS \(Chattanooga, TN\)](#)

**Middletown Press (Middletown, CT): Feds: Hartford man faces up to 20 years in prison for firearm theft**, Liz Hardaway, June 14, 2022, 10:00 PM

A Hartford man pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges stemming from the theft of dozens of guns from a warehouse in South Windsor last year, according to federal prosecutors. At the time of his arrest, police found Shameik Camara, 32, with one of the stolen firearms, U.S. Attorney Vanessa Roberts Avery said in a news release Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Morristown Daily Record: Parsippany man sentenced to prison for role in Passaic County cocaine ring**, Kaitlyn Kanzler, June 14, 2022, 9:10 PM

A Parsippany man was sentenced Tuesday to 6½ years in prison after he pleaded guilty in federal court to being part of a cocaine distribution conspiracy in Passaic County. Victor Pimentel, 46, was one of eight North Jersey residents arrested in 2017 as part of Operation Snow, an eight-month drug investigation where 30 kilograms of suspected cocaine was found. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Mid Hudson News (New York, NY): Greene County man pleads guilty to attempting to entice minor to have sex with him**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 7:34 PM

A 37-year-old Cairo, New York man pled guilty on Tuesday in Albany federal court to attempting to coerce and entice a 14-year-old to engage in sexual acts with him. As part of his guilty plea, Thomas “Tommy” Squires admitted that between July and August 2020, he sent graphic, sexually explicit text messages to an under investigator who was posing as the 14-year-old child.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Detroit Free Press: Crooked Detroit cop gets sentencing break in towing scandal: 15 months in prison**, Tresa Baldas, June 14, 2022, 6:47 PM

A retired Detroit police officer convicted of collecting cash bribes while driving around in a cruiser and wearing his badge failed to convince a judge to give him probation though he still caught a break. The judge gave him 15 months in prison well below the two-year minimum sentence that his plea deal called for, and almost half the 27 months that prosecutors sought. U.S. District Judge George Caram Steeh sentenced retired DPD Officer Alonzo Jones Tuesday for accepting \$3,200 in bribes over two years from an individual in the towing industry and an undercover federal agent. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Booth Newspapers \(Grand Rapids, MI\)](#), [Detroit News](#), [WJBK-Fox \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

**NY Daily News: Gambino wiseguy killed Luchese loanshark over money dispute, Brooklyn Federal Court jury says**, Noah Goldberg, June 14, 2022, 6:13 PM

A Gambino wiseguy was convicted Tuesday of murdering an associate of the Luchese crime family in a feud over \$750,000 in loansharking cash. A Brooklyn Federal Court jury took 90 minutes to deliberate its guilty verdict in the case of Anthony Pandrella, 62, who was charged with killing loanshark Vincent Zito, 78, in Zito’s home. Pandrella had agreed to hold on to \$750,000 of illicit cash from Zito’s loanshark business because Zito was nervous that he was under investigation by law enforcement. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Brooklyn Paper](#)

**KLAS-CBS (Las Vegas, NV): Las Vegas man pleads guilty to mail fraud conspiracy**, Julia Romero, June 14, 2022, 10:50 PM

A Las Vegas man has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud in connection to illegally possessing unemployment benefit debit cards. On Tuesday, Vincent Okoye, 40, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Okoye told a judge he conspired with others including co-defendant Jasmine-Royshe Kanisha Black to obtain DETR and DES debit cards by submitting fraudulent unemployment insurance claims using personal information, such as names, dates of birth, and social security numbers of other people without their knowledge, according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMTV-NBC (Madison, WI): Sauk County woman sentenced for role in methamphetamine conspiracy**, Abriela Thiel, June 14, 2022, 10:13 PM

A Sauk County woman pleaded guilty and was sentenced Tuesday to 30 months in federal prison for her role in conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Tonia Greenwood, 45, of North Freedom, Wisconsin, was sentenced to 30 months in prison followed by five years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVE-NBC (El Dorado, AR): Louisiana man gets 10 year plus sentence for Illegal Possession of Firearms, Furtherance of Drug Trafficking**, Sherie Johnson, June 14, 2022, 7:47 PM

On Tuesday, June 14, 2022, Western District United States Attorney Brandon B. Brown announced that United States District Judge Terry A. Doughty sentenced 50-year-old Brandon Khesahn Cooper of Dubach, La., to 11 years and six months in prison, followed by five years of supervised release. Cooper's sentence followed authorities charging him with Possession of Firearms by a Convicted Felon and Possession of Firearms in Furtherance of Drug Trafficking.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPIX-CBS (San Francisco, CA): Leader of SF Tenderloin drug dealing network sentenced to federal prison**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:58 PM

An East Bay man who led a network of drug dealers on the streets of San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood was sentenced for his role in the scheme, federal prosecutors said. According to U.S. Attorney Stephanie Hinds' office, 27-year-old Andy Manuel Reanos-Moreno was sentenced to six years federal prison on Tuesday. Reanos-Moreno was arrested in 2019 and pleaded guilty last year to conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Evanston, IL): Gun Possession Sends Evanston Man To Federal Prison For Nearly 8 Years**, Jonah Meadows, June 14, 2022, 6:27 PM

An Evanston man was sentenced to seven years and 10 months in federal prison last week after a jury found him guilty of illegal gun possession. Darius Morales, 32, was arrested on May 8, 2019, and charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in connection following a high-speed chase through downtown Evanston that triggered lockdowns of local schools. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KFI-AM (Los Angeles, CA): 2 Music Executives Accused of Illegal Ties to Mexican Concert Promoter**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 8:59 PM

A pair of Southland music executives were arrested today for allegedly conspiring to do business with a Guadalajara-based concert promoter with ties to Mexican drug cartels. Angel Del Villar, 41, of Huntington Beach, and Luca Scalisi, 56, of West Hollywood, are each charged with a federal county of conspiracy to transact in property of specially designated narcotics traffickers, in violation of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KESQ-ABC (Palm Springs, CA): Former Indio resident pleads guilty for his role in a \$15.6 million Ponzi scheme**, Jesus Reyes, June 14, 2022, 6:25 PM

A former Indio resident pled guilty to federal charges for his role in a Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors of more than \$15 million. Joey Stanton Dodson, 58, formerly of Indio and now residing in the Hollywood Dell neighborhood of Los Angeles, engaged in a scheme between November 2012 and May 2015 to defraud investors while serving as the executive chairman and managing partner of Citadel Energy Partners. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WYFF-NBC (Greenville, SC): Upstate man indicted on gun trafficking**, Jenni Williams, June 14, 2022, 6:04 PM

Two people, including an Upstate man, were charged with trafficking guns across state lines. U.S. Attorney Jennifer Williams announced that Ontavious Plumer, 32, of Due West, and Terrance Darby, 41, of Philadelphia, schemed and trafficked nearly 60 firearms from southern states to Philadelphia. This is known as the "iron pipeline," and authorities have already indicted multiple people for involvement with this pipeline. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WWAY-ABC/CBS/CW (Wilmington, NC): Wilmington man sentenced to 40 years for production of child pornography**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

A Wilmington man who photographed his sexual abuse of a four-year old child was sentenced today to 40 years in prison for production of child pornography. The Court also ordered him to pay more than \$285,000 in restitution. 48-year-old Luke Michael Churchill pled guilty to one count of production of child pornography in connection with conduct that took place over the course of several months in 2019. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (New Haven, CT): New Haven Man, 29, Faces Federal Gun Charge: US Attorney**, Ellyn Santiago, June 14, 2022, 5:46 PM

A 29-year-old New Haven man has been charged federally for being a felon in possession of a firearm, prosecutors said. U. S. Attorney for Connecticut Vanessa Roberts Avery announced Tuesday that a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging Shaquil Gary. He entered a plea of not guilty in a New Haven federal courtroom, per Avery. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KLRT-Fox (Little Rock, AR): Two Arkansans sentenced to 28 years in Federal prison for white supremacist activities**, Alex Kienlen, June 14, 2022, 5:03 PM

Two members of the white supremacist New Aryan Empire gang were sentenced to over 28 years in prison the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas announced June 14. Carey Mooney, 46, of Dover, was sentenced to 223 months in federal prison for her role in kidnapping and assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering. Michael J. Roberts, 39, of Hattieville, was sentenced to 118 months imprisonment for his involvement in a methamphetamine conspiracy. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WCMH-NBC (Columbus, OH): Bexley probation officer pleads guilty to extorting parolees**, Daniel Griffin, June 14, 2022, 10:51 PM

A Bexley woman has pleaded guilty to extorting parolees under her supervision as a federal probation officer, accepting money, drugs, goods, and services from people she supervised. Helwa H. Qasem, 44, of Bexley, pleaded guilty to extortion under color of official right, the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of Ohio said in a press release Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KAWE-PBS (Bemidji, MN): Red Lake Man Sentenced to 7 Years in Prison for Shooting Two People**, Emma Hudziak, June 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A 21-year-old Red Lake man was sentenced yesterday in U.S. District Court to seven years in prison for shooting two people on the Red Lake Reservation in 2021. According to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office, on May 5th, 2021, Brennon Allen James Sayers had been arguing loudly with his girlfriend in a vehicle outside of a residence around the Ponemah area of the Red Lake Reservation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVI-Fox (St. Louis, MO): St. Louis man sentenced for distributing fatal fentanyl dose,**

Kevin S. Held, June 14, 2022, 3:07 PM

A St. Louis man who sold a dose of fentanyl to a Florissant man who later overdosed and died was sentenced Tuesday. Prosecutors with the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Eastern District of Missouri said Markquis Bryant pleaded guilty in March to knowingly and intentionally distributing a controlled substance resulting in death. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KMOV-CBS \(St. Louis, MO\)](#)

**WTGS-Fox (Hardeeville, SC): Savannah man pleads guilty to production, possession of child pornography: Attorney**, Courtney Rowles, June 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Savannah man has pled [sic] guilty to child exploitation charges, which canceled his trial that had been set for this week in Brunswick, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Georgia. Rodney Bryant, 37, pled guilty in U.S. District Court to the production of child pornography and possession of child pornography, according to David H. Estes, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KYW-CBS (Philadelphia, PA): Man Sentenced To 15 Years In Prison For North**

**Philadelphia ATM Blast During 2020 Civil Unrest**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 2:30 PM

A Philadelphia man has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for blowing up an ATM and possessing an illegal firearm during unrest in the city during the aftermath of George Floyd's murder in 2020. Federal prosecutors said Tuesday that 26-year-old David Elmakayes has been sentenced to a 15-year prison term, along with three years of supervised release. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Milford Mirror](#)

**WFXL-Fox (Albany, GA): Four indicted in federal court for illegal firearms possession, drugs**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 1:00 PM

Four defendants are among those facing federal charges including drug trafficking and illegal possession of firearms after separate indictments by a grand jury in the Southern District of Georgia, while recent actions in U.S. District Court include guilty pleas and criminal sentences related to illegal gun possession. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**WaPo: Video contradicts police in Texas boy's shooting death, family says**, Arelis R.

Hernández and Joshua Lott, June 14, 2022, 7:39 PM

The family of a 13-year-old San Antonio boy who was shot and killed by police earlier this month says body-camera footage of the incident contradicts the official account and they plan to bring a civil rights lawsuit against the city's police department. Andre "AJ" Hernandez Jr. was driving a car

which police later said was determined to have been stolen with two other teens on June 3 when he encountered city police officers responding to reports of a shooting near the Southwest Side neighborhood where he lived. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Sacramento Bee: Professor told pregnant student to take 'responsibility,' drop class in Utah, feds say**, Daniella Segura, June 14, 2022, 7:32 PM

A federal investigation found that a community college in Utah violated a pregnant student's rights, officials announced Tuesday, June 14. The complaint said a college professor at Salt Lake Community College in Utah encouraged a student to drop a course because she was pregnant

and told her to “accept responsibility for her pregnancy,” according to a letter from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights to the school’s president. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN): Former Memphis Police Department officer indicted on civil rights violations charge**, Lucas Finton, June 14, 2022, 3:39 PM

A former Memphis police officer was indicted for a civil rights violation involving sexual assault Tuesday. Bridges Randle, 47, is charged with violating the civil rights of a woman in 2000 when she called him to investigate her car being vandalized. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Memphis said the civil rights violation includes an aggravated sexual assault. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WHBQ-Fox \(Memphis, TN\)](#), [WREG-CBS \(Memphis, TN\)](#)

**WWSB-ABC (Sarasota, FL): Jackson Township Enters into Settlement Agreement with U.S. Department of Justice**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 7:52 PM

The Jackson Township Council approved a resolution this evening to enter into a settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) resolving the department's lawsuit alleging religious discrimination in the township's zoning practices. Under the terms of the settlement agreement, the township does not concede liability with respect to the claims alleged in DOJ's lawsuit and has committed to a series of actions to ensure compliance with all laws governing religious rights in land use and fair housing practices. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJTV-CBS (Jackson, MS): Man, woman indicted for interstate sex trafficking in multiple states**, Biancca Ball, June 14, 2022, 2:15 PM

A federal judge in the Southern District of Mississippi unsealed an indictment that showed a California man and a Nevada woman have been charged for interstate sex trafficking. According to the indictment, Michael D. Fulcher, 52, and Jonzie Hamilton, 33, have been charged with one count each of sex trafficking by force, fraud or coercion; conspiracy to commit sex trafficking by force, fraud and coercion; and interstate transportation for purposes of prostitution. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**Courthouse News: Judge finds Apple may have benefited from gift card theft scheme**, Matthew Renda, June 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

Apple will have to face claims the company profited off of criminal enterprise schemes featuring stolen gift cards after a federal judge declined to dismiss claims the company benefited monetarily from sophisticated schemes that employ fake apps to swindle consumers. U.S. District Judge Edward Davila dismissed some of the claims from a class of plaintiffs that said Apple aided in the fraudulent schemes, but he did say plaintiffs plausibly alleged the company did receive some of the proceeds from the fraud and failed to appropriately reimburse the victims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: KBR Settles 15-Year Iraq Kickback Lawsuit for \$14 Million**, Daniel Seiden, June 14, 2022, 11:31 AM

Houston-headquartered Kellogg Brown & Root Services Inc. and three other companies have agreed to a settlement of nearly \$14 million to resolve False Claims Act and Anti-Kickback Act allegations and for breach of contract, the Department of Justice said Tuesday. The lawsuit dealt with subcontracts that KBR awarded while it was under the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program III contract, awarded in 2001, which required KBR to provide logistics support to Army forces in Iraq, according to the Justice Department. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Law360](#)

*Post Register (Idaho Falls, ID): Blackfoot nurse ordered to pay feds \$30,000 for mishandling drugs*, Jonathan Hogan, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

A nurse practitioner in Blackfoot has been ordered to pay the federal government \$30,000 in a civil judgment. Kenneth Lowther was sued by the U.S. Department of Justice after an investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services concluded he unlawfully prescribed narcotics 15 times, a United States Attorney's Office District of Idaho news release said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Officials: Fraud suspect caught heading to Cuba on Jet Ski**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 4:36 PM

A Cuban man charged in a \$4.2 million Medicare fraud scheme is being held as a flight risk after officials said he tried to flee the U.S. on a Jet Ski. A federal judge in Miami ordered Ernesto Cruz Graveran, 54, of Hialeah, to be detained pending trial Monday, according to court records. He has been charged with health care fraud. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

*Washington Examiner: Border Patrol agents to be disciplined for horseback 'whipping' incident*, Anna Giaritelli, June 14, 2022, 9:14 PM

The Border Patrol is preparing to discipline agents whom Biden administration officials accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants while on horseback in Del Rio, Texas, last September, the Washington Examiner has learned. U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the federal agency that investigated the incident, will accuse the horse patrol agents of "administrative violations," according to two agency officials, confirming an earlier report from Fox News. It is unlikely they will be fired, one of the sources said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

*Washington Times: ICE chief adopts new 'free speech' rules to limit investigations of journalists*, Stephen Dinan, June 14, 2022, 10:00 AM

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced a new policy to limit the agency's entanglements with reporters, including requiring pre-approval before arresting journalists or subpoenaing their records. Acting ICE Director Tae Johnson said "compulsory" tools should only be used as a last resort and in cases where a crime is believed to have been committed.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

*Post and Courier (Charleston, SC): Mount Pleasant man accused of sex trafficking minor allegedly spent \$45K for sex acts, drugs*, Kelli Dugan, June 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

Pictures and text messages belonging to a Mount Pleasant businessman included in new court documents reveal more information about his relationship with the minor he is accused of trafficking for sex. The vulgar messages became public as Earl Dawson Caldwell IV filed a motion June 3 to suppress that very evidence, which his defense attorneys argue was obtained through an unconstitutional search and seizure of his iPhone. [...] Homeland Security Investigations placed a notification in the databases of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement so the agency would be alerted if Caldwell left or entered the United States, the motion states. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

*Miami Herald: More migrant boats are crossing the Mona Passage. U.S. Border Patrol is looking for them*, Syra Ortiz, June 14, 2022, 5:23 PM

The small U.S. Customs and Border Protection plane took off on a recent morning from the northwestern Puerto Rican town of Aguadilla, the rows of homes against coastal forests and sandy beaches becoming smaller and smaller. The aircraft flew 11,500 feet over the 80 miles of deep, unpredictable waters of the strait that separates Puerto Rico and Hispaniola, the island shared between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Laredo Morning Times: Laredo CBP officers seize \$1.1M in narcotics at Colombia-Solidarity Bridge**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 3:57 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations officers seized hard narcotics in one enforcement action that totaled over \$1,100,000 in street value. "CBP's overall mission is to protect American communities from cross-border crime that threatens public safety," said Port Director Alberto Flores, Laredo Port of Entry. "Laredo cargo facilities have excelled in enhancing border security by preventing the flow of suspected narcotics from seeping into our communities." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHBQ-Fox (Memphis, TN): Narcotics worth more than \$1.1 million seized at Texas-Mexico crossing**, Kelli Dugan, June 14, 2022, 10:29 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers in Laredo, Texas, thwarted a smuggling attempt Thursday at the Colombia-Solidarity Bridge. According to the agency, a sport utility vehicle was carrying far more than the "informal shipment" of statues arriving from Mexico that its driver declared. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJLA-ABC (El Paso, TX): 2 women arrested for trying to smuggle fentanyl in their bodies at border**, Fallon Fischer, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Two women were stopped by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers for attempting to smuggle fentanyl in their vaginal cavities at an El Paso area port of entry. On June 11, a 34-year-old woman from the United States was stopped at Paso Del Norte border crossing for attempting to smuggle 0.14 pounds of fentanyl in her vaginal cavity, according to CBP. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWMD-CBS (Kalamazoo, MI): Migrants trek to US as White House scrambles for border policies**, Grayce McCormick, June 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

What was predicted to be the largest migrant caravan of the year headed for the U.S. mostly dispersed over the weekend, but U.S. law enforcement at the southern border is still bracing for thousands of incoming migrants hoping to claim asylum in the coming weeks and months. They're coming at a time of much back-and-forth in temporary U.S. immigration policy measures, and as the administration's long game to address root causes of migration remains largely unchanged from a year ago. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**Reuters: Antitrust cops' quixotic PE warning**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:04 PM

U.S. Federal Trade Commission boss Lina Khan says private equity is in the crosshairs. While Blackstone (BX.N) and Apollo Global Management (APO.N) may well be on notice, it's unclear whether she's really going to do more than just make threats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Reuters: FTC launches probe into mental-health startup Cerebral - WSJ**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 5:33 PM

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has begun an investigation into SoftBank-backed mental-health startup Cerebral Inc, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday, citing a letter the antitrust body sent to the company. In the letter dated June 1, the FTC said it was investigating whether the company engaged in deceptive or unfair practices related to advertising or marketing of mental-health services, according to the WSJ report. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg: Senate Passes State Venue Antitrust Bill That Google Opposed**, Leah Nylen, June 14, 2022, 8:07 PM

The Senate passed legislation Tuesday evening to allow state attorneys general to pick the location where their federal antitrust suits are heard, a blow to Alphabet Inc.'s Google, which had opposed the bill. The chamber passed the measure by unanimous consent. An amendment removed a provision that would have applied the measure retroactively to a 2020 antitrust suit filed by Texas and 14 other states and territories against the operator of the world's largest search engine. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WSJ: Antitrust Authorities Take Aim at Private-Equity Healthcare Deals**, Chris Cumming, June 14, 2022, 5:56 PM

U.S. antitrust enforcers on Monday took action against a private-equity firm they say sought to stifle competition, in what regulators suggest could be the first strike against allegedly anticompetitive behavior by buyout firms in the healthcare sector. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: FTC Says Arko To Trim Noncompetes In \$94M Gas Outlet Buy**, Craig Clough, June 14, 2022, 9:18 PM

Arko Corp. and its subsidiary GPM Investments LLC agreed Tuesday to trim certain noncompete provisions from a deal to buy 60 Michigan and Ohio-based Express Stop retail fuel outlets from Corrigan Oil Company that the Federal Trade Commission deemed anti-competitive, the agency said Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: [OPINION] Abandoning decades of antitrust precedent won't reduce inflation**, Richard J. Pierce, Jr., June 14, 2022, 4:30 PM

The inflation rate is now 8.6 percent — the highest rate in 40 years. President Biden says that reducing the level of inflation is his top domestic priority. Yet, the chair of the Federal Trade Commission and the head of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice are obsessed with the need to throw consumers under the bus and force sellers to increase the prices they charge for goods and services. Both FTC Chair Lina Khan and the head of the Antitrust Division, Jonathan Kanter, have made it a high priority to eliminate the consumer welfare standard that the Supreme Court and most antitrust scholars have embraced for 50 years. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## ENVIRONMENT

**Law360: Oklahoma Seeks Early Win In Coal Mining Fight With Feds**, Andrew Westney, June 14, 2022, 8:36 PM

Oklahoma has asked a federal judge for an early win in its suit seeking to regulate coal mining on Native American tribal lands, saying the Supreme Court's McGirt decision doesn't give the U.S. Department of the Interior the leverage to take away the state's authority over coal mining. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Clean Energy Cos. Back Calif.'s Power Over Vehicle Emissions**, Juan Carlos

Rodriguez, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Utilities and clean energy industry groups on Monday threw their support behind the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in D. C. Circuit litigation challenging the agency's decision to support California's right under the Clean Air Act to create its own greenhouse gas emission standards, saying the Golden State's authority must be preserved. The proposed intervenors said replacing combustion engine vehicles with electric ones is critical to lowering greenhouse gas emissions and fighting off the worst effects of climate change. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: After Blocking Of Drilling Lease Ban, Biden Admin. Seeks Win**, Eric Heisig, June 14, 2022, 5:43 PM

The Biden administration has asked a federal judge to OK its temporary ban on oil and gas drilling leases on public lands and offshore, though it may face an uphill battle because the same judge blocked the measure after 13 states represented by Republican attorneys general sued.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Alaska Asks 9th Circ. To Restrict Emergency Tribal Hunting**, Caleb Symons, June 14, 2022, 3:46 PM

Alaska urged the Ninth Circuit on Monday to prohibit federal authorities from reopening a hunting season the state has already closed, saying a U.S. Department of the Interior panel acted illegally when it allowed a tribal village to hold an emergency moose and deer hunt two years ago.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: EPA, DOJ Agree to Close Knoxville Utilities Board Consent Decree**,

Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 2:27 PM

The EPA and the Department of Justice filed a motion to terminate the consent decree with the Knoxville Utilities Board concerning a 2005 Clean Water Act settlement about the sewer system, according to the agency Tuesday. KUB reported on Jan. 28 that all work under the amended consent decree, which focused on deficiencies at the Fourth Creek and Kuwahee wastewater treatment plants, had been completed. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVLA-NBC (Baton Rouge, LA): Louisiana man sentenced after admitting to training pit bulls for dogfighting**, Michael Scheidt, June 14, 2022, 11:35 AM

Dangelo Dontae Cornish, age 36, of Greensburg, is going to spend the next 14 months behind bars after pleading guilty to "possessing pit bulls for use in a dogfighting venture," according to the United States Department of Justice. The sentencing comes four and half years after Cornish's home was searched by federal law enforcement agents. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**Law360: Roger Stone Ordered To Turn Over Tax Records, Financial Info**, Theresa Schliep, June 14, 2022, 6:15 PM

Roger Stone must furnish tax records and answer questions about financial accounts after a federal judge Tuesday ordered him and his wife to comply with document and information requests from the U. S. in its \$2 million tax case against them. A Florida federal magistrate judge said Roger Stone and his wife must comply with document and information requests from the U. S. government, which has contended that the couple used Stone's business Drake Ventures to hide their income. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**Rolling Stone: Del Records Execs Arrested for Working With Promoter Tied to Mexican Cartel**, Tomás Mier , June 15, 2022, 12:25 AM

On Tuesday, the FBI arrested two música Mexicana record label executives for doing business with a concert promoter with alleged ties to Mexican drug cartels in 2018. Angel Del Villar, CEO of Del Records, and Luis Scalisi, CFO of subsidiary Del Entertainment, were arrested and later released on bail for allegedly conspiring to violate the Kingpin Act, which prohibits Americans from conducting business with foreign narcotics traffickers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Patriot-News (Harrisburg, PA): Philly police underreported crime data to FBI in 2021 | Today in Pa.**, Claudia Dimuro, June 15, 2022, 5:31 AM

You can listen to the latest episode of “Today in Pa” at this link, or on any of your favorite apps including Alexa, Apple, Spotify, and Stitcher. Episodes are available every weekday on PennLive. Feel free to subscribe, follow or rate “Today in Pa.” as you see fit! “Today in Pa.” Daily Podcast | June 15, 2022. The Philadelphia Police Department is part of the roughly 60 percent of law enforcement agencies nationwide who underreported crime data to the FBI last year. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Albuquerque Journal: Feds: Las Cruces man plotted murder for hire**, Colleen Heild, June 15, 2022, 12:05 AM

A 32-year-old Las Cruces man repeatedly contacted what he thought was a murder-for-hire website in April allegedly to order a hit on his mother-in-law. “Kill that b\*\*ch,” he allegedly declared at one point, threatening he would “do it himself” if he couldn’t get fast action. The rent-a-hitman website was a spoof, but federal authorities took the alleged threat seriously. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Cleveland Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH): Akron man arrested in beating death of 1-year-old child**, Cliff Pinckard, June 14, 2022, 10:27 PM

A 38-year-old Akron man accused of the beating death of a 1-year-old child was arrested Tuesday by federal agents, according to the U.S. Marshals Service. Members of the U.S. Marshals Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force took Latrell Wilson into custody while he was working at a business on the 2400 block of Romig Road in the Rolling Acres neighborhood. Wilson was wanted by Akron police on a warrant for homicide. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Oregonian (Portland, OR): Federal investigators looking into ‘suspicious’ fire at Gresham pregnancy center**, Zaeem Shaikh, June 14, 2022, 6:34 PM

Federal investigators are looking into the cause of a fire at a Gresham pregnancy center last week apparently caused when someone threw an incendiary device through a window. No one was hurt. First Image, the organization that owns the center, said in a post on its website that the device and fire set off alarms about 3 a.m. last Friday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KVOA-NBC (Tucson, AZ): FBI warns of increase in sextortion schemes involving young children**, Shelle Jackson , June 14, 2022, 12:30 AM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is warning parents to stay vigilant this summer, as sextortion schemes targeting young children are on the rise. "Sextortion is a crime where adults target children, usually through social media and develop a relationship with them to the point where the child shares explicit photos thinking they're sharing with a child of the same age," said FBI

Supervisory Special Agent, Mary Gleason. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRON (San Francisco, CA): F.B.I and law enforcement react to recent pride event disturbance**, Haaziq Madyun, June 14, 2022, 11:00 PM

We are learning more about the investigation into alleged members of a far-right extremist group disrupting a pride month event at an East Bay library. And if police see this, as a sign of a rise in white nationalist hate groups here in the Bay Area. Tonight, investigators with the F.B.I confirm they are aware of the incident. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WGXA-Fox/ABC (Macon, GA): US Marshals arrest man in Byron for deserting US Marine Corps**, Claire Helm, June 14, 2022, 10:27 PM

Authorities in Peach County confirm a man has been taken into custody on charges concerning military desertion. Byron police put out a watch earlier on Tuesday when US Marshals were still looking for Private First Class Andrew Puckett. But police later said that Puckett had been located and arrested. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVZ-NBC (Bend, OR): Oregon FBI Tech Tuesday: Avoiding adoption fraud**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 9:33 PM

This week, the FBI Portland Tech Tuesday segment focuses on ways to avoid falling victim to adoption fraud. Image this scenario: You've talked through all the concerns and you're ready to do it. You're ready to adopt a child. So, you get online and find the perfect adoption service provider and EVEN BETTER they've found a match for you. But is it too good to be true? [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KNBC-NBC (Los Angeles, CA): 'These Two Men Were Loved': Two Officers Die in El Monte Shooting**, Eric Leonard, June 14, 2022, 9:00 PM

Two El Monte Police officers were shot to death Tuesday afternoon while handling a domestic violence call at a motel, and the man investigators said opened fire on the officers was shot dead at the scene, authorities said. [...] The investigation into the officers' murder and the death of the alleged attacker was turned-over to the LA County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau, and the ATF said agents were already on scene and assisting. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCJB-BC/CW (Gainesville, FL): ATF bust nets Gilchrist store clerk**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

A convenience store owner in Bell is behind bars after Gilchrist County deputies say he illegally sold alcohol and tobacco products. Mamunur Rashid was arrested yesterday. The Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco helped deputies with the investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WRGB-CBS (Schenectady, NY): Undercover DEA agent details amazing NYS bust that uncovered millions in buried gold**, Anne McCloy, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

An undercover federal agent is sitting down with CBS 6 to detail one of the most unique drug busts the New York Capital Region has ever seen. A case that involved millions of dollars in buried gold. We first told you about it last week when CBS 6's Anne McCloy interviewed Eric Canori, the former marijuana dealer who hid the buried treasure. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Bensalem, PA): 40K Fentanyl Pills, 11 lbs. Of Meth Seized In Bensalem: DA, John Fey**, June 14, 2022, 4:40 PM

The Bensalem Township Police Special Investigations Unit, in a joint operation with the Philadelphia DEA HIDTA Task Force, seized a supply of narcotics with an estimated street worth of \$1,000,000 this past Wednesday. During the investigation, four men from Riverside, California were arrested in relation to the possession of narcotics and \$5,000 cash. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Pittsburgh, PA): Woman Convicted In Pittsburgh FBI Officer's Death Is Released: Report**, Michelle Rotuno-Johnson, June 14, 2022, 3:29 PM

The Pennsylvania woman who pleaded guilty in shooting death of an FBI agent in 2011 has been released from prison, a report said. Christina Korbe left a federal detention center in Philadelphia on Tuesday, according to WTAE. In 2008, a team of law enforcement officers raided the home Korbe shared with her husband in Indiana Township. The officers were trying to arrest Korbe's husband on drug charges. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Wall, NJ): Wall Officer Graduates From FBI Academy**, Pat McDaniel, June 14, 2022, 2:14 PM

Lt. Sean O'Halloran has graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., Chief Kenneth Brown Jr. has announced. O'Halloran becomes the eighth Wall Township police officer to attend the National Academy in the history of the agency. O'Halloran has been a Wall Township Police Officer for 21 years, and is a Wall resident, the department said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**AP: US judge keeps Nevada execution challenge alive, for now**, Ken Ritter, June 14, 2022, 2:27 PM

A federal judge declined Monday to either decide or dismiss a condemned Nevada killer's lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the state plan for what would its first lethal injection in more than 16 years. U.S. District Judge Richard Boulware II left open Zane Michael Floyd's case — at least for now — and set an Oct. 11 date for attorneys representing Floyd and the state to return to court in Las Vegas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ABC: 1st federal prison to experience COVID-19 outbreak now short-staffed: Officials**, Luke Barr, June 14, 2022, 2:52 PM

The first federal prison to experience a COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020 is now severely short-staffed, the Louisiana congressional delegation and members of the Bureau of Prison union say. FCI Oakdale in Louisiana experienced a severe COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020, so bad the Justice Department inspector general was critical of the BOP for how it failed to separate inmates at the facility during the first weeks of the pandemic. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## US SUPREME COURT

**Reuters: U.S. Congress votes to expand Supreme Court security**, Moira Warburton and Nate Raymond, June 14, 2022, 6:38 PM

The U.S. House of Representatives gave final congressional approval on Tuesday to a bill to bolster Supreme Court security in light of threats made against justices ahead of their anticipated ruling curtailing abortion rights. The legislation, which had already cleared the Senate, passed the House on a 396-27 vote. The measure expands police protection to the families of the justices and senior officers of the court. President Biden will sign it into law, the White House said.

[Continue Reading] See also: [ABC](#), [Bloomberg](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [WSJ](#)

**SCOTUSblog: [OPINION] The demise of rights-protective statutory interpretation for detained immigrants and the rise of “piecemeal” textualism**, Shalini Bhargava Ray, June 14, 2022, 9:58 PM

On Monday, the Supreme Court sided with the government in a pair of cases brought by noncitizens who are under deportation orders and were in lengthy detention, rejecting lower courts’ rights-protective interpretation of the relevant detention statute and blocking an important avenue for injunctive relief in immigration detention cases. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**SCOTUSblog: [OPINION] Focusing on the meaning of “offense,” a divided court throws salt on double jeopardy claim**, Heather Whiteman Runs Him, June 14, 2022, 8:38 PM

An intriguingly divided court ruled Monday in Denezpi v. United States, upholding the federal court conviction of a defendant previously prosecuted and sentenced by a Court of Indian Offenses for charges stemming from the same incident. Justice Amy Coney Barrett wrote for the majority, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, and Brett Kavanaugh. Justice Neil Gorsuch filed a dissenting opinion, joined in part by Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**SCOTUSblog: [OPINION] Procedural rule for correcting “mistakes” applies to all mistakes, legal or factual**, Ronald Mann, June 14, 2022, 6:13 PM

Monday’s opinion in Kemp v. United States provided what the argument suggested: a straightforward decision that reads Rule 60(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to mean just what it says. Rule 60(b) is the rule that allows you to get relief from an incorrect judgment, and it seems pretty clear that the judgment here was incorrect. The order held untimely a motion of Dexter Earl Kemp seeking to overturn a conviction under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, but all accept that the judge miscalculated the deadline for filing that motion. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**Law360: NJ Senate Panel OKs 11 Reappointed Judges, 2 New Judges**, Nick Muscavage, June 14, 2022, 3:22 PM

A New Jersey Senate committee has approved the renominations of 11 judges, along with the nominations of two potential new jurists for initial terms on the bench. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Feds Seek Early Win In Cherokee Suit Seeking Audit Of Trust**, Caleb Symons, June 14, 2022, 6:38 PM

The U. S. government is asking a Washington, D. C. , federal court to put a stop to the Cherokee Nation’s bid for a full audit of tribal funds held in federal trust, claiming it has complied with all of its accounting responsibilities and that the Cherokee missed their chance to review those assets. In a motion for summary judgment Monday, federal officials said their accounting duties for the Cherokee trust fall under only two statutes: an 1893 law that covered payments owed under treaties from earlier that century and the 1994 American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **Kansas City Star: Missouri man accused of illegally excavating protected Native**

**American site: indictment**, Bill Lukitsch, June 14, 2022, 6:59 PM

A 70-year-old man is accused of illegally excavating items of archaeological value from a prehistoric Native American site near Tightwad, Missouri. Johnny Lee Brown, of Clinton, faces charges of conspiracy, illegal excavation of resources and injury to government property. A federal grand jury convened in April in the Western District of Missouri returned an 11-count indictment against Brown, which was made public following his arrest Tuesday. [Continue Reading]

**See also:** [KSHB-NBC \(Kansas City, MO\)](#), [WDAF-Fox \(Kansas City, MO\)](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

### **The Hill: Dems eye marijuana bill as vehicle for justice measures**, Aris Folley and Karl

Evers-Hillstrom, June 15, 2022, 5:39 AM

Senate Democrats are eyeing a cannabis banking bill that has bipartisan support as a potential vehicle for long-sought restorative justice measures. Prominent Democrats have been pushing to pass the SAFE Banking Act, which would enable legally operating cannabis firms to use banking services, as part of a larger China competition package being conference in both the House and Senate. [Continue Reading]

## **CONGRESS**

### **Reuters: Trump-backed challenger ousts Republican incumbent in South Carolina**

**midterm race**, Eric Beech and Jason Lange, June 14, 2022, 11:58 PM

Republican U.S. Representative Tom Rice, who voted to impeach Donald Trump after the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol riot, lost his re-election bid in South Carolina on Tuesday, while a second Republican incumbent targeted by the former president prevailed. A prime target in Trump's midterm revenge campaign against perceived political enemies, Rice lost the Republican nomination to Russell Fry 24.6% to 51%, with 99% of the vote counted, according to Edison Research. [Continue Reading]

### **AP: In a boost, McConnell backs Senate bipartisan gun deal**, Alan Fram, June 14, 2022, 5 00 PM

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell announced his support Tuesday for his chamber's emerging bipartisan gun agreement, boosting momentum for modest but notable election-year action by Congress on an issue that's deadlocked lawmakers for three decades. The Kentucky Republican said he hoped an outline of the accord, released Sunday by 10 Democrats and 10 Republicans, would be translated into legislation and enacted. McConnell's backing was the latest indication that last month's gun massacres in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas, had reconfigured the political calculations for some in the GOP after years of steadfastly opposing even incremental tightening of firearms curbs. [Continue Reading] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

### **USA Today: What is the 'boyfriend loophole' in the bipartisan gun deal announced by senators?**, Merdie Nzanga, June 15, 2022, 5:00 AM

In response to mass shootings, a bipartisan group of senators tentatively reached a deal on a gun bill that would expand "red flag" laws, spend more on mental health and close the "boyfriend loophole" that allows some domestic abusers to buy firearms. Gun control activists have tried to close the loophole for years, but like most gun legislation, the efforts fizzled out. After massacres

in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas, as well as other mass shootings, there is fresh momentum for gun control, including ensuring that all domestic abusers are barred from acquiring guns. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: JUNE 14, 2022

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- More than 170 million Americans are bracing for temperatures above 90 degrees. But virtually every corner of the country is being impacted by weather from wildfires, floods, tornadoes and heat. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The upcoming Federal Reserve meeting could bring the biggest interest rate hike in 28 years as everything from gas to food and travel has seen the largest annual increase in nearly four decades. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- With Russian forces closing in, the people of the Donbas region are fleeing for their lives as bridges out of the city are being blown up and those remaining are being ordered to “surrender or die.” [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A somber ceremony was held in Buffalo today marking one month since 10 people were killed in a mass shooting at a supermarket. Meanwhile, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell signaled his support for the bipartisan gun reform proposal that's expected to be finished this week. [[CBS](#)]
- A high-stakes meeting is underway in Southern California where delegates from the Southern Baptist Convention are choosing new leaders and confronting shocking allegations of sexual abuse. [[CBS](#)]
- The House has overwhelmingly voted to extend police protection to the families of Supreme Court justices, now sending the bill to President Biden. This comes as concern is rising over threats to justices as the Court prepares to issue a ruling on abortion rights. [[CBS](#)]
- The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 riots announced Tuesday morning that its hearing set for Wednesday has been postponed and offered conflicting explanations as to why. [[ABC](#)]
- Sweltering temperatures across Texas have led to skyrocketing energy demand and now,

some providers are struggling. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Fed Weighs 0.75-Point Hike as Stock Futures Rise” [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]
- “Ukraine’s NATO Allies Strain to Keep Up Pressure on Russia” [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [LAT](#)]
- “U.S. abortion rate rises, reversing three decades of declines” [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [LAT](#)]
- “Analysis: Far-Right Republicans Press Closer to Power Over Future Elections” [[NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [LAT](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Kapper, Matthew B. (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Attorney General Garland (OAG)  
**Sent:** June 15, 2022 6:56 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sending you full clips package this morning to ensure you have clips in time for your drive to Andrews. Will send abbreviated as soon as it hits my inbox.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** June 15, 2022 at 6:51:53 AM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice**  
**Morning News Digest**  
**June 15, 2022**  
**7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: JUNE 15, 2022**

### **DOJ**

- 10:00 AM: AG Merrick Garland to meet with families of Tops shooting victims during Buffalo (NY) visit today. After meeting with family members and survivors, AG Garland will hold a press conference at 11:45 a.m. at the Apollo Theater, 1346 Jefferson Ave.

### **SCOTUS**

- Opinions

## **CONGRESS**

- 10:00 AM: Senate Judiciary Committee: Protecting America's Children From Gun Violence.
- 2:30 PM: Senate Judiciary Committee: Baby Formula and Beyond: The Impact of Consolidation on Families and Consumers.
- 10:00 AM: House Judiciary Committee: H.R. 282, the Territorial Judgeship Retirement Equity Act of 2021; H.R. 3034, To amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes; H.R. 6538, the Active Shooter Alert Act of 2022; H.R. 5768, the Violent Incident Clearance and Technological Investigative Methods Act of 2021 or the VICTIM Act of 2021; H.R. 7181, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022; and H.R. 3285, the 21st Century President Act.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**CBS: Attorney General Garland to visit Buffalo mass shooting site and meet with victims' families and survivors**, Robert Legare, June 15, 2022, 5:22 AM

Just over a month after an 18-year-old White man opened fire inside a Buffalo Tops supermarket, killing 10 and wounding three others, Attorney General Merrick Garland is traveling to the site of the massacre to pay his respects to the victims' families. In the wake of the massacre, Garland announced the Justice Department would investigate the matter as a hate crime and an act of racially-motivated violent extremism. Investigators allege the suspect detailed his plans and his racist motivation for the violence in hundreds of pages of writings he posted online shortly before the shooting. According to authorities, 11 of the 13 individuals who were shot were Black.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Buffalo News \(Buffalo, NY\)](#), [Fox, Spectrum News \(New York, NY\)](#), [WGRZ-NBC \(Buffalo, NY\)](#), [WIVB-CBS \(Buffalo, NY\)](#)

**Fox: Missouri Sen. Hawley rips AG Garland for failing to act on protests at Supreme Court justices homes**, Bradford Betz, June 14, 2022, 5:20 PM

Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., is accusing Attorney General Merrick Garland of inaction on the protesters who flocked to the home of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh last week following an alleged assassination attempt on his life. In a Tuesday letter sent to Garland, Hawley raised concerns that despite demonstrations outside Kavanaugh's home and an increase in pro-abortion attacks on pregnancy resource centers, no significant action has been taken. Federal law stipulates that picketing at the homes of judges with the intent to intimidate them or influencing their rulings is illegal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**AP: Spy agencies' focus on China could snare Chinese Americans**, Nomaan Merchant And

Eric Tucker, June 14, 2022, 12:25 PM

As U.S. intelligence agencies ramp up their efforts against China, top officials acknowledge they may also end up collecting more phone calls and emails from Chinese Americans, raising new concerns about spying affecting civil liberties. A new report from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence makes several recommendations, including expanding unconscious bias training and reiterating internally that federal law bans targeting someone solely due to their ethnicity. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: Judge to decide trial for Confederate flag-toting dad, son**, Michael Kunzelman, June 14, 2022, 7:05 PM

A man carrying a Confederate battle flag stormed the U.S. Capitol with his son because they intended to stop Congress from certifying President Joe Biden's 2020 electoral victory, prosecutors argued Tuesday at the close of the men's trial. A federal judge, not a jury, will decide if Delaware residents Kevin Seefried and his adult son, Hunter, are guilty of a felony obstruction charge and several misdemeanor offenses stemming from the Capitol riot on Jan. 6, 2021.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg: A Ragtag Band of Hackers Is Waging Cyberwar on Putin's Supply Lines**, Ryan Gallagher, June 15, 2022, 12:01 AM

Russia's military began sending large numbers of weapons and troops into Belarus in late January. The official purpose of the movement was a joint military exercise, but Belarus, which has a 650-mile border with Ukraine and a government closely aligned with Moscow, was also a logical staging point for Russian President Vladimir Putin to carry out an invasion. Several days after the troops arrived weird things started happening to the computer systems that ran the Belarus national railway system, which the Russian military was using as part of its mobilization.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: White House has security concerns about any deal for NSO hacking tools**, Ellen Nakashima and Craig Timberg, June 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A major American defense firm, L3Harris, is in talks with the blacklisted Israeli spyware company, NSO Group, to buy its phone-hacking capability in a deal that would give the U.S. company control of one of the world's most sophisticated and controversial hacking tools, according to people familiar with the talks. The unusual deal appears to be an attempt to salvage some utility from a firm facing serious financial straits, by selling its most valuable product — its hacking code and access to the software's developers — to a company that would restrict its use to the United States and trusted Western allies. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NBC: Federal judge to consider Steve Bannon's motion to dismiss contempt indictment**, Pete Williams, June 15, 2022, 4:32 AM

Lawyers for former Trump White House adviser Steve Bannon will urge a federal judge Wednesday to dismiss an indictment charging him with contempt of Congress for failing to respond to a subpoena from the House Jan. 6 committee. They argue that prosecuting Bannon violates longstanding Justice Department policies concerning executive branch officials. They also maintain that the committee had no authority to issue the subpoena and that the law making contempt of Congress a crime is unconstitutional. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: Biden administration eases terrorism-related restrictions for Afghan evacuees**, Priscilla Alvarez, June 15, 2022, 3:00 AM

The Biden administration is loosening certain terrorism-related exemptions for Afghan evacuees who worked with or on behalf of the US government so they can qualify for immigration benefits, the Department of Homeland Security announced Tuesday. "These actions will also ensure that individuals who have lived under Taliban rule, such as former civil servants, those required to pay service fees to the Taliban to do things like pass through a checkpoint or obtain a passport, and those who fought against the Taliban are not mistakenly barred because of overly broad applications of terrorism-related inadmissibility grounds (TRIG) in our immigration law," the department said in a statement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CBS: What is the Patriot Front? Prominent white supremacist group tied to mass arrest near Idaho Pride event**, Alex Sundby, June 14, 2022, 3:29 PM

The nearly three dozen people arrested for allegedly conspiring to riot near an Idaho Pride event over the weekend appear to be affiliated with the hate group Patriot Front, police said. The group was called "one of the most prominent white supremacist groups in the country" by the Southern Poverty Law Center earlier this year. [...] In 2021, Attorney General Merrick Garland warned of an "elevated threat to the homeland" posed by domestic violent extremists. "In the FBI's view, the top domestic violent extremist threat comes from racially or ethnically motivated violent extremists, specifically those who advocated for the superiority of the white race," Garland said.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**ABC: Prolific ads featuring right-wing icons push questionable claims about US 'crime wave'**, Mike Levine, June 14, 2022, 7:23 AM

You may have seen ads for the anti-fraud service Home Title Lock on national TV, heard them on talk radio, or watched them on social media -- often featuring right-wing personalities such as Rudy Giuliani or Newt Gingrich. The prolific ads urgently warn of a scam called "home title theft," when a con artist fraudulently claims ownership of someone else's home to swindle lenders or even sell the property. In several commercials, Giuliani, Gingrich and other pitchmen claim the FBI classifies home title theft as "one of the fastest-growing" crimes in America. Some marketing materials also showcase people who've been identified as "real victims" -- a "devastated" Texas cowboy and a Florida-raised grandmother whose "heart-wrenching story of losing her rightfully-owned home is occurring all too often nationwide." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Proud Boys member who called for civil war days after Capitol riot pleads guilty**, Emily Zantow, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Getting the more serious charges against him dropped in the process, a 21-year-old member of the Proud Boys who called for a civil war days after rioting at the U.S. Capitol pleaded guilty on Tuesday to entering and remaining in a restricted area. Ryan Ashlock struck a plea deal with the Justice Department in which he admitted guilt to a misdemeanor charge that carries a statutory sentence of up to one year in prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Examiner: FBI official had unauthorized contacts with reporters for years: DOJ watchdog**, Jerry Dunleavy, June 14, 2022, 9:36 PM

A top FBI national security official involved in Crossfire Hurricane had dozens of unauthorized contacts with the media over several years, the Department of Justice's watchdog concluded. Justice Department inspector general Michael Horowitz's office concluded in a newly released investigative report that retired FBI official Michael Steinbach violated numerous bureau rules through his meetings and communications with reporters, though prosecution against him was declined by DOJ. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Patriot-News (Harrisburg, PA): Pa. Capitol riot suspect pens letter from jail saying politicians ‘need to go,’ a woodchipper ‘sounds good’,** Jonathan Bergmueller, June 14, 2022, 6:54 PM

A Jan. 6 defendant accused of toppling a police barricade is now accused of writing a letter talking about getting rid of politicians with a woodchipper, according to court documents filed Monday. ‘All these poltions(sic) in office need to go, a woodchiper(sic) sounds good’ Ryan Samsel, 38, of Bristol, Bucks County, said in the June 2 letter riddled with misspellings from the Federal Detention Center in Philadelphia. “I’ll tell people get your wepons (sic) kiss your kidds (sic) goodbye and let’s (expletive) go!” [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Newsweek: Jan. 6 Defendant Blames Stephen Colbert for Negative Media Coverage,** Jack Dutton, June 14, 2022, 12:42 PM

An attorney representing Joseph Biggs, a Proud Boys organizer linked to the deadly January 6 Capitol riot, has argued that Biggs' trial should be moved out of Washington D.C. due to negative coverage of the far-right group by CBS' The Late Show With Stephen Colbert and MSNBC's Morning Joe. Biggs is charged with conspiracy, as well as obstructing an official Congress proceeding, illegal entry and disorderly conduct on restricted Capitol grounds. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JAN. 6 HEARINGS

**AP: Jan. 6 hearings: What we’ve learned, and what’s next,** Mary Clare Jalonick, June 14, 2022, 8:00 PM

House investigators are trying to make a methodical case that President Donald Trump’s lies about the 2020 election led directly to his supporters’ insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. The House panel investigating the attack has held the first two in a series of hearings providing its initial findings after a yearlong probe and more than 1,000 interviews. The committee has shown clips not only from the violent attack on the Capitol, but also from its own closed-door interviews with Trump aides and associates who were trying to dissuade him from spreading falsehoods about an election he lost. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: Police: House Republican’s tour of Capitol wasn’t suspicious,** Michael Balsamo, June 14, 2022, 12:16 PM

Police have determined that there is nothing suspicious about a tour of U.S. Capitol office buildings that a House Republican gave about 15 people the day before the Jan. 6 attack by rioting supporters of then-President Donald Trump. The House committee investigating the 2021 insurrection examined whether rioters had been involved in reconnaissance and surveillance before the attack, and Democrats suggested some Republican members may have helped them. But there has been no public evidence of that. Rep. Barry Loudermilk, a Republican from Georgia, was simply showing his constituents around, Capitol Police Chief Tom Manger in a letter sent Monday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: 1/6 Panel postpones hearing with ex-Justice Dept. officials,** Eric Tucker, June 14, 2022, 12:00 PM

The House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021 riot at the U.S. Capitol has postponed a hearing that was to feature Trump-era Justice Department officials. The hearing had been set for Wednesday, but the committee on Tuesday morning said that it had been postponed. It did not

give a reason or a new date for the hearing. The next hearing is set to take place on Thursday. The witnesses at Wednesday's hearing were to include Jeffrey Rosen, who was the acting attorney general at the time of the Capitol insurrection, as well as two other former top officials, Richard Donoghue and Steven Engel. [Continue Reading] See also: [NBC](#), [NPR](#)

**USA Today: Bill Barr's complicated relationship with Donald Trump: From vital advocate to damning witness**, Kevin Johnson, June 15, 2022, 5:00 AM

Just more than a month after the 2020 election, Bill Barr recalled a meeting with Donald Trump in which the then-attorney general began to question the state of mind of his boss – the president of the United States. Over and over, Barr recently told a House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, he tried to convince Trump that his efforts to cling to power based on false claims of election fraud were “nonsense.” [Continue Reading]

**NYT: Jan. 6 Panel Puts Trump Fund-Raising Tactics Under Scrutiny**, Kenneth P. Vogel and Rachel Shorey, June 15, 2022, 12:22 AM

Since Election Day in 2020, Donald J. Trump and his close allies have raised more than \$390 million through aggressive fund-raising solicitations promising bold political actions, including fighting to overturn his re-election campaign defeat, helping allied candidates win their own campaigns and fighting “to save America from Joe Biden and the radical left.” [Continue Reading]

**LAT: [EDITORIAL] Even if the DOJ prosecutes Trump, it's the American people who need to repudiate the ‘Big Lie’**, Harry Litman, June 14, 2022, 3:32 PM

As the Jan. 6 committee continues to roll out an overwhelming case of corrupt conduct by Donald Trump, the calls grow louder for the Department of Justice to bring criminal charges against the former president. Even if that happens, it would be a fundamental mistake to view the department as the avenging angel that alone can restore accountability and truth to our deeply damaged politics. [Continue Reading]

**WSJ: Jan. 6 Committee Splits Over Possible Criminal Referral for Trump**, Scott Patterson and Sadie Gurman, June 14, 2022, 1:44 PM

As the Jan. 6 select committee investigating the attack on the Capitol continues its public hearings, a public disagreement has emerged between committee members about whether it would consider referring criminal charges against former President Donald Trump to the Justice Department. In comments to reporters late Monday, Rep. Bennie Thompson (D., Miss.), chairman of the committee, cast doubt on whether it would make a criminal referral to the Justice Department. “We’re going to tell the facts,” Mr. Thompson said. [Continue Reading] See also: [WaPo](#)

**CNN: January 6 committee teases next hearing with video of Trump lawyer warning John Eastman**, Ryan Nobles, Kristin Wilson, Zachary Cohen and Annie Grayer, June 15, 2022, 1:00 AM

The House select committee investigating the January 6 attack on the Capitol teased their upcoming hearing on Thursday, by releasing a video clip from their deposition of former Trump White House attorney Eric Herschmann. In the clip, Herschmann outlines how he warned conservative attorney John Eastman to back off plans to file appeals in Georgia based on the election results after the events of January 6, 2021. Thursday's hearing is expected to focus on the pressure campaign applied to former Vice President Mike Pence to stand in the way of the certification of the election. [Continue Reading] See also: [NBC](#)

**NBC: Trump's pick for Pennsylvania governor says he sees 'parallels' to Hitler's power grab in Capitol riot**, Ryan J. Reilly, June 14, 2022, 3:24 PM

The Donald Trump-endorsed nominee for Pennsylvania governor compared the Jan. 6 attack to historical events staged by Nazis, responding to a question by saying that he saw 'parallels' between the response to the Jan. 6 attack and the 1933 Reichstag fire, which Adolf Hitler used to seize additional power. Doug Mastriano was at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. Mastriano, a Pennsylvania state senator, has been subpoenaed by the House Jan. 6 committee. He organized buses to D.C. that day, according to receipts his campaign's lawyer previously acknowledged turning over to the Jan. 6 committee. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**MSNBC: The battle that preceded the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol**, Steve Vladeck, June 15, 2022, 5:36 AM

If there was a single moment when President Donald Trump's effort to remain in power and unlawfully overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election hung in the balance, it appears to have been not sometime on Jan. 6, 2021, as a violent mob disrupted the joint congressional session while it formally certified Joe Biden's victory, but three days earlier, on Jan. 3. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Democrats pressure Jan. 6 panel to pursue criminal referrals of Trump**, Mike Lillis, June 15, 2022, 5:30 AM

The committee investigating last year's attack on the U.S. Capitol says it is undecided on the question of whether to issue a criminal referral of former President Trump for his role in the rampage. For a growing number of Democrats watching from the sidelines, however, the answer is already clear. "I think they should do criminal referrals," said Rep. Juan Vargas (D-Calif.). "Obviously, with what they've uncovered, there's criminal conspiracy there. And having the information, I think they should refer it to the Department of Justice for prosecution. It all starts at the top." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Forbes: Can Trump Be Charged As Result Of The Jan. 6 Committee Investigation? Here's What To Know**, Alison Durkee, June 14, 2022, 3:59 PM

The House January 6 Committee has started making a public case against former President Donald Trump and his allies in a series of hearings, arguing the former president "oversaw and coordinated" an unlawful plan to overturn the 2020 election but the Justice Department, not Congress, is the only entity that could bring criminal charges against Trump or his allies. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: Guilty plea entered in theft of COVID-19 relief funds**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A former West Haven City Hall employee has pleaded guilty to a federal wire fraud charge for his part in the theft of more than \$600,000 in federal money that was supposed to be spent for pandemic relief. John Bernardo, 66, who served as a housing specialist for the city, pleaded guilty Tuesday in U.S. District Court. According to state business records, Bernardo and former state Rep. Michael DiMassa, a West Haven Democrat, formed Compass Investment Group LLC, which received federal COVID-19 relief funds from the city of West Haven for consulting,

lobbying and legal services to its health department that were never provided. [[Continue Reading](#)]

See also: [CT Mirror](#)

**WaPo: Agent allegedly used law enforcement database to track acquaintances**, Devlin Barrett, June 14, 2022, 4:04 PM

A federal agent has been charged with misusing cellphone tracking technology to look up the locations of people with whom he had personal relationships and lying to investigators when confronted about it, according to an indictment unsealed Tuesday. Deputy U.S. Marshal Adrian Pena was charged in a 14-count indictment with misconduct dating back to 2016. Officials say he misused law enforcement data for personal reasons while assigned to a task force in the Uvalde County Sheriff's Office one of the law enforcement agencies now under intense scrutiny for waiting more than an hour to confront a gunman who killed 19 children and two teachers inside an elementary school last month. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Beast](#), [WRIC-ABC \(Richmond, VA\)](#)

**Daily Beast: Florida Exec Wanted for Fraud Is Nabbed on a Jet Ski Bound for Cuba**, Alan Halaly, June 14, 2022, 5:06 PM

A Florida man awaiting trial for allegedly submitting more than \$4 million in fraudulent health-care claims was detained on a jet ski as he tried to vamoose to Cuba, authorities said Tuesday. Ernesto Cruz Graveran, a 54-year-old Cuban citizen, owned Xiko Enterprises, Inc., a company based in Hialeah that provided equipment to Medicare beneficiaries, according to a criminal complaint filed in federal court in Florida. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bradenton Herald \(Bradenton, FL\)](#), [Times Union \(Albany, NY\)](#)

**NY Daily News: Federal jury finds Brooklyn English teacher guilty of tricking children into sending him sexually explicit images, videos**, John Annese, June 14, 2022, 10:51 PM

A popular Brooklyn teacher was found guilty of tricking young children into sending him sexually explicit photos by posing as someone else to seduce them in creepy Facebook chats. A federal jury Tuesday found Jonathan Deutsch, 38, guilty of multiple counts of sexual exploitation of a minor and attempted sexual exploitation of a minor. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Chattanooga Times Free Press (Chattanooga, TN): Chattanooga police still asking for public's help after three suspects charged in McCallie Avenue shooting**, La Shawn Pagan, June 14, 2022, 10:13 PM

Chattanooga police continue to ask for the public's help in identifying suspects in the June 5 mass shooting on McCallie Avenue even as another individual was charged in connection with the case Tuesday. Tuesday's developments brought to three the number of individuals who face charges in relation to the incident in front of Mary's Bar & Grill that injured 14 people and left three dead. Two individuals died from gunshots, and another was struck and killed by a car fleeing the scene. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WDEF-CBS \(Chattanooga, TN\)](#)

**Middletown Press (Middletown, CT): Feds: Hartford man faces up to 20 years in prison for firearm theft**, Liz Hardaway, June 14, 2022, 10:00 PM

A Hartford man pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges stemming from the theft of dozens of guns from a warehouse in South Windsor last year, according to federal prosecutors. At the time of his arrest, police found Shameik Camara, 32, with one of the stolen firearms, U.S. Attorney Vanessa Roberts Avery said in a news release Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Morristown Daily Record: Parsippany man sentenced to prison for role in Passaic County cocaine ring**, Kaitlyn Kanzler, June 14, 2022, 9:10 PM

A Parsippany man was sentenced Tuesday to 6½ years in prison after he pleaded guilty in federal court to being part of a cocaine distribution conspiracy in Passaic County. Victor Pimentel, 46, was one of eight North Jersey residents arrested in 2017 as part of Operation Snow, an eight-month drug investigation where 30 kilograms of suspected cocaine was found. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Mid Hudson News (New York, NY): Greene County man pleads guilty to attempting to entice minor to have sex with him**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 7:34 PM

A 37-year-old Cairo, New York man pled guilty on Tuesday in Albany federal court to attempting to coerce and entice a 14-year-old to engage in sexual acts with him. As part of his guilty plea, Thomas “Tommy” Squires admitted that between July and August 2020, he sent graphic, sexually explicit text messages to an under investigator who was posing as the 14-year-old child.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Detroit Free Press: Crooked Detroit cop gets sentencing break in towing scandal: 15 months in prison**, Tresa Baldas, June 14, 2022, 6:47 PM

A retired Detroit police officer convicted of collecting cash bribes while driving around in a cruiser and wearing his badge failed to convince a judge to give him probation though he still caught a break. The judge gave him 15 months in prison well below the two-year minimum sentence that his plea deal called for, and almost half the 27 months that prosecutors sought. U.S. District Judge George Caram Steeh sentenced retired DPD Officer Alonzo Jones Tuesday for accepting \$3,200 in bribes over two years from an individual in the towing industry and an undercover federal agent. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Booth Newspapers \(Grand Rapids, MI\)](#), [Detroit News](#), [WJBK-Fox \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

**NY Daily News: Gambino wiseguy killed Luchese loanshark over money dispute, Brooklyn Federal Court jury says**, Noah Goldberg, June 14, 2022, 6:13 PM

A Gambino wiseguy was convicted Tuesday of murdering an associate of the Luchese crime family in a feud over \$750,000 in loansharking cash. A Brooklyn Federal Court jury took 90 minutes to deliberate its guilty verdict in the case of Anthony Pandrella, 62, who was charged with killing loanshark Vincent Zito, 78, in Zito’s home. Pandrella had agreed to hold on to \$750,000 of illicit cash from Zito’s loanshark business because Zito was nervous that he was under investigation by law enforcement. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Brooklyn Paper](#)

**KLAS-CBS (Las Vegas, NV): Las Vegas man pleads guilty to mail fraud conspiracy**, Julia Romero, June 14, 2022, 10:50 PM

A Las Vegas man has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit mail fraud in connection to illegally possessing unemployment benefit debit cards. On Tuesday, Vincent Okoye, 40, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud. Okoye told a judge he conspired with others including co-defendant Jasmine-Royshe Kanisha Black to obtain DETR and DES debit cards by submitting fraudulent unemployment insurance claims using personal information, such as names, dates of birth, and social security numbers of other people without their knowledge, according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMTV-NBC (Madison, WI): Sauk County woman sentenced for role in methamphetamine conspiracy**, Abriela Thiel, June 14, 2022, 10:13 PM

A Sauk County woman pleaded guilty and was sentenced Tuesday to 30 months in federal prison for her role in conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Tonia Greenwood, 45, of North Freedom, Wisconsin, was sentenced to 30 months in prison followed by five years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVE-NBC (El Dorado, AR): Louisiana man gets 10 year plus sentence for Illegal Possession of Firearms, Furtherance of Drug Trafficking**, Sherie Johnson, June 14, 2022, 7:47 PM

On Tuesday, June 14, 2022, Western District United States Attorney Brandon B. Brown announced that United States District Judge Terry A. Doughty sentenced 50-year-old Brandon Khesahn Cooper of Dubach, La., to 11 years and six months in prison, followed by five years of supervised release. Cooper's sentence followed authorities charging him with Possession of Firearms by a Convicted Felon and Possession of Firearms in Furtherance of Drug Trafficking. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPIX-CBS (San Francisco, CA): Leader of SF Tenderloin drug dealing network sentenced to federal prison**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:58 PM

An East Bay man who led a network of drug dealers on the streets of San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood was sentenced for his role in the scheme, federal prosecutors said. According to U.S. Attorney Stephanie Hinds' office, 27-year-old Andy Manuel Reanos-Moreno was sentenced to six years federal prison on Tuesday. Reanos-Moreno was arrested in 2019 and pleaded guilty last year to conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Evanston, IL): Gun Possession Sends Evanston Man To Federal Prison For Nearly 8 Years**, Jonah Meadows, June 14, 2022, 6:27 PM

An Evanston man was sentenced to seven years and 10 months in federal prison last week after a jury found him guilty of illegal gun possession. Darius Morales, 32, was arrested on May 8, 2019, and charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in connection following a high-speed chase through downtown Evanston that triggered lockdowns of local schools. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KFI-AM (Los Angeles, CA): 2 Music Executives Accused of Illegal Ties to Mexican Concert Promoter**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 8:59 PM

A pair of Southland music executives were arrested today for allegedly conspiring to do business with a Guadalajara-based concert promoter with ties to Mexican drug cartels. Angel Del Villar, 41, of Huntington Beach, and Luca Scalisi, 56, of West Hollywood, are each charged with a federal county of conspiracy to transact in property of specially designated narcotics traffickers, in violation of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KESQ-ABC (Palm Springs, CA): Former Indio resident pleads guilty for his role in a \$15.6 million Ponzi scheme**, Jesus Reyes, June 14, 2022, 6:25 PM

A former Indio resident pled guilty to federal charges for his role in a Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors of more than \$15 million. Joey Stanton Dodson, 58, formerly of Indio and now residing in the Hollywood Dell neighborhood of Los Angeles, engaged in a scheme between November 2012 and May 2015 to defraud investors while serving as the executive chairman and managing partner of Citadel Energy Partners. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WYFF-NBC (Greenville, SC): Upstate man indicted on gun trafficking**, Jenni Williams, June 14, 2022, 6:04 PM

Two people, including an Upstate man, were charged with trafficking guns across state lines. U.S. Attorney Jennifer Williams announced that Ontavious Plumer, 32, of Due West, and Terrance Darby, 41, of Philadelphia, schemed and trafficked nearly 60 firearms from southern states to Philadelphia. This is known as the "iron pipeline," and authorities have already indicted multiple people for involvement with this pipeline. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WWAY-ABC/CBS/CW (Wilmington, NC): Wilmington man sentenced to 40 years for production of child pornography**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

A Wilmington man who photographed his sexual abuse of a four-year old child was sentenced today to 40 years in prison for production of child pornography. The Court also ordered him to pay more than \$285,000 in restitution. 48-year-old Luke Michael Churchill pled guilty to one count of production of child pornography in connection with conduct that took place over the course of several months in 2019. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (New Haven, CT): New Haven Man, 29, Faces Federal Gun Charge: US Attorney**, Ellyn Santiago, June 14, 2022, 5:46 PM

A 29-year-old New Haven man has been charged federally for being a felon in possession of a firearm, prosecutors said. U. S. Attorney for Connecticut Vanessa Roberts Avery announced Tuesday that a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging Shaquil Gary. He entered a plea of not guilty in a New Haven federal courtroom, per Avery. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KLRT-Fox (Little Rock, AR): Two Arkansans sentenced to 28 years in Federal prison for white supremacist activities**, Alex Kienlen, June 14, 2022, 5:03 PM

Two members of the white supremacist New Aryan Empire gang were sentenced to over 28 years in prison the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas announced June 14. Carey Mooney, 46, of Dover, was sentenced to 223 months in federal prison for her role in kidnapping and assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering. Michael J. Roberts, 39, of Hattieville, was sentenced to 118 months imprisonment for his involvement in a methamphetamine conspiracy. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WCMH-NBC (Columbus, OH): Bexley probation officer pleads guilty to extorting parolees**, Daniel Griffin, June 14, 2022, 10:51 PM

A Bexley woman has pleaded guilty to extorting parolees under her supervision as a federal probation officer, accepting money, drugs, goods, and services from people she supervised. Helwa H. Qasem, 44, of Bexley, pleaded guilty to extortion under color of official right, the U.S. Attorney Office for the Southern District of Ohio said in a press release Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KAWE-PBS (Bemidji, MN): Red Lake Man Sentenced to 7 Years in Prison for Shooting Two People**, Emma Hudziak, June 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A 21-year-old Red Lake man was sentenced yesterday in U.S. District Court to seven years in prison for shooting two people on the Red Lake Reservation in 2021. According to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office, on May 5th, 2021, Brennon Allen James Sayers had been arguing loudly with his girlfriend in a vehicle outside of a residence around the Ponemah area of the Red Lake Reservation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVI-Fox (St. Louis, MO): St. Louis man sentenced for distributing fatal fentanyl dose,**

Kevin S. Held, June 14, 2022, 3:07 PM

A St. Louis man who sold a dose of fentanyl to a Florissant man who later overdosed and died was sentenced Tuesday. Prosecutors with the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Eastern District of Missouri said Markquis Bryant pleaded guilty in March to knowingly and intentionally distributing a controlled substance resulting in death. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KMOV-CBS \(St. Louis, MO\)](#)

**WTGS-Fox (Hardeeville, SC): Savannah man pleads guilty to production, possession of child pornography: Attorney**, Courtney Rowles, June 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Savannah man has pled [sic] guilty to child exploitation charges, which canceled his trial that had been set for this week in Brunswick, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Georgia. Rodney Bryant, 37, pled guilty in U.S. District Court to the production of child pornography and possession of child pornography, according to David H. Estes, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KYW-CBS (Philadelphia, PA): Man Sentenced To 15 Years In Prison For North**

**Philadelphia ATM Blast During 2020 Civil Unrest**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 2:30 PM

A Philadelphia man has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for blowing up an ATM and possessing an illegal firearm during unrest in the city during the aftermath of George Floyd's murder in 2020. Federal prosecutors said Tuesday that 26-year-old David Elmakayes has been sentenced to a 15-year prison term, along with three years of supervised release. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Milford Mirror](#)

**WFXL-Fox (Albany, GA): Four indicted in federal court for illegal firearms possession, drugs**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 1:00 PM

Four defendants are among those facing federal charges including drug trafficking and illegal possession of firearms after separate indictments by a grand jury in the Southern District of Georgia, while recent actions in U.S. District Court include guilty pleas and criminal sentences related to illegal gun possession. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**WaPo: Video contradicts police in Texas boy's shooting death, family says**, Arelis R.

Hernández and Joshua Lott, June 14, 2022, 7:39 PM

The family of a 13-year-old San Antonio boy who was shot and killed by police earlier this month says body-camera footage of the incident contradicts the official account and they plan to bring a civil rights lawsuit against the city's police department. Andre "AJ" Hernandez Jr. was driving a car

which police later said was determined to have been stolen with two other teens on June 3 when he encountered city police officers responding to reports of a shooting near the Southwest Side neighborhood where he lived. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Sacramento Bee: Professor told pregnant student to take 'responsibility,' drop class in Utah, feds say**, Daniella Segura, June 14, 2022, 7:32 PM

A federal investigation found that a community college in Utah violated a pregnant student's rights, officials announced Tuesday, June 14. The complaint said a college professor at Salt Lake Community College in Utah encouraged a student to drop a course because she was pregnant

and told her to “accept responsibility for her pregnancy,” according to a letter from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights to the school’s president. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN): Former Memphis Police Department officer indicted on civil rights violations charge**, Lucas Finton, June 14, 2022, 3:39 PM

A former Memphis police officer was indicted for a civil rights violation involving sexual assault Tuesday. Bridges Randle, 47, is charged with violating the civil rights of a woman in 2000 when she called him to investigate her car being vandalized. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Memphis said the civil rights violation includes an aggravated sexual assault. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WHBQ-Fox \(Memphis, TN\)](#), [WREG-CBS \(Memphis, TN\)](#)

**WWSB-ABC (Sarasota, FL): Jackson Township Enters into Settlement Agreement with U.S. Department of Justice**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 7:52 PM

The Jackson Township Council approved a resolution this evening to enter into a settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) resolving the department's lawsuit alleging religious discrimination in the township's zoning practices. Under the terms of the settlement agreement, the township does not concede liability with respect to the claims alleged in DOJ's lawsuit and has committed to a series of actions to ensure compliance with all laws governing religious rights in land use and fair housing practices. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJTV-CBS (Jackson, MS): Man, woman indicted for interstate sex trafficking in multiple states**, Biancca Ball, June 14, 2022, 2:15 PM

A federal judge in the Southern District of Mississippi unsealed an indictment that showed a California man and a Nevada woman have been charged for interstate sex trafficking. According to the indictment, Michael D. Fulcher, 52, and Jonzie Hamilton, 33, have been charged with one count each of sex trafficking by force, fraud or coercion; conspiracy to commit sex trafficking by force, fraud and coercion; and interstate transportation for purposes of prostitution. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**Courthouse News: Judge finds Apple may have benefited from gift card theft scheme**, Matthew Renda, June 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

Apple will have to face claims the company profited off of criminal enterprise schemes featuring stolen gift cards after a federal judge declined to dismiss claims the company benefited monetarily from sophisticated schemes that employ fake apps to swindle consumers. U.S. District Judge Edward Davila dismissed some of the claims from a class of plaintiffs that said Apple aided in the fraudulent schemes, but he did say plaintiffs plausibly alleged the company did receive some of the proceeds from the fraud and failed to appropriately reimburse the victims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: KBR Settles 15-Year Iraq Kickback Lawsuit for \$14 Million**, Daniel Seiden, June 14, 2022, 11:31 AM

Houston-headquartered Kellogg Brown & Root Services Inc. and three other companies have agreed to a settlement of nearly \$14 million to resolve False Claims Act and Anti-Kickback Act allegations and for breach of contract, the Department of Justice said Tuesday. The lawsuit dealt with subcontracts that KBR awarded while it was under the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program III contract, awarded in 2001, which required KBR to provide logistics support to Army forces in Iraq, according to the Justice Department. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Law360](#)

**Post Register (Idaho Falls, ID): Blackfoot nurse ordered to pay feds \$30,000 for mishandling drugs**, Jonathan Hogan, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

A nurse practitioner in Blackfoot has been ordered to pay the federal government \$30,000 in a civil judgment. Kenneth Lowther was sued by the U.S. Department of Justice after an investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services concluded he unlawfully prescribed narcotics 15 times, a United States Attorney's Office District of Idaho news release said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Officials: Fraud suspect caught heading to Cuba on Jet Ski**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 4:36 PM

A Cuban man charged in a \$4.2 million Medicare fraud scheme is being held as a flight risk after officials said he tried to flee the U.S. on a Jet Ski. A federal judge in Miami ordered Ernesto Cruz Graveran, 54, of Hialeah, to be detained pending trial Monday, according to court records. He has been charged with health care fraud. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Examiner: Border Patrol agents to be disciplined for horseback 'whipping' incident**, Anna Giaritelli, June 14, 2022, 9:14 PM

The Border Patrol is preparing to discipline agents whom Biden administration officials accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants while on horseback in Del Rio, Texas, last September, the Washington Examiner has learned. U.S. Customs and Border Protection, the federal agency that investigated the incident, will accuse the horse patrol agents of "administrative violations," according to two agency officials, confirming an earlier report from Fox News. It is unlikely they will be fired, one of the sources said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Times: ICE chief adopts new 'free speech' rules to limit investigations of journalists**, Stephen Dinan, June 14, 2022, 10:00 AM

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced a new policy to limit the agency's entanglements with reporters, including requiring pre-approval before arresting journalists or subpoenaing their records. Acting ICE Director Tae Johnson said "compulsory" tools should only be used as a last resort and in cases where a crime is believed to have been committed.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Post and Courier (Charleston, SC): Mount Pleasant man accused of sex trafficking minor allegedly spent \$45K for sex acts, drugs**, Kelli Dugan, June 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

Pictures and text messages belonging to a Mount Pleasant businessman included in new court documents reveal more information about his relationship with the minor he is accused of trafficking for sex. The vulgar messages became public as Earl Dawson Caldwell IV filed a motion June 3 to suppress that very evidence, which his defense attorneys argue was obtained through an unconstitutional search and seizure of his iPhone. [...] Homeland Security Investigations placed a notification in the databases of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement so the agency would be alerted if Caldwell left or entered the United States, the motion states. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Miami Herald: More migrant boats are crossing the Mona Passage. U.S. Border Patrol is looking for them**, Syra Ortiz, June 14, 2022, 5:23 PM

The small U.S. Customs and Border Protection plane took off on a recent morning from the northwestern Puerto Rican town of Aguadilla, the rows of homes against coastal forests and sandy beaches becoming smaller and smaller. The aircraft flew 11,500 feet over the 80 miles of deep, unpredictable waters of the strait that separates Puerto Rico and Hispaniola, the island shared between Haiti and the Dominican Republic. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Laredo Morning Times: Laredo CBP officers seize \$1.1M in narcotics at Colombia-Solidarity Bridge**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 3:57 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Office of Field Operations officers seized hard narcotics in one enforcement action that totaled over \$1,100,000 in street value. "CBP's overall mission is to protect American communities from cross-border crime that threatens public safety," said Port Director Alberto Flores, Laredo Port of Entry. "Laredo cargo facilities have excelled in enhancing border security by preventing the flow of suspected narcotics from seeping into our communities." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHBQ-Fox (Memphis, TN): Narcotics worth more than \$1.1 million seized at Texas-Mexico crossing**, Kelli Dugan, June 14, 2022, 10:29 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers in Laredo, Texas, thwarted a smuggling attempt Thursday at the Colombia-Solidarity Bridge. According to the agency, a sport utility vehicle was carrying far more than the "informal shipment" of statues arriving from Mexico that its driver declared. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJLA-ABC (El Paso, TX): 2 women arrested for trying to smuggle fentanyl in their bodies at border**, Fallon Fischer, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Two women were stopped by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers for attempting to smuggle fentanyl in their vaginal cavities at an El Paso area port of entry. On June 11, a 34-year-old woman from the United States was stopped at Paso Del Norte border crossing for attempting to smuggle 0.14 pounds of fentanyl in her vaginal cavity, according to CBP. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWMD-CBS (Kalamazoo, MI): Migrants trek to US as White House scrambles for border policies**, Grayce McCormick, June 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

What was predicted to be the largest migrant caravan of the year headed for the U.S. mostly dispersed over the weekend, but U.S. law enforcement at the southern border is still bracing for thousands of incoming migrants hoping to claim asylum in the coming weeks and months. They're coming at a time of much back-and-forth in temporary U.S. immigration policy measures, and as the administration's long game to address root causes of migration remains largely unchanged from a year ago. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**Reuters: Antitrust cops' quixotic PE warning**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:04 PM

U.S. Federal Trade Commission boss Lina Khan says private equity is in the crosshairs. While Blackstone (BX.N) and Apollo Global Management (APO.N) may well be on notice, it's unclear whether she's really going to do more than just make threats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Reuters: FTC launches probe into mental-health startup Cerebral - WSJ**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 5:33 PM

The U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has begun an investigation into SoftBank-backed mental-health startup Cerebral Inc, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday, citing a letter the antitrust body sent to the company. In the letter dated June 1, the FTC said it was investigating whether the company engaged in deceptive or unfair practices related to advertising or marketing of mental-health services, according to the WSJ report. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg: Senate Passes State Venue Antitrust Bill That Google Opposed**, Leah Nylen, June 14, 2022, 8:07 PM

The Senate passed legislation Tuesday evening to allow state attorneys general to pick the location where their federal antitrust suits are heard, a blow to Alphabet Inc.'s Google, which had opposed the bill. The chamber passed the measure by unanimous consent. An amendment removed a provision that would have applied the measure retroactively to a 2020 antitrust suit filed by Texas and 14 other states and territories against the operator of the world's largest search engine. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WSJ: Antitrust Authorities Take Aim at Private-Equity Healthcare Deals**, Chris Cumming, June 14, 2022, 5:56 PM

U.S. antitrust enforcers on Monday took action against a private-equity firm they say sought to stifle competition, in what regulators suggest could be the first strike against allegedly anticompetitive behavior by buyout firms in the healthcare sector. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: FTC Says Arko To Trim Noncompetes In \$94M Gas Outlet Buy**, Craig Clough, June 14, 2022, 9:18 PM

Arko Corp. and its subsidiary GPM Investments LLC agreed Tuesday to trim certain noncompete provisions from a deal to buy 60 Michigan and Ohio-based Express Stop retail fuel outlets from Corrigan Oil Company that the Federal Trade Commission deemed anti-competitive, the agency said Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: [OPINION] Abandoning decades of antitrust precedent won't reduce inflation**, Richard J. Pierce, Jr., June 14, 2022, 4:30 PM

The inflation rate is now 8.6 percent — the highest rate in 40 years. President Biden says that reducing the level of inflation is his top domestic priority. Yet, the chair of the Federal Trade Commission and the head of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice are obsessed with the need to throw consumers under the bus and force sellers to increase the prices they charge for goods and services. Both FTC Chair Lina Khan and the head of the Antitrust Division, Jonathan Kanter, have made it a high priority to eliminate the consumer welfare standard that the Supreme Court and most antitrust scholars have embraced for 50 years. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## ENVIRONMENT

**Law360: Oklahoma Seeks Early Win In Coal Mining Fight With Feds**, Andrew Westney, June 14, 2022, 8:36 PM

Oklahoma has asked a federal judge for an early win in its suit seeking to regulate coal mining on Native American tribal lands, saying the Supreme Court's McGirt decision doesn't give the U.S. Department of the Interior the leverage to take away the state's authority over coal mining. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Clean Energy Cos. Back Calif.'s Power Over Vehicle Emissions**, Juan Carlos

Rodriguez, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

Utilities and clean energy industry groups on Monday threw their support behind the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency in D. C. Circuit litigation challenging the agency's decision to support California's right under the Clean Air Act to create its own greenhouse gas emission standards, saying the Golden State's authority must be preserved. The proposed intervenors said replacing combustion engine vehicles with electric ones is critical to lowering greenhouse gas emissions and fighting off the worst effects of climate change. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: After Blocking Of Drilling Lease Ban, Biden Admin. Seeks Win**, Eric Heisig, June 14, 2022, 5:43 PM

The Biden administration has asked a federal judge to OK its temporary ban on oil and gas drilling leases on public lands and offshore, though it may face an uphill battle because the same judge blocked the measure after 13 states represented by Republican attorneys general sued.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Alaska Asks 9th Circ. To Restrict Emergency Tribal Hunting**, Caleb Symons, June 14, 2022, 3:46 PM

Alaska urged the Ninth Circuit on Monday to prohibit federal authorities from reopening a hunting season the state has already closed, saying a U.S. Department of the Interior panel acted illegally when it allowed a tribal village to hold an emergency moose and deer hunt two years ago.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: EPA, DOJ Agree to Close Knoxville Utilities Board Consent Decree**,

Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 2:27 PM

The EPA and the Department of Justice filed a motion to terminate the consent decree with the Knoxville Utilities Board concerning a 2005 Clean Water Act settlement about the sewer system, according to the agency Tuesday. KUB reported on Jan. 28 that all work under the amended consent decree, which focused on deficiencies at the Fourth Creek and Kuwahee wastewater treatment plants, had been completed. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVLA-NBC (Baton Rouge, LA): Louisiana man sentenced after admitting to training pit bulls for dogfighting**, Michael Scheidt, June 14, 2022, 11:35 AM

Dangelo Dontae Cornish, age 36, of Greensburg, is going to spend the next 14 months behind bars after pleading guilty to "possessing pit bulls for use in a dogfighting venture," according to the United States Department of Justice. The sentencing comes four and half years after Cornish's home was searched by federal law enforcement agents. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**Law360: Roger Stone Ordered To Turn Over Tax Records, Financial Info**, Theresa Schliep, June 14, 2022, 6:15 PM

Roger Stone must furnish tax records and answer questions about financial accounts after a federal judge Tuesday ordered him and his wife to comply with document and information requests from the U. S. in its \$2 million tax case against them. A Florida federal magistrate judge said Roger Stone and his wife must comply with document and information requests from the U. S. government, which has contended that the couple used Stone's business Drake Ventures to hide their income. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**Rolling Stone: Del Records Execs Arrested for Working With Promoter Tied to Mexican Cartel**, Tomás Mier , June 15, 2022, 12:25 AM

On Tuesday, the FBI arrested two música Mexicana record label executives for doing business with a concert promoter with alleged ties to Mexican drug cartels in 2018. Angel Del Villar, CEO of Del Records, and Luis Scalisi, CFO of subsidiary Del Entertainment, were arrested and later released on bail for allegedly conspiring to violate the Kingpin Act, which prohibits Americans from conducting business with foreign narcotics traffickers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Patriot-News (Harrisburg, PA): Philly police underreported crime data to FBI in 2021 | Today in Pa.**, Claudia Dimuro, June 15, 2022, 5:31 AM

You can listen to the latest episode of “Today in Pa” at this link, or on any of your favorite apps including Alexa, Apple, Spotify, and Stitcher. Episodes are available every weekday on PennLive. Feel free to subscribe, follow or rate “Today in Pa.” as you see fit! “Today in Pa.” Daily Podcast | June 15, 2022. The Philadelphia Police Department is part of the roughly 60 percent of law enforcement agencies nationwide who underreported crime data to the FBI last year. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Albuquerque Journal: Feds: Las Cruces man plotted murder for hire**, Colleen Heild, June 15, 2022, 12:05 AM

A 32-year-old Las Cruces man repeatedly contacted what he thought was a murder-for-hire website in April allegedly to order a hit on his mother-in-law. “Kill that b\*\*ch,” he allegedly declared at one point, threatening he would “do it himself” if he couldn’t get fast action. The rent-a-hitman website was a spoof, but federal authorities took the alleged threat seriously. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Cleveland Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH): Akron man arrested in beating death of 1-year-old child**, Cliff Pinckard, June 14, 2022, 10:27 PM

A 38-year-old Akron man accused of the beating death of a 1-year-old child was arrested Tuesday by federal agents, according to the U.S. Marshals Service. Members of the U.S. Marshals Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force took Latrell Wilson into custody while he was working at a business on the 2400 block of Romig Road in the Rolling Acres neighborhood. Wilson was wanted by Akron police on a warrant for homicide. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Oregonian (Portland, OR): Federal investigators looking into ‘suspicious’ fire at Gresham pregnancy center**, Zaeem Shaikh, June 14, 2022, 6:34 PM

Federal investigators are looking into the cause of a fire at a Gresham pregnancy center last week apparently caused when someone threw an incendiary device through a window. No one was hurt. First Image, the organization that owns the center, said in a post on its website that the device and fire set off alarms about 3 a.m. last Friday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KVOA-NBC (Tucson, AZ): FBI warns of increase in sextortion schemes involving young children**, Shelle Jackson , June 14, 2022, 12:30 AM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is warning parents to stay vigilant this summer, as sextortion schemes targeting young children are on the rise. "Sextortion is a crime where adults target children, usually through social media and develop a relationship with them to the point where the child shares explicit photos thinking they're sharing with a child of the same age," said FBI

Supervisory Special Agent, Mary Gleason. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRON (San Francisco, CA): F.B.I and law enforcement react to recent pride event disturbance**, Haaziq Madyun, June 14, 2022, 11:00 PM

We are learning more about the investigation into alleged members of a far-right extremist group disrupting a pride month event at an East Bay library. And if police see this, as a sign of a rise in white nationalist hate groups here in the Bay Area. Tonight, investigators with the F.B.I confirm they are aware of the incident. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WGXA-Fox/ABC (Macon, GA): US Marshals arrest man in Byron for deserting US Marine Corps**, Claire Helm, June 14, 2022, 10:27 PM

Authorities in Peach County confirm a man has been taken into custody on charges concerning military desertion. Byron police put out a watch earlier on Tuesday when US Marshals were still looking for Private First Class Andrew Puckett. But police later said that Puckett had been located and arrested. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVZ-NBC (Bend, OR): Oregon FBI Tech Tuesday: Avoiding adoption fraud**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 9:33 PM

This week, the FBI Portland Tech Tuesday segment focuses on ways to avoid falling victim to adoption fraud. Image this scenario: You've talked through all the concerns and you're ready to do it. You're ready to adopt a child. So, you get online and find the perfect adoption service provider and EVEN BETTER they've found a match for you. But is it too good to be true? [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KNBC-NBC (Los Angeles, CA): 'These Two Men Were Loved': Two Officers Die in El Monte Shooting**, Eric Leonard, June 14, 2022, 9:00 PM

Two El Monte Police officers were shot to death Tuesday afternoon while handling a domestic violence call at a motel, and the man investigators said opened fire on the officers was shot dead at the scene, authorities said. [...] The investigation into the officers' murder and the death of the alleged attacker was turned-over to the LA County Sheriff's Department Homicide Bureau, and the ATF said agents were already on scene and assisting. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCJB-BC/CW (Gainesville, FL): ATF bust nets Gilchrist store clerk**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

A convenience store owner in Bell is behind bars after Gilchrist County deputies say he illegally sold alcohol and tobacco products. Mamunur Rashid was arrested yesterday. The Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco helped deputies with the investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WRGB-CBS (Schenectady, NY): Undercover DEA agent details amazing NYS bust that uncovered millions in buried gold**, Anne McCloy, June 14, 2022, 6:00 PM

An undercover federal agent is sitting down with CBS 6 to detail one of the most unique drug busts the New York Capital Region has ever seen. A case that involved millions of dollars in buried gold. We first told you about it last week when CBS 6's Anne McCloy interviewed Eric Canori, the former marijuana dealer who hid the buried treasure. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Bensalem, PA): 40K Fentanyl Pills, 11 lbs. Of Meth Seized In Bensalem: DA, John Fey**, June 14, 2022, 4:40 PM

The Bensalem Township Police Special Investigations Unit, in a joint operation with the Philadelphia DEA HIDTA Task Force, seized a supply of narcotics with an estimated street worth of \$1,000,000 this past Wednesday. During the investigation, four men from Riverside, California were arrested in relation to the possession of narcotics and \$5,000 cash. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Pittsburgh, PA): Woman Convicted In Pittsburgh FBI Officer's Death Is Released: Report**, Michelle Rotuno-Johnson, June 14, 2022, 3:29 PM

The Pennsylvania woman who pleaded guilty in shooting death of an FBI agent in 2011 has been released from prison, a report said. Christina Korbe left a federal detention center in Philadelphia on Tuesday, according to WTAE. In 2008, a team of law enforcement officers raided the home Korbe shared with her husband in Indiana Township. The officers were trying to arrest Korbe's husband on drug charges. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Wall, NJ): Wall Officer Graduates From FBI Academy**, Pat McDaniel, June 14, 2022, 2:14 PM

Lt. Sean O'Halloran has graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., Chief Kenneth Brown Jr. has announced. O'Halloran becomes the eighth Wall Township police officer to attend the National Academy in the history of the agency. O'Halloran has been a Wall Township Police Officer for 21 years, and is a Wall resident, the department said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**AP: US judge keeps Nevada execution challenge alive, for now**, Ken Ritter, June 14, 2022, 2:27 PM

A federal judge declined Monday to either decide or dismiss a condemned Nevada killer's lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the state plan for what would its first lethal injection in more than 16 years. U.S. District Judge Richard Boulware II left open Zane Michael Floyd's case — at least for now — and set an Oct. 11 date for attorneys representing Floyd and the state to return to court in Las Vegas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ABC: 1st federal prison to experience COVID-19 outbreak now short-staffed: Officials**, Luke Barr, June 14, 2022, 2:52 PM

The first federal prison to experience a COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020 is now severely short-staffed, the Louisiana congressional delegation and members of the Bureau of Prison union say. FCI Oakdale in Louisiana experienced a severe COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020, so bad the Justice Department inspector general was critical of the BOP for how it failed to separate inmates at the facility during the first weeks of the pandemic. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## US SUPREME COURT

**Reuters: U.S. Congress votes to expand Supreme Court security**, Moira Warburton and Nate Raymond, June 14, 2022, 6:38 PM

The U.S. House of Representatives gave final congressional approval on Tuesday to a bill to bolster Supreme Court security in light of threats made against justices ahead of their anticipated ruling curtailing abortion rights. The legislation, which had already cleared the Senate, passed the House on a 396-27 vote. The measure expands police protection to the families of the justices and senior officers of the court. President Biden will sign it into law, the White House said.

[Continue Reading] See also: [ABC](#), [Bloomberg](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [WSJ](#)

**SCOTUSblog: [OPINION] The demise of rights-protective statutory interpretation for detained immigrants and the rise of “piecemeal” textualism**, Shalini Bhargava Ray, June 14, 2022, 9:58 PM

On Monday, the Supreme Court sided with the government in a pair of cases brought by noncitizens who are under deportation orders and were in lengthy detention, rejecting lower courts’ rights-protective interpretation of the relevant detention statute and blocking an important avenue for injunctive relief in immigration detention cases. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**SCOTUSblog: [OPINION] Focusing on the meaning of “offense,” a divided court throws salt on double jeopardy claim**, Heather Whiteman Runs Him, June 14, 2022, 8:38 PM

An intriguingly divided court ruled Monday in Denezpi v. United States, upholding the federal court conviction of a defendant previously prosecuted and sentenced by a Court of Indian Offenses for charges stemming from the same incident. Justice Amy Coney Barrett wrote for the majority, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, and Brett Kavanaugh. Justice Neil Gorsuch filed a dissenting opinion, joined in part by Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**SCOTUSblog: [OPINION] Procedural rule for correcting “mistakes” applies to all mistakes, legal or factual**, Ronald Mann, June 14, 2022, 6:13 PM

Monday’s opinion in Kemp v. United States provided what the argument suggested: a straightforward decision that reads Rule 60(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to mean just what it says. Rule 60(b) is the rule that allows you to get relief from an incorrect judgment, and it seems pretty clear that the judgment here was incorrect. The order held untimely a motion of Dexter Earl Kemp seeking to overturn a conviction under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, but all accept that the judge miscalculated the deadline for filing that motion. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**Law360: NJ Senate Panel OKs 11 Reappointed Judges, 2 New Judges**, Nick Muscavage, June 14, 2022, 3:22 PM

A New Jersey Senate committee has approved the renominations of 11 judges, along with the nominations of two potential new jurists for initial terms on the bench. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Feds Seek Early Win In Cherokee Suit Seeking Audit Of Trust**, Caleb Symons, June 14, 2022, 6:38 PM

The U. S. government is asking a Washington, D. C. , federal court to put a stop to the Cherokee Nation’s bid for a full audit of tribal funds held in federal trust, claiming it has complied with all of its accounting responsibilities and that the Cherokee missed their chance to review those assets. In a motion for summary judgment Monday, federal officials said their accounting duties for the Cherokee trust fall under only two statutes: an 1893 law that covered payments owed under treaties from earlier that century and the 1994 American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **Kansas City Star: Missouri man accused of illegally excavating protected Native**

**American site: indictment**, Bill Lukitsch, June 14, 2022, 6:59 PM

A 70-year-old man is accused of illegally excavating items of archaeological value from a prehistoric Native American site near Tightwad, Missouri. Johnny Lee Brown, of Clinton, faces charges of conspiracy, illegal excavation of resources and injury to government property. A federal grand jury convened in April in the Western District of Missouri returned an 11-count indictment against Brown, which was made public following his arrest Tuesday. [Continue Reading]

**See also:** [KSHB-NBC \(Kansas City, MO\)](#), [WDAF-Fox \(Kansas City, MO\)](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

### **The Hill: Dems eye marijuana bill as vehicle for justice measures**, Aris Folley and Karl

Evers-Hillstrom, June 15, 2022, 5:39 AM

Senate Democrats are eyeing a cannabis banking bill that has bipartisan support as a potential vehicle for long-sought restorative justice measures. Prominent Democrats have been pushing to pass the SAFE Banking Act, which would enable legally operating cannabis firms to use banking services, as part of a larger China competition package being conference in both the House and Senate. [Continue Reading]

## **CONGRESS**

### **Reuters: Trump-backed challenger ousts Republican incumbent in South Carolina**

**midterm race**, Eric Beech and Jason Lange, June 14, 2022, 11:58 PM

Republican U.S. Representative Tom Rice, who voted to impeach Donald Trump after the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol riot, lost his re-election bid in South Carolina on Tuesday, while a second Republican incumbent targeted by the former president prevailed. A prime target in Trump's midterm revenge campaign against perceived political enemies, Rice lost the Republican nomination to Russell Fry 24.6% to 51%, with 99% of the vote counted, according to Edison Research. [Continue Reading]

### **AP: In a boost, McConnell backs Senate bipartisan gun deal**, Alan Fram, June 14, 2022, 5 00 PM

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell announced his support Tuesday for his chamber's emerging bipartisan gun agreement, boosting momentum for modest but notable election-year action by Congress on an issue that's deadlocked lawmakers for three decades. The Kentucky Republican said he hoped an outline of the accord, released Sunday by 10 Democrats and 10 Republicans, would be translated into legislation and enacted. McConnell's backing was the latest indication that last month's gun massacres in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas, had reconfigured the political calculations for some in the GOP after years of steadfastly opposing even incremental tightening of firearms curbs. [Continue Reading] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

### **USA Today: What is the 'boyfriend loophole' in the bipartisan gun deal announced by senators?**, Merdie Nzanga, June 15, 2022, 5:00 AM

In response to mass shootings, a bipartisan group of senators tentatively reached a deal on a gun bill that would expand "red flag" laws, spend more on mental health and close the "boyfriend loophole" that allows some domestic abusers to buy firearms. Gun control activists have tried to close the loophole for years, but like most gun legislation, the efforts fizzled out. After massacres

in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas, as well as other mass shootings, there is fresh momentum for gun control, including ensuring that all domestic abusers are barred from acquiring guns. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: JUNE 14, 2022

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- More than 170 million Americans are bracing for temperatures above 90 degrees. But virtually every corner of the country is being impacted by weather from wildfires, floods, tornadoes and heat. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The upcoming Federal Reserve meeting could bring the biggest interest rate hike in 28 years as everything from gas to food and travel has seen the largest annual increase in nearly four decades. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- With Russian forces closing in, the people of the Donbas region are fleeing for their lives as bridges out of the city are being blown up and those remaining are being ordered to “surrender or die.” [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A somber ceremony was held in Buffalo today marking one month since 10 people were killed in a mass shooting at a supermarket. Meanwhile, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell signaled his support for the bipartisan gun reform proposal that's expected to be finished this week. [[CBS](#)]
- A high-stakes meeting is underway in Southern California where delegates from the Southern Baptist Convention are choosing new leaders and confronting shocking allegations of sexual abuse. [[CBS](#)]
- The House has overwhelmingly voted to extend police protection to the families of Supreme Court justices, now sending the bill to President Biden. This comes as concern is rising over threats to justices as the Court prepares to issue a ruling on abortion rights. [[CBS](#)]
- The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 riots announced Tuesday morning that its hearing set for Wednesday has been postponed and offered conflicting explanations as to why. [[ABC](#)]
- Sweltering temperatures across Texas have led to skyrocketing energy demand and now,

some providers are struggling. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Fed Weighs 0.75-Point Hike as Stock Futures Rise” [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]
- “Ukraine’s NATO Allies Strain to Keep Up Pressure on Russia” [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [LAT](#)]
- “U.S. abortion rate rises, reversing three decades of declines” [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [LAT](#)]
- “Analysis: Far-Right Republicans Press Closer to Power Over Future Elections” [[NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [LAT](#)]

**END**

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**Sent:** June 14, 2022 8:14 AM (UTC-04:00)

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**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
June 14, 2022  
7:00 AM EST**

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17. Morning Headlines

**WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: JUNE 14, 2022**

**DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

**CONGRESS**

- 10:00 AM: Senate Judiciary Committee: Protecting Our Democracy's Frontline Workers.
- 2:30 PM: Senate Judiciary Committee: Strengthening our Workforce and Economy through Higher Education and Immigration.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**Reuters: U.S. attorney general calls Senate gun legislation 'meaningful progress'**, Sarah N. Lynch, June 13, 2022, 4:06 PM

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland on Monday endorsed a bipartisan Senate gun-safety proposal as "meaningful progress" as he announced new gun-trafficking charges in an effort to crack down on the gun violence plaguing America. "We do think that at least the framework that I read about this morning with respect to the bipartisan negotiations would be meaningful progress in that direction," Garland said at a news conference. Garland's comments came one day after a bipartisan group of senators announced a gun safety bill designed to win approval by Republicans and Democrats alike. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Courthouse News](#), [PBS](#)

**CNN: Garland says he and prosecutors are watching the House January 6 hearings**, Hannah

Rabinowitz and Shawna Mizelle, June 13, 2022, 7:02 PM

Attorney General Merrick Garland said Monday that he plans to watch all the hearings held by the House select committee investigating the January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol -- and that prosecutors handling criminal cases stemming from the insurrection are watching, too. "I am watching, and I will be watching all the hearings, although I may not be able to watch all of it live," Garland said. "But I will be sure that I am watching all of it. And I can assure you that the January 6 prosecutors are watching all of the hearings as well." [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Guardian](#), [NBC](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#)

**MSNBC: [VIDEO] Katyal: January 6 hearings are 'hard for Merrick Garland to ignore'**,

Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 11:00 AM

MSNBC's Lawrence O'Donnell speaks to Neal Katyal, a former acting U.S. Solicitor General and MSNBC legal analyst, about revelations from the January 6th Select Committee's second public hearing and U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland saying that the prosecutors for the Justice Dept. are monitoring the hearings. [[Watch](#)]

**Washington Times: White House says it's Justice Department's call on whether to indict Trump**,

Jeff Mordock, June 13, 2022, 6:30 PM

The White House said Monday it's up to Attorney General Merrick Garland whether to indict former President Donald Trump for the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre told reporters that it's Mr. Garland's call whether criminal prosecution is warranted. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: Joe Biden Won't Pressure Merrick Garland to Indict Trump**, Katherine Fung, June 13, 2022, 5:30 PM

President Joe Biden won't coerce Attorney General Merrick Garland into indicting former President Donald Trump for his alleged role in the January 6 Capitol riot. White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, when asked whether Garland should indict Trump, said that the administration would let him make the final decision, and that Biden would continue to support the work by the House panel investigating January 6. This comes even as Garland's department is facing increasing pressure to prosecute Trump amid the ongoing hearings from the committee investigating the insurrection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**Reuters: White nationalists accused of planning riot are bailed out of Idaho jail**, Joseph Ax, June 13, 2022, 10:49 PM

Thirty-one members of white nationalist group Patriot Front, arrested in Idaho over the weekend on suspicion of plotting to violently disrupt an LGBTQ pride event, were released from jail on bond and will

make their initial court appearances in the coming weeks, a court official said on Monday. The men, arrested on Saturday after the U-Haul rental truck they were riding in was pulled over, face misdemeanor charges of conspiracy to riot, according to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Police Chief Lee White. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [AP](#), [NBC](#)

**AP: Officer hailed as hero testifies at Capitol riot trial**, Michael Kunzelman, June 13, 2022, 4:59 PM  
A police officer lauded for his bravery during the U.S. Capitol riot testified Monday that a man carrying a Confederate battle flag jabbed at him with the flagpole before joining the mob that chased him up a staircase. In his first public testimony since the Jan. 6, 2021, siege, Capitol Police officer Eugene Goodman described his encounter with the flag-toting Delaware man, Kevin Seefried, and his adult son, Hunter, at their trial on charges that they stormed the Capitol together. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Insider](#), [WaPo](#)

**WaPo: Maker of Uvalde massacre gun broke campaign finance law, complaint says**, Isaac Stanley-Becker, June 14, 2022, 6:00 AM

Shortly after the 2020 election, a super PAC formed in Tampa called the Gun Owners Action Fund. On Jan. 6, 2021 — a day that would come to be associated with the pro-Trump riot at the Capitol — a Georgia-based gun manufacturer, Daniel Defense, contributed \$100,000 to the super PAC. Last month, Daniel Defense came under a spotlight when one of its rifles was used in the massacre of 21 people at an elementary school in Uvalde, Tex. The company pulled out of a planned appearance at the National Rifle Association's annual convention. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: Commander of Afghan Insurgency Pleads Guilty at Guantánamo Bay, Police Say**, Carol Rosenberg, June 13, 2022, 10:00 PM

An Iraqi prisoner who commanded insurgents during the U.S. war in Afghanistan pleaded guilty on Monday to war crimes charges related to lethal attacks on allied soldiers in 2003 and 2004, in a deal that could hand him off to the custody of another country by 2024. Abd al-Hadi al-Iraqi, now in his 60s, spent much of the daylong hearing responding, "Yes, your honor," to the questions of the military judge, Lt. Col. Mark F. Rosenow, about a secret account of his activities in Afghanistan as a co-conspirator with Osama bin Laden and other top Qaeda leaders between 1996 and 2003. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Man accused in Kavanaugh plot texted sister before surrender, police say**, Dan Morse, June 13, 2022, 5:30 PM

Just what prompted Nicholas Roske to go from an alleged plot to kill Supreme Court Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh to calling 911 and surrendering near the justice's home is of great interest to investigators continuing to probe the alarming incident from last week. Court records say that after Roske flew in from California and got out of a taxi near the conservative justice's home in Chevy Chase, Md., just after 1 a.m. on Wednesday, he saw two deputy U.S. marshals standing outside their vehicle and he walked away. But another factor may also have played an important role. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Fox: Kavanaugh neighbor describes 'horrific' experience dealing with 'aggressive' pro-choice protesters**, Adam Shaw, June 14, 2022, 2:11 AM

A neighbor of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh says the pro-choice protesters who have marched multiple times a week down their street in the evening have shaken up residents' homes and disrupted their lives — as they detailed the alleged abuse received by neighbors from protesters, while saying authorities have done little to help them. The neighbor, who spoke to Fox News Digital on condition of anonymity, said that while there had been intermittent protests before, they picked up after the leak of the draft court opinion that would overturn the Roe v Wade abortion ruling. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: US national security adviser meets China's top diplomat, paving way for potential Biden-Xi**

**meeting**, Kevin Liptak, June 14, 2022, 12:00 AM

US national security adviser Jake Sullivan met in Luxembourg on Monday with the top Chinese diplomat for a "candid, substantive, and productive discussion" at a tense moment between their two countries, according to the White House. The talks, which hadn't been announced beforehand, ran four-and-a-half hours. They came as a potential precursor to a meeting between President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, which the White House has said is possible in the coming months. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Former FBI official had numerous unauthorized contacts with media during 2016 campaign, watchdog says**, Josh Gerstein, June 14, 2022, 12:00 AM

A former senior FBI official who oversaw the bureau's politically sensitive investigations in 2016 into Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server and Donald Trump's ties to Russia had "extensive contacts" with the news media in violation of FBI policy, a Justice Department watchdog report found. A Justice Department Inspector General review released in 2018 and an investigative summary issued last year did not name the former official, but the report made public Monday identified him as Michael Steinbach, who served as the executive assistant director of the FBI's National Security Bureau. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTHV-CBS (Little Rock, AR): FBI says Arkansans should watch out for potential cyber hacking**, Ashley Godwin, June 14, 2022, 12:08 AM

The FBI in Little Rock has issued an alert to the public of potential cyber security attacks from beyond our borders. These attacks have not only hit places across the nation, but they could potentially hit here in Arkansas as well. The FBI warns that hackers have been looking to get a 'leg up.' [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCPQ-Fox (Seattle, WA): 3 family members from Puyallup arrested for alleged involvement in Capitol riot**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 6:19 PM

A Puyallup father and his two sons were arrested on Monday and charged for their alleged involvement in the U.S. Capitol riot on Jan. 6, 2021. According to charging documents, 51-year-old Kevin Cronin and his sons 25-year-old Dylan Cronin and 29-year-old Kevin Cronin II, flew from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport to the Washington National Airport on Jan. 5 to participate in former President Donald Trump's 'Stop the Steal' rally in Washington, D.C. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KING-NBC \(Seattle, WA\)](#)

## **JAN 6. HEARINGS**

**AP: Jan. 6 panel hears: Trump 'detached from reality' in defeat**, Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick, June 13, 2022, 4:00 PM

Donald Trump's closest campaign advisers, top government officials and even his family were dismantling his false claims of 2020 election fraud ahead of Jan. 6, but the defeated president seemed "detached from reality" and kept clinging to outlandish theories to stay in power, the committee investigating the Capitol attack was told Monday. With gripping testimony, the panel's laying out in step-by-step fashion how Trump ignored his own campaign team's data as one state after another flipped to Joe Biden, and instead latched on to conspiracy theories, court cases and his own declarations of victory rather than having to admit defeat. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [CNN](#), [Fox](#), [The Hill](#), [The Hill-2](#), [HuffPost](#), [LAT](#), [NPR](#), [NY Daily News](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [US News](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Takeaways: Trump's mind 'made up' on fraud ahead of Jan. 6**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Kevin Freking and Farnoush Amiri, June 13, 2022, 3:00 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection systematically made the case in its second hearing Monday that several of Trump's advisers warned him against making false claims of widespread voter fraud in the 2020 election that he lost. But the president would not listen. The nine-member panel is

trying to make the case that Trump, and those allies who helped him, were deliberately lying as he pushed those election falsehoods in the weeks ahead of the violent insurrection. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Hill](#), [LAT](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#), [WSJ](#)

**WaPo: Inside the explosive Oval Office confrontation three days before Jan. 6**, Michael Kranish, June 14, 2022, 6:00 AM

Three days before Congress was slated to certify the 2020 presidential election, a little-known Justice Department official named Jeffrey Clark rushed to meet President Donald Trump in the Oval Office to discuss a last-ditch attempt to reverse the results. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: Lawmaker's Capitol Complex Tour on the Eve of Jan. 6 Was Innocent, Police Say**, Luke Broadwater, June 13, 2022, 11:00 PM

A tour of parts of the Capitol complex given by a Republican lawmaker the day before the Jan. 6 riot appears to have been innocuous, the Capitol Police said on Monday, describing a visit that had attracted scrutiny from the House committee examining the attack as simply a meeting with constituents. “We train our officers on being alert for people conducting surveillance or reconnaissance, and we do not consider any of the activities we observed to be suspicious,” J. Thomas Manger, the chief of the Capitol Police, wrote in a letter about the tour, which was conducted by Representative Barry Loudermilk of Georgia. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: As hearing's star witness, Barr says Trump was ‘detached from reality’**, Devlin Barret, June 13, 2022, 6:13 PM

Appearing larger than life on a giant screen above the House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol, former attorney general William P. Barr on Monday offered a blistering assessment of the man he’d spent years defending: In 2020, after losing the election, President Donald Trump appeared “detached from reality” and obsessed with fantastical notions of voter fraud, Barr said. That blunt assessment amounted to a kind of rhetorical dagger aimed at his former boss, even if it was delivered from a previously taped, closed-door questioning session and included many criticisms Barr had already aired in tell-all books written by him and others. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [CNN-2](#), [Insider](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#)

**WaPo: [EDITORIAL] Trump’s aides told him the truth. Now they are finally telling us’**, Editorial Board, June 13, 2022, 4:12 PM

The House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack heard Monday from a cavalcade of former officials who worked for President Donald Trump around the time of the 2020 election. They all wanted Mr. Trump to win. Yet they all testified that they were confident that the election was not stolen and that they told Mr. Trump so. Anyone in Trumpworld with a shred of intellectual honesty apparently concluded that the claims of Mr. Trump and other 2020 crackpots were obviously false — “bull---t,” as former attorney general William P. Barr put it. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: Byung J. Pak, a former U.S. attorney in Atlanta, is testifying about his investigation of voter fraud in Georgia.**, Katie Benner, June 13, 2022, 1:41 PM

Byung J. Pak, a former U.S. attorney in Atlanta, is testifying Monday on his decision to resign in January 2021 before President Donald J. Trump fired him for refusing to say that widespread voter fraud had been found in Georgia. In more than three hours of closed-door testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee on Aug. 11, 2021, Mr. Pak said that he had done his best “to be thoughtful and consistent, and to provide justice for my fellow citizens in a fair, effective and efficient manner.”. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Yahoo](#)

**Bloomberg: Jan. 6 Latest: Trump Team Raised \$250 Million on Fraud Claims**, Billy House and Chris Strohm, June 13, 2022, 1:15 PM

The Jan. 6 committee resumed its public hearings Monday with a session focused on Donald Trump's culpability in the 2021 storming of the US Capitol, seeking to make the case that he kept pushing his stolen-election claim knowing it wasn't true. Witnesses in the more than two hours of testimony included Byung J. Pak, who resigned as an Atlanta-based US Attorney on Jan. 4, 2021; Chris Stirewalt, a former Fox News political editor who's call Biden had won Arizona raised the ire of Trump; election attorney Benjamin Ginsberg and former Philadelphia city commissioner Al Schmidt. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [ANALYSIS] Barr kneecaps Trump: 'Never an indication of interest' in facts**, Philip Bump, June 13, 2022, 1:02 PM

Until Nov. 3, 2020, history's depiction of William P. Barr's second tenure as attorney general would have been straightforward. He was a stalwart defender of executive power who helped Donald Trump navigate some of the trickiest parts of his presidency. He was, in short, the loyalist Trump had long sought within the executive branch. But that legacy became more complicated after Trump lost his reelection bid. A few weeks after the race had been called, Barr became the first senior member of the administration to publicly reject Trump's claims about election fraud. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: [OPINION] The January 6 committee is methodically building the case for a criminal conspiracy**, Norman Eisen, Noah Bookbinder and Fred Wertheimer, June 14, 2022, 4:56 AM

It's appropriate that on Monday, within a few days of the 50th anniversary of the Watergate break-in, the House select committee investigating the January 6 attack presented a hearing focused on the question "What did President Donald Trump know, and when did he know it?" This deep dive into the first of what the committee says is a seven-part conspiracy revealed Trump's choice to disregard the truth and the law. The focus on the former President's state of mind is critical to building the case for the American people -- and for possible prosecutions like those that ensued a half-century ago. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: [ANALYSIS] January 6 committee is testing whether Americans can still agree on a shared reality**, Ronald Brownstein, June 14, 2022, 12:01 AM

With the powerful case it has assembled against former President Donald Trump, the bipartisan House select committee investigating the January 6, 2021, insurrection may provide the clearest -- and potentially most ominous -- measure yet available of how completely red and blue America have separated into divergent information bubbles that no longer share even the most rudimentary agreement on the basic facts of American life. "This will tell us something that we don't know right now: How impenetrable is the tribalism? How locked down is the tribalism?" says Robert P. Jones, founder and CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute, a nonpartisan think tank that has extensively studied the relationship between media consumption and political attitudes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Kimberly Guilfoyle was paid \$60,000 speaking fee for Ellipse rally intro, Jan. 6 committee member says**, Zachary Cohen, June 14, 2022, 12:00 AM

Kimberly Guilfoyle, a former member of the Donald Trump presidential campaign, was paid a \$60,000 speaking fee for introducing Donald Trump Jr., her fiancé, at the "Stop the Steal" rally on the Ellipse that acted as a precursor to the US Capitol riot, a member of the House select committee that's investigating January 6, 2021, told CNN on Monday. Speaking with CNN's Jake Tapper, Rep. Zoe Lofgren, who played a key role in Monday's committee hearing, said the panel has evidence that members of the Trump family and inner circle-- including Guilfoyle -- personally benefited from money that was raised based on the former President's false election claims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Thompson's claim that Jan. 6 committee won't criminally refer Trump or others to DOJ meets resistance from committee**, Ryan Nobles, Annie Grayer and Zachary Cohen, June 13, 2022, 9:50 PM

The chairman of the House select committee investigating the January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol told reporters Monday that the panel will not make any criminal referral of former President Donald

Trump or anyone else to the Justice Department -- a claim that met swift pushback from members of the panel. "No, you know, we're going to tell the facts. If the Department of Justice looks at it, and assume that there's something that needs further review, I'm sure they'll do it," Democratic Rep. Bennie Thompson said when asked whether the committee would refer Trump or others to the department.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NBC](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Washington Times](#)

#### **MSNBC: Rep. Adam Schiff on Second Jan. 6 Hearing**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 12:00 AM

Fmr. Attorney General Bill Barr told the Jan. 6 Committee that the Department of Justice wasn't an extension of Donald Trump's legal team. Except when Barr's DOJ intervened in the Roger Stone and Michael Flynn cases. Committee Member Adam Schiff says Barr had a change of heart after the 2020 election. "Like so many people in the Trump administration, they reached a point – Bill Barr got there very late but he got there – where he could go no further to support the immoral act of this president."

[[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **The Hill: Jan. 6 panel delves into Trump's motives with eye to DOJ** **Jan. 6 panel delves into Trump's motives with eye to DOJ**, Harper Neidig and Rebecca Beitsch, June 14, 2022, 5:26 AM

The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on Monday sought to establish a key element of its public case against former President Trump — that he knew his claims of election fraud had little merit or likelihood of success but sought to overturn the election anyway. [[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **Washington Examiner: Trump responds to Jan. 6 hearings with 12-page rebuttal**, Abigail Adcox, June 13, 2022, 11:24 PM

Former President Donald Trump issued a 12-page rebuttal to the evidence and testimonies presented by the Jan. 6 committee, arguing that Democrats are trying to distract from domestic issues such as record inflation and gas prices. Democrats are "desperate to change the narrative of a failing nation" by distracting people with the hearings and the investigation into the events surrounding the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, Trump said in a statement shared by his Save America PAC hours after the panel investigating the attack held a hearing. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **CRIMINAL LAW**

#### **AP: South Texas Mayor Arrested, Accused of Bribery, Fraud**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 8:34 PM

A South Texas mayor was arrested Monday after a federal indictment accused him of committing bribery and fraud. Peñitas Mayor Rodrigo Lopez was arrested as he re-entered the country at the Hidalgo Port of Entry, according to a statement by the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **Law360: Avenatti To Plead Guilty Without Deal Over Calif. Client Fraud**, Lauren Berg, June 13, 2022, 9:48 PM

Michael Avenatti, who's serving five years for attempting to extort \$25 million from Nike and for defrauding ex-client Stormy Daniels, told a California federal judge Sunday he wants to plead guilty to "multiple" charges in his remaining wire, bank and tax fraud case, despite not reaching a plea deal with prosecutors. [[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **Courthouse News: Beverly Hills man pleads guilty to seeking hitman to kill woman who rebuffed him**, Edvard Pettersson, June 13, 2022, 6:00 PM

A Beverly Hills man pleaded guilty to trying to hire a hitman to kill a woman who didn't want to see him anymore after they had spent a few days together. Scott Quinn Berkett, 25, on Monday pleaded guilty to using interstate facilities to commit murder for hire. Although the maximum sentence for this crime is 10 years in prison, prosecutors have agreed to ask for no more than 5 years. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KTLA-CW \(Los Angeles, CA\)](#)

**Rutland Herald (Rutland, VT): Two drug traffickers ordered to jail**, Mike Donoghue, June 13, 2022, 3:10 PM

Two people, including a convicted Rutland County arsonist, wanted for a major drug trafficking investigation have been ordered jailed. Steven T. Browne, 37, of Shoreham, and Kayla Ramos, 22, of Rutland, are charged with knowingly and intentionally possessing cocaine, fentanyl and heroin on Oct. 25, 2021, with intent to distribute each. The grand jury also filed a forfeiture notice requiring the defendants to surrender proceeds from their drug business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newport Dispatch (Newport, VT): Two-time federal felon from Middlebury sentenced to 37 months for firearms offense**, Mike Donoghue, June 13, 2022, 3:00 PM

Kyle Tetreault, 31, of Middlebury, was sentenced today to serve 37 months imprisonment and three years of supervised release. Tetreault also agreed to forfeit the firearms recovered from his residence. Tetreault had previously pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of firearms, which carried a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in prison. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WGAL-NBC (Lancaster, PA): Maryland man pleads guilty to participating in Franklin County murder of a federal witness, two others**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 10:26 PM

A Maryland man pleads guilty to participating in the murder of a federal witness and two other people back in June of 2016. The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced that Jerell Adgebesan, 34, of Baltimore and Hagerstown, Maryland pleaded guilty on June 13, 2022, to participate in the June 25, 2016, murders of three people in Mercersburg, Franklin County, one of which was cooperating with state and federal drug investigators. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WBFF-Fox \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**KTLA-CW (Los Angeles, CA): Palm Springs man pleads guilty to distributing sexually explicit videos of children via Zoom**, Sareen Habeshian, June 13, 2022, 8:07 PM

A Palm Springs man pleaded guilty Monday to streaming sexually explicit videos of children – some of them toddlers – in a Zoom online meeting room for individuals “interested in child exploitation,” officials said. Michael John Andersen, 53, pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of child pornography — a federal criminal charge, the United States Attorney’s Office for the Central District of California said in a news release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSNV-NBC (Las Vegas, NV): California, Nevada men sentenced to prison on human trafficking-related offenses**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 7:30 PM

Two men were sentenced to prison last week following two separate human trafficking-related investigations in Las Vegas. One man, 26-year-old Tyler Sampson of San Bernadino, was sentenced by a U.S. District Court Judge to six and half years in prison followed by 15 years of supervised release after pleading guilty to felon in possession of a firearm and possession of child pornography back in March. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KLAS-CBS \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#), [KTNV-ABC \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#)

**WOWK-CBS (Huntington, WV): Man pleads guilty to role in \$2.5 million romance scam**, Will Carroll, June 13, 2022, 7:09 PM

A Maryland man pleaded guilty on Monday for his role in a scheme that defrauded more than 200 victims. According to the Department of Justice, Oluwabamishe Awolesi, sometimes known as Oluwabamise Johnson, used a romance scam to defraud many elderly victims out of nearly \$2.5 million. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMPH-Fox (Fresno, CA): Woman caught submitting fraudulent employment claims, faces 20 years in prison**, Peter Lopez, June 13, 2022, 7:00 PM

A woman could face the next 20 years in prison after she was caught submitting fraudulent unemployment claims from prison.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) says Sholanda Thomas, 38, worked alongside Christina Smith to submit fake unemployment claims to the Employment Development Department (EDD). All this was done, the DOJ says, out of the women's prison in Chowchilla. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMTV-NBC (Madison, WI): Middleton man to serve over 3 years in federal prison for illegal gun possession**, Juliana Tornabene, June 13, 2022, 6:40 PM

A Middleton man will serve over three years in federal prison after pleading guilty to being a felon in possession of a weapon, the U.S. Department of Justice announced. Ramar Brown, 26, was sentenced to 40 months in prison on Friday after pleading guilty to the charge on March 7. The charge stems back to Oct. 12, 2021, when Fitchburg Police Department had planned to arrest Brown for unrelated investigations and saw him allegedly driving a stolen vehicle. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KIRO-CBS (Seattle, WA): Man sentenced to 16 months in prison after threatening young boys with machete during carjacking**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 6:31 PM

A man who carjacked a vehicle and threatened three boys at knifepoint was sentenced to 16 months in prison on Monday, according to the United States Department of Justice. Nicolas Joseph James Johnson, a 33-year-old enrolled member of the Makah Tribe, pleaded guilty to robbery in March 2022. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WFMZ (Allentown, PA): Former employee of gaming and casino company charged with insider trading**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 6:30 PM

A former employee of a company owned by Wyomissing-based Penn National Gaming is being charged with insider trading. U.S. Attorneys say David Roda, 36 of Philadelphia, used knowledge of an upcoming acquisition to net \$560,000 of profit. They say while he was the Director of Backend Architecture for Penn Interactive, he learned Penn National was considering buying Score Media and Gaming. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WOWK-CBS (Huntington, WV): Former elementary school counselor pleads guilty in child pornography case**, Jessica Patterson, June 13, 2022, 6:14 PM

A former Kanawha County elementary school counselor has pleaded guilty in a child pornography case. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, court documents show Todd Christopher Roatsey, 43, of Elkview pleaded guilty to charges of attempted production of child pornography and attempted enticement of a minor. At the time of the allegations, Roatsey was working as a school counselor at Pinch Elementary School in Kanawha County. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTBC-Fox (Austin, TX): Round Rock woman sentenced for embezzling over \$775,000 from employer**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 5:01 PM

A Round Rock woman was sentenced to 51 months in prison for embezzling from her employer. According to court documents, 52-year-old Cynthia Linette Jones was the office manager for a Central Texas business. In that role, she had access to the company's accounting system and checkbook. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGUN-ABC (Tucson, AZ): Man sentenced for having devices which convert glocks into automatic weapons**, Phil Villarreal, June 13, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Tucson man was sentenced to prison for having devices that convert a glock into an automatic weapon. According to the U.S. Justice Department, 24-year-old Anthony Michael Brumfield was sentenced to 57 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDTV-CBS (Weston, WV): Preston County woman sentenced for wire fraud**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 4:26 PM

A Preston County woman was sentenced Monday for wire fraud. Cynthia Miller, 36, of Newburg, West

Virginia, was sentenced to five years of probation with the first four months on home detention for wire fraud, United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WRDW-CBS (Augusta, GA): Hephzibah resident charged with COVID aid fraud**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 3:37 PM

A CSRA resident is among five people facing charges including bank and wire fraud for allegedly using false information to secure thousands of dollars in COVID-19 relief funds. The defendants are accused of applying for Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funding by using false financial information, according to David H. Estes, U.S. attorney. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KPIX-CBS (San Francisco, CA): Contra Costa man gets 4 years prison in bank fraud, mail theft scheme**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 3:25 PM

An East Bay man has been sentenced to federal prison for his role in a mail theft and bank fraud scheme that involved victims throughout Northern California, prosecutors said. According to U.S. Attorney Phillip Talbert's office, a judge sentenced 28-year-old Richard Beldon Waters III of Contra Costa County to four years in prison for the scheme. Waters, along with 28-year-old Desiree Bello, also known as Desiree Sanchez, had previously pleaded guilty to bank fraud and possession of stolen U.S. Mail. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WAFB-CBS (Baton Rouge, LA): U.S. Attorney's Office: Baton Rouge man sentenced for defrauding elderly veteran**, Michael Simoneaux, June 13, 2022, 2:38 PM

Shawn Phillips, 44, has been sentenced to 33 months in federal prison for stealing money from a veteran, according to United States attorney Ronald C. Gathe, Jr. His office said Phillips became friends with the victim and stole more than \$50,718 between January of 2020 and May of 2021. Authorities said Phillips got the victim to loan him the money by claiming he needed to borrow money before his large inheritance arrived. But Phillips was never actually expecting any inheritance, according to authorities. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCSC-CBS (Charleston, SC): Self-proclaimed Charleston gang member enters guilty plea on gun charge**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 2:12 PM

A 29-year-old Charleston man was sentenced after pleading guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm. Authorities say evidence presented in court showed Travis Stefenon Daquan Lawrence was a felon and self-professed member of a street gang. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WTMA-AM \(Charleston, SC\)](#)

**WTAJ-CBS (Altoona, PA): Clearfield man pleads guilty in 38-person drug bust**, Bill Shannon, June 13, 2022, 1:10 PM

A Clearfield man pleaded guilty in federal court after being caught in a drug bust in 2020 that saw 38 people across Pennsylvania get indicted. According to a release from the federal court, 44-year-old Andrew Knepp took a guilty plea nearly two years after the 38 people were busted. An investigation that took 18 months and saw multiple kilos of meth being trafficked from Atlanta into Pennsylvania. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WPTZ-NBC (Plattsburgh, NY): Vermont man convicted of drug crimes after selling to undercover agent**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 12:10 PM

A Vermont man charged with selling drugs to an undercover agent and other drug-related crimes was convicted on five of six counts on Friday in Burlington. Carl Martin, 37, of Colchester was charged in October 2020 with participating in a conspiracy to sell cocaine and selling cocaine to an undercover Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agent in 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**Patch (Tampa, FL): Predatory Mortgage Services Caused Hispanics To Lose Their Homes: DOJ,** D'Ann Lawrence White, June 14, 2022, 1:00 AM

The Department of Justice announced that the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida has entered a consent order resolving the department's Fair Housing Act claims against Advocate Law Groups of Florida P.A.; Jon B. Lindeman Jr.; Ephigenia K. Lindeman; Summit Development Solutions USA LLC; and Haralampos "Bob" Kourouklis. The department's lawsuit alleged the defendants discriminated on the basis of national origin when they targeted Hispanic homeowners for predatory mortgage loan modification services and interfered with those individuals' ability to keep their homes.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CIVIL LAW**

**Reuters: Fed workers can't sue govt over late plan payments due to shutdown,** Barbara Grzincic, June 13, 2022, 7:27 PM

Federal employees cannot sue the USA for the profits they allegedly lost when a 34-day government shutdown forced agencies to temporarily suspend employer contributions to their retirement savings accounts, an appellate court held Monday. The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed last year's ruling by a lower-court judge in Philadelphia, who allowed four "John and Jane Doe" FBI investigators to proceed with a potential class action on behalf of all executive-branch employees who participated in the government's \$500 billion Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) at the time of the December 2018 shutdown.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**AP: Compounding pharmacy agrees to stop distributing some drugs,** Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 6:00 PM

A Vermont compounding pharmacy has agreed to stop producing adulterated and misbranded drugs, the U.S. Justice Department said Monday. Edge Pharma of Colchester and its owners and operators signed a consent decree with the Justice Department on Friday that requires Edge Pharma Inc. of Colchester to take specific remedial measures to ensure its products are safe and demonstrate to the Food and Drug Administration that they will comply with federal law. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: USPTO Officials Say High Court Decision Aids Immunity Claim,** Britain Eakin, June 13, 2022, 9:10 PM

Former and current U.S. Patent and Trademark Office officials told a Tennessee federal judge Monday that a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision bolsters their claim that they are immune from allegations they've rigged the inter partes review system against patent owners. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: States Urge 8th Circ. To Keep Contractor Vax Mandate Blocked,** Daniel Wilson, June 13, 2022, 8:47 PM

Ten states on Monday urged the Eighth Circuit not to dissolve an injunction against the federal government's COVID-19 vaccination mandate for federal contractors, saying the policy was a clear overreach of the administration's authority over federal procurement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Justices Pass On Challenge To Post-9/11 Mass Surveillance,** Alyssa Aquino, June 13, 2022, 2:59 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday refused to touch a long-running lawsuit challenging the federal government's warrantless surveillance of citizens in the wake of the 9/11 terror attacks, effectively burying the 14-year-old Fourth Amendment case. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Philadelphia Inquirer: Local 98 agrees to oversight of internal election after lawsuit alleged intimidation by Johnny Doc,** Robert Moran, June 13, 2022, 6:30 PM

The city's politically powerful electricians union has settled a lawsuit filed by the federal government and agreed to conduct its next internal leadership election under the supervision of the U.S. Department of Labor, prosecutors announced Monday. The civil suit alleged that John J. Dougherty and his allies intimidated and threatened other members of Local 98 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers who sought to challenge incumbent leaders in the union's June 2020 election, causing the members to withdraw from nominations. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

### **LAT: [VIDEO] LA Times Today: ICE released sick detainees, avoided liability for deaths,**

Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 10:09 PM

In 2019, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement reported nine detainee deaths while in ICE custody. An investigation by the L.A. Times revealed a pattern of releasing critically ill detainees to hospitals, underscoring longstanding concerns by advocates about the completeness of ICE reporting. [\[Listen\]](#)

### **NBC: Migrants are falling off Trump's 30-foot steel border wall into the U.S. and going to the hospital,** Julia Ainsley and Didi Martinez, June 14, 2022, 4:32 AM

When President Donald Trump's commissioner of Customs and Border Protection toured a stretch of the new 30-foot high border wall here in August 2020, he told the local newspaper that its steel beams were "impressive." "It really does, I think, physically represent exactly what we've been trying to do since Day One," Commissioner Mark Morgan told the El Paso Times. "That is to give Border Patrol increased operational capacity to do what they need to do to protect the country." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Law360: Feds Deny Ongoing Harm To Haitians In Border Whipping Suit,** Rae Varone, June 13, 2022, 7:19 PM

The Biden administration asked a D.C. federal judge to toss a proposed class action from Haitian asylum-seekers accusing border patrol officers of whipping migrants, saying the migrants could not prove they'd likely be injured in the near future. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Law360: Immigrant Investor Sues USCIS Over EB-5 Processing Delay,** Andrew McIntire, June 13, 2022, 6:54 PM

An immigrant investor family is suing U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services over an alleged yearslong delay in processing the family's form for conditional lawful permanent resident status as part of the EB-5 program, according to a suit filed in D.C. federal court on Monday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Law360: 9th Circ. Says BIA Erred In Presuming Conviction Was Serious,** Nicole Rosenthal, June 13, 2022, 5:28 PM

Mexican national Diego Mendoza-Garcia has another shot at staying in the U.S. after the Ninth Circuit ruled that the Board of Immigration Appeals violated legal standards in assessing his burglary conviction as a "particularly serious crime." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Washington Examiner: Biden's attempt to limit ICE arrests of immigrants faces uphill court battle,** Anna Giaritelli, June 13, 2022, 5:13 PM

The Biden administration faces an uphill battle in court after a federal judge ruled that its attempt to limit severely which illegal immigrants federal law enforcement may arrest and remove from the United States overstepped its congressional authority. Judge Drew Tipton of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas ruled on Friday that the Biden administration once again violated the law with its directive that limited who Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers could target for removal. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Times: Border control advocates want Americans to snitch on ICE's immigration flights**, Stephen Dinan, June 13, 2022, 4:00 PM

The Federation for American Immigration Reform said Monday it wants to recruit Americans to inform on the government's attempts to fly illegal immigrants to destinations in the interior of the U.S. FAIR said it will run digital ads across the country asking people to report whatever they see, as the group tries to get a sense of how the Biden administration is using the flights. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KQDS-Fox (Duluth, MN): Federal Agency Investigating After Viking Cruise Crew Member Didn't Return To Ship**, Alexandra Burnley, June 13, 2022, 10:00 PM

The search continues for a missing crew member from the Viking cruise ship. It's unclear where the individual is from, but they did not return to the ship after it stopped in Duluth on May 30th. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KWTX-CBS (Waco, TX): Customs officers in Texas bust woman allegedly smuggling bundles of narcotics in rectal cavity**, Kenisha Huitt, June 13, 2022, 6:39 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers working at El Paso area ports of entry over the past week seized "substantial" amounts of fentanyl, cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine, including the seizure of a two bundles of narcotics hidden in a woman's rectal cavity. On June 6, 2022, CBP officers working at the Ysleta border crossing intercepted a vehicle with two occupants attempting to smuggle fentanyl.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ANTITRUST**

**Reuters: U.S. bill to rein in Big Tech backed by dozens of small and big companies**, Diane Bartz, June 13, 2022, 5:51 PM

Dozens of companies and business organizations sent a letter to U.S. Congress members on Monday, urging them to support a bill that would rein in the biggest tech companies such as [Amazon.com](#) (AMZN.O) and Alphabet's (GOOGL.O) Google. Last week, Democratic U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar and lawmakers from both parties said they had the Senate votes needed to pass legislation that would prevent tech platforms, including Apple (AAPL.O) and Facebook , from favoring their own businesses. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Reuters: Qualcomm faces renewed consumer antitrust lawsuit in U.S. court**, Mike Scarella, June 13, 2022, 3:12 PM

Qualcomm Inc was hit with an amended class action in California federal court on Friday from consumers alleging the chipmaker's business conduct forced them to pay artificially inflated prices for mobile phones, tablets and other cellular devices. The civil complaint filed in San Jose on behalf of tens of millions of California consumers marked a second effort in the case to hold Qualcomm liable for alleged market abuses. A U.S. appeals court in September blocked the plaintiffs from pursuing federal antitrust claims and wiped out a nationwide class that was estimated to include up to 250 million members. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: FTC Dems Put PE On Blast In Vet Clinic Merger Settlement**, Bryan Koenig, June 13, 2022, 8:49 PM

The Federal Trade Commission's five members used a unified vote Monday approving a clearance settlement for a \$1.1 billion merger of veterinary clinics to air out simmering disputes over potential concerns about broad corporate concentration, private equity-backed consolidation, and the tools FTC Democrats are using to police them. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Judge OKs \$26M Atty Fee In Apple App Store Antitrust Deal**, Dave Simpson, June 13, 2022, 8:41 PM

A California federal judge gave final approval to Apple's \$100 million deal resolving class antitrust claims by app developers, and she signed off on \$26 million for class counsel attorney fees, splitting the difference between their \$27 million request and the \$25 million "presumptively reasonable" benchmark. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: FTC Probing UnitedHealth's \$5.4B Home Care Buy**, Matthew Perlman, June 13, 2022, 4:56 PM

The Federal Trade Commission has requested more information about UnitedHealth Group unit Optum's \$5.4 billion deal for home and hospice care provider LHC Group as the U.S. Department of Justice pushes its bid to block another Optum transaction. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Democrats ask FTC to tackle online baby formula price gouging**, Rebecca Klar, June 13, 2022, 10:55 AM

Reps. Bobby Scott (D-Va.) and Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.) have asked the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to address online price gouging of baby formula during the nationwide shortage. The Democrats sent a letter on Monday requesting that the agency issue a public advisory to encourage online marketplaces to put measures in place to detect and prevent exploitative practices by third-party vendors selling infant formula. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**Law360: Feds Ask DC Circuit To Revive Obama-Era Logging Rules**, Caleb Symons, June 13, 2022, 9:47 PM

Federal officials have asked the D.C. Circuit to reinstate Obama-era restrictions on logging in western Oregon, arguing that efforts to save an owl species are consistent with a federal law protecting the timber industry and that the federal government cannot be told how much timber must be sold each year. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Sierra Club Sues To Block Utah Coal Mine Expansion**, Morgan Conely, June 13, 2022, 12:16 PM

The Sierra Club is urging a Utah federal court to halt a mine expansion project authorized in the waning days of the Trump Administration, alleging the climate impacts of the project were downplayed in order to push the approvals through before President Joe Biden took office. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Alabama City Denied Early Defeat of Federal Water Pollution Suit**, Maya Earls, June 13, 2022, 11:15 AM

The city of Gadsden, Ala., must face a lawsuit by conservation groups over its alleged failure to maintain its sewer system, even though the state filed a similar lawsuit first, a federal judge in the state ruled. Coosa Riverkeeper's and three other groups' complaint is similar to the complaint filed by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, according to the US District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Conservation Groups Appeal to Block Wyoming Grizzly Killings**, Maya Earls, June 13, 2022, 11:04 AM

The Tenth Circuit should reverse a judge's decision that the federal government can allow the killing of up to 72 grizzly bears in western Wyoming to protect cattle and other livestock, according to a notice of appeal filed in a federal court in that state. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

**Fox: Justice Department says gun trafficker purchased more than 70 firearms in six months, some used in crimes**, Louis Casiano, June 13, 2022, 6:49 PM

A 31-year-old man allegedly purchased more than 70 guns over six months, some of which were found to have been used in crimes in two states and Canada, in a gun trafficking scheme, the Justice Department said Monday. Demontre Antwon Hackworth was indicted last week on charges of dealing firearms without a license and making false statements during the purchase of a firearm. He was arrested Friday by agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in Dallas. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Dallas Morning News](#), [The Hill](#), [KXAS-NBC \(Fort Worth, TX\)](#)

**Louisville Courier Journal (Louisville, KY): This gun-tracing technology is cutting violent crime in Louisville, feds say**, Krista Johnson, June 14, 2022, 5:40 AM

As hundreds of people marched on Louisville's streets during the height of the 2020 racial justice protests, shots rang out. Two police officers were injured. Despite the chaos and commotion on the street that night – Sept. 23, 2020 – police were able to quickly zero in on the source of the gunshots. [...] "It took away the guesswork," said Special Agent Cassandra Mullins with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives — the federal agency that maintains NIBIN. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN): FBI offering \$5,000 reward for information on Red Lake man's murder**, Alex Chhith, June 13, 2022, 8:26 PM

Federal authorities are offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for the murder of a 31-year-old man in Red Lake, Minn. Jacob Hunter was killed at about 11:30 p.m. Oct. 7, 2020, in the East Barton's area of Red Lake, according to a news release from the FBI's Minneapolis office on Monday. The FBI is investigating his death. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Boston Globe: 'The Marshals are not going to stop looking for her.' Suspect in killing of Vt. cyclist in Texas still at large**, Travis Andersen, June 13, 2022, 12:30 PM

The alleged killer of Vermont cyclist Anna Moriah Wilson, a 25-year-old Dartmouth College graduate who was shot to death last month in Austin, Texas, remains at large, and investigators believe the suspect traveled by plane to the East Coast in the days following the slaying. The most recent update on the search for fugitive Kaitlin Marie Armstrong, 34, of Austin, came last week in a statement from the US Marshals Service, which is leading the manhunt. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KABB-Fox (San Antonio, TX): Dognapping suspect wanted on multiple charges arrested after 'extensive manhunt'**, Unattributed, June 14, 2022, 12:00 AM

The manhunt for a wanted fugitive out of New Mexico ended in San Antonio Monday. The FBI captured Jon Green at the VA hospital. Green who also went by the alias Ted Maher, had previously been convicted of deadly arson. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WIAT-CBS (Birmingham, AL): Tuscaloosa Police and FBI investigate bank burglary in downtown**, Tim Reid, June 13, 2022, 11:03 PM

Tuscaloosa Police and the FBI are looking for whoever is responsible for breaking into a local bank. Captain Kip Hart from Tuscaloosa Police says someone broke into the Tuscaloosa County Credit Union sometime during the weekend and stole an undetermined amount of money. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KCTV-CBS (Kansas City, MO): Man accused of killing Eudora girl in crash extradited to Douglas County**, Jackson Hicks, June 13, 2022, 8:50 PM

A man accused of killing a 10-year-old girl in a hit and run crash was arrested earlier this month in Indiana and has been transported back to Kansas. Jose Alfredo Galiano Mesa of Overland Park was arrested June 4 by U.S. Marshals in Martinsville, Indiana. Mesa, 28, is now back in Douglas County and face several charges related to the fatal accident that killed Brooklyn Brouhard and injured her grandfather Barry Larson, both who were from Eudora. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WIS-NBC (Columbia, SC): 4,000 grams of cocaine seized in “safe neighborhood”,** Andrew Fancher, June 13, 2022, 8:31 PM

A federal investigation continues into the arrest of three Florida residents apprehended with 8.8 pounds of cocaine and two stolen firearms within a short-term rental property on Country Road Drive. The arrest warrant was served by the Lexington County Narcotics Enforcement Team, comprised of the Lexington County Sheriff Department (LCSD), South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) on June 2nd. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJBK-Fox (Detroit, MI): Recent shootings in Ecorse, River Rouge lead to FBI partnership for crackdown,** Amy Lange and David Komer, June 13, 2022, 8:21 PM

The city of Ecorse is teaming up with the FBI as the Downriver area has seen an uptick in violence. A shootout - in broad daylight - in River Rouge - and another shooting on board a party bus in Ecorse. Senseless gun violence has police partnering with one another and the FBI to track down these armed and dangerous criminals. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KDKA-CBS (Pittsburgh, PA): Hazelwood preschool teacher allegedly killed by husband remembered as loving mother,** Shelley Bortz , June 13, 2022, 7:50 PM

Police said a preschool teacher was killed by her husband, who was later found dead in Philadelphia. Three small children are without a mother and a father, left to be raised by their grandparents. The family would have celebrated Sharay Newson's birthday and one of her children's on Friday. Instead, they're now planning a funeral and say they'll remember her by her maiden name, Sharay Woodson. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMOV-CBS (St. Louis, MO): FBI speaks exclusively to News 4 about hate crimes as 2 local men face riot charges in Idaho,** Lauren Trager, June 13, 2022, 7:48 PM

Two local men are accused of being part of a white nationalist group that saw 31 members arrested at a pride event in Idaho over the weekend. Asa lives a few houses away from the listed address for Mitchel Wagner in Florissant. She told News 4 she is uncomfortable knowing someone with those views lives so close. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KY3 (Springfield, MO): Ozarks Law Enforcement agencies receive training from FBI and others,** Noah Tucker, June 13, 2022, 7:00 PM

More than 20 law enforcement agencies throughout Missouri and Arkansas traveled to Harrison Monday to receive psychological training from a case study of the 2018 Chris Watts homicide investigation in Colorado. In light of National Law Enforcement week, those who protect and serve gained training on interview and polygraph techniques used during interrogations. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCCO-CBS (Minneapolis, MN): 97 Arrests In Multi-Agency Crackdown On Crime In Minneapolis,** Reg Chapman, June 13, 2022, 5:01 PM

WCCO is giving you an inside look at the teamwork it takes to tackle crime in Minneapolis. Recently, WCCO's Reg Chapman rode along with police for a first-hand look at Operation Safe Summer, the only reporter allowed to do so. [...] Police say they could not have completed this detail successfully without the help of their partners. The Hennepin County Sheriff's office, ATF, DEA, FBI, BCA and Department of Homeland Security were all focused on bringing safety to a city under seize by gun violence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WAVE-NBC (Louisville, KY): Does ATF check on people prohibited from buying guns?,** David Ochoa, June 13, 2022, 4:56 PM

As lawmakers debate new, stricter gun laws in response to mass shootings, many wonder, is it enough? What else can be done to stop the slaughter? Some gun owners believe that before new laws are created, the current ones should be enforced, such as checking on and prosecuting people who lie and

try, which is lying on federal forms to get a gun. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWSB-ABC (Sarasota, FL): Sarasota man arrested in Mexico on child porn charges from 2016,** Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 11:31 AM

A Sarasota man has been arrested by US Marshals in Mexico on child pornography charges from 2016. John Pyle, 65 of Sarasota, was arrested in Mexico over the weekend. He was arrested by the Sarasota Police Department in 2016 on charges of child pornography and failed to show up for court in 2017. U.S. Marshals and the Caribbean Regional Fugitive Task Force Tampa Field Office arrested Pyle and he was extradited to the Miami Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Center in Miami, Florida. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**AP: Tennessee execution pause through 2022 could last longer**, Jonathan Mattise, June 13, 2022, 3:11 PM

After Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee halted a lethal injection in April because he learned the drugs hadn't been tested as required, he ordered an independent investigation and paused all executions through the end of the year. Now, it's clear that Tennessee's problems in following its own lethal injection protocol are more extensive and complicated than state officials have acknowledged — and sorting through them may take longer, possibly years, before an execution that passes constitutional muster can take place. Many of the problems surfaced as part of challenges of Tennessee's execution process by two death row inmates in federal court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Las Vegas Review-Journal: Ruling delayed on quadruple killer Zane Floyd's execution challenge**, Katelyn Newberg, June 13, 2022, 9:08 PM

A federal judge held a hearing Monday but did not determine whether he will dismiss death row inmate Zane Floyd's challenge to his execution. U.S. District Judge Richard Boulware first said in April that the case could be considered moot and dismissed since some of the drugs the state intended to use for Floyd's execution have expired. In May, attorneys on both sides argued in court documents that the case was not moot. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Feds search for smuggled gun at troubled NYC lockup**, Ben Feuerherd, June 13, 2022, 3:11 PM

A firearm may have been smuggled into the Brooklyn federal jail complex that houses a number of high-profile criminals, including convicted sex predators Ghislaine Maxwell and R. Kelly. Officers have been scouring the troubled lockup for the gun for nearly a week, but it has yet to turn up, the federal Bureau of Prisons confirmed Monday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NY Daily News](#)

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**Reuters: VP Harris to meet with law professors ahead of potential overturn of Roe v. Wade**, Jarrett Renshaw, June 13, 2022, 10:51 PM

U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris on Tuesday will meet with constitutional law, privacy, and technology experts to discuss what happens if the Supreme Court overrules the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide, according to a White House official. The discussion will seek to highlight the real-world implications if Roe falls, including in areas such as privacy, contraception, and in vitro fertilization, the official said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Justices rule against detained immigrants seeking release**, Mark Sherman, June 13, 2022, 2:59 PM

The Supreme Court has ruled against immigrants who are seeking their release from long periods of detention while they fight deportation orders. In two cases decided Monday, the court said that the immigrants, who fear persecution if sent back to their native countries, have no right under a federal law to a bond hearing at which they could argue for their freedom no matter how long they are held.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Law360](#), [NYT](#), [SCOTUSblog](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**AP: Supreme Court rules against Navajo Nation member**, Jessica Gresko, June 13, 2022, 2:00 PM

The Supreme Court ruled Monday that Native Americans prosecuted in certain tribal courts can also be prosecuted based on the same incident in federal court, which can result in longer sentences. The 6-3 ruling is in keeping with an earlier ruling from the 1970s that said the same about a more widely used type of tribal court. The case before the justices involved a Navajo Nation member, Merle Denezpi, accused of rape. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Law360](#), [SCOTUSblog](#)

**Reuters: U.S. Supreme Court takes no action on Bayer bid to nix weedkiller suits**, Lawrence Hurley, June 13, 2022, 1:43 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday took no action on Bayer AG's ([BAYGn.DE](#)) bid to dismiss legal claims by customers who contend its Roundup weedkiller causes cancer as the German company seeks to avoid potentially billions of dollars in damages. The case was not mentioned on a list issued by the court on Monday as it decided on whether to hear pending appeals, raising at least the possibility that the justices are considering hearing it. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Post: [ANALYSIS] Double Jeopardy: Barrett Defeats Gorsuch on Tribal Law**, Noah Feldman, June 13, 2022, 6:07 PM

In a noteworthy 6-3 decision written by Justice Amy Coney Barrett, the Supreme Court has allowed the federal government to retry and reconvict a member of an Indian tribe who was previously tried and convicted in a special federal administrative court for Native Americans. Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote a stinging dissent calling this a clear violation of double jeopardy. The dissent solidifies Gorsuch's role as the court's staunchest defender of tribal sovereignty, one willing to call out historical injustices against American Indians. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NBC: Supreme Court won't hear appeal of Texas death row inmate**, Pete Williams, June 13, 2022, 2:06 PM

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to take up the appeal of a man sentenced to death in Texas even though it earlier found that his lawyer ignored "an apparent tidal wave" of evidence that could have spared him the death penalty. In 2008, 20-year-old Terence Andrus unsuccessfully tried to carjack a vehicle in a grocery store parking lot while under the influence of marijuana laced with PCP, also known as angel dust. He shot and killed the driver and a person in another car that was approaching. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [SCOTUSblog](#)

**Law360: EPA Tells High Court Wetlands Project Needed Water Permit**, Clark Mindock, June 13, 2022, 4:48 PM

The Biden administration has told the U.S. Supreme Court a ruling in favor of Idaho landowners who want to build a home on wetlands without a Clean Water Act permit would undermine key protections under the law. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**SCOTUSblog: Court opts for plain meaning in dispute over procedural rules for relief from erroneous judgments**, Ronald Mann, June 13, 2022, 1:54 PM

The Supreme Court on Monday clarified the meaning of "mistake" in the federal procedural rule that allows litigants to seek relief from erroneous final judgments. In an 8-1 opinion in *Kemp v. United States*, the court ruled that "all mistakes of law made by a judge" constitute "mistakes" under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 60(b)(1). [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Justices Say Navajo Man Didn't Face Double Jeopardy**, Andrew Westney, June 13, 2022, 10:41 AM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday ruled that a Navajo Nation member wasn't subjected to double jeopardy when he was convicted on sexual assault charges in federal court following a prosecution in a federally funded Court of Indian Offenses, saying that the Constitution doesn't block successive prosecutions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**KOSU-NPR (Oklahoma City, OK): Will the Supreme Court decision in Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta leave states with an unfunded mandate?**, Allison Herrera, June 13, 2022, 6:07 PM

Should the state of Oklahoma have jurisdiction over non-Indians who commit crimes on reservations? That's the question the U.S. Supreme Court is considering. There's a federal law already on the books that would allow the state to have this right. So why is the case before the Court? [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**AP: Compounding pharmacy agrees to stop distributing some drugs**, Unattributed, June 13, 2022, 5:26 PM

A Vermont compounding pharmacy has agreed to stop producing adulterated and misbranded drugs, the U.S. Justice Department said Monday. Edge Pharma of Colchester and its owners and operators signed a consent decree with the Justice Department on Friday that requires Edge Pharma Inc. of Colchester to take specific remedial measures to ensure its products are safe and demonstrate to the Food and Drug Administration that they will comply with federal law. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Judge Breyer Pitches Law Chat As SF Opioid Trial Nears End**, Bonnie Eslinger, June 13, 2022, 11:50 PM

With a high-stakes bench trial winding down over San Francisco's claims that Teva, Allergan, Anda and Walgreens illegally fueled the city's opioid epidemic, U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer judge indicated Monday he'd like to schedule a discussion exploring the law governing the case separate from the facts presented at trial. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Ohio Counties Open To Lowering Opioid Damages Request**, Eric Eisig, June 13, 2022, 10:45 PM

Two Ohio counties told a federal judge Monday they still want billions to address the fallout from the opioid epidemic from three large pharmacy chains that a jury found contributed to the crisis, although the counties also said that questions about the size of the impacted population could warrant a smaller payout. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**WSJ: Senate Negotiators Move Cautiously to Turn Gun Framework Into Legislation**, Natalie Andrews and Cameron McWhirter, June 13, 2022, 5:24 PM

Over the weekend, a bipartisan group of senators struck a deal to reduce gun violence after a series of mass shootings. Now, the lawmakers need to stick together to sell it to colleagues with sharply different stances on gun ownership to pass any legislation into law this summer. The 20 senators, 10 from each party, are looking to pass what could be the broadest federal legislation on guns in decades. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NBC](#), [NYT](#), [USA Today](#)

**CBS: Congressional Republicans target Hunter Biden's Hollywood mega-lawyer**, Catherine Herridge, Graham Kates, Matthew Mosk, June 13, 2022, 5:07 PM

Republicans in Congress want to know why a high-powered Hollywood attorney lent Hunter Biden millions of dollars while providing him legal and media assistance. In a letter on Sunday, Rep. James Comer of Kentucky requested documents from attorney Kevin Morris related to a reportedly \$2 million loan designed to help the president's son pay back taxes, as well as any records related to the Federal Election Commission or communications with the White House. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: House to vote on security bill for Supreme Court family members**, Mychael Schnell June 13, 2022, 10:26 PM

The House is scheduled to vote on a bill Tuesday that seeks to expand security protections for family members of Supreme Court justices. The bill, dubbed the Supreme Court Police Parity Act, passed in the Senate by unanimous consent last month, which required that all 100 senators sign off on the measure in order for it to clear without holding a formal vote. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: JUNE 13, 2022**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- The S and P fell to its lowest point this year as investors come to terms with consumer prices rising at their fastest pace in 40 years. The drop is just the latest in a string of downturns for the markets. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Former Attorney General William Barr told the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol that then-President Trump was "detached from reality" if he believed false fraud allegations. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A deal in the Senate could lead to the most sweeping gun reform legislation in decades. While critics say the framework agreement doesn't go far enough, it's a rare moment of bipartisanship in a gridlocked Washington. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Dozens of alleged members of white supremacist group Patriot Front were arrested on suspicion of plotting to violently disrupt a Pride parade in Idaho. New video shows police swarming the U-Haul truck where the suspects were crammed inside. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- "Bull Market's Winners Dragged the S&P 500 Into a Bear Market" [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]
- "For Its Next Zero Covid Chapter, China Turns to Mass Testing" [[NYT](#)]
- "Crypto Plunge Puts a Damper on Deal Making" [[WSJ](#), [WaPo](#)]
- "For Ukrainian troops, a need arises: Javelin customer service" [[WaPo](#)]

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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Settlement Investigator Sees Red Flags In EB-5 Fraud Deal  
**To:** O'Herron, Margy (ODAG)  
**Sent:** June 14, 2022 5:14 AM (UTC-04:00)



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Tuesday, June 14, 2022

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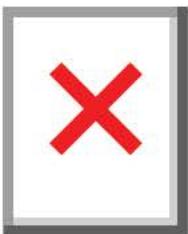
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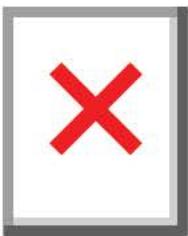
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**Subject:** Abbreviated AM Clips

## MORNING HEADLINES

- "Russia warns U.S. to stop arming Ukraine," [[WaPo](#)]
- "Biden to Nominate Barr as Top Fed Banking Regulator," [[WSJ](#)]
- "Ukraine Live Updates: Russia Appears Close to Capturing Mariupol," [[NYT](#)]
- "Tunisia among countries seeing major economic consequences from the war in Ukraine," [[WaPo](#)]
- "F.D.A. Authorizes First Coronavirus Breath Test," [[NYT](#)]

## US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS

***Washington Times: Biden administration settles Black Lives Matter lawsuits in D.C., agrees to change policing policy***, Alex Swoyer, April 14, 2022 11:30 AM

The Biden administration has settled lawsuits brought by Black Lives Matter and racial justice activists over protests near the White House in 2020, agreeing to implement new policies within 30 days for policing demonstrations. [...] "The federal government is committed to the highest standards for protecting civil rights and civil liberties in any federal law enforcement response to public demonstrations," Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta said.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Washington DC\)](#); [Washington Examiner](#)

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**AP: Brooklyn subway attack suspect is jailed without bail**, Tom Hays, Bobby Caina Calvan And Jennifer Peltz, April 14, 2022, 7:30 PM

The man charged with opening fire in a Brooklyn subway car full of people was jailed without bail Thursday as prosecutors told a judge he terrified all of New York City. Brought into a Brooklyn federal court without handcuffs, a subdued Frank James, 62, softly answered standard questions about whether he understood the charges and the purpose of the brief hearing. His lawyer later asked the public not to prejudge him. [Continue Reading] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [BuzzFeed](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [NY Post](#), [Newsday](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#)

**AP: Russian legislator and 2 aides criminally charged in US**, Eric Tucker And Larry Neumeister, April 14, 2022, 2:30 PM

A Russian legislator and two aides pushed a covert propaganda campaign aimed at winning U.S. government support for Russia's foreign policy agenda, including moves against Ukraine, according to a Justice Department indictment unsealed on Thursday. The effort was part of what American officials describe as a broader Russian government objective to sway public opinion in its favor, to sow discord in American institutions and to drive wedges between the U.S. and European allies. [Continue Reading] See also: [Axios](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Courthouse News](#), [CNBC](#), [Law360](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**AP: Brit convicted as ‘Beatle’ in Islamic State beheadings trial**, Matthew Barakat, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

A jury convicted a British national Thursday for his role in an Islamic State group hostage-taking scheme that took roughly two dozen Westerners captive a decade ago, resulting in the deaths of four Americans, three of whom were beheaded. In convicting El Shafee Elsheikh, the jury concluded that he was one of the notorious “Beatles,” Islamic State captors nicknamed for their accents and known for their cruelty — torturing and beating prisoners, forcing them to fight each other until they collapsed and even making them sing cruel song parodies. Surviving hostages testified that the Beatles delighted themselves rewriting “Hotel California” as “Hotel Osama” and making them sing the refrain “You will never leave.”

