

From: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FBI Public Affairs News Briefing Wednesday, July 15, 2020

Date: Wed, 15 Jul 2020 10:25:55 +0000

Importance: Normal

Mobile version and searchable archives available at fbi.bulletinintelligence.com.

 FBI News Briefing

TO: THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020 6:30 AM EDT

TODAY'S TABLE OF CONTENTS

LEADING THE NEWS

- Trump Says More Whites Than Blacks Being Shot By Police.

PROTESTS

- Lawmakers Seek Information From FBI, CIA On Antifa Rumors.
- Trump Threatens Federal Action If Cities Don't Rein In Violence.
- Trump: "Children Won't Be Safe In Biden's America."
- Parson: Trump "Taking Action" To Help St. Louis Couple Facing Gun Charges.
- Bernhardt Warns Those Caught Dismantling Monuments Will Be Punished.
- Emmer Wants Probe Into Decisions That Allowed Looters Free Rein.
- California Bars Police From Using LAPD Records In Gang Database.
- Catholic Churches, Statues Targeted By Vandals In String Of Attacks.
- Daughter Of Slain Police Officer Criticized For Tweeting #BlueLivesMatter.
- Democratic Strategist Labels Blackburn "Inbred Racist Trash."
- WPost Investigation: 12 Protestors Partially Blinded By Police.
- LATimes Columnist Recommends Replacing National Anthem With "Lean On Me."
- Central Park Birdwatcher Cooper: It's A Mistake To Focus On One Individual.

COUNTER-TERRORISM

- Pennsylvania Man Charged After Threatening To Attack Federal Buildings.
- US Jewish Groups Urge Government To Push Jordan To Extradite Terrorist.
- Attorneys Argues For Widening Inquest Into Salisbury Nerve Agent Attack.

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

- Further Legal Action Against Stone Urged.
- Professor: Commutation Of Stone's Sentence Confirms Trump's Guilt.
- Graham Says He Will Grill Mueller About Russia Investigation.
- Former Trump Attorney: Durham Should "Taker A Hard Look" At Weissmann.
- Judge Extends Deadline For DOJ To Answer Questions About Mueller Report.
- Former FBI Official Criticizes Mueller Investigation.
- DDoSecrets Releases Wikileaks "Chats, Strategy Sessions" Related To Assange Case.
- US Space Force To Launch Four NRO Payloads Wednesday.

- Sources: Russia Used Information Shared By The US To Target Chechen Dissidents.
- Protests After Belarus Bars Election Challengers.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

- Ghislaine Maxwell Pleads Not Guilty As Judge Denies Bail Request.
- Woman Charged With Helping Dispose Of Fort Hood Soldier's Remains Appears In Court.
- Former VA Hospital Assistant Pleads Guilty To Murdering Patients.
- Former White Supremacist Group Leader Pleads Guilty To Swatting Ring.
- White Man Filmed In Alleged Indian Racial Assault Claims Black Accuser Is Lying.
- FBI Arrests Fugitive In Miami After Five Years On The Run.
- South Carolina Man Sentenced In Fentanyl Overdose Death.
- New York's Wave Of Gun Violence Continues With Three Drive-By Shootings.
- FBI Raids Indiana Home Over Animal Cruelty.
- No Criminal Charges To Be Filed In Black Man's 2018 Custody Death In Louisiana.
- FBI Searching For Missing Iowa Child.
- Two Brothers Charged With Trafficking Fentanyl.
- FBI Supporting Investigation Into Suicide In Idaho.
- California Man Charged With Sales Of Fake COVID-19 Treatment.
- Tennessee State Trooper Fired Following FBI Investigation.
- North Carolina Man Sentenced For Bank Robbery.
- FBI Supporting Investigation Into Tennessee Bank Robbery.
- Idaho Man Charged In Stabbing.

FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

- FBI Concerned Over Money Laundering Risks In Private Equity, Hedge Funds.
- FBI Probing Possible Coronavirus Unemployment Benefit Fraud By Pennsylvania Inmates.
- Rabbi Injured In California Synagogue Shooting Pleads Guilty To Tax Fraud.
- FBI Warns Of Identify Theft Used To File Fraudulent Unemployment Claims.
- FBI Reportedly Probing Threats Made After Ambulance Purchases By Missouri County.
- Former Georgia Tax Official Pleads Guilty To Bribery, Blackmail.
- Last Defendant Pleads Guilty In Florida Corruption Probe.
- Ohio Businessman Charged In Corruption Probe Granted Trial Continuance.
- California Psychiatrist Sentenced For Healthcare Fraud.
- Massachusetts Man To Plead Guilty To Wire Fraud.
- Nigerian Man Charged With Money Laundering Is Denied Bail.
- San Francisco City Attorney Seeks To Block Contractor In Corruption Scandal From Doing Business With City.
- New York Man Facing Charges Over Alleged Ponzi Scheme.
- New York Man Charged In Connection To Police Union Fraud.
- FBI Corruption Probe Results In Charges Against New Jersey Policeman.

CYBER DIVISION

- FBI Warns Of Rising Cyber Crimes Targeting School Districts.
- UK Sides With US Over China, Will Purge Huawei Equipment From 5G Network.
- Analysis: US Efforts Against Huawei Part Of Overdue Change In US Handling Of China.
- House Democrat Presses Google, Apple On Foreign-Owned Apps.
- Rep. Langevin To Propose Cyber Director Amendment To NDAA.
- Report: Tax Program Required By Chinese Banks For Clients Deploys Backdoors.
- TikTok's US Users Prepare For Possible Ban.

LABORATORY

- Forbes Examines FBI's Multimedia Exploitation Unit.
- Questions Raised About Thousands More Massachusetts Drug Lab Cases.

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

- Barr Says "Justice Was Done" After First Federal Execution In 17 Years.
- Anti-Crime Operation Draws Mixed Response From Community Leaders In Kansas City.

OTHER FBI NEWS

- Little Rock, Arkansas FBI Offers Civil Rights Training To Civilians.
- Convicted Michigan Contractor Gets Reduction Of Federal Prison Sentence.
- Arkansas Judge Forced To Step Down After Allegations Of Misconduct.
- Kansas City Pharmacist Who Diluted Cancer Meds To Get Early Release From Prison.

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

- Trump Says COVID Testing May Be "Working Too Well."
- Trump Says Keeping Schools Closed Would Be "A Terrible Decision."
- Pence Sounds Optimistic Note On Pandemic, Backs Reopening Schools In Louisiana Trip.
- Giroir Says Public Health Officials Do Not "Lie."
- Fauci Urges Trust In "Respected Medical Authorities" Like Himself.
- Redfield Warns Of "Difficult Times," Says Mask-Wearing Could Halt Virus' Advance.
- Hahn "Encouraged" About Vaccine Development.
- Former CDC Directors Decry Politicization Of Health Policy.
- Warren, Pressley Press Azar On Coronavirus' Impact On Minorities.
- Virginia Congressman Tests Positive For COVID-19.
- Administration Orders Hospitals To Bypass CDC On COVID Patient Information.
- Hospitals Stock Up On COVID-19 Drugs To Prepare For Second Wave In Fall.
- Biden: "It's Gotten Bad Enough" That Trump Is Wearing A Mask In Public.
- Cruz Photographed On Flight Without Mask On.
- Jacksonville GOP Convention Now Expected To Be Held Outdoors.
- Florida Reports Single-Day Record Of 132 COVID Deaths.
- Garcetti Says Los Angeles May Need To Shut Down Again.
- Experts Blast New York Report Absolving Cuomo Of Blame For Nursing Home Deaths.
- Nearly Three-Quarters Of New COVID Cases In Maryland County Are Among Latinos.
- White House Now Open To Extension Of Enhanced Jobless Benefits.
- Ivanka Trump, Cook Say Laid-Off Workers Should "Find Something New."
- WPost Analysis: PPP Loan Data "Contains Numerous Errors."
- Dunford Withdraws From Coronavirus Relief Oversight Consideration.
- Big Banks Signal Worst Of Recession Is Yet To Come.
- Mortgage Delinquencies Hit Record High In April.
- Study: 5.5M Workers Lost Health Insurance Between February And May.
- Miller Says Democrats Oppose Anything But Completely Open Borders.
- Miller: Border Wall "Completely Transforms" Communities Where It Is Built.
- Administration Drops Plan To Implement Rules On Student Visas For Online Learning.
- Trump To Appoint Gorka To National Security Education Board.
- Foreign Policy: Mosley Hiring At USAID Part Of Effort To "Seed" Agencies With Trump "Loyalists."
- Trump Urged To Bring Greater Accountability To CFPB.
- Mary Trump Says Her Uncle Is "Utterly Incapable" Of Leading Country.
- Rep. Watkins Faces Three Felony Charges Related To Illegal Voting Investigation.
- Justice Ginsburg Hospitalized.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Trump Signs Law Authorizing China Sanctions Over Hong Kong Crackdown.
- Members Of Congress, Travel Industry Want US-Canada Travel Ban Eased.
- WPost Analysis: US, Poorer Nations Bear Growing Share Of Cases.
- Asian Countries Pause Reopening As Number Of Cases Increase.
- Britain To Mandate Mask-Wearing In Shops.
- Erdoğan, Trump Agree To Work More Closely On Libya.
- Iran Executes Retired Defense Ministry Employee Charged With Working For CIA.
- China And Iran Forge Closer Ties With Trade, Security Agreements.
- NYTimes Report: "No Conclusive Evidence" Tying Russia To Marines' Deaths.
- Deadly Taliban Attack Raises Concerns Over Faltering Afghan Peace Process.
- Danon Says Israel Is "Grateful" To Trump Administration For Pulling Out Of Iran Deal.
- Azerbaijan-Armenia Border Clashes Continue For Third Day.
- WPost: Trump Administration Lacks Coherent Regime Change Strategy For Venezuela.

THE BIG PICTURE

- Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

- Today's Events In Washington.

LEADING THE NEWS

Trump Says More Whites Than Blacks Being Shot By Police.

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, 18.61M) reports that on Tuesday, President Trump "rebuffed a question about Black people dying at the hands of police officers, saying, 'so are white people.'" The President "rejected the notion that Black Americans suffer disproportionately from police brutality, saying in an interview...that white people are killed in greater numbers." Trump "reacted angrily when asked about the issue" by CBS' Catherine Herridge.

In the interview aired on the [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 5, 0:20, O'Donnell, 4.31M), Herridge asked Trump, "Why are African Americans still dying at the hands of law enforcement in this country?" Trump replied: "And so are white people. So are white people. What a terrible question to ask. So are white people. More white people, by the way. More white people."

Also reporting on the President's comments, the [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Boyer, 492K) says a study by Harvard University researchers last month found that "Blacks were three times more likely to be killed by law enforcement officers than Whites." The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Bump, 14.2M) likewise notes the inaccuracy of the President's claim.

[NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 4, 1:00, Holt, 5.96M) said the President "plunged back into the issue of police killings of Black Americans, calling the killing of George Floyd by police 'terrible.' ... The President also defending the display of the Confederate flag." Asked in an interview with the [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 4, 0:50, O'Donnell, 4.31M) if he still believes "the Confederate battle flag belongs in a museum," as he said in 2015, Trump replied, "All I say is freedom of speech. It's very simple. My attitude is freedom of speech, very strong views on the Confederate flag. With me, it's freedom of speech, very simple. Like it, don't like it, it's freedom of speech."

[ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 5, 0:55, Muir, 7.36M) said "the President is clearly playing to his base here, and dismissing the fact that Black Americans suffer disproportionately from police brutality. The truth, David, is that Black Americans are more than twice as likely to be shot and killed by police than white Americans."

PROTESTS

Lawmakers Seek Information From FBI, CIA On Antifa Rumors.

[NBC News](#) (7/14, 6.14M) reports, "Two members of the House Intelligence Committee are asking the CIA and the FBI for any information their agencies have about the spread of false information campaigns meant to magnify and invoke fear about activities of left-wing protest groups like antifa." NBC News adds, "In a letter sent Tuesday, Democratic Reps. Raja Krishnamoorthi of Illinois and Peter Welch of Vermont, ask the heads of the two agencies specifically about foreign actors, members of the military or local police spreading false information about antifa gatherings and events. The letter comes amid reports that far-right groups, like white nationalist group Identity Evropa, NBC reported, have spread rumors such as those about looting and riots being planned in suburban and rural towns to stoke fear among Americans."

Additional coverage includes the [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Blake, 492K).

Trump Threatens Federal Action If Cities Don't Rein In Violence.

In an interview with [Townhall](#) (7/14, Pavlich, 177K) on Tuesday, "President Trump warned his administration will take action if Democratic mayors and governors can't get crime under control." Said the President, "They are cities run by liberal Democrats. We're now looking at having to do something. You know, we have to be asked to go into a city like Chicago, which is so ridiculous where they had like, 68 shootings and 18 deaths over the weekend. It's not even comprehensible. Worse than Afghanistan, worse than any war zone." He continued, "We are going to have to do something very comprehensive. It means sending people in. It means sending people in to clean it up... there's a point at which we're allowed to go in and that point is rapidly being reached... there's a point at which we will have to do it because we just have to do it for the good of the country."

Miller: If Unchecked, Defund Efforts Will "Come To Every City In America."

White House senior adviser Stephen Miller said on the [John Fredericks Show](#) (7/14) that "left unchecked, not fought," efforts to defund police "will come to every city in America and it's because the left sets its sights on an institution and it doesn't stop until it takes it over. ... So, what happens when they start taking over the prosecutors' offices and they start taking over the police departments? ... Then, it is just like the radical leftists on the Supreme Court. Justice is an instrument of politics and your safety and your family are at the mercy of radical liberals." Miller added that defunding police is "a years long project on the part of the left that is now accelerating because they're very emboldened by a the fact that he leadership of the Democratic party and now given them a green light" and "the only thing standing in the way is President Trump."

White House Official Invites Lightfoot To Work On Police Reform. The [New York Post](#) (7/14, Jacobs, 4.57M) reports that a "senior White House official extended a public invitation to Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot to work with the federal government on the issue of police reform," accusing Democrats of "playing politics" on the matter. Speaking Tuesday during a Fox News appearance, Deputy Assistant to the President Ja'Ron Smith touted the Administration's work with other Democratic mayors while sending a public message to the Chicago mayor. Smith told [Fox News](#) (7/14, 896K), "We're willing to go back and do the work. ... But I would invite the mayor to work with us. We've worked with many other Democratic mayors, if you look at the city of Birmingham, we've done some work with them and we're really moving the needle in those communities." Smith was also interviewed on the [Steve Gruber Show](#).

Hawley: Police Should Be Getting More Funding. Appearing on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (7/14, 831K), Sen. Josh Hawley (R-MO) was asked about the violent rioting happening across the country. Hawley said, "We have seen this before. We have seen this war on cops before. We have seen where it gets us. What it does, when you announce an open season on cops, then it is normal, ordinary, every day working people who get hurt. That is exactly what we are seeing now. This defund the police thing is an absolute crisis. It is a travesty. It is the

worst possible thing. We should be putting more police on the streets. We should be increasing officer pay. We should be giving more resources to cops to help them do this incredibly difficult job we ask them to do.”

Poll: Americans Agree On Police Reforms That Have Divided Washington. [Politico](#) (7/14, McCaskill, 4.29M) reports that “new polling from the University of Maryland School of Public Policy shows a majority of voters support 10 key policies proposed by competing House and Senate bills that Congress failed to advance last month.” The “in-depth national survey of more than 3,000 registered voters” found that “nearly 90 percent of respondents supported body cameras, including 85 percent of Republicans, 86 percent of independents and 94 percent of Democrats,” while “82 percent of respondents supported the duty to intervene (71 percent of Republicans, 78 percent of independents and 94 percent of Democrats), and 81 percent favored a national registry of police misconduct (70 percent of Republicans, 77 percent of independents and 92 percent of Democrats).”

Trump: “Children Won’t Be Safe In Biden’s America.”

President Trump took to [Twitter](#) on Tuesday to write, “Joe Biden claims to be prioritizing ‘safety of kids’ by keeping schools closed this Fall. Yet he remains silent about children being slaughtered by violence on the streets of Democrat run cities. You & your children won’t be SAFE in Biden’s America, and neither will anyone else!”

Parson: Trump “Taking Action” To Help St. Louis Couple Facing Gun Charges.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Salter) reports Missouri Gov. Mike Parson (R) said President Trump “is focused on and concerned about the possibility that a white St. Louis couple could face criminal charges for displaying guns as they defended their home during a racial injustice protest.” Parson told reporters Tuesday “that he had just been on the phone” with Trump and Attorney General Barr amid reports that St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kim Gardner may file charges against Mark and Patricia McCloskey, who wielded guns on June 28 as protesters marched by their home.

In an interview Tuesday with [Townhall](#) (7/14, Pavlich, 177K), Trump said, “When you look at St. Louis, where two people, they came out. They were going to be beat up badly if they were lucky. If they were lucky. They were going be beat up badly and the house was going to be totally ransacked and probably burned down like they tried to burn down churches. And these people were standing there, never used it and they were legal, the weapons, and now I understand somebody local, they want to prosecute these people. It’s a disgrace.”

Bernhardt Warns Those Caught Dismantling Monuments Will Be Punished.

Interior Secretary Bernhardt said on [Washington Watch](#) (7/14) that President Trump “recognizes that America owes its present greatness to its past sacrifices and I think he was deeply troubled by the actions that are taking place. So, first, to the criminals that want to destroy these monuments and memorials, he has been very clear and he has basically issued a direction to us and to the Department of Justice that says, ‘Look, investigate these crimes, prosecute these people to the fullest extent of the law, bring the entire force of the federal government to pay great heed to these.’ What people need to know, the criminals that commit these crimes need to know there are very severe penalties up to 10 years in prison in certain cases and also tremendous financial consequences.”

Black Conservatives Launch Campaign To Save Freedmen’s Memorial. The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Richardson, 492K) reports that “Black conservative leaders kicked off Tuesday a campaign to save the Freedmen’s Memorial, the statue of Abraham Lincoln and freed slave Archer Alexander now under attack by Democrats and Black Lives Matter protesters.” Star Parker, founder of UrbanCURE, held an “emancipation celebration” Tuesday at Lincoln Park, “home of the now fenced-off bronze statue in the Capitol Hill neighborhood,” to promote a signature drive urging Congress to “keep this statue alive, right here.”

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Lang, 14.2M) reports that critics, however, say the memorial "is demeaning and suggests African Americans were not active contributors to the cause of their own freedom, remaining subservient even after they were released from their bonds."

Emmer Wants Probe Into Decisions That Allowed Looters Free Rein.

