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 FBI News Briefing

TO: THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020 6:30 AM EDT

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THE BIG PICTURE

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Federal Prosecutors Release Details Of Ghislaine Maxwell's Arrest.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (7/13, story 4, 1:30, Muir, 7.15M) reported "on Jeffrey Epstein's alleged co-conspirator, Ghislaine Maxwell. Authorities now revealing details over her arrest in New Hampshire. The FBI breaking through the door, and what they said she did when the FBI got there, and what they found wrapped in tinfoil." ABC (Pilgrim) added, "When FBI agents arrived at this 156-acre property in New Hampshire to arrest Ghislaine Maxwell, prosecutors say she tried to flee to another room in the house. Agents were ultimately forced to breach the door. Inside the home, agents found a cell phone wrapped in tinfoil on top of a desk, a seemingly misguided effort to evade detection from law enforcement. Prosecutors in a new court filing today asking a federal judge to keep Maxwell, the former girlfriend and alleged co-conspirator of convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, behind bars."

[CNN](#) (7/13, Scannell, 83.16M) reports, "Federal prosecutors urged a judge to reject a home confinement request by Ghislaine Maxwell, the confidant of accused sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein, saying she is skilled at hiding and had wrapped a cell phone in foil to attempt to evade detection by authorities. 'There will be no trial for the victims if the defendant is afforded the opportunity to flee the jurisdiction, and there is every reason to think that is exactly what she will do if she is released,' prosecutors wrote in a court filing Monday." CNN adds, "Prosecutors with the US attorney's office in Manhattan have asked the judge to detain Maxwell, who was arrested on charges she helped recruit, groom and ultimately abuse minors, saying she is an extreme flight risk with three passports and multiple foreign bank accounts."

The [AP](#) (7/14, Neumeister, Hayes) reports that Maxwell "will face a judge and at least one of her accusers by video at a hearing to determine whether she stays behind bars until trial on charges she recruited girls for the financier to sexually abuse a quarter century before he killed himself in a Manhattan jail. The hearing Tuesday afternoon in Manhattan federal court was expected to feature a not guilty plea by" Maxwell "along with arguments over whether she'll flee if she's released. Even if she was granted bail, she would almost certainly remain incarcerated while prosecutors would be given time to appeal and authorities would take time to arrange an electronic bracelet and verify her collateral and the finances of anyone required to pledge additional security."

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Weiser, Hong, 18.61M) reports, "When F.B.I. agents went to arrest...Maxwell on the morning of July 2 on a remote property in New Hampshire, they broke through her locked gate, approached the front door and announced themselves, telling her to open the door, federal prosecutors said in newly filed court papers on Monday. Through a window, the agents saw her ignore their order and flee to another room in the house, quickly shutting the door behind her, the prosecutors wrote." The Times adds, "The agents forcibly entered and took Ms. Maxwell into custody. Prosecutors said that during a search of the house, investigators found a cellphone wrapped in tin foil on top of a desk - which they interpreted as 'a seemingly misguided effort to evade detection' by law enforcement. 'As these facts make plain, there should be no question that the defendant is skilled at living in hiding,' the prosecutors wrote."

[NBC News](#) (7/13, Winter, Schapiro, 6.14M) reports, "Prosecutors revealed new details of what took place the day Maxwell was arrested and argued they underscore the risks of allowing her out of detention. They also pointed to her wealth, saying she controls a Swiss trust worth \$4 million and has an account in England that has at times held over \$2 million. 'To the extent the defendant now refuses to account for her ownership of or access to vast wealth, it is not because it does not exist - it is because she is attempting to hide it,' prosecutors wrote."

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Phillips, 10.31M) reports, "The government is doubling down in its bid to keep...Maxwell in jail while awaiting trial and expressed skepticism about the proposed bail package secured by foreign property, calling it 'effectively meaningless.'" USA Today adds,

"Maxwell's attorneys have proposed a \$5 million bond, secured by properties in the U.S. and Great Britain," but "prosecutors on Monday said the package 'amounts to little more than an unsecured bond' because the property Maxwell is pledging as collateral is outside American jurisdiction and 'therefore is of no value.'"