[Continue Reading] See also: [ABC](#), [CBS](#), [Guardian](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Seattle Times](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man blaming Trump’s ‘orders’ for riot actions found guilty**, Michael Kulzman, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

An Ohio man who claimed he was only “following presidential orders” from Donald Trump when he stormed the U.S. Capitol was convicted Thursday by a jury that took less than three hours to reject his novel defense for obstructing Congress from certifying Joe Biden’s presidential victory. The federal jury also found Dustin Byron Thompson, 38, guilty of all five of the other charges in his indictment, including stealing a coat rack from an office inside the Capitol during the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The maximum sentence for the obstruction count, the lone felony, would be 20 years imprisonment. [Continue Reading] See also: [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#), [Axios](#), [CBS](#), [Cleveland Plain Dealer \(Cleveland, OH\)](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [HuffPost](#), [Insider](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#), [Newsweek](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [WBNS-CBS \(Columbus, OH\)](#)

**AP: Pressure on US to give Ukraine more intelligence on Russia**, Nomaan Merchant and James Laporta, April 14, 2022, 1:00 PM

President Joe Biden has called Russia’s war on Ukraine a genocide and accused Vladimir Putin of committing war crimes. But his administration has struggled with how much intelligence it is willing to give the Ukrainian forces that are trying to stop the Russian leader. Since the war began in late February, the Biden administration has made multiple changes to a classified directive that governs what U.S. agencies are supposed to share with Ukraine.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: FBI says North Korean hackers stole more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency in single hack**, Sean Lyngaas, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The FBI on Thursday blamed hackers associated with the North Korean government for stealing more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency last month from a video gaming company -- the latest in a string of audacious cyber heists tied to Pyongyang. "Through our investigation we were able to confirm Lazarus Group and APT38, cyber actors associated with the DPRK, are responsible for the theft of \$620 million in Ethereum reported on March 29th," the FBI said in a statement. "DPRK" is an abbreviation for North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Ethereum is a technology platform associated with a type of cryptocurrency. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [Axios](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

**ABC: Judge slams Trump as 'charlatan' after jury finds Jan. 6 rioter guilty on all counts**, Alexander Mallin, April 14, 2022 5:32 PM

A federal judge in D.C. on Thursday delivered a scathing rebuke of former President Donald Trump and expressed dismay over the state of American politics just moments after a jury found a defendant charged in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot guilty on all charges. "You know, I think our democracy is in trouble," Judge Reggie Walton said at the conclusion of the third jury trial for a defendant charged in the Capitol assault. "Because unfortunately, we have charlatans like our former president, who doesn't in my view really care about democracy, but only about power. And as a result of that, it's tearing this country apart." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR, Up First: [AUDIO] Russian Ship Sinks, Impact of Sanctions, Musk's Twitter Bid**, April 15, 2022, 5:49 AM

Russia's flagship cruiser, the Moskva, sank in the Black Sea after an explosion on the vessel (1:26). Russian President Vladimir Putin says Western sanctions aimed at punishing Russia over its actions in Ukraine have failed (5:13). And, Elon Musk is offering to buy Twitter for \$43 billion dollars (8:52). [\[Listen\]](#)

**Yahoo: Case against Oath Keepers hinges on rare use of seditious conspiracy charges**, Mark Hosenball, April 15, 2022, 4:00 AM

In the weeks after the 2020 election, Stewart Rhodes, founder and leader of the far-right Oath Keepers militia group, had some stark advice for then-President Donald Trump: Invoke a 19th century law known as the Insurrection Act and call out the National Guard to crack down on "domestic traitors" and reverse the "fraudulent" victory of Joe Biden. "The very survival of our nation as a free Constitutional Republic hangs in the balance," Rhodes and his domestic partner Kellye SoRelle wrote in an open letter to Trump. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Judge tells Capitol rioter supervision is necessary to protect democracy from 'people like you'**, Emily Zantow, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A federal judge imposed a prison sentence plus house arrest and probation on a Tennessee man who stormed the Capitol, saying the government wants to keep an eye on people like him as the 2024 presidential election approaches. U.S. District Chief Judge Beryl Howell spoke at the Thursday hearing about the "conundrum" many sentencing judges are facing as they decide how to sentence a nonviolent Capitol riot defendant like Blake Reed, who pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of entering and remaining in a restricted building. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR: In a D.C. jail, Jan. 6 defendants awaiting trial are forming bitter factions**, Tom Dreisbach, April 14, 2022 4:20 PM

Inside the Washington, D.C., jail, where a group of defendants charged in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol have been held for as long as a year or more, a bitter divide is growing, current and former inmates say. A combination of that intense proximity, the stress of criminal cases and a fight over more than a million dollars donated to support the defendants has contributed to the rift. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NPR-2](#)

**WWYF-Fox (New York, NY): How cybercriminals could retaliate for sanctions on Russian oligarchs**, Kevin Corke, April 14, 2022 1:56 PM

The United States is one of many countries imposing strict sanctions on Russia after its invasion of Ukraine. In a speech on April 6, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said a message for anyone who "enable[s] the Russian regime" through criminal conduct. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: AP sources: Trump aide Stephen Miller to speak to 1/6 panel**, Eric Tucker and Farnoush Amiri, April 14, 2022, 5:30 PM

Stephen Miller, who served as a top aide to President Donald Trump, was being questioned Thursday by the congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection, according to two people familiar with the matter. Miller was a senior adviser for policy during the Trump administration and a central figure in many of the Republican's decisions. He had resisted previous efforts by the committee, filing a lawsuit last month seeking to quash a subpoena for his phone records. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#)

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: LA political donor gets 30 years in prison for fetish deaths**, Brian Melley, April 14, 2022, 5:00 PM

Ed Buck told his neighbors that the steady stream of young Black men leaving his West Hollywood apartment were social work clients. What really happened behind closed doors, which he referred to as the "gates of hell," was far more sinister. The men did not need Buck's help — they needed to be saved from him, said federal prosecutors in Los Angeles said. Some barely escaped with their lives. Two men didn't. Buck, 67, a wealthy gay white donor to Democratic, LGBTQ and animal rights causes, was sentenced Thursday in U.S. District Court to 30 years in federal prison for injecting two men with lethal doses of methamphetamine as part of a fetish that turned fatal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Parents get 8 weeks in prison for college bribery scandal**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A California couple was sentenced to eight weeks in prison on Thursday after pleading guilty to paying \$25,000 to cheat on their son's college admissions test. Dr. Gregory Colburn, 63, and Amy Colburn, 52, of Palo Alto, were the 16th and 17th parents to be sentenced in the sprawling bribery scandal. The couple abruptly pleaded guilty in January — six weeks before they were to go on trial — to money laundering and mail fraud conspiracy charges. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KPIX-CBS \(San Francisco, CA\)](#), [WWLP-NBC \(Springfield, MA\)](#)

**AP: Former Long Island official Mangano sentenced to 12 years**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

Former Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano, once one of Long Island's most powerful elected officials, was sentenced Thursday to 12 years in prison for what a

prosecutor described as "widespread corruption and dishonesty." Mangano, who was convicted in 2019 on corruption charges related to his relationship with businessman Harendra Singh, defended his actions at his sentencing in federal court on Long Island, according to Newsday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Voice \(Nassau, NY\)](#), [Newsday, NY Post, Patch \(Mineola, NY\)](#)

**NBC: California man pleads guilty to threat to kill Rep. Matt Gaetz**, Phil Helsel, April 14, 2022, 9:58 PM

A California man pleaded guilty Thursday to threatening Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, federal prosecutors said. Eugene Huelsman, 59, left a voicemail at Gaetz's Florida office on Jan. 9, 2021, in which he said, in part, "I'm gonna put a bullet in you" and called him a "tyrant," according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Pensacola News Journal, WKRG-CBS \(Mobile, AL\)](#)

**CBS: Tulsa man convicted of drug trafficking and gun charges**, Alex Keller, April 14, 2022, 4:38 PM

A cocaine trafficker from Tulsa was convicted at trial of drug and gun charges, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Chad E. Meacham announced Friday. After three days of trial and seven hours of deliberation, a federal jury in Dallas found Roberto Chairez, 33, guilty of one count of attempted possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime on April 14, 2022. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Man convicted in Colombia of murdering his wife arrested after 27 years on the run**, FBI says, Melissa Alonso, April 14, 2022, 12:00 PM

A man who fled to the US from Colombia after the murder his wife in 1994 was arrested Wednesday in Massachusetts, the FBI said in a news release. William Hernando Usma Acosta, 61, had been living in Belmont under the alias Carlos Alberto Rendon after entering the US illegally in 1995, authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10 Indicted In Alleged \$100M 'Pump-And-Dump' Stock Scheme**, Gina Kim, April 14, 2022, 9:24 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice on Thursday unsealed three indictments in New York federal court against 10 individuals across the globe for allegedly running a yearslong "pump-and-dump" stock scheme that prosecutors say netted more than \$100 million in illegal proceeds. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***The Oregonian (Portland, OR): Portland chapter president of Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, fellow member get life sentences***, Maxine Bernstein, April 14, 2022, 7:21 PM

A judge Thursday sentenced Mark Leroy Dencklau, president of the Portland chapter of the Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, and club member Chad Leroy Erickson to life in prison for the torture-style killing of an ex-club member. U.S. District Judge Michael W. Mosman issued the mandatory minimum sentences for the two men in separate, back-to-back hearings in federal court in Portland. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KGW-NBC \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KOIN-CBS \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Statesman Journal \(Salem, OR\)](#)

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: Juvenile justice agency agrees to reform main prison**, Michelle Lieu, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice announced Thursday that it will reform its beleaguered central prison for youths under a settlement agreement with the federal government. The agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice follows a 2020 report from the federal agency that ordered the state to make changes at the Broad River Road Complex in Columbia or face a lawsuit. Federal investigators found state officials were violating the rights of incarcerated youths by failing to protect them from fights, forcing them to spend days or weeks in isolation for minor offenses and failing to get them mental health when they threaten to harm or kill themselves. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Post and Courier \(Charleston, SC\)](#), [WOLO-ABC \(Columbia, SC\)](#)

**CNN: Civil rights groups sue Texas county over alleged 'discriminatory' map**, Fredreka Schouten, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A coalition of civil rights groups in Texas filed a federal lawsuit Thursday against Galveston County, alleging that the county's redistricting plan intentionally discriminates against a growing minority population in the Gulf Coast community. The complaint, shared first with CNN, marks the second lawsuit that seeks to overturn maps approved by the Republican majority on the county's governing body. Last month, the Justice Department filed a federal lawsuit against the county on similar grounds -- in a redistricting dispute that has garnered national attention. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Abortion ban after 15 weeks signed into law in Florida**, Anthony Izaguirre, April 14, 2022, 11:50 PM

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a 15-week abortion ban into law Thursday as the state joined a growing conservative push to restrict access to the procedure ahead of a U.S. Supreme Court decision that could roll back abortion rights in America. "This will represent the most significant protections for life that have been enacted in this state in a generation," DeSantis said as he signed the bill at an evangelical church in the city of Kissimmee.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Texas moves to ease border gridlock over 'sense of urgency'**, Acacia Coronado and Paul J. Weber, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The logjam of trucks at the U.S.-Mexico border finally began breaking Thursday after nearly a week as Texas Gov. Greg Abbott eased off his latest dramatic action over immigration that has gridlocked some of the world's busiest trade ports and taken a mounting economic toll. "There is a sense of urgency now to reach deals that did not exist before," Abbott said. The two-term Republican governor, who for days has allowed commercial trucks to backup for miles into Mexico after requiring them to stop for additional inspections in Texas, lifted that order for bridges in El Paso and other cities after announcing a new security agreement with the neighboring Mexican states of Chihuahua and Coahuila. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [WSJ](#)

**WaPo: Democrats in tough races revolt over Biden administration border move**, Mike DeBonis, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

President Biden is facing a growing mutiny from Democratic candidates — including five vulnerable senators — who are questioning his administration's decision to lift a pandemic

health order that has drastically curtailed migrants' ability to seek asylum at the southern border. The internal dissension is an early acknowledgment from many Democrats that worries about border security and immigration could become a major obstacle for them in this year's midterm elections. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] Greg Abbott is starving his own voters to own the libs**, Catherine Rampell, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Starve your own voters to own the libs. That appears to be Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's latest strategy for reaching the White House, given his decision to deliberately snarl traffic on the U.S. southern border — leaving food to rot and critical components for cars and other manufacturing to remain inaccessible to U.S. companies and consumers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Fox: Texas border agents encounter boy, 4, among suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into US**, Bradford Betz, April 14, 2022, 9:33 PM

Texas border agents say they encountered a 4-year-old boy early Tuesday morning among a group of suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into the U.S. The value of the seized marijuana was later determined to be worth more than \$93,000, according to a press release from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). After midnight Tuesday, Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol (RGV) agents and Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers spotted a group of more than a dozen people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border near Roma, Texas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NBC: Top border official hits back at Texas Gov. Abbott for busing migrants to Washington**, D.C., Dareh Gregorian, April 14, 2022, 7:08 PM

The head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection criticized Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Thursday for busing migrants from the southern border to Washington, D.C., without consulting with federal officials. "Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities," CBP Commissioner Chris Magnus said in a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 18 Additional States Join Suit To Keep Pandemic Border Block**, Mike LaSusa, April 14, 2022, 4:32 PM

Eighteen additional states on Thursday signed on to a lawsuit started by Arizona, Louisiana and Missouri to challenge the Biden administration's decision to wind down a pandemic-related order known as Title 42 that allows the quick expulsion of migrants arriving at U.S. land borders. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Feds blast Texas for shipping illegal immigrants to D.C.**, Stephen Dinan, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A senior Homeland Security official chided Texas Gov. Greg Abbott for busing illegal immigrants to Washington, saying Thursday that the Republican governor was hurting the government's efforts to coordinate how the migrants are released. "Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities," said Chris Magnus, head of Customs and Border Protection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Border Patrol agent 'whip' probe done, produced 500-page report: union**, MaryAnn Martinez, April 14, 2022, 6:35 PM

The Biden administration has compiled a 500-page report on the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants last year and could release it any day now, the top union official told The Post late Thursday. The report is the outcome of the administrative investigation into the agents' actions conducted by Customs and Border

Protection's Office of Personal Responsibility (ORP). The agents have been cleared of criminal wrongdoing and won't face charges, but could still lose their jobs if they are found to have broken agency policies. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**Bloomberg: Third Time's The Charm in Chicken Price Fixing Trial, DOJ Says**, Bob Van Voris, April 14, 2022 4:27 PM

The U.S.'s top antitrust enforcer, who flew from Washington to Denver at the behest of a skeptical judge, struggled to convince the court that the Justice Department will be successful in its third trial over charges of collusion in the chicken industry. "We know that the evidence couldn't persuade 12 people," U.S. District Judge Philip Brimmer said at a contentious hearing Thursday, referring to previous mistrials in the case. "We've seen it happen twice." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOJ Wants More Info On Frontier's Bid For Spirit Airlines**, Carolina Bolado, April 14, 2022, 4:13 PM

Spirit Airlines revealed Thursday that the U.S. Department of Justice has requested additional information with respect to its proposed \$6.6 billion merger with Frontier Group, signaling close scrutiny by antitrust regulators. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Google Faces Antitrust Suit Over Maps Monopoly, Waze Deal**, Mike Leonard, April 14, 2022 3:59 PM

Alphabet Inc. is facing federal antitrust litigation in San Francisco over claims that it leverages its dominance of the GPS navigation market—through Google Maps, Waze, and related services—to lock app developers into the “Google ecosystem” and hit them with “egregious” price hikes. The lawsuit accuses Google of capturing 81% of the market by offering Maps for free, exploiting its data “treasure trove” to cement its monopoly, placing restrictive terms on developers that incorporate its functions, and using other services like search and YouTube to favor Maps by “self-preferencing.” [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: DOJ's First Criminal Wage-Fixing Case Ends Mostly in Defeat**, Ben Penn, April 14, 2022, 1:33 PM

A jury found two defendants in the Justice Department's first criminal wage-fixing case not guilty of violating the Sherman Act while finding one defendant guilty on a single count of obstruction of Federal Trade Commission proceedings. Neeraj Jindal, the owner of a physical therapy staffing company, was found guilty Thursday of one of three charges while the jury in the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Texas found co-defendant John Rodgers not guilty on all counts. Rodgers was Jindal's clinical director. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also:

[Law360](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: FBI Records Released in Case of Man Who Stole Sea-Tac Plane**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:17 PM

Newly released FBI documents show the Sumner man who stole an airplane from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in 2018 seemed unsettled to his loved ones before the theft, which ended when he crashed the plane on Pierce County's Ketron Island. The records say 28-year-old Alaska Airlines ground worker Richard Russell entered the empty turboprop passenger aircraft about 7:30 p.m. Aug. 10 as it sat on an airport tarmac and flew it for about an hour and 10 minutes, The News Tribune reported. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: 'She Was Not Trash': Body Found in Indiana Is Identified After 30 Years**, Livia Albeck-Ripka, April 14, 2022, 8:00 PM

For three decades, she was known only as Jane Doe, ever since her body was found dumped on the embankment of an interstate highway in Indiana in May 1992. [...] She was found off Interstate 65 in Washington Township, northwest of Indianapolis, wearing only a light green tank top and anklet socks, according to an F.B.I. report, just a month before her 18th birthday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Bloomberg: [EDITORIAL] Biden Moves Forward on Gun Violence*, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 8:00 AM

After much talk and little action on guns, President Joe Biden finally took a few small steps forward this week. Actually getting a handle on the country's epidemic of gun violence will require Congress to do its job. On Monday, Biden nominated Steve Dettelbach, a former federal prosecutor, to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF. He also laid out a new initiative to combat "ghost guns," or homemade firearms that lack serial numbers. It's about time on both counts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**MSNBC: [OPINION] Subway shooting makes GOP's stances on ATF and 'ghost guns' look worse**, Frank Figliuzzi, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Futility and fury. That's what I experienced in the 24-hour period starting Monday morning. It began with President Joe Biden's attempt to do something — anything — to counter gun violence and ended with a gunman in a Brooklyn, New York, subway firing 33 rounds, hitting 10 people, with another 13 injured. I appeared on MSNBC on Monday to discuss Biden's announcement of new restrictions on the manufacture and sale of "ghost guns" and the announcement of his second candidate to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## US SUPREME COURT

*NYT, The Daily: [AUDIO] 27 Years in Solitary Confinement*, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

In the 1990s, Dennis Wayne Hope committed a series of armed robberies. After proving adept at escaping prison, he was put in isolation. He has been there for nearly three decades. His case, if the Supreme Court agrees to hear it, could answer the fundamental question of how long people can be held in solitary confinement. [[Listen](#)]

**USA Today: Poll: Most Americans see politics over substance in Supreme Court confirmation process**, John Fritze, Chelsey Cox, April 15, 2022, 5:02 AM

The arduous process of confirming a Supreme Court nominee has turned into one of the most significant spectacles in American politics – at once a job interview, law lecture and television campaign ad that plays out over four days. With Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's historic confirmation in the books, a new poll suggests a majority of Americans are uncertain whether it's worth all the fuss. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: High Court OKs SG To Argue Over Native Criminal Jurisdiction**, Hailey Konatth, April 14, 2022, 9:48 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday said it would allow the U.S. Solicitor General to weigh in on whether Oklahoma and other states have the authority to prosecute non-Native Americans for crimes against Native Americans in Indian Country, granting a motion to participate in oral arguments. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**NYT: With Jackson Headed to Supreme Court, New Judicial Battles Loom**, Carl Hulse  
April 14, 2022 4:00 PM

The partisan clash that concluded with the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court is hardly the end of judicial showdowns in the Senate. With control of the chamber up for grabs in November, Democrats, led by Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, intend to push through as many Biden administration judicial nominees as they can this year. Taking a page from Republicans, who used their majority to reshape the federal courts with a packed pipeline of conservative judges, Democrats plan to install a racially diverse set of jurists with nontraditional backgrounds before the G.O.P. has the chance to win a majority and slam the brakes on President Biden's court picks in 2023.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**The Hill: Timeline for marijuana legalization bill slips in Senate**, Aris Folley, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Democratic senators leading a push to legalize marijuana say they are now on track to introduce legislation before recess in August, after initially announcing plans to file a comprehensive reform bill later this month. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) — who is heading the effort along with Sens. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) — said in a statement on Thursday that he's proud of the progress senators have made in "bringing this vital bill closer to its official introduction" before the recess in early August.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Marijuana Moment: U.S. Attorney General Would Be Required To Create Marijuana Commission To Advise On Legalization Under New Bipartisan Bill**, Kyle Jaegere, April 14, 2022 12:00 PM

A bipartisan group of congressional lawmakers filed a bill on Thursday that would direct the attorney general to create a commission charged with making recommendations on a regulatory system for marijuana that models what's currently in place for alcohol. Reps. Dave Joyce (R-OH), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and Brian Mast (R-FL) are teaming up on what's titled the Preparing Regulators Effectively for a Post-Prohibition Adult-Use Regulated Environment Act (PREPARE) Act—an incremental reform meant to inform comprehensive cannabis policy changes in the future. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## ADMINISTRATION

**Reuters: Reducing inequality, hiking minimum wage could boost U.S. economy -White House**, Andrea Shalal, April 14, 2022, 10:20 AM

Boosting enforcement of antidiscrimination and antitrust laws, raising the federal minimum wage and higher unionization rates could substantially boost U.S. economic growth, a new report by President Joe Biden's top economic advisers concludes. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CONGRESS

**WaPo: Democrats' redistricting gains hit a roadblock: The Supreme Court**, Colby

Itkowitz and David Weigel, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

Wisconsin Democrats thought they had won the redistricting war. They took over the governor's office, competed in and won state judicial races and filed lawsuits as early as they could, determined to prevent another cycle of Republican-leaning maps. After a battle between Democratic Gov. Tony Evers and Republican legislators, a conservative judge sided with Evers, rejecting a Republican-drawn legislative map in favor of one that was better for Democrats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Senate GOP to force vote on nixing Biden's ghost guns rule**, Jordain Carney,

April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Senate Republicans said on Thursday they will force a vote to try to nix President Biden's "ghost guns" rule, pushing a fight over gun laws onto the chamber's agenda. Republican Sen. Ted Cruz (Texas) said that he will introduce a resolution along with Sens. James Lankford (Okla.), Mike Braun (Ind.) and Mike Lee (Utah) to block the Justice Department regulation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Here are the 41 US lawmakers who were not sanctioned by Russia**, Lexi

Lonas, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

On Wednesday, Russia sanctioned all but 41 House members in a diplomatic tit-for-tat with the United States amid mounting tensions over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Those on the sanctions list included 398 House lawmakers, including delegates from U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Daily News: Rep. Ritchie Torres takes ghost gun fight to Congress after DOJ rule**,

Tim Balk, April 14, 2022 10:01 PM

As the Biden administration works to reel in the raging spread of so-called ghost guns with a new Justice Department rule, Rep. Ritchie Torres said Thursday that he was taking aim at the lethal kit-assembled weapons by taking the fight to Capitol Hill. Torres, a Bronx Democrat, said he plans to introduce legislation on Monday that would allow private parties to sue manufacturers of ghost gun parts after shootings. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: APRIL 14, 2022

**ABC: World News Tonight with Lindsey Davis**

**CBS: Evening News with Major Elliott Garrett**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Ukraine says an anti-ship missile sank a lead Russian warship in its Black Sea fleet. While U.S. officials can't confirm if Ukraine struck it with its own missiles, the sunken ship marks a significant loss for Russian forces. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The Brooklyn subway shooting suspect made his first appearance in federal court today and did not enter a plea deal. He is being held without bail on charges of conducting a violent attack against a mass transportation system. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- New bodycam video released from Grand Rapids, Michigan shows another deadly police shooting of an unarmed Black man. The death of 26-year-old Patrick Lyoya has sparked outrage and calls for accountability nationwide. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Elon Musk has unveiled a public bid to buy Twitter and turn the site into the world's "platform for free speech." Musk recently became the company's largest shareholder and is now offering \$43 billion in cash for the social media site. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- Pfizer is preparing to seek authorization to expand COVID booster shots to kids five to 11 years old. New data shows its booster for young children helps healthy kids increase virus-fighting antibodies. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Communities across the south are cleaning up after an outbreak of severe storms. The mayor of Louisville, Kentucky declared an emergency after at least one tornado was confirmed in the area. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A federal jury in Virginia convicted a former British citizen for his role in the abduction, torture and death of several western hostages, including some Americans. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law a ban on most abortions after 15 weeks, making the state the latest to further restrict abortion access. The law is modeled after a similar one in Mississippi that's currently being considered by the Supreme Court. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- More people are struggling to buy homes as mortgage rates rise to the highest levels in over a decade. That's why one company believes it has a solution to the housing crisis: 3D-printed homes. [[CBS](#)]
- El Salvador's crackdown on gang violence is sparking concerns that President Nayib Bukele is trying to silence opposition and ignore human rights. [[NBC](#)]

**From:** Watson, Theresa (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Dickerson, Juie (OAG)  
**Sent:** April 15, 2022 6:52 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** April 15, 2022 at 6:51:00 AM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
April 15, 2022  
7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: APRIL 15, 2022**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

*Washington Times: Biden administration settles Black Lives Matter lawsuits in D.C.,*

**agrees to change policing policy**, Alex Swoyer, April 14, 2022 11:30 AM

The Biden administration has settled lawsuits brought by Black Lives Matter and racial justice activists over protests near the White House in 2020, agreeing to implement new policies within 30 days for policing demonstrations. [...] “The federal government is committed to the highest standards for protecting civil rights and civil liberties in any federal law enforcement response to public demonstrations,” Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Washington DC\)](#)

**Washington Examiner: DOJ updates guidelines for responding to protests after Lafayette Square lawsuits**, Cami Mondeaux, April 14, 2022 11:07 AM

Federal law enforcement agencies have new guidelines and policies that limit the use of nonlethal force on protesters, according to an announcement by the Justice Department on Wednesday. The rules require Park Police and Secret Service members to display clearly visible identification and make audible warnings before attempting to disperse a crowd. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: U.S. Attorney General Would Be Required To Create Marijuana Commission To Advise On Legalization Under New Bipartisan Bill**, Kyle Jaegere, April 14, 2022 12:00 PM

A bipartisan group of congressional lawmakers filed a bill on Thursday that would direct the attorney general to create a commission charged with making recommendations on a regulatory system for marijuana that models what's currently in place for alcohol. Reps. Dave Joyce (R-OH), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and Brian Mast (R-FL) are teaming up on what's titled the Preparing Regulators Effectively for a Post-Prohibition Adult-Use Regulated Environment Act (PREPARE) Act – an incremental reform meant to inform comprehensive cannabis policy changes in the future. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**AP: Brooklyn subway attack suspect is jailed without bail**, Tom Hays, Bobby Caina Calvan And Jennifer Peltz, April 14, 2022, 7:30 PM

The man charged with opening fire in a Brooklyn subway car full of people was jailed without bail Thursday as prosecutors told a judge he terrified all of New York City. Brought into a Brooklyn federal court without handcuffs, a subdued Frank James, 62, softly answered standard questions about whether he understood the charges and the purpose of the brief hearing. His lawyer later asked the public not to prejudge him. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [BuzzFeed](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [NY Post](#), [Newsday](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#)

**AP: Russian legislator and 2 aides criminally charged in US**, Eric Tucker And Larry Neumeister, April 14, 2022, 2:30 PM

A Russian legislator and two aides pushed a covert propaganda campaign aimed at winning U.S. government support for Russia's foreign policy agenda, including moves against Ukraine, according to a Justice Department indictment unsealed on Thursday. The effort was part of what American officials describe as a broader Russian government objective to sway public opinion in its favor, to sow discord in American institutions and to drive wedges between the U.S. and European allies. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Courthouse News](#), [CNBC](#), [Law360](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**AP: Brit convicted as ‘Beatle’ in Islamic State beheadings trial**, Matthew Barakat, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

A jury convicted a British national Thursday for his role in an Islamic State group hostage-taking scheme that took roughly two dozen Westerners captive a decade ago, resulting in the deaths of four Americans, three of whom were beheaded. In convicting El Shafee Elsheikh, the jury concluded that he was one of the notorious “Beatles,” Islamic State captors nicknamed for their accents and known for their cruelty — torturing and beating prisoners, forcing them to fight each other until they collapsed and even making them sing cruel song parodies. Surviving hostages testified that the Beatles delighted themselves rewriting “Hotel California” as “Hotel Osama” and making them sing the refrain “You will never leave.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [ABC](#), [CBS](#), [Guardian](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Seattle Times](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man blaming Trump’s ‘orders’ for riot actions found guilty**, Michael Kulzman, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

An Ohio man who claimed he was only “following presidential orders” from Donald Trump when he stormed the U.S. Capitol was convicted Thursday by a jury that took less than three hours to reject his novel defense for obstructing Congress from certifying Joe Biden’s presidential victory. The federal jury also found Dustin Byron Thompson, 38, guilty of all five of the other charges in his indictment, including stealing a coat rack from an office inside the Capitol during the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The maximum sentence for the obstruction count, the lone felony, would be 20 years imprisonment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#), [Axios](#), [CBS](#), [Cleveland Plain Dealer \(Cleveland, OH\)](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [HuffPost](#), [Insider](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#), [Newsweek](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [WBNS-CBS \(Columbus, OH\)](#)

**AP: Pressure on US to give Ukraine more intelligence on Russia**, Nomaan Merchant and James Laporta, April 14, 2022, 1:00 PM

President Joe Biden has called Russia’s war on Ukraine a genocide and accused Vladimir Putin of committing war crimes. But his administration has struggled with how much intelligence it is willing to give the Ukrainian forces that are trying to stop the Russian leader. Since the war began in late February, the Biden administration has made multiple changes to a classified directive that governs what U.S. agencies are supposed to share with Ukraine. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: FBI says North Korean hackers stole more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency in single hack**, Sean Lyngaas, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The FBI on Thursday blamed hackers associated with the North Korean government for stealing more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency last month from a video gaming company -- the latest in a string of audacious cyber heists tied to Pyongyang. "Through our investigation we were able to confirm Lazarus Group and APT38, cyber actors associated with the DPRK, are responsible for the theft of \$620 million in Ethereum reported on March 29th," the FBI said in a statement. "DPRK" is an abbreviation for North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Ethereum is a technology platform associated with a type of cryptocurrency. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [Axios](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

**ABC: Judge slams Trump as 'charlatan' after jury finds Jan. 6 rioter guilty on all counts**, Alexander Mallin, April 14, 2022 5:32 PM

A federal judge in D.C. on Thursday delivered a scathing rebuke of former President Donald Trump and expressed dismay over the state of American politics just moments after a jury found a defendant charged in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot guilty on all charges. "You know, I think our

democracy is in trouble," Judge Reggie Walton said at the conclusion of the third jury trial for a defendant charged in the Capitol assault. "Because unfortunately, we have charlatans like our former president, who doesn't in my view really care about democracy, but only about power. And as a result of that, it's tearing this country apart." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR, Up First: [AUDIO] Russian Ship Sinks, Impact of Sanctions, Musk's Twitter Bid**, April 15, 2022, 5:49 AM

Russia's flagship cruiser, the Moskva, sank in the Black Sea after an explosion on the vessel (1:26). Russian President Vladimir Putin says Western sanctions aimed at punishing Russia over its actions in Ukraine have failed (5:13). And, Elon Musk is offering to buy Twitter for \$43 billion dollars (8:52). [\[Listen\]](#)

**Yahoo: Case against Oath Keepers hinges on rare use of seditious conspiracy charges**,

Mark Hosenball, April 15, 2022, 4:00 AM

In the weeks after the 2020 election, Stewart Rhodes, founder and leader of the far-right Oath Keepers militia group, had some stark advice for then-President Donald Trump: Invoke a 19th century law known as the Insurrection Act and call out the National Guard to crack down on "domestic traitors" and reverse the "fraudulent" victory of Joe Biden. "The very survival of our nation as a free Constitutional Republic hangs in the balance," Rhodes and his domestic partner Kellye SoRelle wrote in an open letter to Trump. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Here are the 41 US lawmakers who were not sanctioned by Russia**, Lexi Lonas, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

On Wednesday, Russia sanctioned all but 41 House members in a diplomatic tit-for-tat with the United States amid mounting tensions over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Those on the sanctions list included 398 House lawmakers, including delegates from U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Judge tells Capitol rioter supervision is necessary to protect democracy from 'people like you'**, Emily Zantow, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A federal judge imposed a prison sentence plus house arrest and probation on a Tennessee man who stormed the Capitol, saying the government wants to keep an eye on people like him as the 2024 presidential election approaches. U.S. District Chief Judge Beryl Howell spoke at the Thursday hearing about the "conundrum" many sentencing judges are facing as they decide how to sentence a nonviolent Capitol riot defendant like Blake Reed, who pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of entering and remaining in a restricted building. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR: In a D.C. jail, Jan. 6 defendants awaiting trial are forming bitter factions**, Tom Dreisbach, April 14, 2022 4:20 PM

Inside the Washington, D.C., jail, where a group of defendants charged in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol have been held for as long as a year or more, a bitter divide is growing, current and former inmates say. A combination of that intense proximity, the stress of criminal cases and a fight over more than a million dollars donated to support the defendants has contributed to the rift. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NPR-2](#)

**WNYW-Fox (New York, NY): How cybercriminals could retaliate for sanctions on Russian oligarchs**, Kevin Corke, April 14, 2022 1:56 PM

The United States is one of many countries imposing strict sanctions on Russia after its invasion

of Ukraine. In a speech on April 6, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said a message for anyone who "enable[s] the Russian regime" through criminal conduct. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: AP sources: Trump aide Stephen Miller to speak to 1/6 panel**, Eric Tucker and Farnoush Amiri, April 14, 2022, 5:30 PM

Stephen Miller, who served as a top aide to President Donald Trump, was being questioned Thursday by the congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection, according to two people familiar with the matter. Miller was a senior adviser for policy during the Trump administration and a central figure in many of the Republican's decisions. He had resisted previous efforts by the committee, filing a lawsuit last month seeking to quash a subpoena for his phone records. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#)

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: LA political donor gets 30 years in prison for fetish deaths**, Brian Melley, April 14, 2022, 5:00 PM

Ed Buck told his neighbors that the steady stream of young Black men leaving his West Hollywood apartment were social work clients. What really happened behind closed doors, which he referred to as the "gates of hell," was far more sinister. The men did not need Buck's help they needed to be saved from him, said federal prosecutors in Los Angeles said. Some barely escaped with their lives. Two men didn't. Buck, 67, a wealthy gay white donor to Democratic, LGBTQ and animal rights causes, was sentenced Thursday in U.S. District Court to 30 years in federal prison for injecting two men with lethal doses of methamphetamine as part of a fetish that turned fatal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Parents get 8 weeks in prison for college bribery scandal**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A California couple was sentenced to eight weeks in prison on Thursday after pleading guilty to paying \$25,000 to cheat on their son's college admissions test. Dr. Gregory Colburn, 63, and Amy Colburn, 52, of Palo Alto, were the 16th and 17th parents to be sentenced in the sprawling bribery scandal. The couple abruptly pleaded guilty in January six weeks before they were to go on trial to money laundering and mail fraud conspiracy charges. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KPIX-CBS \(San Francisco, CA\)](#), [WWLP-NBC \(Springfield, MA\)](#)

**AP: Former Long Island official Mangano sentenced to 12 years**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

Former Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano, once one of Long Island's most powerful elected officials, was sentenced Thursday to 12 years in prison for what a prosecutor described as "widespread corruption and dishonesty." Mangano, who was convicted in 2019 on corruption charges related to his relationship with businessman Harendra Singh, defended his actions at his sentencing in federal court on Long Island, according to Newsday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Voice \(Nassau, NY\)](#), [Newsday](#), [NY Post](#), [Patch \(Mineola, NY\)](#)

**NBC: California man pleads guilty to threat to kill Rep. Matt Gaetz**, Phil Helsel, April 14, 2022, 9:58 PM

A California man pleaded guilty Thursday to threatening Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, federal prosecutors said. Eugene Huelsman, 59, left a voicemail at Gaetz's Florida office on Jan. 9, 2021, in which he said, in part, "I'm gonna put a bullet in you" and called him a "tyrant," according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Pensacola News Journal](#), [WKRG-CBS \(Mobile, AL\)](#)

**CBS: Tulsa man convicted of drug trafficking and gun charges**, Alex Keller, April 14, 2022, 4:38 PM

A cocaine trafficker from Tulsa was convicted at trial of drug and gun charges, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Chad E. Meacham announced Friday. After three days of trial and seven hours of deliberation, a federal jury in Dallas found Roberto Chairez, 33, guilty of one count of attempted possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime on April 14, 2022. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Man convicted in Colombia of murdering his wife arrested after 27 years on the run**, FBI says, Melissa Alonso, April 14, 2022, 12:00 PM

A man who fled to the US from Colombia after the murder his wife in 1994 was arrested Wednesday in Massachusetts, the FBI said in a news release. William Hernando Usma Acosta, 61, had been living in Belmont under the alias Carlos Alberto Rendon after entering the US illegally in 1995, authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10 Indicted In Alleged \$100M 'Pump-And-Dump' Stock Scheme**, Gina Kim, April 14, 2022, 9:24 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice on Thursday unsealed three indictments in New York federal court against 10 individuals across the globe for allegedly running a yearslong "pump-and-dump" stock scheme that prosecutors say netted more than \$100 million in illegal proceeds. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Fraudster Avoids More Time For Dark Web Insider Trading**, Stewart Bishop, April 14, 2022, 7:16 PM

A New York federal judge on Thursday spared an admitted securities fraudster further prison time for running an online racket on the dark web that trafficked in confidential information about public companies. Apostolos Trovias, of Athens, Greece, was first accused last year of buying and selling confidential information about publicly traded companies via dark web sites and encrypted messaging services. That information included misappropriated stock tips based on confidential customer trading information, pre-release earnings reports and deal information from publicly traded companies, according to the government. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Ex-Atty Cops To GM Scam After Feds Warn Of ID Theft Count**, Pete Brush, April 14, 2022, 3:18 PM

A former California lawyer on Thursday admitted faking a \$16.5 million General Motors injury settlement, coping to a conspiracy charge three days after Manhattan federal prosecutors said he would face an added aggravated identity theft count if he stood trial. Defendant Christopher Hammatt, 52, pled guilty to a count of wire fraud conspiracy before U.S. District Judge Paul G. Gardephe, who set a July 26 sentencing date. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**New Haven Register: Feds: New Haven man charged with selling 50 grams of fentanyl to**

**investigators**, Liz Hardaway, April 14, 2022, 9:15 PM

A New Haven man was federally charged Wednesday with distributing 40 or more grams of fentanyl, according to federal prosecutors. A grand jury in New Haven returned an indictment against 27-year-old Nelson Santini. The charge stems from the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force making a controlled purchase of about 50 grams of fentanyl from Santini in August 2021, according to Leonard Boyle, the United States attorney for the District of Connecticut. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Boston.com: Canton man arrested on charges of sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl**, Susannah Sudborough, April 14, 2022, 7:22 PM

A Canton man was arrested Wednesday on charges of sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl, the U.S. Department of Justice announced Thursday. Keion Rowell, 23, was indicted on one count of sex trafficking of a child and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of a minor. Rowell was detained after an initial hearing in Boston Thursday pending an arraignment and a detention hearing scheduled for April 19. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Boston Globe](#)

**The Oregonian (Portland, OR): Portland chapter president of Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, fellow member get life sentences**, Maxine Bernstein, April 14, 2022, 7:21 PM

A judge Thursday sentenced Mark Leroy Dencklau, president of the Portland chapter of the Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, and club member Chad Leroy Erickson to life in prison for the torture-style killing of an ex-club member. U.S. District Judge Michael W. Mosman issued the mandatory minimum sentences for the two men in separate, back-to-back hearings in federal court in Portland. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KGW-NBC \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KOIN-CBS \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Statesman Journal \(Salem, OR\)](#)

**The Durango Herald (Durango, CO): Four men sentenced to prison for illegal drug distribution in Southwest Colorado**, Shane Benjamin, April 14, 2022, 7:20 PM

Four men have been sentenced to federal prison terms ranging from 2½ years to 10 years for distributing illegal drugs in Southwest Colorado, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for Colorado. All four men pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute. They were sentenced Monday in Durango by U.S. District Court Judge Robert Blackburn. All four cases are independent of each other, said Deborah Takahara, a spokeswoman with the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Boston Globe: Ex-ski resort executive gets 18 months in failed visa plan case**, Lisa Rathke, April 14, 2022, 7:10 PM

The first of four men accused in a failed plan to build a biotechnology plant in Vermont using tens of millions of dollars in foreign investors' money raised through a special visa program was sentenced Thursday to 18 months in prison. William Stenger, 73, the former president of the Jay Peak ski resort, also was sentenced to three years of supervisory release and ordered to pay \$250,000 in restitution. He pleaded guilty last August to providing false documents. In exchange, nine fraud charges were dropped. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KXAS-NBC \(Fort Worth, TX\)](#)

**Detroit News: Famed UM music professor sentenced to prison in sex crime case**, Robert Snel, April 14, 2022, 5:06 PM

Former University of Michigan violin professor Stephen Shipps was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison for engaging in sexual activity with a 16-year-old student during a trip to New York 20 years ago. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WILX-NBC \(Onondaga, MI\)](#)

*Valdosta Daily Times*(*Valdosta, GA*): **Valdosta gang member sentenced**, Terry Richards, April 14, 2022, 5:54 PM

A Valdosta gang member was sentenced to federal prison Wednesday on a weapons charge, the U.S. Department of Justice said. Xavier Rashad Brooks, 31, was sentenced to serve 100 months in federal prison, followed by three years of supervised release after he pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to a Justice Department statement.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFXL-Fox \(Albany, GA\)](#), [WRBL-CBS \(Columbus, GA\)](#)

*Hartford Courant*: **Feds: A Meriden woman embezzled \$400K. Now she's going to prison**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Meriden woman was sentenced to a year and a day in prison for embezzling more than \$400,000 from her employer's clients, according to federal authorities. Crystal Klatt, 36, also was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Janet C. Hall in New Haven to three years of supervised release, according to federal authorities. Hall also ordered Klatt to pay restitution. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*PhillyVoice* (*Philadelphia, PA*): **Philly man gets prison time for stealing \$1 million in federal PPP funds**, Michael Tanenbaum, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Philadelphia man who pleaded guilty to fraudulently obtaining nearly \$1 million in federal Paycheck Protection Program funds during the COVID-19 pandemic will spend 6 1/2 years behind bars, federal prosecutors announced. Devron Brown, 50, was charged last June with two counts of bank fraud and nine counts of money laundering as part of an alleged scheme to obtain and misuse PPP loans. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

*Citrus County Chronicle* (*Citrus County, FL*): **Dunnellon felon sentenced to two years in federal prison for falsifying firearm papers**, Busther Thompson, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Citrus County man was sentenced to serve two years in federal prison for lying about his felony convictions in order to purchase firearms. Senior U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell ordered Darrell Pierre Hopkins's 24-month sentence Thursday, April 14, after the Dunnellon 54-year-old pleaded guilty Feb. 2 to making a false statement for a firearms purchase, and causing a gun dealer to maintain false records. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Las Vegas Review-Journal*: **Man charged with attempting to kidnap child from Las Vegas park**, Glenn Puit, April 14, 2022, 1:45 PM

A Las Vegas man has been charged with attempting to kidnap a child from an east valley park and exposing himself to several others. According to a Las Vegas police arrest report for Byron Osborne, 31, he was arrested on April 7 at 2850 Stewart Ave., near North Eastern Avenue. Police did not name the park where Osborne was arrested, but the address is the same as the one listed for Rafael Rivera Park. The address is near an elementary school and a middle school. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSNV-NBC \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#), [WNYW-Fox \(New York, NY\)](#)

*Idaho Statesman*: **Caldwell officer allegedly hit a man while on duty. Now he faces an additional charge**, Alex Brizee, April 14, 2022, 11:42 AM

The long-serving Caldwell police officer who allegedly struck someone in the face while on the job is now facing an additional charge, according to an indictment filed in the U.S. District Court in Boise. Lt. Joseph A. "Joey" Hoadley, who has been with the department since 2001, is now charged with destruction, alteration or falsification of records in a federal investigation, according

to an indictment filed Wednesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KBOI-CBS \(Boise, ID\)](#), [KMVT-CBS \(Twin Falls, IA\)](#)

**WTOP-FM (Washington, DC): DC men plead guilty to kidnapping, assaulting victim from Maryland casino**, Alejandro Alvarez, April 14, 2022, 10:46 PM

Two D.C. men have admitted to the and assault of a victim from a Maryland hotel and casino in February last year. Anthony Erik Hebron, age 23, and Darius Lawrence Young, age 29, pleaded guilty this week on kidnapping charges for collaborating with three others to lure a victim out of their hotel room at an undisclosed Maryland casino on Feb. 3, 2021. Darius also pleaded guilty to possession of firearms and ammunition by a felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDKY-Fox (Lexington, KY): Georgetown man sentenced to 324 months for producing child pornography**, Matthew Duckworth, April 14, 2022, 10:46 PM

A Georgetown man was sentenced to 324 months in federal prison on Thursday. Phillip Christopher Abel, 36, pleaded guilty to enticing a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a video in September 2021. Abel also had at least 30 deleted photos of a pre-pubescent female in sexual poses taken at Abel's residence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): California man arrested for recording Mass. girl changing her clothes**, Amy Phillips, April 14, 2022, 8:18 PM

A California man has been charged with secretly filming an 11-year-old Massachusetts girl while she was changing her clothes in her bedroom. Jacob Guerrero, 23, of Woodland, Calif., was arrested in California Thursday and charged with one count of sexually exploiting a child. He will appear in federal court in Boston at a later date. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSEE-NBC (Fresno, CA): DOJ: \$25M of federal water stolen through secret gate in Delta-Mendota Canal**, Dom McAndrew, April 14, 2022, 8:15 PM

A hidden gate to transfer water from a federally owned canal into a parallel canal owned by a local water district is what the Department of Justice says was used to steal over \$25 million worth of federally owned water. The unidentified water district served the Fresno County and Merced County communities of Dos Palos, Firebaugh, and Los Banos. According to the DOJ in a statement released Thursday, 75-year-old Dennis Falaschi of Aptos was made aware in 1992 of an abandoned drain turnout on the Delta-Mendota Canal that leaked water from that canal into a parallel canal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (West Chester, PA): Chesco Man Jailed Over 2 ½ Years for Stealing Pandemic Unemployment**, Holly Herman, April 14, 2022, 8:01 PM

A 25-year-old Chester County man was sentenced Thursday to two years and nine months in federal prison for filing a fraudulent application for pandemic unemployment compensation while in jail on drug charges. Kenneth L. Huggins, Jr. of Coatesville was also ordered by U.S. District Judge Gerald J. Pappert here to serve three years of probation following his jail sentence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNS (New York City, NY): Ex-NJ USPS worker pleads guilty to unemployment insurance scam: DOJ**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A former New Jersey postal worker pleaded guilty on Thursday to conspiring to fraudulently obtain unemployment insurance benefits, according to the Department of Justice. Ross Clayton, 31, of Irvington, pleaded guilty to wire fraud conspiracy. Clayton was a United States Postal

Service employee who took unemployment insurance benefits-related mail, including debit cards, from a USPS location in New Jersey and used it to obtain unemployment insurance benefits to which he was not entitled, according to court statements and documents. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Peekskill-Cortlandt, NY): Peekskill 'Incel' Sentenced To Prison For Stalking, Threatening**, Michael Woyton, April 14, 2022, 6:53 PM

A northern Westchester man, who self-describes as "involuntary celibate," who admitted in court that he terrorized and harassed women, was sentenced to prison Thursday. David Kaufman, 28, of Peekskill, was sentenced to 30 months in prison, after pleading guilty to stalking multiple victims between October 2019 and August 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVNY-ABC (Burlington, VT): Explosive devices found in Wilder home; man detained**, Ben Mitchell, Devin Bates, April 14, 2022, 6:14 PM

A Wilder man has been detained on federal charges after explosive devices were found inside his home in the village of Wilder. The Vermont State Police Bomb Squad found and removed the devices, as well as potentially hazardous materials. No injuries were reported. William Hillard, a 51-year-old resident of the home, faces a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and a charge of possessing a destructive device. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFOR-CBS (Miami, FL): Ex-UBS Financial Advisor Pleads Guilty To Defrauding Millions From Clients; Broward Man Faces 60 Years In Prison**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 5:54 PM

Federal authorities said a former UBS financial advisor has pleaded guilty in Miami federal court to defrauding over \$5 million from a family who maintained several accounts at UBS. Officials say German Nino, a resident of Broward County, was a financial advisor working at a branch office of UBS Financial Services Inc. in Miami. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WRBL-CBS (Columbus, GA): Louisiana man sentenced to prison for role in oxycodone drug conspiracy involving Montgomery physician**, Tiara Towns, April 14, 2022, 5:37 PM

On April 11, 2022, Garren Charles Rogers, 36, from Slidell, Louisiana, was sentenced to 120 months in prison for his role in organizing a prescription drug conspiracy in Montgomery, Alabama, announced United States Attorney Sandra J. Stewart. Rogers' prison sentence will be followed by three years of a supervised release. There is no parole in the federal system. According to court records, Rogers was part of a conspiracy involving numerous others to obtain illegal prescriptions for oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Arlington, MA): Arlington Business Owner Convicted Of Stealing Government Benefits**, Annie Sandoli, April 14, 2022, 5:17 PM

The owner and operator of an Arlington-based insurance agency has been convicted by a federal jury in Boston of fraudulently receiving disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA), United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins said in a news release Thursday. Following a six-day jury trial, Patrick Quinn, 50, was convicted of two counts each of theft of public funds and making false statements. U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns scheduled sentencing for Aug. 17. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRTV-CBS (Great Falls, MT): Great Falls meth trafficker sentenced in federal court**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:49 PM

Mark Edwin Abresch was sentenced in federal court in Great Falls on April 14, 2022, for distributing meth. Prosecutors alleged that Abresch distributed meth in Great Falls between

September 2020 and April 2021. In a two-week period from the end of March to the beginning of April 2021, Abresch distributed more than 89 grams of meth in four controlled buys. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Bloomfield, NJ): Bloomfield Man, Former Hotel Worker Embezzled \$300K: Feds,** Eric Kiefer, April 14, 2022, 4:46 PM

A Bloomfield resident who formerly worked at a nationwide hotel chain admitted his role in a scheme to embezzle more than \$300,000 from the company, federal prosecutors announced Thursday. Marco Alvarez, 46, of Bloomfield, pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCTV-CBS (Kansas City, MO): KC man sentenced for meth, gun officers found on him after attempted break-ins**, Zoe Brown, April 14, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Kansas City man has been sentenced for illegally possessing a gun and methamphetamine to distribute, which officers found on him after he tried to break into someone's car and house. A judge sentenced 38-year-old Joel L. Redman to 12 years and seven months in federal prison without parole. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOMO-AM (Seattle, WA): Shoreline man arrested for violating protection order, possessing firearms**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Shoreline man charged with two counts of illegal possession of firearms will make his initial appearance in United States District Court in Seattle on Thursday afternoon, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Rustam Yusupov, 44, was arrested without incident late Wednesday at his Shoreline home after an incident at a downtown Seattle hotel room on March 10. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMIZ-ABC (Columbia, MO): Federal judge sentences Columbia woman for trafficking meth**, Karl Wehmhoener, April 14, 2022, 2:45 PM

A federal judge sentenced a Columbia woman for trafficking meth after she received a large package of meth shipped from California to distribute locally in April 2019. Cassiopeia Marie Blaise, 37, was sentenced to eight years in federal prison without parole. Blaise pleaded guilty in August 2021 to possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMAR-ABC (Baltimore, MD): Member of sex trafficking conspiracy sentenced to nine years in prison**, Rushaad Hayward, April 14, 2022, 12:57 PM

Lakeya Aldridge was sentenced to nine years in federal prison for conspiracy to commit kidnapping by a U.S. District Judge. The 41-year-old from Federalsburg, Maryland conspired with 33-year-old Joshua Lankford in October 2018. The two recruited a victim to perform sex acts in their direction. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WYOU-CBS (Scranton, PA): Monroe County man pleads guilty to bank robbery**, Vivian Muniz, April 14, 2022, 11:50 AM

Officials announced that a man has pleaded guilty to a bank robbery in East Stroudsburg committed in 2019. According to U.S. Attorney John C. Gurganus, Terrance Tyson, 45, of East Stroudsburg, admitted to robbing the NBT Bank located in East Stroudsburg, in September 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WNEP \(Scranton, PA\)](#)

**WHTM-ABC (Harrisburg, PA): Harrisburg postal contractor charged with mail theft**, George

Stockburger, April 14, 2022, 11:26 PM

A postal contractor from Harrisburg has been indicted by a federal grand jury on mail theft charges. The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced that Michael Anthony Collier, Jr. was indicted after an investigation found Collier allegedly took packages intended to be delivered out of state. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: Juvenile justice agency agrees to reform main prison**, Michelle Lieu, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice announced Thursday that it will reform its beleaguered central prison for youths under a settlement agreement with the federal government. The agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice follows a 2020 report from the federal agency that ordered the state to make changes at the Broad River Road Complex in Columbia or face a lawsuit. Federal investigators found state officials were violating the rights of incarcerated youths by failing to protect them from fights, forcing them to spend days or weeks in isolation for minor offenses and failing to get them mental health when they threaten to harm or kill themselves. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Post and Courier \(Charleston, SC\)](#), [WOLO-ABC \(Columbia, SC\)](#)

**CNN: Civil rights groups sue Texas county over alleged 'discriminatory' map**, Fredreka Schouten, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A coalition of civil rights groups in Texas filed a federal lawsuit Thursday against Galveston County, alleging that the county's redistricting plan intentionally discriminates against a growing minority population in the Gulf Coast community. The complaint, shared first with CNN, marks the second lawsuit that seeks to overturn maps approved by the Republican majority on the county's governing body. Last month, the Justice Department filed a federal lawsuit against the county on similar grounds -- in a redistricting dispute that has garnered national attention. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Abortion ban after 15 weeks signed into law in Florida**, Anthony Izaguirre, April 14, 2022, 11:50 PM

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a 15-week abortion ban into law Thursday as the state joined a growing conservative push to restrict access to the procedure ahead of a U.S. Supreme Court decision that could roll back abortion rights in America. "This will represent the most significant protections for life that have been enacted in this state in a generation," DeSantis said as he signed the bill at an evangelical church in the city of Kissimmee. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#)

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): Southfield doctor to pay over \$700K to resolve false payment claims**, Elizabeth Washington, April 14, 2022, 12:50 PM

Gynecologic oncologist Vinay K. Malviya M.D, from Southfield, has agreed to pay \$775,000 to resolve his alleged violation of submitting false claims for federal healthcare programs payments. Officials say these payments are related to medically unnecessary procedures Malviya performed. According to the United States Department of Justice, Malviya's allegations date from February 2011 through June 2017. The department addresses that Malviya agrees to be

excluded from several health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid for the next three years.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WWJ-CBS \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Texas moves to ease border gridlock over ‘sense of urgency’**, Acacia Coronado and Paul J. Weber, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The logjam of trucks at the U.S.-Mexico border finally began breaking Thursday after nearly a week as Texas Gov. Greg Abbott eased off his latest dramatic action over immigration that has gridlocked some of the world’s busiest trade ports and taken a mounting economic toll. “There is a sense of urgency now to reach deals that did not exist before,” Abbott said. The two-term Republican governor, who for days has allowed commercial trucks to backup for miles into Mexico after requiring them to stop for additional inspections in Texas, lifted that order for bridges in El Paso and other cities after announcing a new security agreement with the neighboring Mexican states of Chihuahua and Coahuila. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [WSJ](#)

**WaPo: Democrats in tough races revolt over Biden administration border move**, Mike Deboines, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

President Biden is facing a growing mutiny from Democratic candidates — including five vulnerable senators — who are questioning his administration’s decision to lift a pandemic health order that has drastically curtailed migrants’ ability to seek asylum at the southern border. The internal dissension is an early acknowledgment from many Democrats that worries about border security and immigration could become a major obstacle for them in this year’s midterm elections. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] Greg Abbott is starving his own voters to own the libs**, Catherine Rampell, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Starve your own voters to own the libs. That appears to be Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s latest strategy for reaching the White House, given his decision to deliberately snarl traffic on the U.S. southern border — leaving food to rot and critical components for cars and other manufacturing to remain inaccessible to U.S. companies and consumers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Fox: Texas border agents encounter boy, 4, among suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into US**, Bradford Betz, April 14, 2022, 9:33 PM

Texas border agents say they encountered a 4-year-old boy early Tuesday morning among a group of suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into the U.S. The value of the seized marijuana was later determined to be worth more than \$93,000, according to a press release from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). After midnight Tuesday, Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol (RGV) agents and Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers spotted a group of more than a dozen people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border near Roma, Texas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NBC: Top border official hits back at Texas Gov. Abbott for busing migrants to Washington**, D.C., Dareh Gregorian, April 14, 2022, 7:08 PM

The head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection criticized Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Thursday for busing migrants from the southern border to Washington, D.C., without consulting with federal officials. “Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities,” CBP Commissioner Chris Magnus said in

a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 18 Additional States Join Suit To Keep Pandemic Border Block**, Mike LaSusa, April 14, 2022, 4:32 PM

Eighteen additional states on Thursday signed on to a lawsuit started by Arizona, Louisiana and Missouri to challenge the Biden administration's decision to wind down a pandemic-related order known as Title 42 that allows the quick expulsion of migrants arriving at U.S. land borders.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOL Defends H-2A Enforcement In Farm's Fine Dispute**, Grace Dixon, April 14, 2022, 3:22 PM

The U.S. Department of Labor urged a New Jersey federal judge to toss a farm's challenge of a \$556,000 fine it's facing for violating H-2A visa program laws, defending the constitutionality of an interagency administrative enforcement process. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Feds blast Texas for shipping illegal immigrants to D.C.**, Stephen Dinan, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A senior Homeland Security official chided Texas Gov. Greg Abbott for busing illegal immigrants to Washington, saying Thursday that the Republican governor was hurting the government's efforts to coordinate how the migrants are released. "Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities," said Chris Magnus, head of Customs and Border Protection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Border Patrol agent 'whip' probe done, produced 500-page report: union**, MaryAnn Martinez, April 14, 2022, 6:35 PM

The Biden administration has compiled a 500-page report on the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants last year and could release it any day now, the top union official told The Post late Thursday. The report is the outcome of the administrative investigation into the agents' actions conducted by Customs and Border Protection's Office of Personal Responsibility (ORP). The agents have been cleared of criminal wrongdoing and won't face charges, but could still lose their jobs if they are found to have broken agency policies.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Charred bat meat found inside Maryland man's luggage at Dulles Airport**, Sonia Dasgupta, April 14, 2022, 11:40 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol found charred bat meat inside the baggage of a Germantown, Maryland man at Dulles International Airport on April 5. According to officials, man who arrived from Ghana was carrying 3 pounds, 8 ounces of the mammal meat in his luggage. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Herndon, VA\)](#), [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**KWTX-CBS (Waco, TX): \$106K in unreported U.S. currency seized at South Texas international port of entry**, Angela Bonilla, April 14, 2022, 11:24 AM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized \$106,000 in bulk unreported U.S. currency at the Brownsville and Matamoros International Port of Entry. The seizure happened on April 12 when officers referred a 23-year-old U.S. citizen heading into Mexico for a routine vehicle inspection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

### **Bloomberg: Third Time's The Charm in Chicken Price Fixing Trial, DOJ Says**, Bob Van

Voris, April 14, 2022 4:27 PM

The U.S.'s top antitrust enforcer, who flew from Washington to Denver at the behest of a skeptical judge, struggled to convince the court that the Justice Department will be successful in its third trial over charges of collusion in the chicken industry. "We know that the evidence couldn't persuade 12 people," U.S. District Judge Philip Brimmer said at a contentious hearing Thursday, referring to previous mistrials in the case. "We've seen it happen twice." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Law360: DOJ Wants More Info On Frontier's Bid For Spirit Airlines**, Carolina Bolado, April 14, 2022, 4:13 PM

Spirit Airlines revealed Thursday that the U.S. Department of Justice has requested additional information with respect to its proposed \$6.6 billion merger with Frontier Group, signaling close scrutiny by antitrust regulators. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Bloomberg Law: Google Faces Antitrust Suit Over Maps Monopoly, Waze Deal**, Mike

Leonard, April 14, 2022 3:59 PM

Alphabet Inc. is facing federal antitrust litigation in San Francisco over claims that it leverages its dominance of the GPS navigation market through Google Maps, Waze, and related services to lock app developers into the "Google ecosystem" and hit them with "egregious" price hikes. The lawsuit accuses Google of capturing 81% of the market by offering Maps for free, exploiting its data "treasure trove" to cement its monopoly, placing restrictive terms on developers that incorporate its functions, and using other services like search and YouTube to favor Maps by "self-preferencing." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Bloomberg Law: DOJ's First Criminal Wage-Fixing Case Ends Mostly in Defeat**, Ben Penn, April 14, 2022, 1:33 PM

A jury found two defendants in the Justice Department's first criminal wage-fixing case not guilty of violating the Sherman Act while finding one defendant guilty on a single count of obstruction of Federal Trade Commission proceedings. Neeraj Jindal, the owner of a physical therapy staffing company, was found guilty Thursday of one of three charges while the jury in the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Texas found co-defendant John Rodgers not guilty on all counts. Rodgers was Jindal's clinical director. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Law360](#)

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Guardian: EPA opens civil rights investigations over pollution in Cancer Alley**, Oliver

Laughland, April 14, 2022, 1:54 PM

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has opened a series of civil rights investigations into state agencies in Louisiana to examine whether permits granted in the highly polluted industrial corridor, known locally as Cancer Alley, have violated Black citizens rights. The news, first reported by the New Orleans Advocate, marks further enforcement action taken by the federal agency in the region since the EPA administrator, Michael Regan, visited the area late last year. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **The Hill: Environmental groups sue EPA over state air pollution plans**, Zack Budryk, April 14, 2022, 4:18 PM

Four environmental organizations filed a lawsuit Wednesday against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), alleging it has failed to properly enforce the Clean Air Act's Regional Haze Rule. The EPA amended the rule in 2017, extending the window in which states could submit air pollution reduction plans through July 2021. However, as of April 2022, 34 states have not submitted their plans, according to the lawsuit. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Law360](#)

**E&E News: Biden rolls out equity plans for more than 90 agencies**, Robin Bravender and Michael Doyle, April 14, 2022, 1:36 PM

The Biden administration today announced plans to expand federal investment and support in historically underserved communities. More than 90 federal agencies — including every Cabinet-level agency — released “equity action plans” aimed at combating “the systemic barriers in our nation’s policies and programs that hold too many underserved communities back from prosperity, dignity and equality,” the White House said. The plans include EPA’s intent to “proactively” go after civil rights compliance, while the Interior Department takes a closer look at who is benefiting from the nation’s national parks. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Arizona Republic: Federal agency outlines a plan to curb illegal killings of imperiled Mexican gray wolf**, Lindsey Botts, April 14, 2022, 3:07 PM

Federal officials released a set of steps this week meant to curb the illegal killing of endangered Mexican gray wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. Under the plan, the agency would work with state wildlife managers to increase education and outreach in communities where wolves live. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**CBS: Two contractors behind massive development in LaPorte, Indiana accused of tax fraud, money laundering**, Megan Hickey, April 14, 2022, 7:16 PM

Tax fraud and money laundering charges have now been filed against two Indiana construction companies behind a \$30 million project in LaPorte. Undercover video obtained by the CBS 2 Investigators helped prosecutors make the case. As CBS 2 Investigator Megan Hickey reported, it took confidential informants to expose the alleged unlawful payment practices tied to the multimillion-dollar residential and retail development in LaPorte, Indiana. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: FBI Records Released in Case of Man Who Stole Sea-Tac Plane**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:17 PM

Newly released FBI documents show the Sumner man who stole an airplane from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in 2018 seemed unsettled to his loved ones before the theft, which ended when he crashed the plane on Pierce County’s Ketron Island. The records say 28-year-old Alaska Airlines ground worker Richard Russell entered the empty turboprop passenger aircraft about 7:30 p.m. Aug. 10 as it sat on an airport tarmac and flew it for about an hour and 10 minutes, The News Tribune reported. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: ‘She Was Not Trash’: Body Found in Indiana Is Identified After 30 Years**, Livia Albeck-Ripka, April 14, 2022, 8:00 PM

For three decades, she was known only as Jane Doe, ever since her body was found dumped on

the embankment of an interstate highway in Indiana in May 1992. [...] She was found off Interstate 65 in Washington Township, northwest of Indianapolis, wearing only a light green tank top and anklet socks, according to an F.B.I. report, just a month before her 18th birthday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg: [EDITORIAL] Biden Moves Forward on Gun Violence**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 8:00 AM

After much talk and little action on guns, President Joe Biden finally took a few small steps forward this week. Actually getting a handle on the country's epidemic of gun violence will require Congress to do its job. On Monday, Biden nominated Steve Dettelbach, a former federal prosecutor, to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF. He also laid out a new initiative to combat "ghost guns," or homemade firearms that lack serial numbers. It's about time on both counts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Caller: Here's How The DOJ And FBI Are Spending Their Time Instead Of Rooting Out Actual Extremists Like The Alleged Subway Shooter**, Diana Glebova, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

The FBI never managed to thwart the NYC subway shooting suspect, who allegedly posted hours of extremist black nationalist and violent rhetoric on YouTube, but has repeatedly allocated resources to chasing hoaxes and false leads. The FBI and Department of Justice (DOJ) have spent their efforts plotting an operation to kidnap a governor, busting out a team of 15 agents to investigate a rope in a NASCAR garage and investigating parents at school boards meetings as domestic terrorists, among other failed operations. The FBI has also denied knowing about the whereabouts of Hunter Biden's laptop. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**MSNBC: [OPINION] Subway shooting makes GOP's stances on ATF and 'ghost guns' look worse**, Frank Figliuzzi, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Futility and fury. That's what I experienced in the 24-hour period starting Monday morning. It began with President Joe Biden's attempt to do something — anything — to counter gun violence and ended with a gunman in a Brooklyn, New York, subway firing 33 rounds, hitting 10 people, with another 13 injured. I appeared on MSNBC on Monday to discuss Biden's announcement of new restrictions on the manufacture and sale of "ghost guns" and the announcement of his second candidate to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCPQ-Fox (Seattle, WA): [VIDEO] FBI release 567 page document detailing 2018 stolen plane investigation**, Unattributed, April 15, 2022, 1:10 AM

For about 70 minutes, 28-year-old man Richard Russell flew a stolen plane across the skies of Western Washington before crashing it into Ketron Island in Pierce County. [[Watch](#)]

**KTVX-ABC (Salt Lake City, UT): Sextortion cases on the rise across the nation**, Lena Takada, April 15, 2022, 12:14 AM

It's a scheme becoming more prevalent. According to the FBI, a predator, posing as a young girl, deceives teenage boys into engaging in explicit activity over video. The predator records the video without permission and uses the recording to extort the victims for money. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGUN-ABC (Tucson, AZ): DEA working to curb fentanyl availability as overdose deaths**

**rise**, Pat Parris, April 14, 2022, 11:22 PM

"It's terrifying is what it is," said DEA Special Agent in Charge, Cheri Oz. "They're in your community, they're in your neighborhood right now." For the second year in a row, fentanyl contributed to the greatest number of overdose deaths in Pima County. The 334 deaths from fentanyl in 2021 is a 40% increase from the year before. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WKRN-ABC (Nashville, TN): 'You're not going to get away with it': FBI searching for serial robber, linked to at least 8 bank robberies**, Mye Owens, April 14, 2022, 11:16 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is asking for help in identifying a man believed to be responsible for at least eight bank robberies and one attempted bank robbery in Tennessee and Alabama. "It can be difficult to compare bank robberies and try to find a commonality, but a lot of times people have habits, people will fall back on the technique that they have used before whether its a style of dress or a way of presenting a note, using a certain kind of weapon, people will tend to revert to type, they will go back to the way they are comfortable," explained Matthew Foster, the Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Nashville FBI division. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WPMI-NBC (Mobile, AL): Mobile FBI special agent weighs in on uptick of text message scams**, Lisa Librenjak, April 14, 2022, 10:30 PM

Do not be fooled by those text messages containing a thank-you link for "paying your bill." The only thing you'll get out of doing that is likely a headache as scammers try to steal your personal information. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, scammers are coming up with more tricks to get you to let your guard down. For example, you may receive a text from your own personal number or in a group message with 19 people. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KWTV-CBS (Oklahoma City, OK): ATF Investigating Cause Of Ottawa County Fire After 3 People Were Found Dead**, Chinh Doan, April 14, 2022 9:55 PM

Federal investigators are looking into the cause of an Ottawa County fire after they found three people dead inside a home Thursday morning. The fire, which happened about 10 miles south of Miami, has hit first responders and the small community hard. The ATF said at 6:20 a.m., someone called 911 to report the fire, which left the home near East 210 Road and South 600 Road with extensive damage. The Fairland Fire Department put out the fire, then found the victims: A woman in her 80s, along with a man and woman both older than 40. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSN-NBC (Wichita, KS): ATF on scene of Haven gas plant explosion**, Daniel Fair, April 14, 2022, 8:31 PM

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has been on the scene of the explosion at the Haven gas plant that took place on Thursday afternoon. According to officers with ATF, they are assisting the Kansas Fire Marshal's Office to help determine the cause of the explosion. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WOWT-NBC (Omaha, NE): DEA plans National Prescription Drug Take Back Day for late April**, Andrew McMunn, April 14, 2022, 8:03 PM

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is planning its next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day for the end of this month. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 30, the public is encouraged to bring any unused and unneeded medications to law enforcement agencies across the country. You can find the nearest collection site using a search tool on the DEA's Take Back Day website. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KIMA-CBS (Yakima, WA): YPD: Yakima man arrested for allegedly kidnapping and molesting 6-year-old girl**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Yakima predator has been arrested and is awaiting trial after an alleged kidnapping and molestation of a 6-year-old girl last week. According to a press release from the Yakima Police Department, through the cooperation of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, the suspect was arrested this Wednesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KXLY-ABC (Spokane, WA): Washington woman missing since November found safe in Stites**, Erin Robinson, April 14, 2022, 1:43 PM

A Western Washington woman missing for months has been found safe in Stites, Idaho. Marisol Cortes is a vulnerable adult. The FBI said an elderly family member took her from Battle Ground, Washington to an unknown location last November. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**Newsweek: Frank James, Suspected Subway Shooter, Will Get Psych 'Attention': Judge**, Zoe Strozewski, April 14, 2022, 1:27 PM

Frank James, the suspect in Tuesday's New York City subway shooting in Brooklyn, will be held in jail without bail. A judge also said that she would ask the Federal Bureau of Prisons to give James "psychiatric attention," the Associated Press reported. James made his first appearance in federal court on Thursday after authorities arrested him Wednesday afternoon following a manhunt that lasted more than 24 hours, according to NBC. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## US SUPREME COURT

**NYT, The Daily: [AUDIO] 27 Years in Solitary Confinement**, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

In the 1990s, Dennis Wayne Hope committed a series of armed robberies. After proving adept at escaping prison, he was put in isolation. He has been there for nearly three decades. His case, if the Supreme Court agrees to hear it, could answer the fundamental question of how long people can be held in solitary confinement. [\[Listen\]](#)

**USA Today: Poll: Most Americans see politics over substance in Supreme Court confirmation process**, John Fritze, Chelsey Cox, April 15, 2022, 5:02 AM

The arduous process of confirming a Supreme Court nominee has turned into one of the most significant spectacles in American politics – at once a job interview, law lecture and television campaign ad that plays out over four days. With Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's historic confirmation in the books, a new poll suggests a majority of Americans are uncertain whether it's worth all the fuss. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: High Court OKs SG To Argue Over Native Criminal Jurisdiction**, Hailey Konatth, April 14, 2022, 9:48 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday said it would allow the U.S. Solicitor General to weigh in on whether Oklahoma and other states have the authority to prosecute non-Native Americans for crimes against Native Americans in Indian Country, granting a motion to participate in oral arguments. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**NYT: With Jackson Headed to Supreme Court, New Judicial Battles Loom**, Carl Hulse  
April 14, 2022 4:00 PM

The partisan clash that concluded with the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court is hardly the end of judicial showdowns in the Senate. With control of the chamber up for grabs in November, Democrats, led by Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, intend to push through as many Biden administration judicial nominees as they can this year. Taking a page from Republicans, who used their majority to reshape the federal courts with a packed pipeline of conservative judges, Democrats plan to install a racially diverse set of jurists with nontraditional backgrounds before the G.O.P. has the chance to win a majority and slam the brakes on President Biden's court picks in 2023. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Fla. Judge Axes Payday Loan Suit Involving Louisiana Tribe**, Caleb Symons, April 14, 2022, 8:02 PM

A trial court judge in Florida has thrown out allegations that the company Mabiloans operates a predatory lending scheme under the guise of tribal affiliation to avoid legal liability, finding that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe in Louisiana does, in fact, appear to help run that business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Okla. Rejects Choctaw Claim Seeking Tax Relief Under McGirt**, Caleb Symons, April 14, 2022, 7:24 PM

Oklahoma tax officials say their authority still extends to newly recognized tribal reservations, rejecting a potentially pivotal lawsuit claiming that the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark McGirt decision stripped the state of its power to tax income earned on those lands. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNEM-CBS (Bay City, MI): Isabella Co. woman sentenced over 20 years for murder on Isabella Indian Reservation**, James Paxon, April 14, 2022, 2:45 PM

A 22-year-old Isabella County woman was sentenced to over 20 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to second degree murder committed on the Isabella Indian Reservation. Kaden Elizabeth Gilbert, from Blanchard, was sentenced in Bay City in front of Judge Thomas Ludington. In November 2020, Gilbert went to the victim's home and stabbed with a knife cutting her femoral artery. The victim lost a lot of blood and died because of her injuries, according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Booth Newspapers \(Grand Rapids, MI\)](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**The Hill: Timeline for marijuana legalization bill slips in Senate**, Aris Folley, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Democratic senators leading a push to legalize marijuana say they are now on track to introduce legislation before recess in August, after initially announcing plans to file a comprehensive reform bill later this month. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) who is heading the effort along with Sens. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) said in a statement on Thursday that he's proud of the progress senators have made in "bringing this vital bill closer to its official introduction" before the recess in early August. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Reuters: Reducing inequality, hiking minimum wage could boost U.S. economy -White House**, Andrea Shalal, April 14, 2022, 10:20 AM

Boosting enforcement of antidiscrimination and antitrust laws, raising the federal minimum wage and higher unionization rates could substantially boost U.S. economic growth, a new report by President Joe Biden's top economic advisers concludes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**WaPo: Democrats' redistricting gains hit a roadblock: The Supreme Court**, Colby Itkowitz and David Weigel, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

Wisconsin Democrats thought they had won the redistricting war. They took over the governor's office, competed in and won state judicial races and filed lawsuits as early as they could, determined to prevent another cycle of Republican-leaning maps. After a battle between Democratic Gov. Tony Evers and Republican legislators, a conservative judge sided with Evers, rejecting a Republican-drawn legislative map in favor of one that was better for Democrats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Senate GOP to force vote on nixing Biden's ghost guns rule**, Jordain Carney, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Senate Republicans said on Thursday they will force a vote to try to nix President Biden's "ghost guns" rule, pushing a fight over gun laws onto the chamber's agenda. Republican Sen. Ted Cruz (Texas) said that he will introduce a resolution along with Sens. James Lankford (Okla.), Mike Braun (Ind.) and Mike Lee (Utah) to block the Justice Department regulation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Daily News: Rep. Ritchie Torres takes ghost gun fight to Congress after DOJ rule**, Tim Balk, April 14, 2022 10:01 PM

As the Biden administration works to reel in the raging spread of so-called ghost guns with a new Justice Department rule, Rep. Ritchie Torres said Thursday that he was taking aim at the lethal kit-assembled weapons by taking the fight to Capitol Hill. Torres, a Bronx Democrat, said he plans to introduce legislation on Monday that would allow private parties to sue manufacturers of ghost gun parts after shootings. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: APRIL 14, 2022**

**ABC: World News Tonight with Lindsey Davis**

**CBS: Evening News with Major Elliott Garrett**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Ukraine says an anti-ship missile sank a lead Russian warship in its Black Sea fleet. While U.S. officials can't confirm if Ukraine struck it with its own missiles, the sunken ship marks a significant loss for Russian forces. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The Brooklyn subway shooting suspect made his first appearance in federal court today

and did not enter a plea deal. He is being held without bail on charges of conducting a violent attack against a mass transportation system. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- New bodycam video released from Grand Rapids, Michigan shows another deadly police shooting of an unarmed Black man. The death of 26-year-old Patrick Lyoya has sparked outrage and calls for accountability nationwide. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Elon Musk has unveiled a public bid to buy Twitter and turn the site into the world's "platform for free speech." Musk recently became the company's largest shareholder and is now offering \$43 billion in cash for the social media site. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Pfizer is preparing to seek authorization to expand COVID booster shots to kids five to 11 years old. New data shows its booster for young children helps healthy kids increase virus-fighting antibodies. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Communities across the south are cleaning up after an outbreak of severe storms. The mayor of Louisville, Kentucky declared an emergency after at least one tornado was confirmed in the area. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A federal jury in Virginia convicted a former British citizen for his role in the abduction, torture and death of several western hostages, including some Americans. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law a ban on most abortions after 15 weeks, making the state the latest to further restrict abortion access. The law is modeled after a similar one in Mississippi that's currently being considered by the Supreme Court. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- More people are struggling to buy homes as mortgage rates rise to the highest levels in over a decade. That's why one company believes it has a solution to the housing crisis: 3D-printed homes. [[CBS](#)]
- El Salvador's crackdown on gang violence is sparking concerns that President Nayib Bukele is trying to silence opposition and ignore human rights. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Russia warns U.S. to stop arming Ukraine,” [[WaPo](#)]
- “Biden to Nominate Barr as Top Fed Banking Regulator,” [[WSJ](#)]

- “Ukraine Live Updates: Russia Appears Close to Capturing Mariupol,” [[NYT](#)]
- “Tunisia among countries seeing major economic consequences from the war in Ukraine,” [[WaPo](#)]
- “F.D.A. Authorizes First Coronavirus Breath Test,” [[NYT](#)]

**END**

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**Sent:** April 15, 2022 6:51 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** April 15, 2022 at 6:51:00 AM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
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**Department of Justice**  
**Morning News Digest**  
**April 15, 2022**  
**7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: APRIL 15, 2022**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

*Washington Times: Biden administration settles Black Lives Matter lawsuits in D.C.,*

**agrees to change policing policy**, Alex Swoyer, April 14, 2022 11:30 AM

The Biden administration has settled lawsuits brought by Black Lives Matter and racial justice activists over protests near the White House in 2020, agreeing to implement new policies within 30 days for policing demonstrations. [...] “The federal government is committed to the highest standards for protecting civil rights and civil liberties in any federal law enforcement response to public demonstrations,” Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Washington DC\)](#)

**Washington Examiner: DOJ updates guidelines for responding to protests after Lafayette Square lawsuits**, Cami Mondeaux, April 14, 2022 11:07 AM

Federal law enforcement agencies have new guidelines and policies that limit the use of nonlethal force on protesters, according to an announcement by the Justice Department on Wednesday. The rules require Park Police and Secret Service members to display clearly visible identification and make audible warnings before attempting to disperse a crowd. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: U.S. Attorney General Would Be Required To Create Marijuana Commission To Advise On Legalization Under New Bipartisan Bill**, Kyle Jaegere, April 14, 2022 12:00 PM

A bipartisan group of congressional lawmakers filed a bill on Thursday that would direct the attorney general to create a commission charged with making recommendations on a regulatory system for marijuana that models what's currently in place for alcohol. Reps. Dave Joyce (R-OH), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and Brian Mast (R-FL) are teaming up on what's titled the Preparing Regulators Effectively for a Post-Prohibition Adult-Use Regulated Environment Act (PREPARE) Act – an incremental reform meant to inform comprehensive cannabis policy changes in the future. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**AP: Brooklyn subway attack suspect is jailed without bail**, Tom Hays, Bobby Caina Calvan And Jennifer Peltz, April 14, 2022, 7:30 PM

The man charged with opening fire in a Brooklyn subway car full of people was jailed without bail Thursday as prosecutors told a judge he terrified all of New York City. Brought into a Brooklyn federal court without handcuffs, a subdued Frank James, 62, softly answered standard questions about whether he understood the charges and the purpose of the brief hearing. His lawyer later asked the public not to prejudge him. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [BuzzFeed](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [NY Post](#), [Newsday](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#)

**AP: Russian legislator and 2 aides criminally charged in US**, Eric Tucker And Larry Neumeister, April 14, 2022, 2:30 PM

A Russian legislator and two aides pushed a covert propaganda campaign aimed at winning U.S. government support for Russia's foreign policy agenda, including moves against Ukraine, according to a Justice Department indictment unsealed on Thursday. The effort was part of what American officials describe as a broader Russian government objective to sway public opinion in its favor, to sow discord in American institutions and to drive wedges between the U.S. and European allies. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Courthouse News](#), [CNBC](#), [Law360](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**AP: Brit convicted as ‘Beatle’ in Islamic State beheadings trial**, Matthew Barakat, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

A jury convicted a British national Thursday for his role in an Islamic State group hostage-taking scheme that took roughly two dozen Westerners captive a decade ago, resulting in the deaths of four Americans, three of whom were beheaded. In convicting El Shafee Elsheikh, the jury concluded that he was one of the notorious “Beatles,” Islamic State captors nicknamed for their accents and known for their cruelty — torturing and beating prisoners, forcing them to fight each other until they collapsed and even making them sing cruel song parodies. Surviving hostages testified that the Beatles delighted themselves rewriting “Hotel California” as “Hotel Osama” and making them sing the refrain “You will never leave.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [ABC](#), [CBS](#), [Guardian](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Seattle Times](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man blaming Trump’s ‘orders’ for riot actions found guilty**, Michael Kulzman, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

An Ohio man who claimed he was only “following presidential orders” from Donald Trump when he stormed the U.S. Capitol was convicted Thursday by a jury that took less than three hours to reject his novel defense for obstructing Congress from certifying Joe Biden’s presidential victory. The federal jury also found Dustin Byron Thompson, 38, guilty of all five of the other charges in his indictment, including stealing a coat rack from an office inside the Capitol during the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The maximum sentence for the obstruction count, the lone felony, would be 20 years imprisonment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#), [Axios](#), [CBS](#), [Cleveland Plain Dealer \(Cleveland, OH\)](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [HuffPost](#), [Insider](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#), [Newsweek](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [WBNS-CBS \(Columbus, OH\)](#)

**AP: Pressure on US to give Ukraine more intelligence on Russia**, Nomaan Merchant and James Laporta, April 14, 2022, 1:00 PM

President Joe Biden has called Russia’s war on Ukraine a genocide and accused Vladimir Putin of committing war crimes. But his administration has struggled with how much intelligence it is willing to give the Ukrainian forces that are trying to stop the Russian leader. Since the war began in late February, the Biden administration has made multiple changes to a classified directive that governs what U.S. agencies are supposed to share with Ukraine. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: FBI says North Korean hackers stole more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency in single hack**, Sean Lyngaas, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The FBI on Thursday blamed hackers associated with the North Korean government for stealing more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency last month from a video gaming company -- the latest in a string of audacious cyber heists tied to Pyongyang. "Through our investigation we were able to confirm Lazarus Group and APT38, cyber actors associated with the DPRK, are responsible for the theft of \$620 million in Ethereum reported on March 29th," the FBI said in a statement. "DPRK" is an abbreviation for North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Ethereum is a technology platform associated with a type of cryptocurrency. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [Axios](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

**ABC: Judge slams Trump as 'charlatan' after jury finds Jan. 6 rioter guilty on all counts**, Alexander Mallin, April 14, 2022 5:32 PM

A federal judge in D.C. on Thursday delivered a scathing rebuke of former President Donald Trump and expressed dismay over the state of American politics just moments after a jury found a defendant charged in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot guilty on all charges. "You know, I think our

democracy is in trouble," Judge Reggie Walton said at the conclusion of the third jury trial for a defendant charged in the Capitol assault. "Because unfortunately, we have charlatans like our former president, who doesn't in my view really care about democracy, but only about power. And as a result of that, it's tearing this country apart." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR, Up First: [AUDIO] Russian Ship Sinks, Impact of Sanctions, Musk's Twitter Bid**, April 15, 2022, 5:49 AM

Russia's flagship cruiser, the Moskva, sank in the Black Sea after an explosion on the vessel (1:26). Russian President Vladimir Putin says Western sanctions aimed at punishing Russia over its actions in Ukraine have failed (5:13). And, Elon Musk is offering to buy Twitter for \$43 billion dollars (8:52). [\[Listen\]](#)

**Yahoo: Case against Oath Keepers hinges on rare use of seditious conspiracy charges**,

Mark Hosenball, April 15, 2022, 4:00 AM

In the weeks after the 2020 election, Stewart Rhodes, founder and leader of the far-right Oath Keepers militia group, had some stark advice for then-President Donald Trump: Invoke a 19th century law known as the Insurrection Act and call out the National Guard to crack down on "domestic traitors" and reverse the "fraudulent" victory of Joe Biden. "The very survival of our nation as a free Constitutional Republic hangs in the balance," Rhodes and his domestic partner Kellye SoRelle wrote in an open letter to Trump. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Here are the 41 US lawmakers who were not sanctioned by Russia**, Lexi Lonas, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

On Wednesday, Russia sanctioned all but 41 House members in a diplomatic tit-for-tat with the United States amid mounting tensions over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Those on the sanctions list included 398 House lawmakers, including delegates from U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Judge tells Capitol rioter supervision is necessary to protect democracy from 'people like you'**, Emily Zantow, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A federal judge imposed a prison sentence plus house arrest and probation on a Tennessee man who stormed the Capitol, saying the government wants to keep an eye on people like him as the 2024 presidential election approaches. U.S. District Chief Judge Beryl Howell spoke at the Thursday hearing about the "conundrum" many sentencing judges are facing as they decide how to sentence a nonviolent Capitol riot defendant like Blake Reed, who pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of entering and remaining in a restricted building. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR: In a D.C. jail, Jan. 6 defendants awaiting trial are forming bitter factions**, Tom Dreisbach, April 14, 2022 4:20 PM

Inside the Washington, D.C., jail, where a group of defendants charged in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol have been held for as long as a year or more, a bitter divide is growing, current and former inmates say. A combination of that intense proximity, the stress of criminal cases and a fight over more than a million dollars donated to support the defendants has contributed to the rift. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NPR-2](#)

**WNYW-Fox (New York, NY): How cybercriminals could retaliate for sanctions on Russian oligarchs**, Kevin Corke, April 14, 2022 1:56 PM

The United States is one of many countries imposing strict sanctions on Russia after its invasion

of Ukraine. In a speech on April 6, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said a message for anyone who "enable[s] the Russian regime" through criminal conduct. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: AP sources: Trump aide Stephen Miller to speak to 1/6 panel**, Eric Tucker and Farnoush Amiri, April 14, 2022, 5:30 PM

Stephen Miller, who served as a top aide to President Donald Trump, was being questioned Thursday by the congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection, according to two people familiar with the matter. Miller was a senior adviser for policy during the Trump administration and a central figure in many of the Republican's decisions. He had resisted previous efforts by the committee, filing a lawsuit last month seeking to quash a subpoena for his phone records. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#)

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: LA political donor gets 30 years in prison for fetish deaths**, Brian Melley, April 14, 2022, 5:00 PM

Ed Buck told his neighbors that the steady stream of young Black men leaving his West Hollywood apartment were social work clients. What really happened behind closed doors, which he referred to as the "gates of hell," was far more sinister. The men did not need Buck's help they needed to be saved from him, said federal prosecutors in Los Angeles said. Some barely escaped with their lives. Two men didn't. Buck, 67, a wealthy gay white donor to Democratic, LGBTQ and animal rights causes, was sentenced Thursday in U.S. District Court to 30 years in federal prison for injecting two men with lethal doses of methamphetamine as part of a fetish that turned fatal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Parents get 8 weeks in prison for college bribery scandal**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A California couple was sentenced to eight weeks in prison on Thursday after pleading guilty to paying \$25,000 to cheat on their son's college admissions test. Dr. Gregory Colburn, 63, and Amy Colburn, 52, of Palo Alto, were the 16th and 17th parents to be sentenced in the sprawling bribery scandal. The couple abruptly pleaded guilty in January six weeks before they were to go on trial to money laundering and mail fraud conspiracy charges. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KPIX-CBS \(San Francisco, CA\)](#), [WWLP-NBC \(Springfield, MA\)](#)

**AP: Former Long Island official Mangano sentenced to 12 years**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

Former Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano, once one of Long Island's most powerful elected officials, was sentenced Thursday to 12 years in prison for what a prosecutor described as "widespread corruption and dishonesty." Mangano, who was convicted in 2019 on corruption charges related to his relationship with businessman Harendra Singh, defended his actions at his sentencing in federal court on Long Island, according to Newsday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Voice \(Nassau, NY\)](#), [Newsday](#), [NY Post](#), [Patch \(Mineola, NY\)](#)

**NBC: California man pleads guilty to threat to kill Rep. Matt Gaetz**, Phil Helsel, April 14, 2022, 9:58 PM

A California man pleaded guilty Thursday to threatening Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, federal prosecutors said. Eugene Huelsman, 59, left a voicemail at Gaetz's Florida office on Jan. 9, 2021, in which he said, in part, "I'm gonna put a bullet in you" and called him a "tyrant," according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Pensacola News Journal](#), [WKRG-CBS \(Mobile, AL\)](#)

**CBS: Tulsa man convicted of drug trafficking and gun charges**, Alex Keller, April 14, 2022, 4:38 PM

A cocaine trafficker from Tulsa was convicted at trial of drug and gun charges, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Chad E. Meacham announced Friday. After three days of trial and seven hours of deliberation, a federal jury in Dallas found Roberto Chairez, 33, guilty of one count of attempted possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime on April 14, 2022. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Man convicted in Colombia of murdering his wife arrested after 27 years on the run**, FBI says, Melissa Alonso, April 14, 2022, 12:00 PM

A man who fled to the US from Colombia after the murder his wife in 1994 was arrested Wednesday in Massachusetts, the FBI said in a news release. William Hernando Usma Acosta, 61, had been living in Belmont under the alias Carlos Alberto Rendon after entering the US illegally in 1995, authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10 Indicted In Alleged \$100M 'Pump-And-Dump' Stock Scheme**, Gina Kim, April 14, 2022, 9:24 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice on Thursday unsealed three indictments in New York federal court against 10 individuals across the globe for allegedly running a yearslong "pump-and-dump" stock scheme that prosecutors say netted more than \$100 million in illegal proceeds. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Fraudster Avoids More Time For Dark Web Insider Trading**, Stewart Bishop, April 14, 2022, 7:16 PM

A New York federal judge on Thursday spared an admitted securities fraudster further prison time for running an online racket on the dark web that trafficked in confidential information about public companies. Apostolos Trovias, of Athens, Greece, was first accused last year of buying and selling confidential information about publicly traded companies via dark web sites and encrypted messaging services. That information included misappropriated stock tips based on confidential customer trading information, pre-release earnings reports and deal information from publicly traded companies, according to the government. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Ex-Atty Cops To GM Scam After Feds Warn Of ID Theft Count**, Pete Brush, April 14, 2022, 3:18 PM

A former California lawyer on Thursday admitted faking a \$16.5 million General Motors injury settlement, coping to a conspiracy charge three days after Manhattan federal prosecutors said he would face an added aggravated identity theft count if he stood trial. Defendant Christopher Hammatt, 52, pled guilty to a count of wire fraud conspiracy before U.S. District Judge Paul G. Gardephe, who set a July 26 sentencing date. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**New Haven Register: Feds: New Haven man charged with selling 50 grams of fentanyl to**

**investigators**, Liz Hardaway, April 14, 2022, 9:15 PM

A New Haven man was federally charged Wednesday with distributing 40 or more grams of fentanyl, according to federal prosecutors. A grand jury in New Haven returned an indictment against 27-year-old Nelson Santini. The charge stems from the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force making a controlled purchase of about 50 grams of fentanyl from Santini in August 2021, according to Leonard Boyle, the United States attorney for the District of Connecticut. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Boston.com: Canton man arrested on charges of sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl**, Susannah Sudborough, April 14, 2022, 7:22 PM

A Canton man was arrested Wednesday on charges of sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl, the U.S. Department of Justice announced Thursday. Keion Rowell, 23, was indicted on one count of sex trafficking of a child and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of a minor. Rowell was detained after an initial hearing in Boston Thursday pending an arraignment and a detention hearing scheduled for April 19. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Boston Globe](#)

**The Oregonian (Portland, OR): Portland chapter president of Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, fellow member get life sentences**, Maxine Bernstein, April 14, 2022, 7:21 PM

A judge Thursday sentenced Mark Leroy Dencklau, president of the Portland chapter of the Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, and club member Chad Leroy Erickson to life in prison for the torture-style killing of an ex-club member. U.S. District Judge Michael W. Mosman issued the mandatory minimum sentences for the two men in separate, back-to-back hearings in federal court in Portland. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KGW-NBC \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KOIN-CBS \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Statesman Journal \(Salem, OR\)](#)

**The Durango Herald (Durango, CO): Four men sentenced to prison for illegal drug distribution in Southwest Colorado**, Shane Benjamin, April 14, 2022, 7:20 PM

Four men have been sentenced to federal prison terms ranging from 2½ years to 10 years for distributing illegal drugs in Southwest Colorado, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for Colorado. All four men pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute. They were sentenced Monday in Durango by U.S. District Court Judge Robert Blackburn. All four cases are independent of each other, said Deborah Takahara, a spokeswoman with the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Boston Globe: Ex-ski resort executive gets 18 months in failed visa plan case**, Lisa Rathke, April 14, 2022, 7:10 PM

The first of four men accused in a failed plan to build a biotechnology plant in Vermont using tens of millions of dollars in foreign investors' money raised through a special visa program was sentenced Thursday to 18 months in prison. William Stenger, 73, the former president of the Jay Peak ski resort, also was sentenced to three years of supervisory release and ordered to pay \$250,000 in restitution. He pleaded guilty last August to providing false documents. In exchange, nine fraud charges were dropped. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KXAS-NBC \(Fort Worth, TX\)](#)

**Detroit News: Famed UM music professor sentenced to prison in sex crime case**, Robert Snel, April 14, 2022, 5:06 PM

Former University of Michigan violin professor Stephen Shipps was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison for engaging in sexual activity with a 16-year-old student during a trip to New York 20 years ago. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WILX-NBC \(Onondaga, MI\)](#)

*Valdosta Daily Times*(*Valdosta, GA*): **Valdosta gang member sentenced**, Terry Richards, April 14, 2022, 5:54 PM

A Valdosta gang member was sentenced to federal prison Wednesday on a weapons charge, the U.S. Department of Justice said. Xavier Rashad Brooks, 31, was sentenced to serve 100 months in federal prison, followed by three years of supervised release after he pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to a Justice Department statement.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFXL-Fox \(Albany, GA\)](#), [WRBL-CBS \(Columbus, GA\)](#)

*Hartford Courant*: **Feds: A Meriden woman embezzled \$400K. Now she's going to prison**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Meriden woman was sentenced to a year and a day in prison for embezzling more than \$400,000 from her employer's clients, according to federal authorities. Crystal Klatt, 36, also was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Janet C. Hall in New Haven to three years of supervised release, according to federal authorities. Hall also ordered Klatt to pay restitution. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*PhillyVoice* (*Philadelphia, PA*): **Philly man gets prison time for stealing \$1 million in federal PPP funds**, Michael Tanenbaum, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Philadelphia man who pleaded guilty to fraudulently obtaining nearly \$1 million in federal Paycheck Protection Program funds during the COVID-19 pandemic will spend 6 1/2 years behind bars, federal prosecutors announced. Devron Brown, 50, was charged last June with two counts of bank fraud and nine counts of money laundering as part of an alleged scheme to obtain and misuse PPP loans. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

*Citrus County Chronicle* (*Citrus County, FL*): **Dunnellon felon sentenced to two years in federal prison for falsifying firearm papers**, Busther Thompson, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Citrus County man was sentenced to serve two years in federal prison for lying about his felony convictions in order to purchase firearms. Senior U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell ordered Darrell Pierre Hopkins's 24-month sentence Thursday, April 14, after the Dunnellon 54-year-old pleaded guilty Feb. 2 to making a false statement for a firearms purchase, and causing a gun dealer to maintain false records. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Las Vegas Review-Journal*: **Man charged with attempting to kidnap child from Las Vegas park**, Glenn Puit, April 14, 2022, 1:45 PM

A Las Vegas man has been charged with attempting to kidnap a child from an east valley park and exposing himself to several others. According to a Las Vegas police arrest report for Byron Osborne, 31, he was arrested on April 7 at 2850 Stewart Ave., near North Eastern Avenue. Police did not name the park where Osborne was arrested, but the address is the same as the one listed for Rafael Rivera Park. The address is near an elementary school and a middle school. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSNV-NBC \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#), [WNYW-Fox \(New York, NY\)](#)

*Idaho Statesman*: **Caldwell officer allegedly hit a man while on duty. Now he faces an additional charge**, Alex Brizee, April 14, 2022, 11:42 AM

The long-serving Caldwell police officer who allegedly struck someone in the face while on the job is now facing an additional charge, according to an indictment filed in the U.S. District Court in Boise. Lt. Joseph A. "Joey" Hoadley, who has been with the department since 2001, is now charged with destruction, alteration or falsification of records in a federal investigation, according

to an indictment filed Wednesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KBOI-CBS \(Boise, ID\)](#), [KMVT-CBS \(Twin Falls, IA\)](#)

**WTOP-FM (Washington, DC): DC men plead guilty to kidnapping, assaulting victim from Maryland casino**, Alejandro Alvarez, April 14, 2022, 10:46 PM

Two D.C. men have admitted to the and assault of a victim from a Maryland hotel and casino in February last year. Anthony Erik Hebron, age 23, and Darius Lawrence Young, age 29, pleaded guilty this week on kidnapping charges for collaborating with three others to lure a victim out of their hotel room at an undisclosed Maryland casino on Feb. 3, 2021. Darius also pleaded guilty to possession of firearms and ammunition by a felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDKY-Fox (Lexington, KY): Georgetown man sentenced to 324 months for producing child pornography**, Matthew Duckworth, April 14, 2022, 10:46 PM

A Georgetown man was sentenced to 324 months in federal prison on Thursday. Phillip Christopher Abel, 36, pleaded guilty to enticing a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a video in September 2021. Abel also had at least 30 deleted photos of a pre-pubescent female in sexual poses taken at Abel's residence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): California man arrested for recording Mass. girl changing her clothes**, Amy Phillips, April 14, 2022, 8:18 PM

A California man has been charged with secretly filming an 11-year-old Massachusetts girl while she was changing her clothes in her bedroom. Jacob Guerrero, 23, of Woodland, Calif., was arrested in California Thursday and charged with one count of sexually exploiting a child. He will appear in federal court in Boston at a later date. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSEE-NBC (Fresno, CA): DOJ: \$25M of federal water stolen through secret gate in Delta-Mendota Canal**, Dom McAndrew, April 14, 2022, 8:15 PM

A hidden gate to transfer water from a federally owned canal into a parallel canal owned by a local water district is what the Department of Justice says was used to steal over \$25 million worth of federally owned water. The unidentified water district served the Fresno County and Merced County communities of Dos Palos, Firebaugh, and Los Banos. According to the DOJ in a statement released Thursday, 75-year-old Dennis Falaschi of Aptos was made aware in 1992 of an abandoned drain turnout on the Delta-Mendota Canal that leaked water from that canal into a parallel canal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (West Chester, PA): Chesco Man Jailed Over 2 ½ Years for Stealing Pandemic Unemployment**, Holly Herman, April 14, 2022, 8:01 PM

A 25-year-old Chester County man was sentenced Thursday to two years and nine months in federal prison for filing a fraudulent application for pandemic unemployment compensation while in jail on drug charges. Kenneth L. Huggins, Jr. of Coatesville was also ordered by U.S. District Judge Gerald J. Pappert here to serve three years of probation following his jail sentence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNS (New York City, NY): Ex-NJ USPS worker pleads guilty to unemployment insurance scam: DOJ**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A former New Jersey postal worker pleaded guilty on Thursday to conspiring to fraudulently obtain unemployment insurance benefits, according to the Department of Justice. Ross Clayton, 31, of Irvington, pleaded guilty to wire fraud conspiracy. Clayton was a United States Postal

Service employee who took unemployment insurance benefits-related mail, including debit cards, from a USPS location in New Jersey and used it to obtain unemployment insurance benefits to which he was not entitled, according to court statements and documents. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Peekskill-Cortlandt, NY): Peekskill 'Incel' Sentenced To Prison For Stalking, Threatening**, Michael Woyton, April 14, 2022, 6:53 PM

A northern Westchester man, who self-describes as "involuntary celibate," who admitted in court that he terrorized and harassed women, was sentenced to prison Thursday. David Kaufman, 28, of Peekskill, was sentenced to 30 months in prison, after pleading guilty to stalking multiple victims between October 2019 and August 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVNY-ABC (Burlington, VT): Explosive devices found in Wilder home; man detained**, Ben Mitchell, Devin Bates, April 14, 2022, 6:14 PM

A Wilder man has been detained on federal charges after explosive devices were found inside his home in the village of Wilder. The Vermont State Police Bomb Squad found and removed the devices, as well as potentially hazardous materials. No injuries were reported. William Hillard, a 51-year-old resident of the home, faces a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and a charge of possessing a destructive device. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFOR-CBS (Miami, FL): Ex-UBS Financial Advisor Pleads Guilty To Defrauding Millions From Clients; Broward Man Faces 60 Years In Prison**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 5:54 PM

Federal authorities said a former UBS financial advisor has pleaded guilty in Miami federal court to defrauding over \$5 million from a family who maintained several accounts at UBS. Officials say German Nino, a resident of Broward County, was a financial advisor working at a branch office of UBS Financial Services Inc. in Miami. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WRBL-CBS (Columbus, GA): Louisiana man sentenced to prison for role in oxycodone drug conspiracy involving Montgomery physician**, Tiara Towns, April 14, 2022, 5:37 PM

On April 11, 2022, Garren Charles Rogers, 36, from Slidell, Louisiana, was sentenced to 120 months in prison for his role in organizing a prescription drug conspiracy in Montgomery, Alabama, announced United States Attorney Sandra J. Stewart. Rogers' prison sentence will be followed by three years of a supervised release. There is no parole in the federal system. According to court records, Rogers was part of a conspiracy involving numerous others to obtain illegal prescriptions for oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Arlington, MA): Arlington Business Owner Convicted Of Stealing Government Benefits**, Annie Sandoli, April 14, 2022, 5:17 PM

The owner and operator of an Arlington-based insurance agency has been convicted by a federal jury in Boston of fraudulently receiving disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA), United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins said in a news release Thursday. Following a six-day jury trial, Patrick Quinn, 50, was convicted of two counts each of theft of public funds and making false statements. U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns scheduled sentencing for Aug. 17. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRTV-CBS (Great Falls, MT): Great Falls meth trafficker sentenced in federal court**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:49 PM

Mark Edwin Abresch was sentenced in federal court in Great Falls on April 14, 2022, for distributing meth. Prosecutors alleged that Abresch distributed meth in Great Falls between

September 2020 and April 2021. In a two-week period from the end of March to the beginning of April 2021, Abresch distributed more than 89 grams of meth in four controlled buys. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Bloomfield, NJ): Bloomfield Man, Former Hotel Worker Embezzled \$300K: Feds,** Eric Kiefer, April 14, 2022, 4:46 PM

A Bloomfield resident who formerly worked at a nationwide hotel chain admitted his role in a scheme to embezzle more than \$300,000 from the company, federal prosecutors announced Thursday. Marco Alvarez, 46, of Bloomfield, pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCTV-CBS (Kansas City, MO): KC man sentenced for meth, gun officers found on him after attempted break-ins**, Zoe Brown, April 14, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Kansas City man has been sentenced for illegally possessing a gun and methamphetamine to distribute, which officers found on him after he tried to break into someone's car and house. A judge sentenced 38-year-old Joel L. Redman to 12 years and seven months in federal prison without parole. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOMO-AM (Seattle, WA): Shoreline man arrested for violating protection order, possessing firearms**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Shoreline man charged with two counts of illegal possession of firearms will make his initial appearance in United States District Court in Seattle on Thursday afternoon, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Rustam Yusupov, 44, was arrested without incident late Wednesday at his Shoreline home after an incident at a downtown Seattle hotel room on March 10. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMIZ-ABC (Columbia, MO): Federal judge sentences Columbia woman for trafficking meth**, Karl Wehmhoener, April 14, 2022, 2:45 PM

A federal judge sentenced a Columbia woman for trafficking meth after she received a large package of meth shipped from California to distribute locally in April 2019. Cassiopeia Marie Blaise, 37, was sentenced to eight years in federal prison without parole. Blaise pleaded guilty in August 2021 to possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMAR-ABC (Baltimore, MD): Member of sex trafficking conspiracy sentenced to nine years in prison**, Rushaad Hayward, April 14, 2022, 12:57 PM

Lakeya Aldridge was sentenced to nine years in federal prison for conspiracy to commit kidnapping by a U.S. District Judge. The 41-year-old from Federalsburg, Maryland conspired with 33-year-old Joshua Lankford in October 2018. The two recruited a victim to perform sex acts in their direction. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WYOU-CBS (Scranton, PA): Monroe County man pleads guilty to bank robbery**, Vivian Muniz, April 14, 2022, 11:50 AM

Officials announced that a man has pleaded guilty to a bank robbery in East Stroudsburg committed in 2019. According to U.S. Attorney John C. Gurganus, Terrance Tyson, 45, of East Stroudsburg, admitted to robbing the NBT Bank located in East Stroudsburg, in September 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WNEP \(Scranton, PA\)](#)

**WHTM-ABC (Harrisburg, PA): Harrisburg postal contractor charged with mail theft**, George

Stockburger, April 14, 2022, 11:26 PM

A postal contractor from Harrisburg has been indicted by a federal grand jury on mail theft charges. The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced that Michael Anthony Collier, Jr. was indicted after an investigation found Collier allegedly took packages intended to be delivered out of state. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: Juvenile justice agency agrees to reform main prison**, Michelle Lieu, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice announced Thursday that it will reform its beleaguered central prison for youths under a settlement agreement with the federal government. The agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice follows a 2020 report from the federal agency that ordered the state to make changes at the Broad River Road Complex in Columbia or face a lawsuit. Federal investigators found state officials were violating the rights of incarcerated youths by failing to protect them from fights, forcing them to spend days or weeks in isolation for minor offenses and failing to get them mental health when they threaten to harm or kill themselves. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Post and Courier \(Charleston, SC\)](#), [WOLO-ABC \(Columbia, SC\)](#)

**CNN: Civil rights groups sue Texas county over alleged 'discriminatory' map**, Fredreka Schouten, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A coalition of civil rights groups in Texas filed a federal lawsuit Thursday against Galveston County, alleging that the county's redistricting plan intentionally discriminates against a growing minority population in the Gulf Coast community. The complaint, shared first with CNN, marks the second lawsuit that seeks to overturn maps approved by the Republican majority on the county's governing body. Last month, the Justice Department filed a federal lawsuit against the county on similar grounds -- in a redistricting dispute that has garnered national attention. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Abortion ban after 15 weeks signed into law in Florida**, Anthony Izaguirre, April 14, 2022, 11:50 PM

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a 15-week abortion ban into law Thursday as the state joined a growing conservative push to restrict access to the procedure ahead of a U.S. Supreme Court decision that could roll back abortion rights in America. "This will represent the most significant protections for life that have been enacted in this state in a generation," DeSantis said as he signed the bill at an evangelical church in the city of Kissimmee. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#)

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): Southfield doctor to pay over \$700K to resolve false payment claims**, Elizabeth Washington, April 14, 2022, 12:50 PM

Gynecologic oncologist Vinay K. Malviya M.D, from Southfield, has agreed to pay \$775,000 to resolve his alleged violation of submitting false claims for federal healthcare programs payments. Officials say these payments are related to medically unnecessary procedures Malviya performed. According to the United States Department of Justice, Malviya's allegations date from February 2011 through June 2017. The department addresses that Malviya agrees to be

excluded from several health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid for the next three years.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WWJ-CBS \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Texas moves to ease border gridlock over ‘sense of urgency’**, Acacia Coronado and Paul J. Weber, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The logjam of trucks at the U.S.-Mexico border finally began breaking Thursday after nearly a week as Texas Gov. Greg Abbott eased off his latest dramatic action over immigration that has gridlocked some of the world’s busiest trade ports and taken a mounting economic toll. “There is a sense of urgency now to reach deals that did not exist before,” Abbott said. The two-term Republican governor, who for days has allowed commercial trucks to backup for miles into Mexico after requiring them to stop for additional inspections in Texas, lifted that order for bridges in El Paso and other cities after announcing a new security agreement with the neighboring Mexican states of Chihuahua and Coahuila. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [WSJ](#)

**WaPo: Democrats in tough races revolt over Biden administration border move**, Mike Deboines, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

President Biden is facing a growing mutiny from Democratic candidates — including five vulnerable senators — who are questioning his administration’s decision to lift a pandemic health order that has drastically curtailed migrants’ ability to seek asylum at the southern border. The internal dissension is an early acknowledgment from many Democrats that worries about border security and immigration could become a major obstacle for them in this year’s midterm elections. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] Greg Abbott is starving his own voters to own the libs**, Catherine Rampell, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Starve your own voters to own the libs. That appears to be Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s latest strategy for reaching the White House, given his decision to deliberately snarl traffic on the U.S. southern border — leaving food to rot and critical components for cars and other manufacturing to remain inaccessible to U.S. companies and consumers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Fox: Texas border agents encounter boy, 4, among suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into US**, Bradford Betz, April 14, 2022, 9:33 PM

Texas border agents say they encountered a 4-year-old boy early Tuesday morning among a group of suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into the U.S. The value of the seized marijuana was later determined to be worth more than \$93,000, according to a press release from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). After midnight Tuesday, Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol (RGV) agents and Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers spotted a group of more than a dozen people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border near Roma, Texas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NBC: Top border official hits back at Texas Gov. Abbott for busing migrants to Washington**, D.C., Dareh Gregorian, April 14, 2022, 7:08 PM

The head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection criticized Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Thursday for busing migrants from the southern border to Washington, D.C., without consulting with federal officials. “Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities,” CBP Commissioner Chris Magnus said in

a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 18 Additional States Join Suit To Keep Pandemic Border Block**, Mike LaSusa, April 14, 2022, 4:32 PM

Eighteen additional states on Thursday signed on to a lawsuit started by Arizona, Louisiana and Missouri to challenge the Biden administration's decision to wind down a pandemic-related order known as Title 42 that allows the quick expulsion of migrants arriving at U.S. land borders.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOL Defends H-2A Enforcement In Farm's Fine Dispute**, Grace Dixon, April 14, 2022, 3:22 PM

The U.S. Department of Labor urged a New Jersey federal judge to toss a farm's challenge of a \$556,000 fine it's facing for violating H-2A visa program laws, defending the constitutionality of an interagency administrative enforcement process. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Feds blast Texas for shipping illegal immigrants to D.C.**, Stephen Dinan, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A senior Homeland Security official chided Texas Gov. Greg Abbott for busing illegal immigrants to Washington, saying Thursday that the Republican governor was hurting the government's efforts to coordinate how the migrants are released. "Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities," said Chris Magnus, head of Customs and Border Protection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Border Patrol agent 'whip' probe done, produced 500-page report: union**, MaryAnn Martinez, April 14, 2022, 6:35 PM

The Biden administration has compiled a 500-page report on the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants last year and could release it any day now, the top union official told The Post late Thursday. The report is the outcome of the administrative investigation into the agents' actions conducted by Customs and Border Protection's Office of Personal Responsibility (ORP). The agents have been cleared of criminal wrongdoing and won't face charges, but could still lose their jobs if they are found to have broken agency policies.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Charred bat meat found inside Maryland man's luggage at Dulles Airport**, Sonia Dasgupta, April 14, 2022, 11:40 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol found charred bat meat inside the baggage of a Germantown, Maryland man at Dulles International Airport on April 5. According to officials, man who arrived from Ghana was carrying 3 pounds, 8 ounces of the mammal meat in his luggage. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Herndon, VA\)](#), [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**KWTX-CBS (Waco, TX): \$106K in unreported U.S. currency seized at South Texas international port of entry**, Angela Bonilla, April 14, 2022, 11:24 AM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized \$106,000 in bulk unreported U.S. currency at the Brownsville and Matamoros International Port of Entry. The seizure happened on April 12 when officers referred a 23-year-old U.S. citizen heading into Mexico for a routine vehicle inspection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**Bloomberg: Third Time's The Charm in Chicken Price Fixing Trial, DOJ Says**, Bob Van Voris, April 14, 2022 4:27 PM

The U.S.'s top antitrust enforcer, who flew from Washington to Denver at the behest of a skeptical judge, struggled to convince the court that the Justice Department will be successful in its third trial over charges of collusion in the chicken industry. "We know that the evidence couldn't persuade 12 people," U.S. District Judge Philip Brimmer said at a contentious hearing Thursday, referring to previous mistrials in the case. "We've seen it happen twice." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: DOJ Wants More Info On Frontier's Bid For Spirit Airlines**, Carolina Bolado, April 14, 2022, 4:13 PM

Spirit Airlines revealed Thursday that the U.S. Department of Justice has requested additional information with respect to its proposed \$6.6 billion merger with Frontier Group, signaling close scrutiny by antitrust regulators. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Google Faces Antitrust Suit Over Maps Monopoly, Waze Deal**, Mike Leonard, April 14, 2022 3:59 PM

Alphabet Inc. is facing federal antitrust litigation in San Francisco over claims that it leverages its dominance of the GPS navigation market through Google Maps, Waze, and related services to lock app developers into the "Google ecosystem" and hit them with "egregious" price hikes. The lawsuit accuses Google of capturing 81% of the market by offering Maps for free, exploiting its data "treasure trove" to cement its monopoly, placing restrictive terms on developers that incorporate its functions, and using other services like search and YouTube to favor Maps by "self-preferencing." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: DOJ's First Criminal Wage-Fixing Case Ends Mostly in Defeat**, Ben Penn, April 14, 2022, 1:33 PM

A jury found two defendants in the Justice Department's first criminal wage-fixing case not guilty of violating the Sherman Act while finding one defendant guilty on a single count of obstruction of Federal Trade Commission proceedings. Neeraj Jindal, the owner of a physical therapy staffing company, was found guilty Thursday of one of three charges while the jury in the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Texas found co-defendant John Rodgers not guilty on all counts. Rodgers was Jindal's clinical director. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Law360](#)

## ENVIRONMENT

**Guardian: EPA opens civil rights investigations over pollution in Cancer Alley**, Oliver Laughland, April 14, 2022, 1:54 PM

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has opened a series of civil rights investigations into state agencies in Louisiana to examine whether permits granted in the highly polluted industrial corridor, known locally as Cancer Alley, have violated Black citizens rights. The news, first reported by the New Orleans Advocate, marks further enforcement action taken by the federal agency in the region since the EPA administrator, Michael Regan, visited the area late last year. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Environmental groups sue EPA over state air pollution plans**, Zack Budryk, April 14, 2022, 4:18 PM

Four environmental organizations filed a lawsuit Wednesday against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), alleging it has failed to properly enforce the Clean Air Act's Regional Haze Rule. The EPA amended the rule in 2017, extending the window in which states could submit air pollution reduction plans through July 2021. However, as of April 2022, 34 states have not submitted their plans, according to the lawsuit. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Law360](#)

**E&E News: Biden rolls out equity plans for more than 90 agencies**, Robin Bravender and Michael Doyle, April 14, 2022, 1:36 PM

The Biden administration today announced plans to expand federal investment and support in historically underserved communities. More than 90 federal agencies — including every Cabinet-level agency — released “equity action plans” aimed at combating “the systemic barriers in our nation’s policies and programs that hold too many underserved communities back from prosperity, dignity and equality,” the White House said. The plans include EPA’s intent to “proactively” go after civil rights compliance, while the Interior Department takes a closer look at who is benefiting from the nation’s national parks. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Arizona Republic: Federal agency outlines a plan to curb illegal killings of imperiled Mexican gray wolf**, Lindsey Botts, April 14, 2022, 3:07 PM

Federal officials released a set of steps this week meant to curb the illegal killing of endangered Mexican gray wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. Under the plan, the agency would work with state wildlife managers to increase education and outreach in communities where wolves live. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**CBS: Two contractors behind massive development in LaPorte, Indiana accused of tax fraud, money laundering**, Megan Hickey, April 14, 2022, 7:16 PM

Tax fraud and money laundering charges have now been filed against two Indiana construction companies behind a \$30 million project in LaPorte. Undercover video obtained by the CBS 2 Investigators helped prosecutors make the case. As CBS 2 Investigator Megan Hickey reported, it took confidential informants to expose the alleged unlawful payment practices tied to the multimillion-dollar residential and retail development in LaPorte, Indiana. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: FBI Records Released in Case of Man Who Stole Sea-Tac Plane**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:17 PM