Appearing on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (7/14, 831K), Rep. Tom Emmer (R-MN) was asked why he supports President Trump's decision to deny funds to Minnesota to rebuild following the recent violent protests and widespread looting in Minneapolis last month. Emmer said, "Actually, what I asked the President to do...is to do a full and thorough investigation. Let's find out what happened, why it happened. Why did these elected officials who were elected to protect the citizens and their property, why did they let the cities burn for almost four nights before actually taking decisive action? ... Before any money would be delivered, I think the President and his administration should do an investigation as to what happened and why. Let's make sure it never happens again."

California Bars Police From Using LAPD Records In Gang Database.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/14, 4.64M) reports that "as a scandal over false and inaccurate gang identifications by Los Angeles police officers widens," California Atty. Gen. Xavier Becerra on Tuesday "stopped law enforcement agencies around the state from using department records included in a controversial statewide database." Becerra, instead, "suggested the state Legislature should consider more reforms to the troubled system."

Catholic Churches, Statues Targeted By Vandals In String Of Attacks.

[The Federalist](#) (7/14, Davidson, 126K) reports Catholic churches and religious statues "across the country were the target of vandalism, terrorism, and potential arson this last week as tensions concerning the removal of historical statues continue to rise." A statement by the Catholic Action League "condemned the recent attacks."

Daughter Of Slain Police Officer Criticized For Tweeting #BlueLivesMatter.

[Townhall](#) (7/14, Burrow, 177K) reports 18-year-old Savannah Benavides/Chavez, whose father was one of two McAllen, Texas, police officers killed over the weekend while responding to a domestic disturbance report, tweeted, "Words cannot describe the pain I'm in, but I'm glad my dad is at peace. you were an amazing man and anyone who ever came across you knew that. I'm going to miss you so much. you died doing what you loved most, you died a hero. I love you daddy, see you soon. #bluelivesmatter" While some responded with condolences to the tweet, "others harangued her for using the #bluelivesmatter hashtag," and "many used the hashtag #ACAB (all cops are bastards)."

Democratic Strategist Labels Blackburn "Inbred Racist Trash."

The [Daily Caller](#) (7/14, Olohan, 716K) reports Democratic strategist Adam Parkhomenko called Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) "inbred racist trash" for criticizing the founders of Black Lives Matter. Blackburn on Monday tweeted that BLM is run by "trained Marxists." In response, Parkhomenko tweeted at Blackburn, "You are inbred racist trash."

WPost Investigation: 12 Protestors Partially Blinded By Police.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Lee, 14.2M) reports it "found that eight people lost vision in one eye after being struck by police projectiles, including lead pellets packed in cloth pouches that were fired from shotguns." They were "among 12 people who were partially blinded by police during a week of national unrest" following the death of George Floyd.

LATimes Columnist Recommends Replacing National Anthem With "Lean On Me."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Dibble, 448K) reports Los Angeles Times columnist Judy Rosen wrote in a [piece](#) published Tuesday "that he believes the current national anthem for the United States is 'racist' and should be replaced by a unifying tune" like "Lean on Me."

Central Park Birdwatcher Cooper: It's A Mistake To Focus On One Individual.

Christian Cooper writes in the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, 14.2M), "On May 25, when I was birding in the Ramble section of New York's Central Park, I asked a woman whose dog was off his leash to please put him back on, as the area's rules require. She refused – and, as shown in a video that went viral, she was soon calling the police and telling them an 'African American man' was 'threatening' her." Now Amy Cooper, he writes, "has been charged by the Manhattan district attorney with filing a false police report." Cooper argues that "it's a mistake to focus on this one individual. The important thing the incident highlights is the long-standing, deep-seated racial bias against us black and brown folk that permeates the United States – bias that can bring horrific consequences."

COUNTER-TERRORISM

Pennsylvania Man Charged After Threatening To Attack Federal Buildings.

The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (7/14, 616K) reports, "A Whitehall man pulled over last week in Mt. Lebanon after police said he threatened government entities on social media had dozens of improvised explosive devices in his car and a homemade land mine and pipe bomb at his house, according to criminal complaints." Kurt J. Cofano, 32, "is being held in the Allegheny County Jail on charges of weapons of mass destruction, arson and several misdemeanors. Authorities said he threatened to 'blow up the Treasury Department' in Harrisburg and 'take out' people at CIA headquarters in Washington, D.C. 'before I get gunned down.'" The Post-Gazette adds, "Police Thursday were seeking Mr. Cofano on a mental health warrant. He was said to possibly have weapons. Late that afternoon, a license plate reader operated by the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office alerted police that Mr. Cofano's vehicle was in Dormont."

US Jewish Groups Urge Government To Push Jordan To Extradite Terrorist.

The [Times Of Israel](#) (7/14, 83K) reports, "Eighteen major US Jewish organizations in the United States called on the US on Tuesday to exert pressure on Jordan's King Abdullah to extradite Ahlam Tamimi, the Jordanian terrorist who orchestrated the 2001 Sbarro pizzeria bombing in Jerusalem that killed 15 people, including two American nationals." According to the Times, "Expressing 'our collective outrage over the Kingdom of Jordan's refusal to extradite the murderer of American citizens,' the organizations urged the US to hold 'Jordan accountable to its commitments under its extradition treaty with the United States and bring all pressure to bear, including but not limited to recent government legislation significantly impacting US financial aid to Jordan.'" The Times adds, "The US groups' public declaration comes shortly before the August 9 anniversary of the attack, in which a further 130 people were injured."

Attorneys Argues For Widening Inquest Into Salisbury Nerve Agent Attack.

[The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (7/14, 4.19M) reports, "Lawyers for Dawn Sturgess's family" argued before the high court that public concern over the Salisbury nerve agent attack "is so profound that her inquest should be widened to examine who ordered the attack and the network that backed the two agents accused of actually carrying it out." They argued that the decision by the senior coroner for Wiltshire and Swindon, David Ridley, in December "that he would not consider whether any Russian state agents were involved other than the two main suspects, Alexander Petrov and Ruslan Boshirov," would mean that the "key questions of how, and by whom, the operation was directed and arranged" would not be considered.

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

Further Legal Action Against Stone Urged.

Andrew Weissmann, a senior prosecutor in Robert Mueller's special counsel investigation, writes in an op-ed in the [New York Times](#) (7/14, 18.61M) that despite "the latest act by this administration to undermine the rule of law" – President Trump's commutation of Roger Stone's prison sentence – future federal prosecutors or a state prosecutor can still serve him with a grand jury subpoena "requiring him to answer the question: Why did you lie to Congress? And many others." If Stone lies, he faces prosecution for perjury and obstruction. If he refuses to comply, he faces civil and criminal contempt. Weissmann concludes, "The tools to get at the truth are there and should be used," and if Attorney General Barr "does not support their use, we should all ask ourselves why not."

Former Acting Solicitor General Neal K. Katyal and Institute for Constitutional Advocacy and Protection Executive Director Joshua A. Geltzer, in an op-ed in [The Atlantic](#) (7/14, 3.47M), write, "Donald Trump's commutation of his friend Roger Stone's criminal sentence is one of the most severe affronts to the rule of law during the Trump administration," but "a future Justice Department would be well within its rights to open a new investigation into Stone's activities." Stone's "behavior likely runs afoul of other federal laws," and double jeopardy doesn't apply because the "crimes above have different elements from the ones Stone was convicted of, so they are not the same." Additionally, "the commutation itself may be null and void if Trump carried it out to protect himself." Furthermore, "Stone's conviction and commutation may supercharge another avenue: state prosecutions."

Professor: Commutation Of Stone's Sentence Confirms Trump's Guilt.

University of Alabama School of Law Professor Joyce White Vance writes in an op-ed in [USA Today](#) (7/14, 10.31M) that President Trump's commutation of Roger Stone's sentence is "the ultimate act of lawlessness" and "a terrible loss for the rule of law and American justice." The move was a "quid pro quo" that "rewarded the man who lied to protect him from criminal investigation and congressional oversight, a shameless abuse of the presidential pardon power." Trump's statement accompanying his move, according to Vance, "is a transparent effort to convince his supporters that his access to power should not be constrained by his oath to uphold the Constitution." Vance concludes that Trump's move confirms his guilt in the Russia probe.

Graham Says He Will Grill Mueller About Russia Investigation.

[Politico](#) (7/14, Desiderio, Cheney, 4.29M) reports that in a Fox News [podcast](#) Tuesday, Senate Judiciary Chairman Graham "said...he intends to grill former special counsel Robert Mueller about alleged flaws in the FBI's investigation of links between the Trump campaign and Russia in 2016." Graham "said he intends to press Mueller about a raft of developments since the former FBI chief testified to the House Judiciary and Intelligence committees nearly a year ago – from a watchdog's finding that crucial surveillance warrants were riddled with errors to the discovery that the FBI briefly intended to drop its case against former national security adviser Michael Flynn." Graham said over the weekend he would grant a request from Democrats for Mueller testify. His statement "came after Mueller wrote a Washington Post op-ed in which he defended his nearly two-year investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election and his office's prosecution of Trump confidant Roger Stone." Graham said, "Bottom line is, I had no intention of calling Mr. Mueller. He testified before the House. It was not pretty to watch. But at the end of the day...he decided to interject himself into the Roger Stone case." [CNN](#) (7/14, Herb, 83.16M) reports Mueller testimony could create "a high-stakes congressional hearing in the heat of the 2020 presidential election."

Graham Says He Is Working To Declassify Memo About FBI Interview With Steele Source. The [Daily Caller](#) (7/14, Ross, 716K) reports that Graham said "he is working to declassify a memo regarding an FBI interview conducted with the primary source for Christopher Steele, the former British spy who wrote the infamous anti-Trump dossier." Graham "said that the document is 40 pages in length and covers information that Steele's source provided the FBI over the course of three days in January 2017." Graham "also said that he believes that Russian operatives fed disinformation to Steele." Graham said, "I believe that the dossier, which was the key component of getting the warrant against Carter Page, was in fact Russian disinformation. ... I believe that the FBI was on notice that it was unreliable, continued to use it anyway. I believe that they misled the FISA court." Additional coverage includes [National Review](#) (7/14, Evans, 731K).

Former Trump Attorney: Durham Should "Taker A Hard Look" At Weissmann.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Chaitin, 448K) reports that John Dowd, one of President Trump's attorneys during the Russia investigation, says Andrew Weissman, one of special counsel Robert Mueller's top prosecutors, should be investigated as part of US Attorney John Durham's criminal inquiry into the Russia probe. After President Trump commuted Roger Stone's prison sentence, Weissmann tweeted that Stone should be put "in the grand jury to find out what he knows about Trump but would not tell." Dowd "dismissed the suggestion." He [told](#) the Washington Times, "Weissmann and his dream team failed in their first attempt to manufacture a crime and want to further abuse the process when their sorry effort has been exposed. ... The Stone indictment did not allege a crime by President Trump. So why further abuse the process except more sour grapes. Mr. Durham ought to take a hard look at Mr. Weissmann's conduct on the dream team."

Judge Extends Deadline For DOJ To Answer Questions About Mueller Report.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Chaitin, 448K) reports US District Judge Reggie Walton, "who questioned Attorney General William Barr's 'credibility' granted the Justice Department's request for a delay to answer questions about former special counsel Robert Mueller's report on Russian interference in the 2016 election." Walton "gave the Trump administration until next Tuesday to respond, a week later than what was previously scheduled." The Electronic Privacy Information Center and BuzzFeed "have sued for the report in its entirety under the Freedom of Information Act." Walton gave DOJ "a spreadsheet with questions about the redactions," but the agency said it needed additional time to conduct "consultations with numerous Department components, including the Office of Information Privacy, the National Security Division, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and U.S. Attorney's Offices."

Former FBI Official Criticizes Mueller Investigation.

Former FBI Assistant Director of Intelligence Kevin R. Brock, in an op-ed in [The Hill](#) (7/14, 2.98M), argues that former FBI director and Russia collusion special counsel Robert Mueller cannot defend the legitimacy of the special counsel's Russia collusion investigation because "there was no legal basis for the FBI to investigate Trump campaign members." Brock also criticizes Mueller for not examining "Russian intelligence influence on the Steele dossier as a means to interfere in the elections" and for his report including "a curious listicle...of all the ways the president might have obstructed his investigation."

DDoSecrets Releases Wikileaks "Chats, Strategy Sessions" Related To Assange Case.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Blake, 492K) reports a website described as a "successor to WikiLeaks published documents on Tuesday it called secret evidence in the U.S. government's case against the other's founder, Julian Assange." Distributed Denial of Secrets released a collection of "more than two dozen documents involving WikiLeaks and its inner workings, including transcripts of online chats and emails" that are among the documents "referenced in

the superseding indictment the U.S. Department of Justice unsealed last month." Among the documents leaked by DDoSecrets are copies of "online conversations involving people associated with the Anonymous hacktivist movement."

[CyberScoop](#) (7/14, Stone) reports DDoSecrets says the collection of files is meant to "illustrate how WikiLeaks operates behind closed doors." Many of the files are "reproduced chat records between pseudonyms belonging to Assange, the convicted hacker Jeremy Hammond and Sigurdur Thordarson, an early WikiLeaks supporter who provided information about the group to the FBI." The disclosure comes "three weeks after the U.S. Department of Justice unsealed a superseding indictment against Assange, accusing the WikiLeaks founder of conspiring with LulzSec hackers to breach a U.S. intelligence contractor."

US Space Force To Launch Four NRO Payloads Wednesday.

[i360 Gov](#) (7/14) reports four National Reconnaissance Office payloads "will be launched into orbit July 15, continuing the agency's efforts to leverage the small commercial launch market for its missions." [ExecutiveGov](#) (7/14, Rivers) reports the US Space Force has completed "flight readiness review activities" for the mission sending the "four satellite payloads to orbit for intelligence missions." The Space Force's Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC) "said that NRO Launch-129 will lift off from NASA's launch complex on Wallops Island in Virginia as part of the Orbital/Suborbital Program 3 (OSP-3) initiative." According to a report "by C4ISRnet, Northrop Grumman's Minotaur IV rocket will launch NROL-129 within the 9 a.m. ET window on Wednesday." Details on the NRO payloads remain classified. SMC Small Launch and Targets Division chief Lt. Col. Ryan Rose "said that NROL-129 will serve as the division's first Space Force mission as well as the 'first dedicated NRO mission' from Wallops' Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport."

Sources: Russia Used Information Shared By The US To Target Chechen Dissidents.

[Business Insider](#) (7/14, Prothero, 3.67M) reports that three law-enforcement and intelligence officials in Europe said that "after the Trump administration backed a policy of sharing more secret information with Russia," the country used the policy to target Chechen dissidents who fled the rule of Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov. "The US appears to have received little in return." Russia pursues and kills Chechen dissidents, and a NATO military intelligence official "said NATO had limited some parts of its relationship with the US because of its closeness to Russia. Specifically some worried that US officials would send them its intelligence."

Protests After Belarus Bars Election Challengers.

[BBC World News \(UK\)](#) (7/14, 3.28M) reports, "Protests have erupted in Belarus" after President Alexander Lukashenko's main rivals, Valery Tsepkalo and Viktor Babaryko, were barred from next month's presidential election. The BBC calls the protests "the latest show of discontent against the government following the arrests of opposition figures ahead of the election on 9 August."

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Ghislaine Maxwell Pleads Not Guilty As Judge Denies Bail Request.

The [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 12, 1:30, O'Donnell, 4.31M) reported, "Today, a federal judge in New York ruled that Ghislaine Maxwell has both the money and the motive to flee the country, and denied her request to be freed on bail. It means the alleged accomplice of accused sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein will likely spend the next year in jail as she awaits trial." CBS (Duncan) added, "Ghislaine Maxwell appeared at today's 140-minute bail hearing by video. She's been behind bars since her July 2nd arrest. US District Judge Alison Nathan determined the 58-year-old British socialite should not be released on bail, saying Maxwell is a substantial

actual risk of flight. Prosecutors say Maxwell has links to more than a dozen bank accounts around the world worth more than \$20 million in total and three passports in her name."

[NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 7, 2:05, Holt, 5.96M) reported, "The ex-girlfriend and long-time partner of Jeffrey Epstein pleaded not guilty, and asked the court for a \$5 million bail and home arrest in a luxury Manhattan hotel. The elusive 58-year-old appeared via videoconference in a brown prison uniform." NBC (Gosk) added, "Though her defense team argued that the COVID pandemic made preparing for trial behind bars not realistic, the judge rejected the proposal, saying Maxwell poses a substantial risk of flight. According to prosecutors, Maxwell was less than candid about her wealth. In court documents, investigators say she holds a Swiss bank account worth more than \$4 million. And a British account worth more than \$2 million. Prosecutors say she took deliberate steps to avoid law enforcement, including wrapping her cell phone in tinfoil, what they called a seemingly misguided effort to evade detection."

[ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 7, 2:30, Muir, 7.36M) reported, "The government's case, Maxwell conspired and participated in an 'ongoing scheme to abuse multiple victims for years,' enticing girls 'who were as young as 14 for abuse by' convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein in the 1990s. The prosecutor read one of the alleged victim's statement in court. 'Without Ghislaine, Jeffrey could have not done what he did. She was a predator and a monster.' A second victim, Annie Farmer, chose to speak, publicly identifying herself as a victim in this case for the first time. Reading this statement to the judge." Annie Farmer, Epstein Accuser: "She has never shown any remorse for her heinous crimes, or for the devastating, lasting impacts her actions have caused."

The [AP](#) (7/13, Neumeister, Hayes) reports that Judge Nathan "said even the most restrictive form of release would be insufficient to ensure Maxwell would not flee, particularly now that she has seen the strength of the evidence and realizes that she could face up to 35 years in prison if she is convicted." Maxwell, 58, "has been held without bail since her July 2 arrest at her million-dollar New Hampshire estate, where prosecutors say she refused to open the door for FBI agents, who busted through to find that she had retreated to an interior room. Her lawyer, Mark S. Cohen, told the judge that Maxwell was in her pajamas and had been told that security protocol called for her to retreat to her room if there was any disturbance outside her doors. The judge rejected Cohen's claim that Maxwell was hiding from the public and the media rather than investigators when she purchased a \$1 million mansion late last year."

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Hong, Weiser, 18.61M) reports, "The hearing was unusual in that it was virtual: Ms. Maxwell, who is being held in a federal detention center in Brooklyn; her lawyer; the prosecutor; and the judge each appeared remotely from their locations on separate video screens set up in a room at the courthouse, all part of special precautions being taken by the court because of the coronavirus pandemic." Maxwell "pleaded not guilty to the six-count indictment against her; the charges include transportation of a minor with intent to engage in criminal sexual activity, conspiracy and perjury."