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Jacobs, 14.2M) reports that Maxwell "sought to evade FBI detection by using former British military personnel as personal security and wrapping her cellphone in tin foil in an apparent anti-tracing attempt, federal prosecutors alleged Monday." The Post adds, "When the FBI moved on Maxwell at her estate in New Hampshire about two weeks ago, agents had to break down the door and found Maxwell hiding in a room in the interior of the home, according to a new court filing from the government opposing her release on bail. Maxwell, the wealthy daughter of a deceased British media mogul, was so intent on not being located that she never left her house, sending the security staff out 'to make purchases for the property' using a credit card they were provided, a guard there allegedly told the FBI, according to Monday's court filing. The guards were hired by Maxwell's brother and worked in 'rotations,' prosecutors wrote."

The [Telegraph \(UK\)](#) (7/13, 956K) reports, "Investigators also allege that Ms Maxwell has refused to declare her financial situation and they have been unable to determine whether she has had a job in more than 30 years. They rejected Ms Maxwell's \$5 million bail proposal, claiming that offering a \$3.75m home in London as collateral was meaningless as it could not be seized by US authorities. They also argue that the co-signatories – believed to be her twin sisters and other close relatives – have not been formally identified to them and it was not clear if they are living in the US."

[Fox News](#) (7/13, Casiano, 27.59M) reports, "Maxwell, 58, faces six charges for conspiring with Epstein in a multi-state sex trafficking ring involving three unnamed minors between 1991 and 1997. A hearing is scheduled Tuesday where a judge will decide whether to release her from federal custody. Several of Epstein's victims have named Maxwell as his chief enabler when grooming young girls for sexual abuse. Prosecutors said they expect 'one or more victims' to testify at Tuesday's hearing."

The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Golding, 4.57M) reports, "Some of Jeffrey Epstein's victims will urge a judge to keep...Maxwell locked up pending trial as an alleged accomplice in his infamous pedophilia scheme, according to court papers filed Monday. In addition, the 'strong evidence' against Maxwell could soon get 'even stronger' – with the help of additional witnesses who came forward following her arrest, prosecutors wrote."

[CNBC](#) (7/13, Mangan, 3.62M) reports, "Prosecutors cited the millions of dollars that Maxwell has held in 'dozens' of overseas bank accounts, her citizenship in France, and the fact that she tried to hide from FBI agents who arrested her in a \$1 million New Hampshire hideaway purchased under the name of a legal entity to hide the actual owner. 'There will be no trial for the victims if the defendant is afforded the opportunity to flee the jurisdiction, and there is every reason to think that is exactly what she will do if she is released,' prosecutors wrote in a filing in U.S. District Court in Manhattan in advance of Maxwell's detention hearing there on Tuesday."

[The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (7/13, Bekiempis, 4.19M) reports, "Maxwell is a citizen of France, prosecutors pointed out, saying that the country 'does not extradite its citizens to the United States pursuant to French law'. Maxwell also has US and UK passports. The filing added that 'the defendant has not only the motive to flee, but the means to do so swiftly and effectively. The defendant appears to have access to extensive sources of wealth.'"

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Brest, 448K) reports, "Epstein, 66, a registered sex offender and wealthy financier, was arrested last July on federal sex trafficking and conspiracy charges for allegedly abusing girls as young as 14. He was found dead in his Manhattan prison cell in August, which the New York City medical examiner determined to be a suicide."

The [Daily Beast](#) (7/13, Melendez, 1.39M) reports, "On Friday, Maxwell's lawyer argued that the 58-year-old has not been hiding from authorities since the pedophile billionaire's

jailhouse suicide in August – but from an ‘unrelenting and intrusive media,’” but “prosecutors hit back on Monday, stating that the socialite does not deserve any ‘special treatment’ and that her actions over the last year prove she is an ‘extraordinary’ flight risk.” The [New York Daily News](#) (7/13, Brown, 2.52M) also reports.

PROTESTS

Trump Criticizes “Anti-Cop Crusade” By Democrats.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Boyer, 492K) reports President Trump “stood up for hero police officers on Monday, criticizing an ‘anti-cop crusade’ by Democrats that he said is causing a crime wave in major cities.” At a White House event, the President said, “Violent crime is spiraling in their cities. It’s all far-left cities where they have no understanding of what has to be done. If that’s what you want for a country, you probably have to vote for ‘Sleepy’ Joe Biden, because he doesn’t know what’s happening. But you’re not going to have it with me.” He noted a rise in shootings in cities such as Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Minneapolis.

The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Nelson, 4.57M) reports Trump “tore into New York City leaders on Monday for painting ‘Black Lives Matter’ on 5th Avenue while shootings skyrocket in the city.” Said the President, “In one recent week in New York City, this is hard to believe, shootings were up to 358%. And yet they spend all their time – they want to do Black Lives Matter signs outside of Trump Tower. They ought to spend their time doing something else because I’ll tell you what, 358% increase in shootings in New York.”