Newly released FBI documents show the Sumner man who stole an airplane from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in 2018 seemed unsettled to his loved ones before the theft, which ended when he crashed the plane on Pierce County’s Ketron Island. The records say 28-year-old Alaska Airlines ground worker Richard Russell entered the empty turboprop passenger aircraft about 7:30 p.m. Aug. 10 as it sat on an airport tarmac and flew it for about an hour and 10 minutes, The News Tribune reported. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: ‘She Was Not Trash’: Body Found in Indiana Is Identified After 30 Years**, Livia Albeck-Ripka, April 14, 2022, 8:00 PM

For three decades, she was known only as Jane Doe, ever since her body was found dumped on

the embankment of an interstate highway in Indiana in May 1992. [...] She was found off Interstate 65 in Washington Township, northwest of Indianapolis, wearing only a light green tank top and anklet socks, according to an F.B.I. report, just a month before her 18th birthday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg: [EDITORIAL] Biden Moves Forward on Gun Violence**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 8:00 AM

After much talk and little action on guns, President Joe Biden finally took a few small steps forward this week. Actually getting a handle on the country's epidemic of gun violence will require Congress to do its job. On Monday, Biden nominated Steve Dettelbach, a former federal prosecutor, to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF. He also laid out a new initiative to combat "ghost guns," or homemade firearms that lack serial numbers. It's about time on both counts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Caller: Here's How The DOJ And FBI Are Spending Their Time Instead Of Rooting Out Actual Extremists Like The Alleged Subway Shooter**, Diana Glebova, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

The FBI never managed to thwart the NYC subway shooting suspect, who allegedly posted hours of extremist black nationalist and violent rhetoric on YouTube, but has repeatedly allocated resources to chasing hoaxes and false leads. The FBI and Department of Justice (DOJ) have spent their efforts plotting an operation to kidnap a governor, busting out a team of 15 agents to investigate a rope in a NASCAR garage and investigating parents at school boards meetings as domestic terrorists, among other failed operations. The FBI has also denied knowing about the whereabouts of Hunter Biden's laptop. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**MSNBC: [OPINION] Subway shooting makes GOP's stances on ATF and 'ghost guns' look worse**, Frank Figliuzzi, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Futility and fury. That's what I experienced in the 24-hour period starting Monday morning. It began with President Joe Biden's attempt to do something — anything — to counter gun violence and ended with a gunman in a Brooklyn, New York, subway firing 33 rounds, hitting 10 people, with another 13 injured. I appeared on MSNBC on Monday to discuss Biden's announcement of new restrictions on the manufacture and sale of "ghost guns" and the announcement of his second candidate to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCPQ-Fox (Seattle, WA): [VIDEO] FBI release 567 page document detailing 2018 stolen plane investigation**, Unattributed, April 15, 2022, 1:10 AM

For about 70 minutes, 28-year-old man Richard Russell flew a stolen plane across the skies of Western Washington before crashing it into Ketron Island in Pierce County. [[Watch](#)]

**KTVX-ABC (Salt Lake City, UT): Sextortion cases on the rise across the nation**, Lena Takada, April 15, 2022, 12:14 AM

It's a scheme becoming more prevalent. According to the FBI, a predator, posing as a young girl, deceives teenage boys into engaging in explicit activity over video. The predator records the video without permission and uses the recording to extort the victims for money. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGUN-ABC (Tucson, AZ): DEA working to curb fentanyl availability as overdose deaths**

**rise**, Pat Parris, April 14, 2022, 11:22 PM

"It's terrifying is what it is," said DEA Special Agent in Charge, Cheri Oz. "They're in your community, they're in your neighborhood right now." For the second year in a row, fentanyl contributed to the greatest number of overdose deaths in Pima County. The 334 deaths from fentanyl in 2021 is a 40% increase from the year before. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WKRN-ABC (Nashville, TN): 'You're not going to get away with it': FBI searching for serial robber, linked to at least 8 bank robberies**, Mye Owens, April 14, 2022, 11:16 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is asking for help in identifying a man believed to be responsible for at least eight bank robberies and one attempted bank robbery in Tennessee and Alabama. "It can be difficult to compare bank robberies and try to find a commonality, but a lot of times people have habits, people will fall back on the technique that they have used before whether its a style of dress or a way of presenting a note, using a certain kind of weapon, people will tend to revert to type, they will go back to the way they are comfortable," explained Matthew Foster, the Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Nashville FBI division. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WPMI-NBC (Mobile, AL): Mobile FBI special agent weighs in on uptick of text message scams**, Lisa Librenjak, April 14, 2022, 10:30 PM

Do not be fooled by those text messages containing a thank-you link for "paying your bill." The only thing you'll get out of doing that is likely a headache as scammers try to steal your personal information. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, scammers are coming up with more tricks to get you to let your guard down. For example, you may receive a text from your own personal number or in a group message with 19 people. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KWTV-CBS (Oklahoma City, OK): ATF Investigating Cause Of Ottawa County Fire After 3 People Were Found Dead**, Chinh Doan, April 14, 2022 9:55 PM

Federal investigators are looking into the cause of an Ottawa County fire after they found three people dead inside a home Thursday morning. The fire, which happened about 10 miles south of Miami, has hit first responders and the small community hard. The ATF said at 6:20 a.m., someone called 911 to report the fire, which left the home near East 210 Road and South 600 Road with extensive damage. The Fairland Fire Department put out the fire, then found the victims: A woman in her 80s, along with a man and woman both older than 40. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSN-NBC (Wichita, KS): ATF on scene of Haven gas plant explosion**, Daniel Fair, April 14, 2022, 8:31 PM

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has been on the scene of the explosion at the Haven gas plant that took place on Thursday afternoon. According to officers with ATF, they are assisting the Kansas Fire Marshal's Office to help determine the cause of the explosion. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WOWT-NBC (Omaha, NE): DEA plans National Prescription Drug Take Back Day for late April**, Andrew McMunn, April 14, 2022, 8:03 PM

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is planning its next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day for the end of this month. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 30, the public is encouraged to bring any unused and unneeded medications to law enforcement agencies across the country. You can find the nearest collection site using a search tool on the DEA's Take Back Day website. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KIMA-CBS (Yakima, WA): YPD: Yakima man arrested for allegedly kidnapping and molesting 6-year-old girl**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Yakima predator has been arrested and is awaiting trial after an alleged kidnapping and molestation of a 6-year-old girl last week. According to a press release from the Yakima Police Department, through the cooperation of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, the suspect was arrested this Wednesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KXLY-ABC (Spokane, WA): Washington woman missing since November found safe in Stites**, Erin Robinson, April 14, 2022, 1:43 PM

A Western Washington woman missing for months has been found safe in Stites, Idaho. Marisol Cortes is a vulnerable adult. The FBI said an elderly family member took her from Battle Ground, Washington to an unknown location last November. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**Newsweek: Frank James, Suspected Subway Shooter, Will Get Psych 'Attention': Judge**, Zoe Strozewski, April 14, 2022, 1:27 PM

Frank James, the suspect in Tuesday's New York City subway shooting in Brooklyn, will be held in jail without bail. A judge also said that she would ask the Federal Bureau of Prisons to give James "psychiatric attention," the Associated Press reported. James made his first appearance in federal court on Thursday after authorities arrested him Wednesday afternoon following a manhunt that lasted more than 24 hours, according to NBC. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## US SUPREME COURT

**NYT, The Daily: [AUDIO] 27 Years in Solitary Confinement**, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

In the 1990s, Dennis Wayne Hope committed a series of armed robberies. After proving adept at escaping prison, he was put in isolation. He has been there for nearly three decades. His case, if the Supreme Court agrees to hear it, could answer the fundamental question of how long people can be held in solitary confinement. [\[Listen\]](#)

**USA Today: Poll: Most Americans see politics over substance in Supreme Court confirmation process**, John Fritze, Chelsey Cox, April 15, 2022, 5:02 AM

The arduous process of confirming a Supreme Court nominee has turned into one of the most significant spectacles in American politics – at once a job interview, law lecture and television campaign ad that plays out over four days. With Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's historic confirmation in the books, a new poll suggests a majority of Americans are uncertain whether it's worth all the fuss. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: High Court OKs SG To Argue Over Native Criminal Jurisdiction**, Hailey Konatth, April 14, 2022, 9:48 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday said it would allow the U.S. Solicitor General to weigh in on whether Oklahoma and other states have the authority to prosecute non-Native Americans for crimes against Native Americans in Indian Country, granting a motion to participate in oral arguments. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**NYT: With Jackson Headed to Supreme Court, New Judicial Battles Loom**, Carl Hulse  
April 14, 2022 4:00 PM

The partisan clash that concluded with the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court is hardly the end of judicial showdowns in the Senate. With control of the chamber up for grabs in November, Democrats, led by Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, intend to push through as many Biden administration judicial nominees as they can this year. Taking a page from Republicans, who used their majority to reshape the federal courts with a packed pipeline of conservative judges, Democrats plan to install a racially diverse set of jurists with nontraditional backgrounds before the G.O.P. has the chance to win a majority and slam the brakes on President Biden's court picks in 2023. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Fla. Judge Axes Payday Loan Suit Involving Louisiana Tribe**, Caleb Symons, April 14, 2022, 8:02 PM

A trial court judge in Florida has thrown out allegations that the company Mabiloans operates a predatory lending scheme under the guise of tribal affiliation to avoid legal liability, finding that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe in Louisiana does, in fact, appear to help run that business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Okla. Rejects Choctaw Claim Seeking Tax Relief Under McGirt**, Caleb Symons, April 14, 2022, 7:24 PM

Oklahoma tax officials say their authority still extends to newly recognized tribal reservations, rejecting a potentially pivotal lawsuit claiming that the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark McGirt decision stripped the state of its power to tax income earned on those lands. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNEM-CBS (Bay City, MI): Isabella Co. woman sentenced over 20 years for murder on Isabella Indian Reservation**, James Paxon, April 14, 2022, 2:45 PM

A 22-year-old Isabella County woman was sentenced to over 20 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to second degree murder committed on the Isabella Indian Reservation. Kaden Elizabeth Gilbert, from Blanchard, was sentenced in Bay City in front of Judge Thomas Ludington. In November 2020, Gilbert went to the victim's home and stabbed with a knife cutting her femoral artery. The victim lost a lot of blood and died because of her injuries, according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Booth Newspapers \(Grand Rapids, MI\)](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**The Hill: Timeline for marijuana legalization bill slips in Senate**, Aris Folley, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Democratic senators leading a push to legalize marijuana say they are now on track to introduce legislation before recess in August, after initially announcing plans to file a comprehensive reform bill later this month. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) who is heading the effort along with Sens. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) said in a statement on Thursday that he's proud of the progress senators have made in "bringing this vital bill closer to its official introduction" before the recess in early August. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Reuters: Reducing inequality, hiking minimum wage could boost U.S. economy -White House**, Andrea Shalal, April 14, 2022, 10:20 AM

Boosting enforcement of antidiscrimination and antitrust laws, raising the federal minimum wage and higher unionization rates could substantially boost U.S. economic growth, a new report by President Joe Biden's top economic advisers concludes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**WaPo: Democrats' redistricting gains hit a roadblock: The Supreme Court**, Colby Itkowitz and David Weigel, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

Wisconsin Democrats thought they had won the redistricting war. They took over the governor's office, competed in and won state judicial races and filed lawsuits as early as they could, determined to prevent another cycle of Republican-leaning maps. After a battle between Democratic Gov. Tony Evers and Republican legislators, a conservative judge sided with Evers, rejecting a Republican-drawn legislative map in favor of one that was better for Democrats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Senate GOP to force vote on nixing Biden's ghost guns rule**, Jordain Carney, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Senate Republicans said on Thursday they will force a vote to try to nix President Biden's "ghost guns" rule, pushing a fight over gun laws onto the chamber's agenda. Republican Sen. Ted Cruz (Texas) said that he will introduce a resolution along with Sens. James Lankford (Okla.), Mike Braun (Ind.) and Mike Lee (Utah) to block the Justice Department regulation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Daily News: Rep. Ritchie Torres takes ghost gun fight to Congress after DOJ rule**, Tim Balk, April 14, 2022 10:01 PM

As the Biden administration works to reel in the raging spread of so-called ghost guns with a new Justice Department rule, Rep. Ritchie Torres said Thursday that he was taking aim at the lethal kit-assembled weapons by taking the fight to Capitol Hill. Torres, a Bronx Democrat, said he plans to introduce legislation on Monday that would allow private parties to sue manufacturers of ghost gun parts after shootings. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: APRIL 14, 2022**

**ABC: World News Tonight with Lindsey Davis**

**CBS: Evening News with Major Elliott Garrett**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Ukraine says an anti-ship missile sank a lead Russian warship in its Black Sea fleet. While U.S. officials can't confirm if Ukraine struck it with its own missiles, the sunken ship marks a significant loss for Russian forces. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The Brooklyn subway shooting suspect made his first appearance in federal court today

and did not enter a plea deal. He is being held without bail on charges of conducting a violent attack against a mass transportation system. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- New bodycam video released from Grand Rapids, Michigan shows another deadly police shooting of an unarmed Black man. The death of 26-year-old Patrick Lyoya has sparked outrage and calls for accountability nationwide. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Elon Musk has unveiled a public bid to buy Twitter and turn the site into the world's "platform for free speech." Musk recently became the company's largest shareholder and is now offering \$43 billion in cash for the social media site. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Pfizer is preparing to seek authorization to expand COVID booster shots to kids five to 11 years old. New data shows its booster for young children helps healthy kids increase virus-fighting antibodies. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Communities across the south are cleaning up after an outbreak of severe storms. The mayor of Louisville, Kentucky declared an emergency after at least one tornado was confirmed in the area. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A federal jury in Virginia convicted a former British citizen for his role in the abduction, torture and death of several western hostages, including some Americans. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law a ban on most abortions after 15 weeks, making the state the latest to further restrict abortion access. The law is modeled after a similar one in Mississippi that's currently being considered by the Supreme Court. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- More people are struggling to buy homes as mortgage rates rise to the highest levels in over a decade. That's why one company believes it has a solution to the housing crisis: 3D-printed homes. [[CBS](#)]
- El Salvador's crackdown on gang violence is sparking concerns that President Nayib Bukele is trying to silence opposition and ignore human rights. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Russia warns U.S. to stop arming Ukraine,” [[WaPo](#)]
- “Biden to Nominate Barr as Top Fed Banking Regulator,” [[WSJ](#)]

- “Ukraine Live Updates: Russia Appears Close to Capturing Mariupol,” [[NYT](#)]
- “Tunisia among countries seeing major economic consequences from the war in Ukraine,” [[WaPo](#)]
- “F.D.A. Authorizes First Coronavirus Breath Test,” [[NYT](#)]

**END**

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**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
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**Sent:** April 15, 2022 6:51 AM (UTC-04:00)

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**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** April 15, 2022 at 6:51:00 AM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
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**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
April 15, 2022  
7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: APRIL 15, 2022**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

*Washington Times: Biden administration settles Black Lives Matter lawsuits in D.C.,*

**agrees to change policing policy**, Alex Swoyer, April 14, 2022 11:30 AM

The Biden administration has settled lawsuits brought by Black Lives Matter and racial justice activists over protests near the White House in 2020, agreeing to implement new policies within 30 days for policing demonstrations. [...] “The federal government is committed to the highest standards for protecting civil rights and civil liberties in any federal law enforcement response to public demonstrations,” Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Washington DC\)](#)

**Washington Examiner: DOJ updates guidelines for responding to protests after Lafayette Square lawsuits**, Cami Mondeaux, April 14, 2022 11:07 AM

Federal law enforcement agencies have new guidelines and policies that limit the use of nonlethal force on protesters, according to an announcement by the Justice Department on Wednesday. The rules require Park Police and Secret Service members to display clearly visible identification and make audible warnings before attempting to disperse a crowd. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: U.S. Attorney General Would Be Required To Create Marijuana Commission To Advise On Legalization Under New Bipartisan Bill**, Kyle Jaegere, April 14, 2022 12:00 PM

A bipartisan group of congressional lawmakers filed a bill on Thursday that would direct the attorney general to create a commission charged with making recommendations on a regulatory system for marijuana that models what's currently in place for alcohol. Reps. Dave Joyce (R-OH), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) and Brian Mast (R-FL) are teaming up on what's titled the Preparing Regulators Effectively for a Post-Prohibition Adult-Use Regulated Environment Act (PREPARE) Act – an incremental reform meant to inform comprehensive cannabis policy changes in the future. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**AP: Brooklyn subway attack suspect is jailed without bail**, Tom Hays, Bobby Caina Calvan And Jennifer Peltz, April 14, 2022, 7:30 PM

The man charged with opening fire in a Brooklyn subway car full of people was jailed without bail Thursday as prosecutors told a judge he terrified all of New York City. Brought into a Brooklyn federal court without handcuffs, a subdued Frank James, 62, softly answered standard questions about whether he understood the charges and the purpose of the brief hearing. His lawyer later asked the public not to prejudge him. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [BuzzFeed](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [NY Post](#), [Newsday](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#)

**AP: Russian legislator and 2 aides criminally charged in US**, Eric Tucker And Larry Neumeister, April 14, 2022, 2:30 PM

A Russian legislator and two aides pushed a covert propaganda campaign aimed at winning U.S. government support for Russia's foreign policy agenda, including moves against Ukraine, according to a Justice Department indictment unsealed on Thursday. The effort was part of what American officials describe as a broader Russian government objective to sway public opinion in its favor, to sow discord in American institutions and to drive wedges between the U.S. and European allies. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [Bloomberg](#), [Courthouse News](#), [CNBC](#), [Law360](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**AP: Brit convicted as ‘Beatle’ in Islamic State beheadings trial**, Matthew Barakat, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

A jury convicted a British national Thursday for his role in an Islamic State group hostage-taking scheme that took roughly two dozen Westerners captive a decade ago, resulting in the deaths of four Americans, three of whom were beheaded. In convicting El Shafee Elsheikh, the jury concluded that he was one of the notorious “Beatles,” Islamic State captors nicknamed for their accents and known for their cruelty — torturing and beating prisoners, forcing them to fight each other until they collapsed and even making them sing cruel song parodies. Surviving hostages testified that the Beatles delighted themselves rewriting “Hotel California” as “Hotel Osama” and making them sing the refrain “You will never leave.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [ABC](#), [CBS](#), [Guardian](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Seattle Times](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man blaming Trump’s ‘orders’ for riot actions found guilty**, Michael Kulzman, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

An Ohio man who claimed he was only “following presidential orders” from Donald Trump when he stormed the U.S. Capitol was convicted Thursday by a jury that took less than three hours to reject his novel defense for obstructing Congress from certifying Joe Biden’s presidential victory. The federal jury also found Dustin Byron Thompson, 38, guilty of all five of the other charges in his indictment, including stealing a coat rack from an office inside the Capitol during the riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The maximum sentence for the obstruction count, the lone felony, would be 20 years imprisonment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Arkansas Democrat-Gazette](#), [Axios](#), [CBS](#), [Cleveland Plain Dealer \(Cleveland, OH\)](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [HuffPost](#), [Insider](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#), [Newsweek](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [UPI](#), [WaPo](#), [WBNS-CBS \(Columbus, OH\)](#)

**AP: Pressure on US to give Ukraine more intelligence on Russia**, Nomaan Merchant and James Laporta, April 14, 2022, 1:00 PM

President Joe Biden has called Russia’s war on Ukraine a genocide and accused Vladimir Putin of committing war crimes. But his administration has struggled with how much intelligence it is willing to give the Ukrainian forces that are trying to stop the Russian leader. Since the war began in late February, the Biden administration has made multiple changes to a classified directive that governs what U.S. agencies are supposed to share with Ukraine. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: FBI says North Korean hackers stole more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency in single hack**, Sean Lyngaas, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The FBI on Thursday blamed hackers associated with the North Korean government for stealing more than \$600 million in cryptocurrency last month from a video gaming company -- the latest in a string of audacious cyber heists tied to Pyongyang. "Through our investigation we were able to confirm Lazarus Group and APT38, cyber actors associated with the DPRK, are responsible for the theft of \$620 million in Ethereum reported on March 29th," the FBI said in a statement. "DPRK" is an abbreviation for North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Ethereum is a technology platform associated with a type of cryptocurrency. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [Axios](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

**ABC: Judge slams Trump as 'charlatan' after jury finds Jan. 6 rioter guilty on all counts**, Alexander Mallin, April 14, 2022 5:32 PM

A federal judge in D.C. on Thursday delivered a scathing rebuke of former President Donald Trump and expressed dismay over the state of American politics just moments after a jury found a defendant charged in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot guilty on all charges. "You know, I think our

democracy is in trouble," Judge Reggie Walton said at the conclusion of the third jury trial for a defendant charged in the Capitol assault. "Because unfortunately, we have charlatans like our former president, who doesn't in my view really care about democracy, but only about power. And as a result of that, it's tearing this country apart." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR, Up First: [AUDIO] Russian Ship Sinks, Impact of Sanctions, Musk's Twitter Bid**, April 15, 2022, 5:49 AM

Russia's flagship cruiser, the Moskva, sank in the Black Sea after an explosion on the vessel (1:26). Russian President Vladimir Putin says Western sanctions aimed at punishing Russia over its actions in Ukraine have failed (5:13). And, Elon Musk is offering to buy Twitter for \$43 billion dollars (8:52). [\[Listen\]](#)

**Yahoo: Case against Oath Keepers hinges on rare use of seditious conspiracy charges**,

Mark Hosenball, April 15, 2022, 4:00 AM

In the weeks after the 2020 election, Stewart Rhodes, founder and leader of the far-right Oath Keepers militia group, had some stark advice for then-President Donald Trump: Invoke a 19th century law known as the Insurrection Act and call out the National Guard to crack down on "domestic traitors" and reverse the "fraudulent" victory of Joe Biden. "The very survival of our nation as a free Constitutional Republic hangs in the balance," Rhodes and his domestic partner Kellye SoRelle wrote in an open letter to Trump. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Here are the 41 US lawmakers who were not sanctioned by Russia**, Lexi Lonas, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

On Wednesday, Russia sanctioned all but 41 House members in a diplomatic tit-for-tat with the United States amid mounting tensions over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. Those on the sanctions list included 398 House lawmakers, including delegates from U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Judge tells Capitol rioter supervision is necessary to protect democracy from 'people like you'**, Emily Zantow, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A federal judge imposed a prison sentence plus house arrest and probation on a Tennessee man who stormed the Capitol, saying the government wants to keep an eye on people like him as the 2024 presidential election approaches. U.S. District Chief Judge Beryl Howell spoke at the Thursday hearing about the "conundrum" many sentencing judges are facing as they decide how to sentence a nonviolent Capitol riot defendant like Blake Reed, who pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of entering and remaining in a restricted building. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NPR: In a D.C. jail, Jan. 6 defendants awaiting trial are forming bitter factions**, Tom Dreisbach, April 14, 2022 4:20 PM

Inside the Washington, D.C., jail, where a group of defendants charged in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol have been held for as long as a year or more, a bitter divide is growing, current and former inmates say. A combination of that intense proximity, the stress of criminal cases and a fight over more than a million dollars donated to support the defendants has contributed to the rift. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NPR-2](#)

**WNYW-Fox (New York, NY): How cybercriminals could retaliate for sanctions on Russian oligarchs**, Kevin Corke, April 14, 2022 1:56 PM

The United States is one of many countries imposing strict sanctions on Russia after its invasion

of Ukraine. In a speech on April 6, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland said a message for anyone who "enable[s] the Russian regime" through criminal conduct. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: AP sources: Trump aide Stephen Miller to speak to 1/6 panel**, Eric Tucker and Farnoush Amiri, April 14, 2022, 5:30 PM

Stephen Miller, who served as a top aide to President Donald Trump, was being questioned Thursday by the congressional committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection, according to two people familiar with the matter. Miller was a senior adviser for policy during the Trump administration and a central figure in many of the Republican's decisions. He had resisted previous efforts by the committee, filing a lawsuit last month seeking to quash a subpoena for his phone records. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#)

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: LA political donor gets 30 years in prison for fetish deaths**, Brian Melley, April 14, 2022, 5:00 PM

Ed Buck told his neighbors that the steady stream of young Black men leaving his West Hollywood apartment were social work clients. What really happened behind closed doors, which he referred to as the "gates of hell," was far more sinister. The men did not need Buck's help they needed to be saved from him, said federal prosecutors in Los Angeles said. Some barely escaped with their lives. Two men didn't. Buck, 67, a wealthy gay white donor to Democratic, LGBTQ and animal rights causes, was sentenced Thursday in U.S. District Court to 30 years in federal prison for injecting two men with lethal doses of methamphetamine as part of a fetish that turned fatal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Parents get 8 weeks in prison for college bribery scandal**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A California couple was sentenced to eight weeks in prison on Thursday after pleading guilty to paying \$25,000 to cheat on their son's college admissions test. Dr. Gregory Colburn, 63, and Amy Colburn, 52, of Palo Alto, were the 16th and 17th parents to be sentenced in the sprawling bribery scandal. The couple abruptly pleaded guilty in January six weeks before they were to go on trial to money laundering and mail fraud conspiracy charges. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KPIX-CBS \(San Francisco, CA\)](#), [WWLP-NBC \(Springfield, MA\)](#)

**AP: Former Long Island official Mangano sentenced to 12 years**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 2:00 PM

Former Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano, once one of Long Island's most powerful elected officials, was sentenced Thursday to 12 years in prison for what a prosecutor described as "widespread corruption and dishonesty." Mangano, who was convicted in 2019 on corruption charges related to his relationship with businessman Harendra Singh, defended his actions at his sentencing in federal court on Long Island, according to Newsday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Voice \(Nassau, NY\)](#), [Newsday](#), [NY Post](#), [Patch \(Mineola, NY\)](#)

**NBC: California man pleads guilty to threat to kill Rep. Matt Gaetz**, Phil Helsel, April 14, 2022, 9:58 PM

A California man pleaded guilty Thursday to threatening Republican Rep. Matt Gaetz of Florida, federal prosecutors said. Eugene Huelsman, 59, left a voicemail at Gaetz's Florida office on Jan. 9, 2021, in which he said, in part, "I'm gonna put a bullet in you" and called him a "tyrant," according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Pensacola News Journal](#), [WKRG-CBS \(Mobile, AL\)](#)

**CBS: Tulsa man convicted of drug trafficking and gun charges**, Alex Keller, April 14, 2022, 4:38 PM

A cocaine trafficker from Tulsa was convicted at trial of drug and gun charges, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Chad E. Meacham announced Friday. After three days of trial and seven hours of deliberation, a federal jury in Dallas found Roberto Chairez, 33, guilty of one count of attempted possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and one count of possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime on April 14, 2022. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Man convicted in Colombia of murdering his wife arrested after 27 years on the run**, FBI says, Melissa Alonso, April 14, 2022, 12:00 PM

A man who fled to the US from Colombia after the murder his wife in 1994 was arrested Wednesday in Massachusetts, the FBI said in a news release. William Hernando Usma Acosta, 61, had been living in Belmont under the alias Carlos Alberto Rendon after entering the US illegally in 1995, authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10 Indicted In Alleged \$100M 'Pump-And-Dump' Stock Scheme**, Gina Kim, April 14, 2022, 9:24 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice on Thursday unsealed three indictments in New York federal court against 10 individuals across the globe for allegedly running a yearslong "pump-and-dump" stock scheme that prosecutors say netted more than \$100 million in illegal proceeds. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Fraudster Avoids More Time For Dark Web Insider Trading**, Stewart Bishop, April 14, 2022, 7:16 PM

A New York federal judge on Thursday spared an admitted securities fraudster further prison time for running an online racket on the dark web that trafficked in confidential information about public companies. Apostolos Trovias, of Athens, Greece, was first accused last year of buying and selling confidential information about publicly traded companies via dark web sites and encrypted messaging services. That information included misappropriated stock tips based on confidential customer trading information, pre-release earnings reports and deal information from publicly traded companies, according to the government. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Ex-Atty Cops To GM Scam After Feds Warn Of ID Theft Count**, Pete Brush, April 14, 2022, 3:18 PM

A former California lawyer on Thursday admitted faking a \$16.5 million General Motors injury settlement, coping to a conspiracy charge three days after Manhattan federal prosecutors said he would face an added aggravated identity theft count if he stood trial. Defendant Christopher Hammatt, 52, pled guilty to a count of wire fraud conspiracy before U.S. District Judge Paul G. Gardephe, who set a July 26 sentencing date. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**New Haven Register: Feds: New Haven man charged with selling 50 grams of fentanyl to**

**investigators**, Liz Hardaway, April 14, 2022, 9:15 PM

A New Haven man was federally charged Wednesday with distributing 40 or more grams of fentanyl, according to federal prosecutors. A grand jury in New Haven returned an indictment against 27-year-old Nelson Santini. The charge stems from the FBI's Safe Streets Task Force making a controlled purchase of about 50 grams of fentanyl from Santini in August 2021, according to Leonard Boyle, the United States attorney for the District of Connecticut. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Boston.com: Canton man arrested on charges of sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl**, Susannah Sudborough, April 14, 2022, 7:22 PM

A Canton man was arrested Wednesday on charges of sex trafficking a 15-year-old girl, the U.S. Department of Justice announced Thursday. Keion Rowell, 23, was indicted on one count of sex trafficking of a child and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of a minor. Rowell was detained after an initial hearing in Boston Thursday pending an arraignment and a detention hearing scheduled for April 19. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Boston Globe](#)

**The Oregonian (Portland, OR): Portland chapter president of Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, fellow member get life sentences**, Maxine Bernstein, April 14, 2022, 7:21 PM

A judge Thursday sentenced Mark Leroy Dencklau, president of the Portland chapter of the Gypsy Joker Motorcycle Club, and club member Chad Leroy Erickson to life in prison for the torture-style killing of an ex-club member. U.S. District Judge Michael W. Mosman issued the mandatory minimum sentences for the two men in separate, back-to-back hearings in federal court in Portland. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KGW-NBC \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KOIN-CBS \(Portland, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Statesman Journal \(Salem, OR\)](#)

**The Durango Herald (Durango, CO): Four men sentenced to prison for illegal drug distribution in Southwest Colorado**, Shane Benjamin, April 14, 2022, 7:20 PM

Four men have been sentenced to federal prison terms ranging from 2½ years to 10 years for distributing illegal drugs in Southwest Colorado, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for Colorado. All four men pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute. They were sentenced Monday in Durango by U.S. District Court Judge Robert Blackburn. All four cases are independent of each other, said Deborah Takahara, a spokeswoman with the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Boston Globe: Ex-ski resort executive gets 18 months in failed visa plan case**, Lisa Rathke, April 14, 2022, 7:10 PM

The first of four men accused in a failed plan to build a biotechnology plant in Vermont using tens of millions of dollars in foreign investors' money raised through a special visa program was sentenced Thursday to 18 months in prison. William Stenger, 73, the former president of the Jay Peak ski resort, also was sentenced to three years of supervisory release and ordered to pay \$250,000 in restitution. He pleaded guilty last August to providing false documents. In exchange, nine fraud charges were dropped. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KXAS-NBC \(Fort Worth, TX\)](#)

**Detroit News: Famed UM music professor sentenced to prison in sex crime case**, Robert Snel, April 14, 2022, 5:06 PM

Former University of Michigan violin professor Stephen Shipps was sentenced Thursday to five years in prison for engaging in sexual activity with a 16-year-old student during a trip to New York 20 years ago. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WILX-NBC \(Onondaga, MI\)](#)

*Valdosta Daily Times*(*Valdosta, GA*): **Valdosta gang member sentenced**, Terry Richards, April 14, 2022, 5:54 PM

A Valdosta gang member was sentenced to federal prison Wednesday on a weapons charge, the U.S. Department of Justice said. Xavier Rashad Brooks, 31, was sentenced to serve 100 months in federal prison, followed by three years of supervised release after he pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to a Justice Department statement.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFXL-Fox \(Albany, GA\)](#), [WRBL-CBS \(Columbus, GA\)](#)

*Hartford Courant*: **Feds: A Meriden woman embezzled \$400K. Now she's going to prison**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Meriden woman was sentenced to a year and a day in prison for embezzling more than \$400,000 from her employer's clients, according to federal authorities. Crystal Klatt, 36, also was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Janet C. Hall in New Haven to three years of supervised release, according to federal authorities. Hall also ordered Klatt to pay restitution. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*PhillyVoice* (*Philadelphia, PA*): **Philly man gets prison time for stealing \$1 million in federal PPP funds**, Michael Tanenbaum, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Philadelphia man who pleaded guilty to fraudulently obtaining nearly \$1 million in federal Paycheck Protection Program funds during the COVID-19 pandemic will spend 6 1/2 years behind bars, federal prosecutors announced. Devron Brown, 50, was charged last June with two counts of bank fraud and nine counts of money laundering as part of an alleged scheme to obtain and misuse PPP loans. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

*Citrus County Chronicle* (*Citrus County, FL*): **Dunnellon felon sentenced to two years in federal prison for falsifying firearm papers**, Busther Thompson, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Citrus County man was sentenced to serve two years in federal prison for lying about his felony convictions in order to purchase firearms. Senior U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell ordered Darrell Pierre Hopkins's 24-month sentence Thursday, April 14, after the Dunnellon 54-year-old pleaded guilty Feb. 2 to making a false statement for a firearms purchase, and causing a gun dealer to maintain false records. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Las Vegas Review-Journal*: **Man charged with attempting to kidnap child from Las Vegas park**, Glenn Puit, April 14, 2022, 1:45 PM

A Las Vegas man has been charged with attempting to kidnap a child from an east valley park and exposing himself to several others. According to a Las Vegas police arrest report for Byron Osborne, 31, he was arrested on April 7 at 2850 Stewart Ave., near North Eastern Avenue. Police did not name the park where Osborne was arrested, but the address is the same as the one listed for Rafael Rivera Park. The address is near an elementary school and a middle school. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSNV-NBC \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#), [WNYW-Fox \(New York, NY\)](#)

*Idaho Statesman*: **Caldwell officer allegedly hit a man while on duty. Now he faces an additional charge**, Alex Brizee, April 14, 2022, 11:42 AM

The long-serving Caldwell police officer who allegedly struck someone in the face while on the job is now facing an additional charge, according to an indictment filed in the U.S. District Court in Boise. Lt. Joseph A. "Joey" Hoadley, who has been with the department since 2001, is now charged with destruction, alteration or falsification of records in a federal investigation, according

to an indictment filed Wednesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KBOI-CBS \(Boise, ID\)](#), [KMVT-CBS \(Twin Falls, IA\)](#)

**WTOP-FM (Washington, DC): DC men plead guilty to kidnapping, assaulting victim from Maryland casino**, Alejandro Alvarez, April 14, 2022, 10:46 PM

Two D.C. men have admitted to the and assault of a victim from a Maryland hotel and casino in February last year. Anthony Erik Hebron, age 23, and Darius Lawrence Young, age 29, pleaded guilty this week on kidnapping charges for collaborating with three others to lure a victim out of their hotel room at an undisclosed Maryland casino on Feb. 3, 2021. Darius also pleaded guilty to possession of firearms and ammunition by a felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDKY-Fox (Lexington, KY): Georgetown man sentenced to 324 months for producing child pornography**, Matthew Duckworth, April 14, 2022, 10:46 PM

A Georgetown man was sentenced to 324 months in federal prison on Thursday. Phillip Christopher Abel, 36, pleaded guilty to enticing a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing a video in September 2021. Abel also had at least 30 deleted photos of a pre-pubescent female in sexual poses taken at Abel's residence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): California man arrested for recording Mass. girl changing her clothes**, Amy Phillips, April 14, 2022, 8:18 PM

A California man has been charged with secretly filming an 11-year-old Massachusetts girl while she was changing her clothes in her bedroom. Jacob Guerrero, 23, of Woodland, Calif., was arrested in California Thursday and charged with one count of sexually exploiting a child. He will appear in federal court in Boston at a later date. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSEE-NBC (Fresno, CA): DOJ: \$25M of federal water stolen through secret gate in Delta-Mendota Canal**, Dom McAndrew, April 14, 2022, 8:15 PM

A hidden gate to transfer water from a federally owned canal into a parallel canal owned by a local water district is what the Department of Justice says was used to steal over \$25 million worth of federally owned water. The unidentified water district served the Fresno County and Merced County communities of Dos Palos, Firebaugh, and Los Banos. According to the DOJ in a statement released Thursday, 75-year-old Dennis Falaschi of Aptos was made aware in 1992 of an abandoned drain turnout on the Delta-Mendota Canal that leaked water from that canal into a parallel canal. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (West Chester, PA): Chesco Man Jailed Over 2 ½ Years for Stealing Pandemic Unemployment**, Holly Herman, April 14, 2022, 8:01 PM

A 25-year-old Chester County man was sentenced Thursday to two years and nine months in federal prison for filing a fraudulent application for pandemic unemployment compensation while in jail on drug charges. Kenneth L. Huggins, Jr. of Coatesville was also ordered by U.S. District Judge Gerald J. Pappert here to serve three years of probation following his jail sentence. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNS (New York City, NY): Ex-NJ USPS worker pleads guilty to unemployment insurance scam: DOJ**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:00 PM

A former New Jersey postal worker pleaded guilty on Thursday to conspiring to fraudulently obtain unemployment insurance benefits, according to the Department of Justice. Ross Clayton, 31, of Irvington, pleaded guilty to wire fraud conspiracy. Clayton was a United States Postal

Service employee who took unemployment insurance benefits-related mail, including debit cards, from a USPS location in New Jersey and used it to obtain unemployment insurance benefits to which he was not entitled, according to court statements and documents. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Peekskill-Cortlandt, NY): Peekskill 'Incel' Sentenced To Prison For Stalking, Threatening**, Michael Woyton, April 14, 2022, 6:53 PM

A northern Westchester man, who self-describes as "involuntary celibate," who admitted in court that he terrorized and harassed women, was sentenced to prison Thursday. David Kaufman, 28, of Peekskill, was sentenced to 30 months in prison, after pleading guilty to stalking multiple victims between October 2019 and August 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVNY-ABC (Burlington, VT): Explosive devices found in Wilder home; man detained**, Ben Mitchell, Devin Bates, April 14, 2022, 6:14 PM

A Wilder man has been detained on federal charges after explosive devices were found inside his home in the village of Wilder. The Vermont State Police Bomb Squad found and removed the devices, as well as potentially hazardous materials. No injuries were reported. William Hillard, a 51-year-old resident of the home, faces a charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm and a charge of possessing a destructive device. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFOR-CBS (Miami, FL): Ex-UBS Financial Advisor Pleads Guilty To Defrauding Millions From Clients; Broward Man Faces 60 Years In Prison**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 5:54 PM

Federal authorities said a former UBS financial advisor has pleaded guilty in Miami federal court to defrauding over \$5 million from a family who maintained several accounts at UBS. Officials say German Nino, a resident of Broward County, was a financial advisor working at a branch office of UBS Financial Services Inc. in Miami. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WRBL-CBS (Columbus, GA): Louisiana man sentenced to prison for role in oxycodone drug conspiracy involving Montgomery physician**, Tiara Towns, April 14, 2022, 5:37 PM

On April 11, 2022, Garren Charles Rogers, 36, from Slidell, Louisiana, was sentenced to 120 months in prison for his role in organizing a prescription drug conspiracy in Montgomery, Alabama, announced United States Attorney Sandra J. Stewart. Rogers' prison sentence will be followed by three years of a supervised release. There is no parole in the federal system. According to court records, Rogers was part of a conspiracy involving numerous others to obtain illegal prescriptions for oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Arlington, MA): Arlington Business Owner Convicted Of Stealing Government Benefits**, Annie Sandoli, April 14, 2022, 5:17 PM

The owner and operator of an Arlington-based insurance agency has been convicted by a federal jury in Boston of fraudulently receiving disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA), United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins said in a news release Thursday. Following a six-day jury trial, Patrick Quinn, 50, was convicted of two counts each of theft of public funds and making false statements. U.S. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns scheduled sentencing for Aug. 17. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRTV-CBS (Great Falls, MT): Great Falls meth trafficker sentenced in federal court**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:49 PM

Mark Edwin Abresch was sentenced in federal court in Great Falls on April 14, 2022, for distributing meth. Prosecutors alleged that Abresch distributed meth in Great Falls between

September 2020 and April 2021. In a two-week period from the end of March to the beginning of April 2021, Abresch distributed more than 89 grams of meth in four controlled buys. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Bloomfield, NJ): Bloomfield Man, Former Hotel Worker Embezzled \$300K: Feds,** Eric Kiefer, April 14, 2022, 4:46 PM

A Bloomfield resident who formerly worked at a nationwide hotel chain admitted his role in a scheme to embezzle more than \$300,000 from the company, federal prosecutors announced Thursday. Marco Alvarez, 46, of Bloomfield, pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCTV-CBS (Kansas City, MO): KC man sentenced for meth, gun officers found on him after attempted break-ins**, Zoe Brown, April 14, 2022, 4:29 PM

A Kansas City man has been sentenced for illegally possessing a gun and methamphetamine to distribute, which officers found on him after he tried to break into someone's car and house. A judge sentenced 38-year-old Joel L. Redman to 12 years and seven months in federal prison without parole. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOMO-AM (Seattle, WA): Shoreline man arrested for violating protection order, possessing firearms**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Shoreline man charged with two counts of illegal possession of firearms will make his initial appearance in United States District Court in Seattle on Thursday afternoon, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Rustam Yusupov, 44, was arrested without incident late Wednesday at his Shoreline home after an incident at a downtown Seattle hotel room on March 10. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMIZ-ABC (Columbia, MO): Federal judge sentences Columbia woman for trafficking meth**, Karl Wehmhoener, April 14, 2022, 2:45 PM

A federal judge sentenced a Columbia woman for trafficking meth after she received a large package of meth shipped from California to distribute locally in April 2019. Cassiopeia Marie Blaise, 37, was sentenced to eight years in federal prison without parole. Blaise pleaded guilty in August 2021 to possessing methamphetamine with the intent to distribute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMAR-ABC (Baltimore, MD): Member of sex trafficking conspiracy sentenced to nine years in prison**, Rushaad Hayward, April 14, 2022, 12:57 PM

Lakeya Aldridge was sentenced to nine years in federal prison for conspiracy to commit kidnapping by a U.S. District Judge. The 41-year-old from Federalsburg, Maryland conspired with 33-year-old Joshua Lankford in October 2018. The two recruited a victim to perform sex acts in their direction. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WYOU-CBS (Scranton, PA): Monroe County man pleads guilty to bank robbery**, Vivian Muniz, April 14, 2022, 11:50 AM

Officials announced that a man has pleaded guilty to a bank robbery in East Stroudsburg committed in 2019. According to U.S. Attorney John C. Gurganus, Terrance Tyson, 45, of East Stroudsburg, admitted to robbing the NBT Bank located in East Stroudsburg, in September 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WNEP \(Scranton, PA\)](#)

**WHTM-ABC (Harrisburg, PA): Harrisburg postal contractor charged with mail theft**, George

Stockburger, April 14, 2022, 11:26 PM

A postal contractor from Harrisburg has been indicted by a federal grand jury on mail theft charges. The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced that Michael Anthony Collier, Jr. was indicted after an investigation found Collier allegedly took packages intended to be delivered out of state. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: Juvenile justice agency agrees to reform main prison**, Michelle Lieu, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice announced Thursday that it will reform its beleaguered central prison for youths under a settlement agreement with the federal government. The agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice follows a 2020 report from the federal agency that ordered the state to make changes at the Broad River Road Complex in Columbia or face a lawsuit. Federal investigators found state officials were violating the rights of incarcerated youths by failing to protect them from fights, forcing them to spend days or weeks in isolation for minor offenses and failing to get them mental health when they threaten to harm or kill themselves. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Post and Courier \(Charleston, SC\)](#), [WOLO-ABC \(Columbia, SC\)](#)

**CNN: Civil rights groups sue Texas county over alleged 'discriminatory' map**, Fredreka Schouten, April 14, 2022, 4:00 PM

A coalition of civil rights groups in Texas filed a federal lawsuit Thursday against Galveston County, alleging that the county's redistricting plan intentionally discriminates against a growing minority population in the Gulf Coast community. The complaint, shared first with CNN, marks the second lawsuit that seeks to overturn maps approved by the Republican majority on the county's governing body. Last month, the Justice Department filed a federal lawsuit against the county on similar grounds -- in a redistricting dispute that has garnered national attention. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Abortion ban after 15 weeks signed into law in Florida**, Anthony Izaguirre, April 14, 2022, 11:50 PM

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a 15-week abortion ban into law Thursday as the state joined a growing conservative push to restrict access to the procedure ahead of a U.S. Supreme Court decision that could roll back abortion rights in America. "This will represent the most significant protections for life that have been enacted in this state in a generation," DeSantis said as he signed the bill at an evangelical church in the city of Kissimmee. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#)

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): Southfield doctor to pay over \$700K to resolve false payment claims**, Elizabeth Washington, April 14, 2022, 12:50 PM

Gynecologic oncologist Vinay K. Malviya M.D, from Southfield, has agreed to pay \$775,000 to resolve his alleged violation of submitting false claims for federal healthcare programs payments. Officials say these payments are related to medically unnecessary procedures Malviya performed. According to the United States Department of Justice, Malviya's allegations date from February 2011 through June 2017. The department addresses that Malviya agrees to be

excluded from several health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid for the next three years.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WWJ-CBS \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Texas moves to ease border gridlock over ‘sense of urgency’**, Acacia Coronado and Paul J. Weber, April 14, 2022, 11:30 PM

The logjam of trucks at the U.S.-Mexico border finally began breaking Thursday after nearly a week as Texas Gov. Greg Abbott eased off his latest dramatic action over immigration that has gridlocked some of the world’s busiest trade ports and taken a mounting economic toll. “There is a sense of urgency now to reach deals that did not exist before,” Abbott said. The two-term Republican governor, who for days has allowed commercial trucks to backup for miles into Mexico after requiring them to stop for additional inspections in Texas, lifted that order for bridges in El Paso and other cities after announcing a new security agreement with the neighboring Mexican states of Chihuahua and Coahuila. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [WSJ](#)

**WaPo: Democrats in tough races revolt over Biden administration border move**, Mike Deboines, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

President Biden is facing a growing mutiny from Democratic candidates — including five vulnerable senators — who are questioning his administration’s decision to lift a pandemic health order that has drastically curtailed migrants’ ability to seek asylum at the southern border. The internal dissension is an early acknowledgment from many Democrats that worries about border security and immigration could become a major obstacle for them in this year’s midterm elections. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] Greg Abbott is starving his own voters to own the libs**, Catherine Rampell, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Starve your own voters to own the libs. That appears to be Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s latest strategy for reaching the White House, given his decision to deliberately snarl traffic on the U.S. southern border — leaving food to rot and critical components for cars and other manufacturing to remain inaccessible to U.S. companies and consumers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Fox: Texas border agents encounter boy, 4, among suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into US**, Bradford Betz, April 14, 2022, 9:33 PM

Texas border agents say they encountered a 4-year-old boy early Tuesday morning among a group of suspected illegal immigrants smuggling marijuana into the U.S. The value of the seized marijuana was later determined to be worth more than \$93,000, according to a press release from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). After midnight Tuesday, Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol (RGV) agents and Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) troopers spotted a group of more than a dozen people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border near Roma, Texas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NBC: Top border official hits back at Texas Gov. Abbott for busing migrants to Washington**, D.C., Dareh Gregorian, April 14, 2022, 7:08 PM

The head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection criticized Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Thursday for busing migrants from the southern border to Washington, D.C., without consulting with federal officials. “Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities,” CBP Commissioner Chris Magnus said in

a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 18 Additional States Join Suit To Keep Pandemic Border Block**, Mike LaSusa, April 14, 2022, 4:32 PM

Eighteen additional states on Thursday signed on to a lawsuit started by Arizona, Louisiana and Missouri to challenge the Biden administration's decision to wind down a pandemic-related order known as Title 42 that allows the quick expulsion of migrants arriving at U.S. land borders.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOL Defends H-2A Enforcement In Farm's Fine Dispute**, Grace Dixon, April 14, 2022, 3:22 PM

The U.S. Department of Labor urged a New Jersey federal judge to toss a farm's challenge of a \$556,000 fine it's facing for violating H-2A visa program laws, defending the constitutionality of an interagency administrative enforcement process. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Feds blast Texas for shipping illegal immigrants to D.C.**, Stephen Dinan, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A senior Homeland Security official chided Texas Gov. Greg Abbott for busing illegal immigrants to Washington, saying Thursday that the Republican governor was hurting the government's efforts to coordinate how the migrants are released. "Governor Abbott is taking actions to move migrants without adequately coordinating with the federal government and local border communities," said Chris Magnus, head of Customs and Border Protection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Border Patrol agent 'whip' probe done, produced 500-page report: union**, MaryAnn Martinez, April 14, 2022, 6:35 PM

The Biden administration has compiled a 500-page report on the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants last year and could release it any day now, the top union official told The Post late Thursday. The report is the outcome of the administrative investigation into the agents' actions conducted by Customs and Border Protection's Office of Personal Responsibility (ORP). The agents have been cleared of criminal wrongdoing and won't face charges, but could still lose their jobs if they are found to have broken agency policies.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Charred bat meat found inside Maryland man's luggage at Dulles Airport**, Sonia Dasgupta, April 14, 2022, 11:40 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol found charred bat meat inside the baggage of a Germantown, Maryland man at Dulles International Airport on April 5. According to officials, man who arrived from Ghana was carrying 3 pounds, 8 ounces of the mammal meat in his luggage. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Herndon, VA\)](#), [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**KWTX-CBS (Waco, TX): \$106K in unreported U.S. currency seized at South Texas international port of entry**, Angela Bonilla, April 14, 2022, 11:24 AM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized \$106,000 in bulk unreported U.S. currency at the Brownsville and Matamoros International Port of Entry. The seizure happened on April 12 when officers referred a 23-year-old U.S. citizen heading into Mexico for a routine vehicle inspection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

### **Bloomberg: Third Time's The Charm in Chicken Price Fixing Trial, DOJ Says**, Bob Van

Voris, April 14, 2022 4:27 PM

The U.S.'s top antitrust enforcer, who flew from Washington to Denver at the behest of a skeptical judge, struggled to convince the court that the Justice Department will be successful in its third trial over charges of collusion in the chicken industry. "We know that the evidence couldn't persuade 12 people," U.S. District Judge Philip Brimmer said at a contentious hearing Thursday, referring to previous mistrials in the case. "We've seen it happen twice." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Law360: DOJ Wants More Info On Frontier's Bid For Spirit Airlines**, Carolina Bolado, April 14, 2022, 4:13 PM

Spirit Airlines revealed Thursday that the U.S. Department of Justice has requested additional information with respect to its proposed \$6.6 billion merger with Frontier Group, signaling close scrutiny by antitrust regulators. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Bloomberg Law: Google Faces Antitrust Suit Over Maps Monopoly, Waze Deal**, Mike

Leonard, April 14, 2022 3:59 PM

Alphabet Inc. is facing federal antitrust litigation in San Francisco over claims that it leverages its dominance of the GPS navigation market through Google Maps, Waze, and related services to lock app developers into the "Google ecosystem" and hit them with "egregious" price hikes. The lawsuit accuses Google of capturing 81% of the market by offering Maps for free, exploiting its data "treasure trove" to cement its monopoly, placing restrictive terms on developers that incorporate its functions, and using other services like search and YouTube to favor Maps by "self-preferencing." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Bloomberg Law: DOJ's First Criminal Wage-Fixing Case Ends Mostly in Defeat**, Ben Penn, April 14, 2022, 1:33 PM

A jury found two defendants in the Justice Department's first criminal wage-fixing case not guilty of violating the Sherman Act while finding one defendant guilty on a single count of obstruction of Federal Trade Commission proceedings. Neeraj Jindal, the owner of a physical therapy staffing company, was found guilty Thursday of one of three charges while the jury in the U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of Texas found co-defendant John Rodgers not guilty on all counts. Rodgers was Jindal's clinical director. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Law360](#)

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Guardian: EPA opens civil rights investigations over pollution in Cancer Alley**, Oliver

Laughland, April 14, 2022, 1:54 PM

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has opened a series of civil rights investigations into state agencies in Louisiana to examine whether permits granted in the highly polluted industrial corridor, known locally as Cancer Alley, have violated Black citizens rights. The news, first reported by the New Orleans Advocate, marks further enforcement action taken by the federal agency in the region since the EPA administrator, Michael Regan, visited the area late last year. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **The Hill: Environmental groups sue EPA over state air pollution plans**, Zack Budryk, April 14, 2022, 4:18 PM

Four environmental organizations filed a lawsuit Wednesday against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), alleging it has failed to properly enforce the Clean Air Act's Regional Haze Rule. The EPA amended the rule in 2017, extending the window in which states could submit air pollution reduction plans through July 2021. However, as of April 2022, 34 states have not submitted their plans, according to the lawsuit. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Law360](#)

**E&E News: Biden rolls out equity plans for more than 90 agencies**, Robin Bravender and Michael Doyle, April 14, 2022, 1:36 PM

The Biden administration today announced plans to expand federal investment and support in historically underserved communities. More than 90 federal agencies — including every Cabinet-level agency — released “equity action plans” aimed at combating “the systemic barriers in our nation’s policies and programs that hold too many underserved communities back from prosperity, dignity and equality,” the White House said. The plans include EPA’s intent to “proactively” go after civil rights compliance, while the Interior Department takes a closer look at who is benefiting from the nation’s national parks. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Arizona Republic: Federal agency outlines a plan to curb illegal killings of imperiled Mexican gray wolf**, Lindsey Botts, April 14, 2022, 3:07 PM

Federal officials released a set of steps this week meant to curb the illegal killing of endangered Mexican gray wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. Under the plan, the agency would work with state wildlife managers to increase education and outreach in communities where wolves live. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**CBS: Two contractors behind massive development in LaPorte, Indiana accused of tax fraud, money laundering**, Megan Hickey, April 14, 2022, 7:16 PM

Tax fraud and money laundering charges have now been filed against two Indiana construction companies behind a \$30 million project in LaPorte. Undercover video obtained by the CBS 2 Investigators helped prosecutors make the case. As CBS 2 Investigator Megan Hickey reported, it took confidential informants to expose the alleged unlawful payment practices tied to the multimillion-dollar residential and retail development in LaPorte, Indiana. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: FBI Records Released in Case of Man Who Stole Sea-Tac Plane**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 7:17 PM

Newly released FBI documents show the Sumner man who stole an airplane from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in 2018 seemed unsettled to his loved ones before the theft, which ended when he crashed the plane on Pierce County’s Ketron Island. The records say 28-year-old Alaska Airlines ground worker Richard Russell entered the empty turboprop passenger aircraft about 7:30 p.m. Aug. 10 as it sat on an airport tarmac and flew it for about an hour and 10 minutes, The News Tribune reported. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: ‘She Was Not Trash’: Body Found in Indiana Is Identified After 30 Years**, Livia Albeck-Ripka, April 14, 2022, 8:00 PM

For three decades, she was known only as Jane Doe, ever since her body was found dumped on

the embankment of an interstate highway in Indiana in May 1992. [...] She was found off Interstate 65 in Washington Township, northwest of Indianapolis, wearing only a light green tank top and anklet socks, according to an F.B.I. report, just a month before her 18th birthday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg: [EDITORIAL] Biden Moves Forward on Gun Violence**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 8:00 AM

After much talk and little action on guns, President Joe Biden finally took a few small steps forward this week. Actually getting a handle on the country's epidemic of gun violence will require Congress to do its job. On Monday, Biden nominated Steve Dettelbach, a former federal prosecutor, to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, or ATF. He also laid out a new initiative to combat "ghost guns," or homemade firearms that lack serial numbers. It's about time on both counts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Caller: Here's How The DOJ And FBI Are Spending Their Time Instead Of Rooting Out Actual Extremists Like The Alleged Subway Shooter**, Diana Glebova, April 14, 2022, 8:24 PM

The FBI never managed to thwart the NYC subway shooting suspect, who allegedly posted hours of extremist black nationalist and violent rhetoric on YouTube, but has repeatedly allocated resources to chasing hoaxes and false leads. The FBI and Department of Justice (DOJ) have spent their efforts plotting an operation to kidnap a governor, busting out a team of 15 agents to investigate a rope in a NASCAR garage and investigating parents at school boards meetings as domestic terrorists, among other failed operations. The FBI has also denied knowing about the whereabouts of Hunter Biden's laptop. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**MSNBC: [OPINION] Subway shooting makes GOP's stances on ATF and 'ghost guns' look worse**, Frank Figliuzzi, April 14, 2022, 6:21 PM

Futility and fury. That's what I experienced in the 24-hour period starting Monday morning. It began with President Joe Biden's attempt to do something — anything — to counter gun violence and ended with a gunman in a Brooklyn, New York, subway firing 33 rounds, hitting 10 people, with another 13 injured. I appeared on MSNBC on Monday to discuss Biden's announcement of new restrictions on the manufacture and sale of "ghost guns" and the announcement of his second candidate to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCPQ-Fox (Seattle, WA): [VIDEO] FBI release 567 page document detailing 2018 stolen plane investigation**, Unattributed, April 15, 2022, 1:10 AM

For about 70 minutes, 28-year-old man Richard Russell flew a stolen plane across the skies of Western Washington before crashing it into Ketron Island in Pierce County. [[Watch](#)]

**KTVX-ABC (Salt Lake City, UT): Sextortion cases on the rise across the nation**, Lena Takada, April 15, 2022, 12:14 AM

It's a scheme becoming more prevalent. According to the FBI, a predator, posing as a young girl, deceives teenage boys into engaging in explicit activity over video. The predator records the video without permission and uses the recording to extort the victims for money. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGUN-ABC (Tucson, AZ): DEA working to curb fentanyl availability as overdose deaths**

**rise**, Pat Parris, April 14, 2022, 11:22 PM

"It's terrifying is what it is," said DEA Special Agent in Charge, Cheri Oz. "They're in your community, they're in your neighborhood right now." For the second year in a row, fentanyl contributed to the greatest number of overdose deaths in Pima County. The 334 deaths from fentanyl in 2021 is a 40% increase from the year before. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WKRN-ABC (Nashville, TN): 'You're not going to get away with it': FBI searching for serial robber, linked to at least 8 bank robberies**, Mye Owens, April 14, 2022, 11:16 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is asking for help in identifying a man believed to be responsible for at least eight bank robberies and one attempted bank robbery in Tennessee and Alabama. "It can be difficult to compare bank robberies and try to find a commonality, but a lot of times people have habits, people will fall back on the technique that they have used before whether its a style of dress or a way of presenting a note, using a certain kind of weapon, people will tend to revert to type, they will go back to the way they are comfortable," explained Matthew Foster, the Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Nashville FBI division. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WPMI-NBC (Mobile, AL): Mobile FBI special agent weighs in on uptick of text message scams**, Lisa Librenjak, April 14, 2022, 10:30 PM

Do not be fooled by those text messages containing a thank-you link for "paying your bill." The only thing you'll get out of doing that is likely a headache as scammers try to steal your personal information. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, scammers are coming up with more tricks to get you to let your guard down. For example, you may receive a text from your own personal number or in a group message with 19 people. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KWTV-CBS (Oklahoma City, OK): ATF Investigating Cause Of Ottawa County Fire After 3 People Were Found Dead**, Chinh Doan, April 14, 2022 9:55 PM

Federal investigators are looking into the cause of an Ottawa County fire after they found three people dead inside a home Thursday morning. The fire, which happened about 10 miles south of Miami, has hit first responders and the small community hard. The ATF said at 6:20 a.m., someone called 911 to report the fire, which left the home near East 210 Road and South 600 Road with extensive damage. The Fairland Fire Department put out the fire, then found the victims: A woman in her 80s, along with a man and woman both older than 40. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSN-NBC (Wichita, KS): ATF on scene of Haven gas plant explosion**, Daniel Fair, April 14, 2022, 8:31 PM

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has been on the scene of the explosion at the Haven gas plant that took place on Thursday afternoon. According to officers with ATF, they are assisting the Kansas Fire Marshal's Office to help determine the cause of the explosion. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WOWT-NBC (Omaha, NE): DEA plans National Prescription Drug Take Back Day for late April**, Andrew McMunn, April 14, 2022, 8:03 PM

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration is planning its next National Prescription Drug Take Back Day for the end of this month. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 30, the public is encouraged to bring any unused and unneeded medications to law enforcement agencies across the country. You can find the nearest collection site using a search tool on the DEA's Take Back Day website. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KIMA-CBS (Yakima, WA): YPD: Yakima man arrested for allegedly kidnapping and molesting 6-year-old girl**, Unattributed, April 14, 2022, 3:00 PM

A Yakima predator has been arrested and is awaiting trial after an alleged kidnapping and molestation of a 6-year-old girl last week. According to a press release from the Yakima Police Department, through the cooperation of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, the suspect was arrested this Wednesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KXLY-ABC (Spokane, WA): Washington woman missing since November found safe in Stites**, Erin Robinson, April 14, 2022, 1:43 PM

A Western Washington woman missing for months has been found safe in Stites, Idaho. Marisol Cortes is a vulnerable adult. The FBI said an elderly family member took her from Battle Ground, Washington to an unknown location last November. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**Newsweek: Frank James, Suspected Subway Shooter, Will Get Psych 'Attention': Judge**, Zoe Strozewski, April 14, 2022, 1:27 PM

Frank James, the suspect in Tuesday's New York City subway shooting in Brooklyn, will be held in jail without bail. A judge also said that she would ask the Federal Bureau of Prisons to give James "psychiatric attention," the Associated Press reported. James made his first appearance in federal court on Thursday after authorities arrested him Wednesday afternoon following a manhunt that lasted more than 24 hours, according to NBC. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## US SUPREME COURT

**NYT, The Daily: [AUDIO] 27 Years in Solitary Confinement**, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

In the 1990s, Dennis Wayne Hope committed a series of armed robberies. After proving adept at escaping prison, he was put in isolation. He has been there for nearly three decades. His case, if the Supreme Court agrees to hear it, could answer the fundamental question of how long people can be held in solitary confinement. [\[Listen\]](#)

**USA Today: Poll: Most Americans see politics over substance in Supreme Court confirmation process**, John Fritze, Chelsey Cox, April 15, 2022, 5:02 AM

The arduous process of confirming a Supreme Court nominee has turned into one of the most significant spectacles in American politics – at once a job interview, law lecture and television campaign ad that plays out over four days. With Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's historic confirmation in the books, a new poll suggests a majority of Americans are uncertain whether it's worth all the fuss. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: High Court OKs SG To Argue Over Native Criminal Jurisdiction**, Hailey Konatth, April 14, 2022, 9:48 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday said it would allow the U.S. Solicitor General to weigh in on whether Oklahoma and other states have the authority to prosecute non-Native Americans for crimes against Native Americans in Indian Country, granting a motion to participate in oral arguments. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**NYT: With Jackson Headed to Supreme Court, New Judicial Battles Loom**, Carl Hulse  
April 14, 2022 4:00 PM

The partisan clash that concluded with the confirmation of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court is hardly the end of judicial showdowns in the Senate. With control of the chamber up for grabs in November, Democrats, led by Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, intend to push through as many Biden administration judicial nominees as they can this year. Taking a page from Republicans, who used their majority to reshape the federal courts with a packed pipeline of conservative judges, Democrats plan to install a racially diverse set of jurists with nontraditional backgrounds before the G.O.P. has the chance to win a majority and slam the brakes on President Biden's court picks in 2023. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Fla. Judge Axes Payday Loan Suit Involving Louisiana Tribe**, Caleb Symons, April 14, 2022, 8:02 PM

A trial court judge in Florida has thrown out allegations that the company Mabiloans operates a predatory lending scheme under the guise of tribal affiliation to avoid legal liability, finding that the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe in Louisiana does, in fact, appear to help run that business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Okla. Rejects Choctaw Claim Seeking Tax Relief Under McGirt**, Caleb Symons, April 14, 2022, 7:24 PM

Oklahoma tax officials say their authority still extends to newly recognized tribal reservations, rejecting a potentially pivotal lawsuit claiming that the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark McGirt decision stripped the state of its power to tax income earned on those lands. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNEM-CBS (Bay City, MI): Isabella Co. woman sentenced over 20 years for murder on Isabella Indian Reservation**, James Paxon, April 14, 2022, 2:45 PM

A 22-year-old Isabella County woman was sentenced to over 20 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to second degree murder committed on the Isabella Indian Reservation. Kaden Elizabeth Gilbert, from Blanchard, was sentenced in Bay City in front of Judge Thomas Ludington. In November 2020, Gilbert went to the victim's home and stabbed with a knife cutting her femoral artery. The victim lost a lot of blood and died because of her injuries, according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Booth Newspapers \(Grand Rapids, MI\)](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**The Hill: Timeline for marijuana legalization bill slips in Senate**, Aris Folley, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Democratic senators leading a push to legalize marijuana say they are now on track to introduce legislation before recess in August, after initially announcing plans to file a comprehensive reform bill later this month. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) who is heading the effort along with Sens. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) said in a statement on Thursday that he's proud of the progress senators have made in "bringing this vital bill closer to its official introduction" before the recess in early August. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Reuters: Reducing inequality, hiking minimum wage could boost U.S. economy -White House**, Andrea Shalal, April 14, 2022, 10:20 AM

Boosting enforcement of antidiscrimination and antitrust laws, raising the federal minimum wage and higher unionization rates could substantially boost U.S. economic growth, a new report by President Joe Biden's top economic advisers concludes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**WaPo: Democrats' redistricting gains hit a roadblock: The Supreme Court**, Colby Itkowitz and David Weigel, April 15, 2022, 6:00 AM

Wisconsin Democrats thought they had won the redistricting war. They took over the governor's office, competed in and won state judicial races and filed lawsuits as early as they could, determined to prevent another cycle of Republican-leaning maps. After a battle between Democratic Gov. Tony Evers and Republican legislators, a conservative judge sided with Evers, rejecting a Republican-drawn legislative map in favor of one that was better for Democrats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Senate GOP to force vote on nixing Biden's ghost guns rule**, Jordain Carney, April 14, 2022, 6:41 PM

Senate Republicans said on Thursday they will force a vote to try to nix President Biden's "ghost guns" rule, pushing a fight over gun laws onto the chamber's agenda. Republican Sen. Ted Cruz (Texas) said that he will introduce a resolution along with Sens. James Lankford (Okla.), Mike Braun (Ind.) and Mike Lee (Utah) to block the Justice Department regulation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Daily News: Rep. Ritchie Torres takes ghost gun fight to Congress after DOJ rule**, Tim Balk, April 14, 2022 10:01 PM

As the Biden administration works to reel in the raging spread of so-called ghost guns with a new Justice Department rule, Rep. Ritchie Torres said Thursday that he was taking aim at the lethal kit-assembled weapons by taking the fight to Capitol Hill. Torres, a Bronx Democrat, said he plans to introduce legislation on Monday that would allow private parties to sue manufacturers of ghost gun parts after shootings. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: APRIL 14, 2022**

**ABC: World News Tonight with Lindsey Davis**

**CBS: Evening News with Major Elliott Garrett**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Ukraine says an anti-ship missile sank a lead Russian warship in its Black Sea fleet. While U.S. officials can't confirm if Ukraine struck it with its own missiles, the sunken ship marks a significant loss for Russian forces. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The Brooklyn subway shooting suspect made his first appearance in federal court today

and did not enter a plea deal. He is being held without bail on charges of conducting a violent attack against a mass transportation system. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- New bodycam video released from Grand Rapids, Michigan shows another deadly police shooting of an unarmed Black man. The death of 26-year-old Patrick Lyoya has sparked outrage and calls for accountability nationwide. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Elon Musk has unveiled a public bid to buy Twitter and turn the site into the world's "platform for free speech." Musk recently became the company's largest shareholder and is now offering \$43 billion in cash for the social media site. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Pfizer is preparing to seek authorization to expand COVID booster shots to kids five to 11 years old. New data shows its booster for young children helps healthy kids increase virus-fighting antibodies. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Communities across the south are cleaning up after an outbreak of severe storms. The mayor of Louisville, Kentucky declared an emergency after at least one tornado was confirmed in the area. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A federal jury in Virginia convicted a former British citizen for his role in the abduction, torture and death of several western hostages, including some Americans. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed into law a ban on most abortions after 15 weeks, making the state the latest to further restrict abortion access. The law is modeled after a similar one in Mississippi that's currently being considered by the Supreme Court. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- More people are struggling to buy homes as mortgage rates rise to the highest levels in over a decade. That's why one company believes it has a solution to the housing crisis: 3D-printed homes. [[CBS](#)]
- El Salvador's crackdown on gang violence is sparking concerns that President Nayib Bukele is trying to silence opposition and ignore human rights. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Russia warns U.S. to stop arming Ukraine,” [[WaPo](#)]
- “Biden to Nominate Barr as Top Fed Banking Regulator,” [[WSJ](#)]

- “Ukraine Live Updates: Russia Appears Close to Capturing Mariupol,” [[NYT](#)]
- “Tunisia among countries seeing major economic consequences from the war in Ukraine,” [[WaPo](#)]
- “F.D.A. Authorizes First Coronavirus Breath Test,” [[NYT](#)]

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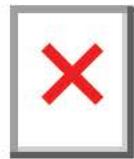
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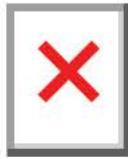
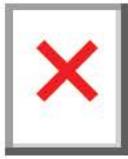
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**From:** The Washington Post  
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By **Amber Phillips**  
*with Caroline Anders*  
✉ Email

This week, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) signed into law a measure that critics have dubbed the “don’t say gay” bill. The new law is certainly aimed at limiting LGBTQ discussion in schools. But it’s much broader.

It’s part of the battle over how much say parents should have in their students’ education — and raises questions of how much of a support system schools should be for students, period.

Here are three big things the law does, and the effect it could have on students:

**1. It bans instruction or classroom discussion about LGBTQ issues for kindergarten through third grade.** For older students, discussion about gay and transgender issues has to be “age appropriate or developmentally appropriate.”

The legislation is effectively a statement that classroom education about sex and gender shouldn’t start at an early age and that parents should have a lot of say in the matter. It aims to “reinforce the fundamental right of parents to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children,” according to the text of the legislation.

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*Why this is so controversial:* Critics say because it limits even classroom discussions about LGBTQ issues, it could stifle conversations for children who need to work through their own gender or sexual-identity questions.

**2. It empowers parents to sue the school district over teachings they don't like.** And the district will have to pay for it.

*What impact that could have on students:* That could prompt schools to preemptively shut out teachings or conversations about LGBTQ issues. (Some librarians across the country are accusing their schools of quietly removing race- and LGBTQ-related books from their shelves before it starts a fight, [The Washington Post recently reported](#).)

**3. It requires schools to tell parents when their child receives mental health services.**

*What impact that could have on students:* It could take away the a school's ability to serve as a haven for students who might not feel comfortable talking to their parents about their gender orientation or sexuality.

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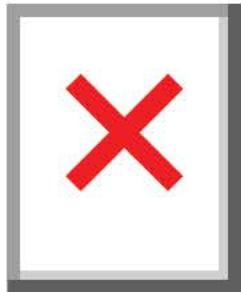
But it would also ensure parents are informed if their child is experiencing confusion over their identity. One of the advocates for the bill is a Florida mother who says her child's school was recognizing her child's gender identity as different from the one they recognized at home.

**How this bill pushes the lines on the parental-rights debate:** Proponents of the legislation argue that parents, above all else, should be in charge of their

children. This argument falls neatly in line with pushes on the right during the pandemic against mask and vaccine mandates in schools. The right similarly pushed back against certain school discussions about race after the protests in the wake of George Floyd's killing. (Florida has banned conversations in schools that make someone feel "guilt" about their race.)

This LGBTQ bill comes at a time when the culture wars being led by the right are catching fire with the base, but also as [more younger people than ever](#) in the country are identifying as LGBTQ.

### **What is Title 42, and how could it affect Democrats in the midterms?**



A Border Patrol agent tries to stop a migrant in September in Del Rio, Tex. (Pau Ratje/AFP/Getty Images)

Even as he promised a more compassionate approach to immigration, President Biden has kept in place one of the most contentious immigration policies of the Trump era, known as Title 42. But his administration [could be lifting it soon](#) — a win for liberal immigration activists but a potential political headache for Biden.

**What is Title 42?**: It's a federal health code from the Centers for Disease Control

and Prevention that President Donald Trump put in place at the start of the pandemic. It cites the pandemic as a reason to clear the border as quickly as possible.

Under it, the government can send migrants trying to cross the border illegally back to their home countries immediately upon apprehending them, rather than letting them apply for asylum and stay in the United States while their cases await a court date.

**Why is it controversial?:** Activists argue this is an inhumane way to treat people seeking refuge. American law says people who come to the border to seek asylum should be allowed in. In September, as Haitian refugees at the Mexican border were being flown back to Haiti under this, the U.S. special envoy to Haiti resigned in protest over the practice.

**Why has the Biden administration continued it?:** As recently as January, the Biden administration argued in court that it is necessary to protect public health and stop the coronavirus from spreading along the border. Left unspoken is that lifting Title 42 could at least temporarily create chaos at the border. It could implicitly encourage migrants to come and try to seek asylum, now that they won't get immediately put on a plane back home.

**Why this could be a problem for Biden:** Biden has already struggled politically with the border. Attempted border crossings spiked as he took office, under a belief that he would be more lenient toward migrants than Trump. As a result, immigration was one of the dark spots in Biden's polling early on in his administration. We've seen some politically troubling images arise from crowded border situations under Biden, like that of a White Border Patrol agent on horseback trying to catch Black, Haitian men running away from him.

Now, as Republicans try to take control of Congress in November's midterm elections, they regularly talk about the border as something out of control — painting it as yet another example of how Biden promised to bring order to the nation but delivered has chaos.

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### What are you curious about in politics?

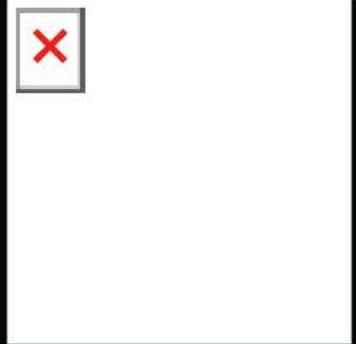
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**WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: MARCH 30, 2022**

**DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **SCOTUS**

- Viking River Cruises, Inc. v. Moriana

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

***Reuters: EXCLUSIVE Two former U.S. officials help ethics probe of Trump ally Clark, source says***, Sarah N. Lynch, March 29, 2022, 5:24 PM

The top two U.S. Justice Department officials in the waning days of Donald Trump's presidency are cooperating with a Washington legal body's ethics probe of their former colleague Jeffrey Bossert Clark, who tried to help Trump overturn his 2020 election loss, according to a person familiar with the matter. Jeffrey Rosen, who served as acting attorney general, and Richard Donoghue, his former acting deputy, each have given voluntary interviews in recent months to the District of Columbia Office of Disciplinary Counsel, which is investigating Clark for possible misconduct, according to the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Bloomberg: [OPINION] Merrick Garland Has More Than Enough to Investigate Trump***, Timothy L. O'Brien, March 29, 2022, 6:30 AM

A federal judge thinks that former President Donald Trump likely committed fraud — and probably knew it — when he and one of his lawyers, John Eastman, plotted to block Congress's certification of the 2020 presidential election so Trump could hold on to power. So how much longer will it take Attorney General Merrick Garland to draw the same conclusion about that attempted coup? [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Law360: DOJ's Wrigley Probe No Excuse For ADA Failure, Fan Says***, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Chicago Cubs fan urged an Illinois federal judge Monday to mandate that the team install additional accessible seating for the 2022 baseball season under the Americans with Disabilities Act, arguing an ongoing U.S. Department of Justice review is not a valid excuse for the delay. David Felimon Cerda, who uses a wheelchair, is seeking summary judgment in his nearly five-year-old lawsuit alleging renovations to Wrigley Field do not include the minimum number of accessible seats required by the ADA. The Cubs have argued the stadium will actually exceed the ADA's requirements for accessible seating once they complete some remaining renovations, which were put on hold when the DOJ initiated a related compliance review in 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***National Law Journal: 'A Collective Sigh of Relief': Garland Brings Comfort to DOJ Lawyers but Morale Challenges Remain***, Andrew Goudsward, March 29, 2022, 3:39 PM

On his first day as attorney general, Merrick Garland stood in the Great Hall at Main Justice and, invoking one of his role models, the first post-Watergate Attorney General Edward Levi, spoke of the need for career Justice Department officials to feel pride in the institution. "For all of you and for me, public service is more than a job. It is a calling," Garland said in an address to career employees. "All of you have chosen the Department of Justice over other places where you might have used your skills and where you might have earned a higher salary." [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**Reuters: FBI says Russian hackers scanning U.S. energy systems and pose 'current' threat**, Sarah N. Lynch, March 29, 2022, 4:21 PM

Russian hackers have been scanning the systems of energy companies and other critical infrastructure in the United States, and state-sponsored hacking by Russia presents a "current" threat to American national security, a top FBI official told lawmakers on Tuesday. "The threat from Russia in a criminal sense, in the nation state sense, is very, very real - and current," said Bryan Vorndran, an assistant director in the FBI's cyber division, during a hearing before a U.S. House of Representatives panel. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Man who waved Confederate flag pleads guilty in Capitol riot**, Michael Kunzelman, March 29, 2022, 12:00 PM

A Maryland man who waved a Confederate flag attached to a lacrosse stick during the siege at the U.S. Capitol pleaded guilty on Tuesday to interfering with a police officer who was trying to disperse a crowd of rioters. David Blair, 27, faces a maximum prison sentence of five years after pleading guilty to a felony charge of obstructing law enforcement during a civil disorder.

Estimated sentencing guidelines in Blair's case recommend a term of imprisonment ranging from eight to 14 months. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Courthouse News](#), [Daily Voice \(Montgomery, MD\)](#), [WBFF-Fox \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**WSJ: Hackers Steal \$540 Million in Crypto From 'Axie Infinity' Game**, Paul Vigna and Sarah E. Needleman, March 29, 2022, 6:13 PM

A cryptocurrency startup that operates a popular online game called "Axie Infinity" said Tuesday that hackers stole more than \$500 million worth of cryptocurrency. "Axie Infinity" publisher Sky Mavis Ltd. said on March 23, hackers infiltrated a part of its Ronin Network, which the game runs on. The infiltrators got access to accounts holding cryptocurrencies and drained 173,600 ether and 25.5 million of the stablecoin USDC. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Examiner: Project Veritas scandal sparks scrutiny of federal courts' secret spying warrants**, Nihal Krishan, March 30, 2022, 6:30 AM

The recent covert seizures of Project Veritas emails has led to new criticism from conservatives and civil rights groups alike of law enforcement's use of Big Tech companies to spy on the communications of journalists and media organizations. The Trump-era Department of Justice, which was investigating the theft of Ashley Biden's diary during the 2020 election campaign, forced Microsoft to turn over emails from nine accounts associated with Project Veritas, according to court filings from the project that Microsoft confirmed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Biden Budget Bolsters Cybersecurity Funding**, Humberto J. Rocha, March 29, 2022, 5:25 PM

Amid a growing threat from Russian cyberattacks, President Joe Biden has announced a request for \$10. 9 billion in cybersecurity funding for civilian government agencies and \$11. 2 billion for the U. S. Department of Defense's cyberspace operations. In a budget message released Monday, Biden said his administration was prioritizing cybersecurity at the federal level with \$2. 6 billion of his civilian cybersecurity budget going toward the Homeland Security Department. The nearly \$11 billion request for civilian government agencies represents an 11% increase over last year's presidential request. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KING-NBC (Seattle, WA): 2 Mount Vernon men arrested in connection to Capitol riot**,

Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 8:50 PM

Two men from Mount Vernon were arrested last week for their alleged actions during the U.S. Capitol riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The FBI received a tip on Feb. 28, 2021, that a photo shared on Facebook Messenger showed the suspects smoking marijuana inside the Capitol Building on the day of the riot, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. The witness was shown the picture by a mutual friend of the suspects, but they could not download or save the photograph to share with investigators. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **JAN. 6 COMMISSION**

**AP: Explainer: What the Law Says About Presidential Records**, Eric Tucker, March 30, 2022, 12:09 AM

Revelations of a roughly eight-hour gap in official records of then-President Donald Trump's phone calls on the day of last year's insurrection at the U.S. Capitol are raising fresh questions about the diligence — or lack thereof — of the former president's record keeping. The committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, riot has identified a gap in records that stretches a little after 11 a.m. to about 7 p.m. that day, and involves White House calls, according to two people familiar with the matter. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: 8-hour gap in Trump's Jan. 6 White House phone records**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Colleen Long and Jill Colvin, March 29, 2022, 6:00 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol has identified an almost 8-hour gap in official White House records of then-President Donald Trump's phone calls as the violence unfolded and his supporters stormed the building, according to two people familiar with the probe. The gap extends from a little after 11 a.m. to about 7 p.m. on Jan. 6, 2021, and involves White House phone calls, according to one of the people. Both spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the ongoing investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CBS](#), [CBS-2](#), [Fox](#), [MSNBC](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [The Week](#), [WSJ](#)

**Reuters: White House: no executive privilege for Kushner, Ivanka Trump on Jan 6 testimony**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 3:27 PM

The White House will not assert executive privilege for testimony by former President Donald Trump's daughter and son-in-law and former advisers, Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner, before the Jan. 6 committee, communications director Kate Bedingfield said on Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Newsweek](#)

**NYT: Why a Ruling Declaring Trump 'Likely' Broke Laws May Not Mean He Will Be Prosecuted**, Charlie Savage, March 29, 2022, 5:30 PM

A federal judge's conclusion this week that former President Donald J. Trump likely committed felonies related to his efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 election intensified scrutiny on the question of whether the Justice Department can, should or will try to charge him with the same crimes. But the fact that a judge reached that conclusion does not necessarily mean that a prosecution would arrive at the same outcome. Here is an explanation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: White House will not assert executive privilege over Jared Kushner's testimony to January 6 committee**, Donald Judd and Paul LeBlanc, March 29, 2022, 6:03 PM

The White House will not assert executive privilege over Jared Kushner's testimony to the committee investigating the January 6, 2021, insurrection, White House communications director Kate Bedingfield said Tuesday. "Obviously, the President has spoken to the fact that January 6 was one of the darkest days in our country's history and that we must have a full accounting of what happened to ensure that it never occurs again, and he's been quite clear that they posed a unique threat to our democracy and that the constitutional protections of executive privilege should not be used to shield from Congress or the public information about an attack on the Constitution itself," Bedingfield told CNN's Kaitlan Collins. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: [ANALYSIS] Why the January 6 committee needs to wrap things up soon**, Chris Cillizza, March 29, 2022, 5:00 PM

On Monday night, the House committee investigating the January 6, 2021, attack at the US Capitol unanimously recommended a pair of criminal contempt referrals for two top aides to then-President Donald Trump who have repeatedly slow-walked requests for their testimony about their actions that happened that fateful day. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Feds prepare 'disclosure' on figure at heart of pro-Trump Jan. 6 conspiracy theory**, Josh Gerstein and Kyle Cheney, March 29, 2022, 9:47 PM

The Justice Department is compiling information to share with defendants about Ray Epps, an Arizona man who has been the focus of Jan. 6 conspiracy theories pushed by former President Donald Trump, his allies in Congress and right-wing media figures. Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen Rochlin said in court on Tuesday that she intended to provide a "disclosure" about Epps, a former Oath Keeper, in response to requests by Jan. 6 defendants accused of leading the breach of police lines — including Ryan Samsel, who briefly huddled with Epps before charging the barricades. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

**Reuters: New York man admits to insider trading, after being linked to reporter's tips**, Luc Cohen, March 29, 2022, 8:45 PM

A New York City man pleaded guilty on Tuesday to insider trading and tax evasion charges, a year after prosecutors accused him of using information from a Bloomberg News reporter about certain deals to trade. Jason Peltz, 39, entered the plea in Brooklyn federal court to two counts of insider trading and tax evasion a year after initially pleading not guilty. He has been engaged in plea negotiations with prosecutors since at least September 2021, court records show. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: Ecuador's Former Comptroller General Indicted in Case Tied to Odebrecht**, David Smagalla, March 29, 2022, 8:11 PM

A former Ecuadorian comptroller general appeared in a Miami courtroom on Tuesday to face charges he laundered money in the U.S. to hide the proceeds of a bribery scheme partially tied to Brazil-based construction company Odebrecht SA. U.S. authorities have accused Carlos Ramon Polit Faggioni of soliciting and receiving more than \$10 million in bribes from Odebrecht between approximately 2010 and 2016 in exchange for using his position to benefit the company and its Ecuador business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Fresno Bee: Fresno man sentenced to 5 years for dealing fentanyl. Feds say he**

**supplied hundreds of pills**, Larry Valenzuela, March 29, 2022, 7:30 PM

A Fresno man was sentenced to five years in federal prison on Tuesday for dealing hundreds of fentanyl pills. Jonathan Cortez, 24, pleaded guilty late last year to conspiring to distribute over 40 grams of the opioid pills, according to U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert. According to court documents, federal and local law enforcement in August 2020 began investigating a Cortez associate for dealing fentanyl pills. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**City News Service: Drug Dealer Sentenced for Fentanyl-Laced Pill Death of 20-Year-Old Chula Vista Man**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 7:00 PM

A Chula Vista man was sentenced to nearly 16 years in prison Tuesday for selling fentanyl-laced pills that caused the death of a 20-year-old man. Jonathan Mefford, 24, pleaded guilty last year to federal charges for selling counterfeit pills to the victim on Oct. 29, 2018. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSWB-Fox \(San Diego, CA\)](#), [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

**Hartford Courant: Connecticut man charged with trafficking guns into state posts \$100K bond, feds say**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 6:33 PM

A Bridgeport man who was arrested Tuesday on firearm trafficking charges was later able to post a \$100,000 bond and be released, according to federal authorities. Brannon Winston, 22, is charged with one count of engaging in the business of dealing in firearms without a license, and one count crossing state lines with the intent to engage in unlicensed dealing of firearms, federal authorities said in a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Connecticut Post: Feds: Five men plead guilty in murder, arson plan**, Liz Hardaway, March 29, 2022, 5:50 PM

Five men pleaded guilty to firearm charges stemming from a plan to kill a man and set a Bridgeport business on fire, according to federal prosecutors Tuesday. The five men entered guilty pleas in Bridgeport federal court to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon after police found several loaded guns that were thrown from a fleeing car and inside a Milford hotel room, the U.S. Attorney's Office said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WTNH-ABC \(New Haven, CT\)](#)

**Detroit Free Press (Detroit, MI): Warren dad who repeatedly sold homeless girl for sex gets minimum sentence**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:40 PM

Marvin Booker had it coming, the feds say. The father of two sold a homeless teenage girl for sex, even when she begged him to stop the sex dates because it was so painful due to an infection, they say. Then Booker wound up in jail on sex-trafficking charges, and begged a judge to release him because of COVID-19 fears, claiming he had asthma. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**St. Thomas Source: New York Man Charged with Making Bomb Threats**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 12:00 PM

On Tuesday, March 29, 2022, U.S. Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced that Gilbert Brady, 54, of New York, was arrested in St. Thomas on criminal charges for allegedly making bomb threats involving the Beach Bar in Wharfside Village, St. John. According to court documents, agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrested Brady after telephone calls were made to the Virgin Islands Territory Emergency Management Agent (VITEMA) 911 call center and the Beach Bar in Wharfside Village, St. John stating that explosives had been left at the Beach Bar. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Two North Baltimore neighborhood drug dealers plead guilty**

**to drug charges**, Nia Fitzhugh, March 29, 2022, 11:00 PM

Two North Baltimore neighborhood drug dealers plead guilty to fentanyl related charges.

According to police, between September and October 2019 they identified two men, 47-year-old Kinnard Riggs and 36-year-old James Meekins, as associates of unrelated drug trafficking organizations. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#).

**KFTA-Fox (Fort Smith, AR): Second doctor pleads guilty to workers' comp fraud**

**conspiracy**, Justin Trobaugh, March 29, 2022, 10:53 PM

An Alexandria, La., physician pleaded guilty on March 29 to conspiring to violate three different federal statutes in connection with a scheme to defraud both federal and private workers' compensation insurers. According to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Arkansas, Robert Clay Smith, 60, waived indictment by a grand jury and pleaded guilty to a criminal information charging him with conspiracy to commit health care fraud, wire fraud, and illegal remunerations, also known as "taking kickbacks". [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRQE-CBS/Fox (Albuquerque, NM): Woman facing voluntary manslaughter charges in northern NM**, Anna Padilla, March 29, 2022, 10:13 PM

A woman is facing involuntary manslaughter charges on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation. Thirty-seven-year-old Laurice Montoya is accused of getting into an argument with a man who had been staying with her, pushing him over a couch, and hitting him twice in the back of the head with a snow shovel. Montoya will remain in custody until trial. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTVM-ABC (Columbus, GA): 2018 Columbus murder suspect planning to sue Columbus Police Department**, Ahniaelyah Spraggs, March 29, 2022, 9:13 PM

We have learned new details about a suspect in the 2018 murder of an up-and-coming Columbus rapper. Throughout the trial, the state's star witness is tied to a second murder case. That incident happened a few weeks after the murder of Branden Denson. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WNBC-NBC \(New York, NY\)](#)

**KGET-NBC (Bakersfield, CA): Drug bust at border finds more than 100 pounds of meth**, Jocelyn Sandusky, March 29, 2022, 7:29 PM

Tuesday, a Bakersfield resident was sentenced to more than three years in prison for possessing with intent to distribute more than 100 pounds of methamphetamine. According to court documents, Randal Jason Newell, 42, drove from Bakersfield to Mexico to obtain and smuggle drugs from Mexico to Bakersfield for a payment of \$7,000. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KOKI-Fox (Tulsa, OK): Man sentenced to 8 years in prison for illegally possessing firearms and ammunition**, Dana Nickel, March 29, 2022, 7:08 PM

A known gang member and convicted felon was sentenced Tuesday in federal court for illegally possessing firearms and ammunition, according to U.S. Attorney Clint Johnson. Chief U.S. District Judge John F. Heil III sentenced 35-year-old Ricky Laron Shannon, of Tulsa, to eight years in federal prison followed by three years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KVIA-ABC (El Paso, TX): El Paso woman pleads guilty to stealing money from a union**, Emma Hoggard, March 29, 2022, 6:45 PM

An El Paso woman pleaded guilty to stealing money from a union. Court documents state Dorothy Ferguson, 58, took out 29 unauthorized cash withdrawals totaling \$16,604. She served as the treasurer of the American Federation of Government Employees Local Union located in Fort

Bliss. Ferguson held that position from December 2019 to April 2020. Court documents also accuse Ferguson of failing to present financial reports at board meetings. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPNX-NBC (Phoenix, AZ): Phoenix man gets 15 years for bludgeoning victim to death,** Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 6:40 PM

A member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community was sentenced last week to 15 years in prison for bludgeoning and stabbing a woman to death in 2019. Jesse Don Moquino, 39, of Phoenix pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was recently sentenced to a lengthy term in federal prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WJZY-Fox (Charlotte, NC): Judge: Man sentenced to nine years in prison for distributing meth,** Connor Lomis, March 29, 2022, 6:02 PM

A man has been sentenced to more than nine years Tuesday for intent to distribute methamphetamine, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Alberto Manuel Lara-Zuniga, 46, of Mexico was given 108 months in prison and five years of supervised release by a U.S. District Judge. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KLIX-FM (Twin Falls, ID): Seattle Man Built Mobile Identity Theft Lab,** Benito Baeza, March 29, 2022, 6:00 PM

A Seattle man who built a mobile identify theft lab in a trailer could spend more than 20 years behind bars for stealing people's identities and making fraudulent purchases across the Northwest, including in Idaho. According to U.S. Attorney Rafael Gonzalez Jr., Ryan M. Tichy, 42, recently pleaded guilty to wire fraud and aggravated identity theft, he is set to be sentenced in June this year. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WYMT-CBS (Hazard, KY): Eastern Kentucky couple to plead guilty to federal fraud, arraignment set,** Ethan Sirles, March 29, 2022, 5:31 PM

A Lawrence County Attorney and his wife, who were originally indicted for federal fraud charges in 2021, pleaded guilty on Tuesday. According to court documents, Michael and Joy Hogan motioned for re-arraignment, instead of going to trial. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WTVQ-ABC \(Lexington, KY\)](#)

**WWLP-NBC/CW (Springfield, MA): Michigan man pleads guilty of pandemic assistance fraud in Mass,** Aubree Carr, March 29, 2022, 5:25 PM

COVID-19-related unemployment assistance has been obtained through a fraudulent scheme by a Michigan man who pleaded guilty in court in Boston. Devin Smith, 30, was arrested on January 12, 2021. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns scheduled sentencing for Aug. 9, 2022 and Smith pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of aggravated identity theft. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRMG-AM (Tulsa, OK): Lawton man sentenced to more than 15 years for shooting at federal officers,** Dana Nickel, March 29, 2022, 5:24 PM

Michael Hans Oloa, 35, of Lawton, Okla. was sentenced to more than 15 years in federal prison for assaulting two federal law enforcement officers by shooting at the officers in a Lawton casino parking lot, and for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm Monday, according to U.S. Attorney Robert J. Troester. On June 15, 2021, a federal grand jury returned a two-count Indictment against Oloa. Count 1 charged Oloa with assaulting two federal officers, and Count 2 charged him with being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See

also: [KSWO-ABC \(Lawton, OK\)](#)

**KECI-NBC (Missoula, MT): Man sentenced for trafficking meth in Missoula**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:11 PM

A Missoula man , 58-year-old Leonard George Carleton, has been sentenced to six years in prison for trafficking meth, followed by five years supervised release, according to U.S. Attorney Leif M. Johnson. The following was sent out by the Department of Justice: A Missoula man convicted of trafficking methamphetamine in the community was sentenced today to six years in prison, to be followed by five years of supervised release, U.S. Attorney Leif M. Johnson said.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KPAX-CBS/CW \(Missoula, MT\)](#)

**KTBC-Fox (Austin, TX): San Antonio man sentenced to 30 years in prison for sexual exploitation of minor**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:04 PM

A San Antonio man was sentenced to 30 years in prison for sexual exploitation of a minor. According to court documents, 39-year-old Daniel Vesa coerced a minor into taking videos showing the child engaging in sexually explicit conduct using a social media platform. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KPIX-CBS (San Francisco, CA): Former Sacramento Resident Accused In Million-Dollar EDD Fraud Scheme**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:57 PM

A Las Vegas resident was arrested Tuesday on federal charges involving an alleged unemployment insurance fraud scheme that netted him more than a million dollars, according to authorities. Terence Aubrey Larker, 35, was indicted by a federal grand jury last week, charging him with eight counts of mail fraud and aggravated identity theft. The indictment was unsealed Tuesday after Larker's arrest in Las Vegas, said U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of California Phillip Talbert in a press statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRTV-CBS (Great Falls, MT): Kalispell man sentenced for trafficking heroin**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:44 PM

Joseph Daniel Fox of Kalispell, who admitted to trafficking heroin and to illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition, was sentenced in federal court in Missoula on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Fox, 29 years old, pleaded guilty in December 2021 to possession with intent to distribute heroin and to prohibited person in possession of firearms and ammunition. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WTSP-CBS (St. Petersburg, FL): DOJ: Venice man sentenced to 15 years in prison for making threatening calls to members of Congress**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:35 PM

A Venice man will spend the next 15 years in federal prison after making several threatening calls to members of Congress in 2020, a news release from the Department of Justice states. According to the DOJ, 73-year-old Frank Anthony Pezzuto was found guilty of transmitting in interstate commerce three separate threatening communications to injure certain members of Congress back in November 2021. Pezzuto has also been ordered to pay a fine of \$7,500. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WFLD-Fox (Chicago, IL): Suburban Chicago woman sentenced to prison after making \$286K off insider trading**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:15 PM

A suburban Chicago woman was sentenced to a year in prison Tuesday for using insider trading information to purchase shares of a company ahead of its acquisition by her husband's employer. Denise Grevas, 60, of Evanston, pleaded guilty last year to a securities fraud charge after she

admitted to illegally profiting from the purchase and sale of securities in a Washington state-based pharmaceutical company, according to a statement from the U.S. Attorney's office for the Northern District of Illinois. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Washington, DC): 3 Found Guilty In String Of Armed Robberies Across DC Area: Court**, Michael O'Connell, March 29, 2022, 2:39 PM

A federal jury found three people guilty of multiple charges Monday related to a string of armed robberies across the D.C. area in 2018, according to court documents. The jury found 34-year-old Quaysa Flumo of Washington, D.C.; 29-year-old Enyianna Onyewu of Silver Spring, Maryland; and 27-year-old Emmanuel Sumo, of Takoma Park, Maryland guilty on federal conspiracy, robbery, and weapons charges, according to a release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWSB-ABC (Sarasota, FL): Palmetto men face federal charges in double murder,**

Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 2:09 PM

Two Palmetto men were indicted last month connection with two 2020 murders in Hillsborough County. The Department of Justice unsealed the federal indictment Tuesday charging Jy'Quale Samari Grable, 20, and Aquavious Smith, 19, with conspiracy and interference with commerce by robbery. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJZ-CBS (Baltimore, MD): Former Maryland Police Officer Handed 3 Year Sentence For Child Pornography Possession**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 2:03 PM

A former Maryland police officer was sentenced Tuesday to three years in federal prison for possession of child pornography, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland said. Anthony Michael Mileo, 54, had been arrested and charged in 2019 with multiple counts of possession and distribution of child pornography. Mileo was a corporal with the Maryland National Capital Park Police. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

**AP: Biden signs bill making lynching a federal hate crime**, Darlene Superville, March 29, 2022, 8:00 PM

Presidents typically say a few words before they turn legislation into law. But Joe Biden flipped the script Tuesday when it came time to put his signature on the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act. He signed the bill at a desk in the White House Rose Garden. Then he spoke. "All right. It's law," said the president, who was surrounded by Vice President Kamala Harris, members of Congress and top Justice Department officials. He was also joined by a descendant of Ida B. Wells, a Black journalist who reported on lynchings, and Rev. Wheeler Parker, a cousin of Till. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [Daily Beast](#), [Fox](#), [The Hill](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#)

**Reuters: 4th Circuit replaces federal public defender amid sexual bias lawsuit**, Nate Raymond, March 29, 2022, 2:25 PM

A retired Marine brigadier general will replace the top federal public defender for the Western District of North Carolina after the prior office holder became a defendant in a closely watched sexual discrimination lawsuit against the judiciary. The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday said that John Baker, who retired from the U.S. Marine Corps in December, has succeeded Anthony Martinez as the federal defender for the district, which is headquartered in Charlotte. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**Courthouse News Service: Federal judge blocks Louisiana law regulating meat substitute labels**, Sabrina Canfield, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

Louisiana consumers interested in a vegetarian take on turkey will not be confused by the labeling and think it contains an animal product, a federal judge ruled. The decision means the brand Tofurky won't be in danger of a \$500 a day fine for creating consumer confusion in the labeling of its product tofurkey, a vegan turkey substitute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Hartford Courant: AMR ambulance will pay \$600K to resolve government billing claims, feds say**, Edmund Mahony, March 29, 2022, 5:00 PM

The American Medical Response ambulance service has agreed to pay \$600,000 to settle claims by the federal and state government's that it improperly billed the Medicaid and Medicare government insurance programs for services. The federal and state governments claimed that AMR billed for paramedic services at the scenes of emergency responses when in fact the services were performed by local fire department, federal authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**See also:** [Connecticut Public, WFSB-CBS \(Hartford, CT\)](#)

**Business Insider: Lawsuit: Federal government is slow-walking investigation into Trump campaign 'shell company,'** Ryan Barber, March 29, 2022, 10:00 AM

For nearly two years, federal election regulators have failed to respond to allegations that Donald Trump's campaign skirted disclosure requirements by laundering hundreds of millions of dollars in spending through firms closely tied to the former president, a watchdog group said in a court filing Tuesday. In a 16-page complaint filed in federal district court, the nonprofit Campaign Legal Center said the Federal Election Commission has abdicated its duty to investigate claims that the Trump campaign routed funds through two firms — American Made Media Consultants and Parscale Strategy — to conceal its spending in the 2020 presidential election. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**AP: Border crossings rise as US nears decision on asylum limits**, Acacia Coronado, March 29, 2022, 2:00 PM

About 7,100 migrants are being stopped crossing the border daily from Mexico, U.S. authorities said Tuesday, signaling they are preparing for even more increases as the Biden administration nears a decision on whether to end sweeping asylum restrictions designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said 1,500 Cubans were stopped over the previous day, well more than double the daily average from February. Homeland Security said U.S. authorities encountered migrants an average of 7,101 times a day during the week ended Monday, compared to a daily average of about 6,800 in February among people crossing illegally and showing up at official crossings. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Biden officials bracing for unprecedented strains at Mexico border if pandemic restrictions lifted**, Nick Miroff and Maria Sacchetti, March 29, 2022, 6:30 PM

Biden administration officials who are coping with record numbers of migrants crossing the southern border said Tuesday they are making contingency plans for an even bigger surge if pandemic-related immigration restrictions are lifted in the coming days. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is due to complete its review Wednesday of the Title 42 public health

order that since March 2020 has allowed U.S. agents to rapidly "expel" most border crossers. Border authorities have used Title 42 to send at least 1.7 million migrants back to Mexico or their home countries, without giving them a chance to seek asylum under U.S. law. [[Continue Reading](#)]  
See also: [WSJ](#)

**ABC: US bracing for influx of migrants at southern border if Title 42 revoked: DHS**, Luke Barr, March 29, 2022, 7:35 PM

The Department of Homeland Security is bracing for as many as 18,000 migrants per day at the southern border if Title 42 is revoked, according to senior DHS officials who briefed reporters on Tuesday. The DHS officials said they have "no idea" when Title 42, the controversial Trump administration policy that deports single adults under the auspices of a public health emergency, will be lifted. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Honduran Migrant's Rape Case Against ICE Agent Too Late**, Grace Dixon, March 29, 2022, 8:16 PM

A Connecticut federal judge dismissed a Honduran immigrant's claims that an Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer raped and blackmailed her with the threat of deportation for seven years, finding that her claims are all time-barred. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: ICE officers prepare for 'massive crash' in immigration system**, Stephen Dinan, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement employees have been warned to prepare for the end of the border pandemic emergency policy as soon as this week — with predictions that illegal border crossings, already at record levels, could triple. Agency employees, who usually handle enforcement in the interior of the country, have been warned they may need to be deployed to the border so they can help the Border Patrol with an anticipated migrant surge, according to an ICE officer who received the alert. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Expand Premium Processing For Visa Apps**, Alyssa Aquino, March 29, 2022, 3:59 PM

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services unveiled new policies Tuesday aimed at cutting through the visa backlogs, including finalizing a long-awaited rule that would expand its premium processing service over the next decade to cover new types of immigration applications.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Laredo Morning Times: CBP officers apprehend 2 fugitives wanted for sexual offenses**, Cesar Rodriguez, March 29, 2022, 10:32 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers arrested two fugitives wanted for sexual offenses in separate enforcement actions, authorities said. "Our frontline officers continue to maintain strict vigilance and these two significant apprehensions of wanted persons for crimes of a sexual nature underscore their continued resolve and dedication to upholding the CBP border security mission," said Port Director Albert Flores, Laredo Port of Entry. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**San Francisco Chronicle: Lawsuit says Biden continues Trump's surveillance of immigrants**, Bob Egelko, March 29, 2022, 7:30 PM

The Biden administration has continued a secretive surveillance program begun under President Donald Trump to keep track of immigrants' postings on social media for possible use in deportation proceedings, a watchdog group says in a San Francisco lawsuit. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: How a New York sheriff is driving down MS-13's gang presence in Suffolk**

**County**, Isabel Vincent, March 29, 2022, 5:03 PM

Five years after Donald Trump vowed to end the brutal reign of MS-13 on Long Island, NY, Suffolk County Sheriff Errol Toulon Jr. is doing just that. But it's also, apparently, pushing one of the country's most violent gangs deeper into a borough of New York City. Toulon, the first African American elected to the post, is widely credited with stalling the growth of the gang, which for years had a stronghold in the region. [...] And he's continued to allow federal agents of US Immigration and Customs Enforcement to have offices in county jails, a controversial practice set up by his predecessor, Vincent DeMarco, in 2016. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Border Patrol agents accused of 'whipping' migrants in legal clear, could still**

**lose jobs**, Callie Patteson and MaryAnn Martinez, March 29, 2022, 1:27 PM

The Border Patrol agents accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants last September have been cleared of criminal wrongdoing — but remain under an administrative investigation that could cost them their jobs six months after the initial probe began, The Post learned Tuesday. The administrative investigation is being conducted by Customs and Border Protection's Office of Personal Responsibility (ORP), according to Brandon Judd, president of the National Border Patrol Council. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHTM-ABC (Harrisburg, PA): CBP: Smuggler forces 3 migrants out of moving truck in**

**southern Arizona**, Fernie Ortiz, March 29, 2022, 6:43 PM

A smuggler forced three migrants out of a moving vehicle during a Border Patrol pursuit on Sunday southwest of Tucson, Arizona. U.S. Customs and Border Protection border said agents assigned to the Three Points Station attempted to stop and conduct an immigration inspection on a black Dodge truck that was heading north on Route 19 near Sells, Arizona. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ANTITRUST**

**Law360: Chamber Sides With Facebook In States' Antitrust Fight**, Nadia Dreid, March 29, 2022, 9:26 PM

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is urging the D.C. Circuit not to revive a massive enforcement suit brought by most of the nation's attorneys general accusing Facebook of using its market power to build a monopoly, saying the state enforcers waited too long to bring their case.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Biden administration boosts support for antitrust efforts**, Rebecca Klar, March 29, 2022, 7:56 PM

The Biden administration is throwing its weight behind efforts to boost antitrust enforcement as federal agencies take on the market power of tech giants. President Biden's \$5.8 trillion budget proposal requests \$227 million in increased funding for the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) combined — a bump advocates and agency leaders say is needed to tackle cases against the nation's wealthiest companies. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOJ Backs Blocking Big Tech From Favoring Own Products**, Matthew Perlman,

March 29, 2022, 6:52 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice has thrown its support behind proposed legislation that would prohibit Big Tech companies from giving their own products and services an unfair advantage

over other businesses that use their platforms. Acting Assistant Attorney General Peter S. Hyun, from the DOJ's Office of Legislative Affairs, sent a letter Monday to lawmakers supporting House and Senate versions of the American Innovation and Choice Online Act, a pair of bipartisan bills that have now cleared the Judiciary Committees of both chambers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**Law360: McDonald's Sued Over 'Forever Chemicals' In Food Packaging**, Lauren Berg, March 29, 2022, 11:46 PM

Every time a consumer buys a Big Mac from McDonald's, they are exposed to "forever chemicals" that increase risks of cancer and other illnesses, but the fast food giant assures the public that its products are safe, according to a proposed class action filed Monday in Illinois federal court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Wash. Tribe Wants Summary Ruling Amid Fishing Rights Trial**, Caleb Symons, March 29, 2022, 5:57 PM

The Upper Skagit Indian Tribe has asked a federal judge in Seattle to limit another Washington tribe's lawful fishing grounds, arguing a historian who testified in their ongoing trial last week didn't show the Stillaguamish Tribe had ever fished in Puget Sound. In a motion for summary judgment Monday, the Upper Skagit Tribe said Chris Friday, a professor of indigenous history at Western Washington University, conflated evidence that the Stillaguamish traveled in several coastal areas with proof they fished in those places. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Lennar To Pay \$6.3M To Exit San Francisco Toxic Property Suit**, Morgan Conley, March 29, 2022, 3:50 PM

Lennar Corp. and several affiliated companies will pay \$6.3 million to end claims that they built and sold residences at the site of an old naval shipyard in south San Francisco despite knowing the area had not been adequately remediated, under a deal approved Monday by a California federal judge. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Missoula Current: Group sues EPA over Montana water quality revisions**, Arren Kimbel, March 29, 2022, 11:00 AM

A Montana environmental group is making good on its warning that it would sue the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to halt the revision of water quality standards for streams and rivers in the state, filing a complaint in federal court in Great Falls alleging that the federal regulator failed to respond to the change of standards in time. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **TAX**

**CNN: Federal investigation of Hunter Biden heats up**, Andrew Solender, Evan Perez and Katelyn Polantz, March 30, 2022, 12:02 AM

A Justice Department investigation into Hunter Biden's business activities has gained steam in recent months, with a flurry of witnesses providing testimony to federal investigators and more expected to provide interviews in the coming weeks, according to multiple sources familiar with the matter. The probe, led by the US Attorney in Wilmington, Delaware, began as early as 2018 and concerns multiple financial and business activities in foreign countries dating to when Biden's father was vice president. Investigators have examined whether Hunter Biden and some of his

associates violated money laundering, tax and foreign lobbying laws, as well as firearm and other regulations, multiple sources said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Las Vegas Review-Journal: Former airline executive pleads guilty to tax crime***, Jonah Dylan, March 29, 2022, 5:11 PM

A former executive for a North Las Vegas-based airline pleaded guilty Tuesday to failure to pay over \$2.6 million in employment taxes. William Acor, 62, faces a maximum of five years in prison after pleading guilty to one count of willful failure to collect and pay over employment taxes.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KLAS-CBS \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#)

***WVUE-Fox (New Orleans, LA): Federal appeals court upholds ruling to exclude some of Jason Williams' IRS history from tax fraud trial***, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:53 PM

A federal appeals court on Tuesday (March 29) affirmed a judge's decision that showing the entirety of Jason Williams' income tax delinquencies likely would be improper at the Orleans Parish district attorney's upcoming tax fraud trial. A three-judge panel from the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals found that the late U.S. District Judge Martin Feldman did not abuse his discretion when he barred some evidence government prosecutors hoped to use in their bid to establish Williams as an habitual tax scofflaw who finally went too far. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

***CBS: FBI reopening cold case of Diana Ault — a young mom of 2 who was killed in 1994***, Sophie Reardon, March 29, 2022, 9:07 PM

Nearly three decades after Diana Ault was killed, the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Kansas City announced it is reopening the unsolved murder case. In a statement on Monday, the FBI said it is seeking new information from the public. Ault was found dead on the floor of her Independence, Missouri, home on January 31, 1994. The 26-year-old mother of two suffered a gunshot wound, the FBI said. Her two children, who were both under the age of 5 when Ault died, were found in the home and unharmed. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KAKE-ABC \(Wichita, KS\)](#), [KSHB-NBC \(Kansas City, MO\)](#)

***New Jersey Advance Media: Federal officer justified in killing fugitive who shot at officers in N.J., grand jury finds***, Noah Cohen, March 29, 2022, 9:04 PM

A member of a U.S. Marshals fugitive task force was justified in killing a fugitive who shot at officers as they tried to arrest him at a Paterson apartment, a New Jersey grand jury found. The fatal shooting of 36-year-old Malik Canty was investigated by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office of Public Integrity and Accountability and presented to a grand jury, as required by state law, according to a statement from the agency. Jurors voted not to file criminal charges against the officer, identified as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Deportation Officer Sean Clayton. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***The Detroit News: FBI agents raid home as death threats target Whitmer kidnap case judge, lawyers***, Robert Snell, March 29, 2022, 8:50 PM

FBI agents have raided a Hazel Park home while investigating threats to the judge and defense lawyers in the Gov. Gretchen Whitmer kidnapping conspiracy trial, The Detroit News has learned. Agents are investigating threats directed at several people, including Chief U.S. District Judge Robert Jonker and defense lawyers Josh Blanchard and Christopher Gibbons, according to two

sources familiar with the investigation who were not authorized to speak publicly about the probe.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [AP](#), [Detroit Free Press](#), [Washington Examiner](#)

**KXXV-ABC (Waco, TX): Suspect in custody after late-night shooting in Waco**

**neighborhood**, Chad Hayes, March 29, 2022, 1:24 AM

A suspect is in custody Wednesday morning, after a late-night shooting that turned into a standoff situation. According to Waco Police, officers with the Lone Star U.S. Marshals Task Force were attempting to apprehend a wanted fugitive at a home in the 3700 block of Hay Avenue around 10:45 Tuesday night. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVX-ABC (Salt Lake City, UT): Behind the Badge: FBI special agent breaking barriers**,

Brian Carlson, March 30, 2022, 12:22 AM

This year marks the 50th anniversary of women in the FBI, and their roles in the bureau continue to improve today. One of the women breaking barriers in the FBI is right here in Utah. ABC4 News looks at how she's making a name for herself, in this edition of Behind The Badge. Being an FBI special agent isn't just a dream in a man's world. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KATU-ABC (Portland, OR): Murder suspect arrested six months after man shot, killed at**

**NW Portland pizza restaurant**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 9:30 PM

Homicide detectives arrested a suspect accused of shooting and killing a man at a pizza restaurant in Northwest Portland last September, police officials said. U.S. Marshals arrested 25-year-old Marshawn Edwards in Fairview, Oregon on Monday as a suspect in the homicide that took place September 24 at the Silver Dollar Pizza Company on Northwest 21st Avenue.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**KHQ-NBC (Spokane, WA): Emojis used in online sales of illegal drugs**, Unattributed, March

29, 2022, 8:00 PM

The DEA says drug trafficking has moved online, onto social media and e-commerce platforms, accessible to anyone with a smartphone. With the shifting platform comes a shift in language. Or rather, a shift away from language and towards emojis. A guide from the DEA showcases some common emojis used in illegal drug sales. They warn that many drugs distributed in these sales are fake and often laced with deadly fentanyl or methamphetamine, furthering the deadly epidemic and endangering lives. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KXLY-ABC \(Spokane, WA\)](#)

**WVEC-ABC (Hampton, VA): \$10K reward offered for 'armed and dangerous' man in**

**Virginia Beach, Brenna McIntosh**, Alex Littlehales, March 29, 2022, 7:19 PM

Authorities are offering up to \$10,000 in reward money for information on a man accused of killing two people in Virginia Beach. The U.S. Marshals Service is offering the reward for information that would lead to the arrest of 30-year-old Cola Winborne Beale, who is wanted by the Virginia Beach Police Dept. for two counts of second-degree murder and one count of arson. [[Continue](#)

[Reading](#)]

**WOWT-NBC (Omaha, NE): Omaha DEA seizes 100,000 counterfeit fentanyl-laced pills so**

**far in 2022**, Ashly Richardson, March 29, 2022, 7:05 PM

Deadly, fake pills are being taken off the street at a higher rate than ever before. Since the start of the year authorities have taken 100,000 fentanyl-laced pills off the streets of Nebraska. The issue is so bad, the DEA in Omaha is urging you to be aware of where you get your medications.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**KXLY-ABC (Spokane, WA): 'Flooding our streets': New initiative to combat rising fentanyl use starts in the Inland Northwest**, Andre Senior, March 29, 2022, 6:59 PM

Operation Engage launched in the Inland Northwest to prevent drug addiction early on. It's a collaboration between local law enforcement, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and community recovery and prevention agencies. The efforts couldn't come at a better time as the drug epidemic ravages the community. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KREM-CBS \(Spokane, WA\)](#)

**WTVY-CBS (Dothan, AL): 2 arrests made in March 22 Troy shooting investigation**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 6:11 PM

Two suspects have been arrested and charged in connection to a shooting that left two others injured, according to the Troy Police Department. Malik Travon King, 24, was arrested early Monday morning with help from the U.S. Marshals Gulf Coast Fugitive Task Force. Troy police took Lil'Cedric Mandrell Rumph, 21, into custody a short time later. Both are Troy residents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WFSB-CBS (Hartford, CT): New Haven FBI holds camp for students interested in law enforcement**, Matthew Campbell and Evan Sobol, March 29, 2022, 6:08 PM

The New Haven FBI office is holding its prestigious camp catered to those with an interest in law enforcement. After two years off during the pandemic, they're back and looking for recruits. High school juniors get the chance to get a hands-on experience, thanks to the Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy (FLEYA) program. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGW-NBC (Portland, OR): Suspect who shot 3, killed 1 at Northwest Portland bar arrested**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:19 PM

Portland police have charged the suspect in a shooting at a crowded bar in Northwest Portland last fall that killed a man inside. Police say 25-year-old Marshawn Edwards fired repeatedly into Silver Dollar Pizza Restaurant on Northwest 21st Avenue on Sept. 24, 2021, killing Jacob Knight-Vasquez and injuring two others. U.S. Marshals arrested Edwards in Fairview on Monday. He is charged with second-degree murder, attempted murder, assault and unlawful use of a weapon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WGBA-NBC (Green Bay, WI): Two arrested in Green Bay as part of Brown County drug investigation**, Alice Reid, March 29, 2022, 4:05 PM

Two people were arrested Tuesday in Green Bay following a months-long drug investigation, the Brown County Sheriff's Office said. According to the Sheriff's Office, the Brown County Drug Task Force along with FBI, DEA, DCI, and ATF concluded a 16-month investigation by executing two search warrants with the assistance of both Green Bay and Brown County SWAT teams.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFRV-CBS \(Green Bay, WI\)](#)

**KSTU-Fox (Salt Lake City, UT): 'Project Safe Neighborhoods' aims to keep guns, drugs, and criminals off the street**, April Baker, March 29, 2022, 1:31 PM

"Project Safe Neighborhoods" in Salt Lake City has helped remove guns, drugs, and criminals from the streets according to city and law enforcement leaders, who gave a report on the initiative Tuesday morning. They said that for the first three months of 2022, 27 guns have been seized and two dozen defendants have been charged for crimes committed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Voice (South Passaic, NJ): US Marshal Justified In Killing Armed Fugitive In Paterson Wanted For Ex-GF's NYC Murder**, Jerry DeMarco, March 29, 2022, 1:23 PM  
A U.S. Marshal was justified in killing a fugitive ex-con who fired a shot at him and fellow officers in a Paterson apartment, a New Jersey grand jury has found. A loaded 9mm handgun was found near the body of Malik Canty after he was taken out by members of the U.S. Marshals Service NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force in a second-floor Hamilton Avenue apartment, Acting New Jersey Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**Reuters: Qualified immunity defense proposal dropped by judicial panel**, Nate Raymond, March 29, 2022, 2:04 PM

A judicial panel on Tuesday abandoned a proposal by the U.S. Justice Department to give federal officials more time to respond to lawsuits against them related to their duties, particularly when they rely on a "qualified immunity" defense often used to shield law enforcement accused of excessive force. The judiciary's Advisory Committee on Civil Rules without objection withdrew a proposed rule it had previously backed that would have extended to 60 days from 14 the time officials have to answer lawsuits if they survive initial motions to dismiss. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**AP: Justices cast doubt on Texas immunity claim in vet's lawsuit**, Mark Sherman, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

The Supreme Court on Tuesday cast doubt on Texas' claim that it can't be sued by a former state trooper who says he was forced out of his job when he returned from Army service in Iraq. The justices heard arguments in a dispute over a federal law that was enacted in 1994 in the wake of the Persian Gulf war to strengthen job protections for returning service members. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NYT](#), [WaPo](#)

**NYT, The Daily: [AUDIO] The Political Lives of Clarence and Ginni Thomas**, March 30, 2022, 6:00 AM

A series of text messages released in the past week show how Ginni Thomas, wife of Justice Clarence Thomas of the Supreme Court, urged White House officials to push to overturn the result of the 2020 election. [[Listen](#)] See also: [The Hill](#)

**CNN: John Roberts can't do anything about Clarence Thomas**, Joan Biskupic, March 30, 2022, 5:30 AM

Chief Justice John Roberts has long trumpeted the Supreme Court's institutional integrity, saying the nine justices differ from elected politicians and calling out anyone who threatens to undermine that message. He has rebuked former President Donald Trump and members of Congress. But now the threat comes from within, and Roberts faces a dilemma. The chief justice is not the boss of Justice Clarence Thomas or any of the associate justices. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CBS: Democrats call on Clarence Thomas to recuse himself from January 6 Supreme Court cases**, Melissa Quin, March 29, 2022, 10:43 AM

A bicameral group of Democrats are calling on Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas to recuse himself from future cases that come before the high court involving the January 6 assault

on the U.S. Capitol and explain why he failed to step aside from earlier court fights involving the attack and efforts to reverse the outcome of the 2020 presidential election. [[Continue Reading](#)]  
**See also:** [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [Reuters](#)

**Law360: Justices Urged To Stay Out Of Trump Water Rule Fight**, Keith Goldberg, March 29, 2022, 6:12 PM

The federal government on Monday told the U.S. Supreme Court there's no need to block a lower court ruling that struck down a Trump-era water rule that restricted state and tribal authority to deny permits under the Clean Water Act while it's being appealed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Business Insider: How Congress could impeach Supreme Court Justice Clarence**

**Thomas**, Ryan C. Barber, March 29, 2022, 12:00 PM

The revelation of Ginni Thomas' text messages with the former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows almost immediately drew calls for an event not seen in more than two centuries of American history: the impeachment of a sitting Supreme Court justice. Late Thursday, The Washington Post and CBS reported that Thomas, the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, exchanged more than two dozen text messages with Meadows as she pressed to overturn President Donald Trump's electoral defeat in 2020. The messages — 29 in total — do not directly reference Clarence Thomas or the Supreme Court. But they have fueled ethics questions that had already been swirling around Thomas, who, at 73, is the longest-serving justice on the Supreme Court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**SCOTUSblog: Justices to consider California's private-attorney-general exception to arbitration clause**, Ronald Mann, March 29, 2022, 11:42 AM

The last few decades have witnessed the working out in several cases of a sustained disagreement between the Supreme Court and California legislators and judges. The Supreme Court has taken the view that the Federal Arbitration Act compels the enforcement, in state and federal courts, of pre-dispute arbitration agreements. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **SUPREME COURT NOMINEE**

**USA Today: Two-thirds of Americans back Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson for Supreme Court, poll shows**, John Fritz, March 30, 2022, 6:30 AM

As the Senate moves closer to confirming Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court, a new poll released Wednesday indicated she has widespread support from the public. Two-thirds of Americans said that if they were senators they would vote to confirm Jackson, according to a Marquette Law School poll. Nearly half of the poll's respondents described the appellate judge as "very qualified" to serve on the nation's highest court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] The verdict on KBJ's nomination hearings: Never again**, Charles Lane, March 29, 2022, 5:46 PM

Like many previous such proceedings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Ketanji Brown Jackson's Supreme Court confirmation hearings produced more political grandstanding than new and useful information. After long days of tendentious attacks from Republicans, several of whom treated Jackson less as a potential justice than as a foil for GOP talking points on crime, race and education, she emerged as pretty much the nominee everyone knew she was going in: basically

decent, well-qualified, liberal and bound for a mostly party-line confirmation as the first Black female justice. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Collins, Romney, Murkowski emerge as Supreme Court swing votes**, Jordain Carney, March 30, 2022, 6:00 AM

Democrats are trying to lock down at least one GOP vote as they head toward confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson for a seat on the Supreme Court. The push to find a Republican to support Jackson comes as the White House and top Democrats are pivoting to the final stage of her nomination fight after she emerged largely unscathed from high-profile committee hearings.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Tribe Asks DOJ To Probe Hotel's Alleged Native American Ban**, Joyce Hanson, March 29, 2022, 7:19 PM

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's chairwoman has urged U. S. Attorney General Merrick Garland to launch an investigation into a South Dakota hotelier's recent threats on social media to ban all Native Americans from the premises following a shooting in one of her hotel-casino's rooms.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Biden's 2023 Budget Seeks An Extra \$1B For Indian Affairs**, Joyce Hanson, March 29, 2022, 5:03 PM

The Biden administration has unveiled a \$5. 8 trillion fiscal 2023 budget that includes a proposed \$4. 5 billion of investments for Native American tribes, saying an increase of \$1 billion from 2022's funding level reflects its commitment to strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship with tribes. The U. S. Department of the Interior said Monday that the administration's \$4. 5 billion request for Indian Affairs programs, which tops the fiscal 2022 level that ends on Sept. 30, includes \$2. 8 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, \$562. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Denver, CO\)](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

**Forbes: High Expectations: How The House Is Moving To Legalize Marijuana**, Kelly Anne Smith, March 29, 2022, 3:09 PM

The legalization of marijuana is in a delicate place: While most states have legalized it for recreational or medical purposes, it's still illegal at a federal level. But that could soon change. This week, the House of Representatives is expected to pass a bill that would decriminalize marijuana use on a federal level. This is a move that is overwhelmingly popular among Americans: An April 2021 poll from Pew Research found that 91% of U.S. adults think marijuana should be legal, either medically, recreationally or both at the federal level. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: Washington Officials Step Up Push For Federal Marijuana Banking Reform Following String Of Deadly Robberies**, Kyle Jaeger, March 29, 2022, 3:00 PM

Washington State officials on Tuesday held a virtual roundtable to address the recent spate of deadly robberies targeting marijuana retailers, with regulators reiterating their call for a federal policy change and discussing steps the state can take on its own while Congress fails to act. Lawmakers, advocates and representatives of cannabis businesses that have been recently

robbed took part in the event, which was organized by the state's Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) after at least three people were killed within the span of four recent days at three different Washington cannabis retailers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**Law360: Purdue Victims Ask 2nd Circ. To Reverse Ch. 11 Plan Rejection**, Jeff

Montgomery, March 29, 2022, 7:46 PM

An ad hoc group of Purdue Pharma LP opioid victims has urged the Second Circuit to "refresh its jurisprudence" on direct and derivative claims and reverse a district court finding that blew up a \$4.325 billion settlement of third-party claims against the Sackler family. In an appellate brief filed Monday, the Ad Hoc Group of Individual Victims of Purdue Pharma LP argued that U. S. District Court Judge Colleen McMahon's decision in the Southern District of New York in December erred in finding the bankruptcy court lacked authority to release the Sacklers who controlled Purdue from third-party claims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVU-Fox (Oakland, CA): Fatal fentanyl overdoses among teenagers are on the rise**,

Andre Senior, March 29, 2022, 7:22 PM

Fatal fentanyl overdoses among teenagers are on the rise across the country as Center for Disease Control and Prevention numbers show deaths annually have topped 100,000. [...] Wade Shannon, D.E.A Special Agent in Charge of the San Francisco Field Division says much of the drug on the streets right now can be fatal. "Four in ten pills that were seizing the street that was tested by our DEA labs had a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl in them," said Shannon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**WaPo: Biden signs bill making lynching a federal hate crime**, Amy B. Wang and Felicia

Sonmez, March 29, 2022, 4:58 PM

President Biden on Tuesday signed into law the Emmett Till Antilynching Act to make lynching a federal hate crime, in a historic first that comes after more than a century of failed efforts against racial violence. "Hundreds, hundreds of similar bills have failed to pass over the years," Biden said at a ceremony in the Rose Garden after he signed the bill at the White House. "Several federal hate crime laws were enacted...But no federal law expressly prohibited lynching. None until today." [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NYT](#), [CNN](#)

## **CONGRESS**

**Axios: Democrats push Garland to come down on uncooperative Trump allies**, Andrew

Solender and Margaret Talev, March 30, 2022, 5:43 AM

Democratic lawmakers are openly pressuring Attorney General Merrick Garland to bring the weight of U.S. law enforcement against members of former President Trump's inner circle they've deemed uncooperative with the House's investigation of the Jan. 6 attack. Why it matters: The House select committee is seeking to compel or punish Trump loyalists who don't comply with the investigation, while Republicans are preparing to win back control of Congress in November and end the probe. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [HuffPost](#)

**Politico: 'There is a big problem': Senators unite to slam FOIA compliance**, Josh Gerstein, March 29, 2022, 2:22 PM

The often bitterly divided Senate Judiciary Committee had little difficulty Tuesday finding consensus that the nation's premier transparency law, the Freedom of Information Act, isn't working well. "My conclusion from this is: there is a big problem," Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) said during an oversight hearing on the federal government's ongoing struggle to implement the records-access law in a timely way. Sen. Jon Ossoff (D-Ga.) said he believes the half-century-old statute allowing journalists, advocacy groups and members of the public to request federal agency records appears to be failing to live up to its original ambitions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDJT-CBS (Milwaukee, WI): Federal study would track how courts set bail, release violent offenders under GOP bill**, Emilee Fannon, March 29, 2022, 6:52 PM

A pair of Republican lawmakers want to track how judges across the country impose bail and release violent offenders back into the community in wake of the Waukesha parade deaths. U.S. Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (R-WI 5th) introduced the Pretrial Release Reporting Act which would require the U.S. Department of Justice to study how courts across the nation set bail amounts and release individuals charged with violent offenses.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WILX-NBC (Onondaga, MI): Nassar investigation: Senators accuse Attorney General of taking 'no action' to protect victims**, Krystle Holleman, March 29, 2022, 5:57 PM

Two US Senators are accusing the US Attorney General of failing to protect the victims of Larry Nassar. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Jerry Moran (R-KS) have sent a letter, which can be read in full at the end of this article, to US Attorney General Merrick Garland, accusing him of taking "little to no action" to reprimand people at the Department of Justice who they say did not protect victims of Larry Nassar. That includes former US Olympic Committee Chair Scott Blackmun.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: MARCH 29, 2022**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Ukrainian and Russian negotiators sat face-to-face for the first time in weeks on Tuesday in Turkey, resuming direct talks that Ukraine's government hopes will bring a ceasefire after more than a month of Vladimir Putin's brutal invasion. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- CBS News and the Washington Post obtained White House records of President Trump's activities on January 6, 2021, which show a more than 7-hour gap in his call log. Committee members are also debating whether to request testimony from Ginni Thomas, wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, after resurfacing text messages to former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows asking to fight the election results. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
-

The FDA authorized another booster shot of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID vaccines for people 50 and older who want them. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- President Joe Biden signed legislation making lynching a federal hate crime. The bill is named for Emmett Till, the Black child killed in 1955 after being accused of whistling at a white woman. [[ABC](#)]
- The U.S. border is still officially closed to asylum seekers because of Title 42, a public health policy put in place by the Trump administration that denies entry due to Covid. The Biden administration has been under pressure to end the policy. [[NBC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- “Ukraine-Russia talks stir optimism, but West urges caution” [[WaPo](#), [WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [LAT](#)]
- “F.D.A. Allows Second Coronavirus Boosters for Everyone 50 and Older” [[NYT](#), [WSJ](#), [LAT](#)]
- “Jan. 6 White House logs given to House show 7-hour gap in Trump calls” [[WaPo](#)]
- “New Focus on How a Trump Tweet Incited Far-Right Groups Ahead of Jan. 6” [[NYT](#)]
- “Russia’s war in Ukraine galvanizes extremists globally” [[WaPo](#)]
- “Activision Blizzard to pay \$18 million to victims of harassment and discrimination” [[LAT](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Watson, Theresa (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Davidson, Marcia A. (OAG)  
**Sent:** March 30, 2022 7:25 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** March 30, 2022 at 7:03:26 AM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice**  
**Morning News Digest**  
**March 30, 2022**  
**7:00 AM EST**

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**WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: MARCH 30, 2022**

**DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **SCOTUS**

- Viking River Cruises, Inc. v. Moriana

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

***Reuters: EXCLUSIVE Two former U.S. officials help ethics probe of Trump ally Clark, source says***, Sarah N. Lynch, March 29, 2022, 5:24 PM

The top two U.S. Justice Department officials in the waning days of Donald Trump's presidency are cooperating with a Washington legal body's ethics probe of their former colleague Jeffrey Bossert Clark, who tried to help Trump overturn his 2020 election loss, according to a person familiar with the matter. Jeffrey Rosen, who served as acting attorney general, and Richard Donoghue, his former acting deputy, each have given voluntary interviews in recent months to the District of Columbia Office of Disciplinary Counsel, which is investigating Clark for possible misconduct, according to the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Bloomberg: [OPINION] Merrick Garland Has More Than Enough to Investigate Trump,*** Timothy L. O'Brien, March 29, 2022, 6:30 AM

A federal judge thinks that former President Donald Trump likely committed fraud — and probably knew it — when he and one of his lawyers, John Eastman, plotted to block Congress's certification of the 2020 presidential election so Trump could hold on to power. So how much longer will it take Attorney General Merrick Garland to draw the same conclusion about that attempted coup? [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Law360: DOJ's Wrigley Probe No Excuse For ADA Failure, Fan Says,***" Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

A Chicago Cubs fan urged an Illinois federal judge Monday to mandate that the team install additional accessible seating for the 2022 baseball season under the Americans with Disabilities Act, arguing an ongoing U.S. Department of Justice review is not a valid excuse for the delay. David Felimon Cerda, who uses a wheelchair, is seeking summary judgment in his nearly five-year-old lawsuit alleging renovations to Wrigley Field do not include the minimum number of accessible seats required by the ADA. The Cubs have argued the stadium will actually exceed the ADA's requirements for accessible seating once they complete some remaining renovations, which were put on hold when the DOJ initiated a related compliance review in 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***National Law Journal: 'A Collective Sigh of Relief': Garland Brings Comfort to DOJ Lawyers but Morale Challenges Remain***, Andrew Goudsward, March 29, 2022, 3:39 PM

On his first day as attorney general, Merrick Garland stood in the Great Hall at Main Justice and, invoking one of his role models, the first post-Watergate Attorney General Edward Levi, spoke of the need for career Justice Department officials to feel pride in the institution. "For all of you and for me, public service is more than a job. It is a calling," Garland said in an address to career employees. "All of you have chosen the Department of Justice over other places where you might have used your skills and where you might have earned a higher salary." [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**Reuters: FBI says Russian hackers scanning U.S. energy systems and pose 'current' threat**, Sarah N. Lynch, March 29, 2022, 4:21 PM

Russian hackers have been scanning the systems of energy companies and other critical infrastructure in the United States, and state-sponsored hacking by Russia presents a "current" threat to American national security, a top FBI official told lawmakers on Tuesday. "The threat from Russia in a criminal sense, in the nation state sense, is very, very real - and current," said Bryan Vorndran, an assistant director in the FBI's cyber division, during a hearing before a U.S. House of Representatives panel. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Man who waved Confederate flag pleads guilty in Capitol riot**, Michael Kunzelman, March 29, 2022, 12:00 PM

A Maryland man who waved a Confederate flag attached to a lacrosse stick during the siege at the U.S. Capitol pleaded guilty on Tuesday to interfering with a police officer who was trying to disperse a crowd of rioters. David Blair, 27, faces a maximum prison sentence of five years after pleading guilty to a felony charge of obstructing law enforcement during a civil disorder.