[USA Today](#) (7/14, Johnson, 10.31M) reports, "Maxwell's attorneys were set to argue for her release on a \$5 million bond, secured by properties in the U.S. and Great Britain. But prosecutors said the package 'amounts to little more than an unsecured bond' because some of the property Maxwell was pledging as collateral is outside American jurisdiction and 'therefore is of no value.'"

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Jacobs, Barrett, 14.2M) reports that Judge Nathan "said it would be 'practically impossible' to craft a set of conditions that would assure that someone with Maxwell's wealth and foreign ties would show up in court to face the charges against her. 'The risks are simply too great' to release her on bail, the judge said, adding that Maxwell's ability to stay out of the spotlight in such a sensational high profile case showed she has an 'extraordinary capacity to evade detection.'" Prosecutors "allege that Maxwell was intimately involved in Epstein's crimes – that she 'normalized' his sexual abuse by presenting herself to his

victims as a trustworthy figure." Maxwell "has denied the allegations, and her attorneys recently said she was estranged from Epstein for a decade before his jailhouse suicide last year."

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Stempel, Freifeld, Pierson) reports, "Alison Moe, a federal prosecutor, said the government's investigation is ongoing, but did not currently anticipate seeking an amended indictment expanding the charges against Maxwell." Among other news outlets reporting on the hearing are [Bloomberg](#) (7/14, 4.73M), [NPR](#) (7/14, Slotkin, 3.12M), [NBC News](#) (7/14, Winter, Schapiro, 6.14M), [CBS News](#) (7/14, 3.68M), [Fox News](#) (7/14, Chakraborty, 27.59M), the [New York Post](#) (7/14, Eustachewich, 4.57M), and the [Daily Beast](#) (7/14, Briquetelet, 1.39M).

Woman Charged With Helping Dispose Of Fort Hood Soldier's Remains Appears In Court.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (7/14, Banks, 730K) reports, "Cecily Aguilar, charged with helping dispose of the body of murder victim Vanessa Guillén, was held without bond in a federal detention hearing Tuesday afternoon in Waco." Aguilar, 22, "is charged with helping her boyfriend Aaron Robinson – a Fort Hood soldier authorities say killed fellow soldier Guillén – dismember Guillén's body and bury her along the Leon River. The FBI said in court documents that Robinson bludgeoned Army Specialist Guillén to death with a hammer on April 22." The Chronicle adds, "There were extensive searches for the 20-year-old Houston native after she went missing that day. Robinson shot and killed himself as law enforcement officers confronted him along a Killeen road after the discovery of the remains later determined to be those of Guillén, a member of the 3rd Cavalry Regiment."

The [Austin \(TX\) American Statesman](#) (7/14, Osbourne, Subscription Publication, 343K) reports, "Military investigators searching for the body of U.S. Army Spc. Vanessa Guillen overlooked evidence that could have led to the discovery of her remains a week sooner – and brought resolution to her heartbroken family, the leader of a team of civilian searchers said Friday." Guillen, 20, "disappeared from Fort Hood in Texas on April 22, sparking international attention. Tim Miller, founder of the civilian group EquuSearch, said his crew discovered a pile of burned debris June 21 at a rural highway intersection about 20 miles away from Fort Hood and steps from the Leon River." Miller "said he pleaded with Army officials to search the site more thoroughly that day. Military investigators, he said, instead focused their search on the nearby river. More than a week later, construction workers came upon Guillen's remains in the very spot Miller said military investigators overlooked."

Former VA Hospital Assistant Pleads Guilty To Murdering Patients.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)Vi (7/14, story 12, 0:15, Muir, 7.36M) reported, "And a former VA hospital nursing assistant has now pleaded guilty to murder in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Prosecutors say Reta Mays gave fatal doses of insulin to eight veterans, seven of them dying. The patients were elderly veterans. Mays faces life sentences for each murder."

The [AP](#) (7/14, Izaguirre) reports, "Mays, a former nursing assistant at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg, was charged with seven counts of second-degree murder and one count of assault with the intent to commit murder of an eighth person. She faces life sentences for each murder. At a plea hearing, Mays, 46, admitted to purposely killing the veterans, injecting them with unprescribed insulin while she worked overnight shifts at the hospital in northern West Virginia between 2017 and 2018." US Attorney Bill Powell "told reporters that Mays' motive is still unclear, saying that authorities did not receive a 'satisfactory response' to questions about the reasoning behind her actions."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Rein, Born, 14.2M) reports, "In her three years as a nursing assistant on the overnight shift at the local Veterans Affairs hospitals here, Reta Mays tended to elderly veterans with the ailments of old age. She took their vital signs and glucose levels on the graveyard shift, sitting vigil at their bedside while medical staffing was thin. Few saw her go in and out of patients' rooms," and "no one watched while she injected them with lethal doses of insulin during an 11-month killing spree in 2017 and 2018, which she admitted to Tuesday in

federal court, pleading guilty to second-degree murder in the deaths of seven veterans and an intent to murder an eighth who died two weeks later." The Post adds, "In the middle of the night, with a small staff on the medical surgical ward known as 3A, Mays injected the patients with insulin she was not authorized to administer, leading to their deaths from severe hypoglycemia or low blood sugar, investigators said." [USA Today](#) (7/14, Phillips, 10.31M) reports, "The development comes two years after a criminal investigation into suspicious deaths of 10 veterans at the hospital began. All patients were elderly veterans staying in the hospital's surgical unit, known as Ward 3A. All suffered unexplained drops in their blood sugar levels. Mays began working at the hospital five years ago and was assigned to work the night shift in Ward 3A. As a nursing assistant, Mays was responsible for, among other things, acting as a one-on-one sitter for patients, checking vital signs and testing blood sugar levels, but she was not qualified to administer medication, including insulin."

[WVNews](#) (7/14, Young) reports, "Acting Special Agent in Charge Doug Olson of the FBI commented on why, if Mays was immediately identified as a person of interest, did it take two years before charges were brought against her. 'During this investigation more than 250 interviews were conducted, countless documents were reviewed and analyzed, we combed through medical and administrative files and hundreds pieces of other evidence were sent to one of the largest and comprehensive labs in the world, the FBI laboratory in Quantico, Virginia,' he said. 'We exhumed the bodies of veterans to do further analysis and testing. As you can imagine, this was difficult and a tough ask for those families. We consulted with medical experts all over the world. All that doesn't happen over night.'"

Former White Supremacist Group Leader Pleads Guilty To Swatting Ring.

[WTKR-TV](#) Norfolk, VA (7/14, 163K) reports from Norfolk, Virginia, "A former leader of the white supremacist group pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges related to his role in a conspiracy that conducted multiple swatting events targeting journalists, a historic Virginia church, a former cabinet official, and Old Dominion University." John Cameron Denton, 26, of Montgomery, Texas, "is allegedly a former leader of the Atomwaffen Division in Texas. According to court documents, from October 2018 to at least August 2019, Denton and several others conspired together to conduct 'swatting' calls. According to court documents, Denton participated in a conspiracy that conducted three swatting calls that occurred in the Eastern District of Virginia."

White Man Filmed In Alleged Indian Racial Assault Claims Black Accuser Is Lying.

[ABC News](#) (7/14, 2.97M) reports, "A white man who's been accused of beating up and shouting racial slurs at a Black man in a filmed incident at an Indiana lake on the Fourth of July contends he isn't the one who started the violent conflict and says his accuser is not telling the truth," but Vauhxx Rush Booker, "the man seen in the video with his face pressed against a tree, is sticking with his account and continuing to call for arrests." According to ABC News, "Attorneys for Sean Purdy, one of the men accused of taking part in the alleged assault, held a news conference Monday in Monroe County, Indiana, and said Booker was putting out 'a false narrative' about the incident that took place in Lake Monroe."

FBI Arrests Fugitive In Miami After Five Years On The Run.

The [AP](#) (7/14) reports from Miami, Florida, "A fugitive who had been on the run for five years surrendered to the FBI when he arrived at Miami International Airport last week." Jonathan Cifuentes, "who was wanted in a 2015 double shooting in Doral, flew to Miami in federal custody on Friday and was arrested on the federal charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution, the FBI announced Monday. The surrender was arranged by Cifuentes through Miami attorney Antonio Valiente, the Miami Herald reported." The FBI "then took Cifuentes, 29, to jail, where he's being held on two counts of attempted premeditated murder and one count of discharging a firearm in public." [WPEC-TV](#) West Palm Beach, FL (7/14, Detman, 97K) also reports.

South Carolina Man Sentenced In Fentanyl Overdose Death.

[WPDE-TV](#) Myrtle Beach, SC (7/14, Thomas, 430K) reports from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, "A Myrtle Beach man, and convicted drug dealer, was sentenced to serve 12 years in federal prison in connection with a fatal fentanyl overdose." Darell Levon Curry, 31, "pled guilty to possession with intent to distribute fentanyl, cocaine, heroin and crack cocaine. 'Evidence presented to the court at Curry's guilty plea and sentencing showed that in addition to distributing significant quantities of these drugs in and around Horry County from 2016 through 2019, Curry sold a quantity of fentanyl on May 21, 2019, that led to two overdoses, one of which was fatal,' the U.S. Attorney's Office said Tuesday. 'This case should be taken as a stern warning, both for those who seek to use heroin and those who supply it laced with fentanyl,' said Jody Norris, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI."

New York's Wave Of Gun Violence Continues With Three Drive-By Shootings.

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Shanahan, Piccoli, 18.61M) reports that five people were shot in Brooklyn on Monday "in what the police described as three drive-by attacks within 20 minutes and about a mile of each other, continuing a wave of gun violence that has gripped New York this summer." Although the shootings "did not add to the city's gun-related death toll for the year, they occurred after another weekend of violence that was capped on Sunday night with the killing of a 1-year-old boy who was shot while he was at a cookout with his family at a Brooklyn playground."

FBI Raids Indiana Home Over Animal Cruelty.

The [Kokomo \(IN\) Tribune](#) (7/14, 58K) reports that the FBI "executed a search warrant at a Howard County home [Tuesday] where it is alleged that various acts of animal cruelty and abuse took place." The FBI Indianapolis spokesperson Chris Bavender "confirmed that a warrant had been executed and referred all other questions to the U.S. Attorney's Office spokesperson in Indianapolis, Steve Whitaker, who did not immediately return calls for comment."

[WISH-TV](#) Indianapolis (7/14, 33K) also reports.

No Criminal Charges To Be Filed In Black Man's 2018 Custody Death In Louisiana.

The [AP](#) (7/14, McGill) reports from New Orleans, "No criminal charges will be filed against any of four sheriff's deputies in connection with the 2018 asphyxiation and beating death of a Black man during an arrest in 2018, a suburban New Orleans prosecutor said Tuesday." The AP adds, "Jefferson Parish District Attorney Paul Connick released a 27-page report on his office's investigation into the death of Keeven Robinson, 22, who died as police tried to take him into custody on drug charges." According to the AP, "Robinson's death has been the subject of multiple protests in Jefferson Parish since it occurred. His name was invoked by demonstrators during demonstrations the parish that followed the Minneapolis police custody death of George Floyd. A coroner's report on Robinson's death said he died of asphyxiation and blunt force trauma, exacerbated by asthma. The coroner said there were signs of trauma on Robinson's neck and that the death was classified as a homicide."

FBI Searching For Missing Iowa Child.

The [Des Moines \(IA\) Register](#) (7/14, 404K) reports that the FBI is supporting the investigation into the disappearance of Breasia Terrell, who "was last seen Friday morning in the 2700 block of East 53rd Street, an island on the Mississippi River on Davenport's southwest side." The search teams "arrested a man Friday for failing to register as a sex offender after searching an apartment near the spot where Breasia was last seen," but he "has not been charged in the disappearance [n]or named as a suspect by police."

The [AP](#) (7/14) reports that the arrested man is named Henry Dinkins.

Two Brothers Charged With Trafficking Fentanyl.

The [Elizabeth City \(NC\) Daily Advance](#) (7/14, reports, 31K) reports brothers Brandon Jamal Dashiell and Ronald Darnell Dashiell, Jr., who both reside in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, "are charged with trafficking fentanyl after law enforcement seized more than 55 grams of the powerful opioid from a local hotel room where they allegedly were storing and selling the drug." The Daily Advance highlights that the FBI is involved with the investigation of this case, according to the Pasquotank County Sheriff's Office in North Carolina.

FBI Supporting Investigation Into Suicide In Idaho.

The [Elko \(NV\) Daily Free Press](#) (7/14, 20K) reports that the FBI is participating in a multi-agency investigation looking into the death of an unidentified Nevada man, who "died from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound" in Idaho.

California Man Charged With Sales Of Fake COVID-19 Treatment.

The [Visalia \(CA\) Times-Delta](#) (7/14, 14K) reports Golden Sunrise Pharmaceutical Inc. and Golden Sunrise Nutraceutical Inc President Huu Tieu "is facing up to 20 years in federal prison after a joint federal, state, and local investigation led to a five-count indictment for selling bogus COVID-19 treatments." The indictment claims that he "marketed and sold a package of herbal mixtures dubbed the "Emergency D-Virus Plan of Care" that he claimed treated COVID-19."

Tennessee State Trooper Fired Following FBI Investigation.

[Macon County \(TN\) Chronicle](#) (7/14, Williams) reports former Tennessee Highway Patrol member Keith Garrett was fired following a FBI investigation. He "admitted to videoing the woman while she was in the shower and taking nude photos of her, without her knowledge or consent."

North Carolina Man Sentenced For Bank Robbery.

The [Hendersonville \(NC\) Times-News](#) (7/14, 26K) reports U.S. District Judge Max O. Cogburn, Jr. "sentenced John Howard Johnson, 65, to 130 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release, in connection with a series of armed bank robberies he committed in 2019, including one in Hendersonville." The FBI supported the investigation.

FBI Supporting Investigation Into Tennessee Bank Robbery.

The [Tennessean](#) (7/14, 458K) reports that the FBI and the Metro Nashville police "are investigating a bank robbery that occurred Tuesday, July 14, 2020."

[WKRN-TV](#) Nashville, TN (7/14, 73K) reports that police "said two men robbed the bank after showing a gun and demanding money."

Idaho Man Charged In Stabbing.

The [Idaho State Journal](#) (7/14, Harris, 64K) reports that a Fort Hall, Idaho man "was arrested last week in connection to an April incident in which he stabbed another man in the abdomen with a knife, according to federal court records." Lance Jonathon Broncho, 19, of Fort Hall, "was arrested in Blackfoot by an FBI agent on July 8, two weeks after a federal arrest warrant was issued against him, court records say. The arrest warrant for Broncho was issued the day after a federal grand jury indicted him on one charge of assault that resulted in serious bodily injury, according to court records. 'On or about April 7, 2020, ... on the Fort Hall Shoshone Bannock Indian Reservation, the defendant, Lance Broncho, did unlawfully commit an assault and battery on J.K., by intentionally stabbing him with a knife in the abdomen, resulting in serious bodily injury to him,' the federal indictment said."

FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

FBI Concerned Over Money Laundering Risks In Private Equity, Hedge Funds.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Lloyd) reports that the FBI "believes firms in the nearly \$10-trillion private investment funds industry are being used as vehicles for laundering money at scale, according to a leaked intelligence bulletin prepared by the agency in May. 'Threat actors' – including criminals in it for the money and foreign adversaries – 'use the private placement of funds, including investments offered by hedge funds and private equity firms' to reintegrate dirty money into the legitimate global financial system, according to the bulletin." The bulletin "also said the industry lacks adequate anti-money laundering programs and called for greater scrutiny by regulators, which have yet to issue rules for the industry. 'The FBI assumes AML programs are not adequately designed to monitor and detect threat actors' use of private investment funds to launder money. Additionally, the FBI assumes threat actors exploit this vulnerability to integrate illicit proceeds into the licit global financial system,' it said."

FBI Probing Possible Coronavirus Unemployment Benefit Fraud By Pennsylvania Inmates.

[KDKA-TV](#) Pittsburgh (7/14, 144K) reports from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, "Federal agents are investigating whether inmates at the Allegheny County Jail are receiving thousands of dollars in pandemic unemployment assistance while awaiting trial." According to KDKA-TV, "A county homicide detective says he uncovered the plot listing in on a murder suspect's phone calls. Lamont Wilford has been in jail for the past eight months on criminal homicide charges in the beating and stomping death of another man," but "according to court testimony, Wilford has also been the recipient of up to \$9,000 in pandemic unemployment assistance while awaiting trial. And he may not be alone." A county homicide detective "testified Monday that other inmates are receiving payments, and the U.S. Attorney's Western Pennsylvania COVID-19 Fraud Task Force – consisting of the FBI and federal and state law enforcement officials – has launched its own investigation."

Rabbi Injured In California Synagogue Shooting Pleads Guilty To Tax Fraud.

The [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (7/14, Davis, 755K) reports, "Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein, who one year ago had part of his hand shot off in a lethal attack by a gunman at the Poway synagogue he founded and received an outpouring of support that included meeting President Donald Trump, pleaded guilty to federal charges of tax fraud and wire fraud Tuesday." Goldstein, 58, "pleaded guilty to his role in several long-running, multi-million dollar schemes involving tax, real estate, insurance and grant frauds, some of which stretched back to the '1980s. Omar Meisel, the acting head of the FBI in San Diego, said the investigation uncovered \$18 million in 'complex financial schemes' by Goldstein and co-defendants, with the rabbi 'at the center of illegal activity' that went on for years. One such scheme, known as the '90-10' fraud, had donors make large contributions to Chabad of Poway but then secretly get most of the money back."

The [Times of San Diego](#) (7/14, Stone) reports, "Goldstein pleaded guilty to a scheme involving misuse of more than \$6 million in synagogue donations for his and others' personal financial gain, standing at the 'epicenter' of many frauds, prosecutors said. He agreed to pay restitution of perhaps \$2.5 million – most of that to the IRS. Others who pleaded guilty were Bruce Baker, Bijan Moossazadeh, Yousef Shemirani, Alexander Avergoon and Boris Shkoller. Avergoon fled to Latvia during the investigation but was extradited to America in October 2019, and remains in custody."

[Courthouse News](#) (7/14, Bruno, 2K) reports, "U.S. Attorney Robert Brewer said during a press conference Tuesday Goldstein had personally made off with \$620,000 in kickback payments for helping five Chabad of Poway donors evade paying personal income taxes. He called it 'The 90/10 Tax Scheme.' 'Sadly the facts of this case show a willful effort to deceive on the part of a trusted community leader,' Brewer said. 'There is no doubt Rabbi Yisroel Goldstein

was the victim of a horrific hate crime which terrorized him and the Chabad community. That event was a significant mitigating factor in the final plea agreement,' Brewer said."