Estimated sentencing guidelines in Blair's case recommend a term of imprisonment ranging from eight to 14 months. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Courthouse News](#), [Daily Voice \(Montgomery, MD\)](#), [WBFF-Fox \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**WSJ: Hackers Steal \$540 Million in Crypto From 'Axie Infinity' Game**, Paul Vigna and Sarah E. Needleman, March 29, 2022, 6:13 PM

A cryptocurrency startup that operates a popular online game called "Axie Infinity" said Tuesday that hackers stole more than \$500 million worth of cryptocurrency. "Axie Infinity" publisher Sky Mavis Ltd. said on March 23, hackers infiltrated a part of its Ronin Network, which the game runs on. The infiltrators got access to accounts holding cryptocurrencies and drained 173,600 ether and 25.5 million of the stablecoin USDC. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Examiner: Project Veritas scandal sparks scrutiny of federal courts' secret spying warrants**, Nihal Krishan, March 30, 2022, 6:30 AM

The recent covert seizures of Project Veritas emails has led to new criticism from conservatives and civil rights groups alike of law enforcement's use of Big Tech companies to spy on the communications of journalists and media organizations. The Trump-era Department of Justice, which was investigating the theft of Ashley Biden's diary during the 2020 election campaign, forced Microsoft to turn over emails from nine accounts associated with Project Veritas, according to court filings from the project that Microsoft confirmed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Biden Budget Bolsters Cybersecurity Funding**, Humberto J. Rocha, March 29, 2022, 5:25 PM

Amid a growing threat from Russian cyberattacks, President Joe Biden has announced a request for \$10. 9 billion in cybersecurity funding for civilian government agencies and \$11. 2 billion for the U. S. Department of Defense's cyberspace operations. In a budget message released Monday, Biden said his administration was prioritizing cybersecurity at the federal level with \$2. 6 billion of his civilian cybersecurity budget going toward the Homeland Security Department. The nearly \$11 billion request for civilian government agencies represents an 11% increase over last year's presidential request. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KING-NBC (Seattle, WA): 2 Mount Vernon men arrested in connection to Capitol riot**,

Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 8:50 PM

Two men from Mount Vernon were arrested last week for their alleged actions during the U.S. Capitol riot on Jan. 6, 2021. The FBI received a tip on Feb. 28, 2021, that a photo shared on Facebook Messenger showed the suspects smoking marijuana inside the Capitol Building on the day of the riot, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. The witness was shown the picture by a mutual friend of the suspects, but they could not download or save the photograph to share with investigators. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **JAN. 6 COMMISSION**

**AP: Explainer: What the Law Says About Presidential Records**, Eric Tucker, March 30, 2022, 12:09 AM

Revelations of a roughly eight-hour gap in official records of then-President Donald Trump's phone calls on the day of last year's insurrection at the U.S. Capitol are raising fresh questions about the diligence — or lack thereof — of the former president's record keeping. The committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, riot has identified a gap in records that stretches a little after 11 a.m. to about 7 p.m. that day, and involves White House calls, according to two people familiar with the matter. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: 8-hour gap in Trump's Jan. 6 White House phone records**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Colleen Long and Jill Colvin, March 29, 2022, 6:00 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the Capitol has identified an almost 8-hour gap in official White House records of then-President Donald Trump's phone calls as the violence unfolded and his supporters stormed the building, according to two people familiar with the probe. The gap extends from a little after 11 a.m. to about 7 p.m. on Jan. 6, 2021, and involves White House phone calls, according to one of the people. Both spoke to The Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the ongoing investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CBS](#), [CBS-2](#), [Fox](#), [MSNBC](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [The Week](#), [WSJ](#)

**Reuters: White House: no executive privilege for Kushner, Ivanka Trump on Jan 6 testimony**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 3:27 PM

The White House will not assert executive privilege for testimony by former President Donald Trump's daughter and son-in-law and former advisers, Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner, before the Jan. 6 committee, communications director Kate Bedingfield said on Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Newsweek](#)

**NYT: Why a Ruling Declaring Trump 'Likely' Broke Laws May Not Mean He Will Be Prosecuted**, Charlie Savage, March 29, 2022, 5:30 PM

A federal judge's conclusion this week that former President Donald J. Trump likely committed felonies related to his efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 election intensified scrutiny on the question of whether the Justice Department can, should or will try to charge him with the same crimes. But the fact that a judge reached that conclusion does not necessarily mean that a prosecution would arrive at the same outcome. Here is an explanation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: White House will not assert executive privilege over Jared Kushner's testimony to January 6 committee**, Donald Judd and Paul LeBlanc, March 29, 2022, 6:03 PM

The White House will not assert executive privilege over Jared Kushner's testimony to the committee investigating the January 6, 2021, insurrection, White House communications director Kate Bedingfield said Tuesday. "Obviously, the President has spoken to the fact that January 6 was one of the darkest days in our country's history and that we must have a full accounting of what happened to ensure that it never occurs again, and he's been quite clear that they posed a unique threat to our democracy and that the constitutional protections of executive privilege should not be used to shield from Congress or the public information about an attack on the Constitution itself," Bedingfield told CNN's Kaitlan Collins. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: [ANALYSIS] Why the January 6 committee needs to wrap things up soon**, Chris Cillizza, March 29, 2022, 5:00 PM

On Monday night, the House committee investigating the January 6, 2021, attack at the US Capitol unanimously recommended a pair of criminal contempt referrals for two top aides to then-President Donald Trump who have repeatedly slow-walked requests for their testimony about their actions that happened that fateful day. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Feds prepare 'disclosure' on figure at heart of pro-Trump Jan. 6 conspiracy theory**, Josh Gerstein and Kyle Cheney, March 29, 2022, 9:47 PM

The Justice Department is compiling information to share with defendants about Ray Epps, an Arizona man who has been the focus of Jan. 6 conspiracy theories pushed by former President Donald Trump, his allies in Congress and right-wing media figures. Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen Rochlin said in court on Tuesday that she intended to provide a "disclosure" about Epps, a former Oath Keeper, in response to requests by Jan. 6 defendants accused of leading the breach of police lines — including Ryan Samsel, who briefly huddled with Epps before charging the barricades. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

**Reuters: New York man admits to insider trading, after being linked to reporter's tips**, Luc Cohen, March 29, 2022, 8:45 PM

A New York City man pleaded guilty on Tuesday to insider trading and tax evasion charges, a year after prosecutors accused him of using information from a Bloomberg News reporter about certain deals to trade. Jason Peltz, 39, entered the plea in Brooklyn federal court to two counts of insider trading and tax evasion a year after initially pleading not guilty. He has been engaged in plea negotiations with prosecutors since at least September 2021, court records show. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: Ecuador's Former Comptroller General Indicted in Case Tied to Odebrecht**, David Smagalla, March 29, 2022, 8:11 PM

A former Ecuadorian comptroller general appeared in a Miami courtroom on Tuesday to face charges he laundered money in the U.S. to hide the proceeds of a bribery scheme partially tied to Brazil-based construction company Odebrecht SA. U.S. authorities have accused Carlos Ramon Polit Faggioni of soliciting and receiving more than \$10 million in bribes from Odebrecht between approximately 2010 and 2016 in exchange for using his position to benefit the company and its Ecuador business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Fresno Bee: Fresno man sentenced to 5 years for dealing fentanyl. Feds say he**

**supplied hundreds of pills**, Larry Valenzuela, March 29, 2022, 7:30 PM

A Fresno man was sentenced to five years in federal prison on Tuesday for dealing hundreds of fentanyl pills. Jonathan Cortez, 24, pleaded guilty late last year to conspiring to distribute over 40 grams of the opioid pills, according to U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert. According to court documents, federal and local law enforcement in August 2020 began investigating a Cortez associate for dealing fentanyl pills. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**City News Service: Drug Dealer Sentenced for Fentanyl-Laced Pill Death of 20-Year-Old**

**Chula Vista Man**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 7:00 PM

A Chula Vista man was sentenced to nearly 16 years in prison Tuesday for selling fentanyl-laced pills that caused the death of a 20-year-old man. Jonathan Mefford, 24, pleaded guilty last year to federal charges for selling counterfeit pills to the victim on Oct. 29, 2018. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSWB-Fox \(San Diego, CA\)](#), [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

**Hartford Courant: Connecticut man charged with trafficking guns into state posts \$100K bond, feds say**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 6:33 PM

A Bridgeport man who was arrested Tuesday on firearm trafficking charges was later able to post a \$100,000 bond and be released, according to federal authorities. Brannon Winston, 22, is charged with one count of engaging in the business of dealing in firearms without a license, and one count crossing state lines with the intent to engage in unlicensed dealing of firearms, federal authorities said in a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Connecticut Post: Feds: Five men plead guilty in murder, arson plan**, Liz Hardaway, March 29, 2022, 5:50 PM

Five men pleaded guilty to firearm charges stemming from a plan to kill a man and set a Bridgeport business on fire, according to federal prosecutors Tuesday. The five men entered guilty pleas in Bridgeport federal court to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon after police found several loaded guns that were thrown from a fleeing car and inside a Milford hotel room, the U.S. Attorney's Office said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WTNH-ABC \(New Haven, CT\)](#)

**Detroit Free Press (Detroit, MI): Warren dad who repeatedly sold homeless girl for sex gets minimum sentence**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:40 PM

Marvin Booker had it coming, the feds say. The father of two sold a homeless teenage girl for sex, even when she begged him to stop the sex dates because it was so painful due to an infection, they say. Then Booker wound up in jail on sex-trafficking charges, and begged a judge to release him because of COVID-19 fears, claiming he had asthma. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**St. Thomas Source: New York Man Charged with Making Bomb Threats**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 12:00 PM

On Tuesday, March 29, 2022, U.S. Attorney Gretchen C.F. Shappert announced that Gilbert Brady, 54, of New York, was arrested in St. Thomas on criminal charges for allegedly making bomb threats involving the Beach Bar in Wharfside Village, St. John. According to court documents, agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrested Brady after telephone calls were made to the Virgin Islands Territory Emergency Management Agent (VITEMA) 911 call center and the Beach Bar in Wharfside Village, St. John stating that explosives had been left at the Beach Bar. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Two North Baltimore neighborhood drug dealers plead guilty**

**to drug charges**, Nia Fitzhugh, March 29, 2022, 11:00 PM

Two North Baltimore neighborhood drug dealers plead guilty to fentanyl related charges.

According to police, between September and October 2019 they identified two men, 47-year-old Kinnard Riggs and 36-year-old James Meekins, as associates of unrelated drug trafficking organizations. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#).

**KFTA-Fox (Fort Smith, AR): Second doctor pleads guilty to workers' comp fraud**

**conspiracy**, Justin Trobaugh, March 29, 2022, 10:53 PM

An Alexandria, La., physician pleaded guilty on March 29 to conspiring to violate three different federal statutes in connection with a scheme to defraud both federal and private workers' compensation insurers. According to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Arkansas, Robert Clay Smith, 60, waived indictment by a grand jury and pleaded guilty to a criminal information charging him with conspiracy to commit health care fraud, wire fraud, and illegal remunerations, also known as "taking kickbacks". [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRQE-CBS/Fox (Albuquerque, NM): Woman facing voluntary manslaughter charges in northern NM**, Anna Padilla, March 29, 2022, 10:13 PM

A woman is facing involuntary manslaughter charges on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation. Thirty-seven-year-old Laurice Montoya is accused of getting into an argument with a man who had been staying with her, pushing him over a couch, and hitting him twice in the back of the head with a snow shovel. Montoya will remain in custody until trial. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTVM-ABC (Columbus, GA): 2018 Columbus murder suspect planning to sue Columbus Police Department**, Ahniaelyah Spraggs, March 29, 2022, 9:13 PM

We have learned new details about a suspect in the 2018 murder of an up-and-coming Columbus rapper. Throughout the trial, the state's star witness is tied to a second murder case. That incident happened a few weeks after the murder of Branden Denson. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WNBC-NBC \(New York, NY\)](#)

**KGET-NBC (Bakersfield, CA): Drug bust at border finds more than 100 pounds of meth**, Jocelyn Sandusky, March 29, 2022, 7:29 PM

Tuesday, a Bakersfield resident was sentenced to more than three years in prison for possessing with intent to distribute more than 100 pounds of methamphetamine. According to court documents, Randal Jason Newell, 42, drove from Bakersfield to Mexico to obtain and smuggle drugs from Mexico to Bakersfield for a payment of \$7,000. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KOKI-Fox (Tulsa, OK): Man sentenced to 8 years in prison for illegally possessing firearms and ammunition**, Dana Nickel, March 29, 2022, 7:08 PM

A known gang member and convicted felon was sentenced Tuesday in federal court for illegally possessing firearms and ammunition, according to U.S. Attorney Clint Johnson. Chief U.S. District Judge John F. Heil III sentenced 35-year-old Ricky Laron Shannon, of Tulsa, to eight years in federal prison followed by three years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KVIA-ABC (El Paso, TX): El Paso woman pleads guilty to stealing money from a union**, Emma Hoggard, March 29, 2022, 6:45 PM

An El Paso woman pleaded guilty to stealing money from a union. Court documents state Dorothy Ferguson, 58, took out 29 unauthorized cash withdrawals totaling \$16,604. She served as the treasurer of the American Federation of Government Employees Local Union located in Fort

Bliss. Ferguson held that position from December 2019 to April 2020. Court documents also accuse Ferguson of failing to present financial reports at board meetings. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPNX-NBC (Phoenix, AZ): Phoenix man gets 15 years for bludgeoning victim to death,** Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 6:40 PM

A member of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community was sentenced last week to 15 years in prison for bludgeoning and stabbing a woman to death in 2019. Jesse Don Moquino, 39, of Phoenix pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was recently sentenced to a lengthy term in federal prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WJZY-Fox (Charlotte, NC): Judge: Man sentenced to nine years in prison for distributing meth,** Connor Lomis, March 29, 2022, 6:02 PM

A man has been sentenced to more than nine years Tuesday for intent to distribute methamphetamine, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. Alberto Manuel Lara-Zuniga, 46, of Mexico was given 108 months in prison and five years of supervised release by a U.S. District Judge. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KLIX-FM (Twin Falls, ID): Seattle Man Built Mobile Identity Theft Lab,** Benito Baeza, March 29, 2022, 6:00 PM

A Seattle man who built a mobile identify theft lab in a trailer could spend more than 20 years behind bars for stealing people's identities and making fraudulent purchases across the Northwest, including in Idaho. According to U.S. Attorney Rafael Gonzalez Jr., Ryan M. Tichy, 42, recently pleaded guilty to wire fraud and aggravated identity theft, he is set to be sentenced in June this year. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WYMT-CBS (Hazard, KY): Eastern Kentucky couple to plead guilty to federal fraud, arraignment set,** Ethan Sirles, March 29, 2022, 5:31 PM

A Lawrence County Attorney and his wife, who were originally indicted for federal fraud charges in 2021, pleaded guilty on Tuesday. According to court documents, Michael and Joy Hogan motioned for re-arraignment, instead of going to trial. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WTVQ-ABC \(Lexington, KY\)](#)

**WWLP-NBC/CW (Springfield, MA): Michigan man pleads guilty of pandemic assistance fraud in Mass,** Aubree Carr, March 29, 2022, 5:25 PM

COVID-19-related unemployment assistance has been obtained through a fraudulent scheme by a Michigan man who pleaded guilty in court in Boston. Devin Smith, 30, was arrested on January 12, 2021. District Court Judge Richard G. Stearns scheduled sentencing for Aug. 9, 2022 and Smith pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud and one count of aggravated identity theft. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRMG-AM (Tulsa, OK): Lawton man sentenced to more than 15 years for shooting at federal officers,** Dana Nickel, March 29, 2022, 5:24 PM

Michael Hans Oloa, 35, of Lawton, Okla. was sentenced to more than 15 years in federal prison for assaulting two federal law enforcement officers by shooting at the officers in a Lawton casino parking lot, and for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm Monday, according to U.S. Attorney Robert J. Troester. On June 15, 2021, a federal grand jury returned a two-count Indictment against Oloa. Count 1 charged Oloa with assaulting two federal officers, and Count 2 charged him with being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See

**also:** [KSWO-ABC \(Lawton, OK\)](#)

**KECI-NBC (Missoula, MT): Man sentenced for trafficking meth in Missoula**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:11 PM

A Missoula man , 58-year-old Leonard George Carleton, has been sentenced to six years in prison for trafficking meth, followed by five years supervised release, according to U.S. Attorney Leif M. Johnson. The following was sent out by the Department of Justice: A Missoula man convicted of trafficking methamphetamine in the community was sentenced today to six years in prison, to be followed by five years of supervised release, U.S. Attorney Leif M. Johnson said.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KPAX-CBS/CW \(Missoula, MT\)](#)

**KTBC-Fox (Austin, TX): San Antonio man sentenced to 30 years in prison for sexual exploitation of minor**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:04 PM

A San Antonio man was sentenced to 30 years in prison for sexual exploitation of a minor. According to court documents, 39-year-old Daniel Vesa coerced a minor into taking videos showing the child engaging in sexually explicit conduct using a social media platform. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KPIX-CBS (San Francisco, CA): Former Sacramento Resident Accused In Million-Dollar EDD Fraud Scheme**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:57 PM

A Las Vegas resident was arrested Tuesday on federal charges involving an alleged unemployment insurance fraud scheme that netted him more than a million dollars, according to authorities. Terence Aubrey Larker, 35, was indicted by a federal grand jury last week, charging him with eight counts of mail fraud and aggravated identity theft. The indictment was unsealed Tuesday after Larker's arrest in Las Vegas, said U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of California Phillip Talbert in a press statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRTV-CBS (Great Falls, MT): Kalispell man sentenced for trafficking heroin**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:44 PM

Joseph Daniel Fox of Kalispell, who admitted to trafficking heroin and to illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition, was sentenced in federal court in Missoula on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Fox, 29 years old, pleaded guilty in December 2021 to possession with intent to distribute heroin and to prohibited person in possession of firearms and ammunition. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WTSP-CBS (St. Petersburg, FL): DOJ: Venice man sentenced to 15 years in prison for making threatening calls to members of Congress**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:35 PM

A Venice man will spend the next 15 years in federal prison after making several threatening calls to members of Congress in 2020, a news release from the Department of Justice states. According to the DOJ, 73-year-old Frank Anthony Pezzuto was found guilty of transmitting in interstate commerce three separate threatening communications to injure certain members of Congress back in November 2021. Pezzuto has also been ordered to pay a fine of \$7,500. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WFLD-Fox (Chicago, IL): Suburban Chicago woman sentenced to prison after making \$286K off insider trading**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 4:15 PM

A suburban Chicago woman was sentenced to a year in prison Tuesday for using insider trading information to purchase shares of a company ahead of its acquisition by her husband's employer. Denise Grevas, 60, of Evanston, pleaded guilty last year to a securities fraud charge after she

admitted to illegally profiting from the purchase and sale of securities in a Washington state-based pharmaceutical company, according to a statement from the U.S. Attorney's office for the Northern District of Illinois. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Washington, DC): 3 Found Guilty In String Of Armed Robberies Across DC Area: Court**, Michael O'Connell, March 29, 2022, 2:39 PM

A federal jury found three people guilty of multiple charges Monday related to a string of armed robberies across the D.C. area in 2018, according to court documents. The jury found 34-year-old Quaysa Flumo of Washington, D.C.; 29-year-old Enyianna Onyewu of Silver Spring, Maryland; and 27-year-old Emmanuel Sumo, of Takoma Park, Maryland guilty on federal conspiracy, robbery, and weapons charges, according to a release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWSB-ABC (Sarasota, FL): Palmetto men face federal charges in double murder,**

Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 2:09 PM

Two Palmetto men were indicted last month connection with two 2020 murders in Hillsborough County. The Department of Justice unsealed the federal indictment Tuesday charging Jy'Quale Samari Grable, 20, and Aquavious Smith, 19, with conspiracy and interference with commerce by robbery. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJZ-CBS (Baltimore, MD): Former Maryland Police Officer Handed 3 Year Sentence For Child Pornography Possession**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 2:03 PM

A former Maryland police officer was sentenced Tuesday to three years in federal prison for possession of child pornography, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland said. Anthony Michael Mileo, 54, had been arrested and charged in 2019 with multiple counts of possession and distribution of child pornography. Mileo was a corporal with the Maryland National Capital Park Police. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

**AP: Biden signs bill making lynching a federal hate crime**, Darlene Superville, March 29, 2022, 8:00 PM

Presidents typically say a few words before they turn legislation into law. But Joe Biden flipped the script Tuesday when it came time to put his signature on the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act. He signed the bill at a desk in the White House Rose Garden. Then he spoke. "All right. It's law," said the president, who was surrounded by Vice President Kamala Harris, members of Congress and top Justice Department officials. He was also joined by a descendant of Ida B. Wells, a Black journalist who reported on lynchings, and Rev. Wheeler Parker, a cousin of Till. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [Daily Beast](#), [Fox](#), [The Hill](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#)

**Reuters: 4th Circuit replaces federal public defender amid sexual bias lawsuit**, Nate Raymond, March 29, 2022, 2:25 PM

A retired Marine brigadier general will replace the top federal public defender for the Western District of North Carolina after the prior office holder became a defendant in a closely watched sexual discrimination lawsuit against the judiciary. The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday said that John Baker, who retired from the U.S. Marine Corps in December, has succeeded Anthony Martinez as the federal defender for the district, which is headquartered in Charlotte. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**Courthouse News Service: Federal judge blocks Louisiana law regulating meat substitute labels**, Sabrina Canfield, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

Louisiana consumers interested in a vegetarian take on turkey will not be confused by the labeling and think it contains an animal product, a federal judge ruled. The decision means the brand Tofurky won't be in danger of a \$500 a day fine for creating consumer confusion in the labeling of its product tofurkey, a vegan turkey substitute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Hartford Courant: AMR ambulance will pay \$600K to resolve government billing claims, feds say**, Edmund Mahony, March 29, 2022, 5:00 PM

The American Medical Response ambulance service has agreed to pay \$600,000 to settle claims by the federal and state government's that it improperly billed the Medicaid and Medicare government insurance programs for services. The federal and state governments claimed that AMR billed for paramedic services at the scenes of emergency responses when in fact the services were performed by local fire department, federal authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**See also:** [Connecticut Public, WFSB-CBS \(Hartford, CT\)](#)

**Business Insider: Lawsuit: Federal government is slow-walking investigation into Trump campaign 'shell company,'** Ryan Barber, March 29, 2022, 10:00 AM

For nearly two years, federal election regulators have failed to respond to allegations that Donald Trump's campaign skirted disclosure requirements by laundering hundreds of millions of dollars in spending through firms closely tied to the former president, a watchdog group said in a court filing Tuesday. In a 16-page complaint filed in federal district court, the nonprofit Campaign Legal Center said the Federal Election Commission has abdicated its duty to investigate claims that the Trump campaign routed funds through two firms — American Made Media Consultants and Parscale Strategy — to conceal its spending in the 2020 presidential election. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**AP: Border crossings rise as US nears decision on asylum limits**, Acacia Coronado, March 29, 2022, 2:00 PM

About 7,100 migrants are being stopped crossing the border daily from Mexico, U.S. authorities said Tuesday, signaling they are preparing for even more increases as the Biden administration nears a decision on whether to end sweeping asylum restrictions designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said 1,500 Cubans were stopped over the previous day, well more than double the daily average from February. Homeland Security said U.S. authorities encountered migrants an average of 7,101 times a day during the week ended Monday, compared to a daily average of about 6,800 in February among people crossing illegally and showing up at official crossings. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Biden officials bracing for unprecedented strains at Mexico border if pandemic restrictions lifted**, Nick Miroff and Maria Sacchetti, March 29, 2022, 6:30 PM

Biden administration officials who are coping with record numbers of migrants crossing the southern border said Tuesday they are making contingency plans for an even bigger surge if pandemic-related immigration restrictions are lifted in the coming days. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is due to complete its review Wednesday of the Title 42 public health

order that since March 2020 has allowed U.S. agents to rapidly "expel" most border crossers. Border authorities have used Title 42 to send at least 1.7 million migrants back to Mexico or their home countries, without giving them a chance to seek asylum under U.S. law. [[Continue Reading](#)]  
See also: [WSJ](#)

**ABC: US bracing for influx of migrants at southern border if Title 42 revoked: DHS**, Luke Barr, March 29, 2022, 7:35 PM

The Department of Homeland Security is bracing for as many as 18,000 migrants per day at the southern border if Title 42 is revoked, according to senior DHS officials who briefed reporters on Tuesday. The DHS officials said they have "no idea" when Title 42, the controversial Trump administration policy that deports single adults under the auspices of a public health emergency, will be lifted. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Honduran Migrant's Rape Case Against ICE Agent Too Late**, Grace Dixon, March 29, 2022, 8:16 PM

A Connecticut federal judge dismissed a Honduran immigrant's claims that an Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer raped and blackmailed her with the threat of deportation for seven years, finding that her claims are all time-barred. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: ICE officers prepare for 'massive crash' in immigration system**, Stephen Dinan, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement employees have been warned to prepare for the end of the border pandemic emergency policy as soon as this week — with predictions that illegal border crossings, already at record levels, could triple. Agency employees, who usually handle enforcement in the interior of the country, have been warned they may need to be deployed to the border so they can help the Border Patrol with an anticipated migrant surge, according to an ICE officer who received the alert. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Expand Premium Processing For Visa Apps**, Alyssa Aquino, March 29, 2022, 3:59 PM

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services unveiled new policies Tuesday aimed at cutting through the visa backlogs, including finalizing a long-awaited rule that would expand its premium processing service over the next decade to cover new types of immigration applications. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Laredo Morning Times: CBP officers apprehend 2 fugitives wanted for sexual offenses**, Cesar Rodriguez, March 29, 2022, 10:32 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers arrested two fugitives wanted for sexual offenses in separate enforcement actions, authorities said. "Our frontline officers continue to maintain strict vigilance and these two significant apprehensions of wanted persons for crimes of a sexual nature underscore their continued resolve and dedication to upholding the CBP border security mission," said Port Director Albert Flores, Laredo Port of Entry. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**San Francisco Chronicle: Lawsuit says Biden continues Trump's surveillance of immigrants**, Bob Egelko, March 29, 2022, 7:30 PM

The Biden administration has continued a secretive surveillance program begun under President Donald Trump to keep track of immigrants' postings on social media for possible use in deportation proceedings, a watchdog group says in a San Francisco lawsuit. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: How a New York sheriff is driving down MS-13's gang presence in Suffolk**

**County**, Isabel Vincent, March 29, 2022, 5:03 PM

Five years after Donald Trump vowed to end the brutal reign of MS-13 on Long Island, NY, Suffolk County Sheriff Errol Toulon Jr. is doing just that. But it's also, apparently, pushing one of the country's most violent gangs deeper into a borough of New York City. Toulon, the first African American elected to the post, is widely credited with stalling the growth of the gang, which for years had a stronghold in the region. [...] And he's continued to allow federal agents of US Immigration and Customs Enforcement to have offices in county jails, a controversial practice set up by his predecessor, Vincent DeMarco, in 2016. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: Border Patrol agents accused of 'whipping' migrants in legal clear, could still lose jobs**, Callie Patteson and MaryAnn Martinez, March 29, 2022, 1:27 PM

The Border Patrol agents accused of "whipping" Haitian migrants last September have been cleared of criminal wrongdoing — but remain under an administrative investigation that could cost them their jobs six months after the initial probe began, The Post learned Tuesday. The administrative investigation is being conducted by Customs and Border Protection's Office of Personal Responsibility (ORP), according to Brandon Judd, president of the National Border Patrol Council. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHTM-ABC (Harrisburg, PA): CBP: Smuggler forces 3 migrants out of moving truck in southern Arizona**, Fernie Ortiz, March 29, 2022, 6:43 PM

A smuggler forced three migrants out of a moving vehicle during a Border Patrol pursuit on Sunday southwest of Tucson, Arizona. U.S. Customs and Border Protection border said agents assigned to the Three Points Station attempted to stop and conduct an immigration inspection on a black Dodge truck that was heading north on Route 19 near Sells, Arizona. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ANTITRUST**

**Law360: Chamber Sides With Facebook In States' Antitrust Fight**, Nadia Dreid, March 29, 2022, 9:26 PM

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is urging the D.C. Circuit not to revive a massive enforcement suit brought by most of the nation's attorneys general accusing Facebook of using its market power to build a monopoly, saying the state enforcers waited too long to bring their case.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Biden administration boosts support for antitrust efforts**, Rebecca Klar, March 29, 2022, 7:56 PM

The Biden administration is throwing its weight behind efforts to boost antitrust enforcement as federal agencies take on the market power of tech giants. President Biden's \$5.8 trillion budget proposal requests \$227 million in increased funding for the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) combined — a bump advocates and agency leaders say is needed to tackle cases against the nation's wealthiest companies. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOJ Backs Blocking Big Tech From Favoring Own Products**, Matthew Perlman, March 29, 2022, 6:52 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice has thrown its support behind proposed legislation that would prohibit Big Tech companies from giving their own products and services an unfair advantage

over other businesses that use their platforms. Acting Assistant Attorney General Peter S. Hyun, from the DOJ's Office of Legislative Affairs, sent a letter Monday to lawmakers supporting House and Senate versions of the American Innovation and Choice Online Act, a pair of bipartisan bills that have now cleared the Judiciary Committees of both chambers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**Law360: McDonald's Sued Over 'Forever Chemicals' In Food Packaging**, Lauren Berg, March 29, 2022, 11:46 PM

Every time a consumer buys a Big Mac from McDonald's, they are exposed to "forever chemicals" that increase risks of cancer and other illnesses, but the fast food giant assures the public that its products are safe, according to a proposed class action filed Monday in Illinois federal court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Wash. Tribe Wants Summary Ruling Amid Fishing Rights Trial**, Caleb Symons, March 29, 2022, 5:57 PM

The Upper Skagit Indian Tribe has asked a federal judge in Seattle to limit another Washington tribe's lawful fishing grounds, arguing a historian who testified in their ongoing trial last week didn't show the Stillaguamish Tribe had ever fished in Puget Sound. In a motion for summary judgment Monday, the Upper Skagit Tribe said Chris Friday, a professor of indigenous history at Western Washington University, conflated evidence that the Stillaguamish traveled in several coastal areas with proof they fished in those places. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Lennar To Pay \$6.3M To Exit San Francisco Toxic Property Suit**, Morgan Conley, March 29, 2022, 3:50 PM

Lennar Corp. and several affiliated companies will pay \$6.3 million to end claims that they built and sold residences at the site of an old naval shipyard in south San Francisco despite knowing the area had not been adequately remediated, under a deal approved Monday by a California federal judge. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Missoula Current: Group sues EPA over Montana water quality revisions**, Arren Kimbel, March 29, 2022, 11:00 AM

A Montana environmental group is making good on its warning that it would sue the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to halt the revision of water quality standards for streams and rivers in the state, filing a complaint in federal court in Great Falls alleging that the federal regulator failed to respond to the change of standards in time. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **TAX**

**CNN: Federal investigation of Hunter Biden heats up**, Andrew Solender, Evan Perez and Katelyn Polantz, March 30, 2022, 12:02 AM

A Justice Department investigation into Hunter Biden's business activities has gained steam in recent months, with a flurry of witnesses providing testimony to federal investigators and more expected to provide interviews in the coming weeks, according to multiple sources familiar with the matter. The probe, led by the US Attorney in Wilmington, Delaware, began as early as 2018 and concerns multiple financial and business activities in foreign countries dating to when Biden's father was vice president. Investigators have examined whether Hunter Biden and some of his

associates violated money laundering, tax and foreign lobbying laws, as well as firearm and other regulations, multiple sources said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Las Vegas Review-Journal: Former airline executive pleads guilty to tax crime***, Jonah Dylan, March 29, 2022, 5:11 PM

A former executive for a North Las Vegas-based airline pleaded guilty Tuesday to failure to pay over \$2.6 million in employment taxes. William Acor, 62, faces a maximum of five years in prison after pleading guilty to one count of willful failure to collect and pay over employment taxes.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KLAS-CBS \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#)

***WVUE-Fox (New Orleans, LA): Federal appeals court upholds ruling to exclude some of Jason Williams' IRS history from tax fraud trial***, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:53 PM

A federal appeals court on Tuesday (March 29) affirmed a judge's decision that showing the entirety of Jason Williams' income tax delinquencies likely would be improper at the Orleans Parish district attorney's upcoming tax fraud trial. A three-judge panel from the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals found that the late U.S. District Judge Martin Feldman did not abuse his discretion when he barred some evidence government prosecutors hoped to use in their bid to establish Williams as an habitual tax scofflaw who finally went too far. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

***CBS: FBI reopening cold case of Diana Ault — a young mom of 2 who was killed in 1994***, Sophie Reardon, March 29, 2022, 9:07 PM

Nearly three decades after Diana Ault was killed, the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Kansas City announced it is reopening the unsolved murder case. In a statement on Monday, the FBI said it is seeking new information from the public. Ault was found dead on the floor of her Independence, Missouri, home on January 31, 1994. The 26-year-old mother of two suffered a gunshot wound, the FBI said. Her two children, who were both under the age of 5 when Ault died, were found in the home and unharmed. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KAKE-ABC \(Wichita, KS\)](#), [KSHB-NBC \(Kansas City, MO\)](#)

***New Jersey Advance Media: Federal officer justified in killing fugitive who shot at officers in N.J., grand jury finds***, Noah Cohen, March 29, 2022, 9:04 PM

A member of a U.S. Marshals fugitive task force was justified in killing a fugitive who shot at officers as they tried to arrest him at a Paterson apartment, a New Jersey grand jury found. The fatal shooting of 36-year-old Malik Canty was investigated by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office of Public Integrity and Accountability and presented to a grand jury, as required by state law, according to a statement from the agency. Jurors voted not to file criminal charges against the officer, identified as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Deportation Officer Sean Clayton. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***The Detroit News: FBI agents raid home as death threats target Whitmer kidnap case judge, lawyers***, Robert Snell, March 29, 2022, 8:50 PM

FBI agents have raided a Hazel Park home while investigating threats to the judge and defense lawyers in the Gov. Gretchen Whitmer kidnapping conspiracy trial, The Detroit News has learned. Agents are investigating threats directed at several people, including Chief U.S. District Judge Robert Jonker and defense lawyers Josh Blanchard and Christopher Gibbons, according to two

sources familiar with the investigation who were not authorized to speak publicly about the probe.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [AP](#), [Detroit Free Press](#), [Washington Examiner](#)

**KXXV-ABC (Waco, TX): Suspect in custody after late-night shooting in Waco**

**neighborhood**, Chad Hayes, March 29, 2022, 1:24 AM

A suspect is in custody Wednesday morning, after a late-night shooting that turned into a standoff situation. According to Waco Police, officers with the Lone Star U.S. Marshals Task Force were attempting to apprehend a wanted fugitive at a home in the 3700 block of Hay Avenue around 10:45 Tuesday night. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVX-ABC (Salt Lake City, UT): Behind the Badge: FBI special agent breaking barriers**,

Brian Carlson, March 30, 2022, 12:22 AM

This year marks the 50th anniversary of women in the FBI, and their roles in the bureau continue to improve today. One of the women breaking barriers in the FBI is right here in Utah. ABC4 News looks at how she's making a name for herself, in this edition of Behind The Badge. Being an FBI special agent isn't just a dream in a man's world. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KATU-ABC (Portland, OR): Murder suspect arrested six months after man shot, killed at**

**NW Portland pizza restaurant**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 9:30 PM

Homicide detectives arrested a suspect accused of shooting and killing a man at a pizza restaurant in Northwest Portland last September, police officials said. U.S. Marshals arrested 25-year-old Marshawn Edwards in Fairview, Oregon on Monday as a suspect in the homicide that took place September 24 at the Silver Dollar Pizza Company on Northwest 21st Avenue.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**KHQ-NBC (Spokane, WA): Emojis used in online sales of illegal drugs**, Unattributed, March

29, 2022, 8:00 PM

The DEA says drug trafficking has moved online, onto social media and e-commerce platforms, accessible to anyone with a smartphone. With the shifting platform comes a shift in language. Or rather, a shift away from language and towards emojis. A guide from the DEA showcases some common emojis used in illegal drug sales. They warn that many drugs distributed in these sales are fake and often laced with deadly fentanyl or methamphetamine, furthering the deadly epidemic and endangering lives. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KXLY-ABC \(Spokane, WA\)](#)

**WVEC-ABC (Hampton, VA): \$10K reward offered for 'armed and dangerous' man in**

**Virginia Beach, Brenna McIntosh**, Alex Littlehales, March 29, 2022, 7:19 PM

Authorities are offering up to \$10,000 in reward money for information on a man accused of killing two people in Virginia Beach. The U.S. Marshals Service is offering the reward for information that would lead to the arrest of 30-year-old Cola Winborne Beale, who is wanted by the Virginia Beach Police Dept. for two counts of second-degree murder and one count of arson. [[Continue](#)

[Reading](#)]

**WOWT-NBC (Omaha, NE): Omaha DEA seizes 100,000 counterfeit fentanyl-laced pills so**

**far in 2022**, Ashly Richardson, March 29, 2022, 7:05 PM

Deadly, fake pills are being taken off the street at a higher rate than ever before. Since the start of the year authorities have taken 100,000 fentanyl-laced pills off the streets of Nebraska. The issue is so bad, the DEA in Omaha is urging you to be aware of where you get your medications.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**KXLY-ABC (Spokane, WA): 'Flooding our streets': New initiative to combat rising fentanyl use starts in the Inland Northwest**, Andre Senior, March 29, 2022, 6:59 PM

Operation Engage launched in the Inland Northwest to prevent drug addiction early on. It's a collaboration between local law enforcement, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and community recovery and prevention agencies. The efforts couldn't come at a better time as the drug epidemic ravages the community. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KREM-CBS \(Spokane, WA\)](#)

**WTVY-CBS (Dothan, AL): 2 arrests made in March 22 Troy shooting investigation**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 6:11 PM

Two suspects have been arrested and charged in connection to a shooting that left two others injured, according to the Troy Police Department. Malik Travon King, 24, was arrested early Monday morning with help from the U.S. Marshals Gulf Coast Fugitive Task Force. Troy police took Lil'Cedric Mandrell Rumph, 21, into custody a short time later. Both are Troy residents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WFSB-CBS (Hartford, CT): New Haven FBI holds camp for students interested in law enforcement**, Matthew Campbell and Evan Sobol, March 29, 2022, 6:08 PM

The New Haven FBI office is holding its prestigious camp catered to those with an interest in law enforcement. After two years off during the pandemic, they're back and looking for recruits. High school juniors get the chance to get a hands-on experience, thanks to the Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy (FLEYA) program. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGW-NBC (Portland, OR): Suspect who shot 3, killed 1 at Northwest Portland bar arrested**, Unattributed, March 29, 2022, 5:19 PM

Portland police have charged the suspect in a shooting at a crowded bar in Northwest Portland last fall that killed a man inside. Police say 25-year-old Marshawn Edwards fired repeatedly into Silver Dollar Pizza Restaurant on Northwest 21st Avenue on Sept. 24, 2021, killing Jacob Knight-Vasquez and injuring two others. U.S. Marshals arrested Edwards in Fairview on Monday. He is charged with second-degree murder, attempted murder, assault and unlawful use of a weapon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WGBA-NBC (Green Bay, WI): Two arrested in Green Bay as part of Brown County drug investigation**, Alice Reid, March 29, 2022, 4:05 PM

Two people were arrested Tuesday in Green Bay following a months-long drug investigation, the Brown County Sheriff's Office said. According to the Sheriff's Office, the Brown County Drug Task Force along with FBI, DEA, DCI, and ATF concluded a 16-month investigation by executing two search warrants with the assistance of both Green Bay and Brown County SWAT teams.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFRV-CBS \(Green Bay, WI\)](#)

**KSTU-Fox (Salt Lake City, UT): 'Project Safe Neighborhoods' aims to keep guns, drugs, and criminals off the street**, April Baker, March 29, 2022, 1:31 PM

"Project Safe Neighborhoods" in Salt Lake City has helped remove guns, drugs, and criminals from the streets according to city and law enforcement leaders, who gave a report on the initiative Tuesday morning. They said that for the first three months of 2022, 27 guns have been seized and two dozen defendants have been charged for crimes committed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Voice (South Passaic, NJ): US Marshal Justified In Killing Armed Fugitive In Paterson Wanted For Ex-GF's NYC Murder**, Jerry DeMarco, March 29, 2022, 1:23 PM  
A U.S. Marshal was justified in killing a fugitive ex-con who fired a shot at him and fellow officers in a Paterson apartment, a New Jersey grand jury has found. A loaded 9mm handgun was found near the body of Malik Canty after he was taken out by members of the U.S. Marshals Service NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force in a second-floor Hamilton Avenue apartment, Acting New Jersey Attorney General Matthew J. Platkin said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**Reuters: Qualified immunity defense proposal dropped by judicial panel**, Nate Raymond, March 29, 2022, 2:04 PM

A judicial panel on Tuesday abandoned a proposal by the U.S. Justice Department to give federal officials more time to respond to lawsuits against them related to their duties, particularly when they rely on a "qualified immunity" defense often used to shield law enforcement accused of excessive force. The judiciary's Advisory Committee on Civil Rules without objection withdrew a proposed rule it had previously backed that would have extended to 60 days from 14 the time officials have to answer lawsuits if they survive initial motions to dismiss. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**AP: Justices cast doubt on Texas immunity claim in vet's lawsuit**, Mark Sherman, March 29, 2022, 4:00 PM

The Supreme Court on Tuesday cast doubt on Texas' claim that it can't be sued by a former state trooper who says he was forced out of his job when he returned from Army service in Iraq. The justices heard arguments in a dispute over a federal law that was enacted in 1994 in the wake of the Persian Gulf war to strengthen job protections for returning service members. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NYT](#), [WaPo](#)

**NYT, The Daily: [AUDIO] The Political Lives of Clarence and Ginni Thomas**, March 30, 2022, 6:00 AM

A series of text messages released in the past week show how Ginni Thomas, wife of Justice Clarence Thomas of the Supreme Court, urged White House officials to push to overturn the result of the 2020 election. [[Listen](#)] See also: [The Hill](#)

**CNN: John Roberts can't do anything about Clarence Thomas**, Joan Biskupic, March 30, 2022, 5:30 AM

Chief Justice John Roberts has long trumpeted the Supreme Court's institutional integrity, saying the nine justices differ from elected politicians and calling out anyone who threatens to undermine that message. He has rebuked former President Donald Trump and members of Congress. But now the threat comes from within, and Roberts faces a dilemma. The chief justice is not the boss of Justice Clarence Thomas or any of the associate justices. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CBS: Democrats call on Clarence Thomas to recuse himself from January 6 Supreme Court cases**, Melissa Quin, March 29, 2022, 10:43 AM

A bicameral group of Democrats are calling on Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas to recuse himself from future cases that come before the high court involving the January 6 assault

on the U.S. Capitol and explain why he failed to step aside from earlier court fights involving the attack and efforts to reverse the outcome of the 2020 presidential election. [[Continue Reading](#)]  
**See also:** [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [Reuters](#)

**Law360: Justices Urged To Stay Out Of Trump Water Rule Fight**, Keith Goldberg, March 29, 2022, 6:12 PM

The federal government on Monday told the U.S. Supreme Court there's no need to block a lower court ruling that struck down a Trump-era water rule that restricted state and tribal authority to deny permits under the Clean Water Act while it's being appealed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Business Insider: How Congress could impeach Supreme Court Justice Clarence**

**Thomas**, Ryan C. Barber, March 29, 2022, 12:00 PM

The revelation of Ginni Thomas' text messages with the former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows almost immediately drew calls for an event not seen in more than two centuries of American history: the impeachment of a sitting Supreme Court justice. Late Thursday, The Washington Post and CBS reported that Thomas, the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, exchanged more than two dozen text messages with Meadows as she pressed to overturn President Donald Trump's electoral defeat in 2020. The messages — 29 in total — do not directly reference Clarence Thomas or the Supreme Court. But they have fueled ethics questions that had already been swirling around Thomas, who, at 73, is the longest-serving justice on the Supreme Court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**SCOTUSblog: Justices to consider California's private-attorney-general exception to arbitration clause**, Ronald Mann, March 29, 2022, 11:42 AM

The last few decades have witnessed the working out in several cases of a sustained disagreement between the Supreme Court and California legislators and judges. The Supreme Court has taken the view that the Federal Arbitration Act compels the enforcement, in state and federal courts, of pre-dispute arbitration agreements. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **SUPREME COURT NOMINEE**

**USA Today: Two-thirds of Americans back Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson for Supreme Court, poll shows**, John Fritz, March 30, 2022, 6:30 AM

As the Senate moves closer to confirming Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black woman ever to serve on the Supreme Court, a new poll released Wednesday indicated she has widespread support from the public. Two-thirds of Americans said that if they were senators they would vote to confirm Jackson, according to a Marquette Law School poll. Nearly half of the poll's respondents described the appellate judge as "very qualified" to serve on the nation's highest court. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] The verdict on KBJ's nomination hearings: Never again**, Charles Lane, March 29, 2022, 5:46 PM

Like many previous such proceedings before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Ketanji Brown Jackson's Supreme Court confirmation hearings produced more political grandstanding than new and useful information. After long days of tendentious attacks from Republicans, several of whom treated Jackson less as a potential justice than as a foil for GOP talking points on crime, race and education, she emerged as pretty much the nominee everyone knew she was going in: basically

decent, well-qualified, liberal and bound for a mostly party-line confirmation as the first Black female justice. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Collins, Romney, Murkowski emerge as Supreme Court swing votes**, Jordain Carney, March 30, 2022, 6:00 AM

Democrats are trying to lock down at least one GOP vote as they head toward confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson for a seat on the Supreme Court. The push to find a Republican to support Jackson comes as the White House and top Democrats are pivoting to the final stage of her nomination fight after she emerged largely unscathed from high-profile committee hearings.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Tribe Asks DOJ To Probe Hotel's Alleged Native American Ban**, Joyce Hanson, March 29, 2022, 7:19 PM

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's chairwoman has urged U. S. Attorney General Merrick Garland to launch an investigation into a South Dakota hotelier's recent threats on social media to ban all Native Americans from the premises following a shooting in one of her hotel-casino's rooms.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Biden's 2023 Budget Seeks An Extra \$1B For Indian Affairs**, Joyce Hanson, March 29, 2022, 5:03 PM

The Biden administration has unveiled a \$5. 8 trillion fiscal 2023 budget that includes a proposed \$4. 5 billion of investments for Native American tribes, saying an increase of \$1 billion from 2022's funding level reflects its commitment to strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship with tribes. The U. S. Department of the Interior said Monday that the administration's \$4. 5 billion request for Indian Affairs programs, which tops the fiscal 2022 level that ends on Sept. 30, includes \$2. 8 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, \$562. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Denver, CO\)](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

**Forbes: High Expectations: How The House Is Moving To Legalize Marijuana**, Kelly Anne Smith, March 29, 2022, 3:09 PM

The legalization of marijuana is in a delicate place: While most states have legalized it for recreational or medical purposes, it's still illegal at a federal level. But that could soon change. This week, the House of Representatives is expected to pass a bill that would decriminalize marijuana use on a federal level. This is a move that is overwhelmingly popular among Americans: An April 2021 poll from Pew Research found that 91% of U.S. adults think marijuana should be legal, either medically, recreationally or both at the federal level. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: Washington Officials Step Up Push For Federal Marijuana Banking Reform Following String Of Deadly Robberies**, Kyle Jaeger, March 29, 2022, 3:00 PM

Washington State officials on Tuesday held a virtual roundtable to address the recent spate of deadly robberies targeting marijuana retailers, with regulators reiterating their call for a federal policy change and discussing steps the state can take on its own while Congress fails to act. Lawmakers, advocates and representatives of cannabis businesses that have been recently

robbed took part in the event, which was organized by the state's Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) after at least three people were killed within the span of four recent days at three different Washington cannabis retailers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**Law360: Purdue Victims Ask 2nd Circ. To Reverse Ch. 11 Plan Rejection**, Jeff

Montgomery, March 29, 2022, 7:46 PM

An ad hoc group of Purdue Pharma LP opioid victims has urged the Second Circuit to "refresh its jurisprudence" on direct and derivative claims and reverse a district court finding that blew up a \$4.325 billion settlement of third-party claims against the Sackler family. In an appellate brief filed Monday, the Ad Hoc Group of Individual Victims of Purdue Pharma LP argued that U. S. District Court Judge Colleen McMahon's decision in the Southern District of New York in December erred in finding the bankruptcy court lacked authority to release the Sacklers who controlled Purdue from third-party claims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVU-Fox (Oakland, CA): Fatal fentanyl overdoses among teenagers are on the rise**,

Andre Senior, March 29, 2022, 7:22 PM

Fatal fentanyl overdoses among teenagers are on the rise across the country as Center for Disease Control and Prevention numbers show deaths annually have topped 100,000. [...] Wade Shannon, D.E.A Special Agent in Charge of the San Francisco Field Division says much of the drug on the streets right now can be fatal. "Four in ten pills that were seizing the street that was tested by our DEA labs had a potentially lethal dose of fentanyl in them," said Shannon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**WaPo: Biden signs bill making lynching a federal hate crime**, Amy B. Wang and Felicia

Sonmez, March 29, 2022, 4:58 PM

President Biden on Tuesday signed into law the Emmett Till Antilynching Act to make lynching a federal hate crime, in a historic first that comes after more than a century of failed efforts against racial violence. "Hundreds, hundreds of similar bills have failed to pass over the years," Biden said at a ceremony in the Rose Garden after he signed the bill at the White House. "Several federal hate crime laws were enacted...But no federal law expressly prohibited lynching. None until today." [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NYT](#), [CNN](#)

## **CONGRESS**

**Axios: Democrats push Garland to come down on uncooperative Trump allies**, Andrew

Solender and Margaret Talev, March 30, 2022, 5:43 AM

Democratic lawmakers are openly pressuring Attorney General Merrick Garland to bring the weight of U.S. law enforcement against members of former President Trump's inner circle they've deemed uncooperative with the House's investigation of the Jan. 6 attack. Why it matters: The House select committee is seeking to compel or punish Trump loyalists who don't comply with the investigation, while Republicans are preparing to win back control of Congress in November and end the probe. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [HuffPost](#)

**Politico: 'There is a big problem': Senators unite to slam FOIA compliance**, Josh Gerstein, March 29, 2022, 2:22 PM

The often bitterly divided Senate Judiciary Committee had little difficulty Tuesday finding consensus that the nation's premier transparency law, the Freedom of Information Act, isn't working well. "My conclusion from this is: there is a big problem," Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) said during an oversight hearing on the federal government's ongoing struggle to implement the records-access law in a timely way. Sen. Jon Ossoff (D-Ga.) said he believes the half-century-old statute allowing journalists, advocacy groups and members of the public to request federal agency records appears to be failing to live up to its original ambitions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDJT-CBS (Milwaukee, WI): Federal study would track how courts set bail, release violent offenders under GOP bill**, Emilee Fannon, March 29, 2022, 6:52 PM

A pair of Republican lawmakers want to track how judges across the country impose bail and release violent offenders back into the community in wake of the Waukesha parade deaths. U.S. Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI) and Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (R-WI 5th) introduced the Pretrial Release Reporting Act which would require the U.S. Department of Justice to study how courts across the nation set bail amounts and release individuals charged with violent offenses.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WILX-NBC (Onondaga, MI): Nassar investigation: Senators accuse Attorney General of taking 'no action' to protect victims**, Krystle Holleman, March 29, 2022, 5:57 PM

Two US Senators are accusing the US Attorney General of failing to protect the victims of Larry Nassar. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) and Jerry Moran (R-KS) have sent a letter, which can be read in full at the end of this article, to US Attorney General Merrick Garland, accusing him of taking "little to no action" to reprimand people at the Department of Justice who they say did not protect victims of Larry Nassar. That includes former US Olympic Committee Chair Scott Blackmun.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: MARCH 29, 2022**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Ukrainian and Russian negotiators sat face-to-face for the first time in weeks on Tuesday in Turkey, resuming direct talks that Ukraine's government hopes will bring a ceasefire after more than a month of Vladimir Putin's brutal invasion. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- CBS News and the Washington Post obtained White House records of President Trump's activities on January 6, 2021, which show a more than 7-hour gap in his call log. Committee members are also debating whether to request testimony from Ginni Thomas, wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, after resurfacing text messages to former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows asking to fight the election results. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
-

The FDA authorized another booster shot of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID vaccines for people 50 and older who want them. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- President Joe Biden signed legislation making lynching a federal hate crime. The bill is named for Emmett Till, the Black child killed in 1955 after being accused of whistling at a white woman. [[ABC](#)]
- The U.S. border is still officially closed to asylum seekers because of Title 42, a public health policy put in place by the Trump administration that denies entry due to Covid. The Biden administration has been under pressure to end the policy. [[NBC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- “Ukraine-Russia talks stir optimism, but West urges caution” [[WaPo](#), [WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [LAT](#)]
- “F.D.A. Allows Second Coronavirus Boosters for Everyone 50 and Older” [[NYT](#), [WSJ](#), [LAT](#)]
- “Jan. 6 White House logs given to House show 7-hour gap in Trump calls” [[WaPo](#)]
- “New Focus on How a Trump Tweet Incited Far-Right Groups Ahead of Jan. 6” [[NYT](#)]
- “Russia’s war in Ukraine galvanizes extremists globally” [[WaPo](#)]
- “Activision Blizzard to pay \$18 million to victims of harassment and discrimination” [[LAT](#)]

**END**

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**From:** The Marsha Project  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] When Omicron sams prisons and jai s  
**To:** Good ander, Margaret V. (OAG)  
**Sent:** December 22, 2021 7:47 AM (UTC-05:00)



**Opening Statement**

December 22, 2021

Ed ed by ANDREW COHEN



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PICK OF THE NEWS

■ **“Another potential tinderbox scenario.”** As the highly-contagious Omicron variant bears down on the nation’s prisons and jails, corrections officials, experts, and prisoner advocates worry that uncertain access to booster shots and expected staffing shortages will make life even more dire than it already is for those behind bars. TMP’s Beth Schwartzapfel,

Keri Blakinger, Weihua Li and Katie Park have our story. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#) **More:** As of last week, eight state correctional agencies have COVID-19 data dashboards that have not been updated in the last week.” [PRISON POLICY INITIATIVE](#)

**Just in time for Christmas.** The Biden administration reversed a Trump-era rule that would have returned thousands of federal prisoners who were released early to serve out the remainder of their sentences on home confinement because of the pandemic to prison. [POLITICO](#) The Bureau of Prisons will still have the final call on who must be returned. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#) **TMP Context:** These prisoners are lucky. Tens of thousands had their “compassionate release” requests denied. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**Where Trump’s would-be border wall is only rusting steel.** Contractors who once hoped to make millions building a border wall left \$350 million in federally-owned equipment and materials sitting unused at the border after President Biden ordered a halt to wall construction. [THE ATLANTIC](#) The feds said Monday they would use money appropriated for the wall to pay the costs of cleaning up these supplies. [CBS NEWS](#) **Related:** In Texas, meanwhile, National Guard troops ordered by the governor to the border are scaring some property owners who don’t want heavily-armed troops acting as local police. [TYPE INVESTIGATIONS](#)

**“There are some members of our department who feel their oath is to Donald Trump and not to the Constitution.”** Michael Fanone, one of the U.S. Capitol Police officers attacked by the mob on Jan. 6, submitted his resignation from the force this week. Fanone became known following the Capitol riot for his criticism of officials who sought to downplay the attack. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#) **More:** Another federal judge has endorsed the Justice Department’s use of a key felony obstruction charge against the rioters. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

N/S/E/W

The Haitian migrant corralled by a Border Patrol agent on horseback earlier this year in Del Rio, **Texas**, has sued the federal government. The startling images of the episode, which President Biden called “outrageous,” prompted a still-ongoing investigation into the agency’s tactics. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

Devonia Inman walked free from a **Georgia** prison this week after spending 23 years behind

bars for a murder he did not commit. Prosecutorial misconduct led to both his 1998 conviction and a judge's ruling last month to overturn it. [ATLANTA JOURNAL CONSTITUTION](#)

Officials in Burlington, **Vermont**, decided to reduce their police budget. It hasn't gone well. Officers resigned in protest, for example, feeling they weren't being valued. [NBC NEWS](#)

In his ceaseless quest to find voter fraud on a scale that does not exist, **Florida** Gov. Ron DeSantis wants to hire a squad of 52 cops to enforce election laws, a unit larger than most police departments in the state have to investigate murder cases. [MIAMI HERALD](#)

Warren Montoya, an artist in Albuquerque, **New Mexico**, uses public art projects to help students affected by gun violence deal with their trauma. [THE TRACE](#)

#### COMMENTARY

**Merrick Garland needs to speak out and step up.** The U.S. attorney general must soon explain why the Justice Department is or is not going to pursue criminal charges against Donald Trump and high-level insurrectionist supporters. [LAWFARE](#)

**Care about police reform?** Then get interested in your local legislative and judicial races to get reformist policies put into law. Don't count on the U.S. Supreme Court or an addled Congress to help. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

**The gulf grows over the death penalty.** Abolitionists again made strides in 2021 but states that continue to execute people, buoyed by Republican support, mostly doubled down on support for capital punishment. [SLATE](#)

**No justice, no mercy.** There was no good reason for North Carolina's governor to reject a clemency request from a terminally-ill prisoner who died late last month. [RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER](#)

**Time for Ohio to do right by Tyrone Noling.** The capital murder case against him has fallen apart. Yet he sits on death row without help from the courts or governor. [AKRON BEACON JOURNAL](#)

ETC.

**The next generation.** George P. Bush, a nephew and a grandson of Republican presidents, has staked out a hard-line approach to immigration in an effort to win a race for Texas attorney general. [TEXAS TRIBUNE](#)

**A mother's pain.** Karen Hylton, whose son was fatally shot by police in Washington, D.C., has turned her grief and anger into political action. That includes suing the city and leading street protests. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

**A growing scandal in California.** Officials in Los Angeles have accused the operators of a notorious LAPD gun store of negligent record-keeping and failure to protect the weapons it stores from being stolen or illegally transferred. [LOS ANGELES TIMES](#)

**"Meeting kids where they're at."** Educating teenagers imprisoned in juvenile detention facilities in New Mexico is a long shot for dedicated teachers. They have to get through to students on a human level before the reading lessons can begin. [ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL](#)

**The exemption always proves the rule.** Police officials in Portland, Oregon, banned officers from firing at moving vehicles except in what they hoped would be rare circumstances. Two police shootings in one week, however, help illustrate why those exemptions exist and how they can be tightened. [THE OREGONIAN](#)

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**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** December 22, 2021 at 6:51:43 AM EST  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
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**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
December 22, 2021  
7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 22, 2021**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**Reuters: U.S. Justice Dept says inmates sent home due to COVID-19 will not be returned to prison**, Sarah N. Lynch, December 21, 2021, 4:30 PM

The U.S. Justice Department on Tuesday announced it would not force federal inmates who were sent home due to the coronavirus pandemic to return to prison once the emergency is lifted. The

decision represents a major reversal for the department's Office of Legal Counsel, which previously had issued an opinion which said the Bureau of Prisons had no legal authority to keep inmates at home once the pandemic emergency had subsided. [Continue Reading] See also: [AP](#), [Axios](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Business Insider](#), [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [Forbes](#), [Fox](#), [The Hill](#), [KIVI-ABC \(Boise, ID\)](#), [Insider](#), [LAT](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NY Post](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [USA Today](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WaPo](#), [The Week](#), [WSJ](#)

**WSJ: NatWest Unit Pleads Guilty to Manipulating Treasury Markets**, Dave Michaels and Aruna Viswanatha, December 21, 2021, 3:45 PM

NatWest Markets PLC pleaded guilty Tuesday to wire and securities fraud, admitting that its traders in London, Singapore and Connecticut engaged in a number of schemes between 2008 and 2018 to manipulate U.S. Treasury markets. The investment bank's general counsel entered the plea in a hearing held remotely Tuesday before a federal judge in Connecticut. [Continue Reading] See also: [AFP](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Financial Times](#), [Fox](#), [Law360](#), [National Law Journal](#), [Reuters](#)

**Washington Times: Maryland governor urges Merrick Garland to sue his state over gerrymandering**, Valerie Richardson, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

If Attorney General Merrick Garland is serious about fighting allegations of gerrymandering and not just playing politics, he should sue Maryland — and that's according to the governor. Gov. Larry Hogan, a Republican, publicly dared the Justice Department to sue his state after the Democrat-controlled legislature overrode Dec. 9 his veto of the newly drawn congressional districts, which he called "disgracefully illegal gerrymandered maps which are a shameful violation of federal law." [Continue Reading]

**National Law Review: DOJ Announces Renewed Focus on Corporate Crime**, Peter R. Knight, December 21, 2021, 5:00 PM

At his confirmation hearing earlier this year, Attorney General Merrick Garland identified the policing of corporate crime and enforcement as a key priority of the Biden administration. In an address at the ABA's recent National Institute on White Collar Crime, Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco announced three significant actions to strengthen the Department of Justice's (DOJ) corporate criminal enforcement policies and practices. [Continue Reading]

## US ATTORNEYS

**WBTW-CBS (Florence, SC): Acting U.S. Attorney for South Carolina stepping down, former FBI chief of staff to take over**, Chase Laudenslager, December 21, 2021, 10:54 PM

The acting United States attorney for the District of South Carolina, M. Rhett DeHart, will step down effective Dec. 26, according to his office. Corey F. Ellis, a former FBI chief of staff and veteran of the U.S. Attorney's Office, has been appointed to the post on interim basis. [Continue Reading] See also: [WCBD-NBC/CW \(Charleston, SC\)](#), [WCSC-CBS \(Charleston, SC\)](#)

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**AP: Harvard professor Charles Lieber found guilty of hiding ties to China**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 7:12 PM

A Harvard University professor charged with hiding his ties to a Chinese-run recruitment program

was found guilty on all counts Tuesday. Charles Lieber, 62, the former chair of Harvard's department of chemistry and chemical biology, had pleaded not guilty to two counts of filing false tax returns, two counts of making false statements, and two counts of failing to file reports for a foreign bank account in China. [Continue Reading] See also: [Axios](#), [BBC](#), [Boston Globe](#), [CNN](#), [Fox](#), [Guardian](#), [The Harvard Crimson](#), [The Hill](#), [National Law Journal](#), [NBC](#), [Newsmax](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Iowa man arraigned on 7 charges for Jan. 6 US Capitol attack**, David Pitt, December 21, 2021, 6:16 PM

An Iowa man charged earlier for his participation in the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was arraigned Tuesday on a new federal indictment that includes a felony count that could carry up to 20 years in prison. Leo Christopher Kelly, 36, of Cedar Rapids, who has been free on pretrial release, appeared via video for his arraignment. His attorney, Kira West, entered a not guilty plea on his behalf. [Continue Reading]

**AP: California man gets prison for threats over 2020 election**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 2:44 4 PM

A California man has been sentenced to three years in prison for threatening harm in text messages sent during the attack on the U.S. Capitol to a New York-based family member of a journalist, prosecutors said. Robert Lemke, 36, was sentenced Monday in Manhattan federal court, according to Damian Williams, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York.

[Continue Reading] See also: [KPIX-CBS \(San Francisco, CA\)](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#)

**CNN: 81-year-old US Capitol rioter sentenced to three years of probation**, Hannah

Rabinowitz and Holmes Lybrand, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

An 81-year-old Army veteran was sentenced to three years of probation on Tuesday for illegally breaching the US Capitol on January 6. Gary Wickersham, one of the oldest of more than 700 people facing charges related to the Capitol riot, will also have to pay a \$2,000 fine and \$500 for damage done to the building. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Week](#)

**UPI: Judge upholds felony obstruction charge against Oath Keepers in Jan. 6 Capitol riot**, Sommer Brokaw & Daniel Uria, December 21, 2021, 4:28 PM

A federal judge has upheld a felony obstruction charge that prosecutors have relied on in proceedings against the Oath Keepers in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta upheld Monday night the felony obstruction charge against the 17 defendants tied to the right-wing paramilitary group the Oath Keepers, The Hill reported. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [Newsmax](#)

**Newsweek: Donald Trump Pardoned Military Rank-and-File But Hated 'My Generals'**,

William M. Arkin, December 22, 2021, 5:00 AM

"The pre-Christmas pardons and commutations came as the president has been exploring how to reward friends and allies in his waning days in the White House, with more acts of clemency expected to come," the Washington Post wrote. The Post said that Trump was "using the power of his office to undo the work of the Russia probe." "A move that further cements his legacy of exercising his sweeping powers to benefit his political allies," ABC News said. [Continue Reading]

**Bloomberg: Trump Loyalists Are Running Out the Clock on the Jan. 6 Probe**, Joshua

Green, Erik Larson, December 22, 2021, 4:00 AM

Almost a year after the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, close allies of former President Donald Trump are stonewalling the congressional panel investigating the insurrection. Despite compiling evidence and sharing vivid glimpses of how key figures in the Republican political and media worlds responded as the attack unfolded, the House committee has so far been thwarted in its efforts to get firsthand accounts from Trump's inner circle about what the president knew and did that day. That insider testimony may never arrive. A succession of Trump partisans has been trying to stall the investigation with a legal battle that's unlikely to be resolved anytime soon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: Trump-Appointed Judge Denies 1/6 Rioter's Charge That DOJ Should Prosecute BLM Protesters**, Daniel Villarreal, December 21, 2021, 7:40 PM

Carl Nichols, a federal judge appointed by former President Donald Trump, has declined further examination of a charge raised by an accused Capitol rioter alleging that federal officials should also arrest racial justice protesters from Portland, Oregon for committing similar crimes against the government. The accused rioter, Garret Miller, claimed that he was the victim of "selective prosecution." As proof, Miller pointed to the Department of Justice's decision not to issue mass prosecutions against Black Lives Matter (BLM) and anti-fascist (Antifa) rioters involved in demonstrations in Portland, Oregon during summer 2020. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Herald-Dispatch (Huntington, WV): Hurricane woman sentenced to 30 days for role in Capitol riot**, Courtney Hessler, December 22, 2021, 12:00 AM

A Hurricane, West Virginia, woman who said "infamy is just as good as fame" after participating in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot was sentenced Friday to serve prison time. Gracyn Dawn Courtright, 24, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Christopher R. Cooper on Friday to serve 30 days in prison after previously pleading guilty to entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds for participating in the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., which saw hundreds of then-President Donald Trump supporters breaching the building to interrupt Congress as it certified election results. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Chicago Sun Times: Aurora Proud Boys member accused of assaulting officer with flag pole amid Capitol riot**, Jon Seidel and Tom Schuba, December 21, 2021, 7:11 PM

Federal prosecutors say an admitted Proud Boys member from Aurora beckoned rioters toward a police line during the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol breach and shouted "patriots, what is your occupation" before thrusting a flagpole he was carrying toward police. Now James Robert "Jim Bob" Elliott, 24, faces what appear to be some of the most serious charges brought against an Illinois resident in connection with the riot that interrupted the Electoral College vote count and prompted what could be the largest criminal investigation in U.S. history. At least 20 Illinois residents have been charged. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Chicago Tribune](#), [Patch \(Aurora, IL\)](#), [WBBM-CBS \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WGN \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WMAQ-NBC \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

**WTHR-NBC (Indianapolis, IN): Greenfield man sentenced to 36 months on probation for taking part in Capitol riot**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 7:19 PM

A judge sentenced Israel Tutrow, of Greenfield, to 36 months on probation for his role in the Jan. 6 insurrection. Federal prosecutors were seeking a 60-day jail sentence for Tutrow. United States District Judge Amy Berman Jackson also declared the first 60 days of Tutrow's probation to be at-home detention. He is also ordered to pay \$500 in restitution, submit to drug and mental health assessments as part of his probation, and can't own a firearm during his probation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WKMG-CBS (Orlando, FL): Feds seek home confinement for Florida doctor who took part in Capitol riot**, Erik Sandoval, December 21, 2021, 12:45 PM

Federal prosecutors are recommending a Marion County man who took part in the Capitol Hill riot be ordered to two months home confinements as part of his sentencing in January. Kenneth Kelly, whom prosecutors describe as an emergency room doctor, was arrested in April after investigators said a relative contacted them to report Kelly. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**Reuters: Ex-Trump adviser Flynn sues Jan 6 House committee to block release of phone records**, Jan Wolfe, December 21, 2021, 7:57 PM

Michael Flynn, a longtime adviser to former President Donald Trump, on Tuesday sued the congressional committee investigating the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol in hopes of blocking it from obtaining his phone records. Flynn alleged in a lawsuit, filed in federal court in Florida, that a subpoena issued to him by the House of Representatives Jan. 6 Select Committee was too broad in scope and punishes him for constitutionally protected speech he engaged in as a private citizen. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [Fox](#), [HuffPost](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#), [NYT-2](#)

**The Hill: Focus on Perry could mean more subpoenas, challenges for Jan. 6 panel**,

Rebecca Beitsch, December 22, 2021, 6:00 AM

The Jan. 6 select committee's request to speak with Rep. Scott Perry (R-Fla.) could foreshadow a flurry of similar requests to others in Congress while highlighting the challenge of getting testimony from sitting lawmakers who may have been involved in former President Trump's efforts to remain in the White House. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL LAW

**Reuters: Ghislaine Maxwell trial jury ends first full day of deliberations without verdict**, Luc Cohen, December 21, 2021, 5:46 PM

Jury deliberations in British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell's sex abuse trial came to a close without a verdict on Tuesday, as jurors reviewed testimony of women who said she set them up for abuse by financier Jeffrey Epstein when they were teenagers. Maxwell, 59, is accused of recruiting and grooming four teenage girls for Epstein to abuse between 1994 and 2004. She has pleaded not guilty to six counts of sex trafficking and other crimes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Times of San Diego: Former San Diego Sailor Sentenced for Exporting Military Equipment to China**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 9:30 PM

A former U.S. Navy sailor was sentenced Tuesday to 30 months in prison for illegally exporting military equipment to China for profit. Ye Sang "Ivy" Wang, 37, and her husband, Shaohua "Eric" Wang, 38, both of San Diego, pleaded guilty to federal conspiracy charges for selling equipment the couple obtained through Ivy Wang's position as a Navy logistics specialist, according to prosecutors. Eric Wang was sentenced last year to nearly four years in prison. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

**Green Bay Press-Gazette (Green Bay, WI): 19-year-old sentenced to 10 years for March shooting on Menominee Indian Reservation**, Kelli Arseneau, December 21, 2021, 7:35 PM

A teenager was sentenced Monday to 10 years in prison for shooting a man on the Menominee Indian Reservation in March. According to a news release from the U.S. Department of Justice, Menom L. Powless-Brown, 19, formerly of Keshena, located on the Menominee Indian Reservation, fired a semiautomatic handgun several times during an incident on or about March 13, striking the man he pointed the weapon at once in the abdomen and Powless-Brown's mother once in the face. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Raleigh News & Observer (Raleigh, NC): Raleigh man faces over 17 years in prison for crime linked to motel sex trafficking case*, Aaron Sánchez-Guerra, December 21, 2021, 6:41 PM

A Raleigh man was sentenced to 17.5 years in prison for manufacturing child pornography as part of a scheme to promote prostitution of a minor, U.S. Attorney General Michael F. Easley Jr. announced Tuesday. Marcus Antwan Gambrell, 30, and his co-defendant Kevin Rudolph faced four charges in an April 7, 2020, indictment. The charges were from 2018 crimes involving the prostitution of a 14-year-old girl in a Motel 6 off of Capital Boulevard in Raleigh. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Sioux City Journal: South Sioux City man sentenced to prison for selling meth*, Nick Hytrek, December 21, 2021, 6:00 PM

A South Sioux City man was sentenced Friday to 10 years in federal prison for selling methamphetamine. Jose Elorza, 25, pleaded guilty in August in U.S. District Court in Sioux City to conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance. According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Elorza admitted to selling approximately 3 pounds of meth in March. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*NWI Times (Munster, IN): Hammond man gets prison for illicit gun purchases*, Bill Dolan, December 21, 2021, 6:00 PM

A Hammond man is going to prison for being the personal shopper for Chicago criminals needing guns. U.S. District Court Chief Judge Jon E. DeGuilio imposed an 18-month sentence Tuesday on 24-year-old Darryl Ivery Jr. Ivery pleaded guilty Aug. 24 to lying to employees of several Indiana gun stores to obtain at least 26 firearms, including six that soon were recovered at Chicago and Illinois suburban crime scenes, authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WBBM-CBS \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

*Watertown Daily Times (Watertown, NY): Watertown man faces up to life in prison for possessing meth at Boyd Street home*, Brian Kelly, December 21, 2021, 5:30 PM

A city man faces up to life in federal prison after admitting Tuesday in federal court that he possessed methamphetamine with the intent to sell the drug and three illegal handguns at his Boyd Street home in February. George D. Robinson V, age unavailable, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court, Syracuse, to possessing methamphetamine with intent to distribute it and possessing three semiautomatic handguns as a convicted felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*The Advocate (Baton Rouge, LA): COVID relief fraud nets Prairieville woman 18-month prison term; restitution ordered*, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:37 PM

A federal judge Tuesday sentenced a Prairieville woman to 18 months in prison for wire fraud after she admitted she defrauded a program set up to help people during the coronavirus pandemic. April R. Falgoust, 46, must also repay nearly \$148,000 to the U.S. Small Business Administration, and forfeit \$143,800 in improperly received gains. U.S. District Judge Shelly D. Dick also ordered that Falgoust serve three years of supervised release after leaving prison

following her wire fraud conviction. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Gonzales Weekly Citizen \(Gonzales, LA\)](#)

**CNY Central (Central, NY): Cortland County woman sentenced to 15 years in prison for sexually exploiting a child**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:30 PM

On Tuesday, 27-year-old Cortland County woman, Brittany Berry was sentenced to 190 months (15 years) in prison for sexually exploiting a 3-year-old child. As part of her previously entered guilty plea, Brittany admitted to conspiring with Lawrence Berry to sexually exploit a child in August and September of 2018. [Continue Reading]

**The Sun Chronicle (Attleboro, MA): Attleboro man convicted of illegally transporting guns from Georgia**, David Linton, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

An Attleboro man who argued he was a sovereign subject only to God has been convicted of illegally transporting firearms from Georgia to Massachusetts. Richard Philippe, 42, of Baltic Street, was found guilty Friday after a four-day jury trial in U.S. District Court in Boston, the U.S. attorney's office announced Tuesday. [Continue Reading]

**NJ Metro Breaking News: Jersey City Man Admits Illegal Firearms Possession**,

Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 3:46 PM

Today, a Hudson County man admitted possessing a firearm and ammunition after having previously been convicted of a felony, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced. According to U.S. Attorney Sellinger, Andre Cannon, 29, of Jersey City, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with illegal possession of a handgun and ammunition by a previously convicted felon. [Continue Reading]

**NJ Metro Breaking News: Newark Man Sentenced to Two Years in Prison for Bank Fraud, Conspiring to Steal Mail**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 2:15 PM

A Newark resident was sentenced today to 28 months in prison for his role in a conspiracy to commit bank fraud, including by soliciting U.S. Postal Service (USPS) employees to steal check books and credit cards from the mail, depositing fraudulent checks, including pandemic relief checks, and using stolen credit cards without authorization, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced. [Continue Reading]

**Lexington Herald Leader (Lexington, KY): Lexington man gets decades in prison after he tried to mail meth inside markers to inmate**, Jeremy Chisenhall, December 21, 2021, 1:15 PM

A Lexington man was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison Monday after admitting to meth trafficking. Jeffrey Maurice Robinson was sentenced Monday in federal court in Lexington. In addition to trafficking, he also admitted to using a gun in furtherance of trafficking, according to court records. [Continue Reading] See also: [WKYT-CBS/CW \(Lexington, KY\)](#), [WTVO-ABC \(Lexington, KY\)](#)

**WBAY-ABC (Green Bay, WI): Tennessee man investigated by Winnebago County Sheriff's Office sentenced for distributing child porn**, Kelli Arseneau, December 21, 2021, 9:44 PM

Federal prosecutors say a Tennessee man who shared numerous photos and videos of child pornography was sentenced in Green Bay federal court to 5 years in prison. David Dexter, 44, of Kingsport, Tenn., got the attention of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office and the Milwaukee Division of the FBI during Operation Kick Boxer, a national, month-long effort last year focusing

on child pornography and child sex abuse cases. The case was subsequently investigated by the FBI offices in Green Bay and Knoxville. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTSP-CBS (St. Petersburg, FL): Former U.S. Navy Member Sentenced For Possession Of Child Pornography**, Ashley Cox, December 21, 2021, 7:11 PM

A federal district judge in Miami sentenced Anthony Louis Cardona, 30, of Key West, Florida, to 97 months in federal prison, followed by 25 years of supervised release as a sexual offender, for possession of child pornography. Cardona was also ordered to pay restitution to his victims.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WREG-CBS (Memphis, TN): One case against Sen. Katrina Robinson dismissed**, David Royer, December 21, 2021, 6:18 PM

A judge has dismissed federal charges against state Sen. Katrina Robinson in a money-laundering case, one of two cases she faced this year. Judge Sheryl Lipman dismissed an indictment from January involving an alleged wire fraud scheme involving tuition payments at her nursing school in Cordova. According to court documents, the state senator has agreed to complete a 12-month diversion period, similar to supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBOY-NBC/ABC (Clarksburg, WV): Morgantown man gets year in federal prison for running a drug house**, Aaron Williams, December 21, 2021, 5:30 PM

U.S. District Judge Irene Keeley sentenced a Morgantown man, Tuesday, to one year and a day, in federal prison, for his role in a drug trafficking conspiracy, United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced. Jeremy Hamlin, 42, pleaded guilty in April 2021 to one count of "Maintaining Drug-Involved Premises." Hamlin admitted to using a place on Bradley Street in Morgantown for the purpose of distributing heroin and cocaine base, also known as "crack," in March 2020 in Monongalia County. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WYMT-CBS (Hazard, KY): Pike County man in federal prison for distribution of child pornography**, Cameron Aaron, December 21, 2021, 5:20 PM

A Pike County man was sentenced to 375 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to three counts of distribution of child pornography. 36-year-old Oscar Joshua Calhoun, of Belfry, admitted to engaging with people online to exchange child pornography. According to court documents, the case involved "numerous" images of child pornography and images involving children under the age of 12. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTBS-ABC (Shreveport, LA): Bienville Parish man gets years in prison for weapons possession**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:00 PM

A Bienville Parish man was sentenced to five years and eight months in federal prison on a firearms possession charge. U.S. District Judge Elizabeth Foote sentenced Casey Michael Taylor, 35, via Zoom on Monday. She also tacked on three years of supervised release when Taylor gets out of prison. Taylor pleaded guilty to illegal possession of firearms, which was one count of a three-count indictment returned earlier this year by a federal grand jury. The other two counts were dismissed. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KCRG-ABC (Cedar Rapids, IA): Cedar Rapids man receives 77 months in federal prison for being a prohibited person in possession of ammunition**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:32 PM

41-year-old Daryl Harden was sentenced to 77 months in federal prison for possessing

ammunition after having prior convictions for felonies and domestic abuse assaults. Harden received the sentence after a guilty plea in June 2021. Harden admitted that he knowingly possessed five rounds of ammunition after having been convicted of nine misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence, six crimes punishable by more than a year imprisonment, and while being the subject to two no-contact orders. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Jersey City, NJ): Pair Charged In 4 Robberies, 2 Shootings In Jersey City**, Samantha Mercado, December 21, 2021, 4:02 PM

Two people were arrested and face several charges following one night in November that included four robberies and two shootings. Rodney Williams, 29, of Jersey City, and Siobhan Chandler, 19, of Newark, are each charged by complaint with conspiring to rob, and robbing, four businesses and shooting two people in Jersey City. Williams is additionally charged with possession of a firearm and ammunition as a convicted felon. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KVVU-Fox (Las Vegas, NV): Las Vegas man sentenced to prison for using skimming devices to steal credit card info to buy luxury items**, Caitlin Lilly, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

A Las Vegas man was sentenced Monday to 111 months in prison for using skimming devices to steal victims' identities and credit card account information to buy luxury items. According to court documents, from Jan. 1, 2013 to Jan. 3, 2017, Fausto Teixeira Martins Neto (41) also known as "Margrello," "Fausto Neto," and "Fausto Martins" and co-conspirators placed skimming devices on ATMs and cash-out transaction ticket dispensing terminals in order to steal credit card account information. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WCCO-CBS (Minneapolis, MN): Isanti Co. Man Sentenced To 24 Years In Prison for Coercing Minor To Produce Child Pornography**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 1:27 PM  
An Isanti County man has been sentenced to over 20 years in prison for coercing a minor into creating sexually explicit videos. On Tuesday, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota announced that 39-year-old Russell James Anderson-Baldwin was sentenced to 288 months in prison 24 years followed by 25 years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**See also:** [KSTP-ABC \(Saint Paul, MN\)](#)

**WKRN-ABC (Nashville, TN): Kentucky woman pleads guilty to health care fraud involving cancer tests**, Laura Schweizer, December 21, 2021, 12:45 PM

A Kentucky woman and owner of a telehealth company plead guilty to conspiracy in U.S. District Court in Nashville on Monday. In a press release, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee said Elizabeth Turner, 34, was charged in November for conspiring to pay and receive illegal health care kickbacks and to defraud the Medicare and Medicaid programs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WPXI-NBC (Pittsburgh, PA): New Jersey man pleads guilty to throwing firecracker at Pittsburgh police during protest**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 12:31 PM

A resident of Long Beach Township, New Jersey, pleaded guilty to a charge of obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder. Nicholas Lucia, 26, pleaded guilty before United States District Judge Arthur J. Schwab. Lucia was accused of tossing an "improvised incendiary device" at officers near Mellon Square on May 30. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KDKA-CBS \(Pittsburgh, PA\)](#)

**KIDK-Fox (Idaho Falls, ID): Nampa man sentenced to 9 years for possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 12:20 PM  
A Nampa man was sentenced to 108 months in federal prison for possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute. According to court records, Cainen Bleu Johnson, 44, of Nampa, was pulled over on a routine traffic stop on February 16, 2021. During the traffic stop, Johnson became visibly agitated, refused to give his driver's license to law enforcement, put his vehicle in drive, and fled the scene. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSLS-NBC (Roanoke, VA): Southwest Virginia man sentenced to 50 years in prison for filming videos of himself having sex with minors**, Jeff Williamson, December 21, 2021, 12:02 PM

A 42-year-old man will likely spend the rest of his life in prison for engaging in and filming his sexual activity with two minors. William Dean Blankenship, of Bland County, was sentenced last week after pleading guilty in September to 17 counts of production of child pornography and one count of illegal possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WRBL-CBS (Columbus, GA): Georgia woman stole \$240,259 from non-profits to feed gambling addiction**, Nicole Sanders, December 21, 2021, 11:33 AM

A Columbus teacher and resident has pleaded guilty to wire fraud charges in Federal Court, according to a news release. Trenna Denise Trice, 59, pleaded guilty on Dec. 20. Authorities identified 109 checks and 265 credit card transactions fraudulently deposited. Trice cited her gambling addiction as the motivation behind her actions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: DOJ: Connecticut violates rights of youth inmates at Manson**, Pat Eaton Robb, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice announced Tuesday that its investigation into Connecticut's Manson Youth Institution found the state's Correction Department has been violating the civil rights of incarcerated children. The investigation stemmed from a 2019 report by the state Office of the Child Advocate and a subsequent follow-up in 2020, which found that among other things, the state was illegally locking up 15- to 17-year-olds who were classified as security risks for up to 23½ hours a day with no treatment plans and limited visitation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CT Mirror](#), [Darien Times \(Darien, CT\)](#), [Hartford Courant](#), [New Milford Spectrum](#), [Republican-American \(Waterbury CT\)](#), [WVIT-NBC \(New Britain, CT\)](#), [WSHU-NPR \(Westport, CT\)](#)

**AP: Suit: Fairfax police officers protected sex trafficking ring**, Matthew Barakat, December 21, 2021, 3:00 PM

A federal lawsuit filed by a prominent civil rights attorney alleges that police officers in Fairfax County protected a sex trafficking ring in northern Virginia in exchange for free sex from the trafficked women. The lawsuit also names the former Fairfax County Police chief, Ed Roessler, as a defendant, alleging that he helped cover up for the officers when another detective's work threatened to expose their wrongdoing. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Republican (Springfield, MA): Federal discrimination lawsuit alleges Chicopee Housing Authority director ‘preferred white tenants’ and insulted Black, Hispanic residents with racial slurs**, Jeanette DeForge, December 21, 2021, 7:12 PM

The U.S. attorney's office on Tuesday expanded a discrimination lawsuit against the Chicopee Housing Authority, saying its executive director called Hispanic and Black tenants by racial slurs and referred to some as "slum rats" and "thugs." The expanded complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Springfield, alleges the housing authority and executive director Monica Blazic violated the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Contractor agrees to pay \$1.3M to settle overbilling claim**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:00 PM

A Virginia-based information technology contractor will pay the federal government almost \$1.4 million to resolve allegations that it overbilled NASA for hours worked and labor rates in excess of the actual charges, a prosecutor said Tuesday. U.S. Attorney for Maryland Erek L. Barron said in a news release that Telophase Corporation agreed to the payment to resolve federal False Claims Act allegations. Telophase provides a variety of services, including information technology and cyber-security services. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Killeen Daily Herald (Killeen, TX): Killeen pain clinic and surgery center to pay more than \$836K after overbilling allegations*, Thaddeus Imerman, December 21, 2021, 7:00 PM

Two Killeen medical clinics are on the hook for more than \$836,000 to the United States and the state of Texas, federal officials announced Tuesday. The agreement to pay comes in the wake of allegations that Integrated Pain Associates, PLLC, a pain clinic headquartered in Killeen, and Central Texas Day Surgery Center, LLC, an affiliated ambulatory surgery center, overbilled for services performed, according to a news release from the office of U.S. Attorney Ashley C. Hoff of the Western District of Texas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: US Homeland Security agents to test use of body cameras**, Ben Fox, December 21, 2021, 4:22 PM

Agents with an investigative unit of the Department of Homeland Security will wear body cameras for the first time as part of a six-month pilot program that will focus on the costs and benefits of using the technology in federal law enforcement, officials said Tuesday. The cameras will be used during the test by 55 members of the SWAT-like special response teams at Homeland Security Investigations in Houston, Newark, New Jersey, and New York, a senior official told reporters. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [Forbes](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [HuffPost](#), [Reuters](#), [Times of San Diego](#), [Washington Times](#)

**ABC: Haitian migrants sue Biden administration over treatment at southern border**, Quinn Owen, December 21, 2021, 4:29 PM

A group of Haitian asylum seekers who crossed into Texas as part of a migration surge last September filed a lawsuit against the Biden administration this week over alleged mistreatment by U.S. immigration authorities. Mirard Joseph, seen in a widely published photo of a Border Patrol agent on horseback grabbing him by the collar, said it was "the most humiliating experience of his life" when the agent "lashed at him" with his reins and tried dragging him back to the Rio Grande, which separates the U.S. from Mexico. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Law360](#)

**Law360: DC Circ. Revives Muslim Family's Case Over Airport Search**, Khorri Atkinson, December 21, 2021, 7:18 PM

The D.C. Circuit ruled Tuesday that a Muslim family can have another go at their lawsuit alleging they are on a terrorist watchlist due to intrusive and unconstitutional airport searches by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, undoing a lower court ruling that the Jibril family failed to establish an imminent threat of future injury. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Immigration Court Data Shows Backlog Tops 1.5M Cases**, Mike LaSusa, December 21, 2021, 6:53 PM

The backlog of cases pending in the U.S. Department of Justice's immigration court system continues to break records, topping 1.5 million cases for the first time ever last month, a Syracuse University research organization reported Monday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Newsweek: Torture, Racism, Food Deprivation: Human Rights Groups Decry ICE Facility in New Orleans**, Alex J. Rouhandeh, December 21, 2021, 4:34 PM

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) field office in New Orleans, Louisiana (NOLA) is facing allegations of human rights abuses against detainees that include torture, violence, and deprivation of food and medical necessities. The claims were brought forth by a coalition of human rights groups, including the ACLU, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the National Immigration Project, and others in a December 20 letter sent to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas requesting "immediate intervention." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Orange County Register: 18 suspected of illegally entering U.S. detained on boat seen speeding across Newport Harbor**, Eric Licas, December 21, 2021, 9:00 PM

Customs and Border Protection agents summoned to investigate an abandoned boat in Newport Harbor spotted another craft speeding across the water and discovered 18 people suspected of illegally entering the U.S. when they intercepted it Tuesday, Dec. 21. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Denver Post: Serial sex offender impersonated ICE agent to target immigrant family, Aurora police say**, Shelly Bradbury, December 21, 2021, 4:02 PM

A 65-year-old man pretended to be an Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent in order to get into a family's home and sexually assault a child earlier this month, Aurora police said Tuesday. It's at least the third time in the last 25 years that Kenneth Dean Lee has been accused of impersonating officials in order to target the children of immigrant and refugee families. He was on parole for previous sex offenses and wearing an ankle monitor when he allegedly carried out the latest assault, according to an affidavit filed in the case. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHIO-AM (Dayton, OH): Feds seize narcotics worth more than \$1M at Texas border crossings**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 3:24 PM

Two recent seizures by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers in Laredo, Texas, thwarted smuggling attempts of hard narcotics worth more than \$1 million. The first interdiction occurred Friday at the World Trade Bridge, when officers discovered 38 packages containing roughly 106 pounds of suspected cocaine within the trailer of a 1998 Freightliner tractor and trailer en route from Mexico and manifesting stone tile. The narcotics have an estimated street value of \$821,440, the agency stated in a news release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KGBT-CBS (Harlingen, TX): Border Patrol seizes \$400k worth of marijuana over three**

**days**, Steve Masso, December 21, 2021, 3:06 PM

Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents seized \$450,000 worth of marijuana over the last three days. On Saturday, Dec. 18, Brownsville Border Patrol Station agents responded to activity near the Rio Grande in Brownsville. A K-9 team located four bundles of marijuana, weighing 157 pounds. The total is valued at approximately \$125,900, according to a press release by U.S. Customs and Border Protection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**Law360: Joint Venture's \$4.53B Poultry Deal Faces DOJ Scrutiny**, J. Edward Moreno, December 21, 2021, 10:05 PM

Plans for a joint venture between food and agriculture companies Cargill Inc. and Continental Grain Co. to buy poultry producer Sanderson Farms Inc. for \$4.53 billion have hit a snag with the disclosure of a "second request" for information by the U.S. Department of Justice, pausing the merger review clock and putting the deal under the microscope. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Tuna Giants' Price-Fixing Admissions Made Public In MDL**, Nadia Dreid, December 21, 2021, 8:55 PM

After declaring StarKist civilly liable for its role in an industrywide conspiracy to fix the price of canned tuna, a California federal judge has made public details of exactly what the companies admitted to through filings made by the suing seafood buyers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Vitol, Trader Can't Shake FERC Market Manipulation Case**, Keith Goldberg, December 21, 2021, 8:17 PM

A federal judge on Monday kept alive the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's pursuit of approximately \$3.55 million in market manipulation penalties against Vitol Inc. and one of its traders, rejecting arguments that FERC's case was time-barred and meritless. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Viamedia Drops Comcast Antitrust Theory Despite Win on Appeal**, Mike Leonard, December 21, 2021, 2:55 PM

Viamedia Inc., which has been locked for years in antitrust litigation over Comcast Corp.'s role in the TV ad placement market, said it would drop its headline legal theory despite winning an appeal that landed at the U.S. Supreme Court's doorstep, according to a federal court filing in Chicago. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Tyson, Pilgrim's, Others Get Nod for \$181 Million Antitrust Deal**, Mike Leonard, December 21, 2021, 1:18 PM

The consumers leading antitrust litigation over an alleged industrywide scheme to fix broiler chicken prices won final approval from a federal judge in Chicago for their \$181 million class action settlement with Pilgrim's Pride Corp., Tyson Foods Inc., and other poultry processors. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ENVIRONMENT

**Reuters: Lawsuit says EPA failed to study insecticide's impact on threatened species**,

Sebastien Malo, December 21, 2021, 6:27 PM

Environmentalists and food safety advocates on Tuesday urged a Washington, D.C., federal appeals court to compel the Environmental Protection Agency to obey an earlier order that it study the effects of a pesticide on imperiled species, or else restrict the chemical's use.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg Law](#)

**Law360: Wash. Tribe, Green Groups Want LNG Plant Permits Tossed**, Clark Mindock, December 21, 2021, 8:13 PM

A Native American tribe and community groups say Washington state's air permit approvals for a \$310 million liquified natural gas refinery in Tacoma were based on a flawed environmental analysis, and want a state court to toss them. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Biden Ends Trump-Era Ban on States Setting Their Own Auto Rules**,

Jennifer A. Dlouhy, December 21, 2021, 5:08 PM

The Biden administration on Tuesday repealed a Trump-era measure that sought to block California and other states from imposing their own zero-emissions vehicle mandates and greenhouse gas standards on cars. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Green Group Sues To Stop Large-Scale Project In Idaho Forest**, Humberto J

Rocha, December 21, 2021, 5:01 PM

An Idaho conservation group has sued the federal government for approving an extensive, 67,800-acre landscape-scale restoration project in the Boise National Forest, arguing it rushed the review process and ignored environmental analysis of the area. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Arizona Daily Star: Pygmy owl in Tucson area may get federal protection once again**,

Tony Davis, December 21, 2021, 8:00 PM

More than 15 years after the pygmy owl lost federal protection, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed bringing it back. This time, the service is proposing to list the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl as a threatened species; it had been listed as endangered from 1997 to 2006. The service announced the listing proposal Tuesday and will formally publish it in the Federal Register on Wednesday, Dec. 22. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## TAX

**NWI Times (Munster, IN): Area businessman sent to prison for tax dodging**, Bill Dolan, December 21, 2021, 9:00 PM

A judge ordered a politically connected businessman to prison as well as to pay \$145,432 in restitution for tax dodging. Chief U.S. District Court Judge Jon E. DeGuilio gave a six-month sentence Tuesday to 46-year-old Daniel Urquiza of Burr Ridge, Illinois for concealing \$720,000 in income from the Internal Revenue Service between 2014 and 2018. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: He wore a wire, risked his life to expose who was in the KKK**, Jason Dearen,

December 22, 2021, 12:35 AM

For nearly 10 years, Joseph Moore lived a secret double life. At times the U.S. Army veteran donned a white robe and hood as a hit man for the Ku Klux Klan in North Florida. He attended

clandestine meetings and participated in cross burnings. He even helped plan the murder of a Black man. However, Moore wore something else during his years in the klan – a wire for the FBI. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: The F.B.I. Deployed Surveillance Teams Inside Portland Protests**, Mike Baker, Sergio Olmos and Adam Goldman, December 22, 2021, 5:00 AM

In the hours after President Biden's inauguration this year, protesters marched once again through the streets of Portland, Ore., sending a message that putting a Democrat in the White House would not resolve their problems with a system of policing and corporate wealth that they saw as fundamentally unfair. "No cops, no prisons, total abolition," they chanted. Some of the activists, dressed in the trademark uniform of solid black clothing and masks that often signals a readiness to make trouble without being readily identifiable, smashed windows at the local Democratic Party headquarters. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**HuffPost: Inside The Right-Wing Movement To Boost Untraceable 'Ghost Guns'**, Lila Hassan, December 22, 2021, 5:45 AM

Pink and green grenades covered in Bitcoin logos. Conference attendees decked out in either Hawaiian florals or camouflage, posing on ranges and bedrooms with their creations. "Print Guns Not Money" T-shirts, available for just \$32. Welcome to the Instagram feed of Guns N' Bitcoin, a community for the growing movement to ensure an endless source of untraceable firearms.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KSHB-NBC (Kansas City, MO): New FBI Special Agent in Charge to lead Kansas and parts of Missouri**, Megan Abundis, December 21, 2021, 11:27 PM

There's a new man in charge at the FBI Kansas City field office. Special Agent In Charge Charles Dayoub will lead Kansas and parts of Missouri. New to Kansas City and to the Midwest, Charles Dayoub has five main priorities. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Maryland's Most Wanted | \$10,000 reward for Ramel Ferguson**, Alexa Ashwell, December 21, 2021, 10:00 PM

The US Marshals Service is posting a \$10,000 reward in the search for a known gang member accused of gunning down a fellow Bloods member. Ramel Ferguson, 25, is wanted for the murder of Karson Banks in New York October 5, 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNCT-CBS/CW (Greenville, NC): ATF to investigate fatal Rocky Mount QVC fire**, Hayley Fixler, Jeff Reeves, December 21, 2021, 9:29 PM

The ATF will join the investigation into the fatal fire at a QVC distribution center in Rocky Mount on Saturday. Special agents and equipment from the Charlotte Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will be on scene Tuesday afternoon. The ATF said it is helping with the investigation at the request of Edgecombe County. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTXF-Fox (Philadelphia, PA): FBI: Pan Am Flight 103 bombing still under investigation 33 years later**, Chris Williams, December 21, 2021, 7:11 PM

FBI officials said they do not believe they have captured all the people responsible for the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 259 passengers and crew members including 190 Americans. Eleven people were killed on the ground. "Thirty-three years after the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, the #FBI and our partners are still seeking justice for the 270 victims," the agency tweeted Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFSB-CBS (Hartford, CT): FBI warning people of popular holiday scams**, Rob Polansky, December 21, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation wants to make sure people don't fall victim to popular holiday scams. It said it plans to remind viewers about the scams that always pop up during the holiday season and provide tips on how not to fall victim to them. The FBI said the two most prevalent scams are non-delivery and non-payment crimes. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Daily Voice (Ridgewood, NJ): NJ Man Busted By FBI For Selling Bogus Tom Brady Super Bowl Rings**, Jerry DeMarco, December 21, 2021, 6:13 PM

A New Jersey man admitted posing as a former New England Patriots player in order to buy and sell specially made Super Bowl rings that he claimed were given to Tom Brady's family as gifts, federal authorities charged. Scott V. Spina Jr., 24, of Roseland ordered three replica Super Bowl LI rings engraved with the name "Brady," then sold them to an auction house for \$100,000, receiving a significant profit, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California said in a release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KENS-CBS (San Antonio, TX): [VIDEO] Neighbors get knock on door from FBI as authorities search for missing girl**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 6:04 PM

A resident at the Villas Del Cabo said they had to show their driver's license to authorities. [\[Watch\]](#)

**WCBD-NBC/CW (Charleston, SC): Charleston County Sheriff's Office Captain selected for FBI National Academy**, Chase Laudenslager, December 21, 2021, 5:42 PM

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) on Tuesday announced that one of its own has been selected to enroll in the FBI National Academy. Captain Fletcher Ferguson (41) is the commander of CCSO's Honor Guard and assistant commander of CCSO's SWAT team. He is a Citadel graduate and former member of the Coast Guard Reserves. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHEC-NBC (Rochester, NY): Marshalls: Parole absconder with gun arrested in Rochester**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:41 PM

The U.S Marshals Task Force says it arrested a parole absconder who was armed with a gun in the City of Rochester Tuesday. It happened at around 2 p.m. near East Main Street in the City of Rochester. Marshals say they were searching for Maxwell Boards, 25, because he had an outstanding parole violation warrant that was issued back in May when he allegedly cut off his electronic monitoring bracelet. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KYW-CBS (Philadelphia, PA): FBI Searching For Serial Bank Robber In Center City**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:28 PM

The FBI is searching for a serial bank robber in Center City. Federal authorities believe the suspect has committed seven robberies since Aug. 30. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Across, IL): FBI's 15 Most Wanted Illinois Fugitives In 2021**, David Giuliani, December 21, 2021, 4:26 PM

The FBI's Chicago office has a list of its "most wanted fugitives. While some are believed to have left the country, others may still be on the run here at home. Here's the list of the FBI's top 15 most wanted in Illinois for 2021, which can also be found on its website. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **WOAI-NBC (San Antonio, TX): San Antonio Police, FBI Search For Missing Girl,**

Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

San Antonio police are searching for a missing three-year-old girl. Police Chief William McManus says officers are going door-to-door and questioning everyone after Lina Khil disappeared yesterday. The three-year-old was last seen at an apartment playground on Fredericksburg near Blueviel. An AMBER Alert has been issued and officers are hoping surveillance video will give them more leads. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **KMVT-CBS/CW (Twin Falls, ID): [VIDEO] DEA warns of fake pills sold over social media,**

Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration says some of those pills may be laced with fentanyl. [\[Watch\]](#)

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

### **Forbes: FCI Miami Federal Prison Employee Fired For Using Inmates To Help Perform His Job**, Walter Pavlo, December 21, 2021, 12:38 PM

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) rarely fires employees, preferring to offer them retirement or reassignment. Warden Lamine N'Diaye, who was in charge of notorious MCC New York at the time alleged child trafficker and admitted child pornographer Jeff Epstein hung himself, was criticized by then-Attorney General William Barr. Barr, appalled at the Epstein death, said at the Fraternal Order of Police conference just after the incident, "We are now learning of serious irregularities" at the MCC, where Epstein was found dead ... and "[we] will get to the bottom of what happened and that there will be accountability." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **KFDA-CBS (Amarillo, TX): Bomb suspect awaits mental evaluation in federal prison**, Bailie Myers, December 21, 2021, 1:57 PM

The man arrested after an explosion in the Paramount Terrace neighborhood in July is awaiting a mental evaluation in a federal prison outside of Seattle. The federal detention center is under modified operations due to COVID-19, and a court order states they are "unable to provide specific information as to timelines regarding the completion of the evaluation and report." According to court documents, Erfan Salmanzadeh's defense claims he was insane at the time law enforcement found suicide vests, bombs with shrapnel and explosive chemicals inside his home. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **US SUPREME COURT**

### **AP: After Supreme Court hearing, a new look at baby 'safe haven' laws**, Astrid Galvan, December 22, 2021, 5:30 AM

[...] Safe haven laws drew attention this month when U.S. Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett raised the role they play in the debate around abortion rights. Barrett made the comments during a hearing this month on a Mississippi law that would ban most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy — and possibly upend abortion rights established by the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion throughout the United States, and upheld by the court's 1992 ruling in Planned Parenthood v. Casey. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **WaPo: [OPINION] The most dangerous conservative judges aren't on the Supreme**

**Court**, Perry Bacon Jr., December 21, 2021, 5:24 PM

The Republican-appointed judges serving on state courts and lower-level federal courts don't get nearly as much attention as those on the U.S. Supreme Court. But those judges are some of the most important — and, unfortunately, most dangerous — figures in American politics. Limiting the radicalism of the current Republican Party will be difficult with a judiciary packed with GOP partisans writing Trumpism into law. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Supreme Court Leaves New Mexico's Vaccine Mandate in Force**, Greg Stohr, December 21, 2021, 5:53 PM

A U.S. Supreme Court justice left in force New Mexico's requirement that many of its health-care workers be vaccinated against Covid-19, turning away a request by a nurse who said she is opposed to the shot after doing her own research. Justice Neil Gorsuch made no comment Tuesday in rejecting the bid by Jennifer Blackford, who contended the mandate violated her right to bodily integrity. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Courthouse News](#)

**CNN: University of North Carolina and civil rights advocates ask Supreme Court to sidestep affirmative action challenge**, Joan Biskupic, December 21, 2021, 11:00 AM

The University of North Carolina and civil rights advocates urged the US Supreme Court on Monday to steer clear of a case designed to end racial affirmative action at state colleges and universities. Lawyers for North Carolina, led by state Solicitor General Ryan Park, contend the challengers are trying to "short-circuit" the usual judicial process by asking the nine justices to hear the UNC dispute, along with a similar case against Harvard, even though a regional US appellate court has yet to rule on the state school dispute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Casper Star-Tribune (Casper, WY): Wyoming appeals mandate ruling to U.S. Supreme Court**, Victoria Eavis, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

Wyoming took another step in fighting back against federal vaccine mandates Saturday, this time in the court battle over worker requirements at larger businesses. Wyoming joined 26 other states in asking the Supreme Court to halt implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's mandate that requires workers at businesses with 100 or more employees to either get vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to weekly testing and mandatory masking. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Tetra Tech Fights Tribal Immunity In Fire Cleanup Wage Row**, Morgan Conley, December 21, 2021, 6:30 PM

A consulting and engineering services firm urged the Ninth Circuit to revive its efforts to hold a tribal entity responsible for alleged wage and hour violations during the cleanup of wildfire damage on reservation land, arguing a district court ruling rendered a provision of its contract with the tribe "meaningless." [[Continue Reading](#)]

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**Law360: Maine Asks 1st Circ. To Uphold Medical Pot Residency Rule**, Sam Reisman, December 21, 2021, 9:39 PM

Maine's cannabis regulator and an in-state medical marijuana trade group filed concurring briefs

this week urging the First Circuit to find that the dormant commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution does not apply to the federally illegal cannabis industry. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10th Circ. Urged To Block IRS' Pot Dispensary Summons**, Theresa Schliep, December 21, 2021, 3:34 PM

A marijuana dispensary told the Tenth Circuit the IRS should be blocked from enforcing summonses that seek the dispensary's sales reports and other data, saying the information requests would enforce an unconstitutional law denying tax benefits to pot businesses. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: Top Federal Health Official Says States Can Use Legal Marijuana Revenue To Help Deter Youth Use**, Kyle Jaeger, December 21, 2021, 1:00 PM

A federal official with a top health agency recently gave some tips to states that are moving to legalize marijuana, specifically as it concerns deterring youth use. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Tom Coderre spoke about cannabis policy during a webinar hosted last week by the prohibitionist group Smart Approaches To Marijuana (SAM). [[Continue Reading](#)]

## OPIOID CRISIS

**Reuters: Purdue Pharma seeks to continue temporary protections for Sacklers**, María Chutchian, December 21, 2021, 4:31 PM

Purdue Pharma has asked a bankruptcy judge to extend a temporary order protecting the Sackler family members who own the OxyContin maker against opioid-related litigation, saying it needs time to lay out a path forward after another judge overturned its bankruptcy settlement last week. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOJ Opioid Trial Team Tainted By Kirkland Ties, Ex-CEO Says**, Jeff Overley, December 21, 2021, 10:43 PM

A U. S. Department of Justice lawyer who acquired "inside knowledge" about a drug distributor while at Kirkland & Ellis has seemingly been enlisted to exploit that knowledge in the opioid prosecution of the distributor's ex-CEO, and the DOJ's entire trial team should be disqualified, according to filings in New York federal court. In Monday's filings, counsel for onetime Rochester Drug Co-Operative Inc. CEO Laurence F. Doud III argued that the DOJ lawyer, Thomas Somerset Burnett, has a conflict of interest because of confidential information he obtained while working on pharmaceutical antitrust cases at Kirkland. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: DECEMBER 21, 2021

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Major Elliott Garrett**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Just days away from Christmas, the CDC is predicting record-high new infections and is urging everyone to get tested, vaccinated and boosted. In New York, 1 in 10 COVID tests are coming back positive. Today President Biden tried to reassure vaccinated Americans

about holiday gatherings and warned those who remain unvaccinated they risk illness and possibly death from the highly contagious Delta and Omicron variants of the coronavirus. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- The jury in the trial of former police officer Kim Potter indicated a potential deadlock on Tuesday evening after nearly 13 hours of deliberation, asking the judge what they should do if they cannot agree on a verdict. Potter is charged with manslaughter in Daunte Wright's death. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- In Colorado, there are calls for sentence leniency after a young truck driver was sentenced to more than 100 years in prison for the role in a deadly accident. [[CBS](#)]
- Black women are more likely than White women to have tumors missed during screening and to have delays in cancer diagnosis and treatment. Continuing our special series on the 50th anniversary of the war on cancer. [[CBS](#)]
- Police chased the suspect into a shopping mall in Fort Worth, Texas, and placed the crowded mall on lockdown. Three suspects were arrested and a weapon was recovered. [[ABC](#)]
- Two people are facing charges after a fight broke out at Miami International Airport Monday night. Tonight, the F.A.A. and T.S.A. are warning unruly air passengers could lose their pre-check eligibility. [[CBS](#)]
- Russian President Vladimir Putin is demanding that NATO withdraw its troops from Eastern Europe, with more than 100,000 troops waiting along the Russia-Ukraine border. Secretary of State Antony Blinken says the US "will respond strongly" if Russia continues its "reckless or aggressive actions." [[NBC](#)]
- As the omicron variant spreads across the US, experts say those who are vaccinated and boosted should feel safe to fly. Also, COVID-19 protocols are making for long wait times at airports. [[ABC](#)]
- Airbus and Boeing are calling for the government and cell phone industry to postpone the 5G cell phone rollout, warning it could "adversely affect the ability of aircraft to safely operate." The cell phone industry tells NBC News the networks "operate safely, without interference, in nearly 40 countries around the world." [[NBC](#)]
- Americans are hitting the stores, frantically searching for those last-minute gifts as many online retailers can no longer deliver on time. [[CBS](#)]

- A new pop-up concept is being used at the Port of Savannah, Georgia that may be a solution to unclogging shipping ports nationwide. [[CBS](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Covid-19 live updates U.S. life expectancy, population growth drop as pandemic heads into third year” [[WaPo](#), [NYT](#), [WSJ](#)]
- “Arrests, Beatings and Secret Prayers: Inside the Persecution of India’s Christians” [[NYT](#)]
- “Biden’s climate bill might be dead. But he just approved two huge solar farms” [[LAT](#)]
- “Biden Still Hopes to Strike ‘Build Back Better’ Deal With Manchin” [[WSJ](#)]

**END**

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**To:** Davidson, Marcia A. (OAG)  
**Sent:** December 22, 2021 7:08 AM (UTC-05:00)

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** December 22, 2021 at 6:51:43 AM EST  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
December 22, 2021  
7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 22, 2021**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**Reuters: U.S. Justice Dept says inmates sent home due to COVID-19 will not be returned to prison**, Sarah N. Lynch, December 21, 2021, 4:30 PM

The U.S. Justice Department on Tuesday announced it would not force federal inmates who were sent home due to the coronavirus pandemic to return to prison once the emergency is lifted. The

decision represents a major reversal for the department's Office of Legal Counsel, which previously had issued an opinion which said the Bureau of Prisons had no legal authority to keep inmates at home once the pandemic emergency had subsided. [Continue Reading] See also: [AP](#), [Axios](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Business Insider](#), [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [Forbes](#), [Fox](#), [The Hill](#), [KIVI-ABC \(Boise, ID\)](#), [Insider](#), [LAT](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NY Post](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [USA Today](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WaPo](#), [The Week](#), [WSJ](#)

**WSJ: NatWest Unit Pleads Guilty to Manipulating Treasury Markets**, Dave Michaels and Aruna Viswanatha, December 21, 2021, 3:45 PM

NatWest Markets PLC pleaded guilty Tuesday to wire and securities fraud, admitting that its traders in London, Singapore and Connecticut engaged in a number of schemes between 2008 and 2018 to manipulate U.S. Treasury markets. The investment bank's general counsel entered the plea in a hearing held remotely Tuesday before a federal judge in Connecticut. [Continue Reading] See also: [AFP](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Financial Times](#), [Fox](#), [Law360](#), [National Law Journal](#), [Reuters](#)

**Washington Times: Maryland governor urges Merrick Garland to sue his state over gerrymandering**, Valerie Richardson, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

If Attorney General Merrick Garland is serious about fighting allegations of gerrymandering and not just playing politics, he should sue Maryland — and that's according to the governor. Gov. Larry Hogan, a Republican, publicly dared the Justice Department to sue his state after the Democrat-controlled legislature overrode Dec. 9 his veto of the newly drawn congressional districts, which he called "disgracefully illegal gerrymandered maps which are a shameful violation of federal law." [Continue Reading]

**National Law Review: DOJ Announces Renewed Focus on Corporate Crime**, Peter R. Knight, December 21, 2021, 5:00 PM

At his confirmation hearing earlier this year, Attorney General Merrick Garland identified the policing of corporate crime and enforcement as a key priority of the Biden administration. In an address at the ABA's recent National Institute on White Collar Crime, Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco announced three significant actions to strengthen the Department of Justice's (DOJ) corporate criminal enforcement policies and practices. [Continue Reading]

## US ATTORNEYS

**WBTW-CBS (Florence, SC): Acting U.S. Attorney for South Carolina stepping down, former FBI chief of staff to take over**, Chase Laudenslager, December 21, 2021, 10:54 PM

The acting United States attorney for the District of South Carolina, M. Rhett DeHart, will step down effective Dec. 26, according to his office. Corey F. Ellis, a former FBI chief of staff and veteran of the U.S. Attorney's Office, has been appointed to the post on interim basis. [Continue Reading] See also: [WCBD-NBC/CW \(Charleston, SC\)](#), [WCSC-CBS \(Charleston, SC\)](#)

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**AP: Harvard professor Charles Lieber found guilty of hiding ties to China**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 7:12 PM

A Harvard University professor charged with hiding his ties to a Chinese-run recruitment program

was found guilty on all counts Tuesday. Charles Lieber, 62, the former chair of Harvard's department of chemistry and chemical biology, had pleaded not guilty to two counts of filing false tax returns, two counts of making false statements, and two counts of failing to file reports for a foreign bank account in China. [Continue Reading] See also: [Axios](#), [BBC](#), [Boston Globe](#), [CNN](#), [Fox](#), [Guardian](#), [The Harvard Crimson](#), [The Hill](#), [National Law Journal](#), [NBC](#), [Newsmax](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Iowa man arraigned on 7 charges for Jan. 6 US Capitol attack**, David Pitt, December 21, 2021, 6:16 PM

An Iowa man charged earlier for his participation in the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was arraigned Tuesday on a new federal indictment that includes a felony count that could carry up to 20 years in prison. Leo Christopher Kelly, 36, of Cedar Rapids, who has been free on pretrial release, appeared via video for his arraignment. His attorney, Kira West, entered a not guilty plea on his behalf. [Continue Reading]

**AP: California man gets prison for threats over 2020 election**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 2:44 4 PM

A California man has been sentenced to three years in prison for threatening harm in text messages sent during the attack on the U.S. Capitol to a New York-based family member of a journalist, prosecutors said. Robert Lemke, 36, was sentenced Monday in Manhattan federal court, according to Damian Williams, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York.

[Continue Reading] See also: [KPIX-CBS \(San Francisco, CA\)](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#)

**CNN: 81-year-old US Capitol rioter sentenced to three years of probation**, Hannah

Rabinowitz and Holmes Lybrand, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

An 81-year-old Army veteran was sentenced to three years of probation on Tuesday for illegally breaching the US Capitol on January 6. Gary Wickersham, one of the oldest of more than 700 people facing charges related to the Capitol riot, will also have to pay a \$2,000 fine and \$500 for damage done to the building. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Week](#)

**UPI: Judge upholds felony obstruction charge against Oath Keepers in Jan. 6 Capitol riot**, Sommer Brokaw & Daniel Uria, December 21, 2021, 4:28 PM

A federal judge has upheld a felony obstruction charge that prosecutors have relied on in proceedings against the Oath Keepers in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta upheld Monday night the felony obstruction charge against the 17 defendants tied to the right-wing paramilitary group the Oath Keepers, The Hill reported. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [Newsmax](#)

**Newsweek: Donald Trump Pardoned Military Rank-and-File But Hated 'My Generals'**,

William M. Arkin, December 22, 2021, 5:00 AM

"The pre-Christmas pardons and commutations came as the president has been exploring how to reward friends and allies in his waning days in the White House, with more acts of clemency expected to come," the Washington Post wrote. The Post said that Trump was "using the power of his office to undo the work of the Russia probe." "A move that further cements his legacy of exercising his sweeping powers to benefit his political allies," ABC News said. [Continue Reading]

**Bloomberg: Trump Loyalists Are Running Out the Clock on the Jan. 6 Probe**, Joshua

Green, Erik Larson, December 22, 2021, 4:00 AM

Almost a year after the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, close allies of former President Donald Trump are stonewalling the congressional panel investigating the insurrection. Despite compiling evidence and sharing vivid glimpses of how key figures in the Republican political and media worlds responded as the attack unfolded, the House committee has so far been thwarted in its efforts to get firsthand accounts from Trump's inner circle about what the president knew and did that day. That insider testimony may never arrive. A succession of Trump partisans has been trying to stall the investigation with a legal battle that's unlikely to be resolved anytime soon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: Trump-Appointed Judge Denies 1/6 Rioter's Charge That DOJ Should**

**Prosecute BLM Protesters**, Daniel Villarreal, December 21, 2021, 7:40 PM

Carl Nichols, a federal judge appointed by former President Donald Trump, has declined further examination of a charge raised by an accused Capitol rioter alleging that federal officials should also arrest racial justice protesters from Portland, Oregon for committing similar crimes against the government. The accused rioter, Garret Miller, claimed that he was the victim of "selective prosecution." As proof, Miller pointed to the Department of Justice's decision not to issue mass prosecutions against Black Lives Matter (BLM) and anti-fascist (Antifa) rioters involved in demonstrations in Portland, Oregon during summer 2020. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*The Herald-Dispatch (Huntington, WV): Hurricane woman sentenced to 30 days for role in Capitol riot*, Courtney Hessler, December 22, 2021, 12:00 AM

A Hurricane, West Virginia, woman who said "infamy is just as good as fame" after participating in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot was sentenced Friday to serve prison time. Gracyn Dawn Courtright, 24, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Christopher R. Cooper on Friday to serve 30 days in prison after previously pleading guilty to entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds for participating in the Jan. 6 riots at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., which saw hundreds of then-President Donald Trump supporters breaching the building to interrupt Congress as it certified election results. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Chicago Sun Times: Aurora Proud Boys member accused of assaulting officer with flag pole amid Capitol riot**, Jon Seidel and Tom Schuba, December 21, 2021, 7:11 PM

Federal prosecutors say an admitted Proud Boys member from Aurora beckoned rioters toward a police line during the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol breach and shouted "patriots, what is your occupation" before thrusting a flagpole he was carrying toward police. Now James Robert "Jim Bob" Elliott, 24, faces what appear to be some of the most serious charges brought against an Illinois resident in connection with the riot that interrupted the Electoral College vote count and prompted what could be the largest criminal investigation in U.S. history. At least 20 Illinois residents have been charged. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Chicago Tribune](#), [Patch \(Aurora, IL\)](#), [WBBM-CBS \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WGN \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WMAQ-NBC \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

**WTHR-NBC (Indianapolis, IN): Greenfield man sentenced to 36 months on probation for taking part in Capitol riot**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 7:19 PM

A judge sentenced Israel Tutrow, of Greenfield, to 36 months on probation for his role in the Jan. 6 insurrection. Federal prosecutors were seeking a 60-day jail sentence for Tutrow. United States District Judge Amy Berman Jackson also declared the first 60 days of Tutrow's probation to be at-home detention. He is also ordered to pay \$500 in restitution, submit to drug and mental health assessments as part of his probation, and can't own a firearm during his probation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WKMG-CBS (Orlando, FL): Feds seek home confinement for Florida doctor who took part in Capitol riot**, Erik Sandoval, December 21, 2021, 12:45 PM

Federal prosecutors are recommending a Marion County man who took part in the Capitol Hill riot be ordered to two months home confinements as part of his sentencing in January. Kenneth Kelly, whom prosecutors describe as an emergency room doctor, was arrested in April after investigators said a relative contacted them to report Kelly. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**Reuters: Ex-Trump adviser Flynn sues Jan 6 House committee to block release of phone records**, Jan Wolfe, December 21, 2021, 7:57 PM

Michael Flynn, a longtime adviser to former President Donald Trump, on Tuesday sued the congressional committee investigating the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol in hopes of blocking it from obtaining his phone records. Flynn alleged in a lawsuit, filed in federal court in Florida, that a subpoena issued to him by the House of Representatives Jan. 6 Select Committee was too broad in scope and punishes him for constitutionally protected speech he engaged in as a private citizen. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [Fox](#), [HuffPost](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#), [NYT-2](#)

**The Hill: Focus on Perry could mean more subpoenas, challenges for Jan. 6 panel**,

Rebecca Beitsch, December 22, 2021, 6:00 AM

The Jan. 6 select committee's request to speak with Rep. Scott Perry (R-Fla.) could foreshadow a flurry of similar requests to others in Congress while highlighting the challenge of getting testimony from sitting lawmakers who may have been involved in former President Trump's efforts to remain in the White House. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL LAW

**Reuters: Ghislaine Maxwell trial jury ends first full day of deliberations without verdict**, Luc Cohen, December 21, 2021, 5:46 PM

Jury deliberations in British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell's sex abuse trial came to a close without a verdict on Tuesday, as jurors reviewed testimony of women who said she set them up for abuse by financier Jeffrey Epstein when they were teenagers. Maxwell, 59, is accused of recruiting and grooming four teenage girls for Epstein to abuse between 1994 and 2004. She has pleaded not guilty to six counts of sex trafficking and other crimes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Times of San Diego: Former San Diego Sailor Sentenced for Exporting Military Equipment to China**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 9:30 PM

A former U.S. Navy sailor was sentenced Tuesday to 30 months in prison for illegally exporting military equipment to China for profit. Ye Sang "Ivy" Wang, 37, and her husband, Shaohua "Eric" Wang, 38, both of San Diego, pleaded guilty to federal conspiracy charges for selling equipment the couple obtained through Ivy Wang's position as a Navy logistics specialist, according to prosecutors. Eric Wang was sentenced last year to nearly four years in prison. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The San Diego Union-Tribune](#)

**Green Bay Press-Gazette (Green Bay, WI): 19-year-old sentenced to 10 years for March shooting on Menominee Indian Reservation**, Kelli Arseneau, December 21, 2021, 7:35 PM

A teenager was sentenced Monday to 10 years in prison for shooting a man on the Menominee Indian Reservation in March. According to a news release from the U.S. Department of Justice, Menom L. Powless-Brown, 19, formerly of Keshena, located on the Menominee Indian Reservation, fired a semiautomatic handgun several times during an incident on or about March 13, striking the man he pointed the weapon at once in the abdomen and Powless-Brown's mother once in the face. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Raleigh News & Observer (Raleigh, NC): Raleigh man faces over 17 years in prison for crime linked to motel sex trafficking case*, Aaron Sánchez-Guerra, December 21, 2021, 6:41 PM

A Raleigh man was sentenced to 17.5 years in prison for manufacturing child pornography as part of a scheme to promote prostitution of a minor, U.S. Attorney General Michael F. Easley Jr. announced Tuesday. Marcus Antwan Gambrell, 30, and his co-defendant Kevin Rudolph faced four charges in an April 7, 2020, indictment. The charges were from 2018 crimes involving the prostitution of a 14-year-old girl in a Motel 6 off of Capital Boulevard in Raleigh. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Sioux City Journal: South Sioux City man sentenced to prison for selling meth*, Nick Hytrek, December 21, 2021, 6:00 PM

A South Sioux City man was sentenced Friday to 10 years in federal prison for selling methamphetamine. Jose Elorza, 25, pleaded guilty in August in U.S. District Court in Sioux City to conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance. According to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Elorza admitted to selling approximately 3 pounds of meth in March. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*NWI Times (Munster, IN): Hammond man gets prison for illicit gun purchases*, Bill Dolan, December 21, 2021, 6:00 PM

A Hammond man is going to prison for being the personal shopper for Chicago criminals needing guns. U.S. District Court Chief Judge Jon E. DeGuilio imposed an 18-month sentence Tuesday on 24-year-old Darryl Ivery Jr. Ivery pleaded guilty Aug. 24 to lying to employees of several Indiana gun stores to obtain at least 26 firearms, including six that soon were recovered at Chicago and Illinois suburban crime scenes, authorities said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WBBM-CBS \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

*Watertown Daily Times (Watertown, NY): Watertown man faces up to life in prison for possessing meth at Boyd Street home*, Brian Kelly, December 21, 2021, 5:30 PM

A city man faces up to life in federal prison after admitting Tuesday in federal court that he possessed methamphetamine with the intent to sell the drug and three illegal handguns at his Boyd Street home in February. George D. Robinson V, age unavailable, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court, Syracuse, to possessing methamphetamine with intent to distribute it and possessing three semiautomatic handguns as a convicted felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*The Advocate (Baton Rouge, LA): COVID relief fraud nets Prairieville woman 18-month prison term; restitution ordered*, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:37 PM

A federal judge Tuesday sentenced a Prairieville woman to 18 months in prison for wire fraud after she admitted she defrauded a program set up to help people during the coronavirus pandemic. April R. Falgoust, 46, must also repay nearly \$148,000 to the U.S. Small Business Administration, and forfeit \$143,800 in improperly received gains. U.S. District Judge Shelly D. Dick also ordered that Falgoust serve three years of supervised release after leaving prison

following her wire fraud conviction. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Gonzales Weekly Citizen \(Gonzales, LA\)](#)

**CNY Central (Central, NY): Cortland County woman sentenced to 15 years in prison for sexually exploiting a child**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:30 PM

On Tuesday, 27-year-old Cortland County woman, Brittany Berry was sentenced to 190 months (15 years) in prison for sexually exploiting a 3-year-old child. As part of her previously entered guilty plea, Brittany admitted to conspiring with Lawrence Berry to sexually exploit a child in August and September of 2018. [Continue Reading]

**The Sun Chronicle (Attleboro, MA): Attleboro man convicted of illegally transporting guns from Georgia**, David Linton, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

An Attleboro man who argued he was a sovereign subject only to God has been convicted of illegally transporting firearms from Georgia to Massachusetts. Richard Philippe, 42, of Baltic Street, was found guilty Friday after a four-day jury trial in U.S. District Court in Boston, the U.S. attorney's office announced Tuesday. [Continue Reading]

**NJ Metro Breaking News: Jersey City Man Admits Illegal Firearms Possession**,

Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 3:46 PM

Today, a Hudson County man admitted possessing a firearm and ammunition after having previously been convicted of a felony, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced. According to U.S. Attorney Sellinger, Andre Cannon, 29, of Jersey City, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with illegal possession of a handgun and ammunition by a previously convicted felon. [Continue Reading]

**NJ Metro Breaking News: Newark Man Sentenced to Two Years in Prison for Bank Fraud, Conspiring to Steal Mail**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 2:15 PM

A Newark resident was sentenced today to 28 months in prison for his role in a conspiracy to commit bank fraud, including by soliciting U.S. Postal Service (USPS) employees to steal check books and credit cards from the mail, depositing fraudulent checks, including pandemic relief checks, and using stolen credit cards without authorization, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced. [Continue Reading]

**Lexington Herald Leader (Lexington, KY): Lexington man gets decades in prison after he tried to mail meth inside markers to inmate**, Jeremy Chisenhall, December 21, 2021, 1:15 PM

A Lexington man was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison Monday after admitting to meth trafficking. Jeffrey Maurice Robinson was sentenced Monday in federal court in Lexington. In addition to trafficking, he also admitted to using a gun in furtherance of trafficking, according to court records. [Continue Reading] See also: [WKYT-CBS/CW \(Lexington, KY\)](#), [WTVO-ABC \(Lexington, KY\)](#)

**WBAY-ABC (Green Bay, WI): Tennessee man investigated by Winnebago County Sheriff's Office sentenced for distributing child porn**, Kelli Arseneau, December 21, 2021, 9:44 PM

Federal prosecutors say a Tennessee man who shared numerous photos and videos of child pornography was sentenced in Green Bay federal court to 5 years in prison. David Dexter, 44, of Kingsport, Tenn., got the attention of the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office and the Milwaukee Division of the FBI during Operation Kick Boxer, a national, month-long effort last year focusing

on child pornography and child sex abuse cases. The case was subsequently investigated by the FBI offices in Green Bay and Knoxville. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTSP-CBS (St. Petersburg, FL): Former U.S. Navy Member Sentenced For Possession Of Child Pornography**, Ashley Cox, December 21, 2021, 7:11 PM

A federal district judge in Miami sentenced Anthony Louis Cardona, 30, of Key West, Florida, to 97 months in federal prison, followed by 25 years of supervised release as a sexual offender, for possession of child pornography. Cardona was also ordered to pay restitution to his victims.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WREG-CBS (Memphis, TN): One case against Sen. Katrina Robinson dismissed**, David Royer, December 21, 2021, 6:18 PM

A judge has dismissed federal charges against state Sen. Katrina Robinson in a money-laundering case, one of two cases she faced this year. Judge Sheryl Lipman dismissed an indictment from January involving an alleged wire fraud scheme involving tuition payments at her nursing school in Cordova. According to court documents, the state senator has agreed to complete a 12-month diversion period, similar to supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBOY-NBC/ABC (Clarksburg, WV): Morgantown man gets year in federal prison for running a drug house**, Aaron Williams, December 21, 2021, 5:30 PM

U.S. District Judge Irene Keeley sentenced a Morgantown man, Tuesday, to one year and a day, in federal prison, for his role in a drug trafficking conspiracy, United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced. Jeremy Hamlin, 42, pleaded guilty in April 2021 to one count of "Maintaining Drug-Involved Premises." Hamlin admitted to using a place on Bradley Street in Morgantown for the purpose of distributing heroin and cocaine base, also known as "crack," in March 2020 in Monongalia County. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WYMT-CBS (Hazard, KY): Pike County man in federal prison for distribution of child pornography**, Cameron Aaron, December 21, 2021, 5:20 PM

A Pike County man was sentenced to 375 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to three counts of distribution of child pornography. 36-year-old Oscar Joshua Calhoun, of Belfry, admitted to engaging with people online to exchange child pornography. According to court documents, the case involved "numerous" images of child pornography and images involving children under the age of 12. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTBS-ABC (Shreveport, LA): Bienville Parish man gets years in prison for weapons possession**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:00 PM

A Bienville Parish man was sentenced to five years and eight months in federal prison on a firearms possession charge. U.S. District Judge Elizabeth Foote sentenced Casey Michael Taylor, 35, via Zoom on Monday. She also tacked on three years of supervised release when Taylor gets out of prison. Taylor pleaded guilty to illegal possession of firearms, which was one count of a three-count indictment returned earlier this year by a federal grand jury. The other two counts were dismissed. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KCRG-ABC (Cedar Rapids, IA): Cedar Rapids man receives 77 months in federal prison for being a prohibited person in possession of ammunition**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:32 PM

41-year-old Daryl Harden was sentenced to 77 months in federal prison for possessing

ammunition after having prior convictions for felonies and domestic abuse assaults. Harden received the sentence after a guilty plea in June 2021. Harden admitted that he knowingly possessed five rounds of ammunition after having been convicted of nine misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence, six crimes punishable by more than a year imprisonment, and while being the subject to two no-contact orders. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Jersey City, NJ): Pair Charged In 4 Robberies, 2 Shootings In Jersey City**, Samantha Mercado, December 21, 2021, 4:02 PM

Two people were arrested and face several charges following one night in November that included four robberies and two shootings. Rodney Williams, 29, of Jersey City, and Siobhan Chandler, 19, of Newark, are each charged by complaint with conspiring to rob, and robbing, four businesses and shooting two people in Jersey City. Williams is additionally charged with possession of a firearm and ammunition as a convicted felon. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KVVU-Fox (Las Vegas, NV): Las Vegas man sentenced to prison for using skimming devices to steal credit card info to buy luxury items**, Caitlin Lilly, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

A Las Vegas man was sentenced Monday to 111 months in prison for using skimming devices to steal victims' identities and credit card account information to buy luxury items. According to court documents, from Jan. 1, 2013 to Jan. 3, 2017, Fausto Teixeira Martins Neto (41) also known as "Margrello," "Fausto Neto," and "Fausto Martins" and co-conspirators placed skimming devices on ATMs and cash-out transaction ticket dispensing terminals in order to steal credit card account information. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WCCO-CBS (Minneapolis, MN): Isanti Co. Man Sentenced To 24 Years In Prison for Coercing Minor To Produce Child Pornography**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 1:27 PM  
An Isanti County man has been sentenced to over 20 years in prison for coercing a minor into creating sexually explicit videos. On Tuesday, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Minnesota announced that 39-year-old Russell James Anderson-Baldwin was sentenced to 288 months in prison 24 years followed by 25 years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**See also:** [KSTP-ABC \(Saint Paul, MN\)](#)

**WKRN-ABC (Nashville, TN): Kentucky woman pleads guilty to health care fraud involving cancer tests**, Laura Schweizer, December 21, 2021, 12:45 PM

A Kentucky woman and owner of a telehealth company plead guilty to conspiracy in U.S. District Court in Nashville on Monday. In a press release, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee said Elizabeth Turner, 34, was charged in November for conspiring to pay and receive illegal health care kickbacks and to defraud the Medicare and Medicaid programs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WPXI-NBC (Pittsburgh, PA): New Jersey man pleads guilty to throwing firecracker at Pittsburgh police during protest**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 12:31 PM

A resident of Long Beach Township, New Jersey, pleaded guilty to a charge of obstruction of law enforcement during civil disorder. Nicholas Lucia, 26, pleaded guilty before United States District Judge Arthur J. Schwab. Lucia was accused of tossing an "improvised incendiary device" at officers near Mellon Square on May 30. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KDKA-CBS \(Pittsburgh, PA\)](#)

**KIDK-Fox (Idaho Falls, ID): Nampa man sentenced to 9 years for possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 12:20 PM  
A Nampa man was sentenced to 108 months in federal prison for possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute. According to court records, Cainen Bleu Johnson, 44, of Nampa, was pulled over on a routine traffic stop on February 16, 2021. During the traffic stop, Johnson became visibly agitated, refused to give his driver's license to law enforcement, put his vehicle in drive, and fled the scene. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSLS-NBC (Roanoke, VA): Southwest Virginia man sentenced to 50 years in prison for filming videos of himself having sex with minors**, Jeff Williamson, December 21, 2021, 12:02 PM

A 42-year-old man will likely spend the rest of his life in prison for engaging in and filming his sexual activity with two minors. William Dean Blankenship, of Bland County, was sentenced last week after pleading guilty in September to 17 counts of production of child pornography and one count of illegal possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WRBL-CBS (Columbus, GA): Georgia woman stole \$240,259 from non-profits to feed gambling addiction**, Nicole Sanders, December 21, 2021, 11:33 AM

A Columbus teacher and resident has pleaded guilty to wire fraud charges in Federal Court, according to a news release. Trenna Denise Trice, 59, pleaded guilty on Dec. 20. Authorities identified 109 checks and 265 credit card transactions fraudulently deposited. Trice cited her gambling addiction as the motivation behind her actions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: DOJ: Connecticut violates rights of youth inmates at Manson**, Pat Eaton Robb, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice announced Tuesday that its investigation into Connecticut's Manson Youth Institution found the state's Correction Department has been violating the civil rights of incarcerated children. The investigation stemmed from a 2019 report by the state Office of the Child Advocate and a subsequent follow-up in 2020, which found that among other things, the state was illegally locking up 15- to 17-year-olds who were classified as security risks for up to 23½ hours a day with no treatment plans and limited visitation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CT Mirror](#), [Darien Times \(Darien, CT\)](#), [Hartford Courant](#), [New Milford Spectrum](#), [Republican-American \(Waterbury CT\)](#), [WVIT-NBC \(New Britain, CT\)](#), [WSHU-NPR \(Westport, CT\)](#)

**AP: Suit: Fairfax police officers protected sex trafficking ring**, Matthew Barakat, December 21, 2021, 3:00 PM

A federal lawsuit filed by a prominent civil rights attorney alleges that police officers in Fairfax County protected a sex trafficking ring in northern Virginia in exchange for free sex from the trafficked women. The lawsuit also names the former Fairfax County Police chief, Ed Roessler, as a defendant, alleging that he helped cover up for the officers when another detective's work threatened to expose their wrongdoing. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Republican (Springfield, MA): Federal discrimination lawsuit alleges Chicopee Housing Authority director ‘preferred white tenants’ and insulted Black, Hispanic residents with racial slurs**, Jeanette DeForge, December 21, 2021, 7:12 PM

The U.S. attorney's office on Tuesday expanded a discrimination lawsuit against the Chicopee Housing Authority, saying its executive director called Hispanic and Black tenants by racial slurs and referred to some as "slum rats" and "thugs." The expanded complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Springfield, alleges the housing authority and executive director Monica Blazic violated the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Contractor agrees to pay \$1.3M to settle overbilling claim**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:00 PM

A Virginia-based information technology contractor will pay the federal government almost \$1.4 million to resolve allegations that it overbilled NASA for hours worked and labor rates in excess of the actual charges, a prosecutor said Tuesday. U.S. Attorney for Maryland Erek L. Barron said in a news release that Telophase Corporation agreed to the payment to resolve federal False Claims Act allegations. Telophase provides a variety of services, including information technology and cyber-security services. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Killeen Daily Herald (Killeen, TX): Killeen pain clinic and surgery center to pay more than \$836K after overbilling allegations*, Thaddeus Imerman, December 21, 2021, 7:00 PM

Two Killeen medical clinics are on the hook for more than \$836,000 to the United States and the state of Texas, federal officials announced Tuesday. The agreement to pay comes in the wake of allegations that Integrated Pain Associates, PLLC, a pain clinic headquartered in Killeen, and Central Texas Day Surgery Center, LLC, an affiliated ambulatory surgery center, overbilled for services performed, according to a news release from the office of U.S. Attorney Ashley C. Hoff of the Western District of Texas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: US Homeland Security agents to test use of body cameras**, Ben Fox, December 21, 2021, 4:22 PM

Agents with an investigative unit of the Department of Homeland Security will wear body cameras for the first time as part of a six-month pilot program that will focus on the costs and benefits of using the technology in federal law enforcement, officials said Tuesday. The cameras will be used during the test by 55 members of the SWAT-like special response teams at Homeland Security Investigations in Houston, Newark, New Jersey, and New York, a senior official told reporters. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [Forbes](#), [Houston Chronicle](#), [HuffPost](#), [Reuters](#), [Times of San Diego](#), [Washington Times](#)

**ABC: Haitian migrants sue Biden administration over treatment at southern border**, Quinn Owen, December 21, 2021, 4:29 PM

A group of Haitian asylum seekers who crossed into Texas as part of a migration surge last September filed a lawsuit against the Biden administration this week over alleged mistreatment by U.S. immigration authorities. Mirard Joseph, seen in a widely published photo of a Border Patrol agent on horseback grabbing him by the collar, said it was "the most humiliating experience of his life" when the agent "lashed at him" with his reins and tried dragging him back to the Rio Grande, which separates the U.S. from Mexico. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Law360](#)

**Law360: DC Circ. Revives Muslim Family's Case Over Airport Search**, Khorri Atkinson, December 21, 2021, 7:18 PM

The D.C. Circuit ruled Tuesday that a Muslim family can have another go at their lawsuit alleging they are on a terrorist watchlist due to intrusive and unconstitutional airport searches by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, undoing a lower court ruling that the Jibril family failed to establish an imminent threat of future injury. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Immigration Court Data Shows Backlog Tops 1.5M Cases**, Mike LaSusa, December 21, 2021, 6:53 PM

The backlog of cases pending in the U.S. Department of Justice's immigration court system continues to break records, topping 1.5 million cases for the first time ever last month, a Syracuse University research organization reported Monday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Newsweek: Torture, Racism, Food Deprivation: Human Rights Groups Decry ICE Facility in New Orleans**, Alex J. Rouhandeh, December 21, 2021, 4:34 PM

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) field office in New Orleans, Louisiana (NOLA) is facing allegations of human rights abuses against detainees that include torture, violence, and deprivation of food and medical necessities. The claims were brought forth by a coalition of human rights groups, including the ACLU, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the National Immigration Project, and others in a December 20 letter sent to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas requesting "immediate intervention." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Orange County Register: 18 suspected of illegally entering U.S. detained on boat seen speeding across Newport Harbor**, Eric Licas, December 21, 2021, 9:00 PM

Customs and Border Protection agents summoned to investigate an abandoned boat in Newport Harbor spotted another craft speeding across the water and discovered 18 people suspected of illegally entering the U.S. when they intercepted it Tuesday, Dec. 21. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Denver Post: Serial sex offender impersonated ICE agent to target immigrant family, Aurora police say**, Shelly Bradbury, December 21, 2021, 4:02 PM

A 65-year-old man pretended to be an Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent in order to get into a family's home and sexually assault a child earlier this month, Aurora police said Tuesday. It's at least the third time in the last 25 years that Kenneth Dean Lee has been accused of impersonating officials in order to target the children of immigrant and refugee families. He was on parole for previous sex offenses and wearing an ankle monitor when he allegedly carried out the latest assault, according to an affidavit filed in the case. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHIO-AM (Dayton, OH): Feds seize narcotics worth more than \$1M at Texas border crossings**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 3:24 PM

Two recent seizures by U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers in Laredo, Texas, thwarted smuggling attempts of hard narcotics worth more than \$1 million. The first interdiction occurred Friday at the World Trade Bridge, when officers discovered 38 packages containing roughly 106 pounds of suspected cocaine within the trailer of a 1998 Freightliner tractor and trailer en route from Mexico and manifesting stone tile. The narcotics have an estimated street value of \$821,440, the agency stated in a news release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KGBT-CBS (Harlingen, TX): Border Patrol seizes \$400k worth of marijuana over three**

**days**, Steve Masso, December 21, 2021, 3:06 PM

Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents seized \$450,000 worth of marijuana over the last three days. On Saturday, Dec. 18, Brownsville Border Patrol Station agents responded to activity near the Rio Grande in Brownsville. A K-9 team located four bundles of marijuana, weighing 157 pounds. The total is valued at approximately \$125,900, according to a press release by U.S. Customs and Border Protection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**Law360: Joint Venture's \$4.53B Poultry Deal Faces DOJ Scrutiny**, J. Edward Moreno, December 21, 2021, 10:05 PM

Plans for a joint venture between food and agriculture companies Cargill Inc. and Continental Grain Co. to buy poultry producer Sanderson Farms Inc. for \$4.53 billion have hit a snag with the disclosure of a "second request" for information by the U.S. Department of Justice, pausing the merger review clock and putting the deal under the microscope. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Tuna Giants' Price-Fixing Admissions Made Public In MDL**, Nadia Dreid, December 21, 2021, 8:55 PM

After declaring StarKist civilly liable for its role in an industrywide conspiracy to fix the price of canned tuna, a California federal judge has made public details of exactly what the companies admitted to through filings made by the suing seafood buyers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Vitol, Trader Can't Shake FERC Market Manipulation Case**, Keith Goldberg, December 21, 2021, 8:17 PM

A federal judge on Monday kept alive the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's pursuit of approximately \$3.55 million in market manipulation penalties against Vitol Inc. and one of its traders, rejecting arguments that FERC's case was time-barred and meritless. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Viamedia Drops Comcast Antitrust Theory Despite Win on Appeal**, Mike Leonard, December 21, 2021, 2:55 PM

Viamedia Inc., which has been locked for years in antitrust litigation over Comcast Corp.'s role in the TV ad placement market, said it would drop its headline legal theory despite winning an appeal that landed at the U.S. Supreme Court's doorstep, according to a federal court filing in Chicago. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Tyson, Pilgrim's, Others Get Nod for \$181 Million Antitrust Deal**, Mike Leonard, December 21, 2021, 1:18 PM

The consumers leading antitrust litigation over an alleged industrywide scheme to fix broiler chicken prices won final approval from a federal judge in Chicago for their \$181 million class action settlement with Pilgrim's Pride Corp., Tyson Foods Inc., and other poultry processors. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ENVIRONMENT

**Reuters: Lawsuit says EPA failed to study insecticide's impact on threatened species**,

Sebastien Malo, December 21, 2021, 6:27 PM

Environmentalists and food safety advocates on Tuesday urged a Washington, D.C., federal appeals court to compel the Environmental Protection Agency to obey an earlier order that it study the effects of a pesticide on imperiled species, or else restrict the chemical's use.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg Law](#)

**Law360: Wash. Tribe, Green Groups Want LNG Plant Permits Tossed**, Clark Mindock, December 21, 2021, 8:13 PM

A Native American tribe and community groups say Washington state's air permit approvals for a \$310 million liquified natural gas refinery in Tacoma were based on a flawed environmental analysis, and want a state court to toss them. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Biden Ends Trump-Era Ban on States Setting Their Own Auto Rules**,

Jennifer A. Dlouhy, December 21, 2021, 5:08 PM

The Biden administration on Tuesday repealed a Trump-era measure that sought to block California and other states from imposing their own zero-emissions vehicle mandates and greenhouse gas standards on cars. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Green Group Sues To Stop Large-Scale Project In Idaho Forest**, Humberto J

Rocha, December 21, 2021, 5:01 PM

An Idaho conservation group has sued the federal government for approving an extensive, 67,800-acre landscape-scale restoration project in the Boise National Forest, arguing it rushed the review process and ignored environmental analysis of the area. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Arizona Daily Star: Pygmy owl in Tucson area may get federal protection once again**,

Tony Davis, December 21, 2021, 8:00 PM

More than 15 years after the pygmy owl lost federal protection, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed bringing it back. This time, the service is proposing to list the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl as a threatened species; it had been listed as endangered from 1997 to 2006. The service announced the listing proposal Tuesday and will formally publish it in the Federal Register on Wednesday, Dec. 22. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## TAX

**NWI Times (Munster, IN): Area businessman sent to prison for tax dodging**, Bill Dolan, December 21, 2021, 9:00 PM

A judge ordered a politically connected businessman to prison as well as to pay \$145,432 in restitution for tax dodging. Chief U.S. District Court Judge Jon E. DeGuilio gave a six-month sentence Tuesday to 46-year-old Daniel Urquiza of Burr Ridge, Illinois for concealing \$720,000 in income from the Internal Revenue Service between 2014 and 2018. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: He wore a wire, risked his life to expose who was in the KKK**, Jason Dearen, December 22, 2021, 12:35 AM

For nearly 10 years, Joseph Moore lived a secret double life. At times the U.S. Army veteran donned a white robe and hood as a hit man for the Ku Klux Klan in North Florida. He attended

clandestine meetings and participated in cross burnings. He even helped plan the murder of a Black man. However, Moore wore something else during his years in the klan – a wire for the FBI. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: The F.B.I. Deployed Surveillance Teams Inside Portland Protests**, Mike Baker, Sergio Olmos and Adam Goldman, December 22, 2021, 5:00 AM

In the hours after President Biden's inauguration this year, protesters marched once again through the streets of Portland, Ore., sending a message that putting a Democrat in the White House would not resolve their problems with a system of policing and corporate wealth that they saw as fundamentally unfair. "No cops, no prisons, total abolition," they chanted. Some of the activists, dressed in the trademark uniform of solid black clothing and masks that often signals a readiness to make trouble without being readily identifiable, smashed windows at the local Democratic Party headquarters. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**HuffPost: Inside The Right-Wing Movement To Boost Untraceable 'Ghost Guns'**, Lila Hassan, December 22, 2021, 5:45 AM

Pink and green grenades covered in Bitcoin logos. Conference attendees decked out in either Hawaiian florals or camouflage, posing on ranges and bedrooms with their creations. "Print Guns Not Money" T-shirts, available for just \$32. Welcome to the Instagram feed of Guns N' Bitcoin, a community for the growing movement to ensure an endless source of untraceable firearms.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KSHB-NBC (Kansas City, MO): New FBI Special Agent in Charge to lead Kansas and parts of Missouri**, Megan Abundis, December 21, 2021, 11:27 PM

There's a new man in charge at the FBI Kansas City field office. Special Agent In Charge Charles Dayoub will lead Kansas and parts of Missouri. New to Kansas City and to the Midwest, Charles Dayoub has five main priorities. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Maryland's Most Wanted | \$10,000 reward for Ramel Ferguson**, Alexa Ashwell, December 21, 2021, 10:00 PM

The US Marshals Service is posting a \$10,000 reward in the search for a known gang member accused of gunning down a fellow Bloods member. Ramel Ferguson, 25, is wanted for the murder of Karson Banks in New York October 5, 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNCT-CBS/CW (Greenville, NC): ATF to investigate fatal Rocky Mount QVC fire**, Hayley Fixler, Jeff Reeves, December 21, 2021, 9:29 PM

The ATF will join the investigation into the fatal fire at a QVC distribution center in Rocky Mount on Saturday. Special agents and equipment from the Charlotte Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives will be on scene Tuesday afternoon. The ATF said it is helping with the investigation at the request of Edgecombe County. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTXF-Fox (Philadelphia, PA): FBI: Pan Am Flight 103 bombing still under investigation 33 years later**, Chris Williams, December 21, 2021, 7:11 PM

FBI officials said they do not believe they have captured all the people responsible for the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 259 passengers and crew members including 190 Americans. Eleven people were killed on the ground. "Thirty-three years after the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, the #FBI and our partners are still seeking justice for the 270 victims," the agency tweeted Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFSB-CBS (Hartford, CT): FBI warning people of popular holiday scams**, Rob Polansky, December 21, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation wants to make sure people don't fall victim to popular holiday scams. It said it plans to remind viewers about the scams that always pop up during the holiday season and provide tips on how not to fall victim to them. The FBI said the two most prevalent scams are non-delivery and non-payment crimes. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Daily Voice (Ridgewood, NJ): NJ Man Busted By FBI For Selling Bogus Tom Brady Super Bowl Rings**, Jerry DeMarco, December 21, 2021, 6:13 PM

A New Jersey man admitted posing as a former New England Patriots player in order to buy and sell specially made Super Bowl rings that he claimed were given to Tom Brady's family as gifts, federal authorities charged. Scott V. Spina Jr., 24, of Roseland ordered three replica Super Bowl LI rings engraved with the name "Brady," then sold them to an auction house for \$100,000, receiving a significant profit, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California said in a release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KENS-CBS (San Antonio, TX): [VIDEO] Neighbors get knock on door from FBI as authorities search for missing girl**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 6:04 PM

A resident at the Villas Del Cabo said they had to show their driver's license to authorities. [\[Watch\]](#)

**WCBD-NBC/CW (Charleston, SC): Charleston County Sheriff's Office Captain selected for FBI National Academy**, Chase Laudenslager, December 21, 2021, 5:42 PM

The Charleston County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) on Tuesday announced that one of its own has been selected to enroll in the FBI National Academy. Captain Fletcher Ferguson (41) is the commander of CCSO's Honor Guard and assistant commander of CCSO's SWAT team. He is a Citadel graduate and former member of the Coast Guard Reserves. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHEC-NBC (Rochester, NY): Marshalls: Parole absconder with gun arrested in Rochester**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:41 PM

The U.S Marshals Task Force says it arrested a parole absconder who was armed with a gun in the City of Rochester Tuesday. It happened at around 2 p.m. near East Main Street in the City of Rochester. Marshals say they were searching for Maxwell Boards, 25, because he had an outstanding parole violation warrant that was issued back in May when he allegedly cut off his electronic monitoring bracelet. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KYW-CBS (Philadelphia, PA): FBI Searching For Serial Bank Robber In Center City**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 5:28 PM

The FBI is searching for a serial bank robber in Center City. Federal authorities believe the suspect has committed seven robberies since Aug. 30. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Across, IL): FBI's 15 Most Wanted Illinois Fugitives In 2021**, David Giuliani, December 21, 2021, 4:26 PM

The FBI's Chicago office has a list of its "most wanted fugitives. While some are believed to have left the country, others may still be on the run here at home. Here's the list of the FBI's top 15 most wanted in Illinois for 2021, which can also be found on its website. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **WOAI-NBC (San Antonio, TX): San Antonio Police, FBI Search For Missing Girl,**

Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 PM

San Antonio police are searching for a missing three-year-old girl. Police Chief William McManus says officers are going door-to-door and questioning everyone after Lina Khil disappeared yesterday. The three-year-old was last seen at an apartment playground on Fredericksburg near Blueviel. An AMBER Alert has been issued and officers are hoping surveillance video will give them more leads. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **KMVT-CBS/CW (Twin Falls, ID): [VIDEO] DEA warns of fake pills sold over social media,**

Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration says some of those pills may be laced with fentanyl. [\[Watch\]](#)

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

### **Forbes: FCI Miami Federal Prison Employee Fired For Using Inmates To Help Perform His Job**, Walter Pavlo, December 21, 2021, 12:38 PM

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) rarely fires employees, preferring to offer them retirement or reassignment. Warden Lamine N'Diaye, who was in charge of notorious MCC New York at the time alleged child trafficker and admitted child pornographer Jeff Epstein hung himself, was criticized by then-Attorney General William Barr. Barr, appalled at the Epstein death, said at the Fraternal Order of Police conference just after the incident, "We are now learning of serious irregularities" at the MCC, where Epstein was found dead ... and "[we] will get to the bottom of what happened and that there will be accountability." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **KFDA-CBS (Amarillo, TX): Bomb suspect awaits mental evaluation in federal prison**, Bailie Myers, December 21, 2021, 1:57 PM

The man arrested after an explosion in the Paramount Terrace neighborhood in July is awaiting a mental evaluation in a federal prison outside of Seattle. The federal detention center is under modified operations due to COVID-19, and a court order states they are "unable to provide specific information as to timelines regarding the completion of the evaluation and report." According to court documents, Erfan Salmanzadeh's defense claims he was insane at the time law enforcement found suicide vests, bombs with shrapnel and explosive chemicals inside his home. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **US SUPREME COURT**

### **AP: After Supreme Court hearing, a new look at baby 'safe haven' laws**, Astrid Galvan, December 22, 2021, 5:30 AM

[...] Safe haven laws drew attention this month when U.S. Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett raised the role they play in the debate around abortion rights. Barrett made the comments during a hearing this month on a Mississippi law that would ban most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy — and possibly upend abortion rights established by the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion throughout the United States, and upheld by the court's 1992 ruling in Planned Parenthood v. Casey. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **WaPo: [OPINION] The most dangerous conservative judges aren't on the Supreme**

**Court**, Perry Bacon Jr., December 21, 2021, 5:24 PM

The Republican-appointed judges serving on state courts and lower-level federal courts don't get nearly as much attention as those on the U.S. Supreme Court. But those judges are some of the most important — and, unfortunately, most dangerous — figures in American politics. Limiting the radicalism of the current Republican Party will be difficult with a judiciary packed with GOP partisans writing Trumpism into law. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Supreme Court Leaves New Mexico's Vaccine Mandate in Force**, Greg Stohr, December 21, 2021, 5:53 PM

A U.S. Supreme Court justice left in force New Mexico's requirement that many of its health-care workers be vaccinated against Covid-19, turning away a request by a nurse who said she is opposed to the shot after doing her own research. Justice Neil Gorsuch made no comment Tuesday in rejecting the bid by Jennifer Blackford, who contended the mandate violated her right to bodily integrity. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Courthouse News](#)

**CNN: University of North Carolina and civil rights advocates ask Supreme Court to sidestep affirmative action challenge**, Joan Biskupic, December 21, 2021, 11:00 AM

The University of North Carolina and civil rights advocates urged the US Supreme Court on Monday to steer clear of a case designed to end racial affirmative action at state colleges and universities. Lawyers for North Carolina, led by state Solicitor General Ryan Park, contend the challengers are trying to "short-circuit" the usual judicial process by asking the nine justices to hear the UNC dispute, along with a similar case against Harvard, even though a regional US appellate court has yet to rule on the state school dispute. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Casper Star-Tribune (Casper, WY): Wyoming appeals mandate ruling to U.S. Supreme Court**, Victoria Eavis, December 21, 2021, 2:00 PM

Wyoming took another step in fighting back against federal vaccine mandates Saturday, this time in the court battle over worker requirements at larger businesses. Wyoming joined 26 other states in asking the Supreme Court to halt implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's mandate that requires workers at businesses with 100 or more employees to either get vaccinated against COVID-19 or submit to weekly testing and mandatory masking. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Tetra Tech Fights Tribal Immunity In Fire Cleanup Wage Row**, Morgan Conley, December 21, 2021, 6:30 PM

A consulting and engineering services firm urged the Ninth Circuit to revive its efforts to hold a tribal entity responsible for alleged wage and hour violations during the cleanup of wildfire damage on reservation land, arguing a district court ruling rendered a provision of its contract with the tribe "meaningless." [[Continue Reading](#)]

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**Law360: Maine Asks 1st Circ. To Uphold Medical Pot Residency Rule**, Sam Reisman, December 21, 2021, 9:39 PM

Maine's cannabis regulator and an in-state medical marijuana trade group filed concurring briefs

this week urging the First Circuit to find that the dormant commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution does not apply to the federally illegal cannabis industry. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10th Circ. Urged To Block IRS' Pot Dispensary Summons**, Theresa Schliep, December 21, 2021, 3:34 PM

A marijuana dispensary told the Tenth Circuit the IRS should be blocked from enforcing summonses that seek the dispensary's sales reports and other data, saying the information requests would enforce an unconstitutional law denying tax benefits to pot businesses. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Marijuana Moment: Top Federal Health Official Says States Can Use Legal Marijuana Revenue To Help Deter Youth Use**, Kyle Jaeger, December 21, 2021, 1:00 PM

A federal official with a top health agency recently gave some tips to states that are moving to legalize marijuana, specifically as it concerns deterring youth use. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Tom Coderre spoke about cannabis policy during a webinar hosted last week by the prohibitionist group Smart Approaches To Marijuana (SAM). [[Continue Reading](#)]

## OPIOD CRISIS

**Reuters: Purdue Pharma seeks to continue temporary protections for Sacklers**, María Chutchian, December 21, 2021, 4:31 PM

Purdue Pharma has asked a bankruptcy judge to extend a temporary order protecting the Sackler family members who own the OxyContin maker against opioid-related litigation, saying it needs time to lay out a path forward after another judge overturned its bankruptcy settlement last week. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOJ Opioid Trial Team Tainted By Kirkland Ties, Ex-CEO Says**, Jeff Overley, December 21, 2021, 10:43 PM

A U. S. Department of Justice lawyer who acquired "inside knowledge" about a drug distributor while at Kirkland & Ellis has seemingly been enlisted to exploit that knowledge in the opioid prosecution of the distributor's ex-CEO, and the DOJ's entire trial team should be disqualified, according to filings in New York federal court. In Monday's filings, counsel for onetime Rochester Drug Co-Operative Inc. CEO Laurence F. Doud III argued that the DOJ lawyer, Thomas Somerset Burnett, has a conflict of interest because of confidential information he obtained while working on pharmaceutical antitrust cases at Kirkland. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: DECEMBER 21, 2021

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Major Elliott Garrett**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Just days away from Christmas, the CDC is predicting record-high new infections and is urging everyone to get tested, vaccinated and boosted. In New York, 1 in 10 COVID tests are coming back positive. Today President Biden tried to reassure vaccinated Americans

about holiday gatherings and warned those who remain unvaccinated they risk illness and possibly death from the highly contagious Delta and Omicron variants of the coronavirus. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- The jury in the trial of former police officer Kim Potter indicated a potential deadlock on Tuesday evening after nearly 13 hours of deliberation, asking the judge what they should do if they cannot agree on a verdict. Potter is charged with manslaughter in Daunte Wright's death. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- In Colorado, there are calls for sentence leniency after a young truck driver was sentenced to more than 100 years in prison for the role in a deadly accident. [[CBS](#)]
- Black women are more likely than White women to have tumors missed during screening and to have delays in cancer diagnosis and treatment. Continuing our special series on the 50th anniversary of the war on cancer. [[CBS](#)]
- Police chased the suspect into a shopping mall in Fort Worth, Texas, and placed the crowded mall on lockdown. Three suspects were arrested and a weapon was recovered. [[ABC](#)]
- Two people are facing charges after a fight broke out at Miami International Airport Monday night. Tonight, the F.A.A. and T.S.A. are warning unruly air passengers could lose their pre-check eligibility. [[CBS](#)]
- Russian President Vladimir Putin is demanding that NATO withdraw its troops from Eastern Europe, with more than 100,000 troops waiting along the Russia-Ukraine border. Secretary of State Antony Blinken says the US "will respond strongly" if Russia continues its "reckless or aggressive actions." [[NBC](#)]
- As the omicron variant spreads across the US, experts say those who are vaccinated and boosted should feel safe to fly. Also, COVID-19 protocols are making for long wait times at airports. [[ABC](#)]
- Airbus and Boeing are calling for the government and cell phone industry to postpone the 5G cell phone rollout, warning it could "adversely affect the ability of aircraft to safely operate." The cell phone industry tells NBC News the networks "operate safely, without interference, in nearly 40 countries around the world." [[NBC](#)]
- Americans are hitting the stores, frantically searching for those last-minute gifts as many online retailers can no longer deliver on time. [[CBS](#)]

- A new pop-up concept is being used at the Port of Savannah, Georgia that may be a solution to unclogging shipping ports nationwide. [[CBS](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Covid-19 live updates U.S. life expectancy, population growth drop as pandemic heads into third year” [[WaPo](#), [NYT](#), [WSJ](#)]
- “Arrests, Beatings and Secret Prayers: Inside the Persecution of India’s Christians” [[NYT](#)]
- “Biden’s climate bill might be dead. But he just approved two huge solar farms” [[LAT](#)]
- “Biden Still Hopes to Strike ‘Build Back Better’ Deal With Manchin” [[WSJ](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Immigrat on Law360  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Top 3 Immigration Policy Changes Of 2021: Year In Review  
**To:** O'Herron, Margy (ODAG)  
**Sent:** December 22, 2021 4:25 AM (UTC-05:00)

 **IMMIGRATION**

Which firms made the Law360 Pulse Prestige Leaders list?