[KSWB-TV](#) San Diego (7/14, 120K) reports, "Goldstein also pleaded guilty to two other fraud schemes. One involved scamming corporations of matching donations to Chabad or charities controlled by the rabbi, Brewer said. Corporate employees taking part in matching donation programs would give Goldstein money, which he secretly funneled back to them, while keeping the matching donation amounts provided by the corporations, according to Brewer, who said at least six employee co-conspirators took part in that scheme from 2010 to 2018. Another scheme involved submitting fraudulent invoices to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, California Office of Emergency Services and other entities in order to obtain grant funding."

[KNSD-TV](#) San Diego (7/14, Garske, 194K) reports, "The federal document said agents with the IRS and FBI executed search warrants at Goldstein's home and the synagogue on Oct. 17, 2018 – six months before the synagogue attack. Agents told Goldstein they had been investigating 'his tax evasion and other fraudulent activity for quite some time,' the complaint said. 'After learning he was under investigation, Defendant took steps to warn certain of his co-conspirators of the investigation, which allowed his co-conspirators to take steps to conceal their tax evasion scheme,' the complaint continued."

FBI Warns Of Identify Theft Used To File Fraudulent Unemployment Claims.

[WFTS-TV](#) Tampa, FL (7/14, 195K) reports from Tampa, Florida, "With a record number of Floridians out of work, the FBI's Tampa office says it's seeing a spike in identity theft with state unemployment claims. 'It alarms me, it alarms us here with the FBI,' FBI Special Agent Mark Jackson told I-Team Investigator Kylie McGivern." Jackson "said criminals are capitalizing on the fears and desperation of unemployed Floridians during this pandemic. 'That produces an environment where criminals can thrive,' said Jackson." The FBI "warns that criminals are gathering personal information through phone calls, text messages, letters, emails, websites and social media to then file bogus unemployment claims."

FBI Reportedly Probing Threats Made After Ambulance Purchases By Missouri County.

[KMIZ-TV](#) Columbia, MO (7/14, Jones) reports from Jefferson City, Missouri, "The Cole County Commission said the FBI is investigating threats that followed the commission's decision to buy ambulances from a Canadian company. 'It was made very clear that the investigation was not about the actual ambulance purchase, itself, any wrongdoing by the Cole County Commission, and that the Cole County Commission was not the target of the investigation or any county staff,' Western District Commissioner Kris Scheperle said." Scheperle "said the investigation will target threats made to Cole County officials. 'The threats to staff included loss of employment and takeover our EMS service because we refused to buy ambulances from certain places or people, using taxpayer money,' he said." The commission "had been purchasing ambulances from Osage Industries since 2009. John Kehoe, the brother of Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe, is the majority owner."

The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (7/14, Erickson, 685K) reports, "Although the statement does not identify the source of the threats, only two companies were involved in the bidding process. The losing company was Osage Ambulances, a company once owned by Kehoe and now owned by his brother, John." Mike Kehoe "was backing challengers to Commissioners Jeff Hoelscher and Kris Scheperle in their bids for another term in the Aug. 4 Republican primary election. Kehoe contributed \$500 each to two challengers, and John Kehoe contributed \$1,000 to one of the challengers, according to Missouri Ethics Commission records. The two commissioners voted to replace the county's ambulances with those from a Canadian company, rather than buy vehicles sold by Osage Ambulances, located in nearby Linn."

The [Jefferson City \(MO\) News Tribune](#) (7/15, Haldiman, 48K) reports, "In 2018-19, Hoelscher and Scheperle voted to purchase new ambulances from Demers, a Canadian

company with distributors in the United States. Presiding Commissioner Sam Bushman abstained from the vote in 2018 but voted against the Demers purchase in 2019. During the December 2018 vote, Cole County EMS Chief Matt Lindewirth told the commission two Demers ambulances would cost \$381,300, while two Osage ambulances would cost \$415,000. At the December 2019 vote, Lindewirth told commissioners three Demers ambulances would cost \$577,110, while three Osage ambulances would cost \$622,590."

Former Georgia Tax Official Pleads Guilty To Bribery, Blackmail.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (7/14, Hollis, 895K) reports, "A former supervisor in the DeKalb County Tax Commissioner's office pleaded guilty Tuesday to accepting bribes in return for illegally registering vehicles and trying to blackmail one of his bribers." Gerald D. Harris, 51, "accepted nearly \$30,000 in bribe payments between mid-2018 and November 2019, according to a press release from U.S. Attorney BJay Pak. After Harris was fired from the DeKalb tax office for accepting bribes, he tried to blackmail one of his bribers for additional cash by threatening to hand them over to the FBI. The U.S. Attorney's release did not include any further information about the blackmail victim. 'By repeatedly accepting bribe payments, Harris peddled his honor for money and in doing so sold out the citizens of DeKalb County – sometimes for as little as \$100 per car,' Pak said. 'By then attempting to blackmail one of his bribe payers, Harris showed his seemingly limitless greed.'"

Last Defendant Pleads Guilty In Florida Corruption Probe.

[WJHG-TV](#) Panama City, FL (7/14, 55K) reports from Panama City, Florida, "The final defendant indicted in a \$5 million fraud scheme against the city of Lynn Haven pleaded guilty to wire fraud." On Tuesday, US Attorney Lawrence Keefe "made the announcement regarding David Wayne Horton, the former Lynn Haven Community Services Director. The wire fraud charge Horton pleaded guilty too stems from a 35-count federal indictment that alleges in the wake of Hurricane Michael, the city of Lynn Haven entered into contracts for debris removal." The indictment "also alleges that ECS and Greenleaf submitted false and fraudulent invoices that were approved by Lynn Haven's former City Manager Michael White. Keefe also said that White then directed city employees to immediately pay ECS and Greenleaf for those invoices."

Ohio Businessman Charged In Corruption Probe Granted Trial Continuance.

The [Dayton \(OH\) Daily News](#) (7/14, Hulse, 121K) reports, "Dayton businessman Brian Higgins on Tuesday told a federal judge he is not guilty of a crime and has instead spent the past 10 years 'exposing public corruption.'" Higgins, 49, "was granted a continuance to November of his trial on charges related to the Dayton region public corruption investigation announced last year by federal officials. He had been scheduled for trial on July 27." Higgins "pleaded not guilty to three counts of mail fraud and one count of wire fraud. On Tuesday he told U.S. District Court Judge Thomas M. Rose that if the government proves his guilt, Rose should sentence him 'to the maximum allowed by law.' In a statement read into the record Higgins denied wrongdoing and said he was caught up in a federal 'dragnet operation led by a questionable confidential informant in which I have been publicly tarred and feathered.'"

California Psychiatrist Sentenced For Healthcare Fraud.

The [Military Times](#) (7/14, Jowers, 772K) reports, "A San Diego psychiatrist has been sentenced to prison for fraudulent claims to Tricare, and ordered to pay \$783,764 in restitution." According to the Times, "Marco Antonio Chavez 'used these ill-gotten gains to buy himself luxuries including a red 2016 Jaguar and thousands of dollars' worth of David Yurman jewelry,' stated a press release from the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Southern District of California." Chavez, 40, "was sentenced in federal court to 21 months in prison. In August, 2019, Chavez pleaded guilty to felony health care fraud." The Times adds, "Over time, Chavez submitted about \$928,800 in false and fraudulent claims to Tricare, and Tricare paid \$783,764 on those claims."

Massachusetts Man To Plead Guilty To Wire Fraud.

The [Boston Globe](#) (7/14, Andersen, Vaznis, 972K) reports, "A Weston man who formerly ran an international student recruitment firm has agreed to plead guilty to wire fraud for allegedly pocketing over \$5 million in tuition and fees from families, money that was owed to private high schools that partnered with his company, legal filings show." Keenam "Kason" Park, 59, "will enter his plea in US District Court in Boston, according to his agreement filed Tuesday. A date for the hearing hasn't been set. Prosecutors will recommend a prison term of 51 months, as well as a fine and restitution of at least \$5,192,330, US Attorney Andrew E. Lelling's office said in a statement."

Nigerian Man Charged With Money Laundering Is Denied Bail.

[Forbes](#) (7/14, Dawkins, 9.71M) reports, "Nigerian influencer Ramon Abbas, known online as 'hushpuppi' and 'The Billionaire Gucci Master' was denied bail and was told by a judge on Monday in Chicago that he will remain detained until his trial later this year over money laundering allegations." Forbes adds, "Appearing at a detention hearing, a court in the Northern District of Illinois ruled that Abbas will be transported to Los Angeles by the U.S. Marshals Service, and will not be allowed to stay with his girlfriend's uncle in Homewood, Illinois. His trial is slated to be held in Los Angeles where the case was filed, rather from Chicago where the investigation is being handled." The "primary allegation leveled by the FBI is that Abbas was part of a network that made 'hundreds of millions of dollars' from business email compromise frauds and other scams."

San Francisco City Attorney Seeks To Block Contractor In Corruption Scandal From Doing Business With City.

The [San Francisco Examiner](#) (7/14, Sabatini, 438K) reports that San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera "has moved to prohibit AzulWorks, Inc. and its vice president Balmore Hernandez from doing business with The City after he was federally charged with bribing former Public Works head Mohammed Nuru." Herrera "initiated administrative debarment proceedings Monday that would prevent the construction company and Hernandez from competing for a city contract for five years, the maximum allowed under law, the City Attorney's Office announced Tuesday. Hernandez, a former Public Works employee, was charged by the U.S. Attorney last month with bribery. He faces up to 10 years in prison. An FBI affidavit alleges that Hernandez provided Nuru with more than \$250,000 in gifts of materials and labor since late 2016 for his Northern California vacation home in exchange for help in landing city contracts. Gifts include a \$40,000 tractor."

The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (7/14, Fracassa, 2.67M) reports, "Last month, federal officials filed criminal charges against the firm's CEO, Balmore Hernandez a former Public Works employee — for allegedly supplying Nuru with \$250,000 worth of building materials for his vacation home in Stonyford (Colusa County) from late 2016 to 2018 in exchange for inside information and favoritism on city contracts. Among the alleged gifts: A tractor valued at around \$40,000. The City Attorney's Office was able to independently confirm that Hernandez and AzulWorks gave Nuru more than \$20,000 in unlawful labor and material for construction work, which prompted Herrera on Tuesday to launch a process to prevent AzulWorks from bidding on or receiving city contracts for the next five years."

New York Man Facing Charges Over Alleged Ponzi Scheme.

[Suffolk \(NY\) Daily Voice](#) (7/14, 98K) reports LNA Associates President Gregory Altieri "was indicted for allegedly operating a two-year \$200 million scheme based on nonexistent wholesale jewelry deals and false promises of inflated returns." The FBI participated in the investigation, which says Altieri "solicited between \$75 million to \$85 million from more than 80 investors in Queens, Staten Island, Long Island, and elsewhere, to allegedly purchase high-end jewelry at 'closeout' prices to in turn resell it at a high profit" in 2017. The [New York Daily News](#) (7/14,

Rayman, 2.52M) reports that the scheme “began to crumble” in January 2020, when he “sent out \$74 million in checks” that later bounced.

The [Staten Island \(NY\) Advance](#) (7/14, 130K) reports Altieri “was arrested and arraigned Tuesday on a federal wire-fraud charge.” He “pleaded not guilty and was released on \$750,000 bond.”

[Newsday \(NY\)](#) (7/14, 932K) also reports.

New York Man Charged In Connection To Police Union Fraud.

The [Kingston \(NY\) Daily Freeman](#) (7/14, Network, 28K) reports Law Enforcement Employees Benevolent treasurer Steven Whittick “is facing federal charges in connection with a police union fraud case, and he could face more than a quarter-century in prison.” Prosecutors “said that after the FBI executed a search warrant at the union offices in September 2019, Whittick obstructed and tried to influence the federal investigation by making false statements about, among other things, cash withdrawals from union bank accounts and the annuity fund.”

FBI Corruption Probe Results In Charges Against New Jersey Policeman.

[NJ News](#) (7/14, 1.72M) reports that the FBI Newark Field Office’s anti-corruption probe, which began in 2017, has resulted in charges against Paterson police sergeant Michael Cheff, who “was arrested and accused of civil rights violations and falsifying police reports.” The investigation reviewed a August 2018 arrest, which resulted in charges against David Legrier that were eventually dismissed on the grounds that there was no evidence.

[Bergen \(NJ\) Record](#) (7/14) also reports.

CYBER DIVISION

FBI Warns Of Rising Cyber Crimes Targeting School Districts.

[WEWS-TV](#) Cleveland (7/14, Schultz) reports from Cleveland, Ohio, “As many school district leaders contemplate what schools will look like in the fall for students, teachers and staff, it’s clear that online learning will play a large role in most districts.” According to WEWS-TV, “The Cleveland Division of the FBI is warning school districts to make sure its cyber security systems are up to date. FBI Special Agent Vicki Anderson said that cyber crimes, in general, are up since the pandemic. She said that hacking and ransomware attacks are becoming more common in municipalities, businesses and school systems. ‘And now we add COVID to it where all the bad guys out there know that a lot more people are online,’ she said.” The FBI “is now warning school districts about ransomware attacks, or when a type of virus holds the computer systems and data hostage until a certain amount of money is paid.”

UK Sides With US Over China, Will Purge Huawei Equipment From 5G Network.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Sandle, Falconbridge) reports British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has “ordered Huawei equipment to be purged completely from Britain’s 5G network by the end of 2027, risking the ire of China by signalling that the world’s biggest telecoms equipment maker is not welcome in the West.” Johnson was “under intense pressure” from President Trump, “while Beijing had warned London, which has sought to court China in recent years, that billions in investment would be at risk if it sided with Washington.”

The [AP](#) (7/14, Kirka) reports Johnson’s government “said it decided to prohibit Huawei from working on the so-called 5G system after U.S. sanctions made it impossible to ensure the security of equipment made by the Chinese company.” The U.S. “had also threatened to sever an intelligence-sharing arrangement with Britain because of concerns that Huawei’s involvement could allow the Chinese government to infiltrate U.K. networks.”

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Satariano, Castle, Sanger, 18.61M) reports that “the move reverses a decision in January, when Britain said Huawei equipment could be used in its new 5G

network on a limited basis." Since then, Johnson has "faced growing political pressure domestically to take a harder line against Beijing, and in May, the United States imposed new restrictions to disrupt Huawei's access to important components." Johnson government's "about-face signals a new willingness among Western countries to confront China, a determination that has grown firmer since Beijing last month adopted a sweeping new law to tighten its grip on Hong Kong."

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Baker, Chalmers) reports, "Britain's decision to ban China's Huawei from its 5G network" increased the pressure on EU countries to also "impose stricter limits" on the company. Meanwhile, "A senior EU diplomat said some countries were now worried" that the European Union's "toolbox" of recommendations, released in January, that allowed members to "either 'restrict or exclude' so-called high-risk 5G vendors, such as Huawei, from core parts of their telecoms network," did not do enough to limit dependence on Huawei.

Harvard Kennedy School's Applied History Project Assistant Director Calder Walton, in an op-ed in [Foreign Policy](#) (7/14, 340K), writes, "There is a long history of all kinds of governments exploiting commercial communication companies to collect foreign intelligence in bulk to further their interests and protect their national security," including by the British and US governments. Walton argues, "this history offers a clear message: It would be naive to expect the Chinese government not to exploit Huawei hardware on Britain's 5G network for intelligence collection."

Additional coverage includes the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Fidler, Colchester, Subscription Publication, 7.57M), [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Nakashima, Booth, 14.2M), [Politico](#) (7/14, Cerulus, Casalicchio, 4.29M), [Politico](#) (7/14, Cerulus, 4.29M), [BBC News Online \(UK\)](#) (7/14, 1.02M), [TIME](#) (7/14, Perrigo, 18.47M), [Reuters](#) (7/14), and [Fox News](#) (7/14, Rogers, 27.59M), among other news outlets.

Analysis: US Efforts Against Huawei Part Of Overdue Change In US Handling Of China.

In an analysis, [Wired](#) (7/14, Graff, 3.49M) reports that the US efforts against Huawei are part of "an overdue acknowledgement by the foreign policy establishment that years of accommodating engagement with a rising China has done little to stem China's rambunctious and norm-shattering behavior." The Administration has engaged in "a remarkable six months of concerted effort against Huawei that has brought the Trump administration's efforts back from what appeared to be an embarrassing defeat."

House Democrat Presses Google, Apple On Foreign-Owned Apps.

[The Hill](#) (7/14, Miller, 2.98M) reports House Oversight and Reform Committee national security subcommittee Chairman Lynch "urged Google and Apple to be more transparent with customers about the potential data privacy dangers of foreign-made apps." He "reached out to the companies following statements from the FBI and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) that foreign-made apps could pose a danger to consumers." In letters to Google CEO Sundar Pichai and Apple CEO Tim Cook, Lynch expressed concern that apps owned or operated by foreign developers or that store Americans' data overseas "could enable our adversaries to access significant quantities of potentially sensitive information on American citizens without their knowledge to the detriment of U.S. national security." Lynch requested Google and Apple "commit to requiring app developers to disclose the countries where user data is stored, make this information available to customers considering downloading the app, and also asked whether the companies would consider further changes to protect data privacy."

Additional coverage includes [Gizmodo](#) (7/14, Wodinsky, 2.7M) and the [Financial Times](#) (7/14, McGee, Murphy, Fedor, Subscription Publication, 1.34M).

Rep. Langevin To Propose Cyber Director Amendment To NDAA.

[NextGov](#) (7/14, Baksh) reports Rep. Jim Langevin (D-RI) plans to offer amendments to the National Defense Authorization Act "to create a post within the White House with budgetary and

policy authority to coordinate cybersecurity across the government.” Langevin also plans to “propose a continuity of the economy amendment that would prioritize essential services in getting the economy back up and running in the event of a cyberattack and incentivize states and municipalities to move to the cloud as they modernize their information technology” and will back an amendment “to create a joint cyber planning office at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.”

[Federal Computer Week](#) (7/14, Johnson, 263K) reports, “Dozens of proposed amendments that draw from recommendations in the” Cyberspace Solarium Commission’s report have been introduced. “In some cases, legislators have drawn inspiration from multiple recommendations in the report to place cyber initiatives in appropriations language.”

Former Special Assistant to President Barack Obama Michael Daniel, in an op-ed in [CyberScoop](#) (7/14), argues that improving the federal government’s cybersecurity capabilities faces at least three challenges: “cybersecurity’s cross-cutting nature,” the lack of incentives for agencies “to sustain the degree of coordination required for effective cybersecurity,” and a lack of central leadership that “hinders effective incident response.” He argues this can start to be addressed by “creating a National Cyber Director along the lines of what the Cyberspace Solarium Commission recommends .”

Report: Tax Program Required By Chinese Banks For Clients Deploys Backdoors.

[CyberScoop](#) (7/14, Vavra) reports that security vendor Trustwave published [findings](#) that specific software “required to be used through the Chinese government’s Chinese Golden Tax Project” tax system – Intelligent Tax – contains “a backdoor that would give hackers a new way in.” Trustwave says that a Chinese bank told a UK-based defense contractor the program was required. However, “the tax software’s developer has relied on a number of subcontractors to build software flaws into other software tools for years,” and “the network of companies behind the tax software scheme itself can be traced back to the Chinese government.” Trustwave Vice president of Cyber Threat Detection and Response Brian Hussey said, “I know that the Chinese government very frequently uses their state-owned private organizations, their state-owned university system for just this kind of work.”

TikTok’s US Users Prepare For Possible Ban.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Dang, McLymore) reports that with national security concerns that TikTok’s may be required to share user data with the Chinese government, the app’s fate in the United States is undecided. “The news set off a wave of worries among its devoted user base, who are coming up with backup plans on other services.” Atlantic Council Nonresident Fellow Justin Sherman said, in Reuters’ words, “the Trump administration’s motives are primarily political, which make it not only difficult to predict what the government will decide, but nearly impossible to fight back if it proceeds with a ban.”

LABORATORY

Forbes Examines FBI’s Multimedia Exploitation Unit.

[Forbes](#) (7/14, Brewster, 9.71M) reports, “As it seeks to improve its ability to sift through such abundances of video at major crime scenes, the FBI has been funnelling millions into tech that combined big data and surveillance tools like facial recognition. And Forbes has learned that a previously-unreported forensics division within the FBI called the Multimedia Exploitation Unit (MXU) has been tasked with this role. It has cost at least \$35 million since 2016 and draws on cutting-edge expertise from Mitre Corporation, the non-profit government skunkworks lab.” Forbes adds, “Documents obtained via FOIA reveal that MXU, run out of the FBI’s Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) division, seeks to ‘process and exploit multimedia assets’ so that the FBI can ‘transform... bulk data into investigative leads.’ The unit has pushed one

smaller security contractor – West Virginia-based Azimuth Inc – to create tech for ‘bulk multimedia search’ and ‘image clustering’ that brings together content that’s been flagged by facial and object recognition technology in an easy-to-digest tool.”

Questions Raised About Thousands More Massachusetts Drug Lab Cases.

The [Boston Globe](#) (7/14, Mulvihill, 972K) reports, “A consultant warned the state in 2013 that seven other chemists – in addition to the disgraced Annie Dookhan – should be investigated at the state drug laboratory in Jamaica Plain, e-mails released Monday by a Middlesex Superior Court judge show.” According to the Globe, “The e-mails from Michael J. Wolf, a forensic scientist and former FBI official who advised the state in its probe of the drug lab fiasco, underscore festering questions about how thoroughly the state reviewed the work of other chemists at the lab – which defense lawyers said could affect the legitimacy of the evidence used in thousands more successful drug prosecutions. To date, at least 61,000 drug charges in 35,000 cases have been dismissed in Massachusetts due to misconduct by Dookhan at the William A. Hinton lab and former chemist Sonja Farak at the state lab in Amherst.”

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Barr Says “Justice Was Done” After First Federal Execution In 17 Years.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 8, 0:20, Muir, 7.36M) reported “a former white supremacist has been put to death in Indiana” in “the first federal execution in 17 years. Daniel Lewis Lee was sentenced to die for the gruesome murders of a gun dealer, his wife, and her 8-year-old daughter in the 1990s.” The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Mordock, 492K) indicates Attorney General Barr on Tuesday “defended” the execution, saying in a statement that Lee “faced the justice he deserved. ... The American people have made the considered choice to permit capital punishment for the most egregious federal crimes, and justice was done today in implementing the sentence for Lee’s horrific offense.”

The [AP](#) (7/14, Balsamo) reports Lee’s execution “came over the objection of the victims’ relatives and following days of legal delays, reviving the debate over capital punishment during a time of widespread social unrest.” The AP reports that “just before he died at the federal prison in Terre Haute, Indiana, Lee, professed his innocence. ‘I’ve made a lot of mistakes in my life, but I’m not a murderer.’ said Lee, 47, of Yukon, Oklahoma. ‘You’re killing an innocent man.’”

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Fuchs, 18.61M) reports that the Administration “announced last summer its intention to resume the federal death penalty and to employ a new procedure to carry it out – using a single drug, pentobarbital – after several botched executions by lethal injection renewed scrutiny of capital punishment.” The Times adds that the Supreme Court’s “unsigned 5-to-4 ruling early Tuesday morning said pentobarbital had been used in over 100 executions ‘without incident’ and had been upheld by the Supreme Court and appeals courts.” The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Berman, 14.2M) says that “although the author is unclear, the opinion was the work of Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel A. Alito Jr., Neil M. Gorsuch and Brett M. Kavanaugh.”

According to [Reuters](#) (7/14, Allen, Lynch), “Just 10 minutes passed between” the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals “revoking the last outstanding injunction stopping Lee’s execution...and the curtain in the execution chamber being pulled back at 7:46 a.m. (1146 GMT) to reveal Lee strapped to a gurney.” [The Hill](#) (7/14, Johnson, Kruzal, 2.98M), [USA Today](#) (7/14, Wolf, 10.31M), the [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/14, Lehman, 78K), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Bravin, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 7.57M), and the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Rowan, 448K), among other news outlets, also cover the execution.

Anti-Crime Operation Draws Mixed Response From Community Leaders In Kansas City.

The [AP](#) (7/14) reports Operation Legend, which will send “100 agents from the FBI and other federal” organizations to Kansas City, Missouri, “has been greeted with a mixture of praise and concern from community leaders.” Supporters of the operation include KC Mothers in Charge Executive Director Rosilyn Temple, who said, “We need help” to reduce violent crime in the city. But critics such as Justice Horn, who “organized many of the recent Black Lives Matter protests in Kansas City,” argue that funds for programs which focus on social services, mental health and poverty is what is needed in Kansas City. That view is shared by Ivanhoe Neighborhood Council Executive Director Karen Boyd, who said Operation Legend is “not going to solve anything.” Boyd added, “It’s a smokescreen, quite frankly. When are we going to deal with root causes?”

OTHER FBI NEWS

Little Rock, Arkansas FBI Offers Civil Rights Training To Civilians.

[KATV-TV](#) Little Rock, AR (7/14, Rose, 137K) reports, “On Tuesday, the Little Rock office of the FBI held training for local media on civil rights violations and the use of excessive force by police. They have held this exact training for a few years but say it’s more needed now than ever in the wake of George Floyd’s death.” According to KATV-TV, “The day started with a two-hour class, where cameras weren’t allowed, but they went through real-life investigations into use of excessive force by police and what their agents look for in terms of constitutional violations. ‘We want to start driving these conversations between law enforcement and the community so we can talk about how law enforcement can be better,’ said Ryan Kennedy, the supervisory special agent. ‘So we can talk about how the community can be better so that people can sit down and have these conversations in an area where we are encouraging people to respect themselves.’”

Convicted Michigan Contractor Gets Reduction Of Federal Prison Sentence.

The [Detroit News](#) (7/14, Brand-Williams, 825K) reports, “An engineering contractor who was part of a wide-ranging Macomb County public corruption case had his prison sentence cut short by a federal judge Tuesday.” Paulin Modi, “a 50-year-old Troy resident, was given ‘time served.’ Modi pleaded guilty and was sentenced in February to a little more than one year for bribing a Washington Township public official. ‘... defendant’s sentence is hereby reduced from a 12 months and one day total term of imprisonment to a term of imprisonment of time served,’ U.S. District Judge Robert Cleland ordered Tuesday.” Modi “was convicted of paying a series of bribes totaling \$5,000 to the late Steven Hohensee, Washington Township’s superintendent of public works. Hohensee was secretly cooperating with the FBI, according to federal officials.”

The [Macomb \(MI\) Daily](#) (7/14, Hotts, 156K) reports, “A court spokesperson said the U.S. Attorney’s Office filed a sealed motion where it recommended the sentence reduction in exchange for his cooperation in another case.”

Arkansas Judge Forced To Step Down After Allegations Of Misconduct.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Shiffman, Berens) reports, “An Arkansas judge who styled himself as a ‘Sugar Daddy’ and was accused by local women of soliciting sex in exchange for cash, drugs and bail leniency largely escaped accountability from authorities for years, a Reuters investigation found.” Reuters adds, “On his final day in office, the judge was forced to resign from the bench in disgrace. But more than three years later, state officials have yet to decide whether he should be allowed to keep his law license. To date, he continues to practice law despite his misconduct on the bench. The story of District Court Judge Tim Parker shows how hard it can be to remove an American judge suspected of corruption. It also illustrates how, even after misconduct on the bench becomes an open secret, a judge can remain in power for years when his victims are people who typically make for poor witnesses – in this case, petty criminals and drug addicts.”

Kansas City Pharmacist Who Diluted Cancer Meds To Get Early Release From Prison.

The [Hays \(KS\) Post](#) (7/15, Margolies) reports, "Robert Courtney, the Kansas City pharmacist whose drug dilution scheme drew national headlines 19 years ago, is being released from prison seven years early." The Post adds, "In a letter last week, the U.S. Justice Department informed some of Courtney's victims and members of their families that Courtney will be moved to a halfway house this week and then to home confinement in Trimble, Missouri. The letter said that Courtney, 67, had been found eligible for home confinement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Attorney General William Barr instructed the Federal Bureau of Prisons to release inmates who are 'at a minimal risk of recidivating.'" Courtney, "whose pharmacy was located in Research Hospital in Kansas City, was sentenced in 2002 after pleading guilty to diluting medications for cancer patients and other seriously ill people and pocketing the resulting profits."

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Trump Says COVID Testing May Be "Working Too Well."

In an interview with Catherine Herridge of the [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 2, 1:30, O'Donnell, 4.31M), President Trump was asked, "Is the national testing strategy working?" Trump replied, "Working? We have 45 million tests as of, I think, today, approximately 45 million tests. No other country tests like us. In fact, I could say it's working too much, it's working too well. We're doing testing, and we're finding thousands and thousands of cases." Herridge: "Will you push for more on site testing?" Trump: "I like it the best. I mean, I like it the best. It might not be as accurate by the way, but I like it the best."

Graham, Mulvaney, Kilmeade Among Trump Allies Critical Of Testing Capacity.

[Politico](#) (7/14, Oprysko, 4.29M) reports that President Trump's former Acting Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney "panned the administration's testing abilities in an op-ed on Monday, calling the struggles his family encountered when trying to get tested and the wait time for results afterward 'simply inexcusable.'" According to Politico, "Tuesday morning the pile-on continued as 'Fox & Friends' host Brian Kilmeade acknowledged a 'huge testing issue.'" Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) later said, "We just don't have enough testing in real time for the population as a whole."

Administration Plans To Increase Testing At Nursing Homes. [Axios](#) (7/14, Ayesh, 521K) reports the Administration said Tuesday that it will be "ramping up testing at nursing homes in coronavirus hotspots using rapid point-of-care diagnostic test instruments." Axios says the "push to increase testing at nursing homes comes as many states, particularly in the Southern U.S., see a surge."

Trump Says Keeping Schools Closed Would Be "A Terrible Decision."

In an interview broadcast on the [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 3, 0:45, O'Donnell, 4.31M), Catherine Herridge asked President Trump, "What do you tell parents and teachers who feel that it's unsafe to go back [to school]?" Trump: "I would tell parents and teachers that you should find yourself a new person, whoever's in charge of that decision, because it's a terrible decision, because children and parents are dying from that trauma, too. They're dying, because they can't do what they're doing. Mothers can't go to work because all of a sudden they have to stay at home and watch their child, and fathers. What's happening, you know, there's a tremendous strain on that whole side of the equation."

The President [tweeted](#) Tuesday evening, "Joe Biden claims to be prioritizing 'safety of kids' by keeping schools closed this Fall. Yet he remains silent about children being slaughtered by violence on the streets of Democrat run cities. You & your children won't be SAFE in Biden's America, and neither will anyone else!" Trump also [retweeted](#) commentator Dan Bongino, who

wrote, "THE KIDS BELONG BACK IN SCHOOL. Stop making them suffer for your own political gain."

On [ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 2, 1:55, Muir, 7.36M), Victor Oquendo reported, "Teachers are raising fears about returning to schools too soon. ... The Trump Administration has threatened to pull funding from schools that don't open." Education Secretary DeVos: "American investment in education is a promise to students and their families. If schools aren't going to reopen and not fulfill that promise, they shouldn't get the funds." Blayne Alexander reported on [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 8, 2:15, Holt, 5.96M), "While the majority of public education is funded at the state and local level, all eyes are on Washington for that extra boost. Congress approved more than \$13 billion of aid for schools early in the pandemic. And in the next relief package, hundreds of billions more could be on the table. And a lot of this also comes down to teachers and whether they are ready to come back."

[NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 9, 2:10, Holt, 5.96M) also ran a feature on testing for antibodies as schools consider reopening.

WPost: "Bullying And Threatening" Is Not The Way To Reopen Schools. In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, 14.2M) says it agrees with Trump "about the importance of getting children back into the classroom." However, the Post adds, "We don't think it is sufficient, let alone effective, to make believe the virus isn't a problem while bullying and threatening states and local school districts to open their doors in August." The Post says "it is rich" that the Administration cites "the experience of other countries that have managed to reopen schools as examples to follow when those countries embraced the kind of careful steps and precautions – lockdowns, masks, extensive testing – that Mr. Trump constantly belittles."

In a second related editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, 14.2M) writes, "No one could level an accusation of complacency at Kanakuk Kamps, a network of Christian camps in Missouri that posted a 31-point program of pandemic precautions as summer approached. Despite those preparations, one of its camps, for teenagers, was hit by a major outbreak last month." The Post says "that failure, and others like it nationwide, are a warning sign for schools and colleges that hope to reopen this fall."

Pence Sounds Optimistic Note On Pandemic, Backs Reopening Schools In Louisiana Trip.

The [AP](#) (7/14, Deslatte) reports that on Tuesday, Vice President Pence "insisted...schools should reopen to in-person instruction for students, making the point in Louisiana as the state has reemerged as one of the nation's hot spots for the coronavirus only months after signs pointed to a successful outbreak response." According to the AP, Pence "described the nation as 'in a much better position today to deal with the pandemic' even as virus cases surge across much of the country." Pence and Education Secretary DeVos "called for students at every level from elementary school through college to return to classrooms, with Pence calling that critical to reopening the country." Pence also "visited the state's emergency operations center, which is the operational hub of Louisiana's response to the COVID-19 disease caused by the coronavirus."

The [Monroe News Star](#) (7/14, Hilburn, 64K) reports Pence said Tuesday he supports the mask mandate introduced by Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards (D) "while insisting schools and colleges must open even as the COVID infection intensifies in the state." Said Pence, "We're here to help. ... It's the right thing to do." Edwards, Sens. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) and John Kennedy (R-LA), "higher education leaders and members of the White House's coronavirus task force joined Pence during a roundtable discussion at LSU." Pence and White House coronavirus task force coordinator Deborah Birx also "said wearing masks will help stem to summer surge of COVID."

The [KATC-TV](#) Lafayette, LA (7/14, 9K) website also reports "Pence insisted schools should reopen to in-person instruction for students in a visit to Louisiana," and the [Baton Rouge](#)

[Advocate](#) (7/14, Karlin, 399K) that DeVos said that "it can't be a question of if schools reopen, it's how we can do it safely."

State AG Tests Positive. The [Baton Rouge Advocate](#) (7/14, Ballard, 399K) reports "Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry wasn't on the tarmac to greet...Pence on Tuesday morning because he has tested positive for coronavirus, according to an email blast to employees of the state Department of Justice." [Fox News](#) (7/14, Phillips, 27.59M) notes on its website that Landry said in a statement, "Out of an overabundance of caution with the vice president coming to our state, I was tested for coronavirus [sic]. ... Though experiencing no symptoms, I tested positive for COVID-19."

The [AP](#) (7/14, Deslatte) recalls that "in the early days of the state's virus outbreak, Landry stood with Edwards to support the governor's decisions to close schools, shutter some businesses and limit gatherings, defending these actions as in the best interest of health and safety." However, "more recently...Landry was again publicly questioning Edwards' continued restrictions on businesses and churches." While he "hasn't directly challenged Edwards' statewide mask mandate...Landry sent a letter to Louisiana's education leaders opposing a face covering requirement at schools, saying it 'may cross the line on liberty.'"

Louisiana Hospitalizations "More Than Doubled" In Past Month. The [New Orleans Times-Picayune](#) (7/14, Discher, 480K) reports "the Louisiana Dept. of Health reported 2,215 more coronavirus cases, 22 more deaths and 54 more hospitalizations in its daily noon update Tuesday." Meanwhile, "statewide coronavirus hospitalizations have more than doubled over the past month," as "there are now 1,362 patients with COVID-19 hospitalized in Louisiana. The last time this many people were hospitalized was on May 7."

Giroir Says Public Health Officials Do Not "Lie."

The [AP](#) (7/14, Superville, Colvin, Lemire, Miller) reports HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Adm. Brett Giroir "said Tuesday that 'none of us lie' to the public, an accusation President Donald Trump had retweeted, and that while kids need to be back in school as Trump insists, 'we have to get the virus under control.'" Giroir's comment "came a day after Trump shared a Twitter post from a former game show host who, without evidence, accused government medical experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, among others, of 'lying.'" [Politico](#) (7/14, Forgey, 4.29M) reports that in an interview with NBC's Today, Giroir said, "Look, we may occasionally make mistakes based on the information we have, but none of us lie. We are completely transparent with the American people."

On [NBC's Today](#)^{Vi} (7/14, 3.14M), Giroir also said, "We are all very concerned about the outbreak. ... About half the cases are in four states – Texas, California, Florida, Arizona. But we are in a much different place now than we were several months ago, a much better place. ... In terms of our hospitalizations, we're at about 63,000 people now. That's much different from the 85,000 people. Only about 10% of people with COVID are on ventilators. That's down from about 25%. ... We are doing almost 700,000 tests a day on average, over 800,000 on certain days. But we still have to be careful in some of those areas to make sure the people who need a test or those who are vulnerable can get it within a short turnaround period."

Fauci Urges Trust In "Respected Medical Authorities" Like Himself.

On [ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 4, 2:00, Muir, 7.36M), Mary Bruce reported President Trump "is facing growing backlash" over the Administration's handling of coronavirus. As COVID-19 "explodes, the White House is trying to discredit and sideline the nation's top authority on infectious diseases, Dr. Anthony Fauci. Speaking with medical students [Tuesday], Fauci was asked, who should Americans trust?" Fauci: "You can trust respected medical authorities. You know, I believe I'm one of them, so I think you can trust me, but I would stick with respected medical authorities who have a track record of telling the truth." Bruce: "The President is also taking shots at the medical experts at the CDC, retweeting former game show host Chuck Woolery, who said the CDC is 'lying.'"