[Click here to find out.](#)

Wednesday, December 22, 2021

## TOP NEWS

### Analysis

#### [Top 3 Immigration Policy Changes Of 2021: Year In Review](#)

President Joe Biden's first year of immigration policymaking consisted largely of efforts to roll back the Trump administration's restrictive policies on asylum and other legal forms of immigration, as well as protections for unauthorized immigrants. Here, Law360 breaks down the top immigration policy changes of 2021.

[Read full article »](#)



#### [Immigration Court Data Shows Backlog Tops 1.5M Cases](#)

The backlog of cases pending in the U.S. Department of Justice's immigration court system continues to break records, topping 1.5 million cases for the first time ever last month, a Syracuse University research organization reported Monday.

[Read full article »](#)

#### [NLRB Won't Halt Election At Immigration Law Firm](#)

The National Labor Relations Board denied an immigration law firm's and consulting agency's request to stop a mail-ballot election in which legal writers and administrative staff employed by the firm will vote on union representation.

 [2 documents attached | Read full article »](#)

## ENFORCEMENT

## POLICY & REGULATION

## DISPUTES & LITIGATION



## [DC Circ. Revives Muslim Family's Case Over Airport Search](#)

The D.C. Circuit ruled Tuesday that a Muslim family can have another go at their lawsuit alleging they are on a terrorist watchlist due to intrusive and unconstitutional airport searches by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, undoing a lower court ruling that the Jibril family failed to establish an imminent threat of future injury.

[Opinion attached](#) | [Read full article »](#)

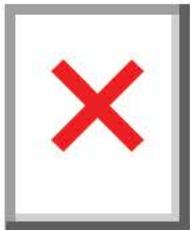
## [Class Action Ties Alleged Whipping To Haitian Discrimination](#)

A Haitian man who says he was whipped by a U.S. Border Patrol officer while attempting to bring food to his family in a Texas migrant encampment has sued the Biden administration, alleging that his mistreatment was part of a policy targeting Haitians.

[Complaint attached](#) | [Read full article »](#)

## ADMINISTRATIVE DISPUTES

### PEOPLE



### LEGAL INDUSTRY

#### [Mintz, Cooley Extend Remote Work As Omicron Spreads](#)

Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC and Cooley LLP have changed their return-to-office plans and are allowing employees to continue remote work as COVID-19 cases rise with the emergence of the omicron variant, Law360 Pulse confirmed Tuesday.



### LAW FIRMS

BRL Law Group  
Cahill Gordon  
Clifford Chance  
Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America  
Cooley LLP  
Cooley Shrair  
Cravath Swaine  
Davis Polk  
Duval & Stachenfeld  
Foley & Lardner  
Germaine Law Firm  
Glenn Agre  
Grant & Eisenhofer  
Greenberg Traurig  
Halloran & Sage  
Healey Block  
Husch Blackwell  
Jackson Lewis P.C.  
Kasowitz Benson  
Katten Muchin  
Kellogg Hansen  
Kirkland & Ellis  
Lewis Brisbois  
McKool Smith  
Milbank LLP  
Mintz Levin  
Norton Rose  
Nutter McClellan  
O'Melveny & Myers  
Proskauer Rose  
Quinn Emanuel  
Rackemann Sawyer  
Ropes & Gray  
Schulte Roth  
Selendy & Gay  
Sidley Austin  
Simpson Thacher

[Read full article »](#)

## **Kellogg Hansen, Quinn Emanuel Boost Bonuses For Top Attys**

A slew of firms is matching year-end and one-time special bonus scales set by BigLaw, and some firms, like Kellogg Hansen Todd Figel & Frederick PLLC and Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP, are awarding top associates even higher bonuses, Law360 Pulse learned Tuesday.

[Read full article »](#)

## **Cleta Mitchell Latest To Move To Block Jan. 6 Panel Subpoena**

Conservative attorney Cleta Mitchell has moved to block the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection from receiving some of her phone records, claiming their release would amount to an improper intrusion on her work as an elections lawyer and violate her constitutional rights.

[Read full article »](#)

## **Verrill Dana, Boston's Rackemann Plan New Year's Day Tie-Up**

New England law firm Verrill Dana LLP plans to combine with Boston's Rackemann Sawyer & Brewster as the clock strikes midnight on New Year's Eve, the firms said Tuesday.

[Read full article »](#)

## **Jackson Lewis Wants Conn. Doc's Defamation Bid Axed**

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**From:** Immigrat on Law360  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Top 3 Immigration Policy Changes Of 2021: Year In Review  
**To:** Goodander, Margaret V. (OAG)  
**Sent:** December 22, 2021 4:25 AM (UTC-05:00)

 **IMMIGRATION**

Which firms made the Law360 Pulse Prestige Leaders list?

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Wednesday, December 22, 2021

## TOP NEWS

### Analysis

#### [Top 3 Immigration Policy Changes Of 2021: Year In Review](#)

President Joe Biden's first year of immigration policymaking consisted largely of efforts to roll back the Trump administration's restrictive policies on asylum and other legal forms of immigration, as well as protections for unauthorized immigrants. Here, Law360 breaks down the top immigration policy changes of 2021.

[Read full article »](#)



#### [Immigration Court Data Shows Backlog Tops 1.5M Cases](#)

The backlog of cases pending in the U.S. Department of Justice's immigration court system continues to break records, topping 1.5 million cases for the first time ever last month, a Syracuse University research organization reported Monday.

[Read full article »](#)



#### [NLRB Won't Halt Election At Immigration Law Firm](#)

The National Labor Relations Board denied an immigration law firm's and consulting agency's request to stop a mail-ballot election in which legal writers and administrative staff employed by the firm will vote on union representation.

 [2 documents attached | Read full article »](#)

## ENFORCEMENT

## POLICY & REGULATION

## DISPUTES & LITIGATION



## [DC Circ. Revives Muslim Family's Case Over Airport Search](#)

The D.C. Circuit ruled Tuesday that a Muslim family can have another go at their lawsuit alleging they are on a terrorist watchlist due to intrusive and unconstitutional airport searches by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, undoing a lower court ruling that the Jibril family failed to establish an imminent threat of future injury.

[Opinion attached](#) | [Read full article »](#)

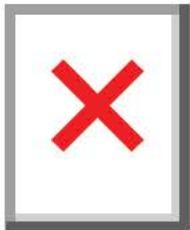
## [Class Action Ties Alleged Whipping To Haitian Discrimination](#)

A Haitian man who says he was whipped by a U.S. Border Patrol officer while attempting to bring food to his family in a Texas migrant encampment has sued the Biden administration, alleging that his mistreatment was part of a policy targeting Haitians.

[Complaint attached](#) | [Read full article »](#)

## ADMINISTRATIVE DISPUTES

### PEOPLE



### LEGAL INDUSTRY

#### [Mintz, Cooley Extend Remote Work As Omicron Spreads](#)

Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC and Cooley LLP have changed their return-to-office plans and are allowing employees to continue remote work as COVID-19 cases rise with the emergence of the omicron variant, Law360 Pulse confirmed Tuesday.



### LAW FIRMS

BRL Law Group  
Cahill Gordon  
Clifford Chance  
Constitutional Law Center for Muslims in America  
Cooley LLP  
Cooley Shrair  
Cravath Swaine  
Davis Polk  
Duval & Stachenfeld  
Foley & Lardner  
Germaine Law Firm  
Glenn Agre  
Grant & Eisenhofer  
Greenberg Traurig  
Halloran & Sage  
Healey Block  
Husch Blackwell  
Jackson Lewis P.C.  
Kasowitz Benson  
Katten Muchin  
Kellogg Hansen  
Kirkland & Ellis  
Lewis Brisbois  
McKool Smith  
Milbank LLP  
Mintz Levin  
Norton Rose  
Nutter McClellan  
O'Melveny & Myers  
Proskauer Rose  
Quinn Emanuel  
Rackemann Sawyer  
Ropes & Gray  
Schulte Roth  
Selendy & Gay  
Sidley Austin  
Simpson Thacher

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## [Kellogg Hansen, Quinn Emanuel Boost Bonuses For Top Attys](#)

A slew of firms is matching year-end and one-time special bonus scales set by BigLaw, and some firms, like Kellogg Hansen Todd Figel & Frederick PLLC and Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP, are awarding top associates even higher bonuses, Law360 Pulse learned Tuesday.

[Read full article »](#)

## [Cleta Mitchell Latest To Move To Block Jan. 6 Panel Subpoena](#)

Conservative attorney Cleta Mitchell has moved to block the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection from receiving some of her phone records, claiming their release would amount to an improper intrusion on her work as an elections lawyer and violate her constitutional rights.

[Read full article »](#)

## [Verrill Dana, Boston's Rackemann Plan New Year's Day Tie-Up](#)

New England law firm Verrill Dana LLP plans to combine with Boston's Rackemann Sawyer & Brewster as the clock strikes midnight on New Year's Eve, the firms said Tuesday.

[Read full article »](#)

## [Jackson Lewis Wants Conn. Doc's Defamation Bid Axed](#)

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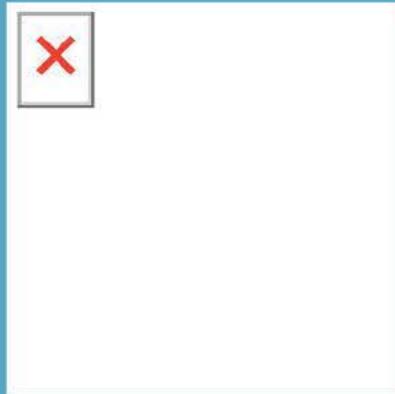
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**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Early Edition for December 21, 2021  
**To:** Goodlander, Margaret V. (OAG)  
**Sent:** December 21, 2021 8:09 AM (UTC-05:00)



## The Early Edition

December 21, 2021

Be sure to visit [www.justsecurity.org](http://www.justsecurity.org) throughout the day for the latest analysis from the Just Security team. And now with the news:

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### RUSSIA AND UKRAINE

**German Defense Minister Christine Lambrecht has said that NATO is to discuss Russia's recent security proposals amid rising tensions with Ukraine, but that it will not let Moscow dictate the alliance's military posture.** Russia has demanded guarantees that NATO will not expand to Ukraine or deploy weapons and troops there. "We need to solve the current tensions on the diplomatic level but just as well by putting up a credible deterrence," Lambrecht told reporters during a visit to German troops based in Lithuania. [Reuters](#) reports.

**White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan has encouraged Russia to de-escalate its buildup of troops near the border with Ukraine, during a phone call yesterday with Russian President Vladimir Putin's foreign policy adviser Yuri Ushakov.** Sullivan "underlined U.S. readiness to engage in diplomacy through multiple channels" according to a White House statement. "[Sullivan] made clear that any dialogue must be based on reciprocity and address our concerns about Russia's actions, and take place in full coordination with our European allies and partners," the White House said. "He also noted that substantive progress can only occur in an environment of de-

esca at on rather than esca at on,” the statement added. Morgan Chant reports for [The H](#).

**Talks have begun between the U.S. and Russia on the security guarantees demanded by Moscow and it is possible that an understanding will be reached, the Russian state-owned RIA news agency has quoted Russian senior security negotiator Konstantin Gavrilov as saying.** Russia has yet to decide what steps it will take if NATO refuses to consider its position, but Brussels understands that Moscow is not bluffing, Gavrilov said. [Reuters](#) reports.

**Russia has expelled two German diplomats in response to a German judge finding last week that the Kremlin engaged in “state terrorism” in ordering the murder of a Chechen rebel in Berlin in 2019.** The Russian foreign ministry said in a statement that it had expelled the diplomats after Germany ordered the expulsion of two Russian diplomats last week over the incident and “as a symmetrical response to the aforementioned unfriendly decision by the German government.” Max Seddon and Guy Chazan report for the [Financial Times](#).

## MIDDLE EAST

**Saudi-led coalition forces have carried out an airstrike on an airport in the Yemeni capital of Sana'a.** Rebel forces in Yemen have controlled Sana'a for more than six years. The coalition claimed that the airstrikes failed were being used to launch cross-border attacks, and that it urged U.N. aid workers who have been using the airport for humanitarian operations to evacuate the area before the strike was carried out. [BBC News](#) reports.

**Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard staged a major military exercise across Iran's south yesterday, amid heightened tensions over Tehran's nuclear program and the recent pausing of negotiations in Vienna to revive the 2015 nuclear deal.** The Guards aerospace division, ground troops and naval forces joined in the five-day drill, with maritime forces set to maneuver in the strategic Strait of Hormuz, Iranian state TV reported. Amir Vahdat reports for [AP](#).

**White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan is to travel to Israel and the West Bank this week, as part of U.S. efforts to consult closely with Israel about nuclear talks with Iran while strengthening relations with the Palestinian Authority.** “A senior administration official Monday night that the visit to Israel was ongoing planned and meant to cap off the Biden administration’s first year in office and engagement with the Middle East,” Laura Kelly reports for [The H](#).

## CHINA, HONG KONG, TAIWAN AND TIBET

**China's new electoral rules have “eliminated any meaningful political opposition,” the foreign ministers of the Five Eyes alliance (U.K., U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand) have said, following the results of the poorly-attended Hong Kong legislature vote.** Prior to the vote, which saw more than 90% of the seats go to pro-Beijing candidates, China had made sweeping changes to Hong Kong's electoral system, including a rule that allowed Beijing to vet candidates. “Since the handover, candidates with diverse political views have contested elections in Hong Kong. This election has reversed the trend,” the Five Eyes said. The Group of Seven (G7) nations and the European Union also expressed concern over the election. [BBC News](#) reports.

**China has rejected criticism from the West over the Legislative Council elections in Hong Kong, accusing Western countries of interfering with China's affairs.** The People's Republic of China said that it firmly opposed and strongly condemned the joint statement from the Five Eyes members, which argued “recklessly disregarded the facts

and reversed the truth." Daniel Hurst reports for the [Guardian](#).

**U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken has named Under Secretary of State Uzra Zeya as the U.S. special coordinator for Tibet, drawing warnings from China for the U.S. to stay out of China's internal affairs.** Blinken said that Zeya would lead U.S. efforts to preserve Tibet's religion, culture, and linguistic heritage in the face of human rights abuses by Beijing. "Beijing has consistently refused to deal with a U.S. coordinator on Tibet and denounced the move as protectionism," David Brunnstrom and Kanishka Singh report for [Reuters](#).

**China is expanding its grip on data about the world's cargo flows, sparking concerns in Washington and among industry officials that Beijing could exploit logistics information for commercial or strategic advantage.** China has control over the flow of goods and information, including cargo that never touches its shores, gives Beijing privileged insight into world commerce and potentially the means to influence it, say cargo-industry officials. Shipping data has become a valuable commodity in light of shortages plaguing many industries and global backlogs in ports. Daniel McNamee reports for the [Wall Street Journal](#).

**Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has called Taiwan a "wanderer" that will eventually come home to China and not a chess piece to be played with.** A Taiwanese government council responded to the statement saying that Taiwan "absolutely will not accept a path laid out by an autocratic political system." [Reuters](#) reports.

**China has barred entry to four people from the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom following U.S. sanctions this month against Chinese people and organizations over human rights abuses in Xinjiang.** The assets of the four banned individuals in China will also be frozen and Chinese institutions and citizens will be forbidden from dealing with them, Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said. [Reuters](#) reports.

#### OTHER GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS

**Tigrayan rebel troops are withdrawing from Tigray's neighboring regions of Afar and Amhara, where fighting has displaced more than 300,000 people since July.** In a two-page letter sent to U.N. Secretary General António Guterres, the leader of the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF), Debretsion Gebremichael, said he hoped that bringing his troops back into the Tigray region would be a "decisive opening for peace." "We decided to withdraw from these areas to Tigray. We want to open the door to humanitarian aid," a spokesperson for the TPLF said. A spokesperson for Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said the TPLF's announcement was a cover-up for military setbacks in the past weeks, adding that "there are still pockets in the Amhara region in which [the TPLF] remains as well as other fronts they are attempting to open the conflict." [A Jazeera](#) reports.

**The French armed forces ministry has said that its forces have killed a leading member of the Islamic State in Niger, Soumana Boura.** The French army said Boura was killed by an air strike by its "Operation Barkhane" unit that took place on Dec. 20. [Reuters](#) reports.

**The Turkish Lira plunged nearly 9% yesterday to more than 17.86 against the dollar, a record low, after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan vowed to cut interest rates further in defiance of business leaders.** Jared Masson and Catrin Ostroff report for the [Wall Street Journal](#).

**An Egyptian court has sentenced three prominent activists, charged with joining a terrorist group and spreading false news, to up to five years in prison.** The case has drawn scrutiny of Egypt's human-rights record and, in sentencing the defendants, the court defied international pressure to release them. Amra El-Fekk reports for the [Wall Street Journal](#).

Street Journal.

The U.K. Supreme Court has prevented Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro from accessing \$1.95bn of gold stored in the Bank of England (BoE), meaning that only the opposition leader Juan Guaidó, who the U.K. technically considers as the legitimate Venezuelan leader, can decide what happens to the gold. Guaidó wants the gold to stay in the BoE's vault, where Maduro had sued BoE to have the funds released, arguing that the cash will be used to fight Covid-19 in Venezuela. [BBC News](#) reports.

Japan has executed three death row inmates, marking the first executions Japan has carried out since 2019 and the first under Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida. Junko Ogura, Mayumi Maruyama and Sophie Jeong report for [CNN](#).

#### OTHER U.S. RELATIONS

A group of 12 U.S. and Canadian missionaries who had been kidnapped in Haiti, made a daring overnight escape last week and walked for miles with children in tow over rough terrain, a U.S.-based missionary group has said. The latest account of events differs from the version given last week by Haitian police officials who said that the missionaries had been released and had been found by local residents. José de Córdoba reports for the [Wall Street Journal](#).

Boeing and Airbus, the world's two biggest plane makers, have called on the U.S. government to delay the rollout of new 5G phone services over safety concerns. Concerns previously have been raised that C-Band spectrum 5G wireless could interfere with sensors in aircraft equipment like radars at 10 meters. In a letter, top executives from both companies warned that the technology could have "an enormous negative impact on the aviation industry." [BBC News](#) reports.

#### JAN. 6 ATTACK

Former President Trump is becoming increasingly agitated at the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, is angry at his former chief of staff Mark Meadows for initially cooperating with the committee, and is anxious about criminal exposure as his former aides invoke the Fifth Amendment to avoid giving testimony, according to sources. Hugo Lowe reports for the [Guardian](#).

The Jan. 6 select committee is contemplating recommending that the Department of Justice (DoJ) pursue criminal cases against Trump and others, as it gathers evidence about Trump's culpability around the Jan. 6 attack. Any criminal referral the committee makes will not carry legal weight but it may increase public pressure and prompt the DoJ to take action. According to sources, the committee is looking in particular at whether there was widespread fraud by Republicans who raised millions of dollars based on assertions that the election was stolen, despite knowing the claims were not true, and whether Trump and his allies obstructed Congress by trying to stop the certification of electoral votes. Michael S. Schmidt and Luke Broadwater report for the [New York Times](#).

The Jan. 6 select committee has asked to meet with Rep. Scott Perry (R-PA) after witnesses testified to the committee that the lawmaker played an important role in the failed attempt by Trump and his allies to install Jeffrey Clark as an attorney general who would pursue false election fraud claims. Perry was among a group of

Repub cans who objected to cert fy ng the 2020 pres dent a -e ect on resu ts, and he ed the object on to count ng the votes from Pennsy van a and voted to object the resu ts from Ar zona. S obhan Hughes reports for the [Wa Street Journal](#).

**A federal judge in Washington, DC, has refused to dismiss conspiracy charges against Oath Keepers and associates of the group in relation to the Jan. 6 attack.** Judge Am t Mehta s ru ng, wh ch came after more than s x months of de berat on, has paved the way for the 17 defendants to stand tra n the argest and most serous cases aga nst the a eged attackers. Jess ca Garr son and Ken Bens nger report for [BuzzFeed News](#).

**House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) has indicated that there will be a “full program of events” to mark the first anniversary of the Jan. 6 attack.** In a letter to the Democrat c caucus, Pe os noted the House wou d not be n sess on the frst week of January but sa d some members had expressed nterest n be ng nvo ved n commemorat on act v tes. Amy B Wang reports for the [Washington Post](#).

**Far-right radio host Alex Jones is suing Pelosi and the Jan. 6 select committee to try and stop the committee from requiring his testimony and obtaining his phone records as part of its investigation.** The [awsut](#) also reveas that Jones has nformed the comm ttee of h s ntent to p ead the F fth Amendment, the pr v ege aga nst se f-ncr m nat on, f compe ed to appear before the pane for a depos ton – current y set for Jan. 10, 2022. Jones a so sa d he has nformed the comm ttee that he w rase F rst Amendment objections f asked about “const tut ona y protected po tca and journa st c act v ty.” Mychae Schne reports for [The H](#) .

**A Washington state man has been sentenced to 46 months in prison for assaulting a police officer with a dangerous weapon in a tunnel at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6.** Dev yn Thompson p eaded gu ty ear er th s year. Homes Lybrand reports for [CNN](#).

#### **OTHER U.S. DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS**

**Former President Trump has filed a lawsuit against New York State Attorney General Letitia James that seeks to halt her long-running civil inquiry into his business practices and prevent her from participating in a separate criminal investigation.** The su t argues that James s nvo ement n both nqu res s po tca y mot vated and c tes a st of James s pub c attacks on Trump n the past. Jonah E. Bromw ch, Ben Protess and W am K. Rashbaum report for the [New York T mes](#).

**The Pentagon has issued a new report on “Countering Extremist Activity Within the Department of Defense.”** The updated [ru es](#) are a resu t of the Counter ng Extrem sm Work ng Group rev ew that was ntated after the Pentagon earned that members of the m tary took part n the Jan. 6 Cap to attack. The new gu dance does not nc ude any new proh b t ons, however t does put forward a c earer and sharper def nt on of extrem st behav or w th a two-part test. The frst quest on s whether the conduct tse f rses to the eve of extrem st act v ty, wh e the second assesses whether there was act ve part c pat on, sen or defense off c a s have sa d. Oren L ebermann and Barbara Starr report for [CNN](#).

**Like the previous rules, the new guidance does not prohibit membership in an extremist organization, but officials have said it makes it very difficult to participate.** L kew se, the Pentagon s approach does not target part cu ar deo og es or po tca ean ngs, desp te the preva ence of r ght-w ng groups that part c pated n the Jan. 6 attack. Instead, defense off c a s have sa d that the Pentagon s approach focuses on address ng “act ons” and w rey n arge part on nd v dua serv ce members or outs de aw enforcement agenc es to report concern ng behav or. Karoun Dem rjan and A ex Horton report for the [Washington Post](#).

**A group of Haitian migrants have filed a federal class action lawsuit against the U.S. government following their experience at the border in Del Rio, Texas, including interactions with Border Patrol agents on horseback.** “The lawsuit specifically accuses the Biden administration of failing to prepare for the influx of migrants despite being aware of the migrant movement earlier. It also says that the government was responsible for physical and verbal abuse of the migrants as well as failure to provide due process because of Covid-19 policies, including Title 42, which allows for the expulsion of people for public health reasons,” Monique Beasley reports for [The Hill](#).

**More than 29,000 Afghan evacuees still remain on U.S. military bases, in part, due to a shortage of affordable housing and the Covid-19 pandemic.** Around 2,900 Afghans are still overseas at a handful of U.S. military posts, waiting for a flight to the United States. Naha Toos reports for [POLITICO](#).

**White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki has told reporters that “the door remains open” for Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) on the re-negotiating parts of the framework for Biden’s Build Back Better agenda.** Manchin over the weekend announced that he would not vote for Biden’s agenda, leading to heavy criticism from the Democratic party and the White House. Alex Gangarino reports for [The Hill](#).

## CYBERSECURITY

**The Apache log4j vulnerability in a hugely popular piece of computer code, which came to light on Dec. 9, has been described as the “most serious” vulnerability and security breach in decades.** Key points to know about the breach and its impact on the cybersecurity community are provided by Tatum Hunter and Gerrit De Vynck reporting for the [Washington Post](#).

**Belgium’s Ministry of Defense was recently hacked by attackers exploiting the log4j vulnerability.** A spokesperson for the ministry told Belgian newspaper [De Standaard](#) that the ministry had “discovered an attack on its computer network with internet access” last week and that the organization had taken steps to quarantine the impacted network areas. Maggie Mer reports for [The Hill](#).

**The Justice Department has indicted and extradited to the U.S. from Switzerland a Russian national for allegedly hacking the networks of U.S. groups involved in stock market trading to profit from insider information.** Vadim Kuyushin was arrested by Swiss authorities in March, and is set to appear in federal court in Boston. “Kuyushin is alleged, among several Russians co-conspirators, to have hacked into the networks of two unnamed U.S.-based financial agents between January 2018 and September 2020,” Maggie Mer reports for [The Hill](#).

## CORONAVIRUS

**The Omicron Covid-19 variant has now caused about 73% of recent Covid-19 cases in the U.S., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has said.** In many parts of the U.S., Omicron now makes up more than 90% of cases, the CDC added. Sarah Toy reports for the [Wall Street Journal](#).

**A group of 47 Republican lawmakers are backing 35 Navy service members who are suing the Pentagon and Navy over the military’s Covid-19 vaccine mandate.** The lawmakers have filed an [amicus brief](#) in a Texas federal court supporting the lawsuit, which argues that the mandate violates religious freedoms. Jordan Williams reports for [The Hill](#).

The coronavirus has infected over 51.10 million people and has now killed over 807,900 people in the United States, according to [data](#) compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Globally, there have been over 275.51 million confirmed coronavirus cases and close to 5.36 million deaths. Sergio Hernandez, Sean O'Key, Amanda Watts, Byron Maney and Henrik Pettersson report for [CNN](#).

A map and analysis of the vaccine roll out across the U.S. is available at the [New York Times](#).

A map and analysis of all confirmed cases of the virus in the U.S. is available at the [New York Times](#).

U.S. and worldwide maps tracking the spread of the pandemic are available at the [Washington Post](#).

A state-by-state guide to lockdown measures and reopenings is provided by the [New York Times](#).

Latest updates on the pandemic at the [Guardian](#).



## ICYMI: YESTERDAY ON JUST SECURITY

[How Stalling Tactics Could Still Constrain the January 6 Committee](#)

by Ambassador P. Michael McKinley (ret.)

[The Use of Biometric Technologies for Counter-terrorism Purposes in a Human Rights Vacuum](#)

by Tomaso Falchetta

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(b) (6) [REDACTED], "Visser, Tim (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Matthews-  
Johnson, Tamarra D. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Reich, Mitchell (OAG)"  
(b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Abbreviated AM Clips

## US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS

**Washington Times: Chicago mayor asks feds: Send help to stem gun crime**, Emily Zantow, December 20, 2021, 6:00 PM

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot on Monday said she has asked Attorney General Merrick Garland to send federal agents to the city to help address gun crimes. Ms. Lightfoot, a Democrat, said she requested agents from the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Bureau to be deployed to the city for six months to help with gun seizures and investigations.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFLD-Fox \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WGN \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WLS-ABC \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WMAQ-NBC \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

**Lawfare: [ANALYSIS] Merrick Garland Needs to Speak Up**, Andrew Kent, Quinta Jurecic, and Benjamin Wittes, December 21, 2021, 5:00 AM

Attorney General Merrick Garland is taking a great deal of criticism these days. He's being attacked for not having indicted former President Trump, for not having brought cases faster against witnesses who have defied the Jan. 6 committee, and for not having moved more aggressively against political figures for their supposed involvement in the Jan. 6 insurrection.  
[[Continue Reading](#)]

## DOJ GRANTS

**KUAR-NPR (Little Rock, AR): Department of Justice awards Little Rock \$1 million for violence reduction, community schools**, Daniel Breen, December 20, 2021, 2:46 PM

Little Rock city officials say a new grant from the U.S. Department of Justice will help cut down on crime through investing in education. Mayor Frank Scott Jr. announced Monday the \$1 million grant will go to the Little Rock School District's Community Schools Initiative. In a news conference, he also said the funding will help complement other community programs aimed at curbing violent crime. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KFGO-AM \(Fargo, ND\)](#)

**Grand Forks Herald (Grand Forks, NC): UND School of Law receives federal grants for Tribal Judicial Institute**, Adam Kurtz, December 20, 2021, 12:42 PM

The UND School of Law has received \$850,000 from two federal grants for its Tribal Judicial Institute. Information about the grants came from a Monday, Dec. 20, release from the office of Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-N.D. The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance gave the law school a \$600,000 grant to provide training and technical assistance in developing a response to an increase of crime at the tribal level. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHSV-ABC (Harrisonburg, VA): Page County Sheriff introduces program to combat opioid addiction**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 12:30 PM

Page County Sheriff Chad Cubbage took to Facebook to announce a new program that aims to reduce overdose deaths and the impact of opioids and other substances on individuals and communities. The sheriff's office was awarded a three-year grant, totaling \$600,000, which will be used for the program developed as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**AP: Kentucky man accused of providing material support to Islamic State**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 8:30 PM

A Kentucky man who traveled to Syria to join the Islamic State group was charged in an indictment unsealed Monday with providing support to the group, federal prosecutors said. Mirsad Hariz Adem Ramic, 31, of Bowling Green, was also charged with conspiring with others and receiving military type training from the group, prosecutors said. Ramic, who was incarcerated in Turkey, was deported and arrived in the U.S. last week. He made his initial appearance in court Monday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bowling Green Daily News \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#), [KFVS-CBS \(Cape Girardeau, MO\)](#), [Louisville Courier Journal](#), [NBC, Lexington Herald Leader \(Lexington, KY\)](#), [Washington Times](#), [WBKO-ABC/Fox/CW \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#), [WDRB-Fox \(Louisville, KY\)](#), [WEHT-CW \(Evansville, IN\)](#), [WLKY-CBS \(Louisville, KY\)](#)

**AP: Man who joined Capitol melee gets nearly 4 years in prison**, Michael Kunzelman, December 20, 2021, 8:00 PM

A man who joined a mob in one of the most violent attacks on police during the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol has been sentenced to nearly four years in prison. Devlyn Thompson expressed remorse for his actions before U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth sentenced him on Monday to three years and 10 months in prison. The 28-year-old from Washington state pleaded guilty in August to assaulting a police officer with a metal baton. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [CNN](#), [Courthouse News](#), [KCPQ-Fox \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [KIRO-CBS \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#)

**AP: Pentagon issues rules aimed at stopping rise of extremism**, Lolita Baldor, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

Warning that extremism in the ranks is increasing, Pentagon officials issued detailed new rules Monday prohibiting service members from actively engaging in extremist activities. The new guidelines come nearly a year after some current and former service members participated in the riot at the U.S. Capitol, triggering a broad department review. According to the Pentagon, fewer than 100 military members are known to have been involved in substantiated cases of extremist activity in the past year. But they warn that the number may grow given recent spikes in domestic violent extremism, particularly among veterans.

[Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#)

**WaPo: Lead Capitol riot charge is constitutional, judges find Rachel Weiner**, December 20, 2021, 10:50 PM

Three federal judges have agreed that the most serious charge faced by those accused of participation in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol is constitutional, a victory for the Justice Department and a blow to the defendants fighting those accusations. The ruling came Monday evening from U.S. District Judge Amit B. Mehta, who is overseeing the prosecutions of more than a dozen people associated with the Oath Keepers, a self-styled militia group. Mehta joins judges Dabney L. Friedrich and Timothy J. Kelly, both of whom have moved to uphold the obstruction charges in other cases. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WSJ: U.S. Prosecutors Went After Professors Working With China. Cases Are Faltering.** Aruna Viswanatha and Sha Hua, December 20, 2021, 11:00 AM

In January 2020, Gang Chen and about two dozen other professors and students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology traveled to Shenzhen, China, to talk about overlapping university research, visit local companies and interview students interested in studying at MIT. When Mr. Chen landed back at Boston's Logan airport, Customs and Border Protection agents pulled him aside, seized his laptop and two cellphones and began asking him what he had been doing in China and why. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: Judge rejects Oath Keepers' efforts to dismiss charge in January 6 prosecutions**, Katelyn Polantz, December 20, 2021, 9:36 PM

A federal judge has ruled against a notable attempt to throw out the felony charge that's the backbone of January 6 criminal prosecutions, bolstering the government's case against 17 Oath Keeper defendants accused of conspiring to overtake the US Capitol. "The court is persuaded by none of their contentions," Judge Amit Mehta wrote in his Monday opinion of the Oath Keeper defendants' arguments to dismiss their felony obstruction of a congressional proceeding charge. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Overnight Defense & National Security — New rules try to tackle extremism in the ranks**, Ellen Mitchell, December 20, 2021, 7:06 PM

The Pentagon has released a new set of rules meant to curtail extremism in the ranks, updating previous guidance that was criticized as being unclear on what was acceptable behavior and what wasn't. We'll share what the new guidance is and how it factors in social media, plus the new lawsuit over the Pentagon's COVID-19 vaccine mandate and the Biden administration's most recent plea to Russia to deescalate its military buildup near the Ukraine border. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Examiner: Durham tells court members of Clinton 2016 campaign under scrutiny**, Jerry Dunleavy, December 20, 2021, 6:02 PM

Special counsel John Durham told a federal court that he is scrutinizing members of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign as part of his criminal inquiry into the origins and conduct of the Trump-Russia investigation. Durham's team asked a judge to "inquire into a potential conflict of interest" related to the lawyers for British ex-spy Christopher Steele's main anti-Trump dossier source, noting that a separate lawyer at their firm "is currently representing the 2016 'Hillary for America' presidential campaign, as well as multiple former employees of that campaign, in matters before the Special Counsel." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE**

**AP: Jan. 6 committee seeks interview with GOP Rep. Scott Perry**, Farnoush Amiri and Mary Clare Jalonick, December 20, 2021, 6:27 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection requested an interview with Republican Rep. Scott Perry of Pennsylvania on Monday, marking the first time the committee publicly sought to interview a sitting member of Congress. The latest request launches a new phase for the lawmakers on the committee, who have so far resisted going after one of their own as they investigate the insurrection by President Donald Trump's supporters and his efforts to overturn the election. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Daily Beast](#), [The Hill](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**Reuters: Alex Jones of Infowars to invoke right not to testify to U.S. Capitol riot panel**, Jan Wolfe, December 20, 2021, 6:04 PM

Alex Jones, the conspiracy theorist and founder of the right-wing website Infowars, said on Monday said he will invoke his right under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and decline to testify before the congressional panel probing the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#)

**NYT: Jan. 6 Committee Weighs Possibility of Criminal Referrals**, Michael S. Schmidt and Luke Broadwater, December 20, 2021, 7:36 PM

When the House formed a special committee this summer to investigate the Jan. 6 Capitol assault, its stated goal was to compile the most authoritative account of what occurred and make recommendations to ensure it never happens again. But as investigators sifted through troves of documents, metadata and interview transcripts, they started considering whether the inquiry could yield something potentially more consequential: evidence of criminal conduct by President Donald J. Trump or others that they could send to the Justice Department urging an investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Guardian](#), [The Week](#)

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

**AP: Ghislaine Maxwell jury begins deliberations after closings**, Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays, December 20, 2021, 10:30 PM

A jury began deliberations Monday, tasked with considering whether Ghislaine Maxwell is a dangerous predator who recruited teens to be sexually abused by financier Jeffrey Epstein — as prosecutors put it — or the “innocent woman” a defense attorney described. The jury received the case just before 5 p.m. after two prosecutors and a defense lawyer delivered their closing arguments over a six-hour period. They deliberated less than an hour and went home after being told to return at 9 a.m. Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man to plead guilty in Tom Brady Super Bowl ring fraud**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 9:15 PM

A New Jersey man who posed as a former New England Patriots player in order to buy and sell Super Bowl rings that he claimed were gifts to Tom Brady's family will plead guilty to fraud, federal prosecutors said Monday. The plea agreement by Scott V. Spina Jr., 24, of Roseland was filed Monday in Los Angeles federal court. Spina will plead guilty to five felony charges of wire fraud, mail fraud and aggravated identity theft, the U.S. attorney's office for the Central District of California announced. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Reuters: Swiss extradite Kremlin-linked Russian businessman to United States**, Nate

Raymond, December 20, 2021, 5:07 PM

A Russian government-linked businessman who was extradited to the United States from Switzerland carried out a global, multi-million-dollar insider trading scheme using corporate information stolen from U.S. computer networks, prosecutors said on Monday. Vladislav Klyushin, whose company offers media monitoring and cybersecurity services to clients including the Russian government, was charged by federal prosecutors in Boston along with four other Russians. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [AP](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Boston Herald](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [The Republican \(Springfield, MA\)](#), [UPI](#), [VOA](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#), [WCVB-ABC \(Boston, MA\)](#)

**Reuters: U.S. authorities charge Chicago doctor with insider trading**, Chris Prentice, December 20, 2021, 4:15 PM

U.S. authorities have charged a Chicago doctor with insider trading, accusing him of using nonpublic information about drug trial results to reap illicit profits from buying shares of a California-based biotechnology company. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and federal prosecutors in Illinois said in statements on Monday they have charged a gastrointestinal medical oncologist Daniel V.T. Catenacci related to trading in securities of Five Prime Therapeutics Inc. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NY Post](#)

**CNN: [ANALYSIS] A man was sentenced to prison for threatening journalists. I was one of them**, Brian Stelter, December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

Many reporters are sadly accustomed to receiving threats and harassment in connection with their work. For some, the intimidation can have a chilling effect. For others, it can become like brutal background noise, accepted as part of the job, even when the threats rise to the level of a felony. That's why I want to share what I experienced on Monday. I was a part of something unusual: Justice. In a federal courtroom in lower Manhattan, Robert Lemke, a California man and devoted Donald Trump supporter, was sentenced to three years in prison after pleading guilty to sending threats to lawmakers and members of the media. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NBC](#), [NY Daily News](#)

**The Detroit News: Ex-FBI agent in Whitmer kidnap plot enters plea in case tied to wife's assault**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 3:08 PM

Former FBI Special Agent Richard Trask, the lead investigator in the Gov. Gretchen Whitmer kidnapping conspiracy case, pleaded no contest Monday to aggravated assault charges stemming from allegations he beat his wife in July after returning home from a swingers party. Trask entered the plea to the misdemeanor offense before Kalamazoo County Circuit Judge Gary Giguere, court officials said. He was sentenced to time served and ordered to pay court costs. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

**AP: US to landlords, lenders: heed pro-military housing rules**, Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 AM

The Department of Justice and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau are warning mortgage servicers and landlords to heed rules meant to protect members of the U.S. military against foreclosure, eviction and other potential housing-related financial hardships during the pandemic. The move, announced Monday, comes as forbearance programs put in place in the early weeks of the pandemic last year to allow homeowners to hit pause on their mortgage payments are set to expire at the end of the month. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [HousingWire](#)

**AP: DOJ alleges discrimination against ophthalmology practice**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

The U.S. Justice Department alleges in a lawsuit that a Tempe-based ophthalmology practice discriminates against patients with mobility disabilities by requiring them to hire support workers to bring them to and from its facilities for outpatient eye surgery. The lawsuit filed on Monday alleges that the policy by Barnet Dulaney Perkins Eye Center imposes a disability-based surcharge on such patients. The Justice Department said such assistance for patients who need help in transferring from their wheelchairs to the surgical table is routinely provided by health care providers across the country. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**USA Today: DOJ investigations in Phoenix, Louisville send a message: Policing is under the microscope**, Jimmy Jenkins and Tessa Duvall,, December 21, 2021, 5:01 AM  
It was no surprise when the U.S. Department of Justice landed in Louisville, Kentucky, last April to announce it was investigating policing in the troubled city. The Louisville Metro Police Department had been under a national spotlight for nearly a year, since protesters began demanding justice for Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman police shot dead in her home March 2020 while attempting to serve a search warrant. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ABC: Derek Chauvin wants to go to federal prison, even though it means he'll do more time**, Bill Hutchinson, December 21, 2021, 6:01 AM

Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin pleaded guilty to killing George Floyd in 2020 -- when he dug his knee into the back of the Black man's neck even though he was aware Floyd had lost consciousness and pulse. But in exchange for his plea, Chauvin, 45, made one request: that he be allowed to do his time in federal prison, even if it means he will serve a longer sentence. [] While he was sentenced by Hennepin County Judge Peter Cahill to serve 22-and-a-half years in state prison, Chauvin could have been paroled in less than 15 years, assuming he accumulated all good-time credit, according to the federal agreement.  
[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**Bloomberg Law: Missouri Court Latest to Block Biden Contractor Vaccine Mandate**, Erin Mulvaney, December 20, 2021, 7:40 PM

A federal court in Missouri blocked the Biden administration's Covid-19 vaccine mandate for government contractors in 10 states, becoming the latest to grant an injunction as part of a series of challenges to the president's power to set workplace requirements via executive order. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**Reuters: Biden to raise number of guest worker visas, with more for Haiti, Central America**, Ted Hesson, December 20, 2021, 1:37 PM

The United States will make 20,000 additional visas available for seasonal, non-agricultural guest workers through March 31, including 6,500 visas for workers from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti, in an effort to encourage legal migration, a U.S. official told Reuters. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: Haitian Migrants File Lawsuit Protesting Treatment by Border Patrol**, Eileen Sullivan, December 20, 2021, 10:00 PM  
Mirard Joseph was bringing food to his wife and child, he said, when a Border Patrol agent

on horseback in Del Rio, Texas, “lashed at” him with his reins and dragged him by the collar toward the Rio Grande, which in that region separates the United States from Mexico. The treatment of Mr. Joseph, an undocumented immigrant who was seeking asylum but has been deported, and other Haitian migrants by agents in September is the subject of a federal investigation after President Biden described it as “outrageous” and promised that “there will be consequences.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [The Hill](#)

### **CBS: U.S. to use border wall funds to close gaps and clean up Trump-era construction sites**, Camilo Montoya, December 20, 2021, 2:51 PM

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced Monday it will use border security funding allocated by Congress to close wall gaps and pay for environmental and clean-up projects in areas of Arizona, California and Texas affected by barrier construction undertaken by the Trump administration. The projects authorized by Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas include installing drainage to prevent flooding, mitigating soil erosion, completing roads used by Border Patrol agents, demobilizing construction and equipment storage sites and discarding unused materials. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Washington Times](#)

### **Law360: 3rd Circ. Won't Reopen Abused Spouse's Deportation Case**, Alyssa Aquino, December 20, 2021, 7:57 PM

The Third Circuit refused to reopen an abused spouse's deportation proceedings 17 years after he was ordered removed, saying Monday that it couldn't disturb an immigration appellate board's ruling that the immigrant had waited too long to reopen the case. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Law360: ACLU Says Feds Must Turn Over Asylum Denial Files**, Ivan Moreno, December 20, 2021, 7:38 PM

The American Civil Liberties Union in Maine wants a federal judge to compel U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to release files detailing why certain asylum applications are being denied, saying the agency is refusing to search for records it's required to post publicly. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ANTITRUST**

### **Law360: DOJ Fight Over Treatment Of No-Poach Cases Heats Up**, Bryan Koenig, December 20, 2021, 9:48 PM

Health care companies battling separate U. S. Department of Justice criminal no-poach cases criticized prosecutors in both of those cases Friday for citing an important procedural win in a wage-fixing case as favoring the government's side. The companies countered that agreements restricting worker hiring and recruitment cannot be lumped in with wage-fixing, as the feds maintain. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **AP: Conservation groups to sue EPA over manatee deaths**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 11:40 AM

Three conservation groups filed a formal notice on Monday of their intent to sue the Environmental Protection Agency if it doesn't take steps to protect manatees from water pollution in Florida. Pollution-fueled algae blooms are cited as the cause of over half of the more than 1,000 manatee deaths in Florida this year, according to a news release from the Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife and Save the Manatee Club. [\[Continue](#)

[\[Reading\]](#) See also: [WESH-NBC \(Orlando, FL\)](#), [WOFL-Fox \(Orlando, FL\)](#)

**National Law Review: Feds Promise “More Stick Than Carrot” for Environmental Crimes Enforcement**, Kathy G. Beckett and William J. Powell, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Department of Justice's Environmental Crimes Section Chief, Deborah Harris, recently discussed environmental crime enforcement during an American Bar Association virtual conference. Ms. Harris told attendees that government investigators are “going back to a little more stick than carrot.” EPA's environmental investigators will focus on more vigorous criminal enforcement instead of merely evaluating corporate compliance efforts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

**Politico: How Amazon cultivates close ties to federal law enforcement**, Emily Birnbaum And Daniel Lippman, December 21, 2021, 4:30 AM

Amazon has found a powerful ally to help it protect its sprawling operations from fraud and abuse: the U.S. government. The company has increasingly tipped off the Justice Department and FBI to investigate Amazon's own employees and the sellers using its platform, according to a POLITICO analysis and a dozen interviews with Amazon employees, former federal prosecutors and financial crime experts. In addition, it has hired dozens of former DOJ and FBI employees, some of whom are filling out its internal teams aimed at policing its platform. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Denver Gazette (Denver, CO): FBI Denver: Callers impersonating law enforcement officials to scam Colorado, Wyoming residents**, Morgan McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 9:35 PM

The FBI Denver Division is warning Colorado and Wyoming residents about a phone scam in which people posing as local law enforcement officials ask for payments. The scammers are calling potential victims in regards to supposed outstanding warrants or fines and asking for money the scammers claim will clear the victims' names, according to an FBI Denver news release. The callers use spoofed law enforcement phone numbers as well as names, positions and addresses of actual local officers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KVIA-ABC/CW (El Paso, TX): El Paso DEA has spike in fentanyl seizures amid national crisis**, Rene Kladzyk, December 20, 2021, 2:35 PM

Seizures of fentanyl by the Drug Enforcement Administration within the city of El Paso rose 456% between the fiscal years 2020 and 2021 -- from 32 kilograms to 178 kilograms -- and El Paso DEA Acting Director Greg Millard said the trend has continued apace in recent months. Regionally, the increase was even more dramatic. In the DEA's El Paso Division Area of Responsibility (which includes West Texas and the entire state of New Mexico), fentanyl seizures increased from 42 kilograms in the fiscal year 2020 to 300 kilograms in 2021, a 614% increase. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**Reuters: Challengers ask U.S. Supreme Court to block Biden vaccine mandate for businesses**, Lawrence Hurley, December 20, 2021, 6:04 PM

Business groups, religious entities and 27 U.S. states have urged the Supreme Court to block the Biden administration's nationwide vaccine-or-testing COVID-19 mandate for large businesses, which covers around 80 million American workers. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also:

## [Bloomberg Law, NBC](#)

**WaPo: Biden administration's vaccine requirements take center stage at Supreme Court**, Robert Barnes, December 20, 2021, 6:24 PM

The Biden administration's coronavirus protection requirements intended to persuade millions of health-care and other workers to get vaccinated are taking center stage at the Supreme Court. More than half the states and coalitions of business and religious groups are asking the justices for emergency action to block the administration's nationwide vaccine-or-testing mandate for large businesses, which would cover about 80 million workers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] The Supreme Court opened the door to legal vigilantism in Texas. California will use the same tool to save lives**, Gavin Newsom, December 20, 2021, 4:55 PM

It's outrageous that the Supreme Court continues to allow Texas to use the threat of civil lawsuits to nullify women's constitutional right to control their own bodies. But if this kind of lawmaking is fair play, then California will at least use this tool to save lives instead of harming them. That's why this month I called on California's legislature to send me a bill creating a similar way to take action against those who produce or sell assault weapons and "ghost guns" in California. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Supreme Court receives appeals asking Kavanaugh to block large employer vaccine mandate**, Ariane de Vogue, December 20, 2021, 1:00 PM

The Supreme Court Monday said it has received several appeals asking Justice Brett Kavanaugh to consider the Biden administration's requirement that large employers mandate their employees obtain a Covid-19 vaccine or submit to weekly testing. The appeals come as the pandemic rages globally and the omicron variant takes hold over the holiday season.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Texas Says Justices Must Weigh In On Its Challenge To ICWA**, Victoria McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 9:32 PM

The state of Texas again has urged the U. S. Supreme Court to review the Indian Child Welfare Act, calling the law an unconstitutional "race based child custody scheme" that requires states to treat Native children "as resources to be managed for the benefit of their race, rather than in accordance with their best interests. "In a reply brief Friday, Texas officials said the Supreme Court must finally resolve constitutional questions raised by the 1978 law, which was enacted to limit the number of Native children being adopted outside their communities. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Urge Justices To Rebuff Dakota Access Pipeline Petition**, Victoria McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 3:52 PM

The federal government has joined several tribes in urging the U.S. Supreme Court not to reconsider a D.C. Circuit decision vacating a key approval for the controversial 1,200-mile Dakota Access oil pipeline, saying the company failed to show any error in the opinion.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**CNBC: [VIDEO] Federal judge overturns Purdue Pharma's \$4.5 billion opioid**

**settlement**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

A federal judge overturned Purdue Pharma's opioid settlement. The ruling said the company's owners could not receive protection from civil lawsuits in return for a \$4.5 billion settlement.

[[Watch](#)]

**Boston Globe: Three New England states claim victory after judge overturns Purdue Pharma's sweeping opioid settlement**, Laura Crimaldi and Brian Amaral, December 20, 2021, 4:21 PM

In July, Massachusetts was among 15 states to reach a settlement with Purdue Pharma that required the disgraced drug maker to pay more than \$4 billion for its role in the opioid crisis. But last week, a federal judge overturned the settlement plan, ruling the bankruptcy court that approved the deal didn't have the authority to release the Sackler family from liability in civil cases related to its company's production of Oxycontin, a highly addictive prescription painkiller.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**LAT: Senator calls for FBI update on unsolved assassination of O.C. activist Alex Odeh**, Gabriel San Román, December 20, 2021, 9:19 PM

New revelations about a decades-old office bombing in Santa Ana that killed Palestinian American activist Alex Odeh have prompted U.S. Sen. Richard J. Durbin to demand an update from the FBI on the cold case investigation. Odeh was serving as West Coast regional director for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee when, on Oct. 11, 1985, he opened the door to his organization's Santa Ana office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Pelosi announces plans for 'solemn observance' of first anniversary of Jan. 6 insurrection**, Amy B Wang, December 20, 2021, 3:21 PM

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has indicated there will be a "full program of events" to mark the first anniversary of the Jan. 6 insurrection, in which a pro-Trump mob stormed the U.S. Capitol to try to stop the confirmation of President Biden's electoral college win, a siege that resulted in five deaths and left some 140 law enforcement officers injured. In a letter to the Democratic caucus Monday, Pelosi (D-Calif.) noted the House would not be in session the first week of January but said some members had expressed interest in being involved in commemoration activities. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: DECEMBER 20, 2021**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Margaret Brennan**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Long lines for COVID-19 testing can be found across the US as cases have increased nearly 45% since the start of the month. Health officials are urging Americans to cancel holiday plans due to the rapid spread of the Omicron COVID-19 variant. Protests against returning COVID-19 restrictions and mandates in Europe continue as countries battle to contain the Omicron COVID-19 variant heading into the holiday. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#)]
- Democrats are trying to revive President Biden's "Build Back Better" spending plan after failing to gain a majority of votes in the Senate. The White House called Sen.

Manchin's rejection of the bill, "a breach of his commitments to the president." [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- A group of 12 missionaries in Haiti found freedom last week by using the stars to navigate and reach safety after a two-month kidnapping ordeal, officials with the Christian Aid Ministries said Monday. [[CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The trial of former Brooklyn Center Police Officer Kim Potter charged in the death of Daunte Wright, a 20-year-old Black man who was fatally shot during a traffic stop, continues with Potter taking the stand to testify in her own defense. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- The fate of Ghislaine Maxwell, the longtime associate of serial sex offender Jeffrey Epstein who is facing charges related to the alleged abuse and trafficking of underage girls, has been placed in the hands of a 12-person jury. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- Vice President Kamala Harris was expected to cast a tie-breaking vote to send the "Build Back Better" bill to President Biden's desk for final approval. Now, Democrats are scrambling after Senator Joe Manchin pulled support for the spending plan. [[CBS](#)]
- In 1971, President Richard Nixon signed the "National Cancer Act." Since then, fatality rates for all cancers have dropped 27%. [[CBS](#)]
- A 6.2 magnitude earthquake off the coast of Northern California rattled a wide swath of the state shortly after noon local time, according to data from the US Geological Survey. The quake occurred just off Cape Mendocino near Humboldt County and was felt as far away as San Francisco and Chico, California. [[ABC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- "Biden to expand access to free home tests, send resources to aid hospitals in need" [[WaPo](#), [NYT](#), [WSJ](#)]
- "Behind Manchin's Opposition, a Long History of Fighting Climate Measures" [[NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]
- "What NASA's Perseverance Rover Has Learned After 10 Months on Mars" [[WSJ](#)]

**From:** Watson, Theresa (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Sanchez, Giovanni (OAG)  
**Sent:** December 21, 2021 6:59 AM (UTC-05:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** December 21, 2021 at 6:45:03 AM EST  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
December 21, 2021  
7:00 AM EST**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 21, 2021**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**Washington Times: Chicago mayor asks feds: Send help to stem gun crime**, Emily Zantow, December 20, 2021, 6:00 PM

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot on Monday said she has asked Attorney General Merrick Garland to send federal agents to the city to help address gun crimes. Ms. Lightfoot, a Democrat, said she requested agents from the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Bureau to be deployed to the city for six months to help with gun seizures and investigations. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFLD-Fox \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WGN \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WLS-ABC \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WMAQ-NBC \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

**Lawfare: [ANALYSIS] Merrick Garland Needs to Speak Up**, Andrew Kent, Quinta Jurecic, and Benjamin Wittes, December 21, 2021, 5:00 AM

Attorney General Merrick Garland is taking a great deal of criticism these days. He's being attacked for not having indicted former President Trump, for not having brought cases faster against witnesses who have defied the Jan. 6 committee, and for not having moved more aggressively against political figures for their supposed involvement in the Jan. 6 insurrection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **DOJ GRANTS**

**KUAR-NPR (Little Rock, AR): Department of Justice awards Little Rock \$1 million for violence reduction, community schools**, Daniel Breen, December 20, 2021, 2:46 PM

Little Rock city officials say a new grant from the U.S. Department of Justice will help cut down on crime through investing in education. Mayor Frank Scott Jr. announced Monday the \$1 million grant will go to the Little Rock School District's Community Schools Initiative. In a news conference, he also said the funding will help complement other community programs aimed at curbing violent crime. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KFGO-AM \(Fargo, ND\)](#)

**Grand Forks Herald (Grand Forks, NC): UND School of Law receives federal grants for Tribal Judicial Institute**, Adam Kurtz, December 20, 2021, 12:42 PM

The UND School of Law has received \$850,000 from two federal grants for its Tribal Judicial Institute. Information about the grants came from a Monday, Dec. 20, release from the office of Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-N.D. The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance gave the law school a \$600,000 grant to provide training and technical assistance in developing a response to an increase of crime at the tribal level. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHSV-ABC (Harrisonburg, VA): Page County Sheriff introduces program to combat opioid addiction**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 12:30 PM

Page County Sheriff Chad Cubbage took to Facebook to announce a new program that aims to reduce overdose deaths and the impact of opioids and other substances on individuals and communities. The sheriff's office was awarded a three-year grant, totaling \$600,000, which will be used for the program developed as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**AP: Kentucky man accused of providing material support to Islamic State**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 8:30 PM

A Kentucky man who traveled to Syria to join the Islamic State group was charged in an indictment unsealed Monday with providing support to the group, federal prosecutors said. Mirsad Hariz Adem Ramic, 31, of Bowling Green, was also charged with conspiring with others and receiving military type training from the group, prosecutors said. Ramic, who was incarcerated in Turkey, was deported and arrived in the U.S. last week. He made his initial appearance in court Monday. [Continue Reading] See also: [Bowling Green Daily News \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#), [KFVS-CBS \(Cape Girardeau, MO\)](#), [Louisville Courier Journal](#), [NBC](#), [Lexington Herald Leader \(Lexington, KY\)](#), [Washington Times](#), [WBKO-ABC/Fox/CW \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#), [WDRB-Fox \(Louisville, KY\)](#), [WEHT-CW \(Evansville, IN\)](#), [WLKY-CBS \(Louisville, KY\)](#)

**AP: Man who joined Capitol melee gets nearly 4 years in prison**, Michael Kunzelman, December 20, 2021, 8:00 PM

A man who joined a mob in one of the most violent attacks on police during the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol has been sentenced to nearly four years in prison. Devlyn Thompson expressed remorse for his actions before U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth sentenced him on Monday to three years and 10 months in prison. The 28-year-old from Washington state pleaded guilty in August to assaulting a police officer with a metal baton. [Continue Reading] See also: [Axios](#), [CNN](#), [Courthouse News](#), [KCPQ-Fox \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [KIRO-CBS \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#)

**AP: Pentagon issues rules aimed at stopping rise of extremism**, Lolita Baldor, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

Warning that extremism in the ranks is increasing, Pentagon officials issued detailed new rules Monday prohibiting service members from actively engaging in extremist activities. The new guidelines come nearly a year after some current and former service members participated in the riot at the U.S. Capitol, triggering a broad department review. According to the Pentagon, fewer than 100 military members are known to have been involved in substantiated cases of extremist activity in the past year. But they warn that the number may grow given recent spikes in domestic violent extremism, particularly among veterans. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#)

**WaPo: Lead Capitol riot charge is constitutional, judges find Rachel Weiner**, December 20, 2021, 10:50 PM

Three federal judges have agreed that the most serious charge faced by those accused of participation in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol is constitutional, a victory for the Justice Department and a blow to the defendants fighting those accusations. The ruling came Monday evening from U.S. District Judge Amit B. Mehta, who is overseeing the prosecutions of more than a dozen people associated with the Oath Keepers, a self-styled militia group. Mehta joins judges Dabney L. Friedrich and Timothy J. Kelly, both of whom have moved to uphold the obstruction charges in other cases. [Continue Reading]

**WSJ: U.S. Prosecutors Went After Professors Working With China. Cases Are Faltering.**

Aruna Viswanatha and Sha Hua, December 20, 2021, 11:00 AM

In January 2020, Gang Chen and about two dozen other professors and students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology traveled to Shenzhen, China, to talk about overlapping university research, visit local companies and interview students interested in studying at MIT. When Mr. Chen landed back at Boston's Logan airport, Customs and Border Protection agents pulled him aside, seized his laptop and two cellphones and began asking him what he had been

doing in China and why. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Judge rejects Oath Keepers' efforts to dismiss charge in January 6 prosecutions,** Katelyn Polantz, December 20, 2021, 9:36 PM

A federal judge has ruled against a notable attempt to throw out the felony charge that's the backbone of January 6 criminal prosecutions, bolstering the government's case against 17 Oath Keeper defendants accused of conspiring to overtake the US Capitol.

"The court is persuaded by none of their contentions," Judge Amit Mehta wrote in his Monday opinion of the Oath Keeper defendants' arguments to dismiss their felony obstruction of a congressional proceeding charge. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Beast: Actor Jay Johnston Told Me He Was at the Capitol Riot, Says Director,**

Marlow Stern, Asawin Suebsaeng, December 20, 2021, 10:21 PM

One of the biggest mysteries to emerge from the deadly insurrection of Jan. 6 was the identity of the man known to feds as No. 247. On March 4, the FBI shared a pair of photographs to its social media channels of a surly-looking fella spotted at the U.S. Capitol sporting a camouflage jacket and bandana. Many were quick to note that the man bore a striking resemblance to Jay Johnston, a journeyman actor best known for his comedic roles on Mr. Show, Arrested Development, and voicing the character Jimmy Pesto in Fox's animated hit Bob's Burgers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Overnight Defense & National Security — New rules try to tackle extremism in the ranks,** Ellen Mitchell, December 20, 2021, 7:06 PM

The Pentagon has released a new set of rules meant to curtail extremism in the ranks, updating previous guidance that was criticized as being unclear on what was acceptable behavior and what wasn't. We'll share what the new guidance is and how it factors in social media, plus the new lawsuit over the Pentagon's COVID-19 vaccine mandate and the Biden administration's most recent plea to Russia to deescalate its military buildup near the Ukraine border. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Examiner: Durham tells court members of Clinton 2016 campaign under scrutiny,** Jerry Dunleavy, December 20, 2021, 6:02 PM

Special counsel John Durham told a federal court that he is scrutinizing members of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign as part of his criminal inquiry into the origins and conduct of the Trump-Russia investigation. Durham's team asked a judge to "inquire into a potential conflict of interest" related to the lawyers for British ex-spy Christopher Steele's main anti-Trump dossier source, noting that a separate lawyer at their firm "is currently representing the 2016 'Hillary for America' presidential campaign, as well as multiple former employees of that campaign, in matters before the Special Counsel." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Meadville Tribune (Meadville, PA): Mercer County man pleads guilty in Capitol riot,** Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 AM

A Mercer County man faces the possibility of decades behind bars after his guilty plea to charges stemming from the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. Matthew Perna, 37, of Sharon pleaded guilty to felony obstruction of Congress and three misdemeanor charges associated with his entry into the Capitol on Jan. 6, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia said. He is scheduled for sentencing March 3. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Philadelphia Inquirer: Bucks County man gets probation after his wife posted about his**

**involvement in Capitol riot on Facebook**, Oona Goodin-Smith, December 20, 2021, 6:20 PM  
A Bucks County man whose wife's Facebook postings tipped the FBI off to his part in the mob that stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6 told a federal judge Monday that he was "ashamed" for his role which included entering the breached building for more than 20 minutes and walking into a ransacked U.S. senator's office and that it was only after the couple watched the New York Times video report on the day that they saw the full scope of the violence. Appearing in federal court in Washington, Gary Edwards, 68, of Churchville, was sentenced to one year of probation, 200 hours of community service, and to pay a fine of \$2,500. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJXT-CW (Jacksonville, FL): Middleburg couple guilty on Capitol riot charges get probation, ordered to pay \$500**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 2:34 PM

Rachael Pert and Dana Winn, the Middleburg couple who pleaded guilty to charges related to participating in the January riot at the U.S. Capitol, were sentenced to probation and ordered to pay \$500 in restitution. The sentencing hearing for Pert and Winn of Middleburg was in-person in Washington D.C. on Monday. Pert was sentenced to 24-months probation and Winn was sentenced to 12-months probation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE**

**AP: Jan. 6 committee seeks interview with GOP Rep. Scott Perry**, Farnoush Amiri and Mary Clare Jalonick, December 20, 2021, 6:27 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection requested an interview with Republican Rep. Scott Perry of Pennsylvania on Monday, marking the first time the committee publicly sought to interview a sitting member of Congress. The latest request launches a new phase for the lawmakers on the committee, who have so far resisted going after one of their own as they investigate the insurrection by President Donald Trump's supporters and his efforts to overturn the election. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Daily Beast](#), [The Hill](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**Reuters: Alex Jones of Infowars to invoke right not to testify to U.S. Capitol riot panel**, Jan Wolfe, December 20, 2021, 6:04 PM

Alex Jones, the conspiracy theorist and founder of the right-wing website Infowars, said on Monday said he will invoke his right under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and decline to testify before the congressional panel probing the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#)

**NYT: Jan. 6 Committee Weighs Possibility of Criminal Referrals**, Michael S. Schmidt and Luke Broadwater, December 20, 2021, 7:36 PM

When the House formed a special committee this summer to investigate the Jan. 6 Capitol assault, its stated goal was to compile the most authoritative account of what occurred and make recommendations to ensure it never happens again. But as investigators sifted through troves of documents, metadata and interview transcripts, they started considering whether the inquiry could yield something potentially more consequential: evidence of criminal conduct by President Donald J. Trump or others that they could send to the Justice Department urging an investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Guardian](#), [The Week](#)

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

**AP: Ghislaine Maxwell jury begins deliberations after closings**, Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays, December 20, 2021, 10:30 PM

A jury began deliberations Monday, tasked with considering whether Ghislaine Maxwell is a dangerous predator who recruited teens to be sexually abused by financier Jeffrey Epstein as prosecutors put it or the “innocent woman” a defense attorney described. The jury received the case just before 5 p.m. after two prosecutors and a defense lawyer delivered their closing arguments over a six-hour period. They deliberated less than an hour and went home after being told to return at 9 a.m. Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man to plead guilty in Tom Brady Super Bowl ring fraud**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 9:15 PM

A New Jersey man who posed as a former New England Patriots player in order to buy and sell Super Bowl rings that he claimed were gifts to Tom Brady’s family will plead guilty to fraud, federal prosecutors said Monday. The plea agreement by Scott V. Spina Jr., 24, of Roseland was filed Monday in Los Angeles federal court. Spina will plead guilty to five felony charges of wire fraud, mail fraud and aggravated identity theft, the U.S. attorney’s office for the Central District of California announced. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Reuters: Swiss extradite Kremlin-linked Russian businessman to United States**, Nate Raymond, December 20, 2021, 5:07 PM

A Russian government-linked businessman who was extradited to the United States from Switzerland carried out a global, multi-million-dollar insider trading scheme using corporate information stolen from U.S. computer networks, prosecutors said on Monday. Vladislav Klyushin, whose company offers media monitoring and cybersecurity services to clients including the Russian government, was charged by federal prosecutors in Boston along with four other Russians. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [AP](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Boston Herald](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [The Republican \(Springfield, MA\)](#), [UPI](#), [VOA](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#), [WCVB-ABC \(Boston, MA\)](#)

**Reuters: U.S. authorities charge Chicago doctor with insider trading**, Chris Prentice, December 20, 2021, 4:15 PM

U.S. authorities have charged a Chicago doctor with insider trading, accusing him of using nonpublic information about drug trial results to reap illicit profits from buying shares of a California-based biotechnology company. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and federal prosecutors in Illinois said in statements on Monday they have charged a gastrointestinal medical oncologist Daniel V.T. Catenacci related to trading in securities of Five Prime Therapeutics Inc. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NY Post](#)

**NYT: 76-Year-Old Man Is Charged With 1978 Killing of Queens Girl**, Jesus Jiménez, December 20, 2021, 8:26 PM

In March 1978, a 15-year-old girl from Queens traveled to San Francisco for Easter to visit her half sister. Days after her arrival, her body was found near Golden Gate Park. She had been strangled. [...] Mr. Personette was charged with one count of homicide on Thursday after a joint operation in the suburbs of Denver conducted by the San Francisco Police Department’s homicide detail, the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Jefferson County, Colo., Sheriff’s Office, the Police Department announced in a statement on Sunday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: [ANALYSIS] A man was sentenced to prison for threatening journalists. I was one of them**, Brian Stelter, December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

Many reporters are sadly accustomed to receiving threats and harassment in connection with their work. For some, the intimidation can have a chilling effect. For others, it can become like brutal background noise, accepted as part of the job, even when the threats rise to the level of a felony. That's why I want to share what I experienced on Monday. I was a part of something unusual: Justice. In a federal courtroom in lower Manhattan, Robert Lemke, a California man and devoted Donald Trump supporter, was sentenced to three years in prison after pleading guilty to sending threats to lawmakers and members of the media. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NBC](#), [NY Daily News](#)

**Orange County Register: Ex-USC football player from OC accused of COVID-19**

**unemployment benefits scheme**, Brian Rokos, December 20, 2021, 9:43 PM

A former USC football player from Orange County was arrested Monday, Dec. 20, after being accused of running a scheme in which he and other football players filed for hundreds of thousands of dollars in COVID-19-related unemployment benefits. Abdul-Malik McClain, 22, who now attends Jackson State in Jackson, Mississippi, pleaded not guilty in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to 10 counts of mail fraud and two counts of aggravated identity theft. He was released after posting \$20,000 bond. He is due back in court on Feb. 15. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Baltimore Sun: Baltimore man sentenced to 40 years in prison for role in deadly carjackings, robberies**, Kelly Broderick, December 20, 2021, 9:03 PM

A U.S. District Judge sentenced 27-year-old Karon Foster of Baltimore to 40 years in federal prison, plus three years of supervised release, for his role in a series of deadly carjackings and robberies in Baltimore in 2019. Prosecutors said Foster ran the enterprise, deciding which of his associates would commit carjackings and robberies, pawning the stolen goods and divvying the proceeds among the participants. In July, Foster pleaded guilty to conspiracy to participate in racketeering activity, to a carjacking conspiracy, and to aiding and abetting a carjacking resulting in death. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WBFF-Fox \(Baltimore, MD\)](#), [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**The Sacramento Bee: Texas man cyberstalked woman who refused his romantic advances, feds say**, Vandana Ravikumar, December 20, 2021, 8:00 PM

A Texas man pleaded guilty to two counts of cyberstalking after he was accused of using hundreds of social media and phone accounts, and other electronic means to harass a woman, federal authorities said. The messages Desmond Babloo Signh sent included "threats of death, bodily injury, sexualized violence, and racial slurs," according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office in the District of Maryland. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Dallas Morning News: Irving man gets 14 years in federal prison for having unregistered guns, dealing cocaine and heroin**, Jamie Landers, December 20, 2021, 7:34 PM

An Irving man was sentenced Monday to 14 years in federal prison for possessing multiple unregistered firearms and drug trafficking, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas announced. In March, 23-year-old Ramon Navarro III pleaded guilty to four counts of an unregistered firearm and eight counts of distribution of controlled substances, the U.S. attorney's office said in a news release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KTIV-CBS \(Fort Worth, TX\)](#)

**The Republican (Springfield, MA): Springfield man sentenced to more than 2 years behind**

**bars after pleading guilty to dealing cocaine and fentanyl in Vermont**, Jeanette DeForge,

December 20, 2021, 6:32 PM

A Springfield man was sentenced to more than two years behind bars after pleading guilty to dealing cocaine base and fentanyl in northern Vermont two years ago. Elijah Jovann Wheeler-Watson, 25, was sentenced on Monday in U.S. District Court in Burlington, Vermont, to 30 months in prison followed by four years of supervised release, according to a statement from Vermont U.S. attorney Nikolas P. Kerest. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WTEN-ABC \(Albany, NY\)](#)

**The Fresno Bee: MS-13 gang member sentenced. How Fresno-area authorities used a wiretap to catch him**, Bethany Clough, December 20, 2021, 6:05 PM

An MS-13 gang member from Mendota was sentenced to five years and three months in prison for several crimes, including a knife attack that sent a man to the hospital and dealing drugs.

Lorenzo Amador, 23, was sentenced Friday. Amador is a member of La Mara Salvatrucha or MS-13, a violent criminal gang known for murder, kidnapping and drug trafficking, according to court documents and a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Eastern District of California office.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Northwoods man faces 30 years after admitting fatal carjacking**,

Robert Patrick, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

A man from Northwoods faces 30 years in prison after he admitted killing a St. Louis woman while stealing her car in 2019. Anthony D. Jones Jr., 29, pleaded guilty Monday in U.S. District Court in St. Louis to carjacking resulting in death, a gun charge and two counts of witness tampering.

Jones admitted shooting Jessica Vinson on May 4, 2019, before stealing her 2015 Dodge Charger. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Detroit News: Ex-FBI agent in Whitmer kidnap plot enters plea in case tied to wife's assault**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 3:08 PM

Former FBI Special Agent Richard Trask, the lead investigator in the Gov. Gretchen Whitmer kidnapping conspiracy case, pleaded no contest Monday to aggravated assault charges stemming from allegations he beat his wife in July after returning home from a swingers party. Trask entered the plea to the misdemeanor offense before Kalamazoo County Circuit Judge Gary Giguere, court officials said. He was sentenced to time served and ordered to pay court costs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Miami Herald: Teen girls given money and drugs in exchange for sexual favors by diner owner, feds say**, Mike Stunson, December 20, 2021, 12:36 PM

An Iowa man convicted of grooming high school girls and providing them with money, alcohol or drugs in exchange for sexual favors was sentenced to three decades in prison, feds say. Hershel James Ratliff, 71, of Council Bluffs, was convicted in July of six counts of human trafficking and one count of distribution of a controlled substance to a minor, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NJ Metro Breaking News: Newark Man Sentenced to Three Years for Weapons Possession, Fraud**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 12:12 PM

An Essex County man was sentenced today to 36 months in prison for illegally possessing a firearm and conspiring to defraud two banks of \$250,000 using stolen credit cards and blank checks, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced. According to U.S. Attorney Sellinger, Tamir Duval, 23, of Newark, previously pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with illegal

possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon and to an information charging him with conspiracy to commit bank fraud. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVNS-CBS/Fox (Lewisburg, WV): Man pleads guilty to federal gun crime in Beckley,** Casey Gentile, December 20, 2021, 9:28 PM

A man from Beckley will spend at least five years behind bars after pleading guilty to a having a gun in furtherance of drug trafficking on Monday, December 20, 2021. According to documents and statements made in federal court, Curtis Harris, 34, of Beckley, sold 2.5 grams of fentanyl and a Cobra .380 handgun for \$550 to someone working undercover on March 4, 2021. On March 11, 2021, officers used someone undercover for a second controlled purchase of fentanyl. Harris sold 14 grams of fentanyl to the informant for \$1400. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHP-CBS (Harrisburg, PA): Ghanaian citizens sentenced for fraud conspiracy related to a romance scam in Central PA,** Carly O'Neill, December 20, 2021, 9:00 PM

Ibrahim Adam, 33, and Kelvin Aggrey-Arthur, 28, both Ghanaian citizens, have been sentenced to prison for conspiring to commit wire fraud, according to the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Adam was sentenced Monday to 33 months' imprisonment. Aggrey-Arthur was sentenced to 40 months' imprisonment on December 17. Both sentences also include a two-year term of supervised release, which will follow the term of imprisonment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPNX-NBC (Phoenix, AZ): Former Tucson insurance agent gets prison time for million dollar fraud scheme,** Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 8:46 PM

A former Tucson insurance agent was sentenced to 51 months in prison for cheating her elderly clients out of a million dollars, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. Officials say Koreasa M. Williams, 46, admitted she defrauded nine of her clients out of \$1,064,522. Williams said she sent forms to various life insurance companies asking to withdraw funds from her clients' annuities without their knowledge and consent. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTAP-NBC (Parkersburg, WV): Three Parkersburg defendants plead guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine,** Samantha Cavalli, December 20, 2021, 7:59 PM

According to a news release, three Parkersburg defendants pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine after a nearly year-long investigation. Thirty-four-year-old Ambera Roberts, 31-year-old Matthew Edward Depew, and 46-year-old Era Dawn Corder admitted acquiring and re-distributing large quantities of methamphetamine to advance the conspiracy. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNCN-CBS (Goldsboro, NC): Teller who took \$600,000+ from credit union vault was nabbed 2 years later as drug dealer in Durham, feds say,** Rodney Overton, December 20, 2021, 7:09 PM

A Virginia credit union worker who stole more than \$600,000 from the vault vanished for more than two years only to be found by police as an armed drug dealer in Durham earlier this year, officials said. Jorge Omar Navarro, 30, was found in late March when using a fake ID he claimed he was robbed at gunpoint in Durham, the U.S. Justice Department said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WDBJ-CBS \(Roanoke, VA\)](#), [WFXR-Fox \(Roanoke, VA\)](#), [WSLS-NBC \(Roanoke, VA\)](#)

**WFSB-CBS (Hartford, CT): Waterbury man charged with wire fraud after USPS theft,** Olivia

Kalentek, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM

A Waterbury man pleaded guilty to wire fraud related to his theft of U.S. Postal Service (USPS) funds. According to court documents, Lindim Asipi, 44, was a motor vehicle service driver for the USPS based in Waterbury. Court documents say the Waterbury USPS provided Asipi with a credit card which allowed him to buy gas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHEC-NBC (Rochester, NY): Phelps man pleads guilty to production of child pornography, drug conspiracy**, Brian Stelter, December 20, 2021, 6:16 PM

An Ontario County man has pleaded guilty to production of child pornography and methamphetamine conspiracy charges. Federal prosecutors say Timothy Wright, 33, of Phelps will be sentenced to at least 25 years behind bars. His case started back in July of 2019 after Snapchat reported child pornography to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and two files led police to Wright. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSOC-ABC/Telemundo (Charlotte, NC): Charlotte man convicted of robbing Ballantyne business at gunpoint**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 5:44 PM

A federal jury convicted a Charlotte man for robbing a Ballantyne metals exchange business at gunpoint, the office of the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina announced on Monday. Valentino Cabral Darosa, 29, was convicted of robbery of a business affecting interstate commerce, as well as carrying a firearm during a crime of violence and possession of a firearm by a felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): P.G. Co. man pleads guilty to fraud scheme targeting elderly, & COVID fraud scheme**, Bryna Zumer, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

A Prince George's County man who is a Nigerian national pleaded guilty today to stealing about \$478,000 from elderly victims in a fraud scheme, and stealing more than \$7,000 from Maryland and the U.S. government while filing fraudulent COVID-related unemployment claims. Thirty-five-year-old Hyattsville resident Oluwaseyi Akinyemi - also known as "Paddy Linkin" and Joseph Kadin" - faces up to 20 years in federal prison for each of two counts of mail fraud, according to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMGH-ABC (Denver, CO): Man sentenced to 18 years in federal prison for armed carjacking**, Sydney Isenberg, December 20, 2021, 4:52 PM

A man has been sentenced to 18 years in federal prison for a June armed carjacking on I-270 in Commerce City. Drivers were slowing down to capture images and videos of a 26-foot Penske truck on fire off Vasquez Boulevard, which had been reported stolen by a couple moving from North Carolina to Denver, Candice Morrell told Denver7 in June. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMAR-ABC (Baltimore, MD): Former child protective officer sentenced to prison for the receipt and possession of child pornography**, Kelly Broderick, December 20, 2021, 4:46 PM

A former child protective officer has been sentenced to more than seven years in prison for the receipt and possession of child pornography. According to testimony presented at his trial, 40-year-old Jean Buteau Remarque, who previously held positions at the International Bureau of Children's Rights in Montreal, Canada, and as a Child Protective Officer for the United Nations in Africa engaged in sexually explicit conversations with a 15-year-old female [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WTEN-ABC (Albany, NY): Albany man convicted on drug trafficking charge**, Sara Rizzo,

December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

An Albany man has been convicted of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. The United States Department of Justice said Tyler Purvis-Mitchell, 27, was found guilty after a four-day jury trial. Evidence at trial found that on May 7, 2020, Purvis-Mitchell possessed with the intent to distribute more than 125 pills containing meth in his residence and his vehicle. The pills weighed more than 50 grams in total. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Springfield, MA): RI Man Admits To Fraudulent COVID-19 Unemployment Claims,**

Rachel Nunes, December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

A Providence man admitted to using stolen identities to fraudulently apply for unemployment insurance in several states, Rhode Island U.S. Attorney Zachary Cunha's Office said. Courtney Hilaire, 29, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud, fourteen counts of wire fraud, two counts of aggravated identity theft, conspiracy to possess more than fifteen unauthorized access devices and possession of device making equipment. Hilaire was indicted on 17 charges in April. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WPMT-Fox (York, PA): Harrisburg man sentenced to 12.5 years in prison for drug trafficking, illegal possession of a firearm,** Keith Schweigert, December 20, 2021, 9:48 AM

A Harrisburg man will serve more than 12 years in prison after a sentencing hearing in federal court earlier this month, the U.S. Attorney's Office announced. Terrance Harden, 30, was sentenced to 151 months in prison by U.S. District Court Judge Sylvia H. Rambo after being convicted on charges of possession with intent to deliver cocaine and fentanyl and possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, according to U.S. Attorney John C. Gurganus. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

**AP: US to landlords, lenders: heed pro-military housing rules,** Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 AM

The Department of Justice and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau are warning mortgage servicers and landlords to heed rules meant to protect members of the U.S. military against foreclosure, eviction and other potential housing-related financial hardships during the pandemic. The move, announced Monday, comes as forbearance programs put in place in the early weeks of the pandemic last year to allow homeowners to hit pause on their mortgage payments are set to expire at the end of the month. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [HousingWire](#)

**AP: DOJ alleges discrimination against ophthalmology practice,** Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

The U.S. Justice Department alleges in a lawsuit that a Tempe-based ophthalmology practice discriminates against patients with mobility disabilities by requiring them to hire support workers to bring them to and from its facilities for outpatient eye surgery. The lawsuit filed on Monday alleges that the policy by Barnet Dulaney Perkins Eye Center imposes a disability-based surcharge on such patients. The Justice Department said such assistance for patients who need help in transferring from their wheelchairs to the surgical table is routinely provided by health care providers across the country. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**USA Today: DOJ investigations in Phoenix, Louisville send a message: Policing is under the microscope,** Jimmy Jenkins and Tessa Duvall., December 21, 2021, 5:01 AM

It was no surprise when the U.S. Department of Justice landed in Louisville, Kentucky, last April to announce it was investigating policing in the troubled city. The Louisville Metro Police Department had been under a national spotlight for nearly a year, since protesters began demanding justice for Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman police shot dead in her home March 2020 while attempting to serve a search warrant. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ABC: Derek Chauvin wants to go to federal prison, even though it means he'll do more time**, Bill Hutchinson, December 21, 2021, 6:01 AM

Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin pleaded guilty to killing George Floyd in 2020 -- when he dug his knee into the back of the Black man's neck even though he was aware Floyd had lost consciousness and pulse. But in exchange for his plea, Chauvin, 45, made one request: that he be allowed to do his time in federal prison, even if it means he will serve a longer sentence. [] While he was sentenced by Hennepin County Judge Peter Cahill to serve 22-and-a-half years in state prison, Chauvin could have been paroled in less than 15 years, assuming he accumulated all good-time credit, according to the federal agreement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**AP: Trump sues NY attorney general, seeking to halt civil probe**, Michael Sisak, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

Former President Donald Trump sued New York Attorney General Letitia James on Monday, resorting to a familiar but seldom successful strategy as he seeks to end a yearslong civil investigation into his business practices that he alleges is purely political. In the lawsuit, filed in federal court two weeks after James requested that Trump sit for a Jan. 7 deposition, Trump contends the probe into matters including his company's valuation of assets has violated his constitutional rights in a "thinly-veiled effort to publicly malign Trump and his associates."

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Courthouse News](#), [NBC](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Missouri Court Latest to Block Biden Contractor Vaccine Mandate**, Erin Mulvaney, December 20, 2021, 7:40 PM

A federal court in Missouri blocked the Biden administration's Covid-19 vaccine mandate for government contractors in 10 states, becoming the latest to grant an injunction as part of a series of challenges to the president's power to set workplace requirements via executive order.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**Reuters: Biden to raise number of guest worker visas, with more for Haiti, Central America**, Ted Hesson, December 20, 2021, 1:37 PM

The United States will make 20,000 additional visas available for seasonal, non-agricultural guest workers through March 31, including 6,500 visas for workers from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti, in an effort to encourage legal migration, a U.S. official told Reuters. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: Haitian Migrants File Lawsuit Protesting Treatment by Border Patrol**, Eileen Sullivan, December 20, 2021, 10:00 PM

Mirard Joseph was bringing food to his wife and child, he said, when a Border Patrol agent on horseback in Del Rio, Texas, “lashed at” him with his reins and dragged him by the collar toward the Rio Grande, which in that region separates the United States from Mexico. The treatment of Mr. Joseph, an undocumented immigrant who was seeking asylum but has been deported, and other Haitian migrants by agents in September is the subject of a federal investigation after President Biden described it as “outrageous” and promised that “there will be consequences.”

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Hill](#)

**CBS: U.S. to use border wall funds to close gaps and clean up Trump-era construction sites**, Camilo Montoya, December 20, 2021, 2:51 PM

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced Monday it will use border security funding allocated by Congress to close wall gaps and pay for environmental and clean-up projects in areas of Arizona, California and Texas affected by barrier construction undertaken by the Trump administration. The projects authorized by Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas include installing drainage to prevent flooding, mitigating soil erosion, completing roads used by Border Patrol agents, demobilizing construction and equipment storage sites and discarding unused materials.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Washington Times](#)

**Law360: 3rd Circ. Won't Reopen Abused Spouse's Deportation Case**, Alyssa Aquino, December 20, 2021, 7:57 PM

The Third Circuit refused to reopen an abused spouse's deportation proceedings 17 years after he was ordered removed, saying Monday that it couldn't disturb an immigration appellate board's ruling that the immigrant had waited too long to reopen the case.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: ACLU Says Feds Must Turn Over Asylum Denial Files**, Ivan Moreno, December 20, 2021, 7:38 PM

The American Civil Liberties Union in Maine wants a federal judge to compel U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to release files detailing why certain asylum applications are being denied, saying the agency is refusing to search for records it's required to post publicly.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Dem Lawmakers Rip Biden For Expanding 'Remain In Mexico'**, Mike LaSusa, December 20, 2021, 5:41 PM

A group of Democratic federal lawmakers on Monday criticized the Biden administration for expanding a Trump-era policy known as the Migrant Protection Protocols, which forces migrants to wait in Mexico during their immigration court cases.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Urge 9th Circ. Not to Rehear Calif. Private Prison Row**, Jennifer Doherty, December 20, 2021, 4:57 PM

The Biden administration and private prison company GEO Group Inc. have pushed back against California's bid to overturn a Ninth Circuit order blocking a state ban on private detention facilities, saying precedent is wholly on their side.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Trump-Backed Border Wall Gets Reinforcement Under Biden Agency**, Ellen M. Gilmer, December 20, 2021, 3:47 PM

The Biden administration will close gaps in U.S.-Mexico border barriers and complete construction on some related infrastructure amid increasing encounters with migrants attempting to cross illegally into the U.S.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**National Law Review: ICE Announces Extension to I-9 Compliance Flexibility Regarding Physical Document Inspection Requirements**, Ella Leviyeva, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM  
On Dec. 15, 2021, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) extended the flexibility previously afforded to the Form I-9 compliance rules regarding physical document inspection through April 30, 2022. ICE has announced that this flexibility will apply to employees hired on or after April 1, 2021, who work exclusively in a remote setting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related precautions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Border Patrol stops suspected terrorist from Saudi Arabia in Arizona**, Anna Giaritelli, December 20, 2021, 2:00 PM  
U.S. Border Patrol agents apprehended a suspected terrorist from Saudi Arabia in western Arizona late last week after he attempted to enter the United States illegally from Mexico. The 21-year-old man from Saudi Arabia was encountered by federal law enforcement on Dec. 16 wearing a jacket for the Volunteer Ambulance Corps in Central Oneida County, located in upstate New York. The man's name was not disclosed. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NY Post](#)

**Miami Herald: 37 Cuban migrants landed in Key West over the weekend, U.S. Border Patrol says**, David Goodhue, December 20, 2021, 5:29 PM  
The Florida Keys continue to see an influx of migrants landing on its shores and being stopped at sea. The U.S. Border Patrol on Monday said that 37 migrants from Cuba landed in Key West Saturday morning around 5:30 a.m. They arrived in two wooden fishing boats, said U.S. Customs and Border Protection Division Chief Adam Hoffner. They told agents they left from an area near Artemisa, Cuba, Hoffner said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGBT-CBS (Harlingen, TX): Multiple migrants, weapons discovered in stash house**, Victoria Lopez, December 20, 2021, 10:53 PM  
Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents arrested 34 migrants and seized two weapons from a La Joya stash house. On Saturday, a Parks and Wildlife State Park Police officer advised McAllen Border Patrol Station agents of multiple migrants being loaded into a white van in Mission. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KPRC-NBC (Houston, TX): After 3 months of decline, border encounters increase**, Robert Arnold, December 20, 2021, 6:58 PM  
After seeing modest decreases during late summer and early fall, the number of people either caught illegally crossing the United States' southern border or deemed inadmissible to the country increased during the month of November. According to Customs and Border Protection, agents reported 173,620 encounters last month, a 5% increase from Oct and a 142% increase from the same month last year. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ANTITRUST**

**Law360: DOJ Fight Over Treatment Of No-Poach Cases Heats Up**, Bryan Koenig, December 20, 2021, 9:48 PM  
Health care companies battling separate U. S. Department of Justice criminal no-poach cases criticized prosecutors in both of those cases Friday for citing an important procedural win in a wage-fixing case as favoring the government's side. The companies countered that agreements restricting worker hiring and recruitment cannot be lumped in with wage-fixing, as the feds

maintain. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**AP: Conservation groups to sue EPA over manatee deaths**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 11:40 AM

Three conservation groups filed a formal notice on Monday of their intent to sue the Environmental Protection Agency if it doesn't take steps to protect manatees from water pollution in Florida. Pollution-fueled algae blooms are cited as the cause of over half of the more than 1,000 manatee deaths in Florida this year, according to a news release from the Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife and Save the Manatee Club. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WESH-NBC \(Orlando, FL\)](#), [WOFL-Fox \(Orlando, FL\)](#)

**Law360: DC Circ. Sides With FERC Over Nonprofit's FOIA Suit**, Clark Mindock, December 20, 2021, 7:13 PM

The D.C. Circuit has said the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission need not provide more than the initials and street names of property owners potentially impacted by a now-discontinued pipeline project, rejecting a nonprofit's claims that full names were necessary. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**National Law Review: Feds Promise “More Stick Than Carrot” for Environmental Crimes Enforcement**, Kathy G. Beckett and William J. Powell, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Department of Justice's Environmental Crimes Section Chief, Deborah Harris, recently discussed environmental crime enforcement during an American Bar Association virtual conference. Ms. Harris told attendees that government investigators are “going back to a little more stick than carrot.” EPA's environmental investigators will focus on more vigorous criminal enforcement instead of merely evaluating corporate compliance efforts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 10th Circ. Urged To Revive BLM Fracking Permit Challenge**, Andrew Westney, December 20, 2021, 6:31 PM

Environmental groups have urged the Tenth Circuit to bring back their bid to block fracking near archeological and cultural sites in the Mancos Shale, saying the Bureau of Land Management had already decided it would approve hundreds of drilling permits before conducting an environmental review. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Biden Toughens Auto-Emissions Proposals Once Scorned as Weak**, Jennifer A. Dlouhy, December 20, 2021, 12:24 PM

The Biden administration is imposing limits on automobile greenhouse gas emissions that were toughened after environmentalists blasted its earlier proposal as too weak. The final standards, which govern the release of carbon dioxide from the tailpipes of cars and light trucks, roughly translate into fleet-wide fuel economy values of 55 miles (89 kilometers) per gallon in model year 2026. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Courthouse News](#)

**WPMT-Fox (York, PA): Two men found guilty of multiple counts of Clean Water Act violations**, Carly O'Neill, December 20, 2021, 10:49 AM

The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced today that two men of Greenfield Township were found guilty of multiple counts of Clean Water Act violations. After a nearly two-month trial, Bruce Evans, Sr., 68, and Bruce Evans, Jr., 40, were both found guilty on Dec. 17 for crimes committed between 2013 to 2017. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **TAX**

*Independent Record (Helena, MT): Montana lawyer liable for nearly \$9 million in penalties*, Holly Michels, December 20, 2021, 3:00 PM

A Montana lawyer who federal officials say earned more than \$19.62 million from promoting a tax shelter through improper deductions for donating timeshares is liable for \$8.46 million in penalties, according to the U.S. Department of Justice's Tax Division. James Tarpey, who formed Project Philanthropy Inc., which operated as Donate for a Cause, promoted a scheme where timeshare owners could donate their unwanted timeshares for large tax deductions, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*KARK-NBC (Little Rock, AR): Arkansas charges nursing home chain owner with over \$3 million in Medicaid and tax fraud*, Alexis Nalley, December 20, 2021, 6:41 PM

Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge announced Monday that a warrant has been issued for the arrest of the owner of a string of nursing homes, accusing him Medicaid and tax fraud. According to the attorney general's office, Joseph Schwartz once oversaw the care of more than 7,000 elderly Americans through his company Skyline Healthcare, but from 2017 to 2019, the chain saw more than a dozen Skyline nursing homes shut their doors. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

*Politico: How Amazon cultivates close ties to federal law enforcement*, Emily Birnbaum And Daniel Lippman, December 21, 2021, 4:30 AM

Amazon has found a powerful ally to help it protect its sprawling operations from fraud and abuse: the U.S. government. The company has increasingly tipped off the Justice Department and FBI to investigate Amazon's own employees and the sellers using its platform, according to a POLITICO analysis and a dozen interviews with Amazon employees, former federal prosecutors and financial crime experts. In addition, it has hired dozens of former DOJ and FBI employees, some of whom are filling out its internal teams aimed at policing its platform. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Cleveland Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH): Suspect wanted in 2020 shooting death of North Royalton man, Held Belongings Hostage*, Cliff Pinckard, December 20, 2021, 11:53 PM

Cleveland police and U.S. Marshals are searching for a suspect in the 2020 slaying of a North Royalton man. Alton Holloway, 38, has been charged with aggravated murder in the shooting death of John Dobrovic, 32, in Cleveland's Cudell neighborhood in August 2020. Two other suspects, Jovan Foster-Gant, 26, and Tiffany Greene, 27, currently are in custody. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Denver Gazette (Denver, CO): FBI Denver: Callers impersonating law enforcement officials to scam Colorado, Wyoming residents*, Morgan McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 9:35 PM

The FBI Denver Division is warning Colorado and Wyoming residents about a phone scam in which people posing as local law enforcement officials ask for payments. The scammers are calling potential victims in regards to supposed outstanding warrants or fines and asking for money the scammers claim will clear the victims' names, according to an FBI Denver news release. The callers use spoofed law enforcement phone numbers as well as names, positions

and addresses of actual local officers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NorthcentralPa.com (Williamsport, PA): U.S. Marshals looking for wanted man in Williamsport**, Brett Crossley, December 20, 2021, 9:00 PM

A man accused of selling crack and escaping from City Hall in Williamsport was spotted by detectives as he drove away from a house in Montoursville. Michael Nicholas Powell, 26, of Montoursville fled from officers in a vehicle with tinted windows, reaching highway speeds inside the city of Williamsport. Powell hit a tree and no parking sign at the intersection of Grampian Blvd. and Almond Street before fleeing on foot between houses, according to an affidavit. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Los Angeles Daily News: FBI: Huizar refused to ease suspicions of corruption at Las Vegas casino**, Fred Shuster, December 20, 2021, 5:52 PM

Jose Huizar was allegedly escorted out of a Las Vegas casino while he was a Los Angeles city councilman after he was identified by employees as an elected official and “politically exposed person” and refused to certify the source of his gambling money, according to documents filed by federal prosecutors on Monday, Dec. 20. The new papers were lodged in Los Angeles federal court in opposition to Huizar’s bid to suppress evidence obtained as a result of a search warrant. Prosecutors quote from a 36-page affidavit sworn to by an FBI special agent that was used to support the warrant. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOIN-CBS (Portland, OR): Centralia ATM blown up, money gone; 2 sought by FBI**, Tim Steele, December 20, 2021, 8:24 PM

Two people are being sought after using an “improvised explosive device” to break into a Centralia ATM and steal all the money. The explosion at the First Security Bank sent evidence 100 feet in every direction, police said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Voice (Mercer, NJ): FBI: NJ Moving Company Jacked Up Estimates, Held Belongings Hostage**, Jerry DeMarco, December 20, 2021, 6:54 PM

The FBI charged a Paterson fugitive captured in New Mexico, his brother and another man with ripping off vulnerable customers of their moving company. There may be more victims of 11Even Movers & Storage out there who haven’t contacted authorities, bureau officials said Monday, urging them to come forward. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOB-NBC (Albuquerque, NM): US Marshals join search for suspect in fatal River of Lights hit-and-run**, Ryan Laughlin, December 20, 2021, 5:37 PM

As Albuquerque police get ready to crack down on off-road vehicles along Central, the hunt is intensifying for the suspected driver who hit and killed a 7-old-boy who was crossing the street with his family. It has been eight days since 7-year-old Pronoy Bhattacharya was hit in the middle of the crosswalk. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KOAT-ABC \(Albuquerque, NM\)](#)

**KNWA-NBC (Rogers, AR): United States Marshals Museum to host winter camps for kids in Fort Smith**, Jacob Smith, December 20, 2021, 3:18 PM

The United States Marshals Museum announced in a press release its inaugural winter camp program for kids, taking place December 21-22 from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. in Fort Smith, Ark. These camps, called “A Christmas-y Crime Scene,” will be for both elementary-age children and families with kids in this age group. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCTI-ABC (New Bern, NC): U.S. Marshals offer \$2,500 reward for information on**

**Havelock shooting suspect**, Jordan Honeycutt, December 20, 2021, 3:00 PM

The U.S. Marshals are now offering a \$2,500 reward for information leading to the arrest of a man wanted by the Havelock PD in connection to the Four Kegs shooting from Oct. 9. Arthur Jackson Jr., 20, is wanted and has connections to Havelock, Camden, N.J. and Virginia. One person was killed in the shooting and another injured. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCHS-ABC (Charleston, WV): Suspect in Portsmouth, Ohio, shooting death arrested by**

**U.S. marshals**, Jeff Morris, December 20, 2021, 2:30 PM

Portsmouth, Ohio, police said a man was arrested in a homicide investigation. Tyriq Taylor, 21, of Portsmouth was taken into custody Monday by the U.S. Marshals Service in Columbus, Ohio, according to a news release from the Portsmouth Police Department. Taylor was arrested on an aggravated murder indictment issued by a Scioto County grand jury. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KVIA-ABC/CW (El Paso, TX): El Paso DEA has spike in fentanyl seizures amid national**

**crisis**, Rene Kladzyk, December 20, 2021, 2:35 PM

Seizures of fentanyl by the Drug Enforcement Administration within the city of El Paso rose 456% between the fiscal years 2020 and 2021 -- from 32 kilograms to 178 kilograms -- and El Paso DEA Acting Director Greg Millard said the trend has continued apace in recent months.

Regionally, the increase was even more dramatic. In the DEA's El Paso Division Area of Responsibility (which includes West Texas and the entire state of New Mexico), fentanyl seizures increased from 42 kilograms in the fiscal year 2020 to 300 kilograms in 2021, a 614% increase.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WITN-NBC (Washington, NC): U.S. Marshals offering \$2,500 reward for information on**

**Havelock shooting suspect**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 2:01 PM

The U.S. Marshals Service is offering up to \$2,500 for information leading to the arrest of a man wanted by the Havelock Police Department. 20-year-old Arthur Jackson Jr. is wanted for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. The charge stems from an Oct. 9th Havelock bar shooting where 35-year-old Robert Reels was killed and 26-year-old Isaiah Oden was wounded. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**WPRI-CBS (Providence, RI): Percoco, former Cuomo aide, released from federal prison**,

Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 11:25 PM

Joe Percoco, a one-time top aide and campaign manager to former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, is out of federal prison. He is now on track to be released from federal custody after serving time for bribery and fraud. According to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Percoco is no longer at the Otisville Prison in Orange County. He is being housed at a residential re-entry management office in Brooklyn. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**Reuters: Challengers ask U.S. Supreme Court to block Biden vaccine mandate for**

**businesses**, Lawrence Hurley, December 20, 2021, 6:04 PM

Business groups, religious entities and 27 U.S. states have urged the Supreme Court to block the

Biden administration's nationwide vaccine-or-testing COVID-19 mandate for large businesses, which covers around 80 million American workers. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg Law](#), [NBC](#)

**WaPo: Biden administration's vaccine requirements take center stage at Supreme Court,** Robert Barnes, December 20, 2021, 6:24 PM

The Biden administration's coronavirus protection requirements intended to persuade millions of health-care and other workers to get vaccinated are taking center stage at the Supreme Court. More than half the states and coalitions of business and religious groups are asking the justices for emergency action to block the administration's nationwide vaccine-or-testing mandate for large businesses, which would cover about 80 million workers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] The Supreme Court opened the door to legal vigilantism in Texas. California will use the same tool to save lives**, Gavin Newsom, December 20, 2021, 4:55 PM

It's outrageous that the Supreme Court continues to allow Texas to use the threat of civil lawsuits to nullify women's constitutional right to control their own bodies. But if this kind of lawmaking is fair play, then California will at least use this tool to save lives instead of harming them. That's why this month I called on California's legislature to send me a bill creating a similar way to take action against those who produce or sell assault weapons and "ghost guns" in California. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Supreme Court receives appeals asking Kavanaugh to block large employer vaccine mandate**, Ariane de Vogue, December 20, 2021, 1:00 PM

The Supreme Court Monday said it has received several appeals asking Justice Brett Kavanaugh to consider the Biden administration's requirement that large employers mandate their employees obtain a Covid-19 vaccine or submit to weekly testing. The appeals come as the pandemic rages globally and the omicron variant takes hold over the holiday season. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Justices Urged To Undo Fed. Circ.'s Qualcomm Ruling**, Edward Moreno, December 20, 2021, 8:02 PM

A trio of intellectual property lobbying groups, software company Thales and United Patents LLC told the U.S. Supreme Court to undo a Federal Circuit ruling saying that Apple doesn't have standing to appeal Patent Trial and Appeal Board rulings upholding two Qualcomm patents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Texas Says Justices Must Weigh In On Its Challenge To ICWA**, Victoria McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 9:32 PM

The state of Texas again has urged the U. S. Supreme Court to review the Indian Child Welfare Act, calling the law an unconstitutional "race based child custody scheme" that requires states to treat Native children "as resources to be managed for the benefit of their race, rather than in accordance with their best interests. "In a reply brief Friday, Texas officials said the Supreme Court must finally resolve constitutional questions raised by the 1978 law, which was enacted to limit the number of Native children being adopted outside their communities. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Slawson Drilling Suit Should Be Kept Alive, Tribe Says**, Humberto Rocha,

December 20, 2021, 6:07 PM

A Native American tribe told a North Dakota federal judge to ignore a magistrate judge's recommendation to dismiss its suit challenging government approval of eight drilling sites, arguing a recent Supreme Court ruling is "in tension with" the judge's report. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Feds Urge Justices To Rebuff Dakota Access Pipeline Petition**, Victoria McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 3:52 PM

The federal government has joined several tribes in urging the U.S. Supreme Court not to reconsider a D.C. Circuit decision vacating a key approval for the controversial 1,200-mile Dakota Access oil pipeline, saying the company failed to show any error in the opinion. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

**WTHR-NBC (Indianapolis, IN): Indiana trails neighboring states in move to legalize marijuana**, Madison Stacey, December 21, 2021, 12:20 AM

With Illinois and Michigan legalizing marijuana for recreational use in 2020, Ohio passing some medical marijuana measures, and Kentucky's governor saying he's open to medical marijuana legalization, Indiana may soon find itself alone if marijuana initiatives being pushed through the Statehouse by Democrats during the next legislative session don't pan out. Where our neighboring states are signing off on marijuana legalization in some capacity, legalizing weed for certain medical use or making recreational weed legal for adults, that's not the case in Indiana yet. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**CNBC: [VIDEO] Federal judge overturns Purdue Pharma's \$4.5 billion opioid settlement**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

A federal judge overturned Purdue Pharma's opioid settlement. The ruling said the company's owners could not receive protection from civil lawsuits in return for a \$4.5 billion settlement. [\[Watch\]](#)

**Boston Globe: Three New England states claim victory after judge overturns Purdue Pharma's sweeping opioid settlement**, Laura Crimaldi and Brian Amaral, December 20, 2021, 4:21 PM

In July, Massachusetts was among 15 states to reach a settlement with Purdue Pharma that required the disgraced drug maker to pay more than \$4 billion for its role in the opioid crisis. But last week, a federal judge overturned the settlement plan, ruling the bankruptcy court that approved the deal didn't have the authority to release the Sackler family from liability in civil cases related to its company's production of Oxycontin, a highly addictive prescription painkiller.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (Pittsburgh, PA): Westmoreland County signs on to \$26B settlement in opioid lawsuit**, Rich Cholodofsky, December 20, 2021, 2:58 PM

Westmoreland County on Monday signed up to be part of a proposed \$26 billion national settlement with three major drugmakers to end a lawsuit over the ongoing opioid epidemic. The county and its 11 largest municipalities would receive up to \$22 million over the next 18 years,

commissioners said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**LAT: Senator calls for FBI update on unsolved assassination of O.C. activist Alex Odeh,** Gabriel San Román, December 20, 2021, 9:19 PM

New revelations about a decades-old office bombing in Santa Ana that killed Palestinian American activist Alex Odeh have prompted U.S. Sen. Richard J. Durbin to demand an update from the FBI on the cold case investigation. Odeh was serving as West Coast regional director for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee when, on Oct. 11, 1985, he opened the door to his organization's Santa Ana office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Pelosi announces plans for ‘solemn observance’ of first anniversary of Jan. 6 insurrection,** Amy B Wang, December 20, 2021, 3:21 PM

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has indicated there will be a “full program of events” to mark the first anniversary of the Jan. 6 insurrection, in which a pro-Trump mob stormed the U.S. Capitol to try to stop the confirmation of President Biden’s electoral college win, a siege that resulted in five deaths and left some 140 law enforcement officers injured. In a letter to the Democratic caucus Monday, Pelosi (D-Calif.) noted the House would not be in session the first week of January but said some members had expressed interest in being involved in commemoration activities.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: DECEMBER 20, 2021**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Margaret Brennan**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Long lines for COVID-19 testing can be found across the US as cases have increased nearly 45% since the start of the month. Health officials are urging Americans to cancel holiday plans due to the rapid spread of the Omicron COVID-19 variant. Protests against returning COVID-19 restrictions and mandates in Europe continue as countries battle to contain the Omicron COVID-19 variant heading into the holiday. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#)]
- Democrats are trying to revive President Biden's "Build Back Better" spending plan after failing to gain a majority of votes in the Senate. The White House called Sen. Manchin's rejection of the bill, "a breach of his commitments to the president." [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A group of 12 missionaries in Haiti found freedom last week by using the stars to navigate and reach safety after a two-month kidnapping ordeal, officials with the Christian Aid Ministries said Monday. [[CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The trial of former Brooklyn Center Police Officer Kim Potter charged in the death of

Daunte Wright, a 20-year-old Black man who was fatally shot during a traffic stop, continues with Potter taking the stand to testify in her own defense. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]

- The fate of Ghislaine Maxwell, the longtime associate of serial sex offender Jeffrey Epstein who is facing charges related to the alleged abuse and trafficking of underage girls, has been placed in the hands of a 12-person jury. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- Vice President Kamala Harris was expected to cast a tie-breaking vote to send the "Build Back Better" bill to President Biden's desk for final approval. Now, Democrats are scrambling after Senator Joe Manchin pulled support for the spending plan. [[CBS](#)]
- In 1971, President Richard Nixon signed the "National Cancer Act." Since then, fatality rates for all cancers have dropped 27%. [[CBS](#)]
- A 6.2 magnitude earthquake off the coast of Northern California rattled a wide swath of the state shortly after noon local time, according to data from the US Geological Survey. The quake occurred just off Cape Mendocino near Humboldt County and was felt as far away as San Francisco and Chico, California. [[ABC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- "Biden to expand access to free home tests, send resources to aid hospitals in need" [[WaPo](#), [NYT](#), [WSJ](#)]
- "Behind Manchin's Opposition, a Long History of Fighting Climate Measures" [[NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]
- "What NASA's Perseverance Rover Has Learned After 10 Months on Mars" [[WSJ](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Watson, Theresa (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Davidson, Marcia A. (OAG)  
**Sent:** December 21, 2021 6:59 AM (UTC-05:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** December 21, 2021 at 6:45:03 AM EST  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
December 21, 2021  
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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: DECEMBER 21, 2021**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**Washington Times: Chicago mayor asks feds: Send help to stem gun crime**, Emily Zantow, December 20, 2021, 6:00 PM

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot on Monday said she has asked Attorney General Merrick Garland to send federal agents to the city to help address gun crimes. Ms. Lightfoot, a Democrat, said she requested agents from the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Bureau to be deployed to the city for six months to help with gun seizures and investigations. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WFLD-Fox \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WGN \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WLS-ABC \(Chicago, IL\)](#), [WMAQ-NBC \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

**Lawfare: [ANALYSIS] Merrick Garland Needs to Speak Up**, Andrew Kent, Quinta Jurecic, and Benjamin Wittes, December 21, 2021, 5:00 AM

Attorney General Merrick Garland is taking a great deal of criticism these days. He's being attacked for not having indicted former President Trump, for not having brought cases faster against witnesses who have defied the Jan. 6 committee, and for not having moved more aggressively against political figures for their supposed involvement in the Jan. 6 insurrection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **DOJ GRANTS**

**KUAR-NPR (Little Rock, AR): Department of Justice awards Little Rock \$1 million for violence reduction, community schools**, Daniel Breen, December 20, 2021, 2:46 PM

Little Rock city officials say a new grant from the U.S. Department of Justice will help cut down on crime through investing in education. Mayor Frank Scott Jr. announced Monday the \$1 million grant will go to the Little Rock School District's Community Schools Initiative. In a news conference, he also said the funding will help complement other community programs aimed at curbing violent crime. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KFGO-AM \(Fargo, ND\)](#)

**Grand Forks Herald (Grand Forks, NC): UND School of Law receives federal grants for Tribal Judicial Institute**, Adam Kurtz, December 20, 2021, 12:42 PM

The UND School of Law has received \$850,000 from two federal grants for its Tribal Judicial Institute. Information about the grants came from a Monday, Dec. 20, release from the office of Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-N.D. The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance gave the law school a \$600,000 grant to provide training and technical assistance in developing a response to an increase of crime at the tribal level. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHSV-ABC (Harrisonburg, VA): Page County Sheriff introduces program to combat opioid addiction**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 12:30 PM

Page County Sheriff Chad Cubbage took to Facebook to announce a new program that aims to reduce overdose deaths and the impact of opioids and other substances on individuals and communities. The sheriff's office was awarded a three-year grant, totaling \$600,000, which will be used for the program developed as part of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**AP: Kentucky man accused of providing material support to Islamic State**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 8:30 PM

A Kentucky man who traveled to Syria to join the Islamic State group was charged in an indictment unsealed Monday with providing support to the group, federal prosecutors said. Mirsad Hariz Adem Ramic, 31, of Bowling Green, was also charged with conspiring with others and receiving military type training from the group, prosecutors said. Ramic, who was incarcerated in Turkey, was deported and arrived in the U.S. last week. He made his initial appearance in court Monday. [Continue Reading] See also: [Bowling Green Daily News \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#), [KFVS-CBS \(Cape Girardeau, MO\)](#), [Louisville Courier Journal](#), [NBC](#), [Lexington Herald Leader \(Lexington, KY\)](#), [Washington Times](#), [WBKO-ABC/Fox/CW \(Bowling Green, KY\)](#), [WDRB-Fox \(Louisville, KY\)](#), [WEHT-CW \(Evansville, IN\)](#), [WLKY-CBS \(Louisville, KY\)](#)

**AP: Man who joined Capitol melee gets nearly 4 years in prison**, Michael Kunzelman, December 20, 2021, 8:00 PM

A man who joined a mob in one of the most violent attacks on police during the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol has been sentenced to nearly four years in prison. Devlyn Thompson expressed remorse for his actions before U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth sentenced him on Monday to three years and 10 months in prison. The 28-year-old from Washington state pleaded guilty in August to assaulting a police officer with a metal baton. [Continue Reading] See also: [Axios](#), [CNN](#), [Courthouse News](#), [KCPQ-Fox \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [KIRO-CBS \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#)

**AP: Pentagon issues rules aimed at stopping rise of extremism**, Lolita Baldor, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

Warning that extremism in the ranks is increasing, Pentagon officials issued detailed new rules Monday prohibiting service members from actively engaging in extremist activities. The new guidelines come nearly a year after some current and former service members participated in the riot at the U.S. Capitol, triggering a broad department review. According to the Pentagon, fewer than 100 military members are known to have been involved in substantiated cases of extremist activity in the past year. But they warn that the number may grow given recent spikes in domestic violent extremism, particularly among veterans. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [VOA](#)

**WaPo: Lead Capitol riot charge is constitutional, judges find Rachel Weiner**, December 20, 2021, 10:50 PM

Three federal judges have agreed that the most serious charge faced by those accused of participation in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol is constitutional, a victory for the Justice Department and a blow to the defendants fighting those accusations. The ruling came Monday evening from U.S. District Judge Amit B. Mehta, who is overseeing the prosecutions of more than a dozen people associated with the Oath Keepers, a self-styled militia group. Mehta joins judges Dabney L. Friedrich and Timothy J. Kelly, both of whom have moved to uphold the obstruction charges in other cases. [Continue Reading]

**WSJ: U.S. Prosecutors Went After Professors Working With China. Cases Are Faltering.**

Aruna Viswanatha and Sha Hua, December 20, 2021, 11:00 AM

In January 2020, Gang Chen and about two dozen other professors and students from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology traveled to Shenzhen, China, to talk about overlapping university research, visit local companies and interview students interested in studying at MIT. When Mr. Chen landed back at Boston's Logan airport, Customs and Border Protection agents pulled him aside, seized his laptop and two cellphones and began asking him what he had been

doing in China and why. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Judge rejects Oath Keepers' efforts to dismiss charge in January 6 prosecutions,** Katelyn Polantz, December 20, 2021, 9:36 PM

A federal judge has ruled against a notable attempt to throw out the felony charge that's the backbone of January 6 criminal prosecutions, bolstering the government's case against 17 Oath Keeper defendants accused of conspiring to overtake the US Capitol.

"The court is persuaded by none of their contentions," Judge Amit Mehta wrote in his Monday opinion of the Oath Keeper defendants' arguments to dismiss their felony obstruction of a congressional proceeding charge. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Beast: Actor Jay Johnston Told Me He Was at the Capitol Riot, Says Director,**

Marlow Stern, Asawin Suebsaeng, December 20, 2021, 10:21 PM

One of the biggest mysteries to emerge from the deadly insurrection of Jan. 6 was the identity of the man known to feds as No. 247. On March 4, the FBI shared a pair of photographs to its social media channels of a surly-looking fella spotted at the U.S. Capitol sporting a camouflage jacket and bandana. Many were quick to note that the man bore a striking resemblance to Jay Johnston, a journeyman actor best known for his comedic roles on Mr. Show, Arrested Development, and voicing the character Jimmy Pesto in Fox's animated hit Bob's Burgers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Hill: Overnight Defense & National Security — New rules try to tackle extremism in the ranks,** Ellen Mitchell, December 20, 2021, 7:06 PM

The Pentagon has released a new set of rules meant to curtail extremism in the ranks, updating previous guidance that was criticized as being unclear on what was acceptable behavior and what wasn't. We'll share what the new guidance is and how it factors in social media, plus the new lawsuit over the Pentagon's COVID-19 vaccine mandate and the Biden administration's most recent plea to Russia to deescalate its military buildup near the Ukraine border. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Examiner: Durham tells court members of Clinton 2016 campaign under scrutiny,** Jerry Dunleavy, December 20, 2021, 6:02 PM

Special counsel John Durham told a federal court that he is scrutinizing members of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign as part of his criminal inquiry into the origins and conduct of the Trump-Russia investigation. Durham's team asked a judge to "inquire into a potential conflict of interest" related to the lawyers for British ex-spy Christopher Steele's main anti-Trump dossier source, noting that a separate lawyer at their firm "is currently representing the 2016 'Hillary for America' presidential campaign, as well as multiple former employees of that campaign, in matters before the Special Counsel." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Meadville Tribune (Meadville, PA): Mercer County man pleads guilty in Capitol riot,** Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 AM

A Mercer County man faces the possibility of decades behind bars after his guilty plea to charges stemming from the Jan. 6 Capitol riot. Matthew Perna, 37, of Sharon pleaded guilty to felony obstruction of Congress and three misdemeanor charges associated with his entry into the Capitol on Jan. 6, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia said. He is scheduled for sentencing March 3. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Philadelphia Inquirer: Bucks County man gets probation after his wife posted about his**

**involvement in Capitol riot on Facebook**, Oona Goodin-Smith, December 20, 2021, 6:20 PM  
A Bucks County man whose wife's Facebook postings tipped the FBI off to his part in the mob that stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6 told a federal judge Monday that he was "ashamed" for his role which included entering the breached building for more than 20 minutes and walking into a ransacked U.S. senator's office and that it was only after the couple watched the New York Times video report on the day that they saw the full scope of the violence. Appearing in federal court in Washington, Gary Edwards, 68, of Churchville, was sentenced to one year of probation, 200 hours of community service, and to pay a fine of \$2,500. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJXT-CW (Jacksonville, FL): Middleburg couple guilty on Capitol riot charges get probation, ordered to pay \$500**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 2:34 PM

Rachael Pert and Dana Winn, the Middleburg couple who pleaded guilty to charges related to participating in the January riot at the U.S. Capitol, were sentenced to probation and ordered to pay \$500 in restitution. The sentencing hearing for Pert and Winn of Middleburg was in-person in Washington D.C. on Monday. Pert was sentenced to 24-months probation and Winn was sentenced to 12-months probation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE**

**AP: Jan. 6 committee seeks interview with GOP Rep. Scott Perry**, Farnoush Amiri and Mary Clare Jalonick, December 20, 2021, 6:27 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection requested an interview with Republican Rep. Scott Perry of Pennsylvania on Monday, marking the first time the committee publicly sought to interview a sitting member of Congress. The latest request launches a new phase for the lawmakers on the committee, who have so far resisted going after one of their own as they investigate the insurrection by President Donald Trump's supporters and his efforts to overturn the election. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Daily Beast](#), [The Hill](#), [Newsweek](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#)

**Reuters: Alex Jones of Infowars to invoke right not to testify to U.S. Capitol riot panel**, Jan Wolfe, December 20, 2021, 6:04 PM

Alex Jones, the conspiracy theorist and founder of the right-wing website Infowars, said on Monday said he will invoke his right under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and decline to testify before the congressional panel probing the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [NPR](#), [Politico](#)

**NYT: Jan. 6 Committee Weighs Possibility of Criminal Referrals**, Michael S. Schmidt and Luke Broadwater, December 20, 2021, 7:36 PM

When the House formed a special committee this summer to investigate the Jan. 6 Capitol assault, its stated goal was to compile the most authoritative account of what occurred and make recommendations to ensure it never happens again. But as investigators sifted through troves of documents, metadata and interview transcripts, they started considering whether the inquiry could yield something potentially more consequential: evidence of criminal conduct by President Donald J. Trump or others that they could send to the Justice Department urging an investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Guardian](#), [The Week](#)

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

**AP: Ghislaine Maxwell jury begins deliberations after closings**, Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays, December 20, 2021, 10:30 PM

A jury began deliberations Monday, tasked with considering whether Ghislaine Maxwell is a dangerous predator who recruited teens to be sexually abused by financier Jeffrey Epstein as prosecutors put it or the “innocent woman” a defense attorney described. The jury received the case just before 5 p.m. after two prosecutors and a defense lawyer delivered their closing arguments over a six-hour period. They deliberated less than an hour and went home after being told to return at 9 a.m. Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Man to plead guilty in Tom Brady Super Bowl ring fraud**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 9:15 PM

A New Jersey man who posed as a former New England Patriots player in order to buy and sell Super Bowl rings that he claimed were gifts to Tom Brady’s family will plead guilty to fraud, federal prosecutors said Monday. The plea agreement by Scott V. Spina Jr., 24, of Roseland was filed Monday in Los Angeles federal court. Spina will plead guilty to five felony charges of wire fraud, mail fraud and aggravated identity theft, the U.S. attorney’s office for the Central District of California announced. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Reuters: Swiss extradite Kremlin-linked Russian businessman to United States**, Nate Raymond, December 20, 2021, 5:07 PM

A Russian government-linked businessman who was extradited to the United States from Switzerland carried out a global, multi-million-dollar insider trading scheme using corporate information stolen from U.S. computer networks, prosecutors said on Monday. Vladislav Klyushin, whose company offers media monitoring and cybersecurity services to clients including the Russian government, was charged by federal prosecutors in Boston along with four other Russians. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [AP](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Boston Herald](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC](#), [The Republican \(Springfield, MA\)](#), [UPI](#), [VOA](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#), [WCVB-ABC \(Boston, MA\)](#)

**Reuters: U.S. authorities charge Chicago doctor with insider trading**, Chris Prentice, December 20, 2021, 4:15 PM

U.S. authorities have charged a Chicago doctor with insider trading, accusing him of using nonpublic information about drug trial results to reap illicit profits from buying shares of a California-based biotechnology company. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and federal prosecutors in Illinois said in statements on Monday they have charged a gastrointestinal medical oncologist Daniel V.T. Catenacci related to trading in securities of Five Prime Therapeutics Inc. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NY Post](#)

**NYT: 76-Year-Old Man Is Charged With 1978 Killing of Queens Girl**, Jesus Jiménez, December 20, 2021, 8:26 PM

In March 1978, a 15-year-old girl from Queens traveled to San Francisco for Easter to visit her half sister. Days after her arrival, her body was found near Golden Gate Park. She had been strangled. [...] Mr. Personette was charged with one count of homicide on Thursday after a joint operation in the suburbs of Denver conducted by the San Francisco Police Department’s homicide detail, the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Jefferson County, Colo., Sheriff’s Office, the Police Department announced in a statement on Sunday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: [ANALYSIS] A man was sentenced to prison for threatening journalists. I was one of them**, Brian Stelter, December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

Many reporters are sadly accustomed to receiving threats and harassment in connection with their work. For some, the intimidation can have a chilling effect. For others, it can become like brutal background noise, accepted as part of the job, even when the threats rise to the level of a felony. That's why I want to share what I experienced on Monday. I was a part of something unusual: Justice. In a federal courtroom in lower Manhattan, Robert Lemke, a California man and devoted Donald Trump supporter, was sentenced to three years in prison after pleading guilty to sending threats to lawmakers and members of the media. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NBC](#), [NY Daily News](#)

**Orange County Register: Ex-USC football player from OC accused of COVID-19**

**unemployment benefits scheme**, Brian Rokos, December 20, 2021, 9:43 PM

A former USC football player from Orange County was arrested Monday, Dec. 20, after being accused of running a scheme in which he and other football players filed for hundreds of thousands of dollars in COVID-19-related unemployment benefits. Abdul-Malik McClain, 22, who now attends Jackson State in Jackson, Mississippi, pleaded not guilty in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles to 10 counts of mail fraud and two counts of aggravated identity theft. He was released after posting \$20,000 bond. He is due back in court on Feb. 15. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Baltimore Sun: Baltimore man sentenced to 40 years in prison for role in deadly carjackings, robberies**, Kelly Broderick, December 20, 2021, 9:03 PM

A U.S. District Judge sentenced 27-year-old Karon Foster of Baltimore to 40 years in federal prison, plus three years of supervised release, for his role in a series of deadly carjackings and robberies in Baltimore in 2019. Prosecutors said Foster ran the enterprise, deciding which of his associates would commit carjackings and robberies, pawning the stolen goods and divvying the proceeds among the participants. In July, Foster pleaded guilty to conspiracy to participate in racketeering activity, to a carjacking conspiracy, and to aiding and abetting a carjacking resulting in death. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WBFF-Fox \(Baltimore, MD\)](#), [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**The Sacramento Bee: Texas man cyberstalked woman who refused his romantic advances, feds say**, Vandana Ravikumar, December 20, 2021, 8:00 PM

A Texas man pleaded guilty to two counts of cyberstalking after he was accused of using hundreds of social media and phone accounts, and other electronic means to harass a woman, federal authorities said. The messages Desmond Babloo Signh sent included "threats of death, bodily injury, sexualized violence, and racial slurs," according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office in the District of Maryland. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Dallas Morning News: Irving man gets 14 years in federal prison for having unregistered guns, dealing cocaine and heroin**, Jamie Landers, December 20, 2021, 7:34 PM

An Irving man was sentenced Monday to 14 years in federal prison for possessing multiple unregistered firearms and drug trafficking, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Texas announced. In March, 23-year-old Ramon Navarro III pleaded guilty to four counts of an unregistered firearm and eight counts of distribution of controlled substances, the U.S. attorney's office said in a news release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KTIV-CBS \(Fort Worth, TX\)](#)

**The Republican (Springfield, MA): Springfield man sentenced to more than 2 years behind**

**bars after pleading guilty to dealing cocaine and fentanyl in Vermont**, Jeanette DeForge,

December 20, 2021, 6:32 PM

A Springfield man was sentenced to more than two years behind bars after pleading guilty to dealing cocaine base and fentanyl in northern Vermont two years ago. Elijah Jovann Wheeler-Watson, 25, was sentenced on Monday in U.S. District Court in Burlington, Vermont, to 30 months in prison followed by four years of supervised release, according to a statement from Vermont U.S. attorney Nikolas P. Kerest. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WTEN-ABC \(Albany, NY\)](#)

**The Fresno Bee: MS-13 gang member sentenced. How Fresno-area authorities used a wiretap to catch him**, Bethany Clough, December 20, 2021, 6:05 PM

An MS-13 gang member from Mendota was sentenced to five years and three months in prison for several crimes, including a knife attack that sent a man to the hospital and dealing drugs.

Lorenzo Amador, 23, was sentenced Friday. Amador is a member of La Mara Salvatrucha or MS-13, a violent criminal gang known for murder, kidnapping and drug trafficking, according to court documents and a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Eastern District of California office.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch: Northwoods man faces 30 years after admitting fatal carjacking**,

Robert Patrick, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

A man from Northwoods faces 30 years in prison after he admitted killing a St. Louis woman while stealing her car in 2019. Anthony D. Jones Jr., 29, pleaded guilty Monday in U.S. District Court in St. Louis to carjacking resulting in death, a gun charge and two counts of witness tampering.

Jones admitted shooting Jessica Vinson on May 4, 2019, before stealing her 2015 Dodge Charger. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Detroit News: Ex-FBI agent in Whitmer kidnap plot enters plea in case tied to wife's assault**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 3:08 PM

Former FBI Special Agent Richard Trask, the lead investigator in the Gov. Gretchen Whitmer kidnapping conspiracy case, pleaded no contest Monday to aggravated assault charges stemming from allegations he beat his wife in July after returning home from a swingers party. Trask entered the plea to the misdemeanor offense before Kalamazoo County Circuit Judge Gary Giguere, court officials said. He was sentenced to time served and ordered to pay court costs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Miami Herald: Teen girls given money and drugs in exchange for sexual favors by diner owner, feds say**, Mike Stunson, December 20, 2021, 12:36 PM

An Iowa man convicted of grooming high school girls and providing them with money, alcohol or drugs in exchange for sexual favors was sentenced to three decades in prison, feds say. Hershel James Ratliff, 71, of Council Bluffs, was convicted in July of six counts of human trafficking and one count of distribution of a controlled substance to a minor, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NJ Metro Breaking News: Newark Man Sentenced to Three Years for Weapons Possession, Fraud**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 12:12 PM

An Essex County man was sentenced today to 36 months in prison for illegally possessing a firearm and conspiring to defraud two banks of \$250,000 using stolen credit cards and blank checks, U.S. Attorney Philip R. Sellinger announced. According to U.S. Attorney Sellinger, Tamir Duval, 23, of Newark, previously pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with illegal

possession of a firearm by a previously convicted felon and to an information charging him with conspiracy to commit bank fraud. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WVNS-CBS/Fox (Lewisburg, WV): Man pleads guilty to federal gun crime in Beckley,** Casey Gentile, December 20, 2021, 9:28 PM

A man from Beckley will spend at least five years behind bars after pleading guilty to a having a gun in furtherance of drug trafficking on Monday, December 20, 2021. According to documents and statements made in federal court, Curtis Harris, 34, of Beckley, sold 2.5 grams of fentanyl and a Cobra .380 handgun for \$550 to someone working undercover on March 4, 2021. On March 11, 2021, officers used someone undercover for a second controlled purchase of fentanyl. Harris sold 14 grams of fentanyl to the informant for \$1400. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHP-CBS (Harrisburg, PA): Ghanaian citizens sentenced for fraud conspiracy related to a romance scam in Central PA,** Carly O'Neill, December 20, 2021, 9:00 PM

Ibrahim Adam, 33, and Kelvin Aggrey-Arthur, 28, both Ghanaian citizens, have been sentenced to prison for conspiring to commit wire fraud, according to the United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Adam was sentenced Monday to 33 months' imprisonment. Aggrey-Arthur was sentenced to 40 months' imprisonment on December 17. Both sentences also include a two-year term of supervised release, which will follow the term of imprisonment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPNX-NBC (Phoenix, AZ): Former Tucson insurance agent gets prison time for million dollar fraud scheme,** Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 8:46 PM

A former Tucson insurance agent was sentenced to 51 months in prison for cheating her elderly clients out of a million dollars, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. Officials say Koreasa M. Williams, 46, admitted she defrauded nine of her clients out of \$1,064,522. Williams said she sent forms to various life insurance companies asking to withdraw funds from her clients' annuities without their knowledge and consent. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTAP-NBC (Parkersburg, WV): Three Parkersburg defendants plead guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine,** Samantha Cavalli, December 20, 2021, 7:59 PM

According to a news release, three Parkersburg defendants pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine after a nearly year-long investigation. Thirty-four-year-old Ambera Roberts, 31-year-old Matthew Edward Depew, and 46-year-old Era Dawn Corder admitted acquiring and re-distributing large quantities of methamphetamine to advance the conspiracy. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNCN-CBS (Goldsboro, NC): Teller who took \$600,000+ from credit union vault was nabbed 2 years later as drug dealer in Durham, feds say,** Rodney Overton, December 20, 2021, 7:09 PM

A Virginia credit union worker who stole more than \$600,000 from the vault vanished for more than two years only to be found by police as an armed drug dealer in Durham earlier this year, officials said. Jorge Omar Navarro, 30, was found in late March when using a fake ID he claimed he was robbed at gunpoint in Durham, the U.S. Justice Department said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WDBJ-CBS \(Roanoke, VA\)](#), [WFXR-Fox \(Roanoke, VA\)](#), [WSLS-NBC \(Roanoke, VA\)](#)

**WFSB-CBS (Hartford, CT): Waterbury man charged with wire fraud after USPS theft,** Olivia

Kalentek, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM

A Waterbury man pleaded guilty to wire fraud related to his theft of U.S. Postal Service (USPS) funds. According to court documents, Lindim Asipi, 44, was a motor vehicle service driver for the USPS based in Waterbury. Court documents say the Waterbury USPS provided Asipi with a credit card which allowed him to buy gas. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHEC-NBC (Rochester, NY): Phelps man pleads guilty to production of child pornography, drug conspiracy**, Brian Stelter, December 20, 2021, 6:16 PM

An Ontario County man has pleaded guilty to production of child pornography and methamphetamine conspiracy charges. Federal prosecutors say Timothy Wright, 33, of Phelps will be sentenced to at least 25 years behind bars. His case started back in July of 2019 after Snapchat reported child pornography to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and two files led police to Wright. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSOC-ABC/Telemundo (Charlotte, NC): Charlotte man convicted of robbing Ballantyne business at gunpoint**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 5:44 PM

A federal jury convicted a Charlotte man for robbing a Ballantyne metals exchange business at gunpoint, the office of the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina announced on Monday. Valentino Cabral Darosa, 29, was convicted of robbery of a business affecting interstate commerce, as well as carrying a firearm during a crime of violence and possession of a firearm by a felon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): P.G. Co. man pleads guilty to fraud scheme targeting elderly, & COVID fraud scheme**, Bryna Zumer, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

A Prince George's County man who is a Nigerian national pleaded guilty today to stealing about \$478,000 from elderly victims in a fraud scheme, and stealing more than \$7,000 from Maryland and the U.S. government while filing fraudulent COVID-related unemployment claims. Thirty-five-year-old Hyattsville resident Oluwaseyi Akinyemi - also known as "Paddy Linkin" and Joseph Kadin" - faces up to 20 years in federal prison for each of two counts of mail fraud, according to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMGH-ABC (Denver, CO): Man sentenced to 18 years in federal prison for armed carjacking**, Sydney Isenberg, December 20, 2021, 4:52 PM

A man has been sentenced to 18 years in federal prison for a June armed carjacking on I-270 in Commerce City. Drivers were slowing down to capture images and videos of a 26-foot Penske truck on fire off Vasquez Boulevard, which had been reported stolen by a couple moving from North Carolina to Denver, Candice Morrell told Denver7 in June. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WMAR-ABC (Baltimore, MD): Former child protective officer sentenced to prison for the receipt and possession of child pornography**, Kelly Broderick, December 20, 2021, 4:46 PM

A former child protective officer has been sentenced to more than seven years in prison for the receipt and possession of child pornography. According to testimony presented at his trial, 40-year-old Jean Buteau Remarque, who previously held positions at the International Bureau of Children's Rights in Montreal, Canada, and as a Child Protective Officer for the United Nations in Africa engaged in sexually explicit conversations with a 15-year-old female [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WTEN-ABC (Albany, NY): Albany man convicted on drug trafficking charge**, Sara Rizzo,

December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

An Albany man has been convicted of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. The United States Department of Justice said Tyler Purvis-Mitchell, 27, was found guilty after a four-day jury trial. Evidence at trial found that on May 7, 2020, Purvis-Mitchell possessed with the intent to distribute more than 125 pills containing meth in his residence and his vehicle. The pills weighed more than 50 grams in total. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Springfield, MA): RI Man Admits To Fraudulent COVID-19 Unemployment Claims,**

Rachel Nunes, December 20, 2021, 2:12 PM

A Providence man admitted to using stolen identities to fraudulently apply for unemployment insurance in several states, Rhode Island U.S. Attorney Zachary Cunha's Office said. Courtney Hilaire, 29, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud, fourteen counts of wire fraud, two counts of aggravated identity theft, conspiracy to possess more than fifteen unauthorized access devices and possession of device making equipment. Hilaire was indicted on 17 charges in April. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WPMT-Fox (York, PA): Harrisburg man sentenced to 12.5 years in prison for drug trafficking, illegal possession of a firearm,** Keith Schweigert, December 20, 2021, 9:48 AM

A Harrisburg man will serve more than 12 years in prison after a sentencing hearing in federal court earlier this month, the U.S. Attorney's Office announced. Terrance Harden, 30, was sentenced to 151 months in prison by U.S. District Court Judge Sylvia H. Rambo after being convicted on charges of possession with intent to deliver cocaine and fentanyl and possession of a firearm by a prohibited person, according to U.S. Attorney John C. Gurganus. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

**AP: US to landlords, lenders: heed pro-military housing rules,** Unattributed, December 21, 2021, 4:00 AM

The Department of Justice and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau are warning mortgage servicers and landlords to heed rules meant to protect members of the U.S. military against foreclosure, eviction and other potential housing-related financial hardships during the pandemic. The move, announced Monday, comes as forbearance programs put in place in the early weeks of the pandemic last year to allow homeowners to hit pause on their mortgage payments are set to expire at the end of the month. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [HousingWire](#)

**AP: DOJ alleges discrimination against ophthalmology practice,** Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 5:00 PM

The U.S. Justice Department alleges in a lawsuit that a Tempe-based ophthalmology practice discriminates against patients with mobility disabilities by requiring them to hire support workers to bring them to and from its facilities for outpatient eye surgery. The lawsuit filed on Monday alleges that the policy by Barnet Dulaney Perkins Eye Center imposes a disability-based surcharge on such patients. The Justice Department said such assistance for patients who need help in transferring from their wheelchairs to the surgical table is routinely provided by health care providers across the country. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**USA Today: DOJ investigations in Phoenix, Louisville send a message: Policing is under the microscope,** Jimmy Jenkins and Tessa Duvall., December 21, 2021, 5:01 AM

It was no surprise when the U.S. Department of Justice landed in Louisville, Kentucky, last April to announce it was investigating policing in the troubled city. The Louisville Metro Police Department had been under a national spotlight for nearly a year, since protesters began demanding justice for Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman police shot dead in her home March 2020 while attempting to serve a search warrant. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ABC: Derek Chauvin wants to go to federal prison, even though it means he'll do more time**, Bill Hutchinson, December 21, 2021, 6:01 AM

Former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin pleaded guilty to killing George Floyd in 2020 -- when he dug his knee into the back of the Black man's neck even though he was aware Floyd had lost consciousness and pulse. But in exchange for his plea, Chauvin, 45, made one request: that he be allowed to do his time in federal prison, even if it means he will serve a longer sentence. [] While he was sentenced by Hennepin County Judge Peter Cahill to serve 22-and-a-half years in state prison, Chauvin could have been paroled in less than 15 years, assuming he accumulated all good-time credit, according to the federal agreement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**AP: Trump sues NY attorney general, seeking to halt civil probe**, Michael Sisak, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

Former President Donald Trump sued New York Attorney General Letitia James on Monday, resorting to a familiar but seldom successful strategy as he seeks to end a yearslong civil investigation into his business practices that he alleges is purely political. In the lawsuit, filed in federal court two weeks after James requested that Trump sit for a Jan. 7 deposition, Trump contends the probe into matters including his company's valuation of assets has violated his constitutional rights in a "thinly-veiled effort to publicly malign Trump and his associates."

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Courthouse News](#), [NBC](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#), [WSJ](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Missouri Court Latest to Block Biden Contractor Vaccine Mandate**, Erin Mulvaney, December 20, 2021, 7:40 PM

A federal court in Missouri blocked the Biden administration's Covid-19 vaccine mandate for government contractors in 10 states, becoming the latest to grant an injunction as part of a series of challenges to the president's power to set workplace requirements via executive order.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**Reuters: Biden to raise number of guest worker visas, with more for Haiti, Central America**, Ted Hesson, December 20, 2021, 1:37 PM

The United States will make 20,000 additional visas available for seasonal, non-agricultural guest workers through March 31, including 6,500 visas for workers from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Haiti, in an effort to encourage legal migration, a U.S. official told Reuters. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: Haitian Migrants File Lawsuit Protesting Treatment by Border Patrol**, Eileen Sullivan, December 20, 2021, 10:00 PM

Mirard Joseph was bringing food to his wife and child, he said, when a Border Patrol agent on horseback in Del Rio, Texas, “lashed at” him with his reins and dragged him by the collar toward the Rio Grande, which in that region separates the United States from Mexico. The treatment of Mr. Joseph, an undocumented immigrant who was seeking asylum but has been deported, and other Haitian migrants by agents in September is the subject of a federal investigation after President Biden described it as “outrageous” and promised that “there will be consequences.”

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Hill](#)

**CBS: U.S. to use border wall funds to close gaps and clean up Trump-era construction sites**, Camilo Montoya, December 20, 2021, 2:51 PM

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced Monday it will use border security funding allocated by Congress to close wall gaps and pay for environmental and clean-up projects in areas of Arizona, California and Texas affected by barrier construction undertaken by the Trump administration. The projects authorized by Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas include installing drainage to prevent flooding, mitigating soil erosion, completing roads used by Border Patrol agents, demobilizing construction and equipment storage sites and discarding unused materials.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Washington Times](#)

**Law360: 3rd Circ. Won't Reopen Abused Spouse's Deportation Case**, Alyssa Aquino, December 20, 2021, 7:57 PM

The Third Circuit refused to reopen an abused spouse's deportation proceedings 17 years after he was ordered removed, saying Monday that it couldn't disturb an immigration appellate board's ruling that the immigrant had waited too long to reopen the case.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: ACLU Says Feds Must Turn Over Asylum Denial Files**, Ivan Moreno, December 20, 2021, 7:38 PM

The American Civil Liberties Union in Maine wants a federal judge to compel U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to release files detailing why certain asylum applications are being denied, saying the agency is refusing to search for records it's required to post publicly.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Dem Lawmakers Rip Biden For Expanding 'Remain In Mexico'**, Mike LaSusa, December 20, 2021, 5:41 PM

A group of Democratic federal lawmakers on Monday criticized the Biden administration for expanding a Trump-era policy known as the Migrant Protection Protocols, which forces migrants to wait in Mexico during their immigration court cases.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Urge 9th Circ. Not to Rehear Calif. Private Prison Row**, Jennifer Doherty, December 20, 2021, 4:57 PM

The Biden administration and private prison company GEO Group Inc. have pushed back against California's bid to overturn a Ninth Circuit order blocking a state ban on private detention facilities, saying precedent is wholly on their side.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Trump-Backed Border Wall Gets Reinforcement Under Biden Agency**,

Ellen M. Gilmer, December 20, 2021, 3:47 PM

The Biden administration will close gaps in U.S.-Mexico border barriers and complete construction on some related infrastructure amid increasing encounters with migrants attempting to cross illegally into the U.S.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**National Law Review: ICE Announces Extension to I-9 Compliance Flexibility Regarding Physical Document Inspection Requirements**, Ella Leviyeva, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM  
On Dec. 15, 2021, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) extended the flexibility previously afforded to the Form I-9 compliance rules regarding physical document inspection through April 30, 2022. ICE has announced that this flexibility will apply to employees hired on or after April 1, 2021, who work exclusively in a remote setting due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related precautions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Border Patrol stops suspected terrorist from Saudi Arabia in Arizona**, Anna Giaritelli, December 20, 2021, 2:00 PM  
U.S. Border Patrol agents apprehended a suspected terrorist from Saudi Arabia in western Arizona late last week after he attempted to enter the United States illegally from Mexico. The 21-year-old man from Saudi Arabia was encountered by federal law enforcement on Dec. 16 wearing a jacket for the Volunteer Ambulance Corps in Central Oneida County, located in upstate New York. The man's name was not disclosed. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NY Post](#)

**Miami Herald: 37 Cuban migrants landed in Key West over the weekend, U.S. Border Patrol says**, David Goodhue, December 20, 2021, 5:29 PM  
The Florida Keys continue to see an influx of migrants landing on its shores and being stopped at sea. The U.S. Border Patrol on Monday said that 37 migrants from Cuba landed in Key West Saturday morning around 5:30 a.m. They arrived in two wooden fishing boats, said U.S. Customs and Border Protection Division Chief Adam Hoffner. They told agents they left from an area near Artemisa, Cuba, Hoffner said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGBT-CBS (Harlingen, TX): Multiple migrants, weapons discovered in stash house**, Victoria Lopez, December 20, 2021, 10:53 PM  
Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents arrested 34 migrants and seized two weapons from a La Joya stash house. On Saturday, a Parks and Wildlife State Park Police officer advised McAllen Border Patrol Station agents of multiple migrants being loaded into a white van in Mission. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KPRC-NBC (Houston, TX): After 3 months of decline, border encounters increase**, Robert Arnold, December 20, 2021, 6:58 PM  
After seeing modest decreases during late summer and early fall, the number of people either caught illegally crossing the United States' southern border or deemed inadmissible to the country increased during the month of November. According to Customs and Border Protection, agents reported 173,620 encounters last month, a 5% increase from Oct and a 142% increase from the same month last year. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ANTITRUST**

**Law360: DOJ Fight Over Treatment Of No-Poach Cases Heats Up**, Bryan Koenig, December 20, 2021, 9:48 PM  
Health care companies battling separate U. S. Department of Justice criminal no-poach cases criticized prosecutors in both of those cases Friday for citing an important procedural win in a wage-fixing case as favoring the government's side. The companies countered that agreements restricting worker hiring and recruitment cannot be lumped in with wage-fixing, as the feds

maintain. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**AP: Conservation groups to sue EPA over manatee deaths**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 11:40 AM

Three conservation groups filed a formal notice on Monday of their intent to sue the Environmental Protection Agency if it doesn't take steps to protect manatees from water pollution in Florida. Pollution-fueled algae blooms are cited as the cause of over half of the more than 1,000 manatee deaths in Florida this year, according to a news release from the Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife and Save the Manatee Club. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WESH-NBC \(Orlando, FL\)](#), [WOFL-Fox \(Orlando, FL\)](#)

**Law360: DC Circ. Sides With FERC Over Nonprofit's FOIA Suit**, Clark Mindock, December 20, 2021, 7:13 PM

The D.C. Circuit has said the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission need not provide more than the initials and street names of property owners potentially impacted by a now-discontinued pipeline project, rejecting a nonprofit's claims that full names were necessary. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**National Law Review: Feds Promise “More Stick Than Carrot” for Environmental Crimes Enforcement**, Kathy G. Beckett and William J. Powell, December 20, 2021, 7:00 PM

The Department of Justice's Environmental Crimes Section Chief, Deborah Harris, recently discussed environmental crime enforcement during an American Bar Association virtual conference. Ms. Harris told attendees that government investigators are “going back to a little more stick than carrot.” EPA's environmental investigators will focus on more vigorous criminal enforcement instead of merely evaluating corporate compliance efforts. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: 10th Circ. Urged To Revive BLM Fracking Permit Challenge**, Andrew Westney, December 20, 2021, 6:31 PM

Environmental groups have urged the Tenth Circuit to bring back their bid to block fracking near archeological and cultural sites in the Mancos Shale, saying the Bureau of Land Management had already decided it would approve hundreds of drilling permits before conducting an environmental review. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Biden Toughens Auto-Emissions Proposals Once Scorned as Weak**, Jennifer A. Dlouhy, December 20, 2021, 12:24 PM

The Biden administration is imposing limits on automobile greenhouse gas emissions that were toughened after environmentalists blasted its earlier proposal as too weak. The final standards, which govern the release of carbon dioxide from the tailpipes of cars and light trucks, roughly translate into fleet-wide fuel economy values of 55 miles (89 kilometers) per gallon in model year 2026. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Courthouse News](#)

**WPMT-Fox (York, PA): Two men found guilty of multiple counts of Clean Water Act violations**, Carly O'Neill, December 20, 2021, 10:49 AM

The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania announced today that two men of Greenfield Township were found guilty of multiple counts of Clean Water Act violations. After a nearly two-month trial, Bruce Evans, Sr., 68, and Bruce Evans, Jr., 40, were both found guilty on Dec. 17 for crimes committed between 2013 to 2017. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **TAX**

*Independent Record (Helena, MT): Montana lawyer liable for nearly \$9 million in penalties*, Holly Michels, December 20, 2021, 3:00 PM

A Montana lawyer who federal officials say earned more than \$19.62 million from promoting a tax shelter through improper deductions for donating timeshares is liable for \$8.46 million in penalties, according to the U.S. Department of Justice's Tax Division. James Tarpey, who formed Project Philanthropy Inc., which operated as Donate for a Cause, promoted a scheme where timeshare owners could donate their unwanted timeshares for large tax deductions, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*KARK-NBC (Little Rock, AR): Arkansas charges nursing home chain owner with over \$3 million in Medicaid and tax fraud*, Alexis Nalley, December 20, 2021, 6:41 PM

Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge announced Monday that a warrant has been issued for the arrest of the owner of a string of nursing homes, accusing him Medicaid and tax fraud. According to the attorney general's office, Joseph Schwartz once oversaw the care of more than 7,000 elderly Americans through his company Skyline Healthcare, but from 2017 to 2019, the chain saw more than a dozen Skyline nursing homes shut their doors. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

*Politico: How Amazon cultivates close ties to federal law enforcement*, Emily Birnbaum And Daniel Lippman, December 21, 2021, 4:30 AM

Amazon has found a powerful ally to help it protect its sprawling operations from fraud and abuse: the U.S. government. The company has increasingly tipped off the Justice Department and FBI to investigate Amazon's own employees and the sellers using its platform, according to a POLITICO analysis and a dozen interviews with Amazon employees, former federal prosecutors and financial crime experts. In addition, it has hired dozens of former DOJ and FBI employees, some of whom are filling out its internal teams aimed at policing its platform. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Cleveland Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH): Suspect wanted in 2020 shooting death of North Royalton man, Held Belongings Hostage*, Cliff Pinckard, December 20, 2021, 11:53 PM

Cleveland police and U.S. Marshals are searching for a suspect in the 2020 slaying of a North Royalton man. Alton Holloway, 38, has been charged with aggravated murder in the shooting death of John Dobrovic, 32, in Cleveland's Cudell neighborhood in August 2020. Two other suspects, Jovan Foster-Gant, 26, and Tiffany Greene, 27, currently are in custody. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Denver Gazette (Denver, CO): FBI Denver: Callers impersonating law enforcement officials to scam Colorado, Wyoming residents*, Morgan McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 9:35 PM

The FBI Denver Division is warning Colorado and Wyoming residents about a phone scam in which people posing as local law enforcement officials ask for payments. The scammers are calling potential victims in regards to supposed outstanding warrants or fines and asking for money the scammers claim will clear the victims' names, according to an FBI Denver news release. The callers use spoofed law enforcement phone numbers as well as names, positions

and addresses of actual local officers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NorthcentralPa.com (Williamsport, PA): U.S. Marshals looking for wanted man in Williamsport**, Brett Crossley, December 20, 2021, 9:00 PM

A man accused of selling crack and escaping from City Hall in Williamsport was spotted by detectives as he drove away from a house in Montoursville. Michael Nicholas Powell, 26, of Montoursville fled from officers in a vehicle with tinted windows, reaching highway speeds inside the city of Williamsport. Powell hit a tree and no parking sign at the intersection of Grampian Blvd. and Almond Street before fleeing on foot between houses, according to an affidavit. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Los Angeles Daily News: FBI: Huizar refused to ease suspicions of corruption at Las Vegas casino**, Fred Shuster, December 20, 2021, 5:52 PM

Jose Huizar was allegedly escorted out of a Las Vegas casino while he was a Los Angeles city councilman after he was identified by employees as an elected official and “politically exposed person” and refused to certify the source of his gambling money, according to documents filed by federal prosecutors on Monday, Dec. 20. The new papers were lodged in Los Angeles federal court in opposition to Huizar’s bid to suppress evidence obtained as a result of a search warrant. Prosecutors quote from a 36-page affidavit sworn to by an FBI special agent that was used to support the warrant. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOIN-CBS (Portland, OR): Centralia ATM blown up, money gone; 2 sought by FBI**, Tim Steele, December 20, 2021, 8:24 PM

Two people are being sought after using an “improvised explosive device” to break into a Centralia ATM and steal all the money. The explosion at the First Security Bank sent evidence 100 feet in every direction, police said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Daily Voice (Mercer, NJ): FBI: NJ Moving Company Jacked Up Estimates, Held Belongings Hostage**, Jerry DeMarco, December 20, 2021, 6:54 PM

The FBI charged a Paterson fugitive captured in New Mexico, his brother and another man with ripping off vulnerable customers of their moving company. There may be more victims of 11Even Movers & Storage out there who haven’t contacted authorities, bureau officials said Monday, urging them to come forward. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOB-NBC (Albuquerque, NM): US Marshals join search for suspect in fatal River of Lights hit-and-run**, Ryan Laughlin, December 20, 2021, 5:37 PM

As Albuquerque police get ready to crack down on off-road vehicles along Central, the hunt is intensifying for the suspected driver who hit and killed a 7-old-boy who was crossing the street with his family. It has been eight days since 7-year-old Pronoy Bhattacharya was hit in the middle of the crosswalk. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KOAT-ABC \(Albuquerque, NM\)](#)

**KNWA-NBC (Rogers, AR): United States Marshals Museum to host winter camps for kids in Fort Smith**, Jacob Smith, December 20, 2021, 3:18 PM

The United States Marshals Museum announced in a press release its inaugural winter camp program for kids, taking place December 21-22 from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. in Fort Smith, Ark. These camps, called “A Christmas-y Crime Scene,” will be for both elementary-age children and families with kids in this age group. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCTI-ABC (New Bern, NC): U.S. Marshals offer \$2,500 reward for information on**

**Havelock shooting suspect**, Jordan Honeycutt, December 20, 2021, 3:00 PM

The U.S. Marshals are now offering a \$2,500 reward for information leading to the arrest of a man wanted by the Havelock PD in connection to the Four Kegs shooting from Oct. 9. Arthur Jackson Jr., 20, is wanted and has connections to Havelock, Camden, N.J. and Virginia. One person was killed in the shooting and another injured. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WCHS-ABC (Charleston, WV): Suspect in Portsmouth, Ohio, shooting death arrested by**

**U.S. marshals**, Jeff Morris, December 20, 2021, 2:30 PM

Portsmouth, Ohio, police said a man was arrested in a homicide investigation. Tyriq Taylor, 21, of Portsmouth was taken into custody Monday by the U.S. Marshals Service in Columbus, Ohio, according to a news release from the Portsmouth Police Department. Taylor was arrested on an aggravated murder indictment issued by a Scioto County grand jury. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KVIA-ABC/CW (El Paso, TX): El Paso DEA has spike in fentanyl seizures amid national**

**crisis**, Rene Kladzyk, December 20, 2021, 2:35 PM

Seizures of fentanyl by the Drug Enforcement Administration within the city of El Paso rose 456% between the fiscal years 2020 and 2021 -- from 32 kilograms to 178 kilograms -- and El Paso DEA Acting Director Greg Millard said the trend has continued apace in recent months.

Regionally, the increase was even more dramatic. In the DEA's El Paso Division Area of Responsibility (which includes West Texas and the entire state of New Mexico), fentanyl seizures increased from 42 kilograms in the fiscal year 2020 to 300 kilograms in 2021, a 614% increase.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WITN-NBC (Washington, NC): U.S. Marshals offering \$2,500 reward for information on**

**Havelock shooting suspect**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 2:01 PM

The U.S. Marshals Service is offering up to \$2,500 for information leading to the arrest of a man wanted by the Havelock Police Department. 20-year-old Arthur Jackson Jr. is wanted for assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. The charge stems from an Oct. 9th Havelock bar shooting where 35-year-old Robert Reels was killed and 26-year-old Isaiah Oden was wounded. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**WPRI-CBS (Providence, RI): Percoco, former Cuomo aide, released from federal prison**,

Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 11:25 PM

Joe Percoco, a one-time top aide and campaign manager to former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, is out of federal prison. He is now on track to be released from federal custody after serving time for bribery and fraud. According to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, Percoco is no longer at the Otisville Prison in Orange County. He is being housed at a residential re-entry management office in Brooklyn. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**Reuters: Challengers ask U.S. Supreme Court to block Biden vaccine mandate for**

**businesses**, Lawrence Hurley, December 20, 2021, 6:04 PM

Business groups, religious entities and 27 U.S. states have urged the Supreme Court to block the

Biden administration's nationwide vaccine-or-testing COVID-19 mandate for large businesses, which covers around 80 million American workers. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg Law](#), [NBC](#)

**WaPo: Biden administration's vaccine requirements take center stage at Supreme Court,** Robert Barnes, December 20, 2021, 6:24 PM

The Biden administration's coronavirus protection requirements intended to persuade millions of health-care and other workers to get vaccinated are taking center stage at the Supreme Court. More than half the states and coalitions of business and religious groups are asking the justices for emergency action to block the administration's nationwide vaccine-or-testing mandate for large businesses, which would cover about 80 million workers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] The Supreme Court opened the door to legal vigilantism in Texas. California will use the same tool to save lives**, Gavin Newsom, December 20, 2021, 4:55 PM

It's outrageous that the Supreme Court continues to allow Texas to use the threat of civil lawsuits to nullify women's constitutional right to control their own bodies. But if this kind of lawmaking is fair play, then California will at least use this tool to save lives instead of harming them. That's why this month I called on California's legislature to send me a bill creating a similar way to take action against those who produce or sell assault weapons and "ghost guns" in California. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: Supreme Court receives appeals asking Kavanaugh to block large employer vaccine mandate**, Ariane de Vogue, December 20, 2021, 1:00 PM

The Supreme Court Monday said it has received several appeals asking Justice Brett Kavanaugh to consider the Biden administration's requirement that large employers mandate their employees obtain a Covid-19 vaccine or submit to weekly testing. The appeals come as the pandemic rages globally and the omicron variant takes hold over the holiday season. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Justices Urged To Undo Fed. Circ.'s Qualcomm Ruling**, Edward Moreno, December 20, 2021, 8:02 PM

A trio of intellectual property lobbying groups, software company Thales and United Patents LLC told the U.S. Supreme Court to undo a Federal Circuit ruling saying that Apple doesn't have standing to appeal Patent Trial and Appeal Board rulings upholding two Qualcomm patents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Texas Says Justices Must Weigh In On Its Challenge To ICWA**, Victoria McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 9:32 PM

The state of Texas again has urged the U. S. Supreme Court to review the Indian Child Welfare Act, calling the law an unconstitutional "race based child custody scheme" that requires states to treat Native children "as resources to be managed for the benefit of their race, rather than in accordance with their best interests. "In a reply brief Friday, Texas officials said the Supreme Court must finally resolve constitutional questions raised by the 1978 law, which was enacted to limit the number of Native children being adopted outside their communities. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Slawson Drilling Suit Should Be Kept Alive, Tribe Says**, Humberto Rocha,

December 20, 2021, 6:07 PM

A Native American tribe told a North Dakota federal judge to ignore a magistrate judge's recommendation to dismiss its suit challenging government approval of eight drilling sites, arguing a recent Supreme Court ruling is "in tension with" the judge's report. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Feds Urge Justices To Rebuff Dakota Access Pipeline Petition**, Victoria McKenzie, December 20, 2021, 3:52 PM

The federal government has joined several tribes in urging the U.S. Supreme Court not to reconsider a D.C. Circuit decision vacating a key approval for the controversial 1,200-mile Dakota Access oil pipeline, saying the company failed to show any error in the opinion. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

**WTHR-NBC (Indianapolis, IN): Indiana trails neighboring states in move to legalize marijuana**, Madison Stacey, December 21, 2021, 12:20 AM

With Illinois and Michigan legalizing marijuana for recreational use in 2020, Ohio passing some medical marijuana measures, and Kentucky's governor saying he's open to medical marijuana legalization, Indiana may soon find itself alone if marijuana initiatives being pushed through the Statehouse by Democrats during the next legislative session don't pan out. Where our neighboring states are signing off on marijuana legalization in some capacity, legalizing weed for certain medical use or making recreational weed legal for adults, that's not the case in Indiana yet. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**CNBC: [VIDEO] Federal judge overturns Purdue Pharma's \$4.5 billion opioid settlement**, Unattributed, December 20, 2021, 4:00 PM

A federal judge overturned Purdue Pharma's opioid settlement. The ruling said the company's owners could not receive protection from civil lawsuits in return for a \$4.5 billion settlement. [\[Watch\]](#)

**Boston Globe: Three New England states claim victory after judge overturns Purdue Pharma's sweeping opioid settlement**, Laura Crimaldi and Brian Amaral, December 20, 2021, 4:21 PM

In July, Massachusetts was among 15 states to reach a settlement with Purdue Pharma that required the disgraced drug maker to pay more than \$4 billion for its role in the opioid crisis. But last week, a federal judge overturned the settlement plan, ruling the bankruptcy court that approved the deal didn't have the authority to release the Sackler family from liability in civil cases related to its company's production of Oxycontin, a highly addictive prescription painkiller.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (Pittsburgh, PA): Westmoreland County signs on to \$26B settlement in opioid lawsuit**, Rich Cholodofsky, December 20, 2021, 2:58 PM

Westmoreland County on Monday signed up to be part of a proposed \$26 billion national settlement with three major drugmakers to end a lawsuit over the ongoing opioid epidemic. The county and its 11 largest municipalities would receive up to \$22 million over the next 18 years,

commissioners said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**LAT: Senator calls for FBI update on unsolved assassination of O.C. activist Alex Odeh,** Gabriel San Román, December 20, 2021, 9:19 PM

New revelations about a decades-old office bombing in Santa Ana that killed Palestinian American activist Alex Odeh have prompted U.S. Sen. Richard J. Durbin to demand an update from the FBI on the cold case investigation. Odeh was serving as West Coast regional director for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee when, on Oct. 11, 1985, he opened the door to his organization's Santa Ana office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Pelosi announces plans for ‘solemn observance’ of first anniversary of Jan. 6 insurrection,** Amy B Wang, December 20, 2021, 3:21 PM

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has indicated there will be a “full program of events” to mark the first anniversary of the Jan. 6 insurrection, in which a pro-Trump mob stormed the U.S. Capitol to try to stop the confirmation of President Biden’s electoral college win, a siege that resulted in five deaths and left some 140 law enforcement officers injured. In a letter to the Democratic caucus Monday, Pelosi (D-Calif.) noted the House would not be in session the first week of January but said some members had expressed interest in being involved in commemoration activities.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: DECEMBER 20, 2021**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Margaret Brennan**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Long lines for COVID-19 testing can be found across the US as cases have increased nearly 45% since the start of the month. Health officials are urging Americans to cancel holiday plans due to the rapid spread of the Omicron COVID-19 variant. Protests against returning COVID-19 restrictions and mandates in Europe continue as countries battle to contain the Omicron COVID-19 variant heading into the holiday. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#), [NBC-2](#)]
- Democrats are trying to revive President Biden's "Build Back Better" spending plan after failing to gain a majority of votes in the Senate. The White House called Sen. Manchin's rejection of the bill, "a breach of his commitments to the president." [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- A group of 12 missionaries in Haiti found freedom last week by using the stars to navigate and reach safety after a two-month kidnapping ordeal, officials with the Christian Aid Ministries said Monday. [[CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The trial of former Brooklyn Center Police Officer Kim Potter charged in the death of

Daunte Wright, a 20-year-old Black man who was fatally shot during a traffic stop, continues with Potter taking the stand to testify in her own defense. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]

- The fate of Ghislaine Maxwell, the longtime associate of serial sex offender Jeffrey Epstein who is facing charges related to the alleged abuse and trafficking of underage girls, has been placed in the hands of a 12-person jury. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- Vice President Kamala Harris was expected to cast a tie-breaking vote to send the "Build Back Better" bill to President Biden's desk for final approval. Now, Democrats are scrambling after Senator Joe Manchin pulled support for the spending plan. [[CBS](#)]
- In 1971, President Richard Nixon signed the "National Cancer Act." Since then, fatality rates for all cancers have dropped 27%. [[CBS](#)]
- A 6.2 magnitude earthquake off the coast of Northern California rattled a wide swath of the state shortly after noon local time, according to data from the US Geological Survey. The quake occurred just off Cape Mendocino near Humboldt County and was felt as far away as San Francisco and Chico, California. [[ABC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- "Biden to expand access to free home tests, send resources to aid hospitals in need" [[WaPo](#), [NYT](#), [WSJ](#)]
- "Behind Manchin's Opposition, a Long History of Fighting Climate Measures" [[NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]
- "What NASA's Perseverance Rover Has Learned After 10 Months on Mars" [[WSJ](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Kapper, Matthew B. (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Abbreviated AM Clips  
**To:** [REDACTED] (JMD)  
**Sent:** November 17, 2021 8:10 AM (UTC-05:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)" <Anthony.D.Coley@usdoj.gov>  
**Date:** November 17, 2021 at 8:09:08 AM EST  
**To:** "Klapper, Matthew B. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** "Iverson, Dena (PAO)" <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>, "Seidman, Ricki (OASG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Heinzelman, Kate (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Goodlander, Margaret V. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Visser, Tim (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Matthews-Johnson, Tamarra D. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Reich, Mitchell (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Abbreviated AM Clips

## US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS

**AP: Durbin calls for Garland to remove federal prisons director,** Michael Balsamo, November 16, 2021, 10:15 AM

The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee demanded Tuesday that Attorney General Merrick Garland immediately fire the director of the beleaguered federal Bureau of Prisons after an Associated Press investigation detailing serious misconduct involving correctional officers. Sen. Dick Durbin's demand came two days after the AP revealed that more than 100 Bureau of Prisons workers have been arrested, convicted or sentenced for crimes since the start of 2019. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [The Hill](#), [National Review](#), [Newsweek](#), [NY Post](#), [Washington Times](#)

**Politico: FBI left out of the loop in cyberattack reporting bill,** Betsy Woodruff Swan and Eric Geller, November 16, 2021, 11:54 AM

The FBI could be sidelined in new cybersecurity legislation, a top Bureau official told lawmakers Tuesday. And, in the view of America's most powerful law enforcement agency, that would be a big problem. In testimony to Congress, Bryan Vorndran, the assistant director of the FBI's Cyber Division, said that the Biden administration is "troubled" by legislation proposed by the Senate and House homeland security committees requiring a wide range of companies to report intrusions to the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency but not simultaneously to the FBI.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: FBI Tells Lawmakers Cyberattacks Must Be Reported Directly,** Ben Kochman, November 16, 2021, 8:52 PM

A top cybersecurity official at the FBI on Tuesday said the agency is "troubled" by a proposal to require certain entities to report hacks to authorities but not directly to law enforcement, warning that the legislation's structure could hamstring investigations. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Business Insider: Democrats are frustrated with Merrick Garland's judge-like apolitical style as Biden's attorney general**, C. Ryan Barber, November 16, 2021, 4:30 PM

Just a day after a violent mob stormed the US Capitol, Joe Biden stepped to the podium as president-elect and presented Merrick Garland as his pick to steady the Justice Department and steer it away from the politicization and chronic turmoil of the Trump era. Democrats have been living with that choice ever since — and they're not always loving the results.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: [OPINION] Did the Justice Department overreach in raiding James O'Keefe's home?**, Erik Wemple, November 16, 2021, 5:30 PM

The FBI on Nov. 6 searched the Mamaroneck, N.Y., home of James O'Keefe, the founder of the video-sting group Project Veritas. As reported by the New York Times, authorities also searched the homes of two O'Keefe associates. It's all part of an investigation stemming from the reported theft last year of the diary of Ashley Biden, the president's daughter.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Washington Times: Report: Justice Department needs to prove it is not politicized**, Emily Zantow, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

The Justice Department watchdog says the department needs to prove to the public that it is not politicized. In a report released Tuesday, Inspector General Michael E. Horowitz said public discourse questioning the department's objective application of law is "concerning."

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**CBS: Businesses worried about cyberattacks during the holidays, report finds**, Nicole Sganga, November 17, 2021, 2:07 AM

After a year of headline-grabbing ransomware attacks, businesses say they're worried about the possibility they'll face cyber intrusions this holiday season, a time when many of their cybersecurity operations rely on skeleton staffing. Boston-based cybersecurity firm Cybereason commissioned a survey of 1,206 cybersecurity professionals at organizations that experienced a ransomware attack during a holiday or weekend within the last year. A whopping 89% of the respondents from the U.S., U.K., France, Germany, Italy, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, and UAE indicated that they were concerned about a repeat cyber intrusion ahead of the holiday season. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**ABC: 'QAnon Shaman,' key figure in Jan. 6 attack, to be sentenced Wednesday**, Laura Romero and Lucien Bruggeman, November 16, 2021, 5:56 PM

Jacob Chansley, the self-described "QAnon Shaman" who infamously marched through the U.S. Capitol with a spear and horned helmet during the Jan. 6 riot, will appear before a federal judge on Wednesday to be sentenced for his role in the attack. Prosecutors last week recommended that Chansley, 33, receive a sentence of 51 months, which would be the longest prison term among the hundreds of people who have been criminally charged in connection with the insurrection. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Newsweek: 1/6 Rioter Accused of Tasing Officer Fanone Says He Wasn't Properly Read His Rights**, Aila Slisco, November 16, 2021, 8:47 PM

A man accused of tasing Washington, D.C. Police Officer Michael Fanone amid the Capitol riot is attempting to get his videotaped statement to the FBI dropped as his lawyers allege that he was not properly read his rights. Lawyers for Daniel Rodriguez also attempted on Tuesday to throw out his statement because their client was subjected to "coercive

questioning," according to The Huffington Post. U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson did not make a final ruling but appeared unconvinced by the defense arguments, while suggesting that she would allow most of Rodriguez's recorded FBI statement to be admitted if the case goes to trial. [Continue Reading] See Also: [HuffPost](#)

## **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE**

**AP: Jan. 6 panel eyes Meadows contempt vote but 'won't rush'**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Farnoush Amiri, November 16, 2021, 6:39 PM

The chairman of the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection says there is still time for former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows to comply with a subpoena before the panel moves forward with a vote to hold him in contempt of Congress. Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., said Tuesday that the committee "won't rush the effort" to make it clear it has given the former North Carolina congressman multiple opportunities to cooperate. At the same time, the panel is prepared to hold Meadows in contempt in the coming weeks if he doesn't give lawmakers any information about his role, and former President Donald Trump's, as the Capitol was attacked that day. [Continue Reading] See also: [CNN](#)

**WaPo: Trump's legal strategy tested in fight with Congress over Jan. 6 records**, Ann E. Marimow and Spencer S. Hsu , November 17, 2021, 5:00 AM

As president, Donald Trump stymied lawmakers seeking his financial records and the testimony of a close adviser by employing a legal strategy that worked to his advantage even when he lost in court. Trump has turned to these familiar tactics now in a bid to thwart House investigators pursuing accountability for the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, but legal observers say that in this latest test of executive power, such an approach may fail to achieve his desired outcome. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#)

**NYT: Trump Seeks Continued Block on Sending White House Files to Jan. 6 Panel**, Charlie Savage, November 16, 2021, 2:15 PM

Former President Donald J. Trump asked a federal appeals court on Tuesday to block the National Archives from giving Congress quick access to records from his White House related to the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, arguing that litigation over whether they are properly shielded by his claim of executive privilege should fully play out first. In a 54-page brief filed before the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Jesse R. Binnall, a lawyer for Mr. Trump, reiterated his argument that the Constitution gives the former president the power to keep those files confidential even though he is no longer in office — and even though President Biden refused to assert executive privilege over them. [Continue Reading]

See also: [CNN](#), [Politico](#), [NBC](#)

**Politico: Whistleblower worries Jan. 6 committee is going easy on Capitol Police**, Daniel Lippman and Betsy Woodruff Swan, November 17, 2021, 4:30 AM

As congressional investigators increasingly scrutinize the performance of the U.S. Capitol Police surrounding the Jan. 6 attacks, a whistleblower says he worries the department is getting off too easy. The whistleblower told POLITICO that he participated in a 90-minute interview with committee investigators last week, and that more Capitol Police personnel are scheduled to speak with the panel next week. He was at the department's command center during the attack, POLITICO has confirmed independently, and he has since left the force. [Continue Reading]

**BuzzFeed: Jan. 6 Court Fights Are Resurfacing Some Familiar Faces From Trump-Era Legal Battles**, Zoe Tillman, November 16, 2021, 7:45 PM

Lawyers who landed in former president Donald Trump's orbit for some of the biggest legal fights of his term keep popping up in cases related to the Jan. 6 riot and its aftermath. When Steve Bannon addressed a scrum of reporters after his first court appearance Monday on federal charges of contempt of Congress — vowing to fight and make it the "misdemeanor from hell" — he had a familiar face by his side. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

**AP: California electrician ordered to pay \$481 million for scam**, Don Thompson, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A California electrician was ordered Tuesday to pay \$481.3 million in restitution as part of his sentence for participating in a \$1 billion Ponzi scheme that suckered Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., among many others. Joseph W. Bayliss, 46, of Martinez, was sentenced to three years in federal prison on top of the restitution. He was an electrician who prosecutors say was hired by Benicia-based DC Solar to pose as a licensed engineer to inspect new mobile solar generator units that were mounted on trailers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**See also:** [Newsweek](#)

**AP: Judge vets potential jurors for Ghislaine Maxwell trial**, Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

Prospective jurors got their first glimpse of Ghislaine Maxwell, the British socialite charged with helping Jeffrey Epstein sexually abuse girls and women, when a judge began questioning them individually Tuesday. Wearing a black suit, Maxwell hugged her lawyers when she entered the courtroom and briefly sketched a courtroom artist who was drawing her. Judge Alison J. Nathan's questions in Manhattan federal court were aimed at seeing if potential jurors can stay impartial in the sordid case against Maxwell. [[Continue Reading](#)] **See also:**

[NYT](#)

**AP: Ex-pork buyer dies in Iowa crash following fraud indictment**, Ryan J. Foley, November 16, 2021, 11:30 AM

A former manager for an influential Iowa-based pork dealer has died in a crash, days after federal prosecutors charged him in a scheme to swindle hog farmers through fraudulent buying practices. Steven Demaray, 70, the former regional buying manager for Lynch Livestock, was driving a truck that crashed head-on Monday morning into a concrete overpass support pier on Highway 63 near New Hampton, where he lived, according to the Iowa State Patrol. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Contractor promised government U.S.-made body armor, then bought it in China**, Rachel Weiner, November 16, 2021, 5:23 PM

From his home in rural Texas, a would-be defense contractor spun a web of fake companies and testing reports to pass off Chinese-made body armor as American equipment that met rigorous standards for use by the State Department and U.S. law enforcement partners in Latin America. Tanner Jackson, 32, pleaded guilty Tuesday in Alexandria federal court to one count of wire fraud, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: A Texas student, who wrote 'I set a synagogue on fire' in a journal, is charged with arson, officials say**, Raja Razek and Amir Vera, November 16, 2021, 11:51 PM

A Texas State University student who the FBI said wrote "I set a synagogue on fire" has been federally charged with arson, according to a Tuesday news release from the US Department of Justice. The charges stem from a fire that was intentionally set at the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Austin, Texas, on October 31, the release said. Surveillance video from the night of the fire shows Franklin Barrett Sechrist, 18, with a face

covering the night of the fire, according to a criminal complaint. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CNBC: U.S. to sell cryptocurrency worth \$56 million after record seizure in BitConnect fraud case**, Dan Mangan, November 16, 2021, 3:41 PM

The U.S. Justice Department will sell off \$56 million worth of cryptocurrency it seized as part of a massive Ponzi scheme case against a man who promoted the offshore crypto lending program BitConnect, authorities said Tuesday. The Justice Department said the liquidation of the cryptocurrency follows "the largest single recovery of a cryptocurrency fraud by the United States to date." [...] "These claims were a sham," the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a lawsuit in September against BitConnect, its founder Satish Kumbhani and Glenn Arcaro, a Los Angeles man who was the lead promoter of BitConnect in the United States. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

### **Newsweek: N.J. Man Heads to Prison for Conspiring With White Supremacists in 'Kristallnacht' Attack**, Toria Barnhart, November 16, 2021, 8:46 PM

New Jersey man was sentenced to one year and one day in prison for conspiring with members of a white supremacist hate group to threaten minority-owned businesses across the country. Richard Tobin, 20, of Brooklawn, New Jersey, previously pleaded guilty to charges for his role in a scheme to intimidate Black and Jewish Americans by vandalizing properties they owned throughout the country in September 2019, according to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Tobin was sentenced in federal court on Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Voice \(New Jersey\)](#), [New Jersey Advance Media](#)

### **The Hill: Oregon man charged with federal hate crime in attack of gay man**, Sarakshi Rai, November 16, 2021, 1:36 PM

The Department of Justice announced on Tuesday that an Oregon man has been charged with a federal hate crime after brutally assaulting a gay man because of his sexual orientation. Daniel Andrew McGee, 22, was arrested by the FBI on Monday.

McGee met the man he assaulted via social media and networking app Grindr. The Justice Department statement details how he entered the man's apartment on Jul 5 and assaulted him with "a wooden club over a period of several minutes," alleging that McGee tried to kill the man. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Advocate \(Charlotte, OR\)](#), [KEZI-ABC \(Eugene, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Newsweek](#), [The Observer \(Charlotte, NC\)](#), [The Oregonian](#)

### **WSMV-NBC (Nashville, TN): Civil rights lawyer Ben Crump asks DOJ to investigate Rutherford Co. prosecutor**, Michael Warrick, November 16, 2021, 7:30 PM

Widely known civil rights attorney Ben Crump is calling on federal authorities to investigate Rutherford County Assistant District Attorney John Zimmerman, accusing him of racially profiling businesses. Crump, whose represented the families of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and Jacob Blake, wants the Department of Justice to open a pattern and practice investigation into Zimmerman. Crump claims Zimmerman is not allowing Tennessee Bonding Company to acquire his client, Free At Last Bail Bonding, for reasons he believes are racially motivated. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

### **WSJ: Challenges to Biden Vaccine Rules Will Come Before Ohio-Based U.S. Appeals Court**, Brent Kendall, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A conservative-leaning U.S. appeals court in Cincinnati was randomly selected Tuesday to decide challenges to the Biden administration's new rules requiring many employers to

ensure their workers are vaccinated or tested weekly for Covid-19. Legal challengers have petitioned federal appeals courts around the country to review the rules, formally issued earlier this month by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The requirements, which apply to businesses with 100 or more employees and cover roughly 84 million workers, are scheduled to take effect Jan. 4. [Continue Reading] See also: [ABC](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [CNN](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#)

**NBC: Trump lawyers press judge to block Congress from getting his tax returns**, Pete Williams, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

Lawyers for former President Donald Trump argued Tuesday that a federal judge should not dismiss a lawsuit seeking to block the Treasury Department and the IRS from giving his tax returns to the House Ways and Means Committee. Trump's attorneys said during more than three hours of courtroom arguments that the reason given by committee chair Richard Neal, D-Mass., for seeking the returns — to examine how the IRS audits presidents — is simply a pretext for wanting to search for something embarrassing. [Continue Reading] See also: [Politico](#)

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**USA Today: DHS inspector general declines review of horse-mounted agents in Haitian migrant confrontation**, Kevin Johnson, November 16, 2021, 11:00 AM

The Department of Homeland Security's inspector general "declined" to investigate the conduct of mounted Border Patrol agents during a September confrontation with Haitian migrants at the Mexican border near Del Rio, Texas, the agency said. Two months after the incident, DHS said Tuesday that the incident, which drew widespread condemnation, is the subject of a separate agency inquiry headed by the Office of Professional Responsibility. [Continue Reading] See also: [CNN](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

## **ANTITRUST**

**AP: Biden choice for Justice antitrust post wins Senate approval**, Marcy Gordon, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

President Joe Biden's choice to lead enforcement of competition laws at the Justice Department has won Senate approval as his administration pursues action against outsized market power it has condemned in several industries, including Big Tech, health care, airlines and agriculture. The bipartisan vote Tuesday was 68-29 to confirm Jonathan Kanter, an antitrust lawyer who has opposed tech giants in private practice, as assistant attorney general heading the Justice Department's antitrust division. [Continue Reading] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [CNBC](#), [Law360](#), [Reuters](#), [WSJ](#)

**Law360: Apple's \$100M Antitrust Deal With Developers Gets Initial Nod**, Kauren Berg, November 16, 2021, 10:44 PM

A California federal judge on Tuesday gave the initial green light to a deal requiring Apple to pay app developers \$100 million and make developer-friendly changes to its App Store policy to resolve a putative antitrust class action claiming Apple monopolizes the market for software distributed on its devices. [Continue Reading]

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**AP: Regulators seek to suspend Trump rule on railway natural gas**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

Federal regulators have proposed suspending a Trump administration rule that would have

allowed railroads to haul liquefied natural gas while they take a closer look at the potential safety risks. The rule, which was backed by both the natural gas and freight rail industries, had already been on hold because several environmental groups and 14 states filed lawsuits challenging it. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

**NYT: [OPINION] The Federal Bureau of Dirty Tricks**, Bret Stephens, November 16, 2021, 9:11 PM

This month's bombshell indictment of Igor Danchenko, the Russian national who is charged with lying to the F.B.I. and whose work turns out to have been the main source for Christopher Steele's notorious dossier, is being treated as a major embarrassment for much of the news media — and, if the charges stick, that's exactly what it is. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: FBI Tracks Threats Against Teachers, School-Board Members**, Sadie Gurman and Aruna Viswanatha, November 16, 2021, 3:10 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has set up a process to track threats against school-board members and teachers, moving to implement a Justice Department directive that some law-enforcement officials and Republican lawmakers say could improperly target parents protesting local education policies. The heads of the FBI's criminal and counterterrorism divisions instructed agents in an Oct. 20 memo to flag all assessments and investigations into potentially criminal threats, harassment and intimidation of educators with a "threat tag," which the officials said would allow them to evaluate the scope of the problem. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Fox](#), [NYT](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Washington Times](#)

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**AP: Inmate stabbed in eyeball in latest federal prison violence**, Michael Balsamo and Michael R. Sisak, November 17, 2021, 12:30 AM

An inmate at the largest federal prison in the U.S. was stabbed in the eyeball by a fellow prisoner this month, the latest gruesome example of violence in a prison system plagued by chronic unrest, understaffing, corruption and abuse. The 27-year-old inmate was attacked from behind at FCI Fort Dix, a low-security prison in Burlington County, New Jersey, that is run by the same warden who was in charge of a Manhattan federal jail when financier Jeffrey Epstein killed himself, three people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**Law360: Pharmacies Urge Mistrial In Opioid Case As Jury Deliberates**, Cara Salvatore, November 16, 2021, 8:26 PM

Only a mistrial can fix "egregious" closing arguments in a case shortly expected to yield the first jury verdict in opioid-crisis litigation, three major pharmacy chains told a Cleveland federal judge Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**WSJ: Lina Khan Sees Turbulent Start as Head of Federal Trade Commission**, Brent Kendall, November 16, 2021, 9:30 AM

Lina Khan, the new Federal Trade Commission chairwoman with broad ambitions to take on big business, has faced early turbulence within the agency, including from career staffers she will need to build antitrust cases and write regulations. President Biden tapped the 32-year-

old Ms. Khan in June to lead the five-member FTC. She aims to challenge more corporate mergers and allegedly monopolistic practices, as well as adopt regulations to head off what she sees as unfair business tactics. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

- The jury at Kyle Rittenhouse's murder trial deliberated a full day on Tuesday without reaching a verdict over whether he was the instigator in a night of bloodshed in Kenosha or a concerned citizen who came under attack while trying to protect property. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- President Biden traveled to New Hampshire to sell his infrastructure law, visiting an 82-year-old bridge set to be fast-tracked for repairs. The trip comes ahead of an impending showdown over the president's social and climate spending plan. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- The defense will begin presenting its case in the trial of three White men accused of chasing down and killing Ahmaud Arbery. The prosecution rested its case after a medical examiner showed graphic autopsy photos. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- A top Pentagon official said he's "very concerned" about China's military buildup. Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General John Hyten detailed his concerns in an exclusive interview. [[CBS](#)]
- A six-year CBS News investigation has prompted new legislation to protect children sitting in the back seats of vehicles during rear-end crashes. [[CBS](#)]
- Jury selection is set to begin in the sex trafficking trial of Jeffrey Epstein's former associate Ghislaine Maxwell, who is accused of recruiting underage women for Epstein's alleged sexual abuse for more than a decade. [[NBC](#)]

**From:** Kapper, Matthew B. (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** [REDACTED] (JMD)  
**Sent:** November 17, 2021 8:06 AM (UTC-05:00)

Abbreviated clips will be delayed. I'll send them as soon as I have them, and passing along full clips package in the meantime.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** November 17, 2021 at 6:52:23 AM EST  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice**  
**Morning News Digest**  
**November 17, 2021**  
**7:00 AM EST**

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10. Antitrust
11. Environment
12. Tax
13. Federal Law Enforcement Agencies
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15. US Supreme Court
16. Native American Affairs
17. Marijuana Legalization
18. Opioid Crisis
19. Administration
20. Congress
21. Network Evening News Lineup
22. Morning Headlines

**WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

**DOJ**

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No scheduled events.

## **CONGRESS**

- 10:00 AM: Senate Committee on the Judiciary nominations hearing. Bridget Meehan Brennan to be United States District Judge For The Northern District Of Ohio, John H. Chun to be United States District Judge For The Western District Of Washington, Charles Esque Fleming to be United States District Judge For The Northern District Of Ohio, David Augustin Ruiz to be United States District Judge For The Northern District Of Ohio. Rm 226, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, United States.
- 1:00 PM: Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control hearing on 'The Nexus between the Illicit Drug Trade and Corruption', with witnesses, Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Amb. Todd Robinson, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Bruce Swartz, USAID Anti-Corruption Task Force Executive Director Shannon Green, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Division for Treaty Affairs Director John Brandolino, Brookings Institution Foreign Policy Center for Security, Strategy, and Technology Senior Fellow Vanda Felbab-Brown, and University of South Carolina Walker Institute Research Affiliate Clay Fuller. Rm 608, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, United States.

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**AP: Feds Recommend Body Cameras for Portland, Oregon, Police**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 2:01 PM  
The U.S. Justice Department is recommending that all uniformed officers in Portland, Oregon, wear body cameras if they are on tactical, traffic or crowd control operations. Oregon's largest city has been in negotiations with the police union over how the cameras would be used and when officers could review footage after an incident. The City Council is set to vote Wednesday on a proposal from Mayor Ted Wheeler to dedicate \$2.6 million to start purchasing the cameras, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

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## **US ATTORNEYS**

*Herald Democrat (Sherman, TX): Nicholas J. Ganjei steps down as acting US attorney*, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 11:00 AM

Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas Nicholas J. Ganjei announced Monday that he will be stepping down from the role of Acting United States Attorney effective Tuesday. "The opportunity to serve the American people as Acting United States Attorney was both an awesome responsibility and a tremendous privilege," said Ganjei in a news release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **DOJ GRANTS**

**KNWA-NBC (Rogers, AR): Fayetteville Police Department to add social workers to staff as part of DOJ grant**, Justin Trobaugh, November 16, 2021, 10:34 PM

The Fayetteville Police Department is adding two full-time social workers to its staff. Fayetteville City Council members voted to approve a \$250,000 Department of Justice grant that will pay for the positions. Each social worker will be paired with a dedicated crisis intervention team officer. Together they will respond to crisis calls which could be anything from homelessness, to substance abuse, to welfare concerns. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**CBS: Businesses worried about cyberattacks during the holidays, report finds**, Nicole Sganga, November 17, 2021, 2:07 AM

After a year of headline-grabbing ransomware attacks, businesses say they're worried about the possibility they'll face cyber intrusions this holiday season, a time when many of their cybersecurity operations rely on skeleton staffing. Boston-based cybersecurity firm Cybereason commissioned a survey of 1,206 cybersecurity professionals at organizations that experienced a ransomware attack during a holiday or weekend within the last year. A whopping 89% of the respondents from the U.S., U.K., France, Germany, Italy, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, and UAE indicated that they were concerned about a repeat cyber intrusion ahead of the holiday season. [[Continue Reading](#)]

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**See Also:** [HuffPost](#)

**WAVY-NBC (Portsmouth, VA): 2 from Mathews County sentenced after pleading guilty to charges stemming from capitol riot**, Ann E. Marimow and Spencer S. Hsu, November 17, 2021, 4:30 AM

Two Hampton Roads residents have been sentenced after pleading guilty in connection to the violent riot at US Capitol back on January 6. Cindy Fitchett, 59, of Cobbs Creek and Douglas Sweet, 58, of Hudgins pleaded guilty on Nov. 9 and were subsequently sentenced to 36 months of probation with one month home detention. They also face \$500 in restitution along with 60 hours community service. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE**

**AP: Jan. 6 panel eyes Meadows contempt vote but 'won't rush'**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Farnoush Amiri, November 16, 2021, 6:39 PM

The chairman of the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection says there is still time for former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows to comply with a subpoena before the panel moves forward with a vote to hold him in contempt of Congress. Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., said Tuesday that the committee "won't rush the effort" to make it clear it has given the former North Carolina congressman multiple opportunities to cooperate. At the same time, the panel is prepared to hold Meadows in contempt in the coming weeks if he doesn't give lawmakers any information about his role, and former President Donald Trump's, as the Capitol was attacked that day. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#)

**WaPo: Trump's legal strategy tested in fight with Congress over Jan. 6 records**, Ann E.

Marimow and Spencer S. Hsu , November 17, 2021, 5:00 AM

As president, Donald Trump stymied lawmakers seeking his financial records and the testimony of a close adviser by employing a legal strategy that worked to his advantage even when he lost in court. Trump has turned to these familiar tactics now in a bid to thwart House investigators pursuing accountability for the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, but legal observers say that in this latest test of executive power, such an approach may fail to achieve his desired outcome.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Hill](#)

#### **NYT: Trump Seeks Continued Block on Sending White House Files to Jan. 6 Panel,**

Charlie Savage, November 16, 2021, 2:15 PM

Former President Donald J. Trump asked a federal appeals court on Tuesday to block the National Archives from giving Congress quick access to records from his White House related to the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, arguing that litigation over whether they are properly shielded by his claim of executive privilege should fully play out first. In a 54-page brief filed before the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Jesse R. Binnall, a lawyer for Mr. Trump, reiterated his argument that the Constitution gives the former president the power to keep those files confidential even though he is no longer in office and even though President Biden refused to assert executive privilege over them. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Politico](#), [NBC](#)

#### **Politico: Whistleblower worries Jan. 6 committee is going easy on Capitol Police**, Daniel Lippman and Betsy Woodruff Swan, November 17, 2021, 4:30 AM

As congressional investigators increasingly scrutinize the performance of the U.S. Capitol Police surrounding the Jan. 6 attacks, a whistleblower says he worries the department is getting off too easy. The whistleblower told POLITICO that he participated in a 90-minute interview with committee investigators last week, and that more Capitol Police personnel are scheduled to speak with the panel next week. He was at the department's command center during the attack, POLITICO has confirmed independently, and he has since left the force. [[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **BuzzFeed: Jan. 6 Court Fights Are Resurfacing Some Familiar Faces From Trump-Era Legal Battles**, Zoe Tillman, November 16, 2021, 7:45 PM

Lawyers who landed in former president Donald Trump's orbit for some of the biggest legal fights of his term keep popping up in cases related to the Jan. 6 riot and its aftermath. When Steve Bannon addressed a scrum of reporters after his first court appearance Monday on federal charges of contempt of Congress vowing to fight and make it the "misdemeanor from hell" he had a familiar face by his side. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

#### **AP: 5 convicted of stealing veteran, Social Security benefits**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

Five men have been convicted in South Florida of running a scheme to steal more than \$1.8 million in veteran and Social Security benefits. A federal jury in Fort Lauderdale found Omar Shaquille Bailey and Ronaldo Garfield Green guilty last week of conspiracy to commit fraud following an eight-day trial, according to court documents. They're scheduled to be sentenced in January. Jamare Mason pleaded guilty to his role in the scheme on the second day of trial. Two others, Kadeem Gordon and Mario Ricketts, had pleaded guilty before the trial. Two other men suspected of participating in the fraud haven't been captured. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: California electrician ordered to pay \$481 million for scam**, Don Thompson, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A California electrician was ordered Tuesday to pay \$481.3 million in restitution as part of his sentence for participating in a \$1 billion Ponzi scheme that suckered Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., among many others. Joseph W. Bayliss, 46, of Martinez, was sentenced to three years in federal prison on top of the restitution. He was an electrician who prosecutors say was hired by Benicia-based DC Solar to pose as a licensed engineer to inspect new mobile solar generator units that were mounted on trailers. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Newsweek](#)

**AP: Judge vets potential jurors for Ghislaine Maxwell trial**, Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

Prospective jurors got their first glimpse of Ghislaine Maxwell, the British socialite charged with helping Jeffrey Epstein sexually abuse girls and women, when a judge began questioning them individually Tuesday. Wearing a black suit, Maxwell hugged her lawyers when she entered the courtroom and briefly sketched a courtroom artist who was drawing her. Judge Alison J. Nathan's questions in Manhattan federal court were aimed at seeing if potential jurors can stay impartial in the sordid case against Maxwell. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NYT](#)

**AP: Ex-pork buyer dies in Iowa crash following fraud indictment**, Ryan J. Foley, November 16, 2021, 11:30 AM

A former manager for an influential Iowa-based pork dealer has died in a crash, days after federal prosecutors charged him in a scheme to swindle hog farmers through fraudulent buying practices. Steven Demaray, 70, the former regional buying manager for Lynch Livestock, was driving a truck that crashed head-on Monday morning into a concrete overpass support pier on Highway 63 near New Hampton, where he lived, according to the Iowa State Patrol. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: Contractor promised government U.S.-made body armor, then bought it in China**, Rachel Weiner, November 16, 2021, 5:23 PM

From his home in rural Texas, a would-be defense contractor spun a web of fake companies and testing reports to pass off Chinese-made body armor as American equipment that met rigorous standards for use by the State Department and U.S. law enforcement partners in Latin America. Tanner Jackson, 32, pleaded guilty Tuesday in Alexandria federal court to one count of wire fraud, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: A Texas student, who wrote 'I set a synagogue on fire' in a journal, is charged with arson, officials say**, Raja Razek and Amir Vera, November 16, 2021, 11:51 PM

A Texas State University student who the FBI said wrote "I set a synagogue on fire" has been federally charged with arson, according to a Tuesday news release from the US Department of Justice. The charges stem from a fire that was intentionally set at the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Austin, Texas, on October 31, the release said. Surveillance video from the night of the fire shows Franklin Barrett Sechrist, 18, with a face covering the night of the fire, according to a criminal complaint. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNBC: U.S. to sell cryptocurrency worth \$56 million after record seizure in BitConnect fraud case**, Dan Mangan, November 16, 2021, 3:41 PM

The U.S. Justice Department will sell off \$56 million worth of cryptocurrency it seized as part of a massive Ponzi scheme case against a man who promoted the offshore crypto lending program

BitConnect, authorities said Tuesday. The Justice Department said the liquidation of the cryptocurrency follows "the largest single recovery of a cryptocurrency fraud by the United States to date." [...] "These claims were a sham," the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a lawsuit in September against BitConnect, its founder Satish Kumbhani and Glenn Arcaro, a Los Angeles man who was the lead promoter of BitConnect in the United States. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Business Insider: A self-described 'incel' YouTuber pleaded guilty to making a hoax bomb threat, Department of Justice says***, Kieran Press-Reynolds, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

A YouTuber who self-identifies as an "incel" has pleaded guilty to making a bomb threat in Manhattan, the Department of Justice said in a Friday press release. Malik Sanchez pleaded guilty to one count of conveying false information and hoaxes in a Manhattan federal court on Friday for a bomb threat he made in February, the US Attorney for the Southern District of New York wrote in the press release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***The Gazette (Cedar Rapids, IA): Former pharmacist convicted of stealing drugs from pharmacy for personal use***, Trish Mehaffey, November 16, 2021, 9:16 PM

A former pharmacist with a history for stealing drugs in California pleaded guilty Tuesday to stealing "hundreds" of drugs from his Cedar Rapids CVS job for his personal use, including shorting customers' pills from their prescriptions. Brandon Lee Iacobo, 35, now living in La Crosse, Wis., pleaded to one count of acquiring a controlled substance by means of misrepresentation, fraud, deception and subterfuge. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KCRG-ABC \(Cedar Rapids, IA\)](#)

***San Gabriel Valley Tribune: Ex-El Monte Realtor sentenced to prison for mortgage fraud***, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 6:50 PM

A former realtor from El Monte was sentenced Tuesday, Nov. 16, to four years behind bars for running a mortgage scheme that conned distressed homeowners out of nearly \$4 million. Ernesto Diaz, 66, was also ordered to pay more than \$3 million in restitution to his victims, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***New Jersey Advance Media: Driver wearing body armor, found with guns, facing federal charge, officials say***, Chris Sheldon, November 16, 2021, 6:44 PM

A body armor-clad man arrested last month after police found several guns and ammunition in his car when they were responding to a crash in Mantoloking, is now facing a federal charge, authorities said. Jeremy W. Barringer, 46, of Toms River was charged with one count of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to a statement from the US Attorney's Office. He was taken into federal custody Tuesday morning and detained after he appeared via videoconference in Trenton federal court. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Toms River, NJ\)](#)

***Baltimore Sun: Woman pleads guilty to robbery plot that led to murder of a Baltimore mother and her 7-year-old son in 2015***, Justin Fenton, November 16, 2021, 5:24 PM

A friend of a woman who was killed in 2015 along with her 7-year-old son in Southwest Baltimore pleaded guilty to federal charges that she helped set up a drug robbery that led to the murders, according to a plea agreement outlined Tuesday. Kiara Haynes, 27, admitted that she helped plot a robbery of Jennifer Jeffrey in May 2015, including acquiring a gun used in the crime and taking a cut of stolen heroin afterward. The killings took place just two months after attending Jeffrey's bachelorette party, according to the plea, which provided new details about the murders.

[Continue Reading] See also: [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#), [WJZ-CBS \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**Post and Courier (Charleston, SC): Prisoner convicted of attacking other inmate in 1st federal criminal jury trial since 2020**, Olivia Diaz, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

An inmate was convicted Nov. 16 on charges stemming from a violent 2018 prison attack. It was the first federal criminal jury trial in Charleston since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. George Hall, a federal inmate at Estill Federal Correctional Institution in Hampton, was found guilty of two counts: assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to cause injury and assault resulting in serious injuries. [Continue Reading] See also: [WCSC-CBS \(Charleston, SC\)](#)

**Fresno Bee: Fresno man guilty of having child porn. Some depicted ‘sadistic or masochistic conduct’**, Joshua Tehe, November 16, 2021, 4:53 PM

A Fresno man pleaded guilty in federal court on Monday to charges that he received and distributed child pornography, some of which depicted “sadistic or masochistic conduct.” According to court documents, 21-year-old Tanner Joel Hernandez-Fields received between 150 and 300 images and video files on his iPhone between March and April of 2019. Those images contained depictions of prepubescent minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Some of the material met the definition of “sadistic or masochistic conduct,” the U.S. Justice Department said in a statement. [Continue Reading] See also: [KGET-NBC \(Bakersfield, CA\)](#), [KRIV-Fox \(Houston, TX\)](#)

**Akron Beacon Journal (Akron, OR): Akron man to spend 25 years in prison for supplying drugs used in 2020 fatal overdose**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 4:35 PM

An Akron man will spend at least 25 years in prison after being found guilty of supplying narcotics to a woman who died of a drug overdose last year. Acting U.S. Attorney Bridget M. Brennan announced a federal jury returned guilty verdicts against Quentin D. Watson, 35, on Monday after a weeklong trial before Judge Pamela A. Barker in Cleveland. [Continue Reading]

**Las Vegas Review-Journal: Man receives 27-year prison term in child porn case**, Jonah Dylan, November 16, 2021, 4:17 PM

A Las Vegas man was sentenced Monday to 27 years in prison for attempting to sexually exploit a child and receiving child pornography, according to the U.S. attorney's office. Richard Fred Dittmer III, 25, pleaded guilty in January to one count of receipt of child pornography and one count of attempted sexual exploitation of a child. [Continue Reading] See also: [KSNV-NBC \(Las Vegas, NE\)](#), [KTNV-ABC \(Las Vegas, NE\)](#)

**Miami Herald: 2 Tampa women charged after Florida-based sites shared millions of child porn images, DOJ says**, Jason Dill, November 16, 2021, 2:15 PM

An online subscription-based child pornography enterprise stretching internationally has connections to Florida after acting United States Attorney Karin Hoppmann on Tuesday unsealed two indictments related to the case, she said in a news release from Tampa. The Department of Justice's news release alleges the Florida-based Newstar Enterprise, which had a collection of websites, produced more than 4.6 million sexualized images and videos to distribute and sell with children as young as 6 years old. [Continue Reading]

**Booth Newspapers (Grand Rapids, MI): Former University of Michigan music professor sentenced to prison for sex crimes**, Samuel Dodge, November 16, 2021, 1:41 PM

A former University of Michigan music professor will spend about five to six years in prison after

pleading guilty Tuesday to a felony charge of transporting a female minor across state lines for sex. Stephen Shipps, a violin professor until his 2019 retirement, pleaded guilty before of U.S. District Court Judge Denise Hood at a Nov. 16 federal court hearing at the Theodore Levin United States Courthouse in Detroit. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Detroit News](#), [WDIV-NBC \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

***The Tennessean (Nashville, TN): Clarksville restaurant owner sentenced for harboring immigrants; \$440K in tax fraud***, Andy Humbles, November 16, 2021, 11:47 AM

A Clarksville restaurant owner is sentenced to 20 months in federal prison for harboring immigrants illegally and tax fraud conspiracy that totals more than \$440,000, prosecutors said. Quanwei Shi, 31, is the majority owner of the New China Buffett & Grill in Clarksville, according to the U.S. District Attorney's office for the Middle District of Tennessee. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

***WCAX-CBS (Burlington, VT): Underhill man sentenced for child sex crimes***, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 10:35 PM

A Vermont man will spend 16 years in prison for child sex crimes. Ryan Beaulieu, 45 of Underhill pleaded guilty Tuesday to sexual exploitation and child porn. According to court documents, the Underhill man used an anonymous video chat website and recorded children he directed to engage in sex. Authorities found thousands of images and records of him participating in numerous online groups dedicated to producing and trafficking child sex abuse material.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

***Daily Voice (Hudson, NJ): MS-13 Members Convicted Of Murder Of Innocent West New York Man, 19, Other Gang-Related Crimes***, Jerry DeMarco, November 16, 2021, 8:24 PM

Three ranking MS-13 members from El Salvador were convicted by federal jurors in Newark of the murder of an innocent 19-year-old dishwasher from West New York, among other charges stemming from their participation in the international gang. It was one of many offenses that jurors agreed were committed by Juan Pablo "Humilde" Escalante-Melgar, 31, Elmer "Locote" Cruz-Diaz, 33, and Oscar "Snappy" Sanchez-Aguilar, 25 among them, extortion, witness tampering, and drug trafficking. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

***WITI-Fox (Milwaukee, WI): Feds seek sentence, treatment for QAnon believer in soldier attack***, Bill Miston, November 16, 2021, 8:17 PM

Federal prosecutors are seeking a sentence for a QAnon conspiracy believer, who pleaded guilty to attacking two soldiers, that protects the public and allows him to receive proper medical treatment, citing his "copious consumption of online conspiracy material," according to new court filings. Ian Alan Olson, 31, of Nashotah, pleaded guilty in August to attacking the servicemen with paintballs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

***KOLR-CBS (Springfield, MO): Aurora Man Sentenced to 15 Years for Illegal Firearms***, Jason Brasier, November 16, 2021, 6:58 PM

Milton W. Sparks, 38, of Aurora, Missouri, has been sentenced to 15 years in federal prison without parole. According to a press release, in late spring Sparks pleaded guilty to two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm. On December 20, 2017, Sparks, who admitted he had a gun on him, was also driving a stolen Dodge Challenger and fled from officers getting up to speeds of 128 miles per hour. He cut off a dump truck after crossing the right lane of Highway 13. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KYTV-NBC \(Springfield, MO\)](#)

**Patch (Gloucester Township, NJ): Man Sentenced For Gloucester Twp., Collingswood**

**Bank Robberies**, Anthony Bellano, November 16, 2021, 6:48 PM

A Camden man has been sentenced to 16 years, eight months in prison after he was previously convicted of robbing a pair of banks in Gloucester Township and Collingswood over a 10-day period in 2018, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced. Anthony L. Livingston, 50, was convicted in May 2019 of two counts of bank robbery, and one count of attempted bank robbery following a one-week trial before U.S. District Judge Renee Marie Bumb in Camden federal court.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVI-Fox (St. Louis, MO): St. Louis man indicted in nationwide drug ring**, Kevin S. Held, November 16, 2021, 6:07 PM

A federal grand jury handed down indictments against a St. Louis man and 19 other people on Tuesday for their roles in a large-scale, nationwide drug ring. The indictment alleges Steven Bell of St. Louis possessed 500 grams or more of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute those drugs, and also possessed a firearm while being a previously convicted felon. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WICS-ABC (Springfield, IL): Man sentenced to 5 years for child pornography**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A former Piatt County man will spend 60 months behind bars. Neal A. Evans, 51, was sentenced on Tuesday, Nov. 16 for receipt and possession of child pornography. Evans pleaded guilty in July 2021 to attempted receipt of child pornography and possession of child pornography. The incidents were investigated by the Macon County Sheriff's Department and the Decatur Police Department after they took place in January 2018. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WAND-NBC \(Decatur, IL\)](#)

**KTLA-CW (Los Angeles, CA): 3 Miami women sentenced to prison for California EDD fraud**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 5:59 PM

Three Miami women were sentenced to federal prison for filing fraudulent claims for unemployment benefits in the names of California identity theft victims, the Justice Department announced Tuesday. Bonia Bon and Bonize Bon, who are 32-year-old twin sisters, and Eldia Diejuste, 32, were each sentenced Monday to one year and one day in federal prison, according to a news release from the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBOY-NBC/ABC (Clarksburg, WV): Bridgeport man pleads guilty to federal child porn charge**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 5:38 PM

A Bridgeport man has admitted to a federal child pornography charge, United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced. Randy McKinley, 57, pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count of "Possession of Child Pornography." McKinley admitted to having child pornography with children under the age of 12 in October 2020 in Harrison County. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Guilford, CT): Guilford Man Had 100s Of Child Sexual Abuse Images, Videos: Feds, Ellyn Santiago**, November 16, 2021, 5:30 PM

A federal grand jury indicted a Guilford man, charging him with receipt of child pornography, the Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut announced Tuesday. Christopher Michaelson, 37, was arrested in 2019, with the help of Guilford police, on Rhode Island state charges, federal prosecutors noted. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KOWB (Laramie, WY): Laramie Man Gets Federal Prison for Threatening Elected Officials**, Joy Greenwald, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

A 52-year-old Laramie man who admitted to threatening various elected officials in January has been sentenced to 18 months in federal prison, Acting U.S. Attorney Bob Murray announced Tuesday. Christopher Kent Podlesnik was indicted in March on seven counts of transmitting threats in interstate commerce. He took a plea deal and pleaded guilty to four of the counts in August. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): Pittsfield man pleads guilty to failing to register as a sex offender**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 3:46 PM

A Pittsfield man pleaded guilty on Friday in federal court in Springfield to failing to register as a sex offender. Jarrett Woodruff, 34, pleaded guilty to one count of failure to register as a sex offender before U.S. District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni who scheduled sentencing for March 14, 2022. Woodruff was charged in November 2020. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Jamaica Plain, MA): Jamaica Plain Man Charged With Sexual Exploitation Of Children**, Gabby DeBenedictis, November 16, 2021, 2:45 PM

A Jamaica Plain man who is a registered sex offender was charged with sexual exploitation of children on Monday after allegedly soliciting a minor on a social media app. Hector Acevedo, 31, allegedly "solicited a minor via TikTok and coerced the victim to engage in sexual conduct over video chat," the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KELO-CBS (Sioux Falls, SD): California woman gets over 19 years in federal prison for meth, money laundering**, Todd Epp, November 16, 2021, 1:31 PM

A California woman is serving a 19 and a half year federal sentence for distributing meth and money laundering. Maribel Torres, 37, from Escondido, California was sentenced to 235 months in federal prison by Judge Karen Schreier on November 1. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KCAL-CBS (Los Angeles, CA): Fugitive Couple Convicted In \$18 Million COVID-19 Loan Fraud Scheme Sentenced In Absentia**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 1:20 PM

A couple who the FBI says is on the run after being convicted in an \$18 million COVID-19 relief fraud scheme were sentenced to several years of prison time Monday in absentia. Richard Ayvazyan, 43, and his wife and co-defendant, 37-year-old Marietta Terabelian, remain at large after the FBI says they removed their electronic tracking bracelets in August. They had been found guilty in June in an \$18 million COVID-19 relief loan scheme, that had included Ayvazyan's brother and several other relatives. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KTLA-CW \(Los Angeles, CA\)](#)

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Newsweek: N.J. Man Heads to Prison for Conspiring With White Supremacists in 'Kristallnacht' Attack**, Toria Barnhart, November 16, 2021, 8:46 PM

New Jersey man was sentenced to one year and one day in prison for conspiring with members of a white supremacist hate group to threaten minority-owned businesses across the country. Richard Tobin, 20, of Brooklawn, New Jersey, previously pleaded guilty to charges for his role in a scheme to intimidate Black and Jewish Americans by vandalizing properties they owned throughout the country in September 2019, according to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Tobin was sentenced in federal court on Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Voice](#)

[\(New Jersey\)](#), [New Jersey Advance Media](#)

**The Hill: Oregon man charged with federal hate crime in attack of gay man**, Sarakshi Rai, November 16, 2021, 1:36 PM

The Department of Justice announced on Tuesday that an Oregon man has been charged with a federal hate crime after brutally assaulting a gay man because of his sexual orientation. Daniel Andrew McGee, 22, was arrested by the FBI on Monday.

McGee met the man he assaulted via social media and networking app Grindr. The Justice Department statement details how he entered the man's apartment on Jul 5 and assaulted him with "a wooden club over a period of several minutes," alleging that McGee tried to kill the man.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Advocate \(Charlotte, OR\)](#), [KEZI-ABC \(Eugene, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Newsweek](#), [The Observer \(Charlotte, NC\)](#), [The Oregonian](#)

**WSMV-NBC (Nashville, TN): Civil rights lawyer Ben Crump asks DOJ to investigate**

**Rutherford Co. prosecutor**, Michael Warrick, November 16, 2021, 7:30 PM

Widely known civil rights attorney Ben Crump is calling on federal authorities to investigate Rutherford County Assistant District Attorney John Zimmerman, accusing him of racially profiling businesses. Crump, who represented the families of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and Jacob Blake, wants the Department of Justice to open a pattern and practice investigation into Zimmerman. Crump claims Zimmerman is not allowing Tennessee Bonding Company to acquire his client, Free At Last Bail Bonding, for reasons he believes are racially motivated. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): Freedom Credit Union commits \$15K to Baystate Franklin Medical Center**, Seth Rosenthal, November 16, 2021, 11:13 AM

Freedom Credit Union announced their plan to commit \$15,000 to Baystate Franklin Medical Center's new Department of Family Medicine over the next five years. According to a statement released by Freedom Credit Union, the new department is described as a partnership between Baystate Franklin Medical Center and UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**WSJ: Challenges to Biden Vaccine Rules Will Come Before Ohio-Based U.S. Appeals Court**, Brent Kendall, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A conservative-leaning U.S. appeals court in Cincinnati was randomly selected Tuesday to decide challenges to the Biden administration's new rules requiring many employers to ensure their workers are vaccinated or tested weekly for Covid-19. Legal challengers have petitioned federal appeals courts around the country to review the rules, formally issued earlier this month by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The requirements, which apply to businesses with 100 or more employees and cover roughly 84 million workers, are scheduled to take effect Jan. 4. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [ABC](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [CNN](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#)

**NBC: Trump lawyers press judge to block Congress from getting his tax returns**, Pete Williams, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

Lawyers for former President Donald Trump argued Tuesday that a federal judge should not dismiss a lawsuit seeking to block the Treasury Department and the IRS from giving his tax returns to the House Ways and Means Committee. Trump's attorneys said during more than three

hours of courtroom arguments that the reason given by committee chair Richard Neal, D-Mass., for seeking the returns to examine how the IRS audits presidents is simply a pretext for wanting to search for something embarrassing. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Politico](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Ra Medical Investors Ask Judge for First OK of \$10 Million Deal**, Jennifer Bennett, November 16, 2021, 5:09 PM

Ra Medical Systems Inc. and investors who say it misled them about problems with a medical device asked a federal judge in California for initial approval of their \$10 million settlement.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**USA Today: DHS inspector general declines review of horse-mounted agents in Haitian migrant confrontation**, Kevin Johnson, November 16, 2021, 11:00 AM

The Department of Homeland Security's inspector general "declined" to investigate the conduct of mounted Border Patrol agents during a September confrontation with Haitian migrants at the Mexican border near Del Rio, Texas, the agency said. Two months after the incident, DHS said Tuesday that the incident, which drew widespread condemnation, is the subject of a separate agency inquiry headed by the Office of Professional Responsibility. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [CNN](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

**Law360: State AGs Urge Teamwork From DHS On Labor Investigations**, Grace Dixon, November 16, 2021, 6:31 PM

More than a dozen attorneys general and local labor agencies said more cooperation between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and state or local enforcement is needed to prevent "unscrupulous" employers from using deportation to intimidate or silence workers. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Anti-Immigration Group Rips Biden ICE Policy At 5th Circ.**, Mike LaSusa, November 16, 2021, 6:09 PM

A legal advocacy group that seeks to restrict immigration to the U.S. urged the full Fifth Circuit on Monday to reverse a panel decision that kept in place the Biden administration's policy curbing immigration enforcement operations. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KWES-NBC (Odessa, TX): Customs and Border Patrol arrest woman for sex trafficking of children**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 8:20 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers have arrested a woman for sex trafficking of children. The woman was not identified by officials, but CBP said she was a 45-year-old U.S. citizen. Officers discovered the woman had an outstanding warrant when conducting an inspection of the vehicle she and four others were traveling in from Mexico to the Presidio point of entry. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KCBD-NBC \(Lubbock, TX\)](#), [KDBC-CBS \(El Paso, TX\)](#)

**KTXL-Fox (Sacramento, CA): \$53 million worth of cocaine, meth and pot seized at Laredo border crossing**, Fernie Ortiz, November 16, 2021, 5:50 PM

A pair of drug busts at a Texas border crossing netted nearly two tons of narcotics with an estimated street value of more than \$53 million. Both seizures took place on Nov. 12 at the World Trade Bridge in Laredo, Texas, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said. That evening, CBP officers inspected a Ford van that was supposed to be bringing seat cushions from Mexico.

Officers used a drug-sniffing dog and a non-intrusive imaging system inspection to search the van and discovered 400 packages containing 1,014 pounds of marijuana within the seat cushions. The pot was worth an estimated \$203,000. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ANTITRUST**

### **Law360: Apple App Store Users Seek Cert. In \$10B Antitrust Suit**, Hannah Albarazi,

November 16, 2021, 11:07 PM

Apple App Store users urged a California federal judge during a hearing Tuesday to grant class certification in their antitrust lawsuit alleging Apple foreclosed competition on its App Store, telling the judge that their expert estimates U.S. Apple consumers suffered \$7 billion to \$10 billion in damages as a result. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **Law360: Apple's \$100M Antitrust Deal With Developers Gets Initial Nod**, Kauren Berg,

November 16, 2021, 10:44 PM

A California federal judge on Tuesday gave the initial green light to a deal requiring Apple to pay app developers \$100 million and make developer-friendly changes to its App Store policy to resolve a putative antitrust class action claiming Apple monopolizes the market for software distributed on its devices. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **Law360: Merck, Glenmark Want Jury To Decide Zetia Antitrust Market**, Nadie Dreid,

November 16, 2021, 8:52 PM

Merck and Glenmark are not happy about a Virginia federal magistrate's recommendation that a suit accusing the pharmaceutical companies of hatching an anti-competitive plan to keep a cholesterol drug off the market should focus on a narrower market. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **Law360: 5th Circ. Sinks Topgolf Rival's Latest Antitrust Case**, Edward Moreno, November 16, 2021, 6:03 PM

A Fifth Circuit panel issued an unpublished opinion affirming a Texas federal court's second dismissal of an antitrust suit brought by a defunct rival to golf entertainment company Topgolf, saying the company still lacks standing to bring the case because it remains out of business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **AP: Regulators seek to suspend Trump rule on railway natural gas**, Unattributed,

November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

Federal regulators have proposed suspending a Trump administration rule that would have allowed railroads to haul liquefied natural gas while they take a closer look at the potential safety risks. The rule, which was backed by both the natural gas and freight rail industries, had already been on hold because several environmental groups and 14 states filed lawsuits challenging it. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **AP: Judge keeps Michigan oil pipeline case in federal court**, John Flesher, November 16, 2021, 6:13 PM

A federal judge retained jurisdiction Tuesday in a dispute over a Canadian oil pipeline that runs through a section of the Great Lakes, rejecting Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's contention that

the case belongs in state court. The clash over whether Enbridge Energy's Line 5 should continue operating raises issues "under consideration at the highest levels of this country's government" involving a U.S.-Canada treaty and federal pipeline safety regulation, U.S. District Judge Janet Neff ruled. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Say Oil Groups Lack Standing To Contest Lease Freeze**, Caleb Dickey, November 16, 2021, 5:06 PM

A coalition of energy industry trade organizations lacked any standing to challenge the Biden administration's order to halt sales of oil leases on federal land and waters, the federal government argued. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Exide Bankruptcy Trustee Floats \$17M Cleanup Deal With EPA**, Leslie Pappas, November 16, 2021, 2:37 PM

A trustee for the bankruptcy estate of battery recycler Exide Technologies Inc. has reached an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to allow it a \$17 million unsecured claim related to cleanup obligations at a handful of contaminated industrial sites in Oregon and Pennsylvania. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Hawaii Public Radio: EPA fines Hawaii Gas \$230K for violating Clean Air Act at synthetic natural gas plant**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 2:00 PM

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has fined Hawaii Gas \$230,000 for violations of the Clean Air Act at a facility on the 'Ewa side of O'ahu. The EPA cited the company after a January 2020 inspection at its synthetic natural gas plant in Campbell Industrial Park. The EPA determined the facility violated chemical release prevention and reporting requirements. It says Hawaii Gas failed to meet safety requirements and conduct hazards analyses, correct equipment deficiencies, and lacked required information in its emergency response plan. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **TAX**

**WCPO-ABC (Cincinnati, OH): Former Hope 4 Change CEO sentenced to 4 years for tax fraud**, B.J. Bethel, November 16, 2021, 10:18 PM

Barry Rene Isaacs was sentenced to four years in prison in U.S. District Court in Cincinnati on Tuesday for spending thousands of dollars on personal expenses instead of paying payroll taxes. He's also been ordered to pay \$246,000 in restitution. Isaacs, 35, of Cincinnati, was the founder and CEO of Hope 4 Change, according to a statement from the U.S. District Attorney's Office. The non-profit provided housing and care for adults with developmental disabilities, drug addiction problems and mental disorders. The company employed 120 to 180 people in 2013 and 2014. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

**WaPo: [OPINION] When it comes to activism, law enforcement has always had a double standard**, Denise Lynn, November 17, 2021, 6:00 AM

On Oct. 31, The Washington Post released a report detailing the many federal intelligence and law enforcement failures leading up to the Jan. 6 insurrection. It revealed that despite being alerted by social media companies and FBI informants of the potential for violence, several agencies did not take the warnings seriously or, in the case of the military, feared that the

appearance of soldiers using force would be bad optics. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: [OPINION] The Federal Bureau of Dirty Tricks**, Bret Stephens, November 16, 2021, 9:11 PM

This month's bombshell indictment of Igor Danchenko, the Russian national who is charged with lying to the F.B.I. and whose work turns out to have been the main source for Christopher Steele's notorious dossier, is being treated as a major embarrassment for much of the news media and, if the charges stick, that's exactly what it is. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: FBI Tracks Threats Against Teachers, School-Board Members**, Sadie Gurman and Aruna Viswanatha, November 16, 2021, 3:10 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has set up a process to track threats against school-board members and teachers, moving to implement a Justice Department directive that some law-enforcement officials and Republican lawmakers say could improperly target parents protesting local education policies. The heads of the FBI's criminal and counterterrorism divisions instructed agents in an Oct. 20 memo to flag all assessments and investigations into potentially criminal threats, harassment and intimidation of educators with a "threat tag," which the officials said would allow them to evaluate the scope of the problem. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Caller](#), [Fox](#), [NYT](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Washington Times](#)

**Daily Beast: Was FBI Hack Just an Elaborate Troll of a Guy Named Vinny?**, Shannon Vavra, November 16, 2021, 9:48 PM

To hack an FBI email system, it takes a lot of motivation, even more technical skill, and, perhaps, a dash of humor. Over the weekend, someone or a team of someones compromised an FBI email system and sent out a flurry of bogus messages to state and local law enforcement about a supposed cyberattack. But instead of trying to wreak havoc, the purpose of the hack seems to have been to troll one particular information security executive: Vinny Troia, the founder and head of security research at Shadowbyte. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Salina Post (Salina, KS): FBI asks for help to ID 'John Doe 45' in child sex investigation**, Unattributed, November 17, 2021, 6:00 AM

The FBI's Crimes Against Children division is asking for help to identify "John Doe 45," an unknown man who may have critical information on the identity of an infant victim in a sexual exploitation investigation, according to the FBI office in Kansas City. A video depicting John Doe 45 is believed to have been produced between January 2019 and April 2019, according to a news release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH): U.S. marshals offer \$5,000 reward for arrest of suspect in torture, killing of woman in East Cleveland**, Olivia Mitchell, November 16, 2021, 2:59 PM

The U.S. Marshals Service is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for the arrest of a man wanted in connection with the abduction, torture and killing of a woman found dead in East Cleveland. Hakeem Ali-Shomo, 30, is wanted in connection with the killing of Alishah Pointer. A warrant was issued for his arrest on Nov. 10, one day after Pointer, 22, was found dead in the basement of an abandoned and burned-out home in East Cleveland. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTSN-NBC (El Paso, TX): U.S. Marshals arrest New Mexico man in connection to South Central El Paso bar murder**, Aaron J. Montes, November 17, 2021, 2:01 AM

El Paso Police identified a man killed and another wounded in a South Central shooting at a bar in

October and say the suspect in the case was arrested in New Mexico. Alfredo Morales, 28, was killed in a shooting at Cantina Cazadores on October 15 after getting into an altercation with two other men. Jorge Garcia, 36, was also shot during the incident and sustained a gunshot wound to the chest. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNCN-CBS (Goldsboro, NC): FBI to assist in search for missing 12-year-old SC girl; person of interest sought**, Bethany Fowler, November 16, 2021, 11:41 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is assisting in the search for a missing 12-year-old girl in Laurens County. According to the Laurens County Sheriff's Office, Madison Reynolds ran away from an address on Abercrombie Road in Fountain Inn at 3:30 a.m. Monday. The FBI was asked to assist Tuesday in the search for Reynolds. It is unknown what Reynolds was wearing when she left. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WSPA-CBS \(Spartanburg, SC\)](#), [WYFF \(Greenville, SC\)](#)

**KABB-Fox (San Antonio, TX): DEA: Colombia's most wanted drug lord captured**, Yami Virgin, November 16, 2021, 11:00 PM

His name is Dairo Antonio Usuga aka Otoniel... after decades of being on the DEA's Most Wanted List, Otoniel was captured on October 23, a huge blow for drug trafficking from Colombia since the death of Pablo Escobar according to the Colombian president. He is accused of sending dozens of shipments of cocaine into the United States and other crimes, but what does his arrest mean for us here in the U.S.? [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KUSA-NBC (Denver, CO): [VIDEO] FBI raids home of Mesa County Clerk Tina Peters in election data breach investigation**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 10:48 PM

The FBI carried out a court-ordered search of Peters' home in Mesa County early Tuesday morning, leaving her "terrified," Peters said. [\[Watch\]](#)

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Maryland's Most Wanted | Kevin Anthony Jones, accused of shooting man in the groin**, Alexa Ashwell, November 16, 2021, 10:00 PM

A suspect is accused of nearly killing a man in what investigators say was a personal and calculated shooting. Kevin Anthony Jones, 40, is wanted by US Marshals in the July 6, 2021 shooting of a man in the groin in southeast DC. According to investigators, Jones got into an argument with the victim at an apartment complex in a neighborhood known as Buena Vista. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFLD-Fox (Chicago, IL): FBI looking for man in sexual exploitation case involving a baby**, Natalie Bomke, November 16, 2021, 9:26 PM

The FBI is urging the public to help track down a man wanted for questioning in the sexual exploitation of an infant. On Tuesday, they released a six second audio clip of the man speaking to the child in English. The audio was taken from a graphic video the FBI has obtained. A snap shot of the room where the crime occurred was also released, showing what appears to be an infant seat, floral wall paper with a tear and a gasoline can next to plastic storage bins. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KITV-ABC \(Honolulu, HI\)](#), [KRQE-CBS/Fox \(Albuquerque, NM\)](#)

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): FBI, family seek new clues in 2018 murder of hunter in Bath Township**, Shawn Ley, November 16, 2021, 9:11 PM

An avid hunter was killed in the woods and three years later his murder still hasn't been solved. In 2018, Chong Yang went out hunting and did not return home. Family members found his remains the night he went missing. His remains were found at the Rose Lake State Wildlife Research

Area in East Lansing. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGW-NBC (Portland, OR): FBI offers \$15,000 reward for information about California man murdered during visit to Portland**, Mike Benner, November 16, 2021, 7:21 PM

Promise Marks will be the first to tell you Curtis Smith was the apple of her eye. "Curtis was an amazing person," she said. "Of course he was my son and yes he was a dad, nephew, grandson but he was a young man who had a love for life and he cared a lot for people. He cared about the well being of his friends. He cared about making something of his life and being a better human being." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KXII-CBS/Fox (Sherman, TX): FBI says Southern Oklahoma bank robberies most likely aren't connected**, Caroline Cluiss, November 16, 2021, 7:20 PM

One man is in custody after Monday evening's bank robbery in Ada. It took just over six hours for law enforcement to find the suspect, 40-year-old Matthew Pettigrew, after he allegedly robbed the Citizen's Bank inside a Walmart on Country Club Road. "At about six 'o'clock p.m. last night, a Native American walked into the Walmart, which is located on Country Club, and he was in the store for a little while. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRMG (Tulsa, OK): U.S. Marshals, Okmulgee County law enforcement work to find out how two inmates escaped**, John Asebes, November 16, 2021, 5:42 PM

We now know more about how two inmates escaped the Okmulgee County Jail Friday evening. Supervisor Deputy Marshal Jeffrey Johnston said U.S. Marshals are working with the Okmulgee County Criminal Justice Authority to find out how Dustin Marris and Coker Barker escaped.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**WNDU-NBC (South Bend, IN): DEA launching 'Operation Engage' initiative in Benton Harbor**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 4:33 PM

The Drug Enforcement Administration is launching a community engagement initiative in Benton Harbor. "Operation Engage," or "OpEng," will target opioids trafficking and abuse. The DEA will work with community organizations and help bring additional resources. It's also an educational program. "Education is by far the best thing we can do," says Brian McNeal, public information officer for the DEA. "I remember when I was a kid, and I was watching cartoons, there would be the commercials. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**AP: Inmate stabbed in eyeball in latest federal prison violence**, Michael Balsamo and Michael R. Sisak, November 17, 2021, 12:30 AM

An inmate at the largest federal prison in the U.S. was stabbed in the eyeball by a fellow prisoner this month, the latest gruesome example of violence in a prison system plagued by chronic unrest, understaffing, corruption and abuse. The 27-year-old inmate was attacked from behind at FCI Fort Dix, a low-security prison in Burlington County, New Jersey, that is run by the same warden who was in charge of a Manhattan federal jail when financier Jeffrey Epstein killed himself, three people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

*Miami Herald: [OPINION] Court seems poised to hand the fight against gun violence a supreme setback*, Griffin Dix, November 16, 2021, 5:50 PM

On Nov. 3, the U.S. Supreme Court heard the most significant firearms case in more than a decade. And it looks like it will rule in a way that ensures more deaths due to gun violence. In New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen, the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, an NRA affiliate, wants the court to rule that a New York State law requiring people to get a license to carry a gun in public violates the Second Amendment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Challengers Ask Justices To Rule On Tribal Casino Land Row**, Joyce Hanson, November 16, 2021, 9:06 PM

An anti-gambling community group has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to take up its case against the Department of the Interior over the agency's decision to take land into trust for a Wilton Rancheria of California casino, saying the tribe does not qualify for trust land. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: White House Commits To Consulting More With Tribal Leaders**, Christopher Cole, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

President Joe Biden has unveiled an agreement spanning more than a dozen federal agencies to work more closely with Native American tribes on issues of shared concern, especially land and water use. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ): Feds move to strengthen protection for Indigenous sacred sites on public lands**, Debra Utacia Krol, November 16, 2021, 9:15 PM

Eight federal agencies announced a new deal to coordinate efforts to protect Indigenous sacred sites, strengthening protections in an area where advocates have long said the government has fallen short. The agencies will work to provide Native peoples more access and co-management of those sites, which include better protection for sites such as Red Butte, a Havasupai site just south of the Grand Canyon, and enhanced co-management of the Grand Canyon National Park, according to a memorandum of understanding obtained by The Arizona Republic. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTUL-ABC (Tulsa, OK): Demonstrators blast Owasso City Council over joining McGirt lawsuit**, Burt Mummolo, November 16, 2021, 11:30 PM

"We demand that you rescind the amicus, apologize to the Native American community, and consult us when issues like this arise," said Kelsey Cooper, addressing the Owasso City Council. "Our main point is that the city council violated their own code of ethics, they violated the constitution by trying to interfere with tribal affairs," she said. "I am totally understanding of their viewpoint that we honor the treaties. For us, it is totally a matter of public safety," said Owasso city manager Warren Lehr. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

**WCSC-CBS (Charleston, SC): Rep. Nancy Mace introduces cannabis reform legislation**, Jeremy Hill, November 16, 2021, 6:30 PM

U.S. Congresswoman Nancy Mace announced a new cannabis bill that will give states the authority to make new cannabis reforms. The States Reform Act would remove cannabis from

Schedule I drug classification to allow states the right to determine the level of cannabis reform they want to implement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**Law360: Pharmacies Urge Mistrial In Opioid Case As Jury Deliberates**, Cara Salvatore, November 16, 2021, 8:26 PM

Only a mistrial can fix "egregious" closing arguments in a case shortly expected to yield the first jury verdict in opioid-crisis litigation, three major pharmacy chains told a Cleveland federal judge Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Purdue Claimants Say Ch. 11 Appeals Threaten Recoveries**, Vince Sullivan, November 16, 2021, 8:07 PM

A group of individual opioid injury claimants told a New York federal judge late Monday that appeals of Purdue Pharma's Chapter 11 plan could threaten the claimants' recoveries from the plan trust and negatively impact opioid abatement efforts funded under the plan. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Purdue Pharma, Sacklers Urge Appeals Judge to Affirm Opioid Deal**, Jeremy Hill, November 16, 2021, 12:47 PM

Overturning Purdue Pharma LP's sweeping opioid settlement would be "tragic" and result in "a massive destruction of value," lawyers for the OxyContin maker said in new court documents urging an appeals judge to uphold the deal. Purdue, certain members of the Sackler family, an official group of creditors and a large group of personal injury victims on Monday all submitted legal briefs in support of the deal, opposing appeal efforts by a U.S. Justice Department unit and a handful of U.S. states. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**WSJ: Lina Khan Sees Turbulent Start as Head of Federal Trade Commission**, Brent Kendall, November 16, 2021, 9:30 AM

Lina Khan, the new Federal Trade Commission chairwoman with broad ambitions to take on big business, has faced early turbulence within the agency, including from career staffers she will need to build antitrust cases and write regulations. President Biden tapped the 32-year-old Ms. Khan in June to lead the five-member FTC. She aims to challenge more corporate mergers and allegedly monopolistic practices, as well as adopt regulations to head off what she sees as unfair business tactics. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CONGRESS**

**AP: Durbin calls for Garland to remove federal prisons director**, Michael Balsamo, November 16, 2021, 10:15 AM

The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee demanded Tuesday that Attorney General Merrick Garland immediately fire the director of the beleaguered federal Bureau of Prisons after an Associated Press investigation detailing serious misconduct involving correctional officers. Sen. Dick Durbin's demand came two days after the AP revealed that more than 100 Bureau of

Prisons workers have been arrested, convicted or sentenced for crimes since the start of 2019.  
[Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [National Review](#), [Newsweek](#), [NY Post](#), [Washington Times](#)

**Politico: FBI left out of the loop in cyberattack reporting bill**, Betsy Woodruff Swan and Eric Geller, November 16, 2021, 11:54 AM

The FBI could be sidelined in new cybersecurity legislation, a top Bureau official told lawmakers Tuesday. And, in the view of America's most powerful law enforcement agency, that would be a big problem. In testimony to Congress, Bryan Vorndran, the assistant director of the FBI's Cyber Division, said that the Biden administration is "troubled" by legislation proposed by the Senate and House homeland security committees requiring a wide range of companies to report intrusions to the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency but not simultaneously to the FBI. [Continue Reading]

**Business Insider: Democrats are frustrated with Merrick Garland's judge-like apolitical style as Biden's attorney general**, C. Ryan Barber, November 16, 2021, 4:30 PM

Just a day after a violent mob stormed the US Capitol, Joe Biden stepped to the podium as president-elect and presented Merrick Garland as his pick to steady the Justice Department and steer it away from the politicization and chronic turmoil of the Trump era. Democrats have been living with that choice ever since — and they're not always loving the results. [Continue Reading]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Pfizer asked US regulators Tuesday to authorize its experimental pill for COVID-19, setting the stage for a likely launch this winter of a promising treatment that can be taken at home. The company's filing comes as new infections are rising once again in the United States, driven mainly by hot spots in states where colder weather is driving more Americans indoors. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The jury at Kyle Rittenhouse's murder trial deliberated a full day on Tuesday without reaching a verdict over whether he was the instigator in a night of bloodshed in Kenosha or a concerned citizen who came under attack while trying to protect property. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- President Biden traveled to New Hampshire to sell his infrastructure law, visiting an 82-year-old bridge set to be fast-tracked for repairs. The trip comes ahead of an impending showdown over the president's social and climate spending plan. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- The defense will begin presenting its case in the trial of three White men accused of chasing down and killing Ahmaud Arbery. The prosecution rested its case after a medical examiner showed graphic autopsy photos. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]

- A top Pentagon official said he's "very concerned" about China's military buildup. Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General John Hyten detailed his concerns in an exclusive interview. [[CBS](#)]
- A six-year CBS News investigation has prompted new legislation to protect children sitting in the back seats of vehicles during rear-end crashes. [[CBS](#)]
- Jury selection is set to begin in the sex trafficking trial of Jeffrey Epstein's former associate Ghislaine Maxwell, who is accused of recruiting underage women for Epstein's alleged sexual abuse for more than a decade. [[NBC](#)]
- Sergei Chemezov, a member of Russian President Putin's inner circle, shows off a prototype of a stealth fighter that the Russians call their "checkmate." Russia is the second largest arms exporter after the US, and as CEO of state-owned Rostec, Chemezov is selling to American allies like Turkey. [[NBC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- "States sidestep federal rules to offer booster shots to all adults" [[WaPo](#)]
- "Live Updates: Belarus Moves Hundreds of Migrants Away From Border Checkpoint" [[NYT](#)]
- "Treasury's Edge Toward Stability After Selloff" [[WSJ](#)]

**END**

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**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Davidson, Marcia A. (OAG)  
**Sent:** November 17, 2021 6:53 AM (UTC-05:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** November 17, 2021 at 6:52:22 AM EST  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
November 17, 2021  
7:00 AM EST**

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**WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: NOVEMBER 17, 2021**

**DOJ**

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No scheduled events.

## **CONGRESS**

- 10:00 AM: Senate Committee on the Judiciary nominations hearing. Bridget Meehan Brennan to be United States District Judge For The Northern District Of Ohio, John H. Chun to be United States District Judge For The Western District Of Washington, Charles Esque Fleming to be United States District Judge For The Northern District Of Ohio, David Augustin Ruiz to be United States District Judge For The Northern District Of Ohio. Rm 226, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, United States.
- 1:00 PM: Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control hearing on 'The Nexus between the Illicit Drug Trade and Corruption', with witnesses, Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Amb. Todd Robinson, Deputy Assistant Attorney General Bruce Swartz, USAID Anti-Corruption Task Force Executive Director Shannon Green, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Division for Treaty Affairs Director John Brandolino, Brookings Institution Foreign Policy Center for Security, Strategy, and Technology Senior Fellow Vanda Felbab-Brown, and University of South Carolina Walker Institute Research Affiliate Clay Fuller. Rm 608, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, United States.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**AP: Biden choice for Justice antitrust post wins Senate approval**, Marcy Gordon, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

President Joe Biden's choice to lead enforcement of competition laws at the Justice Department has won Senate approval as his administration pursues action against outsized market power it has condemned in several industries, including Big Tech, health care, airlines and agriculture. The bipartisan vote Tuesday was 68-29 to confirm Jonathan Kanter, an antitrust lawyer who has opposed tech giants in private practice, as assistant attorney general heading the Justice Department's antitrust division. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [CNBC](#), [Law360](#), [Reuters](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Feds Recommend Body Cameras for Portland, Oregon, Police**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 2:01 PM

The U.S. Justice Department is recommending that all uniformed officers in Portland, Oregon, wear body cameras if they are on tactical, traffic or crowd control operations. Oregon's largest city has been in negotiations with the police union over how the cameras would be used and when officers could review footage after an incident. The City Council is set to vote Wednesday on a proposal from Mayor Ted Wheeler to dedicate \$2.6 million to start purchasing the cameras, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: [OPINION] Did the Justice Department overreach in raiding James O'Keefe's home?**, Erik Wemple, November 16, 2021, 5:30 PM

The FBI on Nov. 6 searched the Mamaroneck, N.Y., home of James O'Keefe, the founder of the video-sting group Project Veritas. As reported by the New York Times, authorities also searched

the homes of two O'Keefe associates. It's all part of an investigation stemming from the reported theft last year of the diary of Ashley Biden, the president's daughter. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Report: Justice Department needs to prove it is not politicized**, Emily Zantow, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

The Justice Department watchdog says the department needs to prove to the public that it is not politicized. In a report released Tuesday, Inspector General Michael E. Horowitz said public discourse questioning the department's objective application of law is "concerning." [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **US ATTORNEYS**

*Herald Democrat (Sherman, TX): Nicholas J. Ganjei steps down as acting US attorney*, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 11:00 AM

Acting United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas Nicholas J. Ganjei announced Monday that he will be stepping down from the role of Acting United States Attorney effective Tuesday. "The opportunity to serve the American people as Acting United States Attorney was both an awesome responsibility and a tremendous privilege," said Ganjei in a news release.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## **DOJ GRANTS**

*KNWA-NBC (Rogers, AR): Fayetteville Police Department to add social workers to staff as part of DOJ grant*, Justin Trobaugh, November 16, 2021, 10:34 PM

The Fayetteville Police Department is adding two full-time social workers to its staff. Fayetteville City Council members voted to approve a \$250,000 Department of Justice grant that will pay for the positions. Each social worker will be paired with a dedicated crisis intervention team officer. Together they will respond to crisis calls which could be anything from homelessness, to substance abuse, to welfare concerns. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**CBS: Businesses worried about cyberattacks during the holidays, report finds**, Nicole Sganga, November 17, 2021, 2:07 AM

After a year of headline-grabbing ransomware attacks, businesses say they're worried about the possibility they'll face cyber intrusions this holiday season, a time when many of their cybersecurity operations rely on skeleton staffing. Boston-based cybersecurity firm Cybereason commissioned a survey of 1,206 cybersecurity professionals at organizations that experienced a ransomware attack during a holiday or weekend within the last year. A whopping 89% of the respondents from the U.S., U.K., France, Germany, Italy, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, and UAE indicated that they were concerned about a repeat cyber intrusion ahead of the holiday season. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**ABC: 'QAnon Shaman,' key figure in Jan. 6 attack, to be sentenced Wednesday**, Laura Romero and Lucien Bruggeman, November 16, 2021, 5:56 PM

Jacob Chansley, the self-described "QAnon Shaman" who infamously marched through the U.S.

Capitol with a spear and horned helmet during the Jan. 6 riot, will appear before a federal judge on Wednesday to be sentenced for his role in the attack. Prosecutors last week recommended that Chansley, 33, receive a sentence of 51 months, which would be the longest prison term among the hundreds of people who have been criminally charged in connection with the insurrection. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: FBI Tells Lawmakers Cyberattacks Must Be Reported Directly**, Ben Kochman, November 16, 2021, 8:52 PM

A top cybersecurity official at the FBI on Tuesday said the agency is "troubled" by a proposal to require certain entities to report hacks to authorities but not directly to law enforcement, warning that the legislation's structure could hamstring investigations. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: 1/6 Rioter Accused of Tasing Officer Fanone Says He Wasn't Properly Read His Rights**, Aila Slisco, November 16, 2021, 8:47 PM

A man accused of tasing Washington, D.C. Police Officer Michael Fanone amid the Capitol riot is attempting to get his videotaped statement to the FBI dropped as his lawyers allege that he was not properly read his rights. Lawyers for Daniel Rodriguez also attempted on Tuesday to throw out his statement because their client was subjected to "coercive questioning," according to The Huffington Post. U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson did not make a final ruling but appeared unconvinced by the defense arguments, while suggesting that she would allow most of Rodriguez's recorded FBI statement to be admitted if the case goes to trial. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**See Also:** [HuffPost](#)

**WAVY-NBC (Portsmouth, VA): 2 from Mathews County sentenced after pleading guilty to charges stemming from capitol riot**, Ann E. Marimow and Spencer S. Hsu, November 17, 2021, 4:30 AM

Two Hampton Roads residents have been sentenced after pleading guilty in connection to the violent riot at US Capitol back on January 6. Cindy Fitchett, 59, of Cobbs Creek and Douglas Sweet, 58, of Hudgins pleaded guilty on Nov. 9 and were subsequently sentenced to 36 months of probation with one month home detention. They also face \$500 in restitution along with 60 hours community service. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **JAN. 6 COMMITTEE**

**AP: Jan. 6 panel eyes Meadows contempt vote but 'won't rush'**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Farnoush Amiri, November 16, 2021, 6:39 PM

The chairman of the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol insurrection says there is still time for former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows to comply with a subpoena before the panel moves forward with a vote to hold him in contempt of Congress. Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., said Tuesday that the committee "won't rush the effort" to make it clear it has given the former North Carolina congressman multiple opportunities to cooperate. At the same time, the panel is prepared to hold Meadows in contempt in the coming weeks if he doesn't give lawmakers any information about his role, and former President Donald Trump's, as the Capitol was attacked that day. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#)

**WaPo: Trump's legal strategy tested in fight with Congress over Jan. 6 records**, Ann E. Marimow and Spencer S. Hsu , November 17, 2021, 5:00 AM

As president, Donald Trump stymied lawmakers seeking his financial records and the testimony

of a close adviser by employing a legal strategy that worked to his advantage even when he lost in court. Trump has turned to these familiar tactics now in a bid to thwart House investigators pursuing accountability for the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, but legal observers say that in this latest test of executive power, such an approach may fail to achieve his desired outcome.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Hill](#)

#### **NYT: Trump Seeks Continued Block on Sending White House Files to Jan. 6 Panel,**

Charlie Savage, November 16, 2021, 2:15 PM

Former President Donald J. Trump asked a federal appeals court on Tuesday to block the National Archives from giving Congress quick access to records from his White House related to the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, arguing that litigation over whether they are properly shielded by his claim of executive privilege should fully play out first. In a 54-page brief filed before the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Jesse R. Binnall, a lawyer for Mr. Trump, reiterated his argument that the Constitution gives the former president the power to keep those files confidential even though he is no longer in office — and even though President Biden refused to assert executive privilege over them. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [Politico](#), [NBC](#)

#### **Politico: Whistleblower worries Jan. 6 committee is going easy on Capitol Police**

Daniel Lippman and Betsy Woodruff Swan, November 17, 2021, 4:30 AM

As congressional investigators increasingly scrutinize the performance of the U.S. Capitol Police surrounding the Jan. 6 attacks, a whistleblower says he worries the department is getting off too easy. The whistleblower told POLITICO that he participated in a 90-minute interview with committee investigators last week, and that more Capitol Police personnel are scheduled to speak with the panel next week. He was at the department's command center during the attack, POLITICO has confirmed independently, and he has since left the force. [[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **BuzzFeed: Jan. 6 Court Fights Are Resurfacing Some Familiar Faces From Trump-Era Legal Battles**

Zoe Tillman, November 16, 2021, 7:45 PM

Lawyers who landed in former president Donald Trump's orbit for some of the biggest legal fights of his term keep popping up in cases related to the Jan. 6 riot and its aftermath. When Steve Bannon addressed a scrum of reporters after his first court appearance Monday on federal charges of contempt of Congress — vowing to fight and make it the "misdemeanor from hell" he had a familiar face by his side. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

#### **AP: 5 convicted of stealing veteran, Social Security benefits**

Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

Five men have been convicted in South Florida of running a scheme to steal more than \$1.8 million in veteran and Social Security benefits. A federal jury in Fort Lauderdale found Omar Shaquille Bailey and Ronaldo Garfield Green guilty last week of conspiracy to commit fraud following an eight-day trial, according to court documents. They're scheduled to be sentenced in January. Jamare Mason pleaded guilty to his role in the scheme on the second day of trial. Two others, Kadeem Gordon and Mario Ricketts, had pleaded guilty before the trial. Two other men suspected of participating in the fraud haven't been captured. [[Continue Reading](#)]

#### **AP: California electrician ordered to pay \$481 million for scam**

Don Thompson, November

16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A California electrician was ordered Tuesday to pay \$481.3 million in restitution as part of his sentence for participating in a \$1 billion Ponzi scheme that suckered Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc., among many others. Joseph W. Bayliss, 46, of Martinez, was sentenced to three years in federal prison on top of the restitution. He was an electrician who prosecutors say was hired by Benicia-based DC Solar to pose as a licensed engineer to inspect new mobile solar generator units that were mounted on trailers. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Newsweek](#)

**AP: Judge vets potential jurors for Ghislaine Maxwell trial**, Larry Neumeister and Tom Hays, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

Prospective jurors got their first glimpse of Ghislaine Maxwell, the British socialite charged with helping Jeffrey Epstein sexually abuse girls and women, when a judge began questioning them individually Tuesday. Wearing a black suit, Maxwell hugged her lawyers when she entered the courtroom and briefly sketched a courtroom artist who was drawing her. Judge Alison J. Nathan's questions in Manhattan federal court were aimed at seeing if potential jurors can stay impartial in the sordid case against Maxwell. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [NYT](#)

**AP: Ex-pork buyer dies in Iowa crash following fraud indictment**, Ryan J. Foley, November 16, 2021, 11:30 AM

A former manager for an influential Iowa-based pork dealer has died in a crash, days after federal prosecutors charged him in a scheme to swindle hog farmers through fraudulent buying practices. Steven Demaray, 70, the former regional buying manager for Lynch Livestock, was driving a truck that crashed head-on Monday morning into a concrete overpass support pier on Highway 63 near New Hampton, where he lived, according to the Iowa State Patrol. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: Contractor promised government U.S.-made body armor, then bought it in China**, Rachel Weiner, November 16, 2021, 5:23 PM

From his home in rural Texas, a would-be defense contractor spun a web of fake companies and testing reports to pass off Chinese-made body armor as American equipment that met rigorous standards for use by the State Department and U.S. law enforcement partners in Latin America. Tanner Jackson, 32, pleaded guilty Tuesday in Alexandria federal court to one count of wire fraud, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: A Texas student, who wrote 'I set a synagogue on fire' in a journal, is charged with arson, officials say**, Raja Razek and Amir Vera, November 16, 2021, 11:51 PM

A Texas State University student who the FBI said wrote "I set a synagogue on fire" has been federally charged with arson, according to a Tuesday news release from the US Department of Justice. The charges stem from a fire that was intentionally set at the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue in Austin, Texas, on October 31, the release said. Surveillance video from the night of the fire shows Franklin Barrett Sechrist, 18, with a face covering the night of the fire, according to a criminal complaint. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNBC: U.S. to sell cryptocurrency worth \$56 million after record seizure in BitConnect fraud case**, Dan Mangan, November 16, 2021, 3:41 PM

The U.S. Justice Department will sell off \$56 million worth of cryptocurrency it seized as part of a massive Ponzi scheme case against a man who promoted the offshore crypto lending program BitConnect, authorities said Tuesday. The Justice Department said the liquidation of the

cryptocurrency follows "the largest single recovery of a cryptocurrency fraud by the United States to date." [...] "These claims were a sham," the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a lawsuit in September against BitConnect, its founder Satish Kumbhani and Glenn Arcaro, a Los Angeles man who was the lead promoter of BitConnect in the United States. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Business Insider: A self-described 'incel' YouTuber pleaded guilty to making a hoax bomb threat, Department of Justice says**, Kieran Press-Reynolds, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

A YouTuber who self-identifies as an "incel" has pleaded guilty to making a bomb threat in Manhattan, the Department of Justice said in a Friday press release. Malik Sanchez pleaded guilty to one count of conveying false information and hoaxes in a Manhattan federal court on Friday for a bomb threat he made in February, the US Attorney for the Southern District of New York wrote in the press release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Gazette (Cedar Rapids, IA): Former pharmacist convicted of stealing drugs from pharmacy for personal use**, Trish Mehaffey, November 16, 2021, 9:16 PM

A former pharmacist with a history for stealing drugs in California pleaded guilty Tuesday to stealing "hundreds" of drugs from his Cedar Rapids CVS job for his personal use, including shorting customers' pills from their prescriptions. Brandon Lee Iacobo, 35, now living in La Crosse, Wis., pleaded to one count of acquiring a controlled substance by means of misrepresentation, fraud, deception and subterfuge. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KCRG-ABC \(Cedar Rapids, IA\)](#)

**San Gabriel Valley Tribune: Ex-El Monte Realtor sentenced to prison for mortgage fraud**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 6:50 PM

A former realtor from El Monte was sentenced Tuesday, Nov. 16, to four years behind bars for running a mortgage scheme that conned distressed homeowners out of nearly \$4 million. Ernesto Diaz, 66, was also ordered to pay more than \$3 million in restitution to his victims, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**New Jersey Advance Media: Driver wearing body armor, found with guns, facing federal charge, officials say**, Chris Sheldon, November 16, 2021, 6:44 PM

A body armor-clad man arrested last month after police found several guns and ammunition in his car when they were responding to a crash in Mantoloking, is now facing a federal charge, authorities said. Jeremy W. Barringer, 46, of Toms River was charged with one count of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, according to a statement from the US Attorney's Office. He was taken into federal custody Tuesday morning and detained after he appeared via videoconference in Trenton federal court. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Patch \(Toms River, NJ\)](#)

**Baltimore Sun: Woman pleads guilty to robbery plot that led to murder of a Baltimore mother and her 7-year-old son in 2015**, Justin Fenton, November 16, 2021, 5:24 PM

A friend of a woman who was killed in 2015 along with her 7-year-old son in Southwest Baltimore pleaded guilty to federal charges that she helped set up a drug robbery that led to the murders, according to a plea agreement outlined Tuesday. Kiara Haynes, 27, admitted that she helped plot a robbery of Jennifer Jeffrey in May 2015, including acquiring a gun used in the crime and taking a cut of stolen heroin afterward. The killings took place just two months after attending Jeffrey's bachelorette party, according to the plea, which provided new details about the murders.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#), [WJZ-CBS \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

*Post and Courier (Charleston, SC): Prisoner convicted of attacking other inmate in 1st federal criminal jury trial since 2020*, Olivia Diaz, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

An inmate was convicted Nov. 16 on charges stemming from a violent 2018 prison attack. It was the first federal criminal jury trial in Charleston since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. George Hall, a federal inmate at Estill Federal Correctional Institution in Hampton, was found guilty of two counts: assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to cause injury and assault resulting in serious injuries. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WCSC-CBS \(Charleston, SC\)](#)

*Fresno Bee: Fresno man guilty of having child porn. Some depicted ‘sadistic or masochistic conduct’*, Joshua Tehe, November 16, 2021, 4:53 PM

A Fresno man pleaded guilty in federal court on Monday to charges that he received and distributed child pornography, some of which depicted “sadistic or masochistic conduct.” According to court documents, 21-year-old Tanner Joel Hernandez-Fields received between 150 and 300 images and video files on his iPhone between March and April of 2019. Those images contained depictions of prepubescent minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Some of the material met the definition of “sadistic or masochistic conduct,” the U.S. Justice Department said in a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KGTV-NBC \(Bakersfield, CA\)](#), [KTRK-Fox \(Houston, TX\)](#)

*Akron Beacon Journal (Akron, OR): Akron man to spend 25 years in prison for supplying drugs used in 2020 fatal overdose*, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 4:35 PM

An Akron man will spend at least 25 years in prison after being found guilty of supplying narcotics to a woman who died of a drug overdose last year. Acting U.S. Attorney Bridget M. Brennan announced a federal jury returned guilty verdicts against Quentin D. Watson, 35, on Monday after a weeklong trial before Judge Pamela A. Barker in Cleveland. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Las Vegas Review-Journal: Man receives 27-year prison term in child porn case*, Jonah Dylan, November 16, 2021, 4:17 PM

A Las Vegas man was sentenced Monday to 27 years in prison for attempting to sexually exploit a child and receiving child pornography, according to the U.S. attorney's office. Richard Fred Dittmer III, 25, pleaded guilty in January to one count of receipt of child pornography and one count of attempted sexual exploitation of a child. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSNN-NBC \(Las Vegas, NE\)](#), [KTEN-ABC \(Las Vegas, NE\)](#)

*Miami Herald: 2 Tampa women charged after Florida-based sites shared millions of child porn images, DOJ says*, Jason Dill, November 16, 2021, 2:15 PM

An online subscription-based child pornography enterprise stretching internationally has connections to Florida after acting United States Attorney Karin Hoppmann on Tuesday unsealed two indictments related to the case, she said in a news release from Tampa. The Department of Justice's news release alleges the Florida-based Newstar Enterprise, which had a collection of websites, produced more than 4.6 million sexualized images and videos to distribute and sell with children as young as 6 years old. [[Continue Reading](#)]

*Booth Newspapers (Grand Rapids, MI): Former University of Michigan music professor sentenced to prison for sex crimes*, Samuel Dodge, November 16, 2021, 1:41 PM

A former University of Michigan music professor will spend about five to six years in prison after pleading guilty Tuesday to a felony charge of transporting a female minor across state lines for

sex. Stephen Shipps, a violin professor until his 2019 retirement, pleaded guilty before of U.S. District Court Judge Denise Hood at a Nov. 16 federal court hearing at the Theodore Levin United States Courthouse in Detroit. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Detroit News](#), [WDIV-NBC \(Detroit, MI\)](#)

**The Tennessean (Nashville, TN): Clarksville restaurant owner sentenced for harboring immigrants; \$440K in tax fraud**, Andy Humbles, November 16, 2021, 11:47 AM

A Clarksville restaurant owner is sentenced to 20 months in federal prison for harboring immigrants illegally and tax fraud conspiracy that totals more than \$440,000, prosecutors said. Quanwei Shi, 31, is the majority owner of the New China Buffett & Grill in Clarksville, according to the U.S. District Attorney's office for the Middle District of Tennessee. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WCAX-CBS (Burlington, VT): Underhill man sentenced for child sex crimes**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 10:35 PM

A Vermont man will spend 16 years in prison for child sex crimes. Ryan Beaulieu, 45 of Underhill pleaded guilty Tuesday to sexual exploitation and child porn. According to court documents, the Underhill man used an anonymous video chat website and recorded children he directed to engage in sex. Authorities found thousands of images and records of him participating in numerous online groups dedicated to producing and trafficking child sex abuse material.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Daily Voice (Hudson, NJ): MS-13 Members Convicted Of Murder Of Innocent West New York Man, 19, Other Gang-Related Crimes**, Jerry DeMarco, November 16, 2021, 8:24 PM

Three ranking MS-13 members from El Salvador were convicted by federal jurors in Newark of the murder of an innocent 19-year-old dishwasher from West New York, among other charges stemming from their participation in the international gang. It was one of many offenses that jurors agreed were committed by Juan Pablo "Humilde" Escalante-Melgar, 31, Elmer "Locote" Cruz-Diaz, 33, and Oscar "Snappy" Sanchez-Aguilar, 25 among them, extortion, witness tampering, and drug trafficking. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WITI-Fox (Milwaukee, WI): Feds seek sentence, treatment for QAnon believer in soldier attack**, Bill Miston, November 16, 2021, 8:17 PM

Federal prosecutors are seeking a sentence for a QAnon conspiracy believer, who pleaded guilty to attacking two soldiers, that protects the public and allows him to receive proper medical treatment, citing his "copious consumption of online conspiracy material," according to new court filings. Ian Alan Olson, 31, of Nashotah, pleaded guilty in August to attacking the servicemen with paintballs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KOLR-CBS (Springfield, MO): Aurora Man Sentenced to 15 Years for Illegal Firearms**, Jason Brasier, November 16, 2021, 6:58 PM

Milton W. Sparks, 38, of Aurora, Missouri, has been sentenced to 15 years in federal prison without parole. According to a press release, in late spring Sparks pleaded guilty to two counts of being a felon in possession of a firearm. On December 20, 2017, Sparks, who admitted he had a gun on him, was also driving a stolen Dodge Challenger and fled from officers getting up to speeds of 128 miles per hour. He cut off a dump truck after crossing the right lane of Highway 13. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KYTV-NBC \(Springfield, MO\)](#)

**Patch (Gloucester Township, NJ): Man Sentenced For Gloucester Twp., Collingswood**

**Bank Robberies**, Anthony Bellano, November 16, 2021, 6:48 PM

A Camden man has been sentenced to 16 years, eight months in prison after he was previously convicted of robbing a pair of banks in Gloucester Township and Collingswood over a 10-day period in 2018, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced. Anthony L. Livingston, 50, was convicted in May 2019 of two counts of bank robbery, and one count of attempted bank robbery following a one-week trial before U.S. District Judge Renee Marie Bumb in Camden federal court. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVI-Fox (St. Louis, MO): St. Louis man indicted in nationwide drug ring**, Kevin S. Held, November 16, 2021, 6:07 PM

A federal grand jury handed down indictments against a St. Louis man and 19 other people on Tuesday for their roles in a large-scale, nationwide drug ring. The indictment alleges Steven Bell of St. Louis possessed 500 grams or more of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute those drugs, and also possessed a firearm while being a previously convicted felon. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WICS-ABC (Springfield, IL): Man sentenced to 5 years for child pornography**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A former Piatt County man will spend 60 months behind bars. Neal A. Evans, 51, was sentenced on Tuesday, Nov. 16 for receipt and possession of child pornography. Evans pleaded guilty in July 2021 to attempted receipt of child pornography and possession of child pornography. The incidents were investigated by the Macon County Sheriff's Department and the Decatur Police Department after they took place in January 2018. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WAND-NBC \(Decatur, IL\)](#)

**KTLA-CW (Los Angeles, CA): 3 Miami women sentenced to prison for California EDD fraud**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 5:59 PM

Three Miami women were sentenced to federal prison for filing fraudulent claims for unemployment benefits in the names of California identity theft victims, the Justice Department announced Tuesday. Bonia Bon and Bonize Bon, who are 32-year-old twin sisters, and Eldia Diejuste, 32, were each sentenced Monday to one year and one day in federal prison, according to a news release from the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBOY-NBC/ABC (Clarksburg, WV): Bridgeport man pleads guilty to federal child porn charge**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 5:38 PM

A Bridgeport man has admitted to a federal child pornography charge, United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced. Randy McKinley, 57, pleaded guilty Tuesday to one count of "Possession of Child Pornography." McKinley admitted to having child pornography with children under the age of 12 in October 2020 in Harrison County. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Guilford, CT): Guilford Man Had 100s Of Child Sexual Abuse Images, Videos: Feds**, Ellyn Santiago, November 16, 2021, 5:30 PM

A federal grand jury indicted a Guilford man, charging him with receipt of child pornography, the Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Connecticut announced Tuesday. Christopher Michaelson, 37, was arrested in 2019, with the help of Guilford police, on Rhode Island state charges, federal prosecutors noted. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **KOWB (Laramie, WY): Laramie Man Gets Federal Prison for Threatening Elected Officials**

Joy Greenwald, November 16, 2021, 5:00 PM

A 52-year-old Laramie man who admitted to threatening various elected officials in January has been sentenced to 18 months in federal prison, Acting U.S. Attorney Bob Murray announced Tuesday. Christopher Kent Podlesnik was indicted in March on seven counts of transmitting threats in interstate commerce. He took a plea deal and pleaded guilty to four of the counts in August. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): Pittsfield man pleads guilty to failing to register as a sex offender**

Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 3:46 PM

A Pittsfield man pleaded guilty on Friday in federal court in Springfield to failing to register as a sex offender. Jarrett Woodruff, 34, pleaded guilty to one count of failure to register as a sex offender before U.S. District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni who scheduled sentencing for March 14, 2022. Woodruff was charged in November 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **Patch (Jamaica Plain, MA): Jamaica Plain Man Charged With Sexual Exploitation Of Children**

Gabby DeBenedictis, November 16, 2021, 2:45 PM

A Jamaica Plain man who is a registered sex offender was charged with sexual exploitation of children on Monday after allegedly soliciting a minor on a social media app. Hector Acevedo, 31, allegedly "solicited a minor via TikTok and coerced the victim to engage in sexual conduct over video chat," the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **KELO-CBS (Sioux Falls, SD): California woman gets over 19 years in federal prison for meth, money laundering**

Todd Epp, November 16, 2021, 1:31 PM

A California woman is serving a 19 and a half year federal sentence for distributing meth and money laundering. Maribel Torres, 37, from Escondido, California was sentenced to 235 months in federal prison by Judge Karen Schreier on November 1. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **KCAL-CBS (Los Angeles, CA): Fugitive Couple Convicted In \$18 Million COVID-19 Loan Fraud Scheme Sentenced In Absentia**

Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 1:20 PM

A couple who the FBI says is on the run after being convicted in an \$18 million COVID-19 relief fraud scheme were sentenced to several years of prison time Monday in absentia. Richard Ayvazyan, 43, and his wife and co-defendant, 37-year-old Marietta Terabelian, remain at large after the FBI says they removed their electronic tracking bracelets in August. They had been found guilty in June in an \$18 million COVID-19 relief loan scheme, that had included Ayvazyan's brother and several other relatives. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KTLA-CW \(Los Angeles, CA\)](#)

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

### **Newsweek: N.J. Man Heads to Prison for Conspiring With White Supremacists in 'Kristallnacht' Attack**

Toria Barnhart, November 16, 2021, 8:46 PM

New Jersey man was sentenced to one year and one day in prison for conspiring with members of a white supremacist hate group to threaten minority-owned businesses across the country. Richard Tobin, 20, of Brooklawn, New Jersey, previously pleaded guilty to charges for his role in a scheme to intimidate Black and Jewish Americans by vandalizing properties they owned throughout the country in September 2019, according to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Tobin was sentenced in federal court on Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Daily Voice](#)

[\(New Jersey\)](#), [New Jersey Advance Media](#)

**The Hill: Oregon man charged with federal hate crime in attack of gay man**, Sarakshi Rai, November 16, 2021, 1:36 PM

The Department of Justice announced on Tuesday that an Oregon man has been charged with a federal hate crime after brutally assaulting a gay man because of his sexual orientation. Daniel Andrew McGee, 22, was arrested by the FBI on Monday.