Moore Preparing Policy Memo Highlighting Mistakes Made By Fauci Throughout Career. The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Brest, 448K) reports that on Monday, Stephen Moore, a conservative economist, "informal adviser to President Trump and a Washington Examiner columnist, said...he is working on a policy memo that will point out the mistakes" Fauci has made throughout his career. Moore said, "We are working on a memo that shows how many times Dr. Fauci's been wrong during not just [this pandemic], but during his entire career."

Artist Behind Anti-Fauci Cartoon Promoted By Scavino Has Been Accused Of Anti-Semitism. The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Rogers, 18.61M) reports White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications Dan Scavino on Sunday shared a cartoon "mocking Dr. Fauci by an artist whose work has been criticized for its anti-Semitic imagery." The Times says the cartoon was drawn by Ben Garrison, who was "disinvited from a White House gathering of the president's social media fans because his work contains anti-Semitic messaging." In an article titled "Trump Aide Shares Anti-Fauci Cartoon Drawn By Artist Barred From The White House Over Anti-Semitic Tropes," [Politico](#) (7/14, Cohen, 4.29M) reports that "one Garrison cartoon from 2017 featured an ominous hand, labeled 'Rothschilds,' controlling prominent Jewish, progressive financier George Soros with puppet strings. In the cartoon, Soros himself had David Petraeus and H.R. McMaster attached to puppet strings."

USA Today: Fauci "Is A National Treasure." [USA Today](#) (7/14, 10.31M) says in an editorial that Fauci "is a national treasure. He is one of the leading authorities in his field. He combines extraordinary expertise with an exceptional ability to communicate with ordinary people. He has held his position for 36 years, earning the admiration of multiple presidents, including George W. Bush, who awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom." But to Trump, "Fauci is an annoying truth bomb that keeps going off in his garden party of falsehoods and blame shifting. ... In the difficult weeks and months ahead, America's best hope involves listening to the people, like Dr. Fauci, who have devoted their lives and careers to public health."

In a responding [USA Today](#) (7/14, 10.31M) op-ed, Director of Trade and Manufacturing Policy Navarro writes, "Anthony Fauci has a good bedside manner with the public, but he has been wrong about everything I have interacted with him on. ... So when you ask me whether I listen to Dr. Fauci's advice, my answer is: only with skepticism and caution."

Redfield Warns Of "Difficult Times," Says Mask-Wearing Could Halt Virus' Advance.

All three broadcast networks opened their Tuesday evening newscasts with coronavirus coverage. David Muir said on [ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, lead story, 4:45, 7.36M) that CDC Director Redfield said "this coming fall and winter will likely be 'one of the most difficult times that we experienced in American public health.' The US has now surpassed 136,000 lives lost." On the [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, lead story, 4:20, 4.31M), Norah O'Donnell reported, "Florida, Alabama, Nevada, and Utah are all setting records for the number of people killed by the virus in the past 24 hours. With infections spiking in 39 states, hospitals are facing a crisis." O'Donnell also highlighted Redfield's remarks, reporting he "projected things will only get worse later this year, and he's calling on all Americans to wear masks, saying if everyone across the country used face coverings, the virus could be stopped in the next few months." On [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, lead story, 3:10, 5.96M), Lester Holt called it "a haunting prediction" from Redfield.

[USA Today](#) (7/14, Bacon, Flores, Reyes, 10.31M) reports a study of COVID data by the newspaper "found Tuesday that almost half of all states are spiking at a faster rate than they had been in the spring." [CNBC](#) (7/14, Kim, Rattner, 3.62M) reports on its website that on Monday, for the first time, the US "surpassed more than 60,000 new coronavirus cases...based on an average of new cases per day over the previous seven days, according to a CNBC analysis of data compiled by Johns Hopkins University." CNBC adds, "Across the country, more

than a third of U.S. states reported record highs in daily new cases, based on a seven-day moving average.”

Surgeon General Adams said on [WTMJ-AMVi](#) Milwaukee (7/14, 13K), “When we reopened, in many cases people thought that was a light switch. ... Unfortunately, we’re going to be living with the virus for a while. That doesn’t mean it has to control us. If we do the things that we have been preaching like wearing face coverings in public, staying six feet apart, and protecting the vulnerable to slow the spread, we can actually have some degree of normalcy.”

Labor Secretary Scalia said on [WTN-FMVi](#) Nashville, TN (7/14, 8K), “I don’t think we reopened too fast. I think, though, that there are some people who reopened irresponsibly. What we gained by the discipline that people engaged in from March through May was – we gained the freedom to be out and about,” but “we didn’t gain the freedom to just ignore the virus and act like it is not there.”

Hahn “Encouraged” About Vaccine Development.

FDA Commissioner Hahn said on [Fox News’ Bill Hemmer Reports](#) (7/14), “I remain encouraged by what we are seeing in the vaccine development. FDA of course is responsible for calling the balls on the strikes on the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine and we have a number of vaccine developers in-house with us who are in the process of developing vaccines for COVID-19, so that does give me encouragement.”

Former CDC Directors Decry Politicization Of Health Policy.

Lester Holt reported on [NBC Nightly NewsVi](#) (7/14, story 5, 1:00, 5.96M) that President Trump is “fac[ing] fresh fallout over his coronavirus response in the form of an extraordinary rebuke from four former heads of the CDC, who argue in a new op-ed published in the Washington Post that the President and White House officials are attempting to undermine the agency’s guidance for schools hoping to reopen in the fall.” [Politico](#) (7/14, Forgey, 4.29M) reports that in an the op-ed, the former officials “implicitly rebuked [Trump], arguing the ‘extraordinary’ efforts by him and other administration officials to diminish the public health agency’s guidance were contributing to a resurgence of coronavirus cases across the United States.”

Richard Besser, Tom Frieden, Jeffrey Koplan, and David Satcher write in the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Frieden, Koplan, Satcher, Besser, 14.2M), “It is not unusual for CDC guidelines to be changed or amended during a clearance process that moves through multiple agencies and the White House. But it is extraordinary for guidelines to be undermined after their release. ... The four of us led the CDC over a period of more than 15 years. ... We cannot recall over our collective tenure a single time when political pressure led to a change in the interpretation of scientific evidence.” [USA Today](#) (7/14, Cummings, 10.31M) and [Axios](#) (7/14, Allassan, 521K) also cover the op-ed.

Warren, Pressley Press Azar On Coronavirus’ Impact On Minorities.

[Politico](#) (7/14, King, Barrón-López, 4.29M) reports that Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) sent a letter to HHS Secretary Azar on Tuesday “requesting a report detailing the Trump administration’s response to racial health disparities exacerbated by the Covid-19 outbreak.” According to Politico, “The letter, which highlights the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on communities of color, represents another push from Democrats” for President Trump “to take action to alleviate the damage of the virus on minorities.”

Virginia Congressman Tests Positive For COVID-19.

[USA Today](#) (7/14, Lalljee, 10.31M) reports Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-VA) “announced Tuesday that he tested positive for COVID-19, joining the growing list of members of Congress to contract the disease.” Griffith “announced he had tested positive on [Twitter](#), where he wrote that he has been self-isolating since noticing symptoms, which he says are currently not

'significant.'" The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Vozzella, 14.2M) recounts that "Griffith, who has represented the rural Southwest Virginia district since 2011, said he was feeling fine in a brief phone interview Tuesday afternoon, while he was monitoring a committee hearing." Said Griffith, "The quote stands for itself. I'm fine. ... I don't feel bad."

[Politico](#) (7/14, Zanona, 4.29M) points out the "diagnosis that comes five days after the Virginia Republican attended a GOP press conference and which spurred an effort at contact tracing within the" Freedom Caucus, to which he belongs. The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Sherfinski, 492K), [Reuters](#) (7/14, Morgan), [Newsweek](#) (7/14, Czachor, 1.53M), and the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Wise, Subscription Publication, 7.57M), among other news outlets, also cover the news.

Administration Orders Hospitals To Bypass CDC On COVID Patient Information.

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Stolberg, 18.61M) reports the Administration "has ordered hospitals to bypass" the CDC and send coronavirus patient information "to a central database in Washington beginning on Wednesday. The move has alarmed health experts who fear the data will be politicized or withheld from the public." The new instructions "were posted recently in a little-noticed document" on the HHS website.

Hospitals Stock Up On COVID-19 Drugs To Prepare For Second Wave In Fall.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, A1, Hopkins, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) reports on its front page that US hospitals are stocking drugs with the potential to treat COVID-19 in the hopes of avoiding a rush for key medications and drug shortages in light of a predicted second wave. Many ICUs in New York and other hard-hit areas are currently in short supply of critical drugs and are competing with other facilities for limited resources.

Biden: "It's Gotten Bad Enough" That Trump Is Wearing A Mask In Public.

The [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 8, 1:20, O'Donnell, 4.31M) reported Joe Biden on Tuesday "unveiled a \$2 trillion plan to fight climate change and create jobs in the post-COVID economy. He also took aim at the President's record." CBS' Ed O'Keefe: "Speaking near his Delaware home today, Joe Biden ridiculed President Trump's response to the coronavirus." Biden: "It's gotten bad enough that even Donald Trump finally decided to wear mask in public." O'Keefe: "The President, who wore a mask to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center over the weekend, was also criticized by Biden for failing to listen to medical professionals like Dr. Anthony Fauci." Biden: "Please listen to your public health experts instead of denigrating them. Do your job, Mr. President, because if we can't deal with the public health crisis, we can't deal with the economic crisis."

Cruz Photographed On Flight Without Mask On.

The [New York Post](#) (7/14, Eustachewich, 4.57M) reports Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) was photographed "without a mask on a flight over the weekend – prompting American Airlines to review the matter after the image was posted online, and went viral. ... The pic was [tweeted](#) by Hosseh Enad, a Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee operative, who wrote, 'Captured today at 10:45am – @TedCruz on a commercial flight, refusing to wear a mask.'" A Cruz spokesperson said Cruz "had taken off his mask to sip his coffee – but put it back on afterward. Cruz always wears a mask while traveling and practices social distancing, the spokesperson insisted." The airline "said it reached out to Cruz anyway."

Jacksonville GOP Convention Now Expected To Be Held Outdoors.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Holland, Mason) reports Republicans are planning to move the Jacksonville phase of next month's national convention "from an indoor arena to an outdoor venue as Florida's coronavirus cases surge, two party sources familiar with the conversations said on Tuesday." They said the plan, "which Trump tentatively accepted on Monday during a White

House meeting with top Republican National Committee (RNC) officials, emerged as the party scrambles to host a large-scale event next month amid the health crisis." The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Haberman, 18.61M) reports, "Officials remain uncertain about whether a capacity crowd would be allowed to attend outdoor events, or if there would be restrictions to prevent people from being too close to one another."

Florida Reports Single-Day Record Of 132 COVID Deaths.

Sam Brock reported on [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 2, 2:00, Holt, 5.96M) that on Tuesday, Florida "set a record for coronavirus fatalities," with 132 deaths. Florida "has been ripping through its records for daily COVID cases and testing more than at any point in this pandemic." The [AP](#) (7/14, Spencer, Geller) says the figure "likely includes deaths from the past weekend that had not been previously reported."

Florida Healthcare CEO Says Supplies Are Adequate. The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Miller, 448K) reports, "The CEO of one of Florida's largest healthcare providers says it has the intensive care unit capabilities to handle the recent uptick in coronavirus-positive tests." AdventHealth CEO Terry Shaw said, "We have adequate personal protective equipment. We have a stockpile of ventilators, and we have an amazing clinical team that have taken best practices from around the world and put them into our treatment protocols."

Garcetti Says Los Angeles May Need To Shut Down Again.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/14, Shalby, 4.64M) reports, "Dangers posed by the coronavirus continue to loom over Los Angeles, which officials warn is inching closer to the highest threat level and an imminent shutdown of the city." Mayor Eric Garcetti (D) said late Monday, "While the city of Los Angeles' COVID-19 threat level remains at orange, we are on the border of going to red. It is up to all of us that we don't." The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Richardson, 492K) also covers the situation in California, while the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) says in an editorial that the state is experiencing a surge despite being the first state to shelter in place.

Experts Blast New York Report Absolving Cuomo Of Blame For Nursing Home Deaths.

The [AP](#) (7/14, Mustian, Condon) says New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) is "facing blistering criticism over an internal report that found a controversial state directive that sent thousands of recovering coronavirus patients into nursing homes was 'not a significant factor' in some of the nation's deadliest nursing home outbreaks." According to the AP, "Scientists, health care professionals and elected officials assailed the report released last week for flawed methodology and selective stats that sidestepped the actual impact of the March 25 order, which by the state's own count ushered more than 6,300 recovering virus patients into nursing homes at the height of the pandemic." On [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 3, 2:00, 5.96M), Lester Holt reported Cuomo is also "getting tougher about quarantines from travelers from hot spots."

NYC COVID Cases Moving To Wealthier Neighborhoods. [Politico New York](#) (7/14, Durkin) reports, "Coronavirus cases are popping up in more affluent Brooklyn and Manhattan neighborhoods that weren't hard hit at the height of the pandemic, city health officials said Tuesday."

Nearly Three-Quarters Of New COVID Cases In Maryland County Are Among Latinos.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Tan, 14.2M) ran a feature on COVID-19 infections among Latinos in Montgomery County, Maryland, where they account for 74% of new infections, "even though they are just a fifth of the county's population. Advocates blame the disparity partly on government failures to provide easy access to testing and medical care in underserved Latino communities, where residents are more likely to face job and living conditions that make it

harder to avoid the virus." [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 10, 2:05, Holt, 5.96M) ran a feature on how coronavirus is affecting Latino communities across the US.

White House Now Open To Extension Of Enhanced Jobless Benefits.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Stein, Van Dam, Rosenberg, 14.2M) reports that "senior Trump administration officials have begun signaling their willingness to approve a narrow extension of...enhanced unemployment benefits." The Post says President Trump and White House officials "have argued the \$600-per-week unemployment bonus provides a disincentive to work," but with the economy "showing new signs of strain, Trump administration officials have begun opening the door to accepting a narrower version of what Congress previously approved." The Post reports that "one potential compromise discussed by Republican lawmakers would involve cutting the unemployment benefit from \$600 per week to between \$200 and \$400 per week and making up at least part of the difference by sending another round of \$1,200 stimulus payments."

[Bloomberg](#) (7/14, Pickert, Sasso, Sheehey, 4.73M) reports, "Policy makers in Washington are at a standstill in their talks for more stimulus, and in particular whether to include an extension of the extra unemployment benefits." According to Bloomberg, "Democrats want to extend the program, called Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation. Republicans and the Trump administration have called for capping the amount of money jobless Americans can receive, seeing it as a disincentive to return to work."

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, 18.61M) writes in an editorial that Congress made a good decision "in March when it responded to the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic by increasing unemployment benefits." However, "the expansion expires at the end of this month, even as the pandemic continues to rage. Congress, after dragging its feet for months, has all but run out of time to prevent a lapse in the distribution of extra aid." The Times says Congress must "act immediately to extend emergency benefits, and to authorize the extra aid to continue for the duration of the crisis."

Ivanka Trump, Cook Say Laid-Off Workers Should "Find Something New."

The [New York Post](#) (7/14, Nelson, 4.57M) reports that on Tuesday, White House adviser Ivanka Trump and Apple CEO Tim Cook "urged workers who are unhappy with their jobs or unemployed due to the coronavirus pandemic to 'find something new.'" Trump and Cook offered the "seemingly simplistic advice" during a video conference launching "a national ad campaign and the website [findsomethingnew.org](#), which links to IT training services and apprenticeships." Trump said, "We hope that it enables so many people out there to really embark on a new journey and realize their full potential."

WPost Analysis: PPP Loan Data "Contains Numerous Errors."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, A1, O'Connell, Brown, Rich, Gregg, 14.2M) reports Paycheck Protection Program disclosure data "contains numerous errors that cast doubt on the Trump administration's jobs claims and obscure the real economic impact of the program, according to a Washington Post analysis and interviews with bankers and borrowers." A Post analysis of loan data released last week by the Small Business Administration "shows that many companies are reported to have 'retained' far more workers than they employ. Likewise, in some cases the agency's jobs claim for entire industries surpasses the total number of workers in those sectors. And for more than 875,000 borrowers, the data shows that zero jobs were supported or no information is listed at all."

Dunford Withdraws From Coronavirus Relief Oversight Consideration.

[Politico](#) (7/14, Bresnahan, Cheney, 4.29M) reports ex-Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Joseph Dunford "has withdrawn from consideration to lead a congressional commission tasked with overseeing the Trump administration's implementation of a \$500 billion coronavirus relief fund,

according to multiple Capitol Hill sources. The move leaves the five-member commission without a leader four months after" President Trump signed the CARES Act into law.

Big Banks Signal Worst Of Recession Is Yet To Come.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Eisen, Benoit, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) reports big banks are signaling that the worst of the pandemic-related recession is yet to come. Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase, and Wells Fargo all said Tuesday that they have reserved a combined \$28 billion to cover expected losses from upcoming loan defaults. JPMorgan CEO James Dimon said, "This is not a normal recession. The recessionary part of this you're going to see down the road."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Merle, 14.2M) reports the three banks warned on Tuesday that the recession "will be deeper and longer than initially expected." According to the Post, "Instead of a quick economic recovery at the end of the year, JPMorgan Chase expects the recession to be 'much more protracted,' said Jennifer Piepszak, the bank's chief financial officer. 'Our view of the length and severity of the economic downturn has deteriorated considerably' from earlier this year, said Wells Fargo chief executive Charlie Scharf." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Demos, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) additionally reports Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase both reported profits for the quarter, while Wells Fargo did not. [Reuters](#) (7/14, Marshall, Moise) and [Politico](#) (7/14, Guida, 4.29M) also have reports.

Mortgage Delinquencies Hit Record High In April.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Van Dam, 14.2M) reports that in April, "new mortgage delinquencies hit a record...well above anything seen during the Great Recession." The Post says 3.4% of Americans "became at least 30 days delinquent on their mortgage in April, according to an analysis from CoreLogic." According to the Post, "Mortgage delinquencies were among the first signs of the housing crisis and can signal underlying weakness in the housing market."

Study: 5.5M Workers Lost Health Insurance Between February And May.

The [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 9, 0:20, O'Donnell, 4.31M) reported that according to a new study, "nearly 5.5 million workers lost their health insurance between February and May, the biggest loss of insurance in any single year. Researchers say these recent losses are 40% higher than the spike during the Great Recession when nearly four million adults lost their health insurance."

Miller Says Democrats Oppose Anything But Completely Open Borders.

White House senior adviser Stephen Miller said on the [John Fredericks Show](#)^Y (7/14), "The President's position on [DACA] hasn't changed at all. You remember back in, I believe it was 2008, he made an offer to Democrats, along with Sen. Perdue, Sen. Cotton, Sen. Grassley, and a few others that said that if you end chain migration, if you fully secure the southern border, and you do this on a permanent basis, that in exchange for that we would do a DACA legislatively. ... The Democrats rejected it, obviously because Democrats are opposed to anything short of completely, totally, irrevocably open borders."

Miller: Border Wall "Completely Transforms" Communities Where It Is Built.

White House senior adviser Stephen Miller said on the [John Fredericks Show](#)^Y (7/14), "The President has built hundreds of miles of wall" and "this isn't just some eight-foot barrier that you can pull down with a team of guys. ... There are sections of this thing that are rock solid, 30 feet tall that have also additional technology built in so you can tell if anybody even gets near this thing. It is a smuggler's and a trafficker's worst nightmare. It completely transforms

the communities where you put it up because they go from being overwhelmed by illegal border-crossers to dropping to virtually nothing.”

Administration Drops Plan To Implement Rules On Student Visas For Online Learning.

Media reports are casting the Administration’s decision not to pursue restrictions on visas for foreign students if schools held classes online as an unexpected reversal. The [Boston Globe](#) (7/14, Fernandes, 972K) reports that at a court hearing, US Attorney Andrew Lelling said ICE made “the decision to exercise its discretion to ‘modify’ its posture announced in its March guidance. ... This agile approach to the Fall 2020 semester demonstrates that ICE considered and balanced the equities of schools, foreign students, and the agency’s need to uphold and enforce the immigration laws and regulations.”

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/14, story 11, 0:20, Muir, 7.36M) described the Administration as “backing down,” the [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/14, Watanabe, 4.64M) that it “abruptly reversed course” in an “announcement...made without explanation,” and [USA Today](#) (7/14, Shesgreen, 10.31M) that it staged an “abrupt about-face came after a backlash from universities and state officials.” The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Anderson, Svrluga, 14.2M) also refers to an “abrupt reversal” that followed “an edict that [had] stunned US higher education leaders and students worldwide,” and [Reuters](#) (7/14, Rosenberg) says it was “a stunning reversal of policy.”

Along similar lines, the [AP](#) (7/14, Binkley) reports the Administration faced “eight federal lawsuits and opposition from hundreds of universities,” and the [NBC News](#) (7/14, 6.14M) website that “the reversal comes in the face of heavy criticism from institutions of higher education and lawmakers from both major parties.” The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Hartocollis, Jordan, 18.61M), the [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Dinan, 492K), [The Hill](#) (7/14, Kruzel, 2.98M), the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#) (7/14, Thomason, 74K), the [Harvard Crimson](#) (7/14, Caldera, Kurilla, 3K), and the [Daily Princetonian](#) (7/14, Shevin, 5K), among other news outlets, also cover the story.

Feds Might Apply Discarded Policy To Those Who Haven’t Previously Applied For Visas. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Hackman, Restuccia, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) reports, meanwhile, that Administration officials are considering applying the rules barring visas for entirely online learning only to foreign students who have not previously applied for student visas.

Trump To Appoint Gorka To National Security Education Board.

[USA Today](#) (7/14, Behrmann, 10.31M) reports, “Former White House aide Sebastian Gorka will be appointed to be a member of the National Security Education Board, the White House announced Tuesday.” USA Today adds that “the board, that consists of 14 members, oversees the federal government’s National Security Education Program (NSEP).” Gorka “is a former Breitbart contributor and currently hosts a conservative radio show,” whose “comments and articles at Breitbart claiming Islam is an inherently violent religion drew widespread criticism.”

[Politico](#) (7/14, Cohen, 4.29M) recounts that “a White House aide for less than a year, Gorka left his role as deputy assistant to the president in acrimonious fashion in August 2017.” Politico adds that “the White House pushed back against Gorka’s claims that he resigned, and MSNBC reported at the time that Gorka was barred from the White House grounds before his resignation letter surfaced.”

Foreign Policy: Mosley Hiring At USAID Part Of Effort To “Seed” Agencies With Trump “Loyalists.”

[Foreign Policy](#) (7/14, Lynch, Gramer, 340K) reports President Trump “has added another political loyalist and anti-abortion advocate to its roster of political hires” at USAID, “expanding the role and influence of the religious right in shaping U.S. priorities on global health and development.” Patrina Mosley “has been named advisor to the director of the Center of

Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance.” Foreign Policy says Mosley “is an outspoken anti-abortion advocate who recently accused the United Nations and the World Health Organization (WHO) of using the coronavirus pandemic to promote abortions – a claim the U.N. calls patently false.” Foreign Policy adds that the White House personnel office “has been seeding various federal agencies with hard-line loyalists who have often espoused fringe political viewpoints.”

Trump Urged To Bring Greater Accountability To CFPB.

In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Subscription Publication, 7.57M), Mick Mulvaney, the former Acting Director of CFPB, and Eric Blankenstein, a former policy associate director at the agency, write that the law which created the CFPB gave the agency an automatic funding stream from the Federal Reserve and power to write rules that impact large parts of the economy. They argue that with the law, Congress gave away two of its greatest powers, but the Supreme Court’s decision that the President has the power to remove the CFPB director gives him power he should use to bring greater accountability to the agency.

Mary Trump Says Her Uncle Is “Utterly Incapable” Of Leading Country.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 6, 0:45, Muir, 7.36M) previewed George Stephanopoulos’ interview with President Trump’s niece, Mary Trump. Asked “the single most important thing you think the country needs to know” about the President, Trump said, “He’s utterly incapable of leading this country, and it’s dangerous to allow him to do so.” Asked if her assessment is based on “what you see now, or what you saw then,” Trump said, “Based on what I’ve seen my entire adult life.”

Rep. Watkins Faces Three Felony Charges Related To Illegal Voting Investigation.

The [Kansas City Star](#) (7/14, Lowry, 549K) reports Rep. Steve Watkins (R-KS) has been charged with “three felonies and a misdemeanor related to an investigation into whether he illegally voted in a 2019 municipal election.” Shawnee County District Attorney Mike Kagay (R) “announced the charges about a half-hour before Watkins...was set to appear on a televised debate with his primary challengers Jake LaTurner and Dennis Taylor on KSNT.” Watkins said the timing of the charges is “hyper political” and “very suspicious.” He argued “that the district attorney shared a consultant with one of his opponents.” Watkins faces felony charges of “interference with law enforcement by providing false information, voting without being qualified and unlawful advance voting.” as well as “a misdemeanor charge for failing to the notify the DMV of his change of address.”

Justice Ginsburg Hospitalized.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 9, 0:20, Muir, 7.36M) reported last night on “late word that Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has been hospitalized for a possible infection.” Ginsburg “is a cancer survivor, and just two months ago was hospitalized for a benign gall bladder condition.” The [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 7, 1:05, O'Donnell, 4.31M) said Ginsburg “underwent a procedure at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore to clean out a bile duct stent that was placed last August. We’re told by the court she is now resting comfortably, but will remain in the hospital a few days to receive intravenous antibiotic treatment.” [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/14, story 6, 0:20, Holt, 5.96M) also mentioned the story briefly last night.

[Fox News](#) (7/14, Pappas, 27.59M) indicates on its website that it is “the latest hospitalization for Ginsburg, 87, who has faced a slew of health conditions in the past,” and the [AP](#) (7/14) that “in addition to the tumor on her pancreas last year, she was previously treated for colorectal cancer in 1999 and pancreatic cancer in 2009. She had lung surgery to remove cancerous growths in December 2018.” [USA Today](#) (7/14, Wolf, 10.31M), the [Washington Times](#)

(7/14, Swoyer, 492K), and the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Dibble, 448K), among other news outlets, also report the story.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Trump Signs Law Authorizing China Sanctions Over Hong Kong Crackdown.

[Fox News](#) (7/14, O'Reilly, 27.59M) reports on its website that President Trump on Tuesday "announced two actions his administration has taken against China as tensions between Washington and Beijing continue to rise." During a news conference in the Rose Garden, Trump "announced that he had signed into law the Hong Kong Autonomy Act and also put his signature on an executive order that ends the United States' preferential treatment of Hong Kong."

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Mason, Holland) quotes the President as saying, "Today I signed legislation, and an executive order to hold China accountable for its aggressive actions against the people of Hong Kong." Hong Kong, he added, "will now be treated the same as mainland China."

The [South China Morning Post](#) (7/14, Churchill, 138K) says "the latest move by Trump could open up Hong Kong to the tariffs his administration has slapped on Chinese exports," but [Politico](#) (7/14, Rodriguez, 4.29M), however, says "it remains to be seen if Trump will fully implement the sanctions," noting that the Administration "has declined to carry through on several mandatory sanctions over the years, including ones targeting Russia."

Media coverage of the announcement focuses on the President's remarks at the event about Joe Biden, comparing it to a campaign speech. The [AP](#) (7/14, Miller, Riechmann), for example, says Trump "quickly shifted his speech in the Rose Garden into a campaign rally-style broadside" against Biden. Trump, it adds, "didn't limit his criticism of Biden to China," delivering "broadside after broadside against Biden on issues from energy to the economy, education to immigration."

The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Boyer, 492K) likewise says Trump "devoted much of his remarks to contrasting his position on Beijing" with Biden, whose "entire career," he said, "has been a gift to the Chinese Communist Party." The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Nakamura, Olorunnipa, Rucker, 14.2M) is more direct, saying the President "held a Rose Garden event under the guise of punishing China over its crackdown on Hong Kong, delivering a lengthy diatribe against...Biden in a display that resembled a campaign speech at the White House." Trump, it writes, "began his rambling 54-minute opening statement by announcing that he had signed congressional legislation that authorizes his administration to enact sanctions" on China and an executive order to revoke Hong Kong's special economic trading status, but "glossed over the specifics and said nothing about the pro-democracy protests on the island."

Along similar lines, the [New York Times](#) (7/14, Baker, 18.61M) says Trump "summoned television cameras to the heat-baked Rose Garden...to announce new measures against China," but "that did not last long. What followed instead was an hour of presidential stream of consciousness as Mr. Trump drifted seemingly at random from one topic to another, often in the same run-on sentence. Even for a president who rarely sticks to the script and wanders from thought to thought, it was one of the most rambling performances of his presidency."

[CNBC](#) (7/14, Breuninger, Macias, 3.62M) reports on its website that Trump "began his speech in the Rose Garden focused on targeting China's actions, but quickly pivoted to lash out" at Biden and "spent a significant chunk of the speech railing against what seemed to be the bulk of Biden's campaign platform."

To the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Crilly, 448K), Trump used the news conference to "attack" Biden, and [USA Today](#) (7/14, Fritze, Jackson, 10.31M) has a similar report under the headline "Trump Swings At Biden At Official Event Announcing He Signed Hong Kong Sanctions Bill."

Trump "Not Interested In Talking To China" About Another Trade Deal. Asked in an interview aired on the [CBS Evening News](#) (7/14, story 6, 0:45, O'Donnell, 4.31M) if Phase Two of trade talks with China is dead, President Trump said, "I'm not interested right now in talking to China. We made a great trade deal, but as soon as the deal was done, the ink wasn't even dry, and they hit us with the plague. Okay? So right now, I'm not interested in talking to China about another deal. I'm interested in doing other things with China."

Pompeo Urges "Free And Fair" Hong Kong Vote. [AFP](#) (7/14) reports Secretary of State Pompeo on Tuesday "urged free elections in Hong Kong after China said a primary held by the city's opposition parties may have breached a tough new security law." Pompeo [tweeted](#), "Congratulations to Hong Kong's pan-democrats for a successful primary. The Legislative Council election in September should be equally free and fair."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/14, Smith, 448K) reports Beijing's top representative in Hong Kong "suggested that the weekend's pro-democracy primary was illegal and announced an investigation into the matter." China's liaison office called the informal election "nakedly illegal behavior" in a statement, asserting that it was in violation of the territory's new "national security" law.

A [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/14, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) editorial criticizes Beijing's move to silence Hong Kong voters.

Poll: 65% Of Americans Hold China Accountable For Coronavirus Spread. [Breitbart](#) (7/14, Bleau, 673K) reports the "majority of Americans hold China accountable for the spread of the novel coronavirus and indicated that they plan to take concrete steps to demonstrate their protest of China, a Piplsay poll released Tuesday found." Piplsay surveyed 30,415 adults nationwide from July 4-6 and "found that the vast majority now place blame at the feet of China."

Speier Praises China's "Discipline" On Coronavirus. The [Fox News](#) (7/14, Dorman, 27.59M) website reports Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA) "ripped the federal government's response to the coronavirus, comparing it unfavorably to the way China handled the disease." Speier told MSNBC on Monday, "You look at China with so much more in terms of population...and they're faring much better because they have shown the kind of discipline necessary to address this." She also "called out President Trump, accusing him of spreading false information and failing to provide leadership for the states."

Stilwell Warns Sanctions Possible In Response To China In South China Sea. [Reuters](#) (7/14, Pamuk, Brunnstrom) reports Assistant Secretary of State David Stilwell "warned on Tuesday that Washington could respond with sanctions against Chinese officials and enterprises involved in coercion in the South China Sea after the United States announced a tougher stance to Beijing's claims there." Stilwell said, "Nothing is off the table. ... There is room for that. This is a language the Chinese understand – demonstrative and tangible action."

China, meanwhile, on Tuesday accused the Administration of "trying to sow discord between China and the Southeast Asian countries with which it has long-standing territorial disputes" in the waters, the [AP](#) (7/14, Moritsugu) reports. In a statement on its website, the Chinese Embassy in Washington said, "The United States is not a country directly involved in the disputes. However, it has kept interfering in the issue. Under the pretext of preserving stability, it is flexing muscles, stirring up tension and inciting confrontation in the region."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/14, Bengali, 4.64M) reports, "Seeking support in a budding cold war with Beijing, the U.S. is looking to Southeast Asia, where longstanding allies and security partners have clashed" with China in the South China Sea. But the Times says the "tougher U.S. stance illustrates a central challenge facing Washington as it tries to build pressure against China: While weaker Asian countries might recoil at China's aggressive behavior, none wants to be dragged into an open confrontation between two increasingly acrimonious powers."

NYTimes Analysis: US And China Are Moving Towards "Cold War." Under the headline "Caught In 'Ideological Spiral,' U.S. And China Drift Toward Cold War," the [New York Times](#) (7/14, Myers, Mozur, 18.61M) reports that "in a matter of weeks, the Trump

administration has imposed sanctions over punitive policies in Hong Kong and China's western region of Xinjiang," and "took new measures to suffocate Chinese innovation by cutting it off from American technology and pushing allies to look elsewhere." The Times adds, "Then, on Monday, it tore up China's claims in the South China Sea, setting the stage for sharper confrontation." To the Times, these moves are "laying the foundation for a confrontation that will have many of the characteristics of the Cold War," and carries "the same risk of small disputes escalating into military conflict."

NYTimes To Move Part Of Hong Kong Office To Seoul. The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Grynbaum, 18.61M) reports the newspaper "said on Tuesday that it would relocate its Hong Kong-based digital news operation to Seoul, South Korea, a significant shift by an American news organization as China has stepped up its efforts to impede the affairs of the Asian metropolis."

China Sanctions Lockheed Martin Over Taiwan Arms Sales. The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Fifield, 14.2M) reports that on Tuesday, China "said...that it would impose unspecified sanctions on Lockheed Martin, the gargantuan American defense contractor, in retaliation for the Trump administration's decision to continue supplying arms to Taiwan." Beijing "did not spell out what these measures would entail, and Lockheed Martin has very little exposure to China." However, the announcement, "coming just a day after China sanctioned four American officials, represents another salvo in the hostilities between Beijing and Washington." The [CNN](#) (7/14, Pham, 83.16M) website and [Bloomberg](#) (7/14, 4.73M), among other news outlets, also report the sanctions.

WTimes Analysis: China, Russia Making Global Power Plays. The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Wolfgang, 492K) reports that "two recent standoffs with China and Russia have offered a sobering view of the coming great power competition between the U.S. and its two biggest rivals and just how dangerous it may become." On June 27, US fighter planes "intercepted Russian jets that had pierced American air defense zones near Alaska for the 10th time in less than a year." A week later, the US and Chinese navies "held dueling exercises in the South China Sea." Taken together, the Times says the incidents "highlight what national security sources describe as a 'new normal' of a 21st-century global conflict – a pattern of regular brinkmanship and posturing that is likely to shape the next several decades of U.S. foreign policy and military strategy."

Members Of Congress, Travel Industry Want US-Canada Travel Ban Eased.

According to [Politico](#) (7/14, Gardner, 4.29M), "US lawmakers are applying pressure on Ottawa and Washington to ease restrictions on the Canada-U.S. border, but few Canadians want to welcome their American neighbors any time soon." Politico says "a growing chorus is agitating for Canada and the U.S. to loosen the rules around 'essential' travelers," including "the travel industry, border communities and members of Congress."

WPost Analysis: US, Poorer Nations Bear Growing Share Of Cases.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, A1, Witte, Sheridan, Slater, Sly, 14.2M) reports the impact of the pandemic "is not being felt evenly," as "poorer nations throughout Latin America, the Middle East, South Asia and Africa are bearing a growing share of the caseload, even as wealthier countries in Western Europe and East Asia enjoy a relative respite after having beaten back the worst effects through rigorously enforced lockdowns." The US, "which leads the world in new cases and, as with many nations that possess far fewer resources, has shown no sign of being able to regain control." According to the Post, "Nearly all the countries struggling with a surge share something in common: After weeks or months of trying to suppress the virus, they reopened their economies, only to find that the virus came roaring back."

Asian Countries Pause Reopening As Number Of Cases Increase.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Packham, Tajitsu) reports, "Australian states tightened borders and restricted pub visits on Tuesday, while Disney prepared to close its Hong Kong theme park and Japan stepped up tracing as a jump in novel coronavirus cases across Asia fanned fears of a second wave of infections." Across many parts of Asia, nations are "finding cause to pause the reopening of their economies, some after winning praise for their initial responses to the outbreak."

Britain To Mandate Mask-Wearing In Shops.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/14, Meier, 492K) reports Britain is "making it mandatory to wear a face mask while in shops and supermarkets starting in less than two weeks." Those who do not abide by the new rule, set to take effect July 24, "will be subject to fines of up to £100."

Erdoğan, Trump Agree To Work More Closely On Libya.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Kucukgocmen) reports briefly that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and President Trump "agreed in a phone call to work more closely in Libya to ensure lasting stability in the country, the Turkish presidency said on Tuesday."

Iran Executes Retired Defense Ministry Employee Charged With Working For CIA.