McGee met the man he assaulted via social media and networking app Grindr. The Justice Department statement details how he entered the man's apartment on Jul 5 and assaulted him with "a wooden club over a period of several minutes," alleging that McGee tried to kill the man.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Advocate \(Charlotte, OR\)](#), [KEZI-ABC \(Eugene, OR\)](#), [KPTV-Fox \(Portland, OR\)](#), [Newsweek](#), [The Observer \(Charlotte, NC\)](#), [The Oregonian](#)

**WSMV-NBC (Nashville, TN): Civil rights lawyer Ben Crump asks DOJ to investigate**

**Rutherford Co. prosecutor**, Michael Warrick, November 16, 2021, 7:30 PM

Widely known civil rights attorney Ben Crump is calling on federal authorities to investigate Rutherford County Assistant District Attorney John Zimmerman, accusing him of racially profiling businesses. Crump, who represented the families of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and Jacob Blake, wants the Department of Justice to open a pattern and practice investigation into Zimmerman. Crump claims Zimmerman is not allowing Tennessee Bonding Company to acquire his client, Free At Last Bail Bonding, for reasons he believes are racially motivated. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WWLP-NBC (Springfield, MA): Freedom Credit Union commits \$15K to Baystate Franklin Medical Center**, Seth Rosenthal, November 16, 2021, 11:13 AM

Freedom Credit Union announced their plan to commit \$15,000 to Baystate Franklin Medical Center's new Department of Family Medicine over the next five years. According to a statement released by Freedom Credit Union, the new department is described as a partnership between Baystate Franklin Medical Center and UMass Chan Medical School-Baystate. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

**WSJ: Challenges to Biden Vaccine Rules Will Come Before Ohio-Based U.S. Appeals Court**, Brent Kendall, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

A conservative-leaning U.S. appeals court in Cincinnati was randomly selected Tuesday to decide challenges to the Biden administration's new rules requiring many employers to ensure their workers are vaccinated or tested weekly for Covid-19. Legal challengers have petitioned federal appeals courts around the country to review the rules, formally issued earlier this month by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The requirements, which apply to businesses with 100 or more employees and cover roughly 84 million workers, are scheduled to take effect Jan. 4. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [ABC](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [CNN](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#)

**NBC: Trump lawyers press judge to block Congress from getting his tax returns**, Pete Williams, November 16, 2021, 6:00 PM

Lawyers for former President Donald Trump argued Tuesday that a federal judge should not dismiss a lawsuit seeking to block the Treasury Department and the IRS from giving his tax returns to the House Ways and Means Committee. Trump's attorneys said during more than three hours of courtroom arguments that the reason given by committee chair Richard Neal, D-Mass.,

for seeking the returns to examine how the IRS audits presidents is simply a pretext for wanting to search for something embarrassing. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Politico](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Ra Medical Investors Ask Judge for First OK of \$10 Million Deal**, Jennifer Bennett, November 16, 2021, 5:09 PM

Ra Medical Systems Inc. and investors who say it misled them about problems with a medical device asked a federal judge in California for initial approval of their \$10 million settlement.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**USA Today: DHS inspector general declines review of horse-mounted agents in Haitian migrant confrontation**, Kevin Johnson, November 16, 2021, 11:00 AM

The Department of Homeland Security's inspector general "declined" to investigate the conduct of mounted Border Patrol agents during a September confrontation with Haitian migrants at the Mexican border near Del Rio, Texas, the agency said. Two months after the incident, DHS said Tuesday that the incident, which drew widespread condemnation, is the subject of a separate agency inquiry headed by the Office of Professional Responsibility. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [CNN](#), [Law360](#), [UPI](#)

**Law360: State AGs Urge Teamwork From DHS On Labor Investigations**, Grace Dixon, November 16, 2021, 6:31 PM

More than a dozen attorneys general and local labor agencies said more cooperation between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and state or local enforcement is needed to prevent "unscrupulous" employers from using deportation to intimidate or silence workers. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Anti-Immigration Group Rips Biden ICE Policy At 5th Circ.**, Mike LaSusa, November 16, 2021, 6:09 PM

A legal advocacy group that seeks to restrict immigration to the U.S. urged the full Fifth Circuit on Monday to reverse a panel decision that kept in place the Biden administration's policy curbing immigration enforcement operations. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KWES-NBC (Odessa, TX): Customs and Border Patrol arrest woman for sex trafficking of children**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 8:20 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers have arrested a woman for sex trafficking of children. The woman was not identified by officials, but CBP said she was a 45-year-old U.S. citizen. Officers discovered the woman had an outstanding warrant when conducting an inspection of the vehicle she and four others were traveling in from Mexico to the Presidio point of entry. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KCBD-NBC \(Lubbock, TX\)](#), [KDBC-CBS \(El Paso, TX\)](#)

**KTXL-Fox (Sacramento, CA): \$53 million worth of cocaine, meth and pot seized at Laredo border crossing**, Fernie Ortiz, November 16, 2021, 5:50 PM

A pair of drug busts at a Texas border crossing netted nearly two tons of narcotics with an estimated street value of more than \$53 million. Both seizures took place on Nov. 12 at the World Trade Bridge in Laredo, Texas, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said. That evening, CBP officers inspected a Ford van that was supposed to be bringing seat cushions from Mexico. Officers used a drug-sniffing dog and a non-intrusive imaging system inspection to search the

van and discovered 400 packages containing 1,014 pounds of marijuana within the seat cushions. The pot was worth an estimated \$203,000. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ANTITRUST**

**Law360: Apple App Store Users Seek Cert. In \$10B Antitrust Suit**, Hannah Albarazi, November 16, 2021, 11:07 PM

Apple App Store users urged a California federal judge during a hearing Tuesday to grant class certification in their antitrust lawsuit alleging Apple foreclosed competition on its App Store, telling the judge that their expert estimates U.S. Apple consumers suffered \$7 billion to \$10 billion in damages as a result. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Apple's \$100M Antitrust Deal With Developers Gets Initial Nod**, Kauren Berg, November 16, 2021, 10:44 PM

A California federal judge on Tuesday gave the initial green light to a deal requiring Apple to pay app developers \$100 million and make developer-friendly changes to its App Store policy to resolve a putative antitrust class action claiming Apple monopolizes the market for software distributed on its devices. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Merck, Glenmark Want Jury To Decide Zetia Antitrust Market**, Nadie Dreid, November 16, 2021, 8:52 PM

Merck and Glenmark are not happy about a Virginia federal magistrate's recommendation that a suit accusing the pharmaceutical companies of hatching an anti-competitive plan to keep a cholesterol drug off the market should focus on a narrower market. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 5th Circ. Sinks Topgolf Rival's Latest Antitrust Case**, Edward Moreno, November 16, 2021, 6:03 PM

A Fifth Circuit panel issued an unpublished opinion affirming a Texas federal court's second dismissal of an antitrust suit brought by a defunct rival to golf entertainment company Topgolf, saying the company still lacks standing to bring the case because it remains out of business. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**AP: Regulators seek to suspend Trump rule on railway natural gas**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

Federal regulators have proposed suspending a Trump administration rule that would have allowed railroads to haul liquefied natural gas while they take a closer look at the potential safety risks. The rule, which was backed by both the natural gas and freight rail industries, had already been on hold because several environmental groups and 14 states filed lawsuits challenging it. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Judge keeps Michigan oil pipeline case in federal court**, John Flesher, November 16, 2021, 6:13 PM

A federal judge retained jurisdiction Tuesday in a dispute over a Canadian oil pipeline that runs through a section of the Great Lakes, rejecting Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's contention that the case belongs in state court. The clash over whether Enbridge Energy's Line 5 should

continue operating raises issues “under consideration at the highest levels of this country’s government” involving a U.S.-Canada treaty and federal pipeline safety regulation, U.S. District Judge Janet Neff ruled. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Feds Say Oil Groups Lack Standing To Contest Lease Freeze**, Caleb Dickey, November 16, 2021, 5:06 PM

A coalition of energy industry trade organizations lacked any standing to challenge the Biden administration's order to halt sales of oil leases on federal land and waters, the federal government argued. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Exide Bankruptcy Trustee Floats \$17M Cleanup Deal With EPA**, Leslie Pappas, November 16, 2021, 2:37 PM

A trustee for the bankruptcy estate of battery recycler Exide Technologies Inc. has reached an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to allow it a \$17 million unsecured claim related to cleanup obligations at a handful of contaminated industrial sites in Oregon and Pennsylvania. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Hawaii Public Radio: EPA fines Hawaii Gas \$230K for violating Clean Air Act at synthetic natural gas plant**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 2:00 PM

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has fined Hawaii Gas \$230,000 for violations of the Clean Air Act at a facility on the ‘Ewa side of O’ahu. The EPA cited the company after a January 2020 inspection at its synthetic natural gas plant in Campbell Industrial Park. The EPA determined the facility violated chemical release prevention and reporting requirements. It says Hawaii Gas failed to meet safety requirements and conduct hazards analyses, correct equipment deficiencies, and lacked required information in its emergency response plan. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **TAX**

**WCPO-ABC (Cincinnati, OH): Former Hope 4 Change CEO sentenced to 4 years for tax fraud**, B.J. Bethel, November 16, 2021, 10:18 PM

Barry Rene Isaacs was sentenced to four years in prison in U.S. District Court in Cincinnati on Tuesday for spending thousands of dollars on personal expenses instead of paying payroll taxes. He's also been ordered to pay \$246,000 in restitution. Isaacs, 35, of Cincinnati, was the founder and CEO of Hope 4 Change, according to a statement from the U.S. District Attorney's Office. The non-profit provided housing and care for adults with developmental disabilities, drug addiction problems and mental disorders. The company employed 120 to 180 people in 2013 and 2014. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

**WaPo: [OPINION] When it comes to activism, law enforcement has always had a double standard**, Denise Lynn, November 17, 2021, 6:00 AM

On Oct. 31, The Washington Post released a report detailing the many federal intelligence and law enforcement failures leading up to the Jan. 6 insurrection. It revealed that despite being alerted by social media companies and FBI informants of the potential for violence, several agencies did not take the warnings seriously or, in the case of the military, feared that the appearance of soldiers using force would be bad optics. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NYT: [OPINION] The Federal Bureau of Dirty Tricks**, Bret Stephens, November 16, 2021, 9:11 PM

This month's bombshell indictment of Igor Danchenko, the Russian national who is charged with lying to the F.B.I. and whose work turns out to have been the main source for Christopher Steele's notorious dossier, is being treated as a major embarrassment for much of the news media and, if the charges stick, that's exactly what it is. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: FBI Tracks Threats Against Teachers, School-Board Members**, Sadie Gurman and Aruna Viswanatha, November 16, 2021, 3:10 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has set up a process to track threats against school-board members and teachers, moving to implement a Justice Department directive that some law-enforcement officials and Republican lawmakers say could improperly target parents protesting local education policies. The heads of the FBI's criminal and counterterrorism divisions instructed agents in an Oct. 20 memo to flag all assessments and investigations into potentially criminal threats, harassment and intimidation of educators with a "threat tag," which the officials said would allow them to evaluate the scope of the problem. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Daily Caller](#), [Fox](#), [NYT](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Washington Times](#)

**Daily Beast: Was FBI Hack Just an Elaborate Troll of a Guy Named Vinny?**, Shannon Vavra, November 16, 2021, 9:48 PM

To hack an FBI email system, it takes a lot of motivation, even more technical skill, and, perhaps, a dash of humor. Over the weekend, someone or a team of someones compromised an FBI email system and sent out a flurry of bogus messages to state and local law enforcement about a supposed cyberattack. But instead of trying to wreak havoc, the purpose of the hack seems to have been to troll one particular information security executive: Vinny Troia, the founder and head of security research at Shadowbyte. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Salina Post (Salina, KS): FBI asks for help to ID 'John Doe 45' in child sex investigation**, Unattributed, November 17, 2021, 6:00 AM

The FBI's Crimes Against Children division is asking for help to identify "John Doe 45," an unknown man who may have critical information on the identity of an infant victim in a sexual exploitation investigation, according to the FBI office in Kansas City. A video depicting John Doe 45 is believed to have been produced between January 2019 and April 2019, according to a news release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Plain Dealer (Cleveland, OH): U.S. marshals offer \$5,000 reward for arrest of suspect in torture, killing of woman in East Cleveland**, Olivia Mitchell, November 16, 2021, 2:59 PM

The U.S. Marshals Service is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for the arrest of a man wanted in connection with the abduction, torture and killing of a woman found dead in East Cleveland. Hakeem Ali-Shomo, 30, is wanted in connection with the killing of Alishah Pointer. A warrant was issued for his arrest on Nov. 10, one day after Pointer, 22, was found dead in the basement of an abandoned and burned-out home in East Cleveland. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTSM-NBC (El Paso, TX): U.S. Marshals arrest New Mexico man in connection to South Central El Paso bar murder**, Aaron J. Montes, November 17, 2021, 2:01 AM

El Paso Police identified a man killed and another wounded in a South Central shooting at a bar in October and say the suspect in the case was arrested in New Mexico. Alfredo Morales, 28, was

killed in a shooting at Cantina Cazadores on October 15 after getting into an altercation with two other men. Jorge Garcia, 36, was also shot during the incident and sustained a gunshot wound to the chest. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNCN-CBS (Goldsboro, NC): FBI to assist in search for missing 12-year-old SC girl; person of interest sought**, Bethany Fowler, November 16, 2021, 11:41 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is assisting in the search for a missing 12-year-old girl in Laurens County. According to the Laurens County Sheriff's Office, Madison Reynolds ran away from an address on Abercrombie Road in Fountain Inn at 3:30 a.m. Monday. The FBI was asked to assist Tuesday in the search for Reynolds. It is unknown what Reynolds was wearing when she left. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WSPA-CBS \(Spartanburg, SC\)](#), [WYFF \(Greenville, SC\)](#)

**KABB-Fox (San Antonio, TX): DEA: Colombia's most wanted drug lord captured**, Yami Virgin, November 16, 2021, 11:00 PM

His name is Dairo Antonio Usuga aka Otoniel... after decades of being on the DEA's Most Wanted List, Otoniel was captured on October 23, a huge blow for drug trafficking from Colombia since the death of Pablo Escobar according to the Colombian president. He is accused of sending dozens of shipments of cocaine into the United States and other crimes, but what does his arrest mean for us here in the U.S.? [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KUSA-NBC (Denver, CO): [VIDEO] FBI raids home of Mesa County Clerk Tina Peters in election data breach investigation**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 10:48 PM

The FBI carried out a court-ordered search of Peters' home in Mesa County early Tuesday morning, leaving her "terrified," Peters said. [\[Watch\]](#)

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Maryland's Most Wanted | Kevin Anthony Jones, accused of shooting man in the groin**, Alexa Ashwell, November 16, 2021, 10:00 PM

A suspect is accused of nearly killing a man in what investigators say was a personal and calculated shooting. Kevin Anthony Jones, 40, is wanted by US Marshals in the July 6, 2021 shooting of a man in the groin in southeast DC. According to investigators, Jones got into an argument with the victim at an apartment complex in a neighborhood known as Buena Vista. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFLD-Fox (Chicago, IL): FBI looking for man in sexual exploitation case involving a baby**, Natalie Bomke, November 16, 2021, 9:26 PM

The FBI is urging the public to help track down a man wanted for questioning in the sexual exploitation of an infant. On Tuesday, they released a six second audio clip of the man speaking to the child in English. The audio was taken from a graphic video the FBI has obtained. A snap shot of the room where the crime occurred was also released, showing what appears to be an infant seat, floral wall paper with a tear and a gasoline can next to plastic storage bins. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KITV-ABC \(Honolulu, HI\)](#), [KRQE-CBS/Fox \(Albuquerque, NM\)](#)

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): FBI, family seek new clues in 2018 murder of hunter in Bath Township**, Shawn Ley, November 16, 2021, 9:11 PM

An avid hunter was killed in the woods and three years later his murder still hasn't been solved. In 2018, Chong Yang went out hunting and did not return home. Family members found his remains the night he went missing. His remains were found at the Rose Lake State Wildlife Research Area in East Lansing. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KGW-NBC (*Portland, OR*): FBI offers \$15,000 reward for information about California man murdered during visit to Portland**, Mike Benner, November 16, 2021, 7:21 PM

Promise Marks will be the first to tell you Curtis Smith was the apple of her eye. "Curtis was an amazing person," she said. "Of course he was my son and yes he was a dad, nephew, grandson but he was a young man who had a love for life and he cared a lot for people. He cared about the well being of his friends. He cared about making something of his life and being a better human being." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KXII-CBS/Fox (*Sherman, TX*): FBI says Southern Oklahoma bank robberies most likely aren't connected**, Caroline Cluiss, November 16, 2021, 7:20 PM

One man is in custody after Monday evening's bank robbery in Ada. It took just over six hours for law enforcement to find the suspect, 40-year-old Matthew Pettigrew, after he allegedly robbed the Citizen's Bank inside a Walmart on Country Club Road. "At about six 'o'clock p.m. last night, a Native American walked into the Walmart, which is located on Country Club, and he was in the store for a little while. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRMG (*Tulsa, OK*): U.S. Marshals, Okmulgee County law enforcement work to find out how two inmates escaped**, John Asebes, November 16, 2021, 5:42 PM

We now know more about how two inmates escaped the Okmulgee County Jail Friday evening. Supervisor Deputy Marshal Jeffrey Johnston said U.S. Marshals are working with the Okmulgee County Criminal Justice Authority to find out how Dustin Marris and Coker Barker escaped.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WNNDU-NBC (*South Bend, IN*): DEA launching 'Operation Engage' initiative in Benton Harbor**, Unattributed, November 16, 2021, 4:33 PM

The Drug Enforcement Administration is launching a community engagement initiative in Benton Harbor. "Operation Engage," or "OpEng," will target opioids trafficking and abuse. The DEA will work with community organizations and help bring additional resources. It's also an educational program. "Education is by far the best thing we can do," says Brian McNeal, public information officer for the DEA. "I remember when I was a kid, and I was watching cartoons, there would be the commercials. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**AP: Inmate stabbed in eyeball in latest federal prison violence**, Michael Balsamo and Michael R. Sisak, November 17, 2021, 12:30 AM

An inmate at the largest federal prison in the U.S. was stabbed in the eyeball by a fellow prisoner this month, the latest gruesome example of violence in a prison system plagued by chronic unrest, understaffing, corruption and abuse. The 27-year-old inmate was attacked from behind at FCI Fort Dix, a low-security prison in Burlington County, New Jersey, that is run by the same warden who was in charge of a Manhattan federal jail when financier Jeffrey Epstein killed himself, three people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **US SUPREME COURT**

***Miami Herald*: [OPINION] Court seems poised to hand the fight against gun violence a**

**supreme setback**, Griffin Dix, November 16, 2021, 5:50 PM

On Nov. 3, the U.S. Supreme Court heard the most significant firearms case in more than a decade. And it looks like it will rule in a way that ensures more deaths due to gun violence. In New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen, the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, an NRA affiliate, wants the court to rule that a New York State law requiring people to get a license to carry a gun in public violates the Second Amendment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**Law360: Challengers Ask Justices To Rule On Tribal Casino Land Row**, Joyce Hanson, November 16, 2021, 9:06 PM

An anti-gambling community group has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to take up its case against the Department of the Interior over the agency's decision to take land into trust for a Wilton Rancheria of California casino, saying the tribe does not qualify for trust land. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: White House Commits To Consulting More With Tribal Leaders**, Christopher Cole, November 16, 2021, 7:00 PM

President Joe Biden has unveiled an agreement spanning more than a dozen federal agencies to work more closely with Native American tribes on issues of shared concern, especially land and water use. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ): Feds move to strengthen protection for Indigenous sacred sites on public lands**, Debra Utacia Krol, November 16, 2021, 9:15 PM

Eight federal agencies announced a new deal to coordinate efforts to protect Indigenous sacred sites, strengthening protections in an area where advocates have long said the government has fallen short. The agencies will work to provide Native peoples more access and co-management of those sites, which include better protection for sites such as Red Butte, a Havasupai site just south of the Grand Canyon, and enhanced co-management of the Grand Canyon National Park, according to a memorandum of understanding obtained by The Arizona Republic. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTUL-ABC (Tulsa, OK): Demonstrators blast Owasso City Council over joining McGirt lawsuit**, Burt Mummolo, November 16, 2021, 11:30 PM

"We demand that you rescind the amicus, apologize to the Native American community, and consult us when issues like this arise," said Kelsey Cooper, addressing the Owasso City Council. "Our main point is that the city council violated their own code of ethics, they violated the constitution by trying to interfere with tribal affairs," she said. "I am totally understanding of their viewpoint that we honor the treaties. For us, it is totally a matter of public safety," said Owasso city manager Warren Lehr. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION**

**WCSC-CBS (Charleston, SC): Rep. Nancy Mace introduces cannabis reform legislation**, Jeremy Hill, November 16, 2021, 6:30 PM

U.S. Congresswoman Nancy Mace announced a new cannabis bill that will give states the authority to make new cannabis reforms. The States Reform Act would remove cannabis from Schedule I drug classification to allow states the right to determine the level of cannabis reform

they want to implement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**Law360: Pharmacies Urge Mistrial In Opioid Case As Jury Deliberates**, Cara Salvatore, November 16, 2021, 8:26 PM

Only a mistrial can fix "egregious" closing arguments in a case shortly expected to yield the first jury verdict in opioid-crisis litigation, three major pharmacy chains told a Cleveland federal judge Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Purdue Claimants Say Ch. 11 Appeals Threaten Recoveries**, Vince Sullivan, November 16, 2021, 8:07 PM

A group of individual opioid injury claimants told a New York federal judge late Monday that appeals of Purdue Pharma's Chapter 11 plan could threaten the claimants' recoveries from the plan trust and negatively impact opioid abatement efforts funded under the plan. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Purdue Pharma, Sacklers Urge Appeals Judge to Affirm Opioid Deal**,

Jeremy Hill, November 16, 2021, 12:47 PM

Overturning Purdue Pharma LP's sweeping opioid settlement would be "tragic" and result in "a massive destruction of value," lawyers for the OxyContin maker said in new court documents urging an appeals judge to uphold the deal. Purdue, certain members of the Sackler family, an official group of creditors and a large group of personal injury victims on Monday all submitted legal briefs in support of the deal, opposing appeal efforts by a U.S. Justice Department unit and a handful of U.S. states. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**WSJ: Lina Khan Sees Turbulent Start as Head of Federal Trade Commission**, Brent Kendall, November 16, 2021, 9:30 AM

Lina Khan, the new Federal Trade Commission chairwoman with broad ambitions to take on big business, has faced early turbulence within the agency, including from career staffers she will need to build antitrust cases and write regulations. President Biden tapped the 32-year-old Ms. Khan in June to lead the five-member FTC. She aims to challenge more corporate mergers and allegedly monopolistic practices, as well as adopt regulations to head off what she sees as unfair business tactics. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**AP: Durbin calls for Garland to remove federal prisons director**, Michael Balsamo, November 16, 2021, 10:15 AM

The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee demanded Tuesday that Attorney General Merrick Garland immediately fire the director of the beleaguered federal Bureau of Prisons after an Associated Press investigation detailing serious misconduct involving correctional officers. Sen. Dick Durbin's demand came two days after the AP revealed that more than 100 Bureau of Prisons workers have been arrested, convicted or sentenced for crimes since the start of 2019.

[Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [National Review](#), [Newsweek](#), [NY Post](#), [Washington Times](#)

**Politico: FBI left out of the loop in cyberattack reporting bill**, Betsy Woodruff Swan and Eric Geller, November 16, 2021, 11:54 AM

The FBI could be sidelined in new cybersecurity legislation, a top Bureau official told lawmakers Tuesday. And, in the view of America's most powerful law enforcement agency, that would be a big problem. In testimony to Congress, Bryan Vorndran, the assistant director of the FBI's Cyber Division, said that the Biden administration is "troubled" by legislation proposed by the Senate and House homeland security committees requiring a wide range of companies to report intrusions to the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency but not simultaneously to the FBI. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Business Insider: Democrats are frustrated with Merrick Garland's judge-like apolitical style as Biden's attorney general**, C. Ryan Barber, November 16, 2021, 4:30 PM

Just a day after a violent mob stormed the US Capitol, Joe Biden stepped to the podium as president-elect and presented Merrick Garland as his pick to steady the Justice Department and steer it away from the politicization and chronic turmoil of the Trump era. Democrats have been living with that choice ever since and they're not always loving the results. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: NOVEMBER 16, 2021**

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- Pfizer asked US regulators Tuesday to authorize its experimental pill for COVID-19, setting the stage for a likely launch this winter of a promising treatment that can be taken at home. The company's filing comes as new infections are rising once again in the United States, driven mainly by hot spots in states where colder weather is driving more Americans indoors. [\[ABC, CBS, NBC\]](#)
- The jury at Kyle Rittenhouse's murder trial deliberated a full day on Tuesday without reaching a verdict over whether he was the instigator in a night of bloodshed in Kenosha or a concerned citizen who came under attack while trying to protect property. [\[ABC, CBS, NBC\]](#)
- President Biden traveled to New Hampshire to sell his infrastructure law, visiting an 82-year-old bridge set to be fast-tracked for repairs. The trip comes ahead of an impending showdown over the president's social and climate spending plan. [\[ABC, NBC\]](#)
- The defense will begin presenting its case in the trial of three White men accused of chasing down and killing Ahmaud Arbery. The prosecution rested its case after a medical examiner showed graphic autopsy photos. [\[ABC, CBS\]](#)
-

A top Pentagon official said he's "very concerned" about China's military buildup. Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General John Hyten detailed his concerns in an exclusive interview. [[CBS](#)]

- A six-year CBS News investigation has prompted new legislation to protect children sitting in the back seats of vehicles during rear-end crashes. [[CBS](#)]
- Jury selection is set to begin in the sex trafficking trial of Jeffrey Epstein's former associate Ghislaine Maxwell, who is accused of recruiting underage women for Epstein's alleged sexual abuse for more than a decade. [[NBC](#)]
- Sergei Chemezov, a member of Russian President Putin's inner circle, shows off a prototype of a stealth fighter that the Russians call their "checkmate." Russia is the second largest arms exporter after the US, and as CEO of state-owned Rostec, Chemezov is selling to American allies like Turkey. [[NBC](#)]

## **MORNING HEADLINES**

- "States sidestep federal rules to offer booster shots to all adults" [[WaPo](#)]
- "Live Updates: Belarus Moves Hundreds of Migrants Away From Border Checkpoint" [[NYT](#)]
- "Treasury's Edge Toward Stability After Selloff" [[WSJ](#)]

**END**

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**Opening Statement**

November 17, 2021

Ed ed by ANDREW COHEN



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PICK OF THE NEWS

**Pressure grows on Bureau of Prisons Director Michael Carvajal** in light of new revelations of crime, abuse and corruption within the federal prison system. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Richard Durbin, the Illinois Democrat with a decades-long history of oversight over federal prisons, demanded on Tuesday that U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland immediately fire Carvajal, a veteran prison official who became BOP director during the Trump era. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS** **TMP Context:** The BOP failed at nearly every turn to

protect staff and federal prisoners during the pandemic. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**No watchdog review of Border Patrol agents' infamous horseback chase of Haitian migrants** earlier this year near Del Rio, Texas. The Homeland Security Department's inspector general announced on Tuesday that he will not open a formal investigation into the episode, in which federal agents were filmed using horses and lariats to deter people trying to cross the border. [USA TODAY](#) The decision suggests there were no allegations of criminal conduct on the part of the agents. The case will now be investigated by the DHS's Office of Professional Responsibility [MIAMI HERALD](#)

**Lives lost, families wrecked and questions unanswered about surge in gun violence.** A close look at data on a month's worth of murders in the U.S. reveals no new clues as to why the homicide rate has spiked in many jurisdictions since 2019. While experts suggest that a rise in gun sales combined with increased drug use and economic dislocation caused by the pandemic may help explain the surge, the violence and randomness of the attacks are chilling even to veteran police officers. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#) **TMP Context:** Murders rose last year, too. Black and Hispanic neighborhoods were hit hardest. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**Dragging your whole family into the world of DNA testing.** Advances in DNA extraction and identification technology have fueled the burgeoning genetic genealogy industry. When used by families seeking information on their ancestors, the new technology is rather uncontroversial. Its use by police and prosecutors to solve cold cases, however, is fraught with intrusions on privacy rights. A few states have begun to establish rules designed to regulate this new field. [THE NEW YORKER](#) **TMP Context:** When genetic genealogy helped overturn a wrongful conviction. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

■ **"Have it Your Way": The latest edition of News Inside is now available.** The Marshall Project's print publication, distributed in hundreds of prisons and jails across the country, has a new advice column titled "Reader to Reader." The debut offering features prison recipes that can be produced with ingredients from home and the commissary. Over 2,000 incarcerated people responded when we asked them to share recipes, with answers like "Chip Flavor Ramen Pizza." TMP's Lawrence Bartley, the founder and director of News Inside, tells us what else is in the new edition. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

N/S/E/W

An **Alabama** judge who raised questions years ago about the state's dubious death penalty system went before a disciplinary panel on ethics charges this week. Tracie Todd, a Democrat, is accused of failing to act with "detachment and neutrality." [THE ASSOCIATED PRESS](#)

A federal appeals court refused to grant qualified immunity to a **Minnesota** police officer who shot two dogs during a residential security check. [LAW AND CRIME](#) **Related:** Read the ruling.

[8TH U.S. CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS](#)

**Mississippi** executioners are primed to kill their first death row prisoner since 2012. David Neal Cox, convicted of murder, is scheduled to die by lethal injection later today. [MISSISSIPPI CLARION LEDGER](#)

The National Guard is on standby near Kenosha, **Wisconsin**, waiting for a verdict in the murder trial of Kyle Rittenhouse. Jurors deliberated for a full day Tuesday without reaching a verdict. [MILITARY.COM](#)

A former police officer convicted of beating up an undercover colleague in St. Louis, **Missouri**, in 2017 says he should be given a lighter sentence because his actions were fueled in part by a poisoned police culture. [ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH](#)

[COMMENTARY](#)

**Talking about Kyle Rittenhouse at a gun range.** Ask a gun owner about the murder trial, and you're likely to get a brief discourse on the right to self-defense. [SLATE](#) **More:** Can you claim self-defense if you provoke the confrontation? [POLITICO](#)

**The Amy Coney Barrett Effect.** Beyond abortion and gun rights, the U.S. Supreme Court is so conservative, it's prompted a wave of fringe arguments that never would have seen the light of day when Ruth Bader Ginsburg was alive. [THE NEW REPUBLIC](#)

**At the root of the problem.** Crime rates rise and fall, so do social justice movements. But when it comes to police reform, the fight over qualified immunity is here to stay. [USA TODAY](#) **TMP Context:** Colorado tries a new way to punish rogue cops. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**Body cameras work. More police should use them.** “Providing police officers with body cameras has a substantive effect on investigations of police accountability.” Cameras also decrease racial bias in dismissing misconduct complaints. [THE CONVERSATION](#) [TMP Context](#): What we knew about police body cameras in December 2014. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**Time to reimagine traffic stops.** “Surely there must be a way to better train officers so that lives are not needlessly lost because of a broken taillight.” [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

ETC .

**Border arrests fell again in October.** It’s the third straight month in which federal immigration agents detained fewer migrants along the border. The tally last month was 164,000 people, a decrease of 23% since July. [CBS NEWS](#)

**Testimony for the ages.** Arizona Department of Corrections Director David Shinn told a federal judge on Tuesday that prisoners living in deplorable conditions in state penitentiaries often get better health care coverage than he does. [ARIZONA REPUBLIC](#)

**When Facebook deletes the evidence.** The company deleted a page belonging to a paramilitary group in New Mexico. Prosecutors say that act deprived them of key evidence they need to press for an injunction against group members. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

**A murderous secret revealed in a book.** Larry Miller, now a sports and marketing executive, says he murdered a man in 1965. He broke the news in a new book. The revelation came as a shock to the victim’s family. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

**What’s the point of “red-flag” laws if police and prosecutors don’t use them?** There are broad geographical disparities in the use of emergency restraining orders designed to take guns from people threatening violence against domestic partners. [THE WALL STREET JOURNAL](#)

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**Subject:** Abbreviated Weekend Clips

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**Reuters: Chinese spy convicted of trying to steal U.S. aviation trade secrets**, Tyler Clifford, November 5, 2021, 6:37 PM

A spy for the Chinese Ministry of State Security has been convicted by a federal jury of plotting to steal trade secrets from several U.S. aviation and aerospace companies, the Justice Department said on Friday. Yanjun Xu, the first Chinese operative extradited to the United States for trial, was convicted of two counts of conspiring and attempting to commit economic espionage, in addition to a count of conspiracy to commit trade secret theft and two counts of attempted theft of trade secrets. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also:

[AP](#), [Law360](#), [WLWT-NBC \(Cincinnati, OH\)](#)

**WSJ: [EDITORIAL] Durham Unravels the Russia Case**, The Editorial Board, November 5, 2021, 6:58 PM

Special counsel John Durham's latest indictment is an important step in unraveling what really happened in the long tale of false Russia-collusion allegations against the 2016 Trump presidential campaign. [...] The FBI interviewed Mr. Danchenko in 2017 as part of its investigation of the dossier, and the indictment claims Mr. Danchenko lied repeatedly, depriving the FBI of crucial information. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KETK-NBC (Jacksonville, TX): East Texas man pleads guilty to distributing bombmaking instructions, was targeting law enforcement, infrastructure**, Cynthia Miranda, November 6, 2021, 10:40 AM (EDT)

An East Texas man pleaded guilty on Thursday to distribution of information relating to explosives and destructive devices, according to Acting U.S. Attorney Nicholas Ganjei. Beau Daniel Merryman, 20, of Jefferson, pleaded guilty to federal offenses before U.S. Magistrate Judge Roy S. Payne. Information presented in court showed that Merryman had online conversations with undercover FBI employees between September and October 2019.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: Former Justice Dept. lawyer cuts Jan. 6 deposition short**, Marie Clare Jalonick, November 5, 2021, 4:01 PM

A former assistant attorney general who aligned himself with former President Donald Trump after he lost the 2020 election has declined to be fully interviewed by a House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection, ending a deposition after around 90 minutes Friday.

Jeffrey Clark, who championed Trump's efforts to overturn the election, presented the committee with a letter saying he would not answer questions based on Trump's assertions of executive privilege, including in an ongoing court case, according to a person familiar with the closed-door meeting who was granted anonymity to discuss it. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [The Hill](#), [Law360](#), [LAT](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**CNN: What the House January 6 Committee could learn from Justice official who pushed election fraud theories**, Katelyn Polantz, November 5, 2021, 9:11 PM

Former Justice Department official Jeffery Clark, appearing for an interview with the House select committee investigating the January 6 insurrection on Friday, may hold several answers to core questions about Donald Trump and the January 6 insurrection. Clark was one of the prime officials within the Justice Department pushing to pursue unfounded claims of voter fraud in the weeks after the November election, and, according to officials who interacted with him, was in touch with Trump repeatedly about election fraud. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Insider](#), [Politico](#)

**NYT: Georgia Grand Jury Looms in Trump Inquiry**, Danny Hakim and Richard Fausset, November 6, 2021, 3:38 PM

As the House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol riot fights to extract testimony and documents from Donald J. Trump's White House, an Atlanta district attorney is moving toward convening a special grand jury in her criminal investigation of election interference by the former president and his allies, according to a person with direct knowledge of the deliberations. The prosecutor, Fani Willis of Fulton County, opened her inquiry in February and her office has been consulting with the House committee, whose evidence could be of considerable value to her investigation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CRIMINAL LAW

**WaPo: U.S. attorney's office issues criminal subpoenas to D.C. Housing Authority about former chair, his companion**, Paul Schwartzman, November 5, 2021, 5:31 PM

The U.S. attorney's office has issued a criminal subpoena to the D.C. Housing Authority seeking documents pertaining to former board chair Neil Albert and the owner of an architecture firm who is his companion, according to an internal Housing Authority email obtained by The Washington Post. The email, from Housing Authority interim general counsel Andrea Powell, was sent Thursday to members of the board, including Dionne Bussey-Reeder — Mayor Muriel E. Bowser's (D) choice to replace Albert after his resignation last month — and John Falcicchio, deputy mayor for planning and economic development who serves as an ex officio member of the board. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WSJ: Electric-Van Maker Workhorse Is Being Investigated by the Justice Department, Documents Show**, Ben Foldy, November 5, 2021, 4:27 PM

The Justice Department has opened an investigation into electric-van startup Workhorse Inc.,

according to documents reviewed by The Wall Street Journal. The focus of the inquiry, which the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan is conducting, wasn't revealed in the documents.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Barron's](#)

**NY Daily News: South Carolina man convicted for getting nearly \$2M in 'reprehensible' COVID relief scam**, Jami Ganz, November 5, 2021, 6:28 PM

A South Carolina man was convicted this week for fraudulently trying to procure nearly \$2 million in pandemic relief loans. Jeffrey Gossett, 47, pleaded guilty Wednesday to felony counts of wire fraud and money laundering charges for lying on applications to get the \$1.8 million, read a statement from the District of South Carolina U.S. Attorney's Office. "Taking money meant for those in need is reprehensible, especially during a pandemic," Acting U.S. Attorney M. Rhett DeHart said in the statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WXIA-NBC (Atlanta, GA): Gladys Knight's son, former restaurateur sentenced to prison**, Hunter Boyce, November 6, 2021, 8:55 PM (EST)

Gladys Knight's Chicken and Waffles was once a landmark spot for Atlanta eaters. Now the former owner of the boarded up restaurant chain has been sentenced to prison. [...] Shanga A. Hankerson has now been sentenced for willful failure to remit payroll taxes, the United States Attorney's Office reports. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Patriot-News (Harrisburg, PA): Ex-priest 'violated the sacrament of confession' to extort boys, federal prosecutors say in sentencing memo**, John Caniglia, November 6, 2021, 5:29 PM

A Catholic priest used the confessional to gain details from boys, information that he later used to extort them into providing him with sexually explicit photographs, federal prosecutors say. In a 26-page sentencing brief, prosecutors recommended that the Rev. Robert McWilliams, 41, be sentenced to life in prison for the exploitation of children. U.S. District Judge Sara Lioi has scheduled the hearing for Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Post and Courier (Charleston, SC): [ANALYSIS] Federal corruption prosecutions are way down across the nation and in SC. Why?**, Tony Bartelme, November 6, 2021, 3:30 PM

Federal prosecutions of shady sheriffs, crooked politicians and other corrupt officials have dropped by 50 percent since 1998 — a nationwide shift in crime-fighting priorities that opens the door to misconduct and erodes the public's already tenuous trust in its leaders, a Post and Courier Uncovered analysis shows. This decline also comes amid a leadership vacancy in South Carolina that could make prosecuting corruption here even more difficult and rare: The Biden administration has yet to name a new U.S. Attorney for South Carolina, the official most likely to spearhead anti-corruption probes. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: Voting lawsuit keeps Texas, Biden administration at odds**, Paul J. Weber, November 5, 2021, 7:06 PM

More and more, Texas and the Biden administration are dragging each other to court. First it was over immigration enforcement on the U.S.-Mexico border. Then a Texas ban on most abortions. Then this week, just days after the Justice Department urged the U.S. Supreme Court to halt the nation's most restrictive abortion law, Attorney General Merrick Garland brought another lawsuit against America's biggest red state, this time over restrictive new voting rules. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Fox](#), [KTRK-ABC \(Houston, TX\)](#), [KEYE-CBS/Telemundo \(Austin, TX\)](#)

## CIVIL LAW

**AP: Appeals court stays vaccine mandate on larger businesses**, Kiran Stacey, November 7, 2021

A federal appeals court on Saturday temporarily halted the Biden administration's vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted an emergency stay of the requirement by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration that those workers be vaccinated by Jan. 4 or face mask requirements and weekly tests. Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry said the action stops President Joe Biden "from moving forward with his unlawful overreach." [[Continue Reading](#)] **See also:** [Axios](#), [BuzzFeed](#), [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [CNBC](#), [Forbes](#), [Fox Business](#), [NY Post](#), [NYT](#), [Reuters](#), [Texas Tribune](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WSJ](#)

**LAT: 11 states sue the Biden administration over its vaccination mandate for large companies.**, Dan Levin, November 6, 2021, 12:10 AM

The attorneys general in 11 states filed a lawsuit on Friday in an effort to prevent the Biden administration from requiring large companies to mandate coronavirus vaccinations, the latest sign of growing pushback against the federal government's biggest effort yet to enlist private businesses in combating the virus. [...] The lawsuit on Friday was filed in U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit by Missouri and was joined by Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. [[Continue Reading](#)] **See also:** [WSJ](#), [WaPo](#)

**WOI-DT-ABC (Des Moines, IA): Hundreds of dogs rescued after Justice Department cites breeder for more than 190 violations**, November 5, 2021, 3:34 PM (EDT)

More than 500 dogs and puppies have been taken away from an Iowa breeder after the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) requested federal and local agencies rescue them from "horrific conditions" in October. The animals were in the care of a U.S. Department of Agriculture licensed breeder named Daniel Gingerich in Seymour, a town in southern Iowa. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Company halts work program instead of upping detainee pay**, Gene Johnson, November 5, 2021, 5:55 PM (EDT)

Brazilian Jose Soares has been locked up in one of the United States' largest immigration detention centers for the past two years, passing much of his time cleaning bathrooms and buffing floors at a rate of \$1 a day. But last week, a federal jury ruled that Soares and other detainees who cook, clean, do laundry and cut hair at the for-profit lockup in Tacoma were entitled to Washington's minimum wage, \$13.69 an hour. [[Continue Reading](#)] **See also:** [Newsweek](#)

**WaPo: [OPINION] Yes, the U.S. government should settle with families separated by Trump-era policies**, Joyce White Vance, November 5, 2021, 2:47 PM

Reports that U.S. officials are engaged in talks to offer "compensation" to immigrant families separated after illegally crossing the border from Mexico have drawn criticism from Republicans. Although President Biden was critical when asked this week about payments of as much as \$450,000 per person, a White House spokesperson said Thursday that the president is "comfortable" with smaller settlements. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CBS: U.S. to send deportation case notices to 78,000 migrants who were not fully**

**processed**, Camilo Montoya-Galvez, November 5, 2021, 6:39 PM

The U.S. government is expected to launch an operation next week to send court documents to 78,000 migrants who were not processed for deportation after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border without authorization this year, two people briefed on the plan told CBS News.

Starting Monday, U.S. immigration authorities will dispatch packets of legal documents that will instruct migrants, many of them families with children, to show up to court hearings before immigration judges, who will determine whether the new arrivals will be allowed to stay in the country, the sources said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NPR: The inquiry into border agents on horseback continues. Critics see a 'broken' system**, Joel Rose, November 6, 2021, 7:00 AM

Images of Border Patrol agents on horseback clashing with Haitian migrants in Del Rio, Texas, were still in heavy rotation on cable news when the Homeland Security secretary promised a swift investigation. "It will be completed in days, and not weeks," Alejandro Mayorkas told lawmakers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KDBC-CBS (El Paso, TX): CBP asks travelers to be prepared, patient next week ahead of border reopening**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 7:22 PM (EDT)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials are asking for preparedness and patience as travelers are able to take advantage of the first stage of re-opening following pandemic travel restrictions. Beginning in March 2020, to prevent the further spread of COVID-19, travel across the land border into the U.S. has been restricted to essential travel only.

[[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KFOX-Fox \(El Paso, TX\)](#), [KTSN-NBC \(El Paso, TX\)](#), [WFXR-Fox \(Roanoke, VA\)](#),

## ANTITRUST

**LAT: Authors Guild doubles down on support of antitrust suit against publisher mega-merger**, Christie D'Zurilla, November 5, 2021, 6:40 PM (EDT)

The Authors Guild has taken an in-depth look at the Department of Justice's antitrust lawsuit against the mega-merger of Penguin Random House and Simon & Schuster and is doubling down on its support of the federal legal challenge that was filed Tuesday. "The Authors Guild has for many years argued to the DOJ and FTC that consumers are harmed when authors' incomes decline because authors must take on other work and write less or not at all," the guild said in a position paper released Friday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**TechCrunch: New antitrust suit from Phhphoto alleges Facebook copied and killed the competition**, Taylor Hatmaker, November 5, 2021, 5:47 PM (EDT)

A former upstart Instagram rival is suing Meta, formerly known as Facebook, over allegations that the company violated antitrust laws by cloning a competing product and ultimately killing its business. The app, Phhphoto, launched in 2014, inviting users to create and share short GIF-like videos. If that sounds familiar, that's because the same functionality was popularized in Boomerang, an app made by Instagram. That feature is now integrated into Instagram's core app experience. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**NYT: F.B.I. Searches James O'Keefe's Home in Ashley Biden Diary Theft Inquiry**, Michael S. Schmidt, William K. Rashbaum, Adam Goldman and Ben Protess, Nov. 7, 2021, 12:10 AM

Federal authorities on Saturday searched the home of James O'Keefe, the founder of the

conservative group Project Veritas, according to witnesses and people briefed on the matter, a day after Mr. O'Keefe acknowledged that the group was under investigation by the Justice Department in connection with a diary reported to have been stolen from Ashley Biden, President Biden's daughter. The F.B.I. carried out a court-ordered search of Mr. O'Keefe's apartment in Mamaroneck, N.Y., early on Saturday morning, after having searched the homes of two associates of Mr. O'Keefe on Thursday as part of the investigation. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Fox](#)

**NBC: [VIDEO] Phoenix is 'the head of the snake' as DEA cracks down on counterfeit pills**, Lester Holt, November 5, 2021, 7:13 PM

NBC News' Lester Holt is granted rare access to the DEA's evidence vault to see the scale of the fentanyl crisis first hand. The majority of counterfeit pills intercepted by the DEA are seized in Arizona. The special agent in charge warns of how easy it is to purchase pills online as this crisis touches every corner of the country. [[Watch](#)]

**LAT: SoCal public officials targeted in broadening federal investigation into pot**

**licensing**, Ruben Vives and Robert J. Lopez, November 8, 2021, 8:00 AM (EDT)

A federal grand jury has issued subpoenas seeking information about cash and other payments to public officials and cannabis consultants as part of a criminal investigation into pot licensing in Baldwin Park and nearby cities, The Times has learned. Federal authorities, including agents from the FBI and Internal Revenue Service, have been interviewing witnesses and are seeking a wide range of records regarding Baldwin Park city officials who approved cannabis licenses and consultants who helped businesses obtain the permits, according to interviews and a copy of a grand jury subpoena reviewed by The Times.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

*The Spokesman-Review (Spokane, WA): ATF agent shot during operation at West*

**Spokane Motel 6**, Sydney Brown, November 5, 2021, 11:57 PM (EDT)

An ATF agent was shot Friday during an operation at the Motel 6 parking lot off the Sunset Highway west of downtown Spokane. The federal agent was rushed to the hospital along with a suspect who was shot in the violent confrontation, Spokane police Chief Craig Meidl said. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KIRO-CBS \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [KREM-CBS \(Spokane, WA\)](#)

**WLS-ABC (Chicago, IL): Feds open criminal investigation into Loretto Hospital's COVID vaccinations**, Craig Wall, November 6, 2021, 12:10 PM (EDT)

Federal authorities have launched a criminal investigation into how Loretto Hospital administered COVID vaccines. The investigation follows admissions by the hospital that it provided shots earlier this year to people who were ineligible for them at the time. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**Washington Times: Marjorie Taylor Greene visits Jan. 6 detainees at D.C. jail, says they are 'suffering greatly'**, Emily Zantow, November 5, 2021, 1:00 PM

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene on Thursday visited the D.C. jail and reported that detainees charged in connection with the Capitol riot were "suffering greatly." The Georgia Republican said her visiting the detainees in the "Patriot" wing of the D.C. Central Treatment Facility "was like walking into a prisoner of war camp and seeing men [whose] eyes can't believe someone had made it in to see them." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: Transfer of defendants at D.C. jail to begin Monday after inspection found**

**unacceptable conditions**, Emily Davies and Spencer S. Hsu, November 5, 2021, 8:00 PM

The transfer of residents under federal custody at the D.C. jail to the U.S. federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa., will begin on Monday, exactly one week after the U.S. Marshals Service issued a memo detailing unlivable conditions inside the District's facility, according to an email from the acting marshal for U.S. District Court in Washington. Throughout next week, the Marshals Service hopes to transfer between 100 and 120 people per day, starting Monday with sentenced defendants and ending later that week with pretrial defendants who do not have hearing dates in the next 30 days, according to the email sent early Friday morning and obtained by The Washington Post. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: [OPINION] The D.C. jail is the city's responsibility. You wouldn't know it from the city's response.**, Colbert I. King, November 6, 2021, 4:42 PM

For 10 days, Richard Johnson lay curled up on his D.C. Jail bunk in soiled bedding, his body ravaged with AIDS. He urinated in milk cartons that were left on the floor of his cell because he was too weak to walk to the toilet. [...] I wrote this in a column on July 15, 1995, four days after Senior U.S. District Judge William B. Bryant seized control of medical and mental health services at the D.C. jail because he had concluded that some District corrections officials "don't give a damn" about inmates. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## US SUPREME COURT

**WaPo: Supreme Court considers a minister's role at the time an inmate is put to death**, Robert Barnes, November 7, 2021, 7:00 AM

God's ways are often mysterious, and so Jan Trujillo doesn't spend much time wondering why she and other members of Second Baptist Church were called to minister to the men of Texas's death row. [...] Now their mission extends to the U.S. Supreme Court. The justices on Tuesday will consider the fate of one of the church's own — convicted murderer John Henry Ramirez, one of Moore's charges and a man Trujillo calls her godson. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Vox](#)

**LAT: [OPINION] Column: The wide importance of a 'narrow' issue in Texas' SB 8 abortion ban**, Harry Litman, November 5, 2021, 4:00 PM (EDT)

For many observers, the case the Supreme Court heard Monday about Texas' new abortion law is a sideshow, a "relatively narrow," "merely procedural" footnote to the main event, Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization, which will be argued in December and could overturn Roe vs. Wade once and for all. But in fact, what happened Monday is far from a footnote to Roe. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**KDRV-ABC (Medford, OR): Congressman Bentz calls for Justice Department's help with illegal marijuana grows**, Jamie Parfitt, November 5, 2021, 4:40 PM

After a brief segue into the issue of illegal marijuana grows in southern Oregon during a US House Judiciary meeting with Attorney General Merrick Garland last month, Congressman Cliff Bentz followed up with a letter to the nation's top law enforcement officer on Friday, urging him to put federal resources on the issue. "At least four counties in this area are suffering from Mexican, Russian, and Chinese cartel activity," Bentz wrote to the Attorney General. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## ADMINISTRATION

**AP: Biden vaccine mandates face first test with federal workers**, Colleen Long and

Michael R. Sisak, November 7, 2021, 8:23 AM

President Joe Biden is pushing forward with a massive plan to require millions of private sector employees to get vaccinated by early next year. But first, he has to make sure workers in his own federal government get the shot. [...] On Saturday, a federal appeals court in Louisiana temporarily halted the vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WaPo](#)

**AP: Biden: Families of separated children deserve compensation**, Zeke Miller and

Colleen Long, November 6, 2021, 1:07 PM

President Joe Biden said Saturday that the families of children separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border during the Trump administration should be compensated, as his Department of Justice is in settlement talks with affected families. Raising his voice, Biden said that regardless of the circumstances, people who had their children taken from them under the Trump administration's family separation policy, meant to deter families from crossing into the U.S. illegally, should be remunerated. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#)

**Fox: WH senior adviser Richmond: Biden is 'in the loop' on money to illegal**

**immigrants, despite conflicting remarks**, Ronn Blitzer, November 7, 2021, 11:04 AM

White House Senior Adviser Cedric Richmond would not confirm nor deny that the Biden administration would be making payments to illegal immigrants who were separated from their children under the Trump administration, but insisted that President Biden is up to speed on the situation despite seemingly contradictory comments on the subject. On Wednesday, Biden had denied that a report about possible \$450,000 payments to people separated from their families was real, leading the ACLU to claim that he "may not have been fully briefed" about what the Department of Justice was doing. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Axios](#), [NY Post](#), [Politico](#)

**Washington Times: Biden crusade against 'domestic extremism' spurs thousands of FBI probes, fears of a police state**, Joseph Clark, November 6, 2021, 4:07 PM

The FBI currently has 2,700 open investigations of domestic extremism, more than double the usual number of cases, according to counterterrorism officials, underscoring the Biden administration's accelerated pursuit of what it calls "domestic violent extremists." The increase in domestic violent extremism described by the Biden administration is shocking, suggesting that the number of plots and racially-motivated killings attributed to white supremacists has also multiplied. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Thousands of intel officers refusing vaccine risk dismissal**, Nomaan Merchant,

November 5, 9:00 AM

Thousands of intelligence officers could soon face dismissal for failing to comply with the U.S. government's vaccine mandate, leading some Republican lawmakers to raise concerns about removing employees from agencies critical to national security. Several intelligence agencies had at least 20% of their workforce unvaccinated as of late October, said U.S. Rep. Chris Stewart, a Utah Republican who is a member of the House Intelligence Committee. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: NOVEMBER 5, 2021

- CBS's Norah O'Donnell highlighted the upcoming Sunday night report on 60 Minutes, featuring "The Second Amendment Preservation Act," a controversial law in Missouri. Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas spoke of the surge in gun violence in Kansas City and how the new law prevents local police from working with their Federal partners.

[[CBS](#)]

- Friday marks the start of the trial of Gregory McMichael, Travis McMichael and William "Roddie" Bryan Jr. in the murder of Ahmaud Arbery. All three are charged with malice and felony murder in the 2020 killing of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia with all three pleading not guilty. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Nohema Graber, a 66-year-old Spanish teacher at Fairfield High School, was killed by Willard Miller and Jeremy Goodale. The two 16-year-old Fairfield High School students are charged as adults with first-degree murder as well as conspiracy to commit a forcible felony, their motive remains unclear. [[ABC](#)]
- Green Bay Packers star quarterback Aaron Rodgers confirmed he is unvaccinated against Covid-19. Rodgers will not be playing in Sunday's game against the Kansas City Chiefs after testing positive for COVID, months after stating he was immunized. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]

## AFTERNOON HEADLINES

- "Nearing Monday vaccine deadline, federal workers seek religious exemptions" [[WaPo](#)]
- "SoCal public officials targeted in broadening federal investigation into pot licensing" [[LAT](#)]
- "How Police Justify Killing Drivers: The Vehicle Was a Weapon" [[NYT](#)]

**From:** Watson, Theresa (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Weekend Digest  
**To:** Davidson, Marcia A. (OAG)  
**Sent:** November 6, 2021 2:08 PM (UTC-04:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** November 6, 2021 at 1:58:01 PM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Weekend Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice**  
**Weekend News Digest**  
**November 6, 2021**  
**2:00 PM EDT**

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## NATIONAL SECURITY

**Reuters: Chinese spy convicted of trying to steal U.S. aviation trade secrets**, Tyler Clifford, November 5, 2021, 6:37 PM

A spy for the Chinese Ministry of State Security has been convicted by a federal jury of plotting to steal trade secrets from several U.S. aviation and aerospace companies, the Justice Department said on Friday. Yanjun Xu, the first Chinese operative extradited to the United States for trial, was convicted of two counts of conspiring and attempting to commit economic espionage, in addition to a count of conspiracy to commit trade secret theft and two counts of attempted theft of trade secrets. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [AP](#), [Law360](#), [WLWT-NBC \(Cincinnati, OH\)](#)

**AP: Colorado man gets house arrest for riot, calls himself idiot**, Michael Kunzelman, November 5, 2021, 3:29 PM

A Colorado man who told a judge that he is “guilty of being an idiot” for twice entering the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6 riot was sentenced on Friday to 90 days of home detention. U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell also ordered Glenn Wes Lee Croy to spend 14 days in a “community correctional facility,” which is a less restrictive alternative to a jail or prison term. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: [EDITORIAL] Durham Unravels the Russia Case**, The Editorial Board, November 5, 2021, 6:58 PM

Special counsel John Durham’s latest indictment is an important step in unraveling what really happened in the long tale of false Russia-collusion allegations against the 2016 Trump presidential campaign. [...] The FBI interviewed Mr. Danchenko in 2017 as part of its investigation of the dossier, and the indictment claims Mr. Danchenko lied repeatedly, depriving the FBI of crucial information. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: Igor Danchenko Charged With Lying in Calling Business Group Official a Trump Dossier Source**, Mark Marendont, November 5, 2021, 6:44 PM

A Russia analyst who fed information to the author of a salacious dossier about Donald Trump lied to federal investigators about his interactions with a business-group official he said was a source for the document, according to an indictment unsealed Thursday. [...] Mr. Danchenko told the Federal Bureau of Investigation that he spoke on the phone with a person he believed to be Mr. Millian, and that material purportedly from this call later appeared in a key section of the dossier, according to the indictment. The indictment, however, said Mr. Danchenko “never received a phone call” or other information from Mr. Millian and fabricated his interactions with him. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**VOA: Alleged Russian Hacks of Microsoft Service Providers Highlight Cybersecurity Deficiencies**, Michael Lipin and Daria Dieguts, November 6, 2021, 12:58 AM

Cybersecurity experts say Microsoft's recent disclosure that alleged Russian hackers successfully attacked several IT service providers this year is a sign that many U.S. IT companies have underinvested in security measures needed to protect themselves and their customers from intrusions. [...] A U.S. National Security Council statement issued Wednesday said deputy national security adviser Anne Neuberger briefed representatives of 35 countries Tuesday on the outcome of last month's first CRI meeting of experts from law enforcement, cybersecurity, financial regulators and foreign affairs ministries. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Times: Marjorie Taylor Greene visits Jan. 6 detainees at D.C. jail, says they are ‘suffering greatly’**, Emily Zantow, November 5, 2021, 1:00 PM

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene on Thursday visited the D.C. jail and reported that detainees charged in connection with the Capitol riot were “suffering greatly.” The Georgia Republican said her visiting the detainees in the “Patriot” wing of the D.C. Central Treatment Facility “was like walking into a prisoner of war camp and seeing men [whose] eyes can’t believe someone had made it in to see them.” [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KETK-NBC (Jacksonville, TX): East Texas man pleads guilty to distributing bombmaking instructions, was targeting law enforcement, infrastructure**, Cynthia Miranda, November 6, 2021, 10:40 AM (EDT)

An East Texas man pleaded guilty on Thursday to distribution of information relating to explosives and destructive devices, according to Acting U.S. Attorney Nicholas Ganjei. Beau Daniel Merryman, 20, of Jefferson, pleaded guilty to federal offenses before U.S. Magistrate Judge Roy S. Payne. Information presented in court showed that Merryman had online conversations with undercover FBI employees between September and October 2019. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: Former Justice Dept. lawyer cuts Jan. 6 deposition short**, Marie Clare Jalonick, November 5, 2021, 4:01 PM

A former assistant attorney general who aligned himself with former President Donald Trump after he lost the 2020 election has declined to be fully interviewed by a House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection, ending a deposition after around 90 minutes Friday. Jeffrey Clark, who championed Trump’s efforts to overturn the election, presented the committee

with a letter saying he would not answer questions based on Trump's assertions of executive privilege, including in an ongoing court case, according to a person familiar with the closed-door meeting who was granted anonymity to discuss it. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Hill](#), [Law360](#), [LAT](#), [NPR](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**CNN: DOJ officials unfazed by calls to expedite Bannon contempt decision**, Zachary Cohen and Evan Perez, November 6, 2021, 8:04 AM

To many in Washington, the criminal contempt case against Steve Bannon appears cut and dried: The podcaster and former Trump adviser has openly spurned a congressional subpoena to testify in an investigation into the January 6 US Capitol attack, claiming to be covered by executive privilege even though he wasn't a government employee at the time. But the longer it takes for the Justice Department to make a decision on whether to prosecute Bannon, the more questions swirl around whether this was the right strategy for congressional investigators. [Continue Reading]

**CNN: What the House January 6 Committee could learn from Justice official who pushed election fraud theories**, Katelyn Polantz, November 5, 2021, 9:11 PM

Former Justice Department official Jeffery Clark, appearing for an interview with the House select committee investigating the January 6 insurrection on Friday, may hold several answers to core questions about Donald Trump and the January 6 insurrection. Clark was one of the prime officials within the Justice Department pushing to pursue unfounded claims of voter fraud in the weeks after the November election, and, according to officials who interacted with him, was in touch with Trump repeatedly about election fraud. [Continue Reading] See also: [Insider](#), [Politico](#)

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: Jury convicts Virginia felon on sex traffic, drug charges**, Unattributed, November 6, 2021, 12:30 PM

A federal jury has convicted a six-time convicted felon from Virginia on multiple charges, including sex trafficking and being a felon in possession of a firearm, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. LeAnthony Winston, 34, of Norfolk, trafficked two women in early 2020 and coerced them into engaging in commercial sex, according to a news release from prosecutors announcing his Thursday conviction. [Continue Reading]

**AP: Indictment charges 24 with money laundering, tax fraud**, Unattributed, November 6, 2021, 11:05 AM

A federal grand jury in North Carolina has returned a sealed, 12-count indictment charging 24 people in a scheme to defraud the federal government and four states of millions of dollars in tax revenues from cigarette sales. The defendants were arrested on Thursday, said G. Norman Acker III, acting U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, in a news release. The indictments were handed down on Oct. 20, according to the release. [Continue Reading]

**AP: Former professor pleads guilty to possessing child porn**, Unattributed, November 6, 2021, 10:55 AM

A former professor and dean at Georgia State University has pleaded guilty to possessing child pornography, federal prosecutors said. Daniel Deocampo, 48, had videos and images of children as young as 5 years old engaging in sexually explicit conduct, prosecutors said in a news release. [Continue Reading]

**AP: Former coal company execs to go on trial for skirting rules**, Dylan Lovan, November 6, 2021, 9:45 AM

A group of former coal company officials will go on trial in Kentucky next week for allegedly skirting federal rules meant to reduce deadly dust in underground mines. The four men, who worked for now-bankrupt Armstrong Coal, ordered workers at two Kentucky mines to rig dust-monitoring equipment to pass air quality tests, federal prosecutors said. The inhaling of dusty air in mines can lead to an incurable and fatal disease called pneumoconiosis, or black lung, which has killed tens of thousands of coal miners. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WaPo: U.S. attorney's office issues criminal subpoenas to D.C. Housing Authority about former chair, his companion**, Paul Schwartzman, November 5, 2021, 5:31 PM

The U.S. attorney's office has issued a criminal subpoena to the D.C. Housing Authority seeking documents pertaining to former board chair Neil Albert and the owner of an architecture firm who is his companion, according to an internal Housing Authority email obtained by The Washington Post. The email, from Housing Authority interim general counsel Andrea Powell, was sent Thursday to members of the board, including Dionne Bussey-Reeder Mayor Muriel E. Bowser's (D) choice to replace Albert after his resignation last month and John Falcicchio, deputy mayor for planning and economic development who serves as an ex officio member of the board. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: Electric-Van Maker Workhorse Is Being Investigated by the Justice Department, Documents Show**, Ben Foldy, November 5, 2021, 4:27 PM

The Justice Department has opened an investigation into electric-van startup Workhorse Inc., WKHS -9.28% according to documents reviewed by The Wall Street Journal. The focus of the inquiry, which the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan is conducting, wasn't revealed in the documents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Barron's](#)

**NY Daily News: South Carolina man convicted for getting nearly \$2M in 'reprehensible' COVID relief scam**, Jami Ganz, November 5, 2021, 6:28 PM

A South Carolina man was convicted this week for fraudulently trying to procure nearly \$2 million in pandemic relief loans. Jeffrey Gossett, 47, pleaded guilty Wednesday to felony counts of wire fraud and money laundering charges for lying on applications to get the \$1.8 million, read a statement from the District of South Carolina U.S. Attorney's Office. "Taking money meant for those in need is reprehensible, especially during a pandemic," Acting U.S. Attorney M. Rhett DeHart said in the statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (Little Rock, AR): Federal court to weigh former Franklin County sheriff's motion for acquittal, new trial**, Thomas Saccente, November 6, 2021, 8:01 AM (EDT)

A federal judge has set a hearing on former Franklin County Sheriff Anthony Boen's request his convictions be set aside or he be granted a new trial. U.S. District Judge Timothy L. Brooks signed an order Tuesday setting a hearing in Fayetteville at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 16, according to court records. Boen faces up to 20 years in federal prison and additional fines. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Southland Journal (Chicago Heights, IL): Federal Jury Convicts Chicago Man of Sex Trafficking Several Children**, Silence DoGood, November 5, 2021, 11:59 PM

A federal jury today convicted a Chicago man on sex trafficking charges for recruiting several

children to engage in sex acts for money. The jury in U.S. District Court in Chicago convicted LENNIE PERRY, 47, on all seven counts of sex trafficking. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Columbus Dispatch (Columbus, OH): Eleven Columbus men sentenced in U.S.-Canada weapons smuggling operation**, Dean Narciso, November 5, 2021, 4:46 PM  
Eleven Columbus men have been convicted and sentenced for conspiracy to smuggle at least 200 firearms from Ohio to Canada, where they were sold for tens of thousands of dollars. Abdulwahab Sharif Mohamed Hassan, 30, was sentenced Friday in U.S. District Court in Columbus to 72 months in prison. Hassan identified by the U.S. Attorney's office as the "lead defendant" in the conspiracy, stated during his sentencing that he alone had approximately \$88,000 in cash on hand during the trafficking operation, despite not having a job at the time. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WGCL-CBS (Atlanta, GA): Two Sentenced For Health Care Fraud**, Unattributed, November 6, 2021, 9:01 AM

U.S. District Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington has sentenced Michael Nolan (48, Tampa) and Richard Epstein (29, Aurora, CO) for their roles in a conspiracy to defraud federal health benefit programs, Medicare and the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs ("CHAMPVA"). Nolan was sentenced to six years and six months in federal prison, followed by three years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTSP-CBS (St. Petersburg, FL): Owner Of Crowdfunding Real Estate Investment Company Sentenced For Mail Fraud**, Ashley Cox, November 6, 2021, 8:57 AM (EDT)  
U.S. District Judge Timothy J. Corrigan has sentenced Daniel Summers (69, St. Augustine) to 21 months in federal prison for mail fraud. As part of his sentence, the court also ordered Summers to pay \$486,874.11 in restitution and, separately, entered a forfeiture money judgment against him in the amount of \$739,910, the proceeds of the fraud scheme. Summers had pleaded guilty on April 29, 2021. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KJZZ-NPR (Phoenix, AZ): Should the no-fly list be expanded to include unruly passenger?**, Jeremy Harris, November 6, 2021, 1:56 AM  
Federal aviation leaders have promised zero tolerance for disruptive behavior onboard airplanes. [...] "The maximum penalty is 20 years in federal prison," Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Kennedy told 2News. "It is such a dangerous thing. When you are at 36,000 feet and endangering a plane full of people, it takes on an entirely different quality." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KSL-NBC (Salt Lake City, UT): Utahn working with DEA tried to tip off suspect that phone was bugged, prosecutors say**, Matt Rascon and Annie Knox, November 5, 2021, 11:47 PM (EDT)

A Utahn who worked on a drug case with federal investigators is accused of trying to warn a suspect about a wiretap, a rare occurrence that experts say can jeopardize several investigations and put officers in danger. Jose Araujo was a contractor working with the Drug Enforcement Administration, Andrew Choate, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office said. Multiple sources have confirmed to KSL that Araujo was working as a translator. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTBS-ABC (Shreveport, LA): Caddo commissioner, sister plead guilty to wire fraud**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 10:00 PM (EDT)

A Caddo Parish commissioner and his sister pleaded guilty Friday night to federal wire fraud

charges just days before their trials to begin, acting U.S. Attorney Alexander Van Hook said. Lynn D. Cawthorne, 54, and Belena C. Turner, 50, both of Shreveport, entered the pleas before U.S. District Judge Elizabeth E. Foote. Sentencing is set for 9:30 a.m. March 16. Both face up to 20 years for the wire fraud. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KLAS-CBS (Las Vegas, NV): California man indicted in Nevada weapons purchases, accused of lying to ATF**, Greg Haas, November 5, 2021, 9:05 PM (EDT)

A 28-year-old California man has been indicted on charges of illegally buying firearms and engaging in the firearms business without a license. Kenneth Earl Smith of Lancaster, California, is accused of lying on transaction records in the purchase of 19 firearms at several Las Vegas locations, according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KUAT-PBS (Tucson, AZ): Prosecutors seek to block release of autopsies from fatal**

**Tucson shootout**, Andrew Oxford, November 5, 2021, 8:20 PM (EDT)

Federal prosecutors are asking a judge to stop the release of autopsies of a Drug Enforcement Administration agent and another man killed in a shootout on an Amtrak train in Tucson last month. Local reporters requested the files but the U.S. Attorney's Office argued in a motion in federal court Friday that releasing the reports would harm an ongoing investigation into the shooting.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**AP: Voting lawsuit keeps Texas, Biden administration at odds**, Paul J. Weber, November 5, 2021, 7:06 PM

More and more, Texas and the Biden administration are dragging each other to court. First it was over immigration enforcement on the U.S.-Mexico border. Then a Texas ban on most abortions. Then this week, just days after the Justice Department urged the U.S. Supreme Court to halt the nation's most restrictive abortion law, Attorney General Merrick Garland brought another lawsuit against America's biggest red state, this time over restrictive new voting rules. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**See also:** [Fox](#), [KTRK-ABC \(Houston, TX\)](#), [KEYE-CBS/Telemundo \(Austin, TX\)](#)

## CIVIL LAW

**LAT: 11 states sue the Biden administration over its vaccination mandate for large companies.**, Dan Levin, November 6, 2021, 12:10 AM

The attorneys general in 11 states filed a lawsuit on Friday in an effort to prevent the Biden administration from requiring large companies to mandate coronavirus vaccinations, the latest sign of growing pushback against the federal government's biggest effort yet to enlist private businesses in combating the virus. [...] The lawsuit on Friday was filed in U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit by Missouri and was joined by Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming. [[Continue Reading](#)] **See also:** [WSJ](#), [WaPo](#)

**Law360: JPMorgan Sued In Del. For Docs On \$920M DOJ Settlement**, Jeff Montgomery, November 5, 2021, 7:05 PM

A JP Morgan Chase & Co. stockholder has stepped up a probe into an alleged multiyear company scheme to manipulate securities and commodities markets, suing in Delaware's

Chancery Court late Friday for corporate records to assess fiduciary liability for a recent \$920 million Justice Department settlement. While the Police Retirement System of St. Louis filed its complaint under seal, supporting documents and a motion to expedite made clear the focus of the action, led by Saxena White PA and Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Pilot Settles SEC Suit Alleging Investor Cash Spent on Cruise**, Jennifer Bennett, November 5, 2021, 4:20 PM

A commercial airline pilot accused of raising \$1 million to build a fake house and spending the cash on a Disney cruise and a criminal defense lawyer has settled, the SEC told a federal judge in Texas. Jerry Lee Farish allegedly used New Summit Homes Inc. to convince fellow pilots he'd put their money toward a real estate investment. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WOI-DT-ABC (Des Moines, IA): Hundreds of dogs rescued after Justice Department cites breeder for more than 190 violations**, November 5, 2021, 3:34 PM (EDT)

More than 500 dogs and puppies have been taken away from an Iowa breeder after the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) requested federal and local agencies rescue them from "horrific conditions" in October. The animals were in the care of a U.S. Department of Agriculture licensed breeder named Daniel Gingerich in Seymour, a town in southern Iowa. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: Company halts work program instead of upping detainee pay**, Gene Johnson, November 5, 2021, 5:55 PM (EDT)

Brazilian Jose Soares has been locked up in one of the United States' largest immigration detention centers for the past two years, passing much of his time cleaning bathrooms and buffing floors at a rate of \$1 a day. But last week, a federal jury ruled that Soares and other detainees who cook, clean, do laundry and cut hair at the for-profit lockup in Tacoma were entitled to Washington's minimum wage, \$13.69 an hour. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Newsweek](#), [The Free Press \(Mankato MN\)](#)

**AP: Stabbing death fuels immigration criticism in Florida**, Adriana Gomez Licon, November 5, 2021, 3:44 PM

A stabbing death in Florida has fueled criticism of the federal government's handling of immigration after local authorities discovered the suspect had lied about his identity and had recently been apprehended crossing the U.S.-Mexico border. The office of Gov. Ron DeSantis, which alerted journalists to the case before the man's arraignment, cites reports that the 24-year-old suspect posed as a teenager at the border in order to cross as an unaccompanied minor though federal officials haven't confirmed that nor explained how he ended up in Florida.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: [OPINION] Yes, the U.S. government should settle with families separated by Trump-era policies**, Joyce White Vance, November 5, 2021, 2:47 PM

Reports that U.S. officials are engaged in talks to offer "compensation" to immigrant families separated after illegally crossing the border from Mexico have drawn criticism from Republicans. Although President Biden was critical when asked this week about payments of as much as \$450,000 per person, a White House spokesperson said Thursday that the president is

"comfortable" with smaller settlements. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Children of Immigrants Lose Challenge for Virus Aid Payments (1),**

Andrew Kreighbaum, November 5, 2021, 2:02 PM

Limits on emergency pandemic cash assistance didn't violate the equal protection rights of U.S. children of immigrants, a federal district court judge in Maryland ruled. Judge Paul W. Grimm of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland found Thursday that the children named as plaintiffs in the case had standing to sue. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CBS: U.S. to send deportation case notices to 78,000 migrants who were not fully processed,**

Camilo Montoya-Galvez, November 5, 2021, 6:39 PM

The U.S. government is expected to launch an operation next week to send court documents to 78,000 migrants who were not processed for deportation after crossing the U.S.-Mexico border without authorization this year, two people briefed on the plan told CBS News. Starting Monday, U.S. immigration authorities will dispatch packets of legal documents that will instruct migrants, many of them families with children, to show up to court hearings before immigration judges, who will determine whether the new arrivals will be allowed to stay in the country, the sources said.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**NPR: The inquiry into border agents on horseback continues. Critics see a 'broken' system,**

Joel Rose, November 6, 2021, 7:00 AM

Images of Border Patrol agents on horseback clashing with Haitian migrants in Del Rio, Texas, were still in heavy rotation on cable news when the Homeland Security secretary promised a swift investigation. "It will be completed in days, and not weeks," Alejandro Mayorkas told lawmakers.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 3rd Circ. Revives Guatemalan Activist's Torture Protection Bid,**

Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 7:30 PM

Immigration judges ignored a slew of reports documenting recent escalations in violence toward activists in Guatemala to deny an environmentalist's claim for humanitarian protection, a Third Circuit panel ruled Friday, reviving... [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 4th Circ. Reiterates 'Crime of Moral Turpitude' Is Constitutional,**

Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 6:08 PM

The Fourth Circuit has refused to breathe life into a Salvadoran national's deportation appeal and ruled that the standard that governs offenses that amount to removable crimes of violence is not... [[Continue Reading](#)]

**El Paso Times (El Paso, TX): Q&A: CBP Field Operations Director Hector Mancha talks**

**border bridge staffing, Nov. 8 reopening,**

Lauren Villagran, November 5, 2021, 6:21 PM (EDT)

Hector Mancha, U.S. Customs and Border Protection director of field operations in El Paso, spoke to the Times about his plans to manage the lifting of restrictions on non-essential travel for fully vaccinated foreign nationals. Starting Nov. 8, thousands of fully vaccinated Mexican nationals with valid border crossing cards will be eligible to cross the border again. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**El Paso Times (El Paso, TX): [VIDEO] U.S. Customs and Border Protection share plans for**

**border reopening,**

Briana Sanchez, November 5, 2021, 4:45 PM (EDT)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection hosts press conference on border reopening Friday, Nov. 5, 2021, at the Paso Del Norte international crossing pedestrian inspection area in El Paso. [[Watch](#)]

**WPLG-ABC (Miami, FL): Special unit patrols amid ‘dangerous’ surge of migrants trying to reach South Florida shores**, Janine Stanwood, November 6, 2021, 8:07 AM

As a surge of migrants and smugglers continue to head to South Florida from Cuba, the Caribbean, and Bahamian islands, federal agents are busy patrolling the coastline. Agents with Air and Marine Operations, a specialized law enforcement branch of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, gave Local 10 News a firsthand view of the work they do patrolling South Florida from the sky and in the water. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMGH-ABC (Denver, CO): [VIDEO] ICE grants Peruvian native seeking sanctuary in Colorado stay of removal**, Patrik Perez, November 5, 2021, 10:29 PM

A Peruvian woman seeking sanctuary from deportation in Colorado was granted a stay of removal this week by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. "I feel good without that stress of checking every corner, that ICE is at every corner waiting to arrest me or deport me back to my country," Ingrid Encalada LaTorre said Friday. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KCNC-CBS \(Denver, CO\)](#)

**KDBC-CBS (El Paso, TX): CBP asks travelers to be prepared, patient next week ahead of border reopening**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 7:22 PM (EDT)

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials are asking for preparedness and patience as travelers are able to take advantage of the first stage of re-opening following pandemic travel restrictions. Beginning in March 2020, to prevent the further spread of COVID-19, travel across the land border into the U.S. has been restricted to essential travel only. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KFOX-Fox \(El Paso, TX\)](#), [KTSN-NBC \(El Paso, TX\)](#), [WFXR-Fox \(Roanoke, VA\)](#),

## ANTITRUST

**Reuters: Antitrust claims take center stage as Mallinckrodt aims for bankruptcy exit**,

Maria Chutchian, November 5, 2021, 8:12 PM

Mallinckrodt Plc filed for bankruptcy last year to resolve thousands of lawsuits accusing it of fueling the opioid epidemic, but as it aims to bring the process to a close, it must first address a completely different kind of claim. The pharmaceutical company recently kicked off a multi-day hearing seeking approval of its proposed reorganization plan and underlying opioid litigation settlement, which creditors and government entities have largely signed off on. But now, in what one Mallinckrodt attorney called an “unconventional” approach to a Chapter 11 plan confirmation process, the company will begin another hearing on Monday over two insurers’ claims that they have had to reimburse their customers at highly-inflated prices for Mallinckrodt’s Acthar gel.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**LAT: Authors Guild doubles down on support of antitrust suit against publisher mega-merger**, Christie D’Zurilla, November 5, 2021, 6:40 PM (EDT)

The Authors Guild has taken an in-depth look at the Department of Justice’s antitrust lawsuit against the mega-merger of Penguin Random House and Simon & Schuster and is doubling down on its support of the federal legal challenge that was filed Tuesday. “The Authors Guild has for many years argued to the DOJ and FTC that consumers are harmed when authors’ incomes decline because authors must take on other work and write less or not at all,” the guild said in a

position paper released Friday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**TechCrunch: New antitrust suit from Phhoto alleges Facebook copied and killed the competition**, Taylor Hatmaker, November 5, 2021, 5:47 PM (EDT)

A former upstart Instagram rival is suing Meta, formerly known as Facebook, over allegations that the company violated antitrust laws by cloning a competing product and ultimately killing its business. The app, Phhoto, launched in 2014, inviting users to create and share short GIF-like videos. If that sounds familiar, that's because the same functionality was popularized in Boomerang, an app made by Instagram. That feature is now integrated into Instagram's core app experience. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ENVIRONMENT

**KHON-Fox/CW (Honolulu, HI): Convicted felon indicted by feds for hazardous waste mishandling**, Stephanie Shinno, November 5, 2021, 6:51 PM (EDT)

Anthony Shane Gilstrap, 54, was recently indicted by a federal grand jury in Hawaii for moving and storing hazardous waste without a permit, falsifying a hazardous waste manifest and blocking an agency proceeding. According to the USDOJ, while Gilstrap was living in Hawaii in 2017, he agreed to remove drums of the RCRA-listed hazardous waste perchloroethylene (perc) from Young Laundry & Dry Cleaning (YLDC) for \$15,000. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**AP: FBI searches homes tied to Project Veritas over diary probe**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 6:36 PM

Federal agents searched the New York homes of people tied to the conservative group Project Veritas months after the group received a diary that a tipster claimed belonged to President Joe Biden's youngest daughter, its leader said Friday. In a video posted on YouTube, James O'Keefe said his organization had received a grand jury subpoena and said current and former Project Veritas employees had their homes searched by federal agents. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [NBC](#), [NYT](#), [The Free Press-Tampa \(Tampa, FL\)](#), [The Hill](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**WaPo: Transfer of defendants at D.C. jail to begin Monday after inspection found unacceptable conditions**, Emily Davies and Spencer S. Hsu, November 5, 2021, 8:00 PM

The transfer of residents under federal custody at the D.C. jail to the U.S. federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa., will begin on Monday, exactly one week after the U.S. Marshals Service issued a memo detailing unlivable conditions inside the District's facility, according to an email from the acting marshal for U.S. District Court in Washington. Throughout next week, the Marshals Service hopes to transfer between 100 and 120 people per day, starting Monday with sentenced defendants and ending later that week with pretrial defendants who do not have hearing dates in the next 30 days, according to the email sent early Friday morning and obtained by The Washington Post. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NBC: [VIDEO] Phoenix is ‘the head of the snake’ as DEA cracks down on counterfeit pills**, Lester Holt, November 5, 2021, 7:13 PM

NBC News' Lester Holt is granted rare access to the DEA's evidence vault to see the scale of the

fentanyl crisis first hand. The majority of counterfeit pills intercepted by the DEA are seized in Arizona. The special agent in charge warns of how easy it is to purchase pills online as this crisis touches every corner of the country. [\[Watch\]](#)

**Williamsport Sun-Gazette (Williamsport, PA): FBI investigates long-missing children, searches Hepburn Township property**, Jonathan Bergmueller, November 6, 2021, 10:32 AM  
FBI agents and local law enforcement are searching for the allegedly buried remains of two girls who have been missing since 2015 on a Hepburn Township property. Their mother, Marie Snyder, 32, of 653 Livermore Road, is in custody alongside her partner, Echo Butler, on charges of child endangerment and obstructing child abuse cases after they allegedly fled their residence.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Spokesman-Review (Spokane, WA): ATF agent shot during operation at West Spokane Motel 6**, Sydney Brown, November 5, 2021, 11:57 PM (EDT)

An ATF agent was shot Friday during an operation at the Motel 6 parking lot off the Sunset Highway west of downtown Spokane. The federal agent was rushed to the hospital along with a suspect who was shot in the violent confrontation, Spokane police Chief Craig Meidl said.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KIRO-CBS \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [KREM-CBS \(Spokane, WA\)](#)

**Santa Cruz Sentinel (Santa Cruz, CA): ATF weapons trafficking sting nets Watsonville, Salinas arrests**, Jessica York, November 5, 2021, 7:03 PM (EDT)

Local residents were among nine men caught up in the net of a federal weapons-trafficking operation this week. U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives agents, in partnership with the Watsonville Police Department on Thursday, arrested Ramon Castillo, 25, and Carlos Manuel Ruiz-Montanez, 20, both of Watsonville, on illegal firearms-related charges.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WLS-ABC (Chicago, IL): Feds open criminal investigation into Loretto Hospital's COVID vaccinations**, Craig Wall, November 6, 2021, 12:10 PM (EDT)

Federal authorities have launched a criminal investigation into how Loretto Hospital administered COVID vaccines. The investigation follows admissions by the hospital that it provided shots earlier this year to people who were ineligible for them at the time. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KGW-NBC (Portland, OR): Fake prescription drugs containing fentanyl becoming available at an alarming rate, DEA says**, Mike Benner, November 5, 2021, 8:03 PM (EDT)

For the first time in six years, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has issued a public safety alert. Fake prescription drugs containing fentanyl are available at an alarming rate. "We have a fentanyl explosion," said Cam Strahm, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration in the District of Oregon. "Every avenue you can think of is how fentanyl is getting here." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KGW-NBC (Portland, OR): [VIDEO] DEA warns of spike in fentanyl-laced pills**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 7:39 PM (EDT)

Over the last year, the DEA's Seattle office has seen a 275% increase in seizures of fentanyl-laced pills. That includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska. [\[Watch\]](#)

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**AP: Nevada tells US judge execution delay risks drugs expiring**, Ken Ritter, November 5, 2021, 11:53 PM (EDT)

A state attorney asked a federal judge Friday for a quick hearing and ruling about the constitutionality of Nevada's execution procedure, saying a drug that officials want to use for condemned killer Zane Floyd's lethal injection will expire in late February. But U.S. District Judge Richard Boulware II did not promise to accelerate the pace of his review. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Donziger Appeal Says Court-Appointed Prosecutor Lacked Authority**, Holly Baker, November 5, 2021, 4:30 PM

Steven R. Donziger – the disbarred lawyer who won and lost an \$8.6 billion judgment against Chevron in Ecuador after a federal appeals court decided it was obtained by fraud – says his October conviction on six counts of related criminal contempt was unconstitutional. Donziger's brief, filed Friday in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, argues that the judicially appointed special prosecutor was improperly supervised, and that even if she had been she shouldn't have been appointed in the first instance. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WSJ: Appeals Court Reinstates Convictions of Platinum Partners Executives**, Corrine Ramey, November 5, 2021, 2:27 PM

A federal appeals court in New York on Friday restored the securities-fraud convictions of two executives of defunct hedge fund Platinum Partners. The ruling, by a panel of three judges from the Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, is a blow to founder Mark Nordlicht, and the fund's co-chief investment officer, David Levy. It sends the case back to the district court judge, who is expected to reinstate the convictions and sentence the two men. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## US SUPREME COURT

**AP: Court to hear cases of docs convicted in pain pill schemes**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 6:24 PM

The Supreme Court agreed Friday to hear appeals from two doctors who were convicted of illegally distributing pain medication after writing thousands of prescriptions in short periods. The court will take up the case of Xiulu Ruan of Mobile, Alabama, and Shakeel Kahn, who practiced medicine in Ft. Mohave, Arizona, and Casper, Wyoming. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**LAT: [OPINION] Column: The wide importance of a ‘narrow’ issue in Texas’ SB 8 abortion ban**, Harry Litman, November 5, 2021, 4:00 PM (EDT)

For many observers, the case the Supreme Court heard Monday about Texas' new abortion law is a sideshow, a “relatively narrow,” “merely procedural” footnote to the main event, Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization, which will be argued in December and could overturn Roe vs. Wade once and for all. But in fact, what happened Monday is far from a footnote to Roe. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News Service: Supreme Court will hear a challenge to expand Fourth Amendment rights**, Kelsey Reichmann, November 5, 2021, 10:30 PM

In a Friday afternoon orders list, the high court declined to hear a challenge to its precedent in Bevins but instead will hear a narrower challenge in the case asking the court to expand the precedent. The case, Erik Egbert v. Robert Boule, involves a border patrol agent who harassed a

bed-and-breakfast owner near the Canadian border who he suspected of smuggling an immigrant. Bivens v. Six Unknown Named Agents of Federal Bureau of Narcotics says an individual can file a lawsuit for damages if their Fourth Amendment rights are violated by the Federal Bureau of Narcotics. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Justices To Take Up Retaliation Claim Against Border Agent**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 5:40 PM

The U.S. Supreme Court announced Friday that it will review a suit from a Washington state bed and breakfast owner claiming that a U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agent violated his...  
[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: Supreme Court Agrees to Hear Dispute Over Kidney Care Coverage**, Lydia Wheeler, November 5, 2021, 4:51 PM

The Supreme Court will review the scope of federal laws governing how employee health plans must treat patients with end-stage kidney disease. The dispute stems from a lawsuit a dialysis provider brought against an Ohio hospital's health plan for treating all dialysis providers as "out-of-network" and reimbursing them at the lowest level rate. Because there's a lack of in-network dialysis providers, DaVita Inc. argues Marietta Memorial Hospital's employee health benefit plan incentivizes patients to switch to Medicare to avoid paying higher co-pays, co-insurance, and deductibles for life-sustaining care. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: [PODCAST] Death Penalty, State Secrets Up Next at Supreme Court**,

Kimberly Strawbridge Robinson and Jodan S. Rubin, November 5, 2021, 4:17 PM

It's another big week of arguments at the U.S. Supreme Court as the justices will hear cases involving national security state secrets and religious rights of death-row inmates. Bloomberg Law "Cases and Controversies" podcast hosts Kimberly Robinson and Jordan Rubin take a look in the latest Sneak Peek episode at the upcoming five cases on the court's docket. They also recap the blockbuster Nov. 1 arguments over the Texas abortion law, known as S.B. 8. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

**Forbes: JPMorgan To Restrict Trading In Some U.S. Cannabis Stocks**, A.J Herrington, November 5, 2021, 4:25 PM

International banking powerhouse JPMorgan Chase & Co. this week informed its prime brokerage clients that the company will no longer allow them to purchase stocks in some U.S. cannabis companies beginning on Monday. The restriction on trading will apply to U.S. cannabis firms that have a "direct nexus to marijuana-related activities" and are not listed on the Nasdaq, the New York Stock Exchange or the Toronto Stock Exchange. "J.P. Morgan (JPMS) has introduced a framework that is designed to comply with U.S. money laundering laws and regulations by restricting certain activities in the securities of U.S. Marijuana-Related Businesses," the bank wrote to clients in a letter quoted by Reuters. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KDRV-ABC (Medford, OR): Congressman Bentz calls for Justice Department's help with illegal marijuana grows**, Jamie Parfitt, November 5, 2021, 4:40 PM

After a brief segue into the issue of illegal marijuana grows in southern Oregon during a US House Judiciary meeting with Attorney General Merrick Garland last month, Congressman Cliff Bentz followed up with a letter to the nation's top law enforcement officer on Friday, urging him to put federal resources on the issue. "At least four counties in this area are suffering from Mexican,

Russian, and Chinese cartel activity," Bentz wrote to the Attorney General. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ADMINISTRATION

**AP: Thousands of intel officers refusing vaccine risk dismissal**, Nomaan Merchant, November 5, 9:00 AM

Thousands of intelligence officers could soon face dismissal for failing to comply with the U.S. government's vaccine mandate, leading some Republican lawmakers to raise concerns about removing employees from agencies critical to national security. Several intelligence agencies had at least 20% of their workforce unvaccinated as of late October, said U.S. Rep. Chris Stewart, a Utah Republican who is a member of the House Intelligence Committee. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Biden Admin. Urges Ariz. Judge To Keep Vax Mandate Intact**, Unattributed, November 5, 2021, 7:05 PM

The Biden administration urged an Arizona federal court to allow executive orders requiring certain federal employees and contractors to be vaccinated against COVID-19, saying the state attorney general couldn't show the... [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: NOVEMBER 5, 2021

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced a vote on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill would be voted upon before the day is done. Speaker Pelosi urged Democrats in the House to vote Yes on the Bill, which has been passed by Democrats and Republicans in the Senate. Even as President Biden called for the House to pass the Bill, moderate and progressive Democrats have threatened to vote the Bill down. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Pfizer has announced the trial results of its own COVID Pill, Paxlovid. Paxlovid used with low-dose HIV drug and taken within 3 days of COVID symptoms was shown to cut the risk of hospitalization or death by 89% in High-risk adults. This weekend, parents with kids 5 to 11 y/o who wish to receive the vaccines may contact [vaccines.gov](#), as well as Walgreens and CVS. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Today, at the Washington National Cathedral, U.S. presidents from both parties and Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton paid their respects to Colin Powell, an American politician, statesman, diplomat, and United States Army officer who served as the 65th United States secretary of state from 2001 to 2005. Colin Powell was remembered as a trailblazer, a leader, and a unifying force. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Today marks the start of the trial of Gregory McMichael, Travis McMichael and William

"Roddie" Bryan Jr. in the murder of Ahmaud Arbery. All three are charged with malice and felony murder in the 2020 killing of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia with all three pleading not guilty. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

- Nohema Gruber, a 66-year-old Spanish teacher at Fairfield High School, was killed by Willard Miller and Jeremy Goodale. The two 16-year-old Fairfield High School students are charged as adults with first-degree murder as well as conspiracy to commit a forcible felony, their motive remains unclear. [[ABC](#)]
- Green Bay Packers star quarterback Aaron Rodgers confirmed he is unvaccinated against Covid-19. Rodgers will not be playing in Sunday's game against the Kansas City Chiefs after testing positive for COVID, months after stating he was immunized. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- The deadly shooting between rival gangs near two resorts in Cancun, Mexico resulted in 4 Americans being injured. One person struck by a bullet was hospitalized and is in stable condition. Three others were treated for minor injuries. [[ABC](#)]
- The October Jobs Report indicates that 531,000 jobs were added with unemployment dropping to 4.6%. These numbers were better than expected. Workers continue to struggle to find jobs despite the reported demand for workers. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- The impact of COVID on immunocompromised adults has been a struggle as they try to survive the pandemic. CBS reported on Mark Harrison, an immunocompromised Pediatrician in remission from Multiple Myeloma, the same cancer Colin Powell struggled with. [[CBS](#)]
- A severe storm is expected to blow through Georgia and the Carolinas this weekend. Wind gusts of 40 mph and about 5 inches of rain are expected and may cause historic flooding in the Southeast, especially along the coastal regions. [[CBS](#)]
- Norah highlighted the upcoming Sunday night report on 60 Minutes, featuring "The Second Amendment Preservation Act", a controversial law in Missouri. Kansas City Mayor Quinton Lucas spoke of the surge in gun violence in Kansas City and how the new law prevents local police from working with their Federal partners. [[CBS](#)]

## AFTERNOON HEADLINES

- "House Approves \$1 Trillion Infrastructure Bill, Sending to Biden's Desk" [[WSJ](#), [NYT](#), [WaPo](#)]

- “How Police Justify Killing Drivers: The Vehicle Was a Weapon” [[NYT](#)]
- “A spin doctor with ties to Russia allegedly fed the Steele dossier before fighting to discredit it” [[WaPo](#)]
- “Vexed by dust pollution, officials around Mono Lake call on Los Angeles to cease water diversions” [[LAT](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Watson, Theresa (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**To:** Davidson, Marcia A. (OAG)  
**Sent:** October 28, 2021 7:03 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** DOJ Digests <doj-digests@rendon.com>  
**Date:** October 28, 2021 at 7:00:45 AM EDT  
**To:** DoJ-Digests3 Rendon <DOJdesk@rendon.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Morning Digest  
**Reply-To:** Rendon DOJ Alert Desk <dojdesk@rendon.com>

**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
October 28, 2021  
7:00 AM EDT**

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## **WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: OCTOBER 28, 2021**

### **DOJ**

- No scheduled events.

## **US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

**CNN: DOJ pushes back against claims of mistreatment at DC jail where dozens of Capitol rioters are being held**, Hannah Rabinowitz and Katelyn Polantz, October 27, 2021, 8:03 PM

Federal prosecutors on Wednesday pushed back against claims of mistreatment at a Washington, DC, jail where dozens of US Capitol rioters are being held -- allegations that led a federal judge to refer the jail for an investigation into potential civil rights violations after holding its officials in contempt of court. The Justice Department's disclosures came in the case of defendant Christopher Worrell, whose case has become a cause célèbre in right-wing circles because of his health issues while in jail. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WUSA-CBS \(Washington, DC\)](#)

**CNN: AG Garland confirms 'new evidence' in review of decision not to prosecute FBI agents handling Nassar probe**, Veronica Stracqualursi and Christina Carrega, October 27, 2021, 2:33 PM

Attorney General Merrick Garland confirmed Wednesday that the Justice Department has "new evidence" in its ongoing review of the decision not to prosecute two former FBI officials who were accused of mishandling the investigation into former USA Gymnastics doctor Larry Nassar. Earlier this month, Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said that the department was reviewing the matter, including "new information that has come to light." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOJ Will Revise Trump-Era Home Release Limit, Garland Says**, Jack Queen, October 27, 2021, 7:42 PM

The U.S. Department of Justice will rework a Trump-era legal opinion that inmates on early home release because of the COVID-19 pandemic must go back to prison when the crisis subsides, Attorney General Merrick Garland said Wednesday, calling it a "terrible policy." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Garland defends \$700K McCabe settlement**, Josh Gerstein, October 27, 2021, 11:56 AM

The Justice Department agreed to pay former acting FBI Director Andrew McCabe and his attorneys over \$700,000 because lawyers for the government concluded that they were likely to lose a lawsuit McCabe filed over his firing by the Trump administration just hours before he was set to retire, Attorney General Merrick Garland told lawmakers on Wednesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL GARLAND TESTIMONY**

**AP: Garland defends school board memo amid Republican criticism**, Michael Balsamo, October 27, 2021, 5:30 PM

Attorney General Merrick Garland on Wednesday defended a memo aimed at combating threats against school officials nationwide while Republicans insisted he rescind the directive. He signaled he had no plans to do so despite their criticism. The memo took center stage as Garland appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee his second congressional appearance in a week and said it was meant to respond to violence and threats of violence directed against local school board officials. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [ABC](#), [Bloomberg](#), [CNN](#), [CNN-1](#), [Courthouse News](#), [Fox](#), [The Hill](#), [NYT](#), [UPI](#), [USA Today](#), [Washington Times](#), [Washington Times-1](#)

**WaPo: [ANALYSIS] Our dumbed-down debate over the Justice Department and schools,** Aaron Blake, October 27, 2021, 5:27 PM

The political debate over the Justice Department and schools could use some lessons in reading comprehension. From the beginning, the conservative backlash against the Justice Department's memo on examining threats against school board members has been rooted in an oversimplification. So much of the pushback describes the memo as if it targets virtually any parent with the temerity to question their school board officials. The reality is the memo is specifically focused only on those making threats. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSJ: Merrick Garland Stands Behind Memo on Threats to Educators,** Sadie Gurman, October 27, 2021, 3:42 PM

Attorney General Merrick Garland signaled he has no plans to withdraw a memo ordering the FBI to help local leaders address threats against educators, as Republicans stepped up their criticism of it as a heavy-handed effort to silence parents who speak out on topics like mask mandates and how race is addressed in schools. Mr. Garland on Wednesday stood behind the Oct. 4 directive during a hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee, his second appearance before Congress in less than a week in which Republicans made it the focus of their questioning.

[[Continue Reading](#)]

**Washington Examiner: Biden Announces 4 More US Attorney Nominees,** Jerry Dunleavy, October 27, 2021, 11:58 PM

A National Security Division official who publicly criticized John Durham's special counsel investigation before joining the Justice Department has "nothing whatsoever to do with" the inquiry, Attorney General Merrick Garland testified on Wednesday. The answer provided to Congress offers some clarity to the situation after Republican senators demanded in June that Garland respond to the "bias" Susan Hennessey, a former NSA attorney, showed in comments about Durham and the focus of his work, the investigation into alleged ties between former President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign and Russia, before she was picked for the DOJ role in May. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**Reuters: Accused U.S. Capitol rioter made false medical claims in jail, prosecutors say,** Jan Wolfe, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

Federal prosecutors said on Wednesday that an accused participant in the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump made false claims about his medical needs while in jail awaiting trial. That came two weeks after a judge ruled that Washington, D.C. Department of Corrections officials violated the rights of Christopher Worrell, a member of the right-wing Proud Boys, by limiting his access to medical care. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Ransomware gang says it targeted National Rifle Association,** Alan Suderman, October 27, 2021, 4:34 PM

A ransomware gang believed to operate out of Russia says it hacked the National Rifle Association, the most powerful gun-rights group in the United States. The gang, which calls itself Grief, published a handful of what appear to be the NRA files on a dark web site. The files, reviewed by The Associated Press, relate to grants the NRA has awarded. Ransomware gangs

often post a victim's files publicly in hopes of spurring them to pay out a ransom. [Continue Reading] See also: [CBS](#), [NBC](#), [Newsweek](#)

**HuffPost: He Dressed As Press To Storm The Capitol. Now We Know He Runs A White Nationalist Website**, Christopher Mathias, October 28, 2021, 5:45 AM

On Jan. 6 Matthew Thomas Purse, a 45-year-old Navy veteran from Irvine, California, arrived at the Capitol with a red patch reading "DON'T SHOOT PRESS" sewed to the back of his black tactical vest. Big, white letters on his helmet screamed "PRESS," too. And a press pass declaring his credentials as a member of the media dangled from a lanyard around his neck. But later that day, as he took hold of a microphone on the steps of the Capitol building, it was clear that Purse was actually a participant at the anti-democratic "Save America" rally which had just exploded into a deadly attempted insurrection. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: State secrets privilege will quash suit with Saudi spymaster**, Daniel Jackson, October 27, 2021, 5:00 PM

A federal judge signed off Wednesday on letting the U.S. government protect what it claims are state secrets in a case where the former spymaster of Saudi Arabia said, as part of his defense, he needs to describe how the two nations collaborated on counterterrorism operations. After considering the documents that the U.S. Office of the Director of National Security filed into the case including documents submitted in camera, or privately to the judge U.S. District Judge Nathaniel Gorton found the invocation of the state secrets privilege a valid one. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KSWB-Fox (San Diego, CA): Criminal complaint: Local man entered Pelosi's office during Jan. 6 Capitol riot**, Dillon Davis, October 28, 2021, 12:27 AM

An Ocean Beach man has been charged for his role in the violent Jan. 6 insurrection attempt at the U.S. Capitol, telling authorities he was inside House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's office and claiming Joe Biden was an illegitimate president, a criminal complaint filed in U.S. District Court shows. Philip James Weisbecker was arrested Oct. 21 in Jamul after an investigation spanning months into his conduct in the protest. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KMBC-ABC (Kansas City, MO): Marine veteran from Kansas City pleads guilty to US Capitol riot involvement**, Matt Flener, October 27, 2021, 7:43 PM

A Kansas City, Missouri, Marine veteran took a plea deal on Tuesday to a misdemeanor charge of parading, demonstrating, or picketing in a capitol building for his role in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol. Carey Jon Walden, of Kansas City, Missouri, admitted to the FBI earlier this year he went into the Capitol building through a broken window. He also posted a Facebook photo of him climbing the west wall of the Capitol. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHEC-NBC (Rochester, NY): Jan. 6 defendant Pezzola remains in jail**, Berkeley Brean, October 27, 2021, 6:05 PM

Dominic Pezzola, one of the local men accused in the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol, is staying in jail for the rest of the year. And when we mark the anniversary of the assault on the Capitol, he'll probably still be locked up. Wednesday in federal court in Washington D.C., Judge Tim Kelly refused to reverse his decision to keep Pezzola in jail and set the next court date to Jan. 11, 2022. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**AP: Explainer: Why Congress is looking closely at Jan. 6 rally**, Mary Clare Jalonick and Michelle R. Smith, October 27, 2021, 10:00 PM

The House panel investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection has focused some of its early work on the planning of the rally at which President Donald Trump told his supporters to "fight like hell." The rally, held that morning and planned by former White House and campaign aides, became a staging ground for hundreds of supporters who marched to the Capitol, pushed past police and broke inside. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Former DOJ official splits with lawyer before Jan. 6 testimony**, Betsy Woodruff Swan, October 27, 2021, 10:18 PM

Jeffrey Clark has parted ways with his lawyer. The former top Trump Justice Department official is scheduled to field questions from Jan. 6 committee investigators on Friday. But he and Robert Driscoll, the Washington attorney who has been representing him, have recently parted ways, according to two people with knowledge of the matter on Wednesday. It is unclear if the departure will impact Clark's interview. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: January 6 committee postpones request for some records from Trump White House**, Zachary Cohen, Katelyn Polantz and Ryan Nobles, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

The House select committee investigating January 6 has postponed its request for dozens of pages of records from the Trump White House even though the documents were determined by the current White House counsel to be relevant to its probe. While the exact nature of these records remains unclear, the committee's move to "defer" the request following discussions with President Joe Biden's White House suggests the committee may be paring back the number of documents it's pursuing because of a potentially lengthy court battle Trump has already launched over executive privilege. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: Former jail guard guilty of buying guns for others**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 7:00 PM

A former Florida jail guard has pleaded guilty to buying firearms and immediately reselling them to someone who hadn't passed a federal background check. Kenyari Devaughnte Brewton, 26, pleaded guilty Tuesday in Ocala federal court to making a materially false statement during the purchase of a firearm and causing a federal firearms licensee to maintain false information in its official records, according to court records. He faces up to 15 years in prison. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Times of Northwest Indiana: Feds indict 16 over Sin City motorcycle club's alleged crimes**, Bill Dolan, October 27, 2021, 10:00 PM

A federal grand jury has indicted 16 men on charges they committed murder, robbery and drug dealing for Gary's Sin City Deciples motorcycle club. The 57-page indictment alleges Sin City members and associates have operated a racketeering conspiracy since 2009 to traffic drugs and illegal firearms and terrorize rival motorcycle organizations. Their crimes include an alleged murder-for-hire, kidnapping and robbery of a Gary currency exchange employee, selling of cocaine, heroin and marijuana, and extorting money from car and motorcycle club members in northern Indiana. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Chicago Tribune](#), [WBND-ANC \(South Bend, IN\)](#), [WTAE-ABC \(Pittsburgh, PA\)](#), [WFLD-Fox \(Chicago, IL\)](#)

**Spectrum News (Manhattan, NY): Man charged with murder-for-hire in Brandy Odom case**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 9:36 PM

A man is charged in the death of a woman whose body was discovered in a Brooklyn park. Cory Martin is facing a murder-for-hire charge. He was previously charged with conspiracy in a scheme with another woman to take out two life insurance policies in Brandy Odom's name, and cash them out. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WV News (Clarksburg, WV): Clarksburg West Virginia woman ordered to provide documentation or go to jail on bond revocation**, Matt Harvey, October 27, 2021, 9:30 PM  
A 30-year-old Clarksburg woman has been ordered to provide documentation to back up her reasons for noncompliance with bond. If Heather Marie Paugh does so satisfactorily by Monday, Harrison Circuit Judge James A. Matish will rescind a bench warrant he issued for her Wednesday after revoking her bail. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Press Herald (Portland, ME): Feds charge deputies, cop, prosecutor and town official in pot conspiracy**, Edward Murphy., October 27, 2021, 7:34 PM

A Farmington man pleaded guilty in federal court Wednesday to felonies that authorities said were part of a wide-ranging conspiracy involving illegal marijuana growth and sales that resulted in a related 14-count criminal complaint against a dozen other people, including a county prosecutor, three former sheriff's deputies, a police officer and an elected town official in Rangeley. Randal Cousineau, 69, pleaded guilty to conspiring to possess and distribute more than 1,000 kilograms of marijuana and 1,000 marijuana plants. He faces a sentence of up to life in prison and a \$10 million fine, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. His sentence will be determined by a federal judge at a later date. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WGME-CBS \(Portland, ME\)](#)

**Olean Times Herald (Olean, NY): Olean man pleads guilty to child pornography charge**, Bob Clark, October 27, 2021, 7:00 PM

An Olean man pleaded guilty to a child pornography charge while on probation for a similar charge. U.S. Attorney Trini E. Ross announced Wednesday that James Arthur Morey, 48, of Olean, pleaded guilty Monday before U.S. District Judge Richard Arcara to access with intent to view child pornography. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NY Post: 'That's some bulls-t': accused NYC subway gunman shoots mouth off in court**, Ben Feuerherd, October 27, 2021, 6:35 PM

The alleged bank robber accused of shooting a straphanger in a Manhattan subway mugging went berserk in federal court Wednesday, declaring his innocence in a profanity-laced rant. "Your Honor, that's some bulls t," Damon Bailey railed in Manhattan federal court, as a federal prosecutor detailed evidence against him and urged a judge to keep him locked up pending trial. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Philadelphia Inquirer: Philly-area men sold \$3M worth of stolen U.S. Open tickets and pocketed millions, federal prosecutors say**, Ellie Rushing, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

Two Philadelphia-area men fraudulently sold thousands of stolen tickets to the U.S. Open golf tournament, a scheme that cost the sport's top professional governing body nearly \$3 million, and allowed the men to pocket more than \$1.8 million in combined profits, federal authorities said Wednesday. Prosecutors allege that Jeremi Michael Conaway, of West Chester, and James Bell, of Glen Mills, who previously worked as ticket brokers for separate companies, acquired a

combined 22,504 tickets over six years from a former employee of the U.S. Golf Association's ticketing office who had been stealing and misappropriating the tickets. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Mountain Top Media (Pikeville, KY): Perry man gets 22.5 years for kidnapping, drug and gun charges**, Ralph Davis, October 27, 2021, 1:00 PM

A Perry County man has been sentenced to more than 22 years in prison, after being convicted of kidnapping, drug and gun charges. Thomas Hamblin, 65, of Hazard, was convicted by a jury back in June on charges of kidnapping, conspiracy to commit kidnapping, conspiracy to distribute more than 500 grams of cocaine, using a weapon in a drug crime, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. On Tuesday, he was sentenced to 270 months in prison. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRQE-CBS/Fox (Albuquerque, NM): Former NM principal sentenced to 11 years on child porn conviction**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 10:45 PM

A former Las Cruces middle school principal will spend 11 years in federal prison on child pornography charges. Joel Aguilar Villanueva, 45, pleaded guilty to posting a video on Twitter showing a child engaging in sexual acts with an adult with the comment "they learn fast" in Spanish. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHP-CBS (Harrisburg, PA): York man sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison for drug trafficking, authorities say**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 10:00 PM

The United States Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania says 29-year-old Brandon Orr of York has been sentenced to over 220 months imprisonment for conspiring to distribute over a kilogram of heroin laced with fentanyl and five kilograms of cocaine while on federal supervision for a prior 2015 drug conviction. According to Acting United States Attorney Bruce D. Brandler, the investigation began with an overdose death in York on December 2, 2017. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMOV-CBS (St. Louis, MO): Man sentenced to decade in federal prison for prostituting a minor in St. Louis**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 9:45 PM

Tony K. Sanford was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison Wednesday for asking a minor to engage in prostitution. Sanford, 39, will have lifetime supervision following his sentence. Police said Sanford directed and facilitated prostitution transactions involving a 17-year-old minor in St. Louis from Jan. 20 through Jan. 30, 2020. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WQOW-ABC/CW (Eau Claire, WI): Altoona financial advisor charged with fraud in federal court**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 9:30 PM

A financial advisor from the Chippewa Valley is charged in federal court with nine counts of wire fraud, and one count of bank fraud. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, Michael Shillin, the owner of Shillin Wealth Management, ran a scam to defraud clients by making misrepresentations to them. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Tampa, FL): Tampa Man Pleads Guilty To Armed Robberies Of 2 7-Eleven Stores**, D'Ann Lawrence White, October 27, 2021, 8:52 PM

A Tampa man has pleaded guilty to robbing two 7-Eleven stores at gunpoint. Giovanni Gort, 32, Tampa, has pleaded guilty to two counts of armed robbery and one count of brandishing a firearm. He faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison for each armed robbery count and a minimum mandatory penalty of 7 years' imprisonment for the firearm offense, to be served consecutive to the armed robbery counts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): Supervisor of Detroit police integrity unit one of two DPD officials charged in bribery scheme**, Derick Hutchinson, October 27, 2021, 7:55 PM

A supervisor of the Detroit Police Department's integrity unit, Lt. John F. Kennedy, is one of two DPD officials who were charged Wednesday in connection with a bribery scheme. Officials said Kennedy, 56, of Rochester Hills, was serving as the supervisor in command of the department's integrity unit when he conspired with Officer Daniel S. Vickers, 54, of Livonia, to commit bribery. He held the position from 2017 to March 2018 at the Seventh Precinct. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KVVU-Fox (Las Vegas, NV): Federal judge sentences man in deadly shooting at Lake Mead**, Matthew Kirkland, October 27, 2021, 7:45 PM

Eliel Urrutia-Jimenez, 26, has been sentenced to ten years in prison for shooting a man in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area in March 2020. In addition to the term of imprisonment, a judge also sentenced Urrutia-Jimenez, a Mexican citizen, to five years of supervised release. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVT-CBS (Fort Worth, TX): Ira Morya Davis Of Irving Found Guilty Of Wire Fraud Violations**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 6:47 PM

Ira Morya Davis, 40, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud before U.S. Magistrate Judge Kimberly Priest Johnson on Oct. 26, 2021. "The Eastern District is committed to tackling complex fraud schemes, including those that target financial institutions and purchasers in the real estate market," said Acting United States Attorney Nicholas J. Ganjei. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRQE-CBS/Fox (Albuquerque, NM): Woman sentenced to 5 years over child's death after DWI crash**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 6:45 PM

A Navajo Nation woman was sentenced to five years in prison for the death of her child after a drunk driving crash. The U.S. Attorney's Office says Tonya Mae Dale crashed her car in San Juan County in June 2019 and walked away to find help, leaving her two children behind. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTVE-NBC (El Dorado, AR): West Monroe man found guilty for Murder-for-hire plot while behind bars**, Kevin Dudley, Jr., October 27, 2021, 6:16 PM

On Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 48-year-old Steven Marcus Kelley was convicted in a murder-for-hire plot. On December 16, 2020, Kelley was indicted by a grand jury and charged with use of facility of interstate commerce in the commission of murder-for-hire. The charged stemmed from a letter Kelley wrote while awaiting trial in the Ouachita Correctional Center for the rape and molestation of his then 12-year-old and 8-year-old stepdaughters. In the letter, Kelley attempted to hire someone to murder his ex-wife, who is the mother of the victims in his sex crimes case. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRON (San Francisco, CA): San Jose residents plead guilty to automobile Craigslist scheme**, Peter Snarr, October 27, 2021, 5:28 PM

Three San Jose men have plead guilty to rolling back odometers on vehicles that they later sold on Craigslist, according to the United States Justice Department. According to the plea deal, from at least October 2017 through December 2020, Seymour Khalilov, 32; Ramil Heydarov, 31; and Orkhan Aliyev, 32, all of San Jose, conspired to purchase high-mileage vehicles and roll back the odometers to make the vehicles appear newer. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KPIX-CBS (San Francisco, CA): Oakland Surgeon Convicted of Child Sex Crimes Gets 16-Year Prison Term**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 5:13 PM

A dental surgeon from Oakland who pleaded guilty to the attempted sex trafficking of a child along with other crimes was sentenced to 16 years in prison, federal authorities announced Wednesday. Cassidy Migan Lavorini-Doyle, 38, admitted to numerous acts that involved sexual abuse or intended sexual abuse of children, and traveled to Cambodia to have sex with children, according to a press statement issued by Acting U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California Stephanie Hinds, along with HSI Special Agent in Charge Tatum King and FBI Special Agent in Charge Craig Fair. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KRON \(San Francisco, CA\)](#)

**WSLS-NBC (Roanoke, VA): Virginia woman arrested in connection to dark web murder-for-hire plot using bitcoin**, Nicole Del Rosario, October 27, 2021, 5:06 PM

A Virginia woman is behind bars after she tried to hire a hitman on the dark web, 25-year-old Annie Nicole Ritenour, of Culpeper, placed an "order" on a dark web website that advertised murder-for-hire services, according to the United States Attorney's Office Western District of Virginia. Ritenour created an account on the website and wired about \$3,200 in bitcoin to hire a hitman to kill her intended victim. She also uploaded photos of her intended victim along with personal information like their place of work, vehicle and the best time and place to kill this person. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBFF-Fox (Baltimore, MD): Ex-correctional officers in downtown Baltimore charged with smuggling drugs, taking bribes**, Bryna Zumer, October 27, 2021, 5:00 PM

Two former correctional officers are facing up to 20 years in federal prison for allegedly conspiring with an inmate at Baltimore's downtown prison complex to smuggle drugs into the prison. The inmate also allegedly had a romantic relationship with one of the correctional officers, according to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. An "outside facilitator" - 35-year-old Cania Jefferson of Lansdowne - was also indicted as part of the conspiracy. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

See also: [WJZ-CBS \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**WKYT-CBS/CW (Lexington, KY): Suspect in Mt. Sterling bank robbery pleads guilty**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 4:45 PM

The suspect in two armed robberies in Mt. Sterling has pleaded guilty. The U.S. Attorney's Office says Larry Crump pled guilty to robbery, bank robbery, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a violent crime and being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WDIV-NBC (Detroit, MI): Adrian man, former Christian school teacher gets 24 years in prison on child porn charges**, Derick Hutchinson, October 27, 2021, 2:47 PM

An Adrian man and former Christian school teacher has been sentenced to 24 years in federal prison on child porn charges. Matthew D. Thomas, 46, of Adrian, admitted that over the course of three years, he convinced a minor victim to engage in sexually explicit conduct, according to authorities. He did so to create images of that conduct, officials said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KAUZ-CBS (Wichita Falls, TX): Nocona man sentenced to 30 years for sexual exploitation of missing boy**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 2:32 PM

Ricky Dale Howard was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison on Wednesday morning, a victory in a shocking case that has spanned almost a decade. U.S. District Judge Reed C. O'Connor gave the 59-year-old the maximum sentence for sexual exploitation of a minor. Howard had pleaded guilty to the charge in July, just hours after the court declared a mistrial due to juror injury.

[Continue Reading] See also: [KFDX-NBC \(Wichita Falls, TX\)](#)

**WBUR-FM (Boston, MA): Man sentenced to 5 years in prison after shooting gun during Boston protest**, Laney Ruckstuhl, October 27, 2021, 1:00 PM

A Boston man who repeatedly fired a gun in the direction of officers during a protest against police brutality last summer was sentenced to five years in prison, prosecutors said in a statement Wednesday. John Boampong, 37, previously pleaded guilty to interfering with a law enforcement officer during the commission of a civil disorder, receipt of a firearm by a person under indictment for a felony offense, and assaulting, resisting or impeding certain officers or employees, the Department of Justice said in a statement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WIFR-CBS (Rockford, IL): Robber found guilty of 2015 crime spree**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 12:28 PM

35-year-old Rickey Claybron was convicted Tuesday for his part in a series of robberies that took place between October and early November 2015. The first robbery took place on October 28, 2015 when Claybron, Deandre Haywood and another robber robbed the H&A Tobacco store at 1623 Broadway in Rockford. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**LAT: [OPINION] The federal bench has a staggering lack of LGBTQ judges**, Brad Sears, October 28, 2021, 6:00 AM

Today in California, where about 100 judges preside in federal trial and appellate courts, just two are openly LGBTQ. LGBTQ Californians make up over 5% of the state's adult population and over 11% of the state's youth. Yet there is only one openly LGBTQ judge among the state's 74 federal district court judges and only one among the 9th Circuit's 29 active appellate judges. It's time for our two senators and President Biden to address this lack of diversity on the bench.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Feds accuse Kansas 'cult' of running unpaid child labor network, feds say**, Joseph Choi, October 27, 2021, 8:01 PM

A federal grand jury in Kansas indicted eight people for their alleged involvement in a forced labor scheme involving businesses around the U.S. that were owned by an organization that has frequently been described as a "cult." According to the Department of Justice (DOJ), the eight indicted individuals who took part in running the United Nation of Islam (UNOI) coerced multiple minors into forced labor at UNOI-owned and operated businesses in states including Kansas, New York, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut and Ohio. Their alleged scheme took place from 2000 to 2012. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KCTV-CBS \(Kansas City, MO\)](#), [KSHB-NBC \(Kansas City, MO\)](#), [WDAF-Fox \(Kansas City, MO\)](#)

**The Times of Northwest Indiana: Former police union president accused of using excessive force during traffic stop**, Dan Carden, October 27, 2021, 11:00 PM

A former Gary police officer was indicted by a federal grand jury Wednesday for allegedly using excessive force against a man the officer had handcuffed and placed under arrest. Terry Peck, 46, the past president of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 61 in Gary, is accused of deprivation of rights under color of law — a federal crime with a maximum sentence of up to 10 years in prison. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Chicago Tribune](#)

## CIVIL LAW

**Bloomberg Law: Aclaris Investors Want Final OK of \$2.65 Million Age Spot Deal**, Jennifer Bennett, October 27, 2021, 5:01 PM

Aclaris Therapeutics Inc. and investors who say it misled them about an age spot treatment asked a federal judge in New York for final approval of their \$2.65 million settlement. Investors accuse the biopharmaceutical company of misleading them about Eskata, a concentrated hydrogen peroxide-based topical solution designed to treat raised seborrheic keratosis, colloquially known as age spots. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Tesla Workers' Wage, Forced Labor Suit Proceeds in Federal Court**, Kathleen Dailey, October 27, 2021, 4:29 PM

Nearly 15 foreign workers employed at a Tesla Inc. factory in California failed to convince a federal judge in San Jose to send back to state court a lawsuit alleging violations of wage and hour, labor trafficking, and workers' compensation laws. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Kaiser Permanente Defrauded Medicare of \$1 Billion, DOJ Alleges**, Lydia Wheeler, October 27, 2021, 3:14 PM

Members of Kaiser Permanente's health-care consortium defrauded Medicare out of about \$1 billion by altering patient medical records to add diagnoses after the fact that either didn't exist or were unrelated to patient visits, the Department of Justice is alleging. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KOIN-CBS \(Portland, OR\)](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Judge orders Devin Nunes' family to disclose who's paying for Iowa defamation lawsuit**, Gillian Brassil, October 27, 2021, 7:17 PM

A federal judge this week ordered Rep. Devin Nunes' family members to disclose how they are paying for their defamation lawsuit against a reporter and magazine publisher over a 2018 story about their Iowa farm. The judge will review the records detailing who is paying for the litigation behind closed doors before deciding whether to share them with lawyers for the reporter and publisher, meaning that there is a possibility that no one else — including those lawyers and their clients — will get to see the information. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**AP: US limits immigration arrests at schools, 'protected' areas**, Ben Fox, October 27, 2021, 10:00 PM

U.S. immigration authorities will limit arrests at schools, hospitals and other "protected" areas under guidelines issued Wednesday by the Department of Homeland Security, part of a broader effort to roll back the approach to enforcement under President Donald Trump. Agents and officers are being directed to avoid making arrests or carrying out searches at a range of sensitive locations "to the fullest extent possible," according to a memo from DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas outlining the policy. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNBC](#), [Courthouse News](#), [The Hill](#), [NYT](#), [Washington Times](#)

**AP: Federal jury: Immigrant detainees are owed minimum wage**, Gene Johnson, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

A federal jury has determined that The GEO Group must pay minimum wage — rather than \$1 a

day to immigration detainees who perform tasks like cooking and cleaning at its for-profit detention center in Washington state. The verdict came Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Tacoma in a second trial over the issue. The first trial ended in June with a deadlocked jury. "This multi-billion dollar corporation illegally exploited the people it detains to line its own pockets," Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson said in an emailed statement. "Today's victory sends a clear message: Washington will not tolerate corporations that get rich violating the rights of the people." [Continue Reading] See also: [Law360](#), [Newsweek](#)

**NYT: [OPINION] On Migration, Will the Americas Succeed Where Europe Could Not?,** Andrew Selee, October 27, 2021, 7:00 PM

While U.S. attention on immigration has been focused mostly on the large number of Central Americans arriving at the southwestern border over the past few years, the biggest migration flows in the hemisphere are actually happening farther to the south. As the arrival of thousands of Haitians in Del Rio, Texas, last month showed, the United States may well start seeing many more migrants from countries outside the Northern Triangle nations of Central America. [Continue Reading]

**CNN: Horse patrol investigation slow moving despite DHS promise to conclude in 'days',** Geneva Sands and Priscilla Alvarez,, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

An internal investigation into US Border Patrol agents on horseback who confronted migrants in Texas, remains ongoing, a month after Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas committed to concluding the probe within "days." Two agents at the center of the investigation have yet to be interviewed, according to National Border Patrol Council President Brandon Judd, who raised concerns about the pace of the investigation. But agents who were potential witnesses were interviewed within several days of the incident, Judd said. [Continue Reading]

**VOA: US Arresting Far Fewer Undocumented Immigrants Under Biden,** Aline Barros, October 27, 2021, 4:18 PM

Reports of dramatically reduced immigration enforcement inside the United States have prompted cheers from rights advocates and derision from critics of the Biden administration who are already incensed over record migration to the U.S.-Mexico border. [Continue Reading]

**Fox: ICE arrests dropped sharply in FY 2021 as Biden administration restricted enforcement,** Adam Shaw, October 27, 2021, 12:00 PM

Interior arrests of illegal immigrants by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) are expected to have dropped sharply in Fiscal Year 2021 to approximately 70,000 administrative arrests coinciding with restrictive new rules placed on agents by the Biden administration. FY 2021 ICE data has not yet been finalized, but it is on track to show around 70,000 administrative arrests by ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) when it is eventually released, Fox News has learned. [Continue Reading]

**Law360: Biden Admin. Announces 24 New Immigration Judges,** Alyssa Aquino, October 27, 2021, 8:17 PM

The Biden administration announced a new class of immigration judges on Wednesday, which includes several immigration attorneys with more than a decade of experience in nonprofit and private practice. [Continue Reading]

**Laredo Morning Times: Affidavit: Woman tried smuggling migrant child via Laredo bridge,**

César Rodriguez, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

A Dallas woman was arrested while trying to smuggle a child through a Laredo international bridge, according to an arrest affidavit. At about 9:33 p.m. Oct. 25, Rosa Elena Mendez-Castillo, 22, and a girl arrived at the Juarez-Lincoln International Bridge as passengers of a commercial bus. Mendez-Castillo identified the child as her friend's daughter, a U.S. citizen. She then presented a Texas birth certificate on behalf of the girl, according to court documents. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Blade (Washington, DC): Activists demand ICE release transgender, HIV-positive detainees**, Michael K. Lavers, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

Jessycka Ckatallea Letona is an indigenous transgender woman from Guatemala who fled persecution in her homeland because of her gender identity. She asked for asylum in the U.S. in 2016 when she entered the country in Eagle Pass, Texas. Ckatallea on Wednesday told the Washington Blade that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials placed her in a pod with 70 men at a privately-run detention center in Florence, Ariz. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KVEO-NBC (Brownsville, TX): Victims asked to come forward after 14-year-old allegedly sex trafficked in Arizona, 3 other states**, Anthony Victor Reyes, October 27, 2021, 9:00 PM

Alleged victims of two people arrested for sex trafficking are asked to come forward after a 14-year-old was rescued in Tucson early October. According to a criminal complaint obtained by News 4 Tucson Wednesday, 31-year-old Maurice Fitzgerald Alexander and 31-year-old Erica Lucia Navarro were taken into custody Oct. 21 after special agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations received a report from a 14-year-old about her being trafficked for the purposes of sexual exploitation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WFOR-CBS (Miami, FL): 21 Haitian Migrants Make It To Shore At Haulover Park**,

Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 7:40 PM

An investigation is underway after a group of migrants came ashore Wednesday morning. Images from Chopper 4 showed several people sitting around at Haulover Park. Cell phone video captured Haitian migrants coming ashore and running up the beach. The boat they got out of quickly headed out for deeper waters just before 11 a.m. U.S. Customs & Border Protection says that all the migrants will be interviewed and processed. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WHAS-ABC (Louisville, KY): [VIDEO] Louisville CBP: Counterfeit watches worth more than \$25 million confiscated**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers seized seven shipments and found 54 counterfeit designer watches worth \$26.86 million if authentic. [[Watch](#)]

**KENS-CBS (San Antonio, TX): DPS: Arresting migrants for criminal trespass is deterring more from making the journey to the US**, Vanessa Croix, October 27, 2021, 3:00 PM

Governor Greg Abbott launched Operation Lone Star earlier this year as a way to dodge federal immigration laws and enforce his own border security using state resources. As part of that plan, Gov. Abbott authorized Department of Public Safety Troopers to arrest migrants on state criminal trespass charges. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**WSJ: Justice Department Probes Visa's Relationships With Fintech Firms**, Brent Kendall

and Peter Rudegeair, October 27, 2021, 2:20 PM

The Justice Department is scrutinizing Visa Inc.'s V -6.92% relationships with large financial-technology companies as part of its antitrust investigation of the card giant, according to people familiar with the matter. Antitrust investigators are looking into the financial incentives that Visa gave Square Inc., Stripe Inc. and PayPal PYPL -3.32% Holdings Inc., the people said.