The [AP](#) (7/14) reports Iran "has executed a former employee of the defense ministry who was convicted of spying on behalf of the Central Intelligence Agency." According to the AP, "It was the second such execution in the past month." The Iranian judiciary announced that Reza Asgari was executed last week, and "had worked in the airspace department of the ministry and retired in 2016." In June, Iran "said another alleged spy, Jalal Hajizavar, was hanged in a prison near Tehran."

China And Iran Forge Closer Ties With Trade, Security Agreements.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/14, Beyrer, 78K) reports Iran and China are "closing in on a series of economic and security agreements" that will "bring Chinese capital to Iran's energy industry, threatening to curb the effects" of President Trump's "maximum pressure" sanctions campaign against Iran. The new deal would give China "a 25-year regular discount on Iranian oil exports." In return, Iran would "benefit from security and research collaborations with China's military."

NYTimes Report: "No Conclusive Evidence" Tying Russia To Marines' Deaths.

The [New York Times](#) (7/14, Cooper, Steinhauer, Gibbons-Neff, Schmitt, 18.61M) reports US intelligence agencies are investigating whether a car bomb that killed three US Marines in Afghanistan "was detonated at the behest of a Russian military agency paying bounties to Afghanistan militia groups for killing American troops." The Times says if the deaths are linked to Russian bounties, it would be "a staggering repudiation of [President] Trump's yearslong embrace of President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia." Currently, "there is no conclusive evidence linking the deaths to any kind of Russian bounty."

Deadly Taliban Attack Raises Concerns Over Faltering Afghan Peace Process.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Constable, 14.2M) reports that a deadly attack Monday followed "weeks of relentless insurgent ground assaults and bombings...seemed to many Afghans like one more nail in the coffin of long-stymied talks between Taliban and Afghan delegates." Across the country, the attack "seemed to deepen growing feelings of disillusionment with the peace process and fears for the future."

Danon Says Israel Is "Grateful" To Trump Administration For Pulling Out Of Iran Deal.

In an interview with the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Mekhennet, 14.2M), Israel's outgoing Ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, was asked if the Trump Administration "handled the

threat you see coming from Iran in a way that was sufficient," Danon said, "We are grateful for the decision to pull out of the Iran deal, it was very important. And we appreciate the strong stance of President Trump and [Secretary of State] Pompeo on this issue. We have stated many times, we will not allow Iran to achieve nuclear weapons, no matter what. We welcome the leadership of the U.S. on this issue."

Danon Says Israel Willing To Return To Negotiations With Palestinians. In an interview with the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Mekhennet, 14.2M), Israel's outgoing Ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, was asked about the Palestinians' announcement that they have ended security cooperation with Israel. Danon said, "It is not the first time we hear an announcement similar to that one. And this security cooperation is not only beneficial to Israel but for the Palestinians themselves." Asked if there are any efforts to bring the Palestinians back to the table, Danon said, "We are open-minded. I have been approaching President [Mahmoud] Abbas when he came to the U.N. the last time. ... We are willing to go back to the negotiating table. But it's difficult to find a good partner on the other side."

Danon: Anti-Semitism Must Be Fought On All Fronts. In an interview with the [Washington Post](#) (7/14, Mekhennet, 14.2M), Israel's outgoing Ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, said, "I think we have to fight anti-Semitism on all fronts. Today with social media it is a challenge, and we have debates with scholars and legal experts about what we can do regarding, hate crimes, how to deal with freedom of speech and where we draw the line. We cherish freedom of speech, but we cannot cherish freedom of hate." Asked if he was directly confronted with anti-Semitism at the UN, Danon said, "I had difficult moments, both when you hear the voices coming from Iran or the hate crime in Pittsburgh here in the US."

Azerbaijan-Armenia Border Clashes Continue For Third Day.

[Reuters](#) (7/14, Hovhannisyanyan, Bagirova) reports, "Seven Azeri soldiers and a civilian and four Armenian servicemen were killed on Tuesday in the third day of border clashes between" Armenia and Azerbaijan. The two countries "have long been in conflict over Azerbaijan's breakaway, mainly ethnic Armenian region of Nagorno-Karabakh." Reuters says the clashes are of concern to the international community "in part because of the threat to instability in the South Caucasus, a region that serves as a corridor for pipelines taking oil and gas to world markets." The [AP](#) (7/14, Demourian) reports that the fighting left "at least 16 people killed on both sides, including an Azerbaijani general." The AP adds, "Officials in both countries blamed each other for starting the fighting and said that sporadic shelling has continued."

WPost: Trump Administration Lacks Coherent Regime Change Strategy For Venezuela.

A [Washington Post](#) (7/14, 14.2M) editorial says Venezuela's Supreme Court, which is controlled by President Nicolás Maduro's regime, "has ousted the leaders of the country's three largest political parties, including that of Juan Guaidó, who has been recognized as Venezuela's interim president by the United States and more than 50 other countries," and "named new leaders that the opposition says accepted bribes to act as the regime's stooges." The Post says the move "opens the way to a fraudulent election later this year for the National Assembly." The Post argues that the Trump Administration "no longer has a coherent regime change strategy," and it "looks possible that the Chavista movement, like that of Fidel Castro in Cuba, will survive a U.S. boycott and consolidate a comprehensive dictatorship. U.S. policy ought to adjust for that eventuality. A good start would be to expand refugee admissions for Venezuelans, including activists from the authentic opposition."

THE BIG PICTURE

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[‘This Is Not A Normal Recession’: Banks Ready For Wave Of Coronavirus Defaults](#)
[UK to Ban Huawei From Its 5G Networks Amid China-US Tensions](#)
[Trump Administration Rescinds Rules On Foreign Students Studying Online](#)
[Searching For Video? Google Pushes YouTube Over Rivals](#)
[Hospitals Stock Up On Covid-19 Drugs To Prepare For Second Wave In Fall](#)
[In Covid Lockdown, The Family Historian Has A Captive Audience](#)

New York Times:

[Government Rescinds Plan to Strip Visas From Foreign Students in Online Classes](#)
[UK Bars Huawei as Tech Battle Between China and the West Escalates](#)
[Judge, Expressing Skepticism, Upends \\$25 Million Harvey Weinstein Settlement](#)
[Three Marines, Now Focus of Russian Bounties Investigation, Show the Costs of an Endless War](#)
[I Went Home To Texas To Cover The Virus. Then My Family Got It.](#)
[Sessions Pays The Price For Incurring Trump’s Wrath, Losing Alabama Senate Race](#)

Washington Post:

[Numbers On Jobs Saved By Loans Don’t Add Up](#)
[Surge In Caseload Driven By Poorer Nations – And US](#)
[In New Climate Plan, Biden Sets More-Ambitious Goals](#)
[UK Bars Huawei Gear In 5G Setup, A Win For White House](#)
[A Crisis In Campus Care](#)
[HIV Research Boosts Race For Coronavirus Vaccine](#)

Financial Times:

[Macron Promises Extra €100BN For France’s Post-Pandemic Recovery](#)
[Three US Banks Set Aside Record \\$28BN For Loan Losses](#)
[Carnage For Digital Publishers In What Was Meant To Be Turnround Year](#)
[Brussels Plans Attack On Low-Tax Member States](#)

Washington Times:

[Virus Splits US Along Party Lines: ‘None Of This Has Very Much To Do With Public Health’](#)
[China And Russia Making Global Power Plays, Testing US’s International Influence](#)
[Trump Signs Law Authorizing China Sanctions Over Hong Kong Crackdown](#)
[Trump Administration Retreats On Foreign Student Coronavirus Policy](#)
[Businesses ‘Hanging By A Thread’ As Dozens Of States Pause, Reverse Reopenings](#)
[US Executes Convicted Killer For First Time In 17 Years](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night’s Network News:

ABC: Coronavirus-Rising Cases; Coronavirus-Schools; Coronavirus-Major Retailers; Trump-CDC; Trump-African Americans & Police; Mary Trump-Book; Ghislaine Maxwell; Indiana-Execution of White Supremacist; SCOTUS-RBG Hospitalized; Phoenix-Men Electrocuted in Lake Pleasant; White House-Foreign Student Rules; VA-Fmr. Hospital Assistant Guilty of Murder; Georgia-Black Students From 1969 Finally Honored For Football Championship.

CBS: Coronavirus-Rising Cases; Trump-Coronavirus; Trump-Schools; Trump-Confederate Flag; Trump-African Americans & Police; Trump-China; SCOTUS-RBG Hospitalized; Election 2020; Health Insurance Loss; Coronavirus-US Military Research; ‘Glee’ Star Death; Ghislaine Maxwell; Ohio-Family Uses Social Media To Get Dog Tags Back To Soldier’s Family.

NBC: Coronavirus-Rising Cases; Coronavirus-Florida; Coronavirus-New York; Trump-African Americans & Police; Trump-CDC; SCOTUS-RBG Hospitalized; Ghislaine Maxwell; Coronavirus-Schools; Coronavirus-Immunization; Coronavirus-Latino Community; Nightly News Kids Edition.

Network TV At A Glance:

Coronavirus – 28 minutes, 20 seconds

Ghislaine Maxwell – 6 minutes, 5 seconds

Trump-African Americans & Police – 2 minutes, 15 seconds

SCOTUS-RBG Hospitalized – 1 minute, 45 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Louisiana-Schools; California-Schools; North Carolina-Schools; Moderna-Vaccine Trial; Mary Trump-Book; Alabama-Jeff Sessions Loses Runoff; Maine-Democratic Primary.

CBS: Moderna-Vaccine Trial; Coronavirus-Texas; SCOTUS-RBG Hospitalized; Alabama-Jeff Sessions Loses Runoff; San Diego-Navy Warship Fire; Florida-KKK Mural At Court House.

FOX: Trump-Biden; Coronavirus-Texas; Alabama-Jeff Sessions Loses Runoff; China-US Sanctions.

NPR: Coronavirus-Dr. Fauci's Warning; Alabama-Jeff Sessions Loses Runoff; Texas-GOP Primaries; Trump-Hong Kong.

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

Today's Events In Washington.**White House:**

- President Trump — Receives a law enforcement briefing on Keeping American Communities Safe: The Takedown of Key MS-13 Criminal Leaders; delivers remarks on the Rebuilding of America's Infrastructure: Faster, Better, Stronger
- Vice President Pence — No public schedule released

US Senate:

- Senate on recess from 2 Jul – 20 Jul

US House:

- House Appropriations Committee markup hearing – Markup hearing on 'FY 2021 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill', 'FY 2021 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill', and the Report on the Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations
Location: Rm 1100, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC; 9:00 AM
- House Infrastructure Committee markup hearing – Markup hearing on 'H.R. XX, The Water Resources Development Act of 2020' * Held via Cisco Webex and in Rm 2167, Rayburn House Office Building; 10:00 AM
- House Energy and Commerce Committee virtual markup hearing – Virtual markup hearing, held via Cisco Webex, on legislation including 'H.R. 1426, the Timely Review of Infrastructure Act', 'H.R. 3079, the Energy Savings through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2019', 'H.R. 3361, the Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act', 'H.R. 5541, the Tribal Power Act', 'H.R. 5758, the Ceiling Fan Improvement Act of 2020', 'H.R. 2477, the Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification (BENES) Act of 2019', 'H.R. 3935, the Protecting Patients Transportation to Care Act', 'H.R. 5201, the Telemental Health Expansion Act of 2019', 'H.R. 5534, the Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act of 2019', 'H.R. 7539, the Strengthening Behavioral Parity Act', 'H.R. 1646, the Helping Emergency Responders Overcome (HERO) Act of 2019', 'H.R. 2117, the Food Allergy Safety, Treatment, Education, and Research (FASTER) Act of 2019', and 'H.R. 2271, the Scarlett's Sunshine on Sudden Unexpected Death Act'; 11:00 AM
- House Natural Resources virtual forum on economic benefits of wildlife viewing, focusing on Colorado – House Committee on Natural Resources hosts virtual forum on 'The Economic

Benefits of Wildlife Viewing and Increasing Access to Wildlife Viewing. Colorado: A Case Study', featuring Colorado First Gentleman (and animal welfare advocate) Marlon Reis, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission Commissioner Taishya Adams, and Environmental Learning for Kids Executive Director Loretta Pineda; 12:00 PM

- Bipartisan Reps. Mike Gallagher and Jim Langevin testify to House Oversight Committee on cybersecurity – Remote hearing on 'U.S. Cybersecurity Preparedness and H.R. 7331, the National Cyber Director Act', with testimony from U.S. Cyberspace Solarium Commission Co-Chair Republican Rep. Mike Gallagher, and Commissioners Democratic Rep. Jim Langevin and Suzanne Spaulding; former House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman Michael Rogers; Cyber Threat Alliance President and CEO (and former White House Cybersecurity Coordinator) J. Michael Daniel; former U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) Founding Director Amit Yoran; and George Mason University National Security Institute founder and Executive Director Jamil Jaffer; 12:00 PM
- House Homeland Security Committee virtual hearing on children in CBP custody – Virtual hearing on 'Children in CBP Custody: Examining Deaths, Medical Care Procedures, and Improper Spending', with testimony from Massachusetts General Hospital pediatrician / Harvard Medical School Instructor in Pediatrics Fiona Danaher; Washington, DC, Chief Medical Examiner Roger Mitchell Jr.; Department of Homeland Security Inspector General Joseph Cuffari; and Government Accountability Office Homeland Security and Justice Team Director Rebecca Gambler; 12:00 PM
- House Small Business subcommittee hearing on 'Long-Lasting Solutions for a Small Business Recovery' – Hearing on 'Long-Lasting Solutions for a Small Business Recovery', held via Cisco Webex, with testimony from Small Business Investor Alliance President Brett Palmer; Dirt Candy chef and owner Amanda Cohen (on behalf of Independent Restaurant Association); Michigan State University Professor Dr Lisa Cook; and Cintrifuse CEO Pete Blackshaw; 1:00 PM
- House Budget Committee virtual hearing on 'need for federal investments in technology' – Virtual hearing on 'Software Update Required: COVID-19 Exposes Need for Federal Investments in Technology', held via Webex, with testimony from National Academy of Public Administration President and CEO Teresa Gerton; Code for America founder / U.S. Digital Response co-founder Jennifer Pahlka; National Employment Law Project Executive Director Rebecca Dixon; and physician Robert Wah; 2:00 PM
- House of Representatives not in session

Cabinet Officers:

- Economic Club of New York event with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, via conference call / webcast; 3:00 PM

Visitors:

- No visitors scheduled

This Town:

- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Annual Building Resilience Through PPP Conference continues – U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation hosts Annual Building Resilience Through Private-Public Partnerships Conference continues, focusing on 'private and public sector roles in community resilience' and examining 'the opportunity for the private sector to take a leading role in preparing, coordinating, and responding to disasters'. Day two speakers include USAID Acting Administrator John Barsa, Small Business Administration Administrator Jovita Carranza, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases Jay Butler, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Director Christopher Krebs, Edison Electric Institute President Thomas Kuhn, and FMI – The Food Industry Association President and CEO Leslie Sarasin; 9:00 AM

- [PIIE hosts 'China in the WTO' webinar](#) – 'China in the WTO: Current issues and prospects for reform' webinar hosted by Peterson Institute for International Economics, with featured speakers including China Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO Amb. Zhang Xiangchen and PIIE Senior Fellow Chad Bown; *10:00 AM*
- [Dem Sen. Patrick Leahy discusses U.S.-Vietnam relationship](#) – 'The U.S. – Vietnam Relationship and War Legacies: 25 Years into Normalization' Stimson Center online event, on the progress made on war legacy issues in the last 25 years, and the role that the legacies of war will play in the future relationship. Speakers include Democratic Sen. Patrick Leahy, Vietnamese Ambassador to the U.S. Amb. Ha Kim Ngoc, PBS News Hour Special Correspondent Mike Cerre, and Senior Foreign Policy Aid for Sen. Leahy Tim Rieser; *10:00 AM*
- ['2020 Congressional Pig Book' released](#) – Citizens Against Government Waste release '2020 Congressional Pig Book' – a database of pork projects identified by CAGW – and the 2020 Pig Book Summary, profiling 'the most egregious examples' from the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills, via virtual press conference with Republicans Sen. Marsha Blackburn and Reps. Ted Budd, Tim Burchett, Bill Flores, Debbie Lesko, Tom McClintock and Ralph Norman, with pre-recorded messages from GOP Sens. Mike Braun, Ted Cruz, Joni Ernst, Mike Lee and Rand Paul; *10:00 AM*
- [BPC discussion on federal nutrition research](#) – 'Advancing Federal Nutrition Research to Improve America's Health' Bipartisan Policy Center and Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy discussion, on key strategies to improve national nutrition research and coordination. Featured speakers include Tufts University Dean Dariush Mozaffarian, U.S. Department of Agriculture Deputy Under Secretary Research, Education and Economics Scott Hutchins, Ocean Spray Director of Global Corporate Affairs Christina Ferzil, and Bipartisan Policy Center SNAP Task Force Co-chair Dan Glickman; *11:00 AM*
- [Assistant Energy Secretary Simmons discusses FEMP Energy Exchange 2020](#) – Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Daniel Simmons hosts Facebook Live broadcast to discuss the Federal Energy Management Program's Energy Exchange 2020; *1:00 PM*
- [Dem Rep. Pramila Jayapal speaks on 'Housing Not Handcuffs' webinar](#) – 'Housing Not Handcuffs: Hope for Change at the Federal Level' webinar hosted by the National Low Center on Homelessness and Poverty, with Democratic Rep. Pramila Jayapal highlighting her Housing Is A Human Right Act, and other efforts to lay the basis for shifting resource allocation from law enforcement to housing and social services. Other speakers include Center for Budget and Policy Priorities Senior Fellow Ann Oliva; Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld Senior Policy Counsel Francine Friedman and Public Policy Specialist Christina Barone; Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Communications and Public Policy Vice President Cathy Alderman; and National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty Legal Director Eric Tars; *2:00 PM*
- [Federal Reserve Beige Book](#) – Beige Book (Summary of Commentary on Current Economic Conditions by Federal Reserve District); *2:00 PM*

Copyright 2020 by Bulletin Intelligence LLC Reproduction or redistribution without permission prohibited. Content is drawn from thousands of newspapers, national magazines, national and local television programs, radio broadcasts, social-media platforms and additional forms of open-source data. Sources for Bulletin Intelligence audience-size estimates include Scarborough, GfK MRI, comScore, Nielsen, and the Audit Bureau of Circulation. Data from and access to third party social media platforms, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others, is subject to the respective platform's terms of use. Services that include Factiva content are governed by Factiva's [terms of use](#). Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to [Twitter for Website's information and privacy policies](#). The FBI News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for

government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at BulletinIntelligence.com, or called at (703) 483-6100.