Investigators want to know if those deals kept the payments firms from using other card networks or money-movement technologies, the people said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Amazon Wants Expanded DC Antitrust Suit Tossed**, Matthew Perlman, October 27, 2021, 9:04 PM

Amazon.com Inc. has moved to toss the expanded lawsuit from D.C.'s attorney general accusing it of violating local antitrust law through contracts with third-party sellers and suppliers, saying the case seeks to undermine the company's pro-consumer approach. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Judge Suggests BCBS Members Steer Antitrust Claim Funds**, Bryan Koenig, October 27, 2021, 5:24 PM

An Alabama federal judge said Wednesday that he was unlikely to shift the claims administration process for the \$2.67 billion deal resolving subscriber antitrust claims against the Blue Cross Blue Shield network in the way suggested by the U.S. Department of Labor to protect health plans. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## ENVIRONMENT

**Law360: Wash. Tribe Can't Fish Skagit River, Court Rules**, Andrew Westney, October 27, 2021, 9:34 PM

A Seattle federal judge handed a quick win Tuesday to the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe in its challenge to fishing by the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, saying that Sauk-Suiattle's traditional fishing grounds didn't include the Skagit River. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: EPA Asks Court To Sign Off On \$5.7M Deal With Land O'Lakes**, Morgan Conley, October 27, 2021, 8:29 PM

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency asked an Oklahoma federal court Wednesday to sign off on a \$5.7 million deal to end its suit seeking to hold Land O'Lakes Inc. and one of its affiliates liable for the costs of cleaning up an oil refinery site previously owned by the dairy company. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHNT-CBS (Huntsville, AL): Attorneys said 3M lawsuit resolutions set stage for widespread chemical cleanup, monitoring in North Alabama**, Brian Lawson, October 27, 2021, 7:14 PM

The Decatur City Council and Morgan County commission approved lawsuit settlements Tuesday evening tied to claims of PFAS chemical contamination by 3M and other companies. The settlements were announced last week and include commitments by 3M of payments of \$98 million to the governments and Decatur Utilities, widespread investigation and cleanup of both ground and water. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**ABC: [VIDEO] US Marshals accused of raiding wrong apartment**, October 27, 2021, 7:00 PM

US Marshals searching for a murder suspect in Florida knocked on the wrong door and forced a mother holding her child out at gunpoint, intense video shows. Kada Staples, 22, said she was napping Friday at her Bradenton apartment with her 3-month-old child when armed US Marshals knocked at her door and ordered her to come out, saying "we know he's in there," WFLA reported. [\[Watch\]](#) See also: [NY Post](#), [WFLA-NBC \(Tampa, FL\)](#)

**WV News (Clarksburg, WV): State, federal law enforcement investigate explosive devices found on three towboats on Ohio River in West Virginia**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 11:00 PM

A fourth "bomb-like" device has been found on a towboat on the Ohio River, although police remain mum on how many of the devices have actually been active. [...] West Virginia State Police continue to investigate with the help of the U.S. Coast Guard, FBI and ATF. Those agencies have called on the public to be aware of any activities they witness along the river and report suspicious persons. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WRBL-CBS \(Columbus, GA\)](#), [WTRF-CBS/ABC \(Wheeling, WV\)](#)

**Cleveland Plain Dealer: Man arrested in connection with slaying of Cleveland mayor's grandson**, Adam Ferrise, October 27, 2021, 7:00 PM

U.S. Marshals and Cleveland police on Wednesday arrested a man in connection with the slaying of Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson's grandson. Robert Shepard, 29, is charged with aggravated murder. Details of his arrest have not yet been released. Shepard is accused of "directing" Frank Q. Jackson to the side yard of a home where someone ultimately shot him, according to court records. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courier Journal (Louisville, KY): FBI and Louisville police arrest 10 alleged members of local street gang**, Tessa Duvall, October 27, 2021, 5:07 PM

Ten people affiliated with an alleged local street gang have been indicted on various federal drug trafficking charges, a move which officials said will help combat violent crime in the city. "Make no mistake: these subjects are violent offenders," FBI Louisville Special Agent in Charge Jodi Cohen said Wednesday morning when announcing the charges. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WTVG-ABC (Toledo, OH): FBI searching for Toledo bank robbery suspects**, Unattributed, October 28, 2021, 5:58 AM

Authorities are searching for two men wanted in connection with a bank robbery on Wednesday afternoon. According to the FBI, two white males entered the Directions Credit Union on S. Hawley St. just after 1 p.m. They demanded money, with one suspect threatening the use of a weapon. They took an undisclosed amount of cash from various locations in the bank. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KSNV-NBC (Las Vegas, NV): FBI, Las Vegas Paiute Police ask for help to find missing teenager**, Lauren Clark, October 28, 2021, 3:30 AM

For nearly two days, all 15-year-old Nomi Armendariz's family can think about is if she's ok. "She's the first thing we're thinking about when we wake up," said her uncle Nino Alvarez. "She's what we're thinking about during the day, and when we go to sleep at night it's what we're thinking about." [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KLAS-CBS \(Las Vegas, NV\)](#)

**KWCH-CBS (Wichita, KS): Fentanyl contributing to rise in overdoses, overdose deaths,** Shawn Loging, October 27, 2021, 11:56 PM

A substance the size of two grains of salt is enough to be deadly and officials are seeing it more often. Last month the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) issued a public safety alert due to a sharp increase in the number of fake prescription pills that contain fentanyl or meth. The DEA says through September, it's seized more than 9.5 million of those fake pills. That's double the number seized during the previous two years combined. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KLAS-CBS (Las Vegas, NV): FBI arrests alleged Arizona, Henderson bank robber,** Sabrina Schnur, October 27, 2021, 11:46 PM

A man suspected of nearly two dozen bank robberies, including one in Henderson, was arrested by the FBI Monday. Agents in Phoenix arrested Richard Zumbro, 44, known as the "Back Again Bandit," after a robbery in Mesa, according to a statement from the FBI. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KSAZ-Fox \(Phoenix, AZ\)](#)

**WXYZ-ABC (Detroit, MI): DEA warning about a spike in meth and fentanyl in Michigan,** Nana-Sentuo Bonsu, October 27, 2021, 11:18 PM

The DEA is sending a warning about the amount of meth and fentanyl coming into Michigan. The Drug Enforcement Administration agents say they're seizing amounts that you would typically see at the southern border. "It's heartbreaking to see the astronomical number of overdoses," said Laura Solomon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRQE-CBS/Fox (Albuquerque, NM): FBI looking for suspect who robbed bank near Uptown,** Sabrina Schnur, October 27, 2021, 10:27 PM

The FBI is looking for a suspect who robbed a bank near Uptown on Wednesday afternoon. Investigators say a man entered the U.S. Bank near Louisiana and Menaul around 2:36 p.m. and gave tellers a demand note that stated he had a gun. The man was wearing a long-sleeve gray T-shirt and a dark ski cap a blue medical mask, a dark glove on his right hand, and blue jeans. Investigators describe the man as Hispanic in his 20s, approximately 5'9" tall, and weighing about 140 pounds. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (Concord, NH): NH Child Rapist, Accused Of Probation Violation, Quickly Arrested,** Tony Schinella, October 27, 2021, 9:47 PM

After tipsters saw this week's US Marshals-NH Joint Fugitive Task Force Fugitive of the Week post, he was quickly arrested. Rafael Rivera, 54, was wanted on a failure to register as a sex offender charge out of Nashua, after being convicted on a single felony child rape charge, and a probation violation warrant by the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office when he was featured on Wednesday. According to superior court records, he had a lengthy criminal history dating back to 2003 including felony convictions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WSAZ-NBC (Huntington, WV): Man arrested in connection with suspicious devices found on barges,** Andrew Colegrove, October 27, 2021, 9:43 PM

A man has been arrested in connection with suspicious devices found on barges on the Ohio River, FBI officials said Wednesday. The suspect was taken to the South Central Regional Jail in Charleston, West Virginia, after probable cause was found. He was arrested Wednesday in Marietta, Ohio, FBI officials say. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KGW-NBC (Portland, OR): FBI offers \$15,000 reward for information about Uber driver's**

**murder**, Mike Benner, October 27, 2021, 8:27 PM

A dreamer who had a passion to build a new life is how Ahmed Alzubidi remembers his friend, Dhulfiqar Mseer. Mseer, a 23-year-old refugee from Iraq, was shot and killed in Northeast Portland in December 2020. "We lost a good guy," Alzubidi said. "He was helping a lot of people and he was so close to starting a new family." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WABC-ABC (New York, NY): 5 arrested in scheme to mail cocaine to New York in children's lunchboxes**, Nana-Sentuo Bonsu, October 27, 2021, 8:01 PM

Five people are charged in connection to what prosecutors call a "sophisticated scheme" that involved cocaine in children's lunch boxes and school binders. [...] "Cocaine continues to be an illegal drug anchored in New York," said DEA Special Agent in Charge Ray Donovan. "This drug conspiracy is representative of how a trafficking organization capitalized during COVID by using mail services to transport illegal drugs into New York." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KUSA-NBC (Denver, CO): Recognize the scarves worn by 2 bank robbery suspects?**

**Police need your help**, Melissa Reeves, October 27, 2021, 6:41 PM

Two men masked in winter scarves robbed an Arvada bank, and the FBI and police said they need the public's help in identifying them. The FBI and Arvada Police (APD) said the men, both identified as white or Hispanic, entered the Chase Bank at 9611 W. 58th Ave. at 4:55 p.m. on Oct. 19. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WMGT-NBC (Macon, GA): Bibb County Sheriff's Office to receive ballistics tank thanks to PSN grant**, Hakey Janes, October 27, 2021, 5:00 PM

The United States Department of Justice sent out a release on Wednesday October 27th announcing that the Bibb County Sheriff's Office has been approved to buy a ballistics tank using the \$84,640 from the DOJ's Project Safe Neighborhood's (PSN) grant- money from this grant will also be put towards training, supplies, and other related needs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WFMZ (Allentown, PA): DEA agents visit middle school in Allentown**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 5:00 PM

Federal authorities were at an Allentown middle school Wednesday, but no one was in any trouble. Agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration flew a helicopter onto St. Thomas More School's soccer field for a special presentation for the kids. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WLOS-ABC (Asheville, NC): 'Alarming trend:' Violence up against law enforcement officers in Asheville**, across nation, Anjali Patel, October 27, 2021, 3:00 PM

According to a recently released FBI report, 60,105 law enforcement officers were assaulted on the job in 2020. That's 4,071 more than the 56,034 assaults reported in 2019 -- a 7.2% increase. Asheville Police Chief David Zack said it's a trend we're seeing locally, too. "The hostility that we've seen is unprecedented in my career," Zack said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WRC-NBC (Washington, DC): FBI Seeking Potential Sex Abuse Victims of Ex-CIA Employee**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 12:28 PM

The FBI and the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service are looking for more information and potentially more victims of a former CIA employee who pleaded guilty to sexually abusing women. Brian Jeffrey Raymond, 45, who worked for the CIA for "many years" and lived in the Washington, D.C., and San Diego areas, pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual abuse in which the victims were incapable of consent and one count of transporting obscene material. [\[Continue\]](#)

[\[Reading\]](#)

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**Reuters: Oklahoma must postpone execution set for Thursday, court rules**, Sharon Bernstein, October 27, 2021, 6:34 PM

Oklahoma must postpone the executions of condemned inmates John Grant and Julius Jones while a legal challenge to the state's lethal injection protocol is adjudicated, a U.S. appeals court panel ruled on Wednesday. The execution of Grant, which was scheduled for 4 p.m. on Thursday, will now go forward only if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the ruling by a three-judge panel of the 10th U.S Circuit Court of Appeals. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [AP](#), [KFOR-NBC \(Oklahoma City, OK\)](#), [NBC](#), [Tulsa World](#), [WaPo](#)

**NPR, Up First: [AUDIO] Biden Takes Agenda Overseas, Economic Growth Sputters?, 'Hard Time' Parole Challenges**, October 28, 2021, 5:43 AM

President Biden will make a delayed departure for Europe as Democratic lawmakers spar over his spending agenda (0:53). Economic forecasters predict lackluster U.S. quarterly growth numbers (5:00). And a federal parole commission creates unique challenges for prisoners seeking release from "hard time" in the nation's capital (8:40). [\[Listen\]](#)

## US SUPREME COURT

**Reuters: New York judge's gun permit denials trigger big U.S. Supreme Court case**, Andrew Chong, October 28, 2021, 5:43 AM

Justice Richard McNally Jr., a New York state trial court judge, knows he has a reputation among gun enthusiasts in the upstate county of Rensselaer where he presides as a tough sell on granting permits for people to carry concealed handguns without restrictions. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: Briefs Draw Battle Lines as Texas Abortion Law Nears Supreme Court**, Adam Liptak, October 27, 2021, 7:00 PM

Just days after the Supreme Court agreed to fast-track challenges to a Texas abortion law, setting an exceptionally abbreviated schedule, the parties filed a flurry of briefs on Wednesday attacking and defending the law. The court will hear arguments on Monday in two different challenges, one brought by abortion providers in the state and the other by the Justice Department. The court's scheduling order required the two sides to file their opening briefs simultaneously, with responses due on Friday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Bloomberg](#), [CNBC](#), [CNN](#), [Dallas Morning News](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Times](#)

**SCOTUSblog: No new relists, but you should read anyway**, John Elwood, October 27, 2021, 12:15 PM

All the action on the relist front after the Oct. 15 conference was on the "output" side. The Supreme Court granted review in *Ysleta del Sur Pueblo v. Texas*, 20-493, involving gaming on Native American lands, and *Denezpi v. United States*, 20-7622, involving whether the Court of Indian Offenses of the Ute Mountain Ute Agency is a federal agency for purposes of a criminal conviction in that court. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KRIS-NBC (Corpus Christi, TX): Ramirez case set for U.S. Supreme Court on Nov. 9**, Tim

Griffin, October 27, 2021, 11:12 PM

The case of convicted Corpus Christi murderer John Henry Ramirez has been set before the U.S. Supreme Court. Ramirez's case now will be argued before the nation's highest court on Nov. 9. Ramirez was convicted and sentenced to death for the 2004 robbery and stabbing of Pablo Castro, a convenience store clerk in Corpus Christi. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JUDICIAL NOMINEES & APPOINTMENTS

**Law360: Biden Announces 4 More US Attorney Nominees**, Ryan Boysen, October 27, 2021, 4:34 PM

President Joe Biden has nominated four more lawyers to serve as U. S. attorneys responsible for upholding federal laws in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Arizona and New Jersey. In a statement put out Wednesday afternoon, the White House said the four nominees were chosen for their professionalism, experience and credentials, as well as their "dedication to pursuing equal justice for all" and their "commitment to the independence of the Department of Justice. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

*North Jersey Record (Woodland Park, NJ): Biden nominates Democratic fundraiser*

**Sellinger to be U.S. attorney for New Jersey**, Steve Janoski, October 27, 2021, 9:02 PM  
Philip Sellinger, a Morristown attorney and well-known Democratic fundraiser, has been nominated by President Joe Biden to serve as the next U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey. Biden's choice was widely expected: Sellinger, 67, is a member of the party's state committee and served as a delegate for the president at the 2020 Democratic National Convention. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**KOTV-CBS (Tulsa, OK): Native Rights Activists Protest Tulsa's Decision To Revisit McGirt Ruling**, Drake Johnson, October 27, 2021, 10:44 PM

Native rights activists are planning a protest against the city of Tulsa's decision to ask the U.S. Supreme Court to revisit its ruling on tribal jurisdiction. The protest is planned during the city's Indian Affairs Commission meeting at 6:30. The city and state claim the ruling has hampered their ability to prosecute crimes involving Native Americans. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KJRH-NBC \(Tulsa, OK\)](#), [KRMG-AM \(Tulsa, OK\)](#)

*Courthouse News: Minnesota appeals court hears mine-permit dispute*, Andy Monserud, October 27, 2021, 10:00 PM

The Minnesota Court of Appeals heard arguments Wednesday morning in a complicated collection of cases regarding a controversial proposed mine in the state's northern reaches. In a Zoom hearing, attorneys for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and mining company PolyMet defended the permitting process for the proposed NorthMet copper-nickel mine from charges that the regulator had glossed over important details when it approved water-protection permits for the mine. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION

## **Marijuana Moment: Biden Administration Open To Safe Consumption Facilities For Illegal Drugs, Top Federal Health Official Says**, Kyle Jaeger, October 27, 2021, 5:00 PM

The nation's top health official indicated on Wednesday that the Biden administration will not block the establishment safe injection sites where people could use illicit drugs in a medically supervised environment as a means of curtailing the overdose epidemic but it will ultimately be up to the Justice Department to follow through, with a brief due in a key court case next week. As the administration rolls out a new plan to address the health crisis which will involve more modest harm reduction reforms like providing fentanyl testing and syringe access Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra says safe consumption facilities aren't off the table. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

### **Law360: Giant Eagle Strikes Deal To Leave Ohio Opioid Bellwether**, Emily Field, October 27, 2021, 3:58 PM

Pharmacy chain Giant Eagle on Wednesday said it had reached a settlement to end allegations that its opioid practices contributed to a public nuisance in two Ohio counties and to leave the first-ever federal jury trial against pharmacies in the opioid litigation, according to sources familiar with the matter. The amount of the deal has yet to be disclosed. Representatives for Giant Eagle, a regional pharmacy chain, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Counsel for Giant Eagle verbally announced the settlement Wednesday morning, according to Mark Lanier of The Lanier Law Firm, counsel for the counties. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **The Hill: Biden set to meet pope as US abortion debate rages**, Alex Gangitano, October 27, 2021, 6:00 PM

President Biden, only the second Catholic president in U.S. history, will have an audience with Pope Francis on Friday, a meeting that comes amid increasing focus on the issue of abortion rights, which Biden has made a priority of defending. The Supreme Court has agreed to review Texas's six-week abortion ban after legal challenges from the Biden administration, and the president faces a lawsuit in Ohio for overturning a Trump-era ban on abortion referrals, all while U.S. Catholic bishops are debating whether Biden should be denied communion over his stance on the procedure. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CONGRESS**

### **Reuters: U.S. Senate confirms 2 more Biden judicial picks in biggest week yet**, Nate Raymond, October 27, 2021, 8:14 PM

The U.S. Senate on Wednesday confirmed two more of President Joe Biden's judicial picks in the biggest week yet for his nominees winning approval, as Democrats race to put their stamp on the bench while they maintain their narrow control of the chamber. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **WaPo: New federal judges in D.C., Va. and Md. show Biden's push to diversify bench**, Rachel Weiner and Spencer S. Hsu, October 27, 2021, 6:34 PM

A veteran prosecutor and two longtime public defenders were both confirmed by the U.S. Senate

to federal judgeships in the D.C. region this week. The three new judges, along with others who recently took the bench, showcase efforts by the Biden administration to change the makeup of the federal judiciary. "Biden pledged to nominate and confirm people who are diverse in terms of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ideology and particularly experience," said Carl Tobias, a professor at the University of Richmond School of Law. But, he said, "there is a pattern" of heightened GOP opposition to candidates with backgrounds as public defenders and civil rights advocates. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: OCTOBER 27, 2021

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- The bullet that fatally struck "Rust" cinematographer Halyna Hutchins and wounded director Joel Souza has been recovered from Souza's shoulder, authorities said. It's still unclear how the bullet ended up in actor Alec Baldwin's gun on the movie set. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Multiple tornadoes swept across East Texas and adjacent Acadiana in Louisiana on Wednesday morning into the afternoon amid a swarm of thunderstorms. The severe weather is part of major storm system gaining strength in the central states and charging eastward that will bring another dose of rain and windy conditions for the East Coast on Friday into the weekend. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- President Joe Biden is urging Democrats to wrap up talks and bring the social services and climate change bill "over the finish line" before he departs Thursday for global summits overseas. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- According to the CDC, new Covid-19 cases in the US are down 57 percent since their last peak on September 1 and 16 percent over the past week. The Food and Drug Administration is expected to authorize a vaccine for children 5 to 11 soon, and millions of child-sized doses are being readied to ship out to clinics across the country. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- Gen. Mark A. Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, called China's recent test of a hypersonic weapons system "very concerning" and "very close" to a Sputnik moment as Beijing rapidly expands its military capabilities. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- A jury has been selected in the civil trial that will decide whether organizers behind the August 2017 "Unite the Right" rally will be held responsible for the violence that took place in Charlottesville, Virginia. The plaintiffs, who include town residents and counterprotesters injured in two days of clashes, contend the organizers of the rally engaged in a conspiracy. The nine individuals are seeking "compensatory and statutory" damages for physical and

emotional injuries they suffered. [[CBS](#)]

- President Biden's promised gun safety measures suffered a major setback when his nominee to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives was blocked in the Senate. The former nominee, David Chipman, criticizes lawmakers and the gun industry in an exclusive interview with Norah O'Donnell. [[CBS](#)]
- Some parents in Loudoun County, Virginia are demanding new leadership after they say a sexual assault at a county school was covered up by administrators to advance a transgender bathroom policy. Gubernatorial candidates are now putting education at the center of their campaigns as other issues, including mask mandates, have caused outrage among parents. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- “Democrats Drop Paid Leave From \$1.75 Trillion Proposal” [[WSJ](#), [WaPo](#), [NYT](#)]
- “China’s Weapon Tests Close to a ‘Sputnik Moment,’ U.S. General Says” [[NYT](#)]
- “China Hurries to Burn More Coal, Putting Climate Goals at Risk” [[NYT](#)]

**END**

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**Department of Justice  
Morning News Digest  
October 27, 2021  
7:00 AM EDT**

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**WASHINGTON & DOJ SCHEDULE: OCTOBER 27, 2021**

**DOJ**

- 10:00 AM: Hearing on 'Oversight of the Department of Justice', with testimony from Attorney General Merrick Garland. Rm 106, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC, United States.

**US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS**

WSJ: [EDITORIAL] About Those Domestic-Terrorist Parents, Editorial Board, October 26, 2021,

7:03 PM

It took a few weeks, but the National School Boards Association has apologized for sending a letter to President Biden suggesting that “threats and acts of violence” at school board meetings might be “domestic terrorism.” The NSBA now admits there was “no justification for some of the language included in the letter,” which could have parents investigated under the Patriot Act for trying to influence what their children are taught. [...] The NSBA has owned up to its mistake, but what about the Biden Administration? Days after the NSBA letter was sent, Attorney General Merrick Garland directed the FBI and U.S. Attorneys to intervene—without spelling out the federal authority or hard evidence for what the AG called a “disturbing spike in harassment, intimidation, and threats of violence.” This directive still stands. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **CNN: Merrick Garland will appear before Senate panel amid pressure on Nassar probe, Bannon and school boards memo**, Tierney Sneed, October 27, 2021, 6:00 AM

Attorney General Merrick Garland is testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, where he is likely to face fierce Republican blowback to a memo he issued addressing threats to school boards, as well as bipartisan heat for the FBI's handling of the Larry Nassar probe. Garland's appearance comes as the Justice Department weighs whether to prosecute Steve Bannon -- a close ally of former President Donald Trump -- after the House voted to hold him in contempt for not cooperating in its January 6 investigation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Fox](#)

## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

### **Reuters: Iraq war veteran pleads guilty to attacking U.S. Capitol policeman on Jan. 6**, Mark Hosenball, October 26, 2021, 3:41 PM

Mark Leffingwell, 52, of Seattle, was arrested on federal riot-related charges shortly after Jan. 6, but was released on bail after a brief period in detention. Leffingwell pleaded guilty to attacking Capitol Police officer Daniel Amendola during the assault on the U.S. seat of government, although he said at Tuesday's hearing before U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson that he pushed two police officers after they pushed him and then pushed one of them again. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **Reuters: More than 150 arrested in global crackdown on Darknet traders: Dutch media**, Stephanie van den Berg, October 26, 2021, 11:46 PM

At least 150 people have been arrested by European and U.S. authorities after a joint crackdown on traders of drugs, weapons and other illicit goods on darknet e-commerce sites, Dutch media reported Tuesday citing police agency Europol. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Al Jazeera](#), [AP](#), [Axios](#), [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [Daily Caller](#), [Fox](#), [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#), [LAT](#), [Newsweek](#), [NBC](#), [NY Daily News](#), [NY Post](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [The Portland Press Herald \(Portland, OR\)](#), [USA Today](#), [WBBJ-ABC/CBS \(Jackson, TN\)](#), [WSJ](#)

### **NYT: An Oath Keeper Was at the Capitol Riot. On Tuesday, He's on the Ballot**, Tracey Tully, October 27, 2021, 5:00 AM

Edward Durfee Jr. is a member of the far-right militia and was at the Capitol on Jan. 6. He is running for office in New Jersey anyway. Edward Durfee Jr. is many things: a former Marine, a libertarian who distrusts the Federal Reserve and an active member of the far-right Oath Keepers militia who leads the group's northern New Jersey region and was outside the Capitol during the Jan. 6 attack. He is also running for the New Jersey State Assembly as a Republican. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

### **WSJ: U.S. Bans China Telecom Over National Security Concerns**, Dan Strumpf, October 27, 2021, 12:59 AM

The Federal Communications Commission revoked the license that allows China's largest telecom operator to do business in the U.S., citing national security concerns, dealing the latest in a series of blows against major Chinese businesses in the country. The FCC said it was taking action against the

state-owned China Telecom Corp.'s U.S. business because the company was "subject to exploitation, influence, and control by the Chinese government." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

#### **LAT: Huntington Beach resident Kim Sorgente arrested by FBI on suspicion of Jan. 6 involvement**, Sara Cardine, October 26, 2021, 9:12 PM

Huntington Beach resident Kim Michael Sorgente — awaiting trial in Orange County on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon following a December Trump rally — was arrested by FBI agents Monday in connection with the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol riots. Rukelt Dalberis with the FBI's Los Angeles field office said Tuesday the arrest took place late Monday afternoon in the city of Santa Ana but could not provide further details. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KCBS-CBS \(Los Angeles, CA\)](#)

#### **Bloomberg: DOJ Curbs Trump-Era Zeal for China Spy Probes as Cases Sputter**, Chris Strohm, October 27, 2021, 2:00 AM

The Trump administration went all-in on what it called its "China Initiative," with the Justice Department prosecuting Chinese and Chinese-American researchers it said were stealing U.S. secrets while hiding their links to the government in Beijing and the People's Liberation Army. Now, after a number of those cases fizzled in court and amid growing criticism that the initiative leads to discrimination against Asian-Americans, Justice Department leadership under Attorney General Merrick Garland is moving more cautiously. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

#### **Politico: California man arrested for allegedly threatening Matt Gaetz**, Josh Gerstein, Marc Caputo And Kyle Cheney, October 26, 2021, 9:28 PM

A California man was arrested last week for allegedly making a death threat to Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) earlier this year, just days after the Jan. 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol. Authorities arrested Eugene Huelsman, 58, of Thousand Oaks, last week in the Los Angeles area on an indictment returned in May by a federal grand jury in Pensacola, Fla., court records show. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Newsweek](#)

#### **Washington Times: John Durham to call James Baker, former FBI counsel, in Hillary Clinton lawyer case: Report**, Emily Zantow, October 26, 2021, 8:37 PM

Former FBI General Counsel James Baker will likely be called to testify in the case against former Clinton campaign attorney Michael Sussmann, who is charged with lying to advance the bureau's Trump-Russia collusion probe. A federal grand jury indicted Mr. Sussmann last month on charges that he hid the fact he was representing Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign when he told the FBI he had evidence of secret communications between then-presidential candidate Donald Trump and Russia's Alfa Bank.. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

#### **Washington Times: Ex-Air War College professor with access to secrets pleads guilty in China case**, Bill Gertz, October 26, 2021, 4:00 PM

A civilian professor at the Air Force's Air War College with a secret level security clearance pleaded guilty this week to lying to federal agents about his contacts with a government official in China. Xiaoming Zhang, who is no longer employed at the war college on Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, also hid his attempted recruitment by the Shanghai government official during interviews with the FBI and Office of Personnel Management, according to a plea agreement in the case reached Monday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

#### **Patch (Braintree, MA): FBI Visited Braintree School Board Hopeful After Capitol Riot**, Jimmy Bentley, October 27, 2021, 12:11 AM

A candidate for Braintree School Committee and former teacher at Braintree High School said he has been visited twice by the FBI since participating in the Jan. 6 rally in support of President Donald Trump that turned violent as some attendees stormed the Capitol. Matthew Lynch resigned from his teaching position in February. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KMTV-CBS (Omaha, NE): FBI office in Omaha warns cyber attacks are on the rise, urges businesses to plan ahead**, Jon Kipper, October 26, 2021, 7:03 PM

Numbers show that as Americans embrace technology and the digital world more and more every year, criminals are taking advantage of it. "It's fair to say, five, six, seven years ago, required a much high level of sophistication to launch a ransomware attack. Where now, criminal actors have a much easier time finding tools," said Eugene Kowal, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Omaha Field Office. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [KFAB \(Omaha, NE\)](#), [WOWT-NBC \(Omaha, NE\)](#)

**WSET-ABC (Lynchburg, VA): Former Rocky Mount officer charged in Capitol riot seeks home detention**, Maggi Marshall, October 26, 2021, 5:00 PM

A former Rocky Mount police officer charged in connection to the Capitol riots is asking a federal judge to move him from jail to home detention. Thomas Robertson's attorney stated in a court document filed Monday that Robertson's mental and physical health have declined since being in jail. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**WaPo: Jan. 6 committee expected to subpoena lawyer who advised Trump, Pence on how to overturn election**, Jacqueline Alemany, October 26, 2021, 9:41 PM

The House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol is expected to subpoena John Eastman, the pro-Trump legal scholar who outlined scenarios for denying Joe Biden the presidency, according to the panel's chairman. "It will happen," Chair Bennie G. Thompson (D-Miss.) said in an interview Tuesday of a subpoena for Eastman, who played a key role in the legal operation that was run out of a "command center" at the Willard Hotel in Washington in the days and hours leading up to Jan. 6. Thompson did not provide a timeline for when the subpoena will be issued. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [NPR](#)

**WSJ: [EDITORIAL] Steve Bannon's Contempt for Congress**, Editorial Board, October 26, 2021, 6:55 PM

The challenge in polarized political times is to keep your eye on democratic institutions and their proper authority. That's the reason to applaud the nine House Republicans who voted last week to hold Steve Bannon, the sometime Donald Trump counselor, in contempt for defying a Congressional subpoena. The subpoena was issued by the special committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, and there are no doubt some partisan motives at play. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Jan. 6 investigators postpone push for some Trump records**, Kyle Cheney, October 27, 2021, 4:30 AM

The Jan. 6 select committee is temporarily backing off a request for about 50 pages of Trump White House records, even though the National Archives concluded the documents were relevant to the panel's investigation. Lawmakers and aides say they want to avoid a complicated and possibly protracted negotiation over documents related to the Capitol attack that might be legitimately shielded by executive privilege, attorney-client privilege or other reasons. House investigators intend to seek the documents later but opted to "defer" the request after talks with President Joe Biden's White House. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**CNN: At least five former Trump White House staffers are talking to the House January 6 committee**, Kaitlan Collins, October 26, 2021, 9:00 PM

At least five former Trump administration staffers have voluntarily spoken with the House committee investigating the January 6 attack on the US Capitol, CNN has learned. Those discussions come as lawyers working for the committee have also reached out to a range of other Trump aides to inquire whether they would be interested in speaking with the committee voluntarily, without the threat of a

subpoena. The five former staffers who have had conversations with the committee have done so with either members or their staff. Some believe they have information worth sharing, while others are hoping to avoid being legally compelled to talk to the committee. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Jan. 6 investigators privately question Bannon associate**, Betsy Woodruff Swan, Heather Caygle And Kyle Cheney, October 26, 2021, 4:18 PM

Dustin Stockton, a conservative activist linked to Steve Bannon, is fielding questions Monday from congressional investigators scrutinizing the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, according to two sources familiar with the interview. A spokesperson for the committee declined to comment. Stockton did not immediately respond to a request for comment. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL LAW

**AP: Alabama man convicted in Louisiana on child porn charges**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 6:00 PM

A federal jury in Louisiana convicted an Alabama man on Tuesday of creating child pornography by coercing a girl under age 12 to send him sexually explicit images of herself. William Malone, 45, of Mobile, was convicted in Lafayette on five counts of producing child pornography and two related charges, federal prosecutors said in a news release. The federal public defenders who represented Malone did not immediately respond to a request for comment. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**AP: Feds: Ohio stock trader fleeced Twitter users in pump-&-dump**, Larry Neumeister, October 26, 2021, 4:00 PM

An Ohio trader in penny stocks was arrested Tuesday on charges alleging he earned over \$1 million illegally by lying repeatedly to his over 70,000 Twitter followers to get them to buy stocks in what authorities are calling a new social media-infused twist on an old stock manipulation game. Steven Gallagher, 50, of Maumee, Ohio, was charged in New York federal court with securities fraud, wire fraud and market manipulation. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Leader Of \$30M Drug Money Laundering Scheme Gets 15 Yrs, Edward Moreno**, October 26, 2021, 9:41 PM

A man accused of participating in a conspiracy to launder at least \$30 million in drug money was sentenced to 15 years in prison Tuesday, the U. S. Department of Justice announced. Xizhi Li, 48, allegedly led the conspiracy to launder money on behalf of transnational drug trafficking organizations from 2009 to 2019. According to prosecutors, Li made agreements with drug traffickers to move money through a system of foreign and domestic front companies and fraudulent bank accounts. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: Therapists Allegedly Took Millions From Program That Helped Kids With Developmental Delays**, Natalie Colarrosi, October 26, 2021, 5:15 PM

Nine therapists in New York have been arrested and charged with stealing millions of dollars from a state health program that aims to help very young children who have developmental delays, federal prosecutors said Tuesday. The therapists stole over \$3 million from the New York State Early Intervention Program over more than four years, according to the Department of Justice (DOJ). The EIP provides developmental services to newborn children and toddlers, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, special instruction and social work services. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**See also:** [Brooklyn Paper](#), [NY Daily News](#), [Staten Island Advance](#)

**The Record (Serving Bergen, NJ): Two Passaic County men admit roles in \$27 million drug money laundering scheme**, Nicholas Katzban, October 26, 2021, 8:16 PM

Two Passaic County residents admitted their roles in a \$27 million money laundering scheme that sought

to transfer drug proceeds to cartels overseas after disguising the source of the funds using cashiers checks, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. Erickson Checo-Almonte, 31, of Passaic, and Jordano Abreu-Diaz, 24, of Clifton, entered separate guilty pleas in federal court on Monday, acknowledging they laundered as much as \$3.9 million in illicit proceeds. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Register (New Haven, CT): Meriden man charged with trafficking cocaine**, Liz Hardaway, October 26, 2021, 8:00 PM

A city man was charged Tuesday after law enforcement seized about five kilograms of cocaine linked to the man, according to federal prosecutors. In October 2020, law enforcement identified suspicious packages that were mailed from Puerto Rico to a Meriden address. Meriden man Jean Carlos Mercado, 32, picked up one package that month, according to Acting United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut Leonard Boyle. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Daily Gazette (Schenectady, NY): Guilderland man sexually exploited child, feds say; Federal charges follow similar state police accusations**, Steven Cook, October 26, 2021, 7:00 PM

A man arrested last week on accusations he sexually assaulted a child in Albany County is now facing federal charges, prosecutors said. John H. Ruthosky, 36, of Guilderland, is facing federal charges he sexually exploited the child. He appeared in federal court Tuesday and give up his right to a detention hearing. He will remain in custody pending trial. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WRGB-CBS \(Schenectady, NY\)](#)

**Paterson Press: 10th member of Paterson's 230 Boys gang sentenced to prison in drug conspiracy case**, Joe Malinconico, October 26, 2021, 6:12 PM

Jimir Ricks on Tuesday became the 10th defendant sentenced to prison in federal authorities' ongoing drug conspiracy case targeting the 230 Boys, a violent 4th Ward street gang. Ricks, 26, was sentenced to five years in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Brian R. Martinotti, after previously pleading guilty to conspiring to distribute heroin, fentanyl and cocaine, according to a press release issued by acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Daily Gazette (Schenectady, NY): Feds: Schenectady man sentenced in Molotov cocktail attack that happened following protests; Given 7-plus years**, Steven Cook, October 26, 2021, 7:00 PM

A Schenectady man was sentenced to more than seven years in federal prison for a June 2020 Molotov cocktail attack that happened the morning following protests related to the death of George Floyd. The sentence imposed against Joel Malek represented the top end of what prosecutors had asked for in the case, a total term imposed of 7 years, 3 months. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Times Union \(Albany, NY\)](#), [WTEN-ABC \(Albany, NY\)](#)

**Pioneer Press (Saint Paul, MN): St. Paul sex offender caught with child porn, indicted by federal grand jury**, Deanna Deniger, October 26, 2021, 5:34 PM

A St. Paul sex offender has been indicted by a federal grand jury for receiving and possessing child pornography, acting U.S. Attorney W. Anders Folk announced Tuesday. Drayton Dean Wilson, 28, is charged with one count of receiving child porn and two counts of possession. According to court documents, he downloaded multiple images of child sexual abuse in 2020. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WCCO-CBS \(Minneapolis, MN\)](#)

**El Paso Times: Sinaloa drug cartel members found guilty, including 1 for role in 'Wedding Murders' case**, Aaron Martinez, October 26, 2021, 5:20 PM

Two reputed Sinaloa drug cartel members were convicted for their roles in the criminal organization. One also was convicted in the killing of a U.S. citizen in the "Wedding Murders" case. Mario Iglesias-Villegas, also known as the "Grim Reaper," and Arturo Shows Urquidi, also known as "Chous," were convicted on

several drug trafficking, weapon and money laundering charges. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WV News (Clarksburg, WV): Upshur County, West Virginia, man looking at lengthy fed prison term in carjacking**, Matt Harvey, October 26, 2021, 5:00 PM

[...] Edwin Mack Taylor, 54, of Elkins, has pleaded guilty before Alois to distribution of methamphetamine in January 2020 in Randolph County, according to Ihlenfeld. Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Warner prosecuted. The Mountain Region Drug Task Force investigated. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTVX-ABC (Salt Lake City, UT): Utah man sentenced to prison for \$850k investment scheme**, Kiah Armstrong, October 26, 2021, 10:19 PM

A Utah man has been sentenced to 42 months in prison for orchestrating an investment scheme involving a start-up mining and precious metals company. Along with serving a prison term, Andrew Malcolm Lovett, 60, a former resident of Cornelius, North Carolina, was ordered to serve two years under court supervision after he is released from prison and to pay more than \$820,000 as restitution, the U.S. Department of Justice said in a press release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTLA-CW (Los Angeles, CA): Arcadia woman pleads guilty in fraud scheme misappropriating \$23M intended for Coachella hotel, condo development**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 9:08 PM

An Arcadia woman pleaded guilty Tuesday to a federal criminal charge for overseeing a scheme in which she misappropriated nearly \$23 million in funds intended for a hotel and condominium complex in the Coachella Valley. Ruixue "Serena" Shi, 37, pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud, according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. Shi has been in federal custody since August 2020. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WAVY-NBC (Portsmouth, VA): Former Ford's Colony financial officer in Williamsburg convicted of filing false tax returns**, Julius Ayo, October 26, 2021, 8:57 PM

A Williamsburg man has been convicted of filing false tax returns and failing to file a tax return. A federal jury convicted 62-year-old Michael J. Tiernan of the charges and who is currently facing a maximum sentence of seven years in prison. According to court records, Tiernan was a financial officer for a number of business entities related to Ford's Colony, including Ford's Colony Realty, LLC, a large resort community in Williamsburg, from at least 2014 through 2017. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJZ-CBS (Baltimore, MD): Baltimore County Officer Charged For Allegedly Seeking & Accepting Bribes For Falsely Certifying Completion Of Firearm Training**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 8:15 PM

A Baltimore County Police Officer has been charged with allegedly seeking and taking bribes to falsely certify that applicants for Maryland's handgun qualifying license and carry permits had completed the required training, officials announced Tuesday. William R. Johnson, 32, of Baltimore, has been charged with honest services wire fraud. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WMAR-ABC \(Baltimore, MD\)](#)

**KNSD-NBC (San Diego, CA): Chula Vista Couple Preyed on Pregnant Woman, Bilked Medi-Cal for More Than a Million Dollars**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 8:00 PM

A Chula Vista couple who took part in a scheme that defrauded pregnant women and bilked the state's Medi-Cal program out of more than \$1 million were sentenced Tuesday to federal prison terms. Earlier this year, Melissa Alvarez Torres, 33, and Jose Luis Olmos Hernandez, 36, pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to commit health care fraud and wire fraud for selling bogus insurance to pregnant women living in Mexico. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Patch (West Hartford, CT): Man With West Hartford Ties Gets 12 Years In Fentanyl Case**, Chris Dehnel, October 26, 2021, 7:35 PM

A man implicated in a drug trafficking case with West Hartford connections has been sentenced to more

than 12 years in prison, a federal prosecutor said Tuesday. Leonard C. Boyle, acting United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, said that Juan Reyes, 28, who last resided in West Hartford, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Robert N. Chatigny in Hartford to 151 months in prison, followed by five years of supervised release, in a trafficking case involving fentanyl. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (St. Pete, FL): Crack Cocaine Dealer Sentenced To Over 14 Years In Prison**, Skyla Luckey, October 26, 2021, 5:45 PM

A 40—year-old St. Petersburg man received his prison sentence from a U.S. District judge in Tampa Tuesday after pleading guilty for selling crack cocaine and being a convicted felon in possession of guns, a State Attorney's Office news release said. Leon Grant, Jr., committed multiple robberies of credit unions in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties in 2019, law enforcement officers said. Investigators got a search warrant January 22, 2020, and searched Grant's St. Pete home at an undisclosed location.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WCCO-CBS (Minneapolis, MN): Man, Woman Each Sentenced To Several Years In Prison For Sex Trafficking Minor**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 5:39 PM

A man and a woman were each sentenced to several years in prison in connection to the sex trafficking a minor at a Twin Cities hotel, federal prosecutors announced Tuesday. The U.S. Attorney's Office District of Minnesota said that 27-year-old Maria Candelaria Zambrano Zavala was sentenced to 12 years in prison and 51-year-old Humberto Rangel-Torres was sentenced to six years in prison. U.S. District Judge Eric C. Tostrud also sentenced the two to supervised release, 10 years and five years respectively. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBOY-NBC/ABC (Clarksburg, WV): Upshur County man pleads guilty to federal carjacking and gun charges**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 5:26 PM

An Upshur County man has admitted to federal carjacking and firearms charges, United States Attorney William Ihlenfeld announced. Chad Newcome, 40 of Rock Cave, pleaded guilty, Tuesday, to one count of "Carjacking" and one count of "Use of Firearm During and in Relation to a Crime of Violence." Newcome admitted to attempting to steal a 2018 Dodge Ram Truck on March 10, 2021 in Upshur County. Newcome used a 12-gauge shotgun during the carjacking. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WDEL (Wilmington, DE): 'A heinous shadow industry' | Clayton man, 72, facing federal child pornography charges**, DJ McAneny, October 26, 2021, 5:03 PM

A 72-year-old Clayton man is facing federal child pornography-related charges, the U.S. Department of Justice announced Tuesday. According to the USDOJ, Rick Schriber received and distributed child pornography from September 2018 through August 2019 via email exchanges with another individual. A search warrant executed at Schriber's residence on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, turned up evidence of child pornography leading to his arrest, authorities said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WMĐT-ABC \(Salisbury, MD\)](#)

**WTVR-CBS (Richmond, VA): He robbed 4 grocery stores in 4 days. Now he'll spend 11 years in prison**, Scott Wise, October 26, 2021, 3:57 PM

The Richmond man who robbed four Central Virginia grocery stores over a four-day span in November 2020 was sentenced to 11 years in prison. In addition to the grocery store robberies, Michael B. Bishop, 48, stole his friend's pickup truck and led police on a pursuit on I-95 and I-295 prior to his arrest, according to court documents. The crime spree began November 20, 2020, when Bishop stole the truck. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WHBQ-Fox \(Memphis, TN\)](#)

**WETM-NBC (Elmira, NY): Kalamazoo man admits to flying to New York to meet child for sex**, George Stockburger, October 26, 2021, 3:43 PM

A 76-year-old Kalamazoo man has pleaded guilty to going from Michigan to south central New York

state to engage in “illicit sexual conduct with an 11-year-old child,” federal authorities say. As part of Robert Hardin’s plea, according to a U.S. Attorney’s Office in New York state, he admitted that from July through August this year, he exchanged explicit messages online and via text with an undercover officer posing as the mother of an 11-year-old girl. In these messages, authorities said, Hardin “expressed a desire to engage in sexually explicit conduct with the child.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WJLA-ABC (Washington, DC): Md. woman gets 2 years for stealing federal funds from a violence-against-women program**, Don Parker, October 26, 2021, 3:00 PM

After pleading guilty to taking federal funds intended for a violence-against-women program and other entities, Glenda Hodges was sentenced Monday to two years in prison and ordered to forfeit funds and pay restitution. According to her plea agreement, Hodges, 72, of Clinton, Md., committed additional fraud while she was on pretrial release on wire fraud charges. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WJAR-NBC (Providence, RI): Rhode Island inmate who sold meth, gun from behind bars sent to federal prison**, Aaron Martinez, October 26, 2021, 3:00 PM

A Rhode Island state prison inmate who sold a gun and methamphetamine to someone outside the prison via telephone was sentenced to 48 months in federal prison Monday. Tyler Bagley, 29, pleaded guilty to firearm and drug trafficking charges on July 16, 2021. The Department of Justice announced Tuesday that in October 2020, Bagley called his then-girlfriend, 39-year-old Bernice Chase of Providence. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Daily Voice (Ridgewood, NJ): Feds: Accomplice Of NJ Bank Employee Admits Swiping \$600,000 From Customers With Stolen IDs**, Jerry DeMarco, October 26, 2021, 2:48 PM

A Bronx man admitted that he conspired with a South Jersey bank employee to steal more than \$600,000 from unsuspecting victims after swiping their IDs, federal authorities said. Lamar Melhado, 32, used screenshots of customers’ information and signatures that were supplied to him and others by Jamere Hill-Birdsong of Gloucester City, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig said Thursday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WBTV-CBS (Charlotte, NC): ‘Bloods’ member sentenced to over 13 years on Charlotte drug trafficking charges**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 1:36 PM

A Charlotte man who is a member of the United Blood Nation, aka “Bloods,” gang was sentenced to more than a decade behind bars for drug trafficking, according to prosecutors. Robert Allen McClinton, 32, was ordered to serve 135 months in prison and eight years of supervised release, William Setzer, acting U.S. attorney for the western district of North Carolina, announced Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**WaPo: ‘Are you familiar with Antifa?’ How to choose an impartial jury when white supremacists are on trial**, Ellie Silverman, October 26, 2021, 10:54 PM

From his bench in the federal courtroom, Judge Norman K. Moon questioned the potential jurors one by one, asking their opinions on Black Lives Matter and antifascists. He dug into the answers they gave on the jury questionnaire, which had included the subject of monuments to the Confederacy: Were these statues of Robert E. Lee — and others who defended slavery — relics of Southern pride? Were they historical monuments? Did they represent symbols of racism? [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: Prosecution appeals dismissal of Bijan Ghaisar manslaughter case vs. Park Police officers**, Tom Jackman, October 26, 2021, 7:06 PM

Prosecutors with the Virginia Attorney General’s Office and the Fairfax County commonwealth’s attorney’s office on Tuesday appealed a federal judge’s decision to throw out all charges against two U.S. Park Police officers in the 2017 slaying of motorist Bijan Ghaisar. The case will now be considered

by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, based in Richmond. The court attracted attention last year in another police shooting case, decided shortly after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, when it reversed a lower court's grant of qualified immunity for officers who shot a West Virginia man 22 times. "This has to stop," the court's ruling declared. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **Newsweek: Alabama Corrections Officer Sentenced to 18 Months In Prison For Sexually Abusing Inmate**, Andre J. Ellington, October 26, 2021, 11:02 PM

A former Bureau of Prisons (BOP) corrections officer will spend the next 18 months in prison for sexually abusing an inmate. On Tuesday, 32-year-old Eric Todd Ellis of Birmingham, Alabama, was sentenced in federal court after he pleaded guilty to one count of sexual abuse and one count of tampering with a witness. The former corrections officer at the FCI-Aliceville facility in Aliceville, Alabama, will also be subject to supervised release for the next five years. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Birmingham News \(Birmingham, AL\)](#)

### **Courthouse News: Federal judge to probe officer training after man's death during mental health crisis**, Nick Cahill, October 26, 2021, 7:00 PM

With his suicidal brother threatening to break free from his ties in the back seat, Joseph Sturgeon pulled over into a dimly lit Vacaville gas station to call 911. In the previous hours Sturgeon's brother and co-worker Samuel Yasko had fallen from a three-story balcony, refused to be taken to the hospital and tried to strangle himself with a seatbelt on the commute home from a construction site. As it turns out, Yasko's hellish workday got worse once police arrived. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

### **Law360: DOJ Accuses Kaiser Of \$1B Medicare Fraud, Fake Diagnoses**, Hannah Albarazi, October 26, 2021, 10:26 PM

Kaiser Permanente defrauded Medicare out of about \$1 billion by pressuring physicians to bolster patients' medical records with bogus diagnoses, the U. S. Department of Justice alleged in California federal court Monday, throwing its weight behind a half-dozen False Claims Act suits brought by whistleblowers over the past decade. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Inc. and its entities deny the DOJ's allegations that they routinely submitted inaccurate diagnosis codes for their Medicare Advantage beneficiaries from 2009 through 2018, netting it about \$1 billion in additional payouts. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg Law](#)

### **Politico: Federal judge tosses out Southwest Airlines pilots' petition against vaccine mandate**, Oriana Pawlyk, October 26, 2021, 5:36 PM

A Texas judge on Tuesday dismissed a request for an injunction against an impending vaccine mandate brought by a union that represents pilots at Southwest Airlines, a significant blow against their attempt to sidestep President Joe Biden's mandate for government contractors. Federal workers and government contractors, which includes major U.S. commercial airlines, must be vaccinated by Dec. 8. [[Continue Reading](#)]

### **Fresno Bee: Judge orders Devin Nunes' family to disclose who's paying for Iowa defamation lawsuit**, Gillian Brassil, October 26, 2021, 5:23 PM

A federal judge this week ordered Rep. Devin Nunes' family members to disclose how they are paying for their defamation lawsuit against a reporter and magazine publisher over a 2018 story about their Iowa farm. The judge will review the records detailing who is paying for the litigation behind closed doors before deciding whether to share them with lawyers for the reporter and publisher, meaning that there is a possibility that no one else — including those lawyers and their clients — will get to see the information. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**WaPo: Immigration arrests fell to lowest level in more than a decade during fiscal 2021, ICE data shows**, Nick Miroff and Maria Sacchetti, October 26, 2021, 7:15 PM

Immigration arrests in the interior of the United States fell in fiscal 2021 to the lowest level in more than a decade — roughly half the annual totals recorded during the Trump administration, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement data obtained by The Washington Post. ICE arrests in the interior plunged after President Biden took office and set new limits on immigration enforcement, including a 100-day “pause” on most deportations. A federal judge quickly blocked that order, and ICE’s arrests increased somewhat in recent months. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**ABC: Border agents seen in controversial photos on horseback not yet questioned: Source**,

Quinn Owen and Luke Barr, October 26, 2021, 10:17 PM

The U.S. Border Patrol agents at the center of a controversy stemming from their use of horses to block Haitian migrants from entering the U.S. have not yet been questioned more than a month after the incident took place, according to a law enforcement official. Images of mounted patrol agents using their horses to push back migrants, mostly Haitian, stirred national controversy as an unprecedented number attempted to cross the Rio Grande into the small border town of Del Rio, Texas, in September.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: No Fixed Timeline For Migrant Bond Hearings, 1st Circ. Says**, Jennifer Doherty, October 26, 2021, 10:07 PM

A split First Circuit panel doubled back on a case from 2016 on Tuesday to reaffirm that migrants with certain criminal convictions lack a constitutional right to bond hearings after six months in immigration custody, tossing a lower court’s reasonable detention framework. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Immigrant detainees’ fight for minimum wage from for-profit jail now in jury’s hands**, Jared Brown, October 26, 2021, 10:00 PM

Attorneys arguing whether immigrant detainees in a voluntary work program at a for-profit jail in Washington state should be paid minimum wage rather than \$1 a day delivered their closing arguments Tuesday. Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson sued GEO Group, which operates the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, in 2017, claiming it unjustly profited from a voluntary work program in violation of state law setting minimum wage — \$12 at the time the lawsuit was filed. A former detainee filed a separate class action on similar claims and seeking back pay, which was consolidated with the state’s case for trial. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Risky Drivers Slipped Through CBP Trusted Traveler Program**, Alyssa Aquino, October 26, 2021, 8:29 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection approved truck drivers for a Trusted Traveler Program even though the drivers should have failed the vetting process intended to weed out potential border security risks, a federal watchdog said in a report Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: DC Circ. Says Texas Can’t Intervene In Migrant Policy Suit**, Richard Winton, Grace Dixon, October 26, 2021, 7:53 PM

The D. C. Circuit on Tuesday denied Texas’ bid to intervene in a challenge to the federal government’s use of a public health law to expel migrant families, after the state argued it had a stake in protecting its residents from the coronavirus. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Fixer Pleads Guilty To Helping Smuggle Cuban Ballplayers**, Carolina Bolado, October 26, 2021, 6:43 PM

A fixer in Haiti who helped a sports trainer and baseball agent smuggle Cuban ballplayers into the U.S. pled guilty Tuesday in Florida federal court to his role in an operation that brought more than a dozen players into the U.S. illegally. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 1st Circ. Says BIA Must Mull If Virus Paused Appeal Deadline**, Alyssa Aquino, October 26, 2021, 6:09 PM

A Jamaican woman who missed her deadline to appeal deportation has another chance to do so after the First Circuit ruled that the Board of Immigration Appeals should consider her extension request, filed in the early days of the pandemic. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Visa Denial Upheld as Appeals Court Defers to Consular Officials**, Jacklyn Wille, October 26, 2021, 3:58 PM

A United States citizen on Tuesday lost her lawsuit challenging the denial of her husband's immigrant visa, when the Eleventh Circuit issued its first-ever published opinion considering the scope of a doctrine limiting judges' ability to review consular officials' decisions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Bond Hearing Not Required for Detainees Held Six Months or More**, Bernie Pazanowski, October 26, 2021, 3:25 PM

A class action by immigrant detainees who have been held for more than six months while awaiting removal proceedings was properly rejected by a federal district court, the First Circuit said Tuesday. The detainees argued that they were constitutionally required to have a bond hearing within six months of being detained. But the opinion by Judge William J. Kayatta Jr. said that there is no bright-line rule. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NY Post: House Republicans call DHS immigrant arrest rules 'affront to rule of law'**, Samuel Chamberlain, October 26, 2021, 8:10 PM

Two Republican members of the House Oversight Committee accused the Biden administration Tuesday of trying to "avoid enforcing the immigration laws of this country" by issuing new guidelines prioritizing certain illegal immigrants for deportation. In their letter to Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Oversight Committee ranking member James Comer (R-Ky.) and Rep. Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.) accused the White House of "dereliction of duty in the interior of the country [that] is particularly grotesque considering the crisis on the southern border." [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The San Diego Union-Tribune: Judge issues \$3.4M verdict against ex-immigration officer in teen's crash**, Kristina Davis, October 26, 2021, 6:54 PM

A San Diego federal judge handed down a \$3.4 million verdict against a former immigration officer who struck a National City teen in a marked crosswalk, then tampered with the collision scene and misrepresented the circumstances of the crash. The ruling, issued Friday by U.S. District Court Judge John Houston, comes roughly two and a half years after a bench trial concluded in the case. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Cincinnati Enquirer: Customs officers in Cincinnati seize nearly 300 fake sports championship rings**, Jeanne Houck, October 26, 2021, 4:00 PM

U.S. Customs officers in Cincinnati recently seized nearly 300 fake championship rings for sports teams such as the Los Angeles Dodgers. Consumers should be wary of third-party websites that offer rings – and any other commodities – at abnormally low prices, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection said in a news release. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**New Jersey Advance Media: Hudson finds funds to replace ICE deal by opening up jail drug abuse program to other counties**, Teri West, October 26, 2021, 3:35 PM

The Hudson County jail has filled all but five spots in its expanded substance use treatment program, ushering in both participants from other counties and the funds needed to help close the gap left by the

closure of its U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) unit, a county commissioner said. The program doubled in size this year from an 80-person capacity to 160, said county Commissioner Bill O'Dea, which has led to contracts with multiple other counties to house their inmates. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WGCL-CBS (Atlanta, GA): Guatemalan Man Illegally In The United States Arrested For Hit And Run That Killed A Five-Year-Old Child**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 6:54 PM

On Saturday, October 23, 2021 Polk County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested 32-year-old Ernesto Lopez Morales here illegally from Guatemala after a hit and run crash that killed a 5-year-old child. According to evidence and witness statements, just before 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Morales was driving a 2005 black Chevrolet Suburban west on S.R. 60 in Mulberry at a high rate of speed and with no headlights on. Morales drove his vehicle into the back of a 2016 gray Hyundai Elantra driven by a Plant City woman. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ANTITRUST

**WSJ: Federal Trade Commission Scrutinizing Facebook Disclosures**, John D. McKinnon and Brent Kendall, October 27, 2021, 5:30 AM

Federal Trade Commission staffers have begun looking into disclosures that Facebook Inc.'s internal company research had identified ill effects from its products, according to people familiar with the matter. Officials are looking into whether Facebook research documents indicate that it might have violated a 2019 settlement with the agency over privacy concerns, for which the company paid a record \$5 billion penalty, one of the people said. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 9th Circ. Snuffs Dealers' German Car Co. Antitrust MDL**, Linda Chiem, October 26, 2021, 8:28 PM

The Ninth Circuit said Tuesday that car dealerships didn't have enough facts to plausibly allege there was an overarching conspiracy among German auto giants to control diesel emissions system specifications and steel prices to unreasonably restrain trade in violation of U.S. antitrust law. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: EpiPen Buyers Can't Appeal Order Yet In Antitrust Case**, Matthew Perlman, October 26, 2021, 8:28 PM

EpiPen buyers can't immediately appeal an order that dismissed racketeering claims from its case accusing Mylan of scheming to inflate the price of the emergency allergy treatment, a Kansas federal judge has ruled. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Facebook Urges 9th Circ. Not To Revive Rival Apps' Case**, Christopher Cole, October 26, 2021, 4:28 PM

Facebook Inc. has urged the Ninth Circuit to reject app developers' efforts to breathe new life into an antitrust suit accusing the tech giant of hurting their businesses through allegedly anti-competitive actions, calling the dispute "a laundry list of stale grievances." [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ENVIRONMENT

**AP: Tennessee woman pleads guilty to falsifying water tests**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 9:00 PM

A Tennessee woman has pleaded guilty to submitting hundreds of false reports to state regulators about the cleanliness of wastewater she was paid to analyze, federal prosecutors said. DiAne Gordon, 61, faces up to five years in federal prison after she pleaded guilty Tuesday to making and using false writings and documents in a matter within the jurisdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. attorney's office in Memphis said. She is scheduled to be sentenced in March. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: 3M Inks \$12M Deal To Put To Rest Water Pollution Claims**, Hailey Konnath, October 26, 2021, 11:25 PM

3M Co. will shell out \$12 million to end a proposed class action brought by Alabama consumers alleging the manufacturer polluted their drinking water, according to a proposed deal filed Tuesday in Alabama federal court. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Judge Recommends Dismissing 28 Claimants In BP Spill Suit**, Nathan Hale, October 26, 2021, 10:27 PM

A Florida federal magistrate said Tuesday that he agreed with BP that claims from 28 plaintiffs should be dismissed from consolidated litigation stemming from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill because they previously opted to seek recovery through workers' compensation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Wind Farm Says JPMorgan Can't Rush Force Majeure Fight**, Morgan Conley, October 26, 2021, 9:30 PM

A wind farm has told a Texas federal court JPMorgan Chase Bank is jumping the gun in asking the court to rule on whether a deadly winter storm triggered the force majeure exception to their power supply contract, arguing more discovery is needed before the court should decide the issue. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Business Groups Urge Stay On Vacating Trump Water Rule**, Clark Mindock, October 26, 2021, 6:18 PM

Business groups say an Arizona federal judge put an undue economic strain on their members by vacating a Trump-era rule that narrowed the reach of the Clean Water Act instead of leaving the rule intact while the Biden administration comes up with a replacement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Courthouse News: Trashed by Trump, habitat protections for endangered species get new life**, Alexandra Jones, October 26, 2021, 6:00 PM

Wolves, whooping cranes and other species that depend on critical habitat designations to survive and flourish got a boost Tuesday with the announcement that a pair of rules pushed through during final days of the Trump administration do not fall in line with the Endangered Species Act's conservation goals. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service announced the move in the Federal Register and an accompanying joint statement. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Bloomberg Law: State Attorneys Want Tougher Car and Truck Standards From EPA**, Jennifer Hijazi, October 26, 2021, 4:02 PM

State attorneys general urged the Biden administration to beef up emission standards for cars and heavy trucks, according to two letters filed to agencies on Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Feds Propose Rescinding Trump-Era Species Habitat Rules**, Juan Carlos Rodríguez, October 26, 2021, 2:34 PM

The Biden administration on Tuesday proposed rescinding two Trump-era Endangered Species Act rules relating to how agencies define and designate habitat for plants and animals, saying they run counter to the law's intent. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Advocate (Baton Rouge, LA): A sting caught them illegally selling box turtles, the feds say; they got a year's probation**, James Finn, October 26, 2021, 5:45 PM

A federal judge sentenced a Livingston Parish couple to a year of probation each for selling vulnerable Louisiana turtles to an undercover agent who was investigating them as part of a multi-agency sting operation. Judge Wendy B. Vitter of the U.S. Eastern District of Louisiana on Tuesday handed down the sentences for Maurepas residents Vincent Felix Rivere, 48, and Megan Lynn Shoemaker, 36. The couple pleaded guilty to selling Louisiana box turtles in 2017. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**Washington Times: Feds uncover 'expansive' use of illegal immigrants in South Carolina construction**, Stephen Dinan, October 26, 2021, 3:00 PM

Federal prosecutors have won guilty pleas from a dozen people involved in South Carolina's construction industry who hired illegal immigrants and paid them using unlicensed check cashers in order to shield the payments from the IRS. The pleas are the first in what prosecutors called an "expansive" undercover investigation along the South Carolina coast. The Justice Department said the schemes cost the IRS "tens of millions of dollars" in taxes that should have been paid on the workers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Delaware News Journal: After not paying taxes for years, Delaware photographer gets 1 year in federal prison**, Yusra Asif, October 26, 2021, 9:14 PM

A well-known Delaware photographer was sentenced Tuesday to one year in federal prison for federal tax evasion dating back as far as 1981, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware. Bruce Kevin Fleming pleaded guilty on Aug. 26 last year, according to court documents. A criminal investigation into the 67-year-old Milton man began after he ignored the Internal Revenue Service's numerous letters and civil assessments, the U.S. Attorney's Office said in a release Tuesday. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Republican (Springfield, MA): Florida man sentenced to 15 months in federal prison in tax scam involving Springfield woman**, Jeanette DeForge, October 26, 2021, 8:58 PM

A Florida man who collected more than \$550,000 in false tax returns was sentenced Tuesday to serve 15 months in prison. Cory Kizer, 39, appeared in U.S. District Court after pleading guilty in May to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and eight counts of theft of public money. Judge Mark G. Mastroianni also sentenced him to two years of supervised release after he finishes his prison sentence, according to a statement from Nathaniel R. Mendell, acting U.S. attorney. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WWLP-NBC \(Springfield, MA\)](#)

**KSBY-NBC (San Luis Obispo, CA): Cannabis shop founder pleads guilty to bribery, filing false tax return**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 8:08 PM

Natural Healing Center founder Helios Dayspring has pleaded guilty to bribery and filing a false income tax return. The cannabis business owner appeared in federal court by video on Friday, Oct. 22. He was initially charged in federal court in July after reportedly admitting to bribing late San Luis Obispo County District 3 Supervisor Adam Hill, attempting to bribe former Grover Beach Mayor John Shoals, and failing to report millions of dollars in income to the IRS. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**LAT: Assaults on police in L.A., U.S. up in 2020 amid civil unrest**, Richard Winton, Kevin Rector, October 26, 2021, 8:46 PM

During a year of global civil unrest, assaults on law enforcement officers increased nationwide, and Los Angeles reported the most attacks on police officers in the line of duty in the past decade, according to federal and state data. FBI numbers released this month show there were 60,105 U.S. officers assaulted in 2020, with about 31% reporting some kind of injuries — a 7.2% increase from 2019. And more than half that increase came from confrontations with protesters. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**The Daily Times (Salisbury, Maryland): Daughter recalls last moments with mom missing since 2002. FBI, Police seek cold case tips**, Rose Velazquez, October 26, 2021, 6:34 PM

Jennifer Contreras recalls the morning of Jan. 7, 2002, as freezing cold. There was ice on the ground and with her brother only a couple of months old, Contreras told her mom she didn't need a ride to school, that she'd walk instead. The then-15-year-old spent the school day with a bad feeling in her gut,

a dread that was reinforced when she couldn't get into her house later that day, but saw her mom's car in the driveway. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WTVJ-NBC (*Miami, FL*): U.S. Marshals draw guns on Bradenton mother, baby after knocking on wrong apartment**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 6:20 AM

A Florida woman said she feared for her life when U.S. Marshals entered her home while she was holding her infant daughter – only later to realize they were at the wrong home. Kada Staples told NBC affiliate WFLA-TV she looked at her Ring App and saw armed men outside her Bradenton apartment who ordered her to come out, saying "we know he's in there" looking for who she believed was a murder suspect. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KMVT-CBS/CW (*Twin Falls, ID*): Six arrested following fentanyl investigation**, Unattributed, October 27, 2021, 12:15 AM

Six people are in police custody, facing state and federal drug charges after an extensive investigation. [...] Officials with the Idaho State Police have confirmed that DEA, ISP, Twin Falls County along with the Mini Cassia Task Force, have been working together on an investigation involving a fentanyl trafficking operation here in southern Idaho. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WUSA-CBS (*Washington, DC*): FBI searching for accused serial sex offender, ex-CIA agent**, Ryan Sprouse , October 26, 2021, 11:07 PM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service Office of Special Investigations (DSS) are asking for help from the public in looking for and information about accused serial sexual offender Brian Jeffrey Raymond, who previously worked at the Central Intelligence Agency. The investigation into Raymond began back in May of 2020, the FBI said. That's when a naked woman was seen screaming from a balcony, which turned out to be Raymond's residence in Mexico City. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WTOP-FM \(\*Washington, DC\*\)](#)

**WEVV-CBS/Fox (*Evansville, IN*): Law Enforcement Agencies Host "Say Boo to Drugs" Event at Bosse Field**, Valerie Lyons, October 26, 2021, 10:33 PM

State DEA agents joined forces with the Vanderburgh County Prosecutor's Office and local law enforcement offering a safe family experience while working to raise awareness of a widespread problem. Halloween came early to Evansville's north side Tuesday as dozens of families flocked to Bosse Field for the first ever "Say Boo to Drugs" event. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WKYC-NBC (*Cleveland, OH*): US Marshals arrest man wanted on fentanyl trafficking related charges**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 9:39 PM

U.S. Marshals have arrested a 43-year-old man wanted on fentanyl trafficking-related charges. According to officials, 43-year-old Brian Hitchens was arrested on Friday, October 22, inside of a home in the 3700 block of Clifton Avenue. The 43-year-old had an active warrant out for his arrest in connection to trafficking of a fentanyl-related compound. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSL-NBC (*Salt Lake City, UT*): FBI offering \$10,000 reward for info leading to arrest in Navajo man's death**, Madison Swenson, October 26, 2021, 7:15 PM

The FBI has asked for the public's help in locating the person responsible for the death of a 30-year-old man on the Navajo Nation. The agency announced Tuesday that they doubled their reward to \$10,000 for "information leading to the identification, arrest, and conviction" of the suspect. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WMĐT-ABC/CW \(\*Salisbury, MD\*\)](#)

**KSBW-NBC/ABC (*Salinas, CA*): New details emerge about Carmel bank robbery**, Felix Cortez, October 26, 2021, 7:13 PM

A day after a Chase bank was robbed in Carmel, investigators now say several people were injured in

the robbery, and they say three people armed with guns and rifles are to blame. "This is just like my neighborhood it's crazy it's unsettling to have armed men here in the neighborhood," said Tommy Castellanos who shops in the Barnyard. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**NECN-NBC (*Randolph, MA*): Police Break Silence on FBI Dig in Randolph Yard, Offering Some Answers, But Not Many**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 7:00 PM

Police in Randolph, Massachusetts, issued a statement Tuesday on a mysterious two-day FBI dig in the town earlier this month, but didn't say what they'd been looking for. It also remains unclear whether any clues were found, and the investigation is still ongoing, police Chief Anthony Marag said in a statement. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KTAR-FM (*Glendale, AZ*): 60K fentanyl pills, 142 pounds of meth seized in Phoenix drug bust**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 6:30 PM

Authorities seized 60,000 fentanyl pills and 142 pounds of methamphetamine after serving a warrant at a Phoenix home last week. Deputies found multiple storage containers in the home near the area of Van Buren and 41st streets on Thursday that contained M-30 fentanyl pills, methamphetamine, as well as 10.5 pounds of cocaine, the Pinal County Sheriff's Office said in a Facebook post. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WJAR-NBC (*Providence, RI*): RI, Mass. education officials on FBI probe into school board threats**, Ashley Cullinane, October 26, 2021, 6:00 PM

From shouting matches over curriculum to arrests for disorderly conduct, normally sleepy school board meetings have turned divisive since the pandemic began. Meetings have become so unruly, federal officials are now involved. The Department of Justice this month sent a memorandum to employees about intervening in matters of "violence or intimidation" that target state and local school board officials. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WTAP-NBC (*Parkersburg, WV*): Suspicious devices removed from tug boat on Ohio River Monday**, Zach Shrivers, October 26, 2021, 5:40 PM

Two possibly explosive devices were removed from a tug boat on the Ohio River Monday night. That's according to a statement from the West Virginia State Police, who were called to the scene near Williamstown around 8:30 p.m. [...] State police are investigating in cooperation with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KOAA-NBC (*Pueblo, CO*): Four suspects arrested in connection to a drive-by shooting in El Paso County**, Xavier Hamilton, October 26, 2021, 5:26 PM

One adult and three juveniles were arrested on Saturday for their alleged involvement in a drive-by shooting in unincorporated El Paso County. The El Paso County Sheriff's Department received calls around 9 p.m. on Friday regarding a shooting that took place on the 600 block of Empress Circle. [...] The case is now a multi-agency investigation that includes the ATF since authorities believe that the suspects could be connected to other shootings in the area. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSTP-ABC (*Saint Paul, MN*): FBI helping with Minneapolis body parts investigation; family members plead for more help**, Eric Rasmussen, October 26, 2021, 5:08 PM

Minneapolis police say the FBI is now assisting in the investigation of body parts found in four locations around the city this summer. The remains were all identified as belonging to 36-year-old Adam Richard Johnson. Family members tell 5 EYEWITNESS NEWS they hired a private investigator but, four months after Johnson's death, there are still few answers and no arrests. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KSN-NBC (*Wichita, KS*): 500 pounds of meth; 11 Missouri residents arrested in a massive multi-state drug trafficking ring**, Becky Willeke, October 26, 2021, 4:27 PM

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) busted a large-scale, multi-state drug trafficking ring and 11

people from St. Louis have been arrested for their role. According to a recent 16-count indictment, this was a long-running drug distribution conspiracy operating in Missouri, California, Arizona, and Texas. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KCUR-NPR (Kansas City, MO): Feds seized a van carrying \$166,000 from legal marijuana sales in Kansas City, and no one knows why**, Dan Margolies, October 26, 2021, 4:02 PM

The cash seizure falls into a gray legal area involving establishments that are legal in one state but not legal in other states or at the federal level. Legal experts are scratching their heads over a case that implicates a murky area of the law governing when legal marijuana businesses can be prosecuted in states where marijuana is still not legal. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHDH (Boston, MA): Officials: No human remains found after FBI digs up Randolph yard**, Frank O'Laughlin, October 26, 2021, 4:00 PM

A large dig operation that was conducted in a yard in Randolph earlier this month yielded no human or skeletal remains, authorities announced Tuesday. An FBI Evidence Response Team and local law enforcement officials investigating a missing persons case oversaw a dig site in a yard on Mitchell Street on Oct. 6, according to Randolph Police Chief Anthony Marag. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WHAM-ABC (Rochester, NY): Nine arrested in multiple drug raids across area**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 3:20 PM

Several raids across the Rochester area netted nine arrests Tuesday. The ongoing drug investigation was conducted by multiple agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Agency, New York State Police, Monroe County Sheriff's Office, IRS, Ontario County Sheriff's Office, Rochester Police, Greece Police, Brighton Police, and the Greater Rochester Area Narcotics Enforcement Team. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Patch (Lawrenceville, NJ): Mercer County Collects Over 150 Pounds Of Unused & Expired Drugs**, Sarah Salvadore, October 26, 2021, 1:53 PM

Over 150 pounds of unused or expired drugs were collected on Saturday in Mercer County, Sheriff Jack Kemler said. Residents disposed of a wide range of old medications, ranging from blood pressure and heart medications to dangerous opiate painkillers including OxyContin, during the Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**AP: Female inmate escapes from a federal prison in Phoenix**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 10:00 PM

Authorities are searching for an inmate who escaped from a federal prison in Phoenix. Officials with the Federal Bureau of Prisons said 36-year-old Rosann Tercero was discovered missing early Tuesday morning from the minimum-security satellite camp next to the Federal Correctional Institution Phoenix. The prison is located near Interstate 17 south of Anthem. The U.S. Marshals Service, FBI and other law enforcement agencies have been notified and are trying to find Tercero. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KNXV-ABC \(Phoenix, AZ\)](#), [KVOA-NBC \(Tucson, AZ\)](#)

**AP: Texas executions delayed over religious rights claims**, Juan A. Lozano, October 26, 2021, 3:00 PM

The unresolved legal debate over whether spiritual advisers can touch inmates and pray aloud as condemned individuals are being put to death has delayed the final two executions scheduled this year in Texas. The delays come as the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to hear arguments next month in the case of another Texas death row inmate on the role of spiritual advisers in the death chamber. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**UPI: Federal judge declines stay for 5 Oklahoma death row prisoners**, Danielle Haynes, October 26, 2021, 8:15 PM

A federal judge has declined to issue stays of execution for five Oklahoma death row prisoners. The Monday ruling means that Oklahoma is set to carry out its first execution in six years on Thursday, that of John Grant, 60. The other four inmates named in the request for a stay were Julius Jones (Nov. 18), Donald Grant (Jan. 27), Gilbert Postelle (Feb. 17) and Wade Lay (Jan. 6). [[Continue Reading](#)]

## US SUPREME COURT

**USA Today: Solicitor general pick Elizabeth Prelogar poised for approval despite 'flipflopping' charge**, John Fritze, October 27, 2021, 5:04 AM

President Joe Biden's pick to represent the federal government at the Supreme Court is poised for confirmation despite Republican criticism that she abandoned legal positions staked out by the Trump administration before the high court. Elizabeth Prelogar, who Biden nominated to be solicitor general in August, has sailed through her confirmation process, avoiding the bitter partisan brawls that accompanied some of his other Justice Department nominees. Senate Democrats on Monday queued up a vote on Prelogar for later this week. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: One Year On, Amy Coney Barrett Is About To Play Crucial Role on Abortion**, Darragh Roche, October 27, 2021, 5:05 AM

Associate Justice Amy Coney Barrett will celebrate one year as a member of the U.S. Supreme Court on Wednesday, with the nation's highest court braced to tackle cases of huge significance. Barrett formally became a member of the Court on October 27, 2020 following a highly controversial nomination process that saw her confirmed by the Senate just eight days before the presidential election. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS

**Law360: Ojibwe Tribe Tells 8th Circ. Its Court Should Hear Pipeline Suit**, Andrew Westney, October 26, 2021, 9:59 PM

The White Earth Band of Ojibwe urged the Eighth Circuit on Tuesday to reject a Minnesota agency's bid to block its tribal court from hearing a challenge to an Enbridge pipeline expansion, saying the lower court rightly found that the tribe and its chief judge both have sovereign immunity to the agency's claims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: DOI To Reconsider Cayuga Nation's Land-Into-Trust Bid**, Victoria McKenzie, October 26, 2021, 6:20 PM

A D.C. federal judge has paused a lawsuit the Cayuga Nation filed against the federal government over delaying and then denying the tribe's application to have land taken into trust for a bingo hall and other businesses. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Missouri Independent: Broader tribal sovereignty at stake in federal Indian Child Welfare Act case**, Jennifer Solis, October 26, 2021, 3:08 PM

A federal law to protect Native families from being separated is on a likely path to the U.S. Supreme Court, where the 41-year-old law could be upended — threatening tribal sovereignty. And while child welfare is the specific issue at the heart of the case, tribal advocates contend the real goal of the deep-pocketed effort to overturn the law is an erosion of tribal sovereignty to benefit special interests, particularly extractive industries, hoping to profit from tribal lands. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**KRTV-CBS (Great Falls, MT): Former chair of Montana Native Women's Coalition sentenced for**

**theft and fraud**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 6:12 PM

Meredith McConnell of Lame Deer, the former chairwoman of the Montana Native Women's Coalition, was sentenced in federal court in Billings on Monday, October 25, after being convicted of stealing federal grant funds for unapproved travel to Las Vegas, Nevada, and other unauthorized expenses. Acting U.S. Attorney Leif Johnson said in a news release that McConnell, 52 years old, was found guilty on April 2 at trial by a federal jury on all counts in a superseding indictment, including theft from a program receiving federal funding, wire fraud, and false claims. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## ADMINISTRATION

**Reuters: Biden nominates Winston & Strawn partner Kathi Vidal to lead USPTO**, Blake Brittain, October 26, 2021, 3:08 PM

U.S. President Joe Biden on Tuesday announced the nomination of Winston & Strawn partner Kathi Vidal, who leads the firm's Silicon Valley office, to head the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Vidal has extensive experience as a patent litigator, and has represented companies including Microsoft Corp, Tesla Inc, Intel Corp, Dell Corp, and Spotify Technologies SA over her career. She led Fish & Richardson's litigation group before joining Winston in 2017. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CONGRESS

**Fox: McCarthy demands AG Garland retract memo urging FBI to investigate parents who threaten school boards**, Kyle Morris, October 26, 2021, 10:00 PM

Three House Republicans have penned a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland, demanding that he "immediately retract" an Oct. 4 memorandum that instructed the Department of Justice to investigate parents who have threatened school board members. The letter was sent by House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., House Judiciary Committee Ranking Member Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, and House Education and Labor Committee Ranking Member Virginia Foxx, R-N.C. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**HuffPost: Marjorie Taylor Greene Claims Declaration Of Independence Justifies Jan. 6 Attack**, Josephine Harvey, October 26, 2021, 8:37 PM

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-Ga.) characterized the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol as "just a riot" on Tuesday and invoked the Declaration of Independence to try and justify it. The QAnon-supporting lawmaker made the comments during an appearance on "War Room," a podcast hosted by longtime Donald Trump aide Steve Bannon. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**WICS-ABC (Springfield, IL): U.S. Rep calls on FBI to investigate Jelani Day case**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 9:00 PM

U.S. Representative Bobby Rush, D-Ill., is calling for a federal investigation into the disappearance and death of Jelani Day, a 25-year-old Illinois State University graduate student, who was last seen on August 24 and reported missing the next day. Day's body was found on Sept. 4, 2021, floating near the south bank of the Illinois River approximately 1/4 mile east of the Illinois Rt. 251 Bridge. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: OCTOBER 26, 2021

**ABC: World News Tonight with David Muir**

**CBS: Evening News with Norah O'Donnell**

**NBC: Nightly News with Lester Holt**

- The first Nor'easter of the season is getting more powerful by the hour as it barrels up the East Coast overnight. Both New York and New Jersey remain under states of emergency as thousands of homes and businesses have lost power. Tens of millions of Americans are feeling the impact of torrential rain and damaging wind that's knocking down power lines and flooding roads. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- An FDA advisory panel voted to recommend Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine for children as young as five - and if it clears the final hurdles - the first shots could be delivered by next week. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- Damning new reports allege that crew members had been firing live ammo off-set in the hours prior to actor Alec Baldwin accidentally shooting and killing cinematographer Halyna Hutchins. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- President Biden is the latest top Democrat to campaign for former Governor Terry McAuliffe in Virginia, who is locked in a tight race against Republican Glenn Youngkin. With Biden's poll numbers dropping, the race is a critical test for whether he can boost Democratic support. Democrats spent another long day in negotiations over a framework for a deal on President Biden's social spending plan. Lawmakers say they're inching closer to a deal. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- There are new concerns over the health of Britain's Queen Elizabeth after she canceled her appearance at the upcoming climate summit in Scotland, on the advice of her doctors. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- From the sale of illicit drugs to violent challenges that have gone viral, lawmakers grilled executives from Snapchat, TikTok and YouTube over what they're doing to protect teens and children on their platforms, warning that they could face regulation. [[CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- One of the two people killed in a mass shooting at a mall in Idaho on Monday was a 26-year-old mall security guard and Army veteran. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#)]
- A 96-year-old woman is on trial in Germany for allegedly being an accessory to the murders of thousands of people at a Nazi concentration camp. [[CBS](#)]
- Counterdrug agents in the US and Europe arrested 150 people and seized more than a quarter ton of illicit drugs in an international operation aimed at disrupting sales on a portion of the internet known as the darknet, authorities announced Tuesday. [[NBC](#)]

## MORNING HEADLINES

- "Democrats Hammer Out Novel Plan to Tax Billionaires and Corporate Giants" [[NYT](#), [WaPo](#), [WSJ](#), [LAT](#)]
- "Gangs Rule Much of Haiti. For Many, It Means No Fuel, No Power, No Food" [[NYT](#)]
- "Federal Trade Commission Scrutinizing Facebook Disclosures" [[WSJ](#), [WaPo](#)]

**END**

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**From:** Kapper, Matthew B. (OAG)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Abbreviated AM Clips  
**To:** [REDACTED] (JMD)  
**Sent:** October 27, 2021 7:34 AM (UTC-04:00)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Coley, Anthony D. (PAO)" <Anthony.D.Coley@usdoj.gov>  
**Date:** October 27, 2021 at 7:29:13 AM EDT  
**To:** "Klapper, Matthew B. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** "Iverson, Dena (PAO)" <Dena.I.DeBonis@usdoj.gov>, "Seidman, Ricki (OASG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Heinzelman, Kate (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Goodlander, Margaret V. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Matthews-Johnson, Tamarra D. (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED], "Visser, Tim (OAG)" (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Abbreviated AM Clips

## US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE NEWS

**AP: More than 150 arrested in global crackdown on Darknet traders**, Michael Balsamo, October 26, 2021

Law enforcement officials in the U.S. and Europe have arrested 150 people and seized more than \$31 million in an international drug trafficking investigation stemming from sales on the darknet, the Justice Department said Tuesday. The arrests are connected to a 10-month investigation between federal law enforcement officials in the U.S. and Europol in Europe. Prosecutors allege those charges are responsible for tens of thousands of illegal sales in the U.S., the United Kingdom, Australia, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

[Continue Reading] See also: [Axios](#), [CBS](#), [CNN](#), [Daily Caller](#), [Fox](#), [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#), [LAT](#), [Newsweek](#), [NBC](#), [NY Daily News](#), [NY Post](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [The Portland Press Herald \(Portland, OR\)](#), [USA Today](#), [WSJ](#)

**CNN: Merrick Garland will appear before Senate panel amid pressure on Nassar probe, Bannon and school boards memo**, Tierney Sneed, October 27, 2021, 6:00 AM Attorney General Merrick Garland is testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, where he is likely to face fierce Republican blowback to a memo he issued addressing threats to school boards, as well as bipartisan heat for the FBI's handling of the Larry Nassar probe. Garland's appearance comes as the Justice Department weighs whether to prosecute Steve Bannon -- a close ally of former President Donald Trump -- after the House voted to hold him in contempt for not cooperating in its January 6 investigation.

[Continue Reading] See also: [Fox](#)

**WSJ: [EDITORIAL] About Those Domestic-Terrorist Parents**, Editorial Board, October 26, 2021, 7:03 PM

It took a few weeks, but the National School Boards Association has apologized for sending

a letter to President Biden suggesting that “threats and acts of violence” at school board meetings might be “domestic terrorism.” The NSBA now admits there was “no justification for some of the language included in the letter,” which could have parents investigated under the Patriot Act for trying to influence what their children are taught. [...] The NSBA has owned up to its mistake, but what about the Biden Administration? Days after the NSBA letter was sent, Attorney General Merrick Garland directed the FBI and U.S. Attorneys to intervene—without spelling out the federal authority or hard evidence for what the AG called a “disturbing spike in harassment, intimidation, and threats of violence.” This directive still stands. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## NATIONAL SECURITY

**Bloomberg: DOJ Curbs Trump-Era Zeal for China Spy Probes as Cases Sputter**, Chris Strohm, October 27, 2021, 2:00 AM

The Trump administration went all-in on what it called its “China Initiative,” with the Justice Department prosecuting Chinese and Chinese-American researchers it said were stealing U.S. secrets while hiding their links to the government in Beijing and the People’s Liberation Army. Now, after a number of those cases fizzled in court and amid growing criticism that the initiative leads to discrimination against Asian-Americans, Justice Department leadership under Attorney General Merrick Garland is moving more cautiously. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Reuters: Iraq war veteran pleads guilty to attacking U.S. Capitol policeman on Jan. 6**, Mark Hosenball, October 26, 2021, 3:41 PM

Mark Leffingwell, 52, of Seattle, was arrested on federal riot-related charges shortly after Jan. 6, but was released on bail after a brief period in detention. Leffingwell pleaded guilty to attacking Capitol Police officer Daniel Amendola during the assault on the U.S. seat of government, although he said at Tuesday’s hearing before U.S. District Judge Amy Berman Jackson that he pushed two police officers after they pushed him and then pushed one of them again. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NYT: An Oath Keeper Was at the Capitol Riot. On Tuesday, He’s on the Ballot**, Tracey Tully, October 27, 2021, 5:00 AM

Edward Durfee Jr. is a member of the far-right militia and was at the Capitol on Jan. 6. He is running for office in New Jersey anyway. Edward Durfee Jr. is many things: a former Marine, a libertarian who distrusts the Federal Reserve and an active member of the far-right Oath Keepers militia who leads the group’s northern New Jersey region and was outside the Capitol during the Jan. 6 attack. He is also running for the New Jersey State Assembly as a Republican. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WSJ: U.S. Bans China Telecom Over National Security Concerns**, Dan Strumpf, October 27, 2021, 12:59 AM

The Federal Communications Commission revoked the license that allows China’s largest telecom operator to do business in the U.S., citing national security concerns, dealing the latest in a series of blows against major Chinese businesses in the country. The FCC said it was taking action against the state-owned China Telecom Corp.’s U.S. business because the company was “subject to exploitation, influence, and control by the Chinese government.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Politico: California man arrested for allegedly threatening Matt Gaetz**, Josh Gerstein, Marc Caputo And Kyle Cheney, October 26, 2021, 9:28 PM

A California man was arrested last week for allegedly making a death threat to Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-Fla.) earlier this year, just days after the Jan. 6 storming of the U.S. Capitol.

Authorities arrested Eugene Huelsman, 58, of Thousand Oaks, last week in the Los Angeles area on an indictment returned in May by a federal grand jury in Pensacola, Fla., court records show. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Newsweek](#)

**Washington Times: John Durham to call James Baker, former FBI counsel, in Hillary Clinton lawyer case: Report**, Emily Zantow, October 26, 2021, 8:37 PM

Former FBI General Counsel James Baker will likely be called to testify in the case against former Clinton campaign attorney Michael Sussmann, who is charged with lying to advance the bureau's Trump-Russia collusion probe. A federal grand jury indicted Mr. Sussmann last month on charges that he hid the fact he was representing Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign when he told the FBI he had evidence of secret communications between then-presidential candidate Donald Trump and Russia's Alfa Bank.. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## JAN. 6 COMMITTEE

**WaPo: Jan. 6 committee expected to subpoena lawyer who advised Trump, Pence on how to overturn election**, Jacqueline Alemany, October 26, 2021, 9:41 PM

The House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol is expected to subpoena John Eastman, the pro-Trump legal scholar who outlined scenarios for denying Joe Biden the presidency, according to the panel's chairman. "It will happen," Chair Bennie G. Thompson (D-Miss.) said in an interview Tuesday of a subpoena for Eastman, who played a key role in the legal operation that was run out of a "command center" at the Willard Hotel in Washington in the days and hours leading up to Jan. 6. Thompson did not provide a timeline for when the subpoena will be issued. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), [NPR](#)

**WSJ: [EDITORIAL] Steve Bannon's Contempt for Congress**, Editorial Board, October 26, 2021, 6:55 PM

The challenge in polarized political times is to keep your eye on democratic institutions and their proper authority. That's the reason to applaud the nine House Republicans who voted last week to hold Steve Bannon, the sometime Donald Trump counselor, in contempt for defying a Congressional subpoena. The subpoena was issued by the special committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, and there are no doubt some partisan motives at play. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Politico: Jan. 6 investigators postpone push for some Trump records**, Kyle Cheney, October 27, 2021, 4:30 AM

The Jan. 6 select committee is temporarily backing off a request for about 50 pages of Trump White House records, even though the National Archives concluded the documents were relevant to the panel's investigation. Lawmakers and aides say they want to avoid a complicated and possibly protracted negotiation over documents related to the Capitol attack that might be legitimately shielded by executive privilege, attorney-client privilege or other reasons. House investigators intend to seek the documents later but opted to "defer" the request after talks with President Joe Biden's White House. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**CNN: At least five former Trump White House staffers are talking to the House January 6 committee**, Kaitlan Collins, October 26, 2021, 9:00 PM

At least five former Trump administration staffers have voluntarily spoken with the House committee investigating the January 6 attack on the US Capitol, CNN has learned. Those discussions come as lawyers working for the committee have also reached out to a range of other Trump aides to inquire whether they would be interested in speaking with the committee voluntarily, without the threat of a subpoena. The five former staffers who have had conversations with the committee have done so with either members or their staff. Some

believe they have information worth sharing, while others are hoping to avoid being legally compelled to talk to the committee. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Politico: Jan. 6 investigators privately question Bannon associate**, Betsy Woodruff Swan, Heather Caygle And Kyle Cheney, October 26, 2021, 4:18 PM  
Dustin Stockton, a conservative activist linked to Steve Bannon, is fielding questions Monday from congressional investigators scrutinizing the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, according to two sources familiar with the interview. A spokesperson for the committee declined to comment. Stockton did not immediately respond to a request for comment. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CIVIL RIGHTS

**WaPo: Prosecution appeals dismissal of Bijan Ghaisar manslaughter case vs. Park Police officers**, Tom Jackman, October 26, 2021, 7:06 PM

Prosecutors with the Virginia Attorney General's Office and the Fairfax County commonwealth's attorney's office on Tuesday appealed a federal judge's decision to throw out all charges against two U.S. Park Police officers in the 2017 slaying of motorist Bijan Ghaisar. The case will now be considered by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, based in Richmond. The court attracted attention last year in another police shooting case, decided shortly after the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, when it reversed a lower court's grant of qualified immunity for officers who shot a West Virginia man 22 times. "This has to stop," the court's ruling declared. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Newsweek: Alabama Corrections Officer Sentenced to 18 Months In Prison For Sexually Abusing Inmate**, Andre J. Ellington, October 26, 2021, 11:02 PM

A former Bureau of Prisons (BOP) corrections officer will spend the next 18 months in prison for sexually abusing an inmate. On Tuesday, 32-year-old Eric Todd Ellis of Birmingham, Alabama, was sentenced in federal court after he pleaded guilty to one count of sexual abuse and one count of tampering with a witness. The former corrections officer at the FCI-Aliceville facility in Aliceville, Alabama, will also be subject to supervised release for the next five years. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [The Birmingham News \(Birmingham, AL\)](#)

## CIVIL LAW

**Law360: DOJ Accuses Kaiser Of \$1B Medicare Fraud, Fake Diagnoses**, Hannah Albarazi, October 26, 2021, 10:26 PM

Kaiser Permanente defrauded Medicare out of about \$1 billion by pressuring physicians to bolster patients' medical records with bogus diagnoses, the U. S. Department of Justice alleged in California federal court Monday, throwing its weight behind a half-dozen False Claims Act suits brought by whistleblowers over the past decade. Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Inc. and its entities deny the DOJ's allegations that they routinely submitted inaccurate diagnosis codes for their Medicare Advantage beneficiaries from 2009 through 2018, netting it about \$1 billion in additional payouts. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg Law](#)

**Politico: Federal judge tosses out Southwest Airlines pilots' petition against vaccine mandate**, Oriana Pawlyk, October 26, 2021, 5:36 PM

A Texas judge on Tuesday dismissed a request for an injunction against an impending vaccine mandate brought by a union that represents pilots at Southwest Airlines, a significant blow against their attempt to sidestep President Joe Biden's mandate for government contractors. Federal workers and government contractors, which includes major U.S. commercial airlines, must be vaccinated by Dec. 8. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY

**WaPo: Immigration arrests fell to lowest level in more than a decade during fiscal 2021, ICE data shows**, Nick Miroff and Maria Sacchetti, October 26, 2021, 7:15 PM

Immigration arrests in the interior of the United States fell in fiscal 2021 to the lowest level in more than a decade — roughly half the annual totals recorded during the Trump administration, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement data obtained by The Washington Post. ICE arrests in the interior plunged after President Biden took office and set new limits on immigration enforcement, including a 100-day “pause” on most deportations. A federal judge quickly blocked that order, and ICE’s arrests increased somewhat in recent months. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**ABC: Border agents seen in controversial photos on horseback not yet questioned:**

**Source**, Quinn Owen and Luke Barr, October 26, 2021, 10:17 PM

The U.S. Border Patrol agents at the center of a controversy stemming from their use of horses to block Haitian migrants from entering the U.S. have not yet been questioned more than a month after the incident took place, according to a law enforcement official. Images of mounted patrol agents using their horses to push back migrants, mostly Haitian, stirred national controversy as an unprecedented number attempted to cross the Rio Grande into the small border town of Del Rio, Texas, in September. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: Risky Drivers Slipped Through CBP Trusted Traveler Program**, Alyssa Aquino, October 26, 2021, 8:29 PM

U.S. Customs and Border Protection approved truck drivers for a Trusted Traveler Program even though the drivers should have failed the vetting process intended to weed out potential border security risks, a federal watchdog said in a report Tuesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**NY Post: House Republicans call DHS immigrant arrest rules ‘affront to rule of law’**,

Samuel Chamberlain, October 26, 2021, 8:10 PM

Two Republican members of the House Oversight Committee accused the Biden administration Tuesday of trying to “avoid enforcing the immigration laws of this country” by issuing new guidelines prioritizing certain illegal immigrants for deportation. In their letter to Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, Oversight Committee ranking member James Comer (R-Ky.) and Rep. Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.) accused the White House of “dereliction of duty in the interior of the country [that] is particularly grotesque considering the crisis on the southern border.” [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## ANTITRUST

**WSJ: Federal Trade Commission Scrutinizing Facebook Disclosures**, John D. McKinnon and Brent Kendall, October 27, 2021, 5:30 AM

Federal Trade Commission staffers have begun looking into disclosures that Facebook Inc.’s internal company research had identified ill effects from its products, according to people familiar with the matter. Officials are looking into whether Facebook research documents indicate that it might have violated a 2019 settlement with the agency over privacy concerns, for which the company paid a record \$5 billion penalty, one of the people said. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## TAX

**Washington Times: Feds uncover 'expansive' use of illegal immigrants in South Carolina construction**, Stephen Dinan, October 26, 2021, 3:00 PM

Federal prosecutors have won guilty pleas from a dozen people involved in South Carolina's construction industry who hired illegal immigrants and paid them using unlicensed check cashers in order to shield the payments from the IRS. The pleas are the first in what prosecutors called an "expansive" undercover investigation along the South Carolina coast. The Justice Department said the schemes cost the IRS "tens of millions of dollars" in taxes that should have been paid on the workers. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**LAT: Assaults on police in L.A., U.S. up in 2020 amid civil unrest**, Richard Winton, Kevin Rector, October 26, 2021, 8:46 PM

During a year of global civil unrest, assaults on law enforcement officers increased nationwide, and Los Angeles reported the most attacks on police officers in the line of duty in the past decade, according to federal and state data. FBI numbers released this month show there were 60,105 U.S. officers assaulted in 2020, with about 31% reporting some kind of injuries — a 7.2% increase from 2019. And more than half that increase came from confrontations with protesters. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS

**AP: Female inmate escapes from a federal prison in Phoenix**, Unattributed, October 26, 2021, 10:00 PM

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## US SUPREME COURT

**USA Today: Solicitor general pick Elizabeth Prelogar poised for approval despite 'flipflopping' charge**, John Fritze, October 27, 2021, 5:04 AM

President Joe Biden's pick to represent the federal government at the Supreme Court is poised for confirmation despite Republican criticism that she abandoned legal positions staked out by the Trump administration before the high court. Elizabeth Prelogar, who Biden nominated to be solicitor general in August, has sailed through her confirmation process, avoiding the bitter partisan brawls that accompanied some of his other Justice Department nominees. Senate Democrats on Monday queued up a vote on Prelogar for later this week. [[Continue Reading](#)]

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**NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: OCTOBER 26, 2021**

- Counterdrug agents in the US and Europe arrested 150 people and seized more than a quarter ton of illicit drugs in an international operation aimed at disrupting sales on a portion of the internet known as the darknet, authorities announced Tuesday. [[NBC](#)]
- From the sale of illicit drugs to violent challenges that have gone viral, lawmakers grilled executives from Snapchat, TikTok and YouTube over what they're doing to protect teens and children on their platforms, warning that they could face regulation. [[CBS](#), [NBC](#)]

**From:** The Marsha Project  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] The House versus Steve Bannon  
**To:** Good ander, Margaret V. (OAG)  
**Sent:** October 20, 2021 7:41 AM (UTC-04:00)



**Opening Statement**

October 20, 2021

Ed ed by ANDREW COHEN



PICK OF THE NEWS

The House of Representatives is expected to vote Wednesday on whether to hold former Trump advisor Steve Bannon in contempt of Congress for failing to respond to a subpoena seeking information about his role in the January insurrection. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#) The House Select Committee detailed how Bannon evaded the subpoena and voted late Tuesday to recommend criminal contempt charges against him. [CNN](#) Contempt of Congress cases are rarely prosecuted and never quickly resolved. [POLITICO](#) **Related commentary:** Neither a lawyer nor a government official, Bannon has no legal basis for refusing to testify. [NBC NEWS](#) **More:** New U.S. Capitol surveillance video shows the breach from start to finish. [BUZZFEED NEWS](#)

**The treatment of Black migrants at the border in Texas raises old concerns** about disparate treatment. Federal immigration officials deny that Haitian asylum-seekers received harsher treatment last month than other people attempting to cross U.S. borders have received.

But statistics suggest otherwise, and that's causing new political problems for the Biden administration ahead of the 2022 election. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#) **More:** Customs and Border Protection agents say they've already stopped more migrants trying to enter the U.S. by sea, near California, than in the past three years combined. [LOS ANGELES TIMES](#)

**The new meth.** A cheaper and more dangerous form of methamphetamine is helping fuel a deadly overdose crisis in the U.S. Government chemists began noticing the shift 15 years ago, mostly in Mexico, where producers of the illegal drugs began moving away from labs using mostly ephedrine to a method known as P2P. The new method exponentially expands the ways in which meth can be quickly produced. Now it is taking a terrible toll on domestic users touched by the opioid crisis. [THE ATLANTIC](#) **TMP Context:** Inside the nation's overdose crisis in prisons and jails. [THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

**Imagine scamming parents who are seeking to adopt children.** Federal investigators discovered that one Michigan woman, Tara Lee, defrauded 160 families and 70 birth mothers by promising to broker adoptions that never occurred. Prosecutors alleged that Lee took in \$2.1 million as part of a years-long scam that left hopeful families desperate and frustrated. Lee pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 10 years in prison and ordered to pay \$1 million in restitution. As he meted out the punishment, her trial judge said that Lee had "ruined people's lives for generations." Lee is now trying to overturn her own plea. [THE NEW YORKER](#)

N/S/E/W

Officials in Broward County, **Florida**, reached a \$25 million settlement with the families of the people killed or wounded by Nikolas Cruz during his school shooting rampage in February 2018. [SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL](#) Cruz is expected to plead guilty today to the murder charges against him. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

Julian Alexander, a young Black man who was a newlywed and expectant father, was fatally shot by police in Anaheim, **California**, in November 2008. The cop who killed the unarmed victim was never punished. Prosecutors never brought charges. Thirteen years later, Alexander's family and friends honor his memory in an age where police brutality and excessive police force draw a lot more attention than they used to. [LOS ANGELES TIMES](#)

The vaccine fight rolls on in **Illinois**. The governor has extended the deadline for the state's vaccine mandate for prison guards and other public employees. [CHICAGO TRIBUNE](#) **Related:**

More examples of police union officials across the country opposing vaccine mandates. [USA](#)

[TODAY](#)

Prison gerrymandering is alive and well in **Wisconsin**. State lawmakers know they are transferring political power from cities to rural areas. They know their voting rules diminish the power of communities of color. No one has stopped them. [MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL](#)

Last year, officials in Austin, **Texas**, voted to reduce the city's police budget. Next month, voters will decide whether it's time to dramatically increase the budget to hire more officers.

[TEXAS TRIBUNE](#)

COMMENTARY

**The new lost cause.** An attempt to overthrow American democracy has become an act of patriotism to authoritarians. [THE ATLANTIC](#) **More:** The Justice Department decries the "lionizing" of January insurrectionists, saying it will only foster future political violence.

[POLITICO](#)

**When a miscarriage is called manslaughter.** Seventeen weeks pregnant, an Oklahoma woman lost her baby. There were medical reasons, but she also admitted to drug use. She was charged and convicted. With abortion rights teetering, it's a grim sign of things to come, even for women who don't intend to terminate their pregnancies. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

**Hello, Wall Street.** Signs of life from a Justice Department that has been positively moribund when it comes to prosecuting white-collar crime. [WASHINGTON MONTHLY](#)

**Immigration policy can't just be about data.** "The failure to disaggregate and contextualize data on immigration and crime can feed a broader cynicism on both the far left and right, triggering either despair or unnecessarily drastic proposals with severe unintended consequences." [REAL CLEAR POLICY](#)

**Bail reform is still a mess in Texas.** Recent legislation fixed problems that don't exist and failed to solve the ones that do. [HOUSTON CHRONICLE](#) **TMP Context:** Houston's new judges try to fix a broken system\*. [\\* THE MARSHALL PROJECT](#)

ETC.

**Chris Magnus gets his confirmation hearing at last.** The Tucson police chief was tapped by President Biden in April to lead the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He told senators Tuesday that he'll enforce immigration laws "humanely." He also testified that he's in favor of COVID-19 testing and vaccinations for migrants at the border. [THE WASHINGTON POST](#)

**"You gotta go from what you really see."** If we are to give meaning to justice reform in the long run, we need more formerly incarcerated people in colleges, universities and the jury box. [INQUEST](#)

**No half-measures when it comes to decriminalizing sex work.** Competing legislation in New York offers stark differences. You can't protect sex workers without also protecting their clients. [THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

**Time for the feds to come again to Hinds County, Mississippi.** The local jail there opened 27 years ago. Conditions have never been good, and have now grown measurably worse for both the incarcerated and those who purport to guard them. [MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS](#)

**Printing hate, fueling violence.** How White-owned newspapers incited racial hatred against Black Americans a century ago. A special series produced by dozens of journalism students who dug into newspaper archives this summer. [HOWARD CENTER FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM](#)

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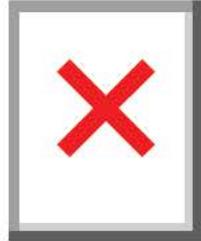
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Oct 19, 2021

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B E U G E N R E Y A D N S M L R I E R Z L E Z S T A N T L D I R O & S N



Presented by

**CHILD TAX CREDIT STATE OF PLAY** — Our Senate ace **Burgess Everett** just sent us this quick dispatch on a key part of the reconciliation talks: “**SHERROD BROWN** is just saying no to efforts to impose tough restrictions on who should qualify for the next round of child tax credits from the reconciliation bill. He told a pair of reporters in the Capitol midday that he wouldn’t consent to squeezing out people from getting the benefit unless they were from relatively wealthy families.

“**If they want to bring down the eligibility for families making \$200, \$300, \$350, \$400K, I’m fine with that. But the fact is this has been the most effective, quantifiable, provable answer to**

child poverty that we've done in a generation. Comparable to what the Affordable Care Act did. Why would we scale that back?"

**"Asked about JOE MANCHIN's efforts to scale back who receives the benefit,** Brown replied: 'No. no. no. Just no on it. It's too important. I've had conversations with Manchin about it. Manchin wants to scale back the top and we can get major savings if that's what he wants to do. We've already compromised on this, we wanted 10-year permanence. And now we're looking at 3-4 years."

**IXNAY ON THE CARBON TAX-AY?** — This morning, we reported that [the possibility of a carbon tax](#) was increasingly being discussed in reconciliation talks as a way to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

**Today, Sens. Manchin and JON TESTER** (D-Mont.) voiced something between hesitation and outright opposition to the idea, [as Burgess writes in Congress Minutes](#).

— **Tester was pretty diplomatic:** "You might have problems with me on a carbon tax," he said. "I use a lot more fuel than [a trucker does], and we're both going to get the same check and it's going to make us whole? It's just not going to work."

— **Manchin was very ... Manchin about it:** "The carbon tax is not on the board at all right now."

**That keeps Dems in a lurch** as they continue to hunt for ways to fulfill President **JOE BIDEN's** emissions ambitions within a reconciliation bill that can actually pass the Senate.

— **FWIW, one senator involved in the talks** told Playbook this afternoon that Dems are "very very close" to a deal on the climate provisions in the reconciliation bill and that a carbon tax, despite Manchin's comment, is indeed still on the board.

**Speaking of:** The Two Joes™ met this morning at the White House, [a source tells Burgess](#). The topic? You guessed it: The "president's jobs and families plan."

**This afternoon, two groups of lawmakers are also headed to the White House.**

— **The progressives:** At 2 p.m., nine House members — including Congressional Progressive Caucus Chair **PRAMILA JAYAPAL** — will meet with Biden, VP **KAMALA HARRIS** and Treasury Secretary **JANET YELLEN**.

— **The moderates:** A group of eight moderates from the House and Senate will meet at 4:30 with the same crew. Notable in that meeting is Sen. **MARK WARNER** (D-Va.), who has been pushing the House to pass the BIF and give Democrats a big win before Virginia's gubernatorial

race is all said and done in two weeks.

— **Related reading:** [“Biden bets his agenda on the inside game.”](#) by Christopher Cadelago and Marianne LeVine

**Interesting read: Are Dems getting the messaging all wrong on the reconciliation bill?** For POLITICO Magazine, [Farah Stockman offers advice](#) on that front: “I knew the Democrats had a messaging problem the day I saw newspapers describe Joe Biden’s Build Back Better plan as a vast expansion of the social safety net. Safety nets are those cumbersome things that catch you when you stumble and fall. They’re important, but they are not the stuff of inspiration. ...

**“Democrats need to get back to being the party of work**, not the party of social safety nets. ... [Build Back Better] is not a safety net bill. It’s a way to get Americans back to work, to prepare them for 21st century jobs and to make sure that people who do work can make ends meet. Universal pre-K and quality child care will help parents return to the labor force after the pandemic.”

**It's Tuesday afternoon. Guten Tag.** Axel Springer’s acquisition of POLITICO is now complete — you can read more about that in [the press release that went out](#) a few minutes ago. And though it’s a time of transition here, Playbook will continue to be Playbook, bringing you all the scoops, news, intrigue and insider nuggets you’ve come to expect from us.

A message from Google:

**Google keeps more people safe online than anyone else in the world.** Cybersecurity leadership is one of the ways Google is helping America grow and thrive. To combat today’s risks, Google is investing \$10 billion to help companies, organizations, and governments around the globe modernize their security infrastructures. [Learn more.](#)

## THE WHITE HOUSE

**POTUS WORKS PHONES IN VOTING RIGHTS PUSH** — As the Freedom to Vote Act comes up for a key vote on Wednesday, Biden and Harris got on the phones Monday to discuss the legislation, the White House said today. Biden spoke by phone with Sens. **RAPHAEL WARNOCK** (D-Ga.) and **ALEX PADILLA** (D-Calif.) and Harris spoke with Sens. **ANGUS KING** (I-Maine), **AMY KLOBUCHAR** (D-Minn.) and **JON OSSOFF** (D-Ga.).

## JUDICIARY SQUARE

**TRUMP'S TOUGH DRAW** — Former President **DONALD TRUMP's** attempt to block Congress' Jan. 6 select committee from obtaining White House records has landed before a judge that has

been tough on Capitol rioters, [Kyle Cheney and Anthony Adragna report for Congress Minutes](#). Judge **TANYA CHUTKAN**, “an Obama appointee to the federal district court of Washington D.C. in 2014, has even imposed sentences that went beyond prosecutors’ requests in recent Capitol riot cases. Chutkan also presided over the case of **MARIA BUTINA**, the Russian spy who sought to infiltrate influential Republican circles.”

**HEADS UP** — The FBI swarmed **OLEG DERIPASKA**’s D.C. home on Tuesday, [NBC’s Tom Winter, Michael Kosnar and Laura Strickler report](#). “The reason for their presence wasn’t immediately clear. The spokesperson said the agency is conducting “law enforcement activity at the home,” but wouldn’t elaborate. Deripaska is a billionaire oil tycoon with close ties to Russian President **VLADIMIR PUTIN**.”

## CONGRESS

**FBI CLOSES IN ON FORTENBERRY** — Rep. **JEFF FORTENBERRY** (R-Neb.) said in a video posted on Monday that he expects to be indicted for lying to the FBI despite his claims of innocence, [Omaha World-Herald’s Paul Hammel reports](#). “The anticipated indictment grew out of an FBI investigation, launched in California during the Trump administration, regarding \$180,000 in illegal ‘conduit’ campaign contributions from **GILBERT CHAGOURY**, a Nigerian billionaire of Lebanese descent.” [The video](#)

— **Fortenberry’s lawyer:** Former Rep. **TREY GOWDY** (R-S.C.), [per KLKN](#).

**MO MONEY, MO PROBLEMS** — Rep. **MO BROOKS** (R-Ala.), who is running for Senate, was “about a month late in disclosing that he sold up to \$50,000 worth of stock in pharmaceutical company Pfizer — despite criticizing the COVID-19 vaccine manufacturer and bashing mandates that force people to get its coronavirus vaccine,” [Insider’s Kimberly Leonard, Warren Rojas and Dave Levinthal report](#). Brooks’ wife, **MARTHA**, told Insider that she was to blame for the late filing: “I do not run those things through Mo. It’s only me. I have full control of that.”

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**INTRODUCING CONGRESS MINUTES:** Need to follow the action on Capitol Hill blow-by-blow? Check out Minutes, POLITICO’s new platform that delivers the latest exclusives, twists and much more in real time. Get it on your desktop or download the POLITICO mobile app for [iOS](#) or [Android](#). [GET A FIRST LOOK AT CONGRESS MINUTES HERE.](#)

## AMERICA AND THE WORLD

**FOR YOUR RADAR** — “The Haitian gang that abducted a group of American and Canadian missionaries is asking for \$1 million each for their release, a total of \$17 million, a top Haitian

official said on Monday,” [WSJ’s Kris Maher, Juan Montes and Clare Ansberry report](#). “President Biden has been briefed, White House press secretary **JEN PSAKI** said Monday, and the FBI will help Haitian officials investigate the kidnapping and try to negotiate a release.”

## THE PANDEMIC

**DISINFO DIGEST — COLIN POWELL**’s death due to Covid-19 complications quickly became a topic used to undermine vaccine efficacy. Despite Powell being 84 years old and immunocompromised — he had multiple myeloma and Parkinson’s disease — “public health experts said they expect Powell’s death to be misconstrued to feed a narrative that the vaccinations do not work,” [WaPo’s Annie Linskey writes](#).

## THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

**RAHMING HIS WAY THROUGH** — Amid progressive opposition to his nomination as ambassador to Japan, **RAHM EMANUEL** is going on offense “touting his support among Black organizations in closed-door meetings with lawmakers ahead of his confirmation hearing this week,” [WaPo’s John Hudson, Jacqueline Alemany and Theodoric Meyer report](#). But some Dems who he’s meeting with aren’t being charmed so easily as they still have questions “over his role in the police killing of Chicago teenager **LAQUAN MCDONALD**.”

— **MEANWHILE ... WaPo’s @seungminkim:** “One tidbit as ambassador-a-rama kicks off this week - [Sen. **TED CRUZ**] tells me he won’t hold up confirmation for **[JEFF] FLAKE** for Turkey, **[TOM] UDALL** for New Zealand, etc out of senatorial courtesy. Cruz has a hold on various State/Treasury noms due to ongoing battle with admin over Nord Stream 2.”

**HISTORY MAKING — RACHEL LEVINE** is set to become admiral of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, making her the first openly transgender four-star officer, [WaPo’s Dan Diamond writes](#).

## ALL POLITICS

**VA GOV LATEST —** Abortion used to be a topic that “Democrats and Republicans alike used to turn out bedrock supporters and attack their opponents,” [WaPo’s Marc Fisher writes](#). But in the Virginia governor’s race, only one candidate is pressing the issue. “While abortion rights advocates embrace Democrat **TERRY McAULIFFE** as a firewall who would keep abortion legal in Virginia, antiabortion groups have made an unusual pivot, arguing that the issue they long made a focus of state politics might best be relegated to the sidelines.”

— **Two things both sides are talking about:** Trump and education. [Fox News’ Paul Steinhauser has more](#) on the latest ad campaigns from McAuliffe and **GLENN YOUNGKIN**.

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## POLICY CORNER

**IMMIGRATION FILES** — The recent blowup over the Border Patrol's use of horseback agents to round up would-be migrants in Del Rio, Texas, was expected to be a topic at today's confirmation hearing for Biden's CBP chief, **CHRIS MAGNUS**. But the issue goes much deeper than Del Rio, [NYT's Eileen Sullivan writes](#) — it's about "the poor treatment of Black migrants that has spanned administrations, often overshadowed by the larger debate about the broken immigration system and a persistent focus on waves of migrants from Central America."

**HOW TO DEAL** — [NYT's Neil Irwin writes](#) about the economic conundrum that is dividing Democrats right now: Whether the Obama-era policies and ideas are still relevant in 2021. "That tension, and how it resolves itself — or doesn't — will be central to the evolution of the Biden presidency and American economic policy for years to come. On the surface, there is a clash between lawmakers with different political instincts. But there is also a clash over whether a more traditional view will prevail over a newer approach that has become mainstream among economists — especially those who lean left, but with some acceptance among center-right thinkers."

## BEYOND THE BELTWAY

**TRUMP-BACKED TEXAS 'AUDIT' BILL D.O.A.** — Two Trump-backed bills in the Texas legislature appear to be dead in the water, [Texas Tribune's Taylor Goldenstein reports](#). "One would have eased up the process for requesting an election audit, and another would have raised the penalty for the crime of illegal voting, a reversal of a provision that top Republican leaders said was accidentally included in a sweeping elections bill Republicans passed in the summer."

**THE PROGRESSIVE PUNT** — GOP legislatures across the country have implemented laws aimed at abortion, voting rights, mask requirements and more. But many states aren't seeing an increase in prosecutions for breaking these new laws. That's because progressive prosecutors across the states are "increasingly declaring they just won't enforce some GOP-backed state laws, a strategy at work in response to some of the most controversial new changes in recent years," [AP's Jonathan Mattise writes in Nashville, Tenn.](#)

## AFGHANISTAN FALLOUT

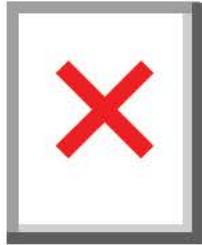
**STILL AT IT** — An informal network of former government and military officials hasn't given up on the Afghanistan evacuation efforts, "working to fulfill a promise and save the Afghan colleagues who risked their lives for America's long fight in Afghanistan," [NYT's Roger Cohen reports](#). "So far, the network has evacuated 69 people from 23 families from Afghanistan since mid-August."

## PLAYBOOKERS

**TRANSITIONS** — **Jonathan Graffeo** and **Phalen Kuckuck** are joining Hamilton Place Strategies. Graffeo will be a managing director and most recently was deputy staff director on the Senate Appropriations Committee for Sen. Richard Shelby (R-Ala.). Kuckuck will be a director and most recently was digital director at PLUS Communications and FP1 Strategies.

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A message from Google:



To prevent unauthorized access to accounts and networks, [Google is automatically enrolling users](#) in two-step verification, with a goal of 150 million users this year.

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## **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**AP: US jury convicts leader of neo-Nazi threat campaign**, Gene Johnson, September 29, 2021, 7:00 PM

A federal jury in Seattle on Wednesday convicted a leader of a neo-Nazi campaign to threaten journalists and Jewish activists in three states. The jury deliberated for about 90 minutes Wednesday following a two-day trial before convicting 25-year-old Kaleb Cole of five felony charges, including conspiracy, mailing threatening communications and interfering with a federally protected activity. He could face a decade in prison when Judge John C. Coughenour sentences him in January. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CBS](#), [Courthouse News](#), [The Hill](#), [KING-NBC \(Seattle, WA\)](#)

**Reuters: U.S. Olympic swimmer Klete Keller pleads guilty in U.S. Capitol riot case**, Jan Wolfe, September 29, 2021, 5:14 PM

Klete Keller, a former Olympic swimmer who won two gold medals for the United States, on Wednesday pleaded guilty to a felony charge related to his participation in the [Jan. 6](#) riot at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of former President Donald Trump. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Bloomberg](#), [CNBC](#), [CNN](#), [Courthouse News](#), [KCBS-CBS \(Los Angeles, CA\)](#), [KIRO-CBS \(Seattle, WA\)](#), [Inquirer \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#), [LAT](#), [NBC](#), [Newser](#), [Newsweek](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [USA Today](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WTXF-Fox \(Philadelphia, PA\)](#)

**Reuters: Two Ohio men get 45 days in jail for roles in U.S. Capitol riot**, Jan Wolfe, September 29, 2021, 1:36 PM

Two Ohio men on Wednesday received 45-day sentences after pleading guilty for their participation in the deadly [Jan. 6](#) U.S. Capitol riot by supporters of former President Donald Trump, becoming the first defendants given jail time for nonviolent misdemeanor offenses committed that day. U.S. District Judge James Boasberg rejected arguments by the two friends, Derek Jancart and Erik Rau, that they should be spared from incarceration because they have accepted responsibility for their actions. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [WaPo](#)

*Washington Times: [ANALYSIS] On Jan. 6, what did the FBI know?, Andrew P. Napolitano, September 29, 2021, 4:00 PM*

The New York Times recently reported that the FBI had an undercover informant amid the mob that entered the U.S. Capitol [on Jan. 6](#) who had related to them his knowledge of the demonstrators' plans beforehand and his observations of events in the building in real-time. The informant was a genuine member of the Proud Boys, one of the groups the feds are trying to charge with conspiracy to overthrow the government. According to the Times, the informant told the FBI in advance that his colleagues had no plan to disrupt the government. He also reported violence and destruction in the Capitol to his FBI handler as it was happening, and the FBI did nothing timely to stop it. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **CRIMINAL LAW**

***AP: US prison warden in California accused of inmate sex abuse***, Unattributed, September 29, 2021, 9:00 PM

The warden of a federal prison in California has been charged with sexually abusing an inmate, authorities said Wednesday. Ray J. Garcia, 54, of Merced, allegedly groped at least one of his female wards, asked at least two inmates to strip naked for him and took and stored photographs of a naked inmate in a cell at the Federal Correctional Institute Dublin in California's San Francisco Bay area, according to a statement from the U.S. attorney's office. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KTVU-Fox \(Oakland, CA\)](#) [San Francisco Chronicle](#)

***AP: Massachusetts man charged with harassing interracial couple***, Unattributed, September 29, 2021, 2:00 PM

A Massachusetts man posted racial epithets, crude language and threats of physical harm in response to an interracial couple who had announced their engagement on Facebook, federal prosecutors said Wednesday. Stephen M. DeBerardinis, 45, of Boston and Dedham, is scheduled to make his first court appearance Wednesday. An email seeking comment was left with his federal public defender. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [Boston Herald](#), [Daily Beast](#)

***New Jersey Advance Media: N.J. child protective caseworker busted at airport with child pornography, federal prosecutors say***, Chris Sheldon, September 29, 2021, 9:14 PM

A caseworker for the state's Division of Child Protection and Permanency was arrested Tuesday after he was found at an airport with child porn on his cellphone, federal prosecutors allege. Trent Collier, 55, of Kearny was charged with one count of possession of child pornography, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced Wednesday. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

***Cincinnati Enquirer: Feds: Man sentenced for aiding illegal firearms purchase connected to killing of Dayton detective***, Quinlan Bentley, September 29, 2021, 10:47 PM

A Butler County man was sentenced to five years in prison for his role in illegally purchasing firearms connected to the killing of Dayton, Ohio, police detective Jorge DelRio. DelRio, a former Dayton detective and Drug Enforcement Administration task force officer, was shot in 2019 while executing a search warrant on Ruskin Road in Dayton. He died from his injuries after spending three days on advanced life support. Arland Mills, 43, of Trenton, Ohio, pleaded guilty to aiding the illegal firearms purchases in November 2020. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [WDTN-NBC \(Dayton, OH\)](#), [WHIO-AM \(Dayton, OH\)](#)

***WTOP-FM (Washington, DC): 2 DC men arrested on charges related to trafficking of 'ghost guns'***, Zake Harter, September 29, 2021, 1:40 PM

Two D.C. men have been indicted on charges related to trafficking firearms — including untraceable "ghost guns" — according to U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C. Milique Wilson, 37, and Joseph Vincent Smith, 36, were indicted on charges of conspiracy, dealing firearms without a license and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon. According to the indictment, Wilson and Smith worked with others to bring in firearms from places outside D.C., including locations in Maryland and Virginia, and sell

them or ship them elsewhere. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL RIGHTS**

***WaPo: Appeals court to examine whether Guantánamo detainees have due process rights***, Ann E. Marimow and Missy Ryan, September 30, 2021, 5:00 AM

The question of whether detainees at the prison in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, have due process rights under the Constitution goes before the influential federal appeals court in D.C. on Thursday in the case of a Yemeni man held without charge or trial for nearly 20 years. The Biden administration has backed away from the Trump-era position that inmates at the military facility have no such rights. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Washington Times: Court hears dispute over N.Y. healthcare workers seeking COVID vaccine religious exemption***, Emily Zantow, September 29, 2021, 5:40 PM

The 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday heard arguments in a case brought by a conservative nonprofit challenging a New York order that prohibits state health care workers from seeking religious exemptions to the COVID-19 vaccine mandate. We The Patriots USA, Inc. wants the three-judge panel to grant a temporary injunction that would force the state to allow religious exemption requests from health care workers while the court fight continues. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Lewiston Morning Tribune (Lewiston, ID): Asotin County agrees to settlement with clerk who was allegedly harassed***, Unattributed, September 30, 2021, 3:36 AM (EDT)

Asotin County is poised to pay a six-figure settlement to a deputy clerk who was allegedly sexually harassed by former Superior Court Judge Scott D. Gallina. According to a news release from the U.S. Department of Justice, the county and the United States filed a joint notice of settlement in the case that, if accepted by a federal judge, will require the county to pay the clerk \$100,000. [[Continue Reading](#)]

***Star-Telegram (Fort Worth, TX): Parents sue Grapevine-Colleyville, other school districts with no mask mandates***, Elizabeth Campbell, September 29, 2021, 6:37 PM

Several North Texas school districts are facing a federal civil rights lawsuit for not having mask mandates. On Tuesday, parents filed a class action suit in the Western District of Texas alleging that the districts are violating children's civil rights under the 14th Amendment by failing to protect students during the pandemic. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [Texas Tribune](#)

***WJBF-ABC (Augusta, GA): Federal judge issues injunction on SC's mask ban; locals react***, Shawn Cabbagstalk, September 29, 2021, 5:09 PM

In a surprise ruling Tuesday, a federal judge issued an injunction against a ban on mask mandates in South Carolina schools. The ruling could open the door for school systems like Aiken County to require masks. "This virus still going on, I feel like they're safer that way, keeping the mask on," Aiken Resident Joanne coats told NewsChannel 6's Shawn Cabbagstalk about the new changes. "I think kids should wear masks to protect themselves," Aiken resident Linda Stone added. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CIVIL LAW**

***WaPo: Texas defends law that has halted most abortions in the state***, Ann E. Marimow and Robert Barnes, September 29, 2021, 1:30 PM

Texas officials on Wednesday defended the state's strict abortion law that bars the procedure as early as six weeks into pregnancy and urged a federal judge to allow the measure to stand. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton (R) said the court should dismiss the Biden administration's lawsuit seeking to block the measure that has effectively halted most abortions in the nation's second-most-populous state. The Justice Department, the state said in its court filing, does not have the authority to use the federal courts to enforce a constitutional right to abortion. Rather, the Texas law must be challenged in state court through lawsuits brought by private citizens, Paxton contends. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **IMMIGRATION & BORDER SECURITY**

**Reuters: U.S. DHS plans to issue new memo ending Trump-era immigration policy**, Unattributed, September 29, 2021, 6:41 PM

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security said on Wednesday it intends to issue a new memo in the coming weeks ending the "remain in Mexico" immigration program. The department issued a memo in June ending the program implemented by former President Donald Trump, formally known as the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), but a Texas-based federal judge ruled MPP must be restarted. The U.S. Supreme Court in August rejected an effort by President Joe Biden's administration to block the Texas-based judge's ruling. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [The Hill](#), [Politico](#)

**NYT: Greyhound Agrees to Pay \$2.2 Million Over Immigration Sweeps on Buses**, Michael Levenson, September 29, 2021, 8:00 PM

Greyhound Lines will pay \$2.2 million to resolve a lawsuit filed by Washington State that accused it of allowing U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents to conduct warrantless immigration sweeps on its buses, state officials said this week. Washington State's attorney general said the settlement would be used to provide restitution to passengers who were detained, arrested or deported after immigration agents boarded their buses at the Spokane Intermodal Center, and for partial reimbursement of his office's litigation costs. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: Arrest blotter ended over immigration enforcement concerns**, Justin Jouvenal and AP, September 29, 2021, 5:47 PM

Fairfax County police have stopped publishing a weekly arrest blotter after county officials found it violated a policy that restricts the dissemination of personal information that could aid immigration enforcement. Immigrant rights and civil liberties groups had been pushing for the change, arguing the weekly compilations that include arrestees' addresses and other details could allow U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to target immigrants for deportation and raise privacy concerns.

[\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**The Hill: Deportations of Haitians spark concerns over environmental refugees**, Rachel Frazin and Rebecca Beitsch, September 30, 2021, 6:03 AM

The swell of Haitian migrants attempting to come to the U.S. shows the country needs a plan to help environmental refugees, advocates say, while warning that the swift deportation of those camped in Texas is indicative of how climate migrants could be treated in the years to come. The Biden administration in recent days deported some 4,000 migrants back to Haiti without giving them a chance to seek asylum — their plight brought to the forefront with images of border officials on horseback dispersing migrants in Del Rio, Texas. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [CNN](#)

**Washington Times: Illegal immigrants turn to drain pipes to sneak into U.S.**, Stephen Dinan, September 29, 2021, 9:00 PM

A group of illegal immigrants used a drain pipe Wednesday to sneak into the country in Hidalgo, Texas, according to Border Patrol agents who made the arrest. Agents were tipped to the group after being told people were using the local sewers. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Arizona Daily Star: Tucson police chief will finally get his hearing to head Customs and Border Protection**, Unattributed, September 29, 2021, 11:00 PM

Tucson Police Chief Chris Magnus' nomination by President Biden to head U.S. Customs and Border Protection will finally move forward after being stalled in the Senate for months. U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden announced Wednesday that he will schedule Magnus' hearing before the Senate Finance Committee he chairs, which oversees the confirmation process for CBP. He did not immediately provide a date. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**KTSN-NBC (El Paso, TX): Fentanyl overdose kills Mexican national in downtown El Paso jail,**  
Aaron J. Montes, September 29, 2021, 7:30 PM

A Mexican national imprisoned at the El Paso County Detention Facility died from a fentanyl overdose in June, according a custodial death report submitted to the Texas Attorney General. "As this case involves federal inmates who are regularly transferred from various detention facilities, we cannot release any information without approval of the responsible federal agency," a spokeswoman for the sheriff's office said. "More specifically, information related to a detainee held on behalf of U.S. Customs and Border Protection cannot be released pursuant to 8 CFR § 236.6." [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **ANTITRUST**

**Reuters: U.S. Justice Dept antitrust nominee Kanter has confirmation hearing next week,**  
Unattributed, September 29, 2021, 5:04 PM

Jonathan Kanter, President Joe Biden's nominee to lead the antitrust division of the Justice Department, will appear for a confirmation hearing next week before the Senate Judiciary Committee, the committee said on its website. Kanter's nomination is not expected to spark any significant opposition at the hearing on Wednesday. If the committee approves the nomination, it goes to the full Senate for confirmation. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Law360: DOJ Signals Shift On SEP Antitrust Policies**, Matthew Perlman, September 29, 2021, 8:55 PM

An official in the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division indicated that the agency is taking a more balanced approach to policies surrounding the standard-setting process, after critics saw the prior administration as overly favorable to patentholders. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

## **FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES**

**Reuters: Biden's failed nominee on gun policy says he got death threats, no protection**, Sarah N. Lynch, September 29, 2021, 10:54 PM

President Joe Biden's failed nominee to run the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives said he faced death threats while the U.S. Senate was considering him but that the administration declined to provide him security. Longtime ATF agent and gun control advocate David Chipman said in an interview on Wednesday that he hired a security adviser after repeatedly telling the FBI and his handlers at the Justice Department who were assigned to help him navigate the confirmation process about the threats. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**WaPo: U.S. judge: Nation's capital liable for wrongful arrests under struck-down gun ban**, Spencer S. Hsu, September 29, 2021, 6:55 PM

A federal judge found the D.C. government liable Wednesday for wrongfully arresting between 2012 and 2014 six people who were accused of violating its ban on carrying handguns in public. U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth did not rule on a motion seeking class-action status, but the decision, if upheld, could clear the way for claims for damages by as many as 4,500 people similarly arrested under the law the courts overturned in 2014, according to court filings. [\[Continue Reading\]](#)

**Fox: Brian Laundrie seen buying cell phone from Florida store on day of disappearance, report says**, Stephanie Pagones, September 29, 2021, 5:27 PM

Brian Laundrie allegedly purchased a cell phone from an AT&T store in his hometown of North Port the day his parents claimed to have last seen him, according to a report. TMZ reported that Laundrie was spotted "with an older woman" inside one of the cell phone stores in North Port, Florida, where he was living with his parents and his fiancée, Gabby Petito, on Sept. 14. The FBI later visited the store and seized footage from the surveillance cameras, the report states. [\[Continue Reading\]](#) See also: [KAAL-ABC \(Austin, MN\)](#), [KFDM-CBS \(Beaumont, TX\)](#), [KGBT-CBS \(Harlingen, TX\)](#), [WCPO-ABC \(Cincinnati, OH\)](#), [WDTN-NBC \(Dayton, OH\)](#), [WFLA-NBC \(Tampa, FL\)](#), [WKRN-ABC](#)

[\(Nashville, TN\)](#), [WIBW-AM \(Topeka, KS\)](#), [WJW-Fox \(Cleveland, OH\)](#), [WPBF-ABC \(West Palm Beach, FL\)](#), [WRIC-ABC \(Richmond, VA\)](#), [WTSP-CBS \(St. Petersburg, FL\)](#)

**The Hill: Two Ohio police officers arrested in fentanyl distribution case**, Caroline Vakil, September 29, 2021, 2:43 PM

Two police officers working in the Columbus Division of Police's drug cartel unit were arrested in connection to a scheme to distribute over seven kilograms of fentanyl, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio announced on Wednesday. The two officers, identified by prosecutors as Marco Merino and John Kotchkoski, were allegedly involved in distributing the fentanyl and prosecutors also alleged that Merino assisted in the distribution of cocaine by taking bribes to protect its transit. [Continue Reading] See also: [The Plain Dealer \(Cleveland, OH\)](#), [WCMH-NBC \(Columbus, OH\)](#), [WSYX-ABC \(Columbus, OH\)](#), [WXIX-Fox \(Cincinnati, OH\)](#)

**KWWL-NBC (Waterloo, IA): Nineteen people charged with federal gun law violations in Waterloo**, Unattributed, September 29, 2021, 5:12 PM

The FBI, U.S. Attorney's Office, Waterloo Police, and other agencies came together to announce more than a dozen Project Safe Neighborhood arrests and gun charges. Nineteen people have been charged with federal gun crime announced by the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Iowa, including 16 from last week. Those charged are between 19 and 28-years-old. [Continue Reading] See also: [KASI \(Ames, IA\)](#)

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE/CORRECTIONS**

**The Hill: Bipartisan senators introduce legislation to upgrade federal prisons' camera systems**, Jordan Williams, September 29, 2021, 1:59 PM

Sens. Jon Ossoff (D-Ga.), Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) introduced legislation on Wednesday to upgrade camera systems in federal prisons. The Prison Camera Reform Act of 2021 would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to submit to Congress a plan to address deficiencies in security cameras, land-mobile radios, and public address systems. The agency would be required to implement its plan within three years of submitting it to Congress. [Continue Reading]

## **US SUPREME COURT**

**AP: Losing can 'get frustrating' says liberal Justice Sotomayor**, Jessika Gresko, September 29, 2021, 8:00 PM

Acknowledging the limits of her own influence on the law as a member of the Supreme Court's liberal minority, Justice Sonia Sotomayor on Wednesday encouraged citizens to work to change laws they may disagree with, like a recent Texas law that limits access to abortions. Sotomayor, who appeared via Zoom at an American Bar Association event, answered a question from a law student by saying members of the public will not always like the results that courts reach. [Continue Reading] See also: [CNN](#)

**CBS: Abortion, guns and religious liberty: Supreme Court gears up for new term filled with contentious disputes**, Melissa Quinn, September 30, 2021, 6:03 AM

The Supreme Court is slated to return to the bench for the start of its new term on Monday, with the justices set to take up politically divisive cases involving the Second Amendment, religious liberty and abortion, all while battling bruised public perception of the high court's legitimacy. The justices will convene for in-person arguments in the court's stately courtroom for the first time since the start of the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020, though they'll take the bench before a limited audience due to public health concerns. [Continue Reading]

## **NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS**

**AP: Panel recommends 5 new federal judgeships for Oklahoma**, Ken Miller, September 29, 2021, 5:00 PM

A judicial panel has recommended the creation of five additional federal judgeships in Oklahoma because of an increased caseload due to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling regarding crimes committed on tribal lands. The Judicial Conference on Tuesday published the recommendation that Congress create three new judgeships in the Eastern District of Oklahoma, based in Muskogee, and two in the state's Northern District, based in Tulsa. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Tulsa World: Tulsa U.S. Attorney's Office adds 24 prosecutors to help with surge in cases due to McGirt ruling**, Curtis Killman, September 29, 2021, 8:00 PM

The Tulsa U.S. Attorney's Office adds 24 prosecutors to help with surge in cases due to McGirt ruling. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Tulsa has added 24 additional prosecutors to its ranks to help alleviate the surge in new cases resulting from the U.S. Supreme Court's 2020 McGirt decision. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **OPIOID CRISIS**

**AP: Appeals Are Mounting in Purdue Pharma Bankruptcy Settlement**, Jennifer Mcdermott And Geoff Mulvihill, September 29, 2021, 4:41 PM

Objections to a historic settlement with Purdue Pharma are mounting in the form of appeals, with Rhode Island's attorney general saying Wednesday the plan doesn't hold the OxyContin maker or its owners accountable for its role in sparking the opioid crisis. Rhode Island appealed Tuesday in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in New York. Separate appeals have already been filed by the U.S. Bankruptcy Trustee, California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maryland and Washington state, plus some Canadian local governments and other Canadian entities. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**WaPo: [EDITORIAL] Rising and spreading murder rates means it's time to act on guns**, Editorial Board, September 29, 2021, 2:51 PM

"The fact that this is so routine that it's not even a major headline, and we don't even blink an eye when this keeps happening is heartbreaking." So commented the co-founder of the Violence Project about last week's shooting in a Tennessee grocery store in which 15 people were wounded, one fatally. That lament about the country becoming numb applies not just to the mass shootings that sadly have become all too commonplace in the United States but also to the steady spate of gun violence that has sent the murder rate soaring and scarred countless lives. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **CONGRESS**

**AP: House panel subpoenas organizers of Jan. 6 Trump rally**, Mary Clare Jalonick, Eric Tucker, September 29, 2021, 6:40 PM

A House committee investigating the [Jan. 6](#) Capitol insurrection has subpoenaed 11 officials who were involved in planning rallies in support of former President Donald Trump ahead of the violent attack, including one the day of the siege at which the president told his supporters to "fight like hell." The announcement follows a first round of subpoenas last week that targeted former White House and administration officials who were in contact with Trump before and during the insurrection. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#), [TheHill](#), [NBC](#), [NYT](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [WaPo](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [WSJ](#)

**AP: Senate parliamentarian deals fresh immigration blow to Dems**, Alan Fram, September 29, 2021, 6:00 PM

The Senate parliamentarian told Democrats on Wednesday that their newest proposal for helping millions of immigrants stay in the U.S. permanently could not be included in their \$3.5 trillion social and environment bill, the party's latest setback on the issue. "It's unfortunate. I disagree with her," Sen.

Bob Menendez, D-N.J., one of the party's pro-immigration advocates, said of the decision by Elizabeth MacDonough, the chamber's nonpartisan rules arbiter. [[Continue Reading](#)] See also: [CNN](#)

**CNN: Lawmakers race the clock to avert shutdown ahead of midnight deadline**, Clare Foran, September 30, 2021, 5:02 AM

Government funding expires at midnight and Congress has not yet passed a stopgap funding bill to avert a shutdown, though Democratic leaders are on track to do so later Thursday. Lawmakers are racing the clock with the Senate and House both expected to vote to approve a short-term funding patch to keep the government open. Democrats, who control both chambers of Congress, have so far projected confidence that a shutdown will not occur, but with the deadline rapidly approaching, lawmakers have no room for error. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Law360: Sens. Float 24-Hour Rule To Report Ransomware Payments**, Ben Kochman, September 29, 2021, 7:00 PM

Leaders of the Senate Homeland Security Committee have introduced legislation that would require ransomware attack victims to report extortion payments within 24 hours, in Congress' latest bid to address a spree of major cyberattacks that have unfolded in the past year. The Cyber Incident Reporting Act, sponsored by Sens. Gary Peters, D-Mich., and Rob Portman, R-Ohio., would also set a 72-hour deadline for critical infrastructure companies to report cyberattacks to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, a division of the U. S. Department of Homeland Security. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Bloomberg Law: Lawmakers Tackle Antitrust, IP Barriers to Cheaper Medicines**, Ian Lopez, September 29, 2021, 5:16 PM

House lawmakers advanced legislation to crack down on seemingly anticompetitive conduct aimed at lowering U.S. drug costs, the latest in a spate of activity geared toward making prescription drugs more affordable for Americans. [[Continue Reading](#)]

**Scotus Blog: Senators spar over shadow docket in wake of court's order allowing Texas abortion law to take effect**, Ellena Erskine, September 29, 2021, 8:20 PM

Democratic senators argued Wednesday that rulings on the Supreme Court's "shadow docket" are inconsistent and overly politicized. Republicans called the shadow docket ordinary and said the term itself is designed to make the court's emergency orders seem nefarious. The debate took place at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in light of the court's decision earlier this month refusing to grant emergency relief to groups challenging Texas' law that bans nearly all abortions. [[Continue Reading](#)]

## **NETWORK EVENING NEWS LINEUP: SEPTEMBER 29, 2021**

- President Biden's domestic agenda is stalled by Democratic infighting as the government is on the brink of a shutdown. House Democrats appear poised to miss a second vote on a bipartisan infrastructure bill this week, highlighting the stubborn stalemate over the larger social benefits package at the core of President Biden's agenda. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- In an urgent plea on Wednesday, federal health officials asked that any American who is pregnant, planning to become pregnant or currently breastfeeding get vaccinated against the coronavirus as soon as possible. [[ABC](#), [NBC](#)]
- House lawmakers on Wednesday had their chance to grill the Pentagon's top leaders on the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, digging down into decisions Biden administration officials made before, during and after US forces evacuated the country. [[ABC](#), [CBS](#), [NBC](#)]
- The Biden administration is expelling thousands of Haitians who had gathered in Del Rio, Texas in hopes of entering the US. After landing in Port-au-Prince, they are brought to a UN processing center. [[NBC](#)]
- The largest hospital in Montana can hardly keep up with a surge in COVID-19 patients. The

- National Guard has been brought in to help care for and screen new patients. [[CBS](#)]
- An apparent gas explosion in Dallas injured four firefighters and four civilians and caused the partial collapse of an apartment building, according to local officials. [[ABC](#)]