Trump, the [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (7/13, Sweet, 875K) says, “continued his relentless attacks on Chicago on Monday,” saying, “That’s worse than Afghanistan. I hate to say it: That’s worse than any war zone that we’re in, by a lot. It makes them look like tame places by comparison. So we’re not going to let it go on.”

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Rogers, 18.61M) reports Trump “invok[ed] the kind of pro-police language that won him support with the law enforcement community in 2016 and ignor[ed] the calls for reform that have helped shape this election.”

Trump also took to [Twitter](#) Monday to write, “Never in history have Police been treated so badly as they are in Democrat run cities – and these cities are a mess. Police must take a stronger stand with the Radical Left politicians that are treating them so badly, and so disrespectfully!!!”

Elsewhere Monday, [Townhall](#) (7/13, McCarthy, 177K) reports White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany “honored the lives of fallen police officers who were murdered in the line of duty over the weekend, during her briefing.” McEnany touted the Administration’s “solidarity with police and ‘law and order,’ and President Trump’s opposition to the movement to ‘defund the police.’”

Trump Hopes To Gain Backing Of Police Unions. [Fox News](#) (7/13, Vaughn, 27.59M) reports on its website that President Trump “planned to make his pitch to the National Association of Police Organizations” at Monday’s White House event “as to why the group should endorse him” over Biden.

McEnany Criticizes Ocasio-Cortez For Comments Linking Poverty To Violent Crime. The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Mastrangelo, 448K) reports McEnany “brushed aside an assertion” from Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) last week “that poverty could be a leading cause in the recent uptick in violent crime in New York City.” Speaking to reporters Monday, McEnany said, “You have Rep. Ocasio-Cortez saying, ‘This is just because people are trying to get food for the families.’ That is preposterous. The reality is 63% of Americans in this country fear that criticism of our police departments will lead to no public safety in their streets. And 69% of Black Americans, this is a real issue when you call or police cancer and talk about dismantling them.”

The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Fenton, Nelson, Campanile, 4.57M) reports Ocasio-Cortez “doubled down Monday on her claim,” saying, “I do think that even when you talk about violent

crime, I don't think that poverty and economic desperation are separate from that either." She added, "When people do not have opportunities, I can tell you from my personal experience and what I saw growing up. When families don't have money, a lot of times young people and teens that feel like they need to support their mom, sometimes they'll turn to selling drugs, which can then lead to an escalated level of trouble, to what police label as gang activity."

A [New York Post](#) (7/13, 4.57M) editorial criticizes Ocasio-Cortez's reaction to the surge of violence as "dishonest, callous and naive." The Post argues that Ocasio-Cortez "imagines that we'll magically erase crime with an army of social workers and more money for schools, even though we spend more for education and welfare than almost anywhere in the nation."

NYTimes Calls For NYPD To Adopt Reforms. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, 18.61M) editorializes that the "need to drastically remake" the New York Police Department "didn't begin with the pandemic or the Black Lives Matter protests. For decades, the department has fiercely resisted, slow-walked, co-opted or simply blown past serious attempts at reform or independent oversight." Now, it argues, "overhauling the Police Department may be the only way to stop the violence, and give New York the policing it deserves."

Texas' Patrick Blames Black Lives Matter For Crime Wave. The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Richardson, 492K) reports that a "furious" Texas Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick (R) on Monday "slammed Black Lives Matter in response to the recent surge of urban violence," saying that "they're not about Black Lives." Appearing on Fox News, Patrick said, "Every Black life matters. Black Lives Matter? They're not about Black lives. Where were they when Black cops were being killed? Where were they when Black teenagers and kids were being killed over the weekend in Chicago and other Democrat-run cities? They don't care."

New York Town Rejects "Black Lives Matter" Mural. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Nir, 18.61M) reports that village leaders in Catskill, New York have rejected plans to paint a "Black Lives Matter" mural on Main Street. Instead, they offered "several counterproposals...including one that would have allowed the painting, but in the Black area of town."

DOJ To Probe Portland Protest Shooting.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Flaccus) reports from Portland, Oregon, "The U.S. Marshals Service is investigating after a protester was hospitalized in critical condition over the weekend after being hit in the head by a less-lethal round fired by a federal law enforcement officer, authorities said Monday." The AP adds, "The investigation into the shooting will be reviewed by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Attorney for Oregon Billy J. Williams said." According to the AP, "Bystander videos show" Donovan LaBella, 26, "collapsing to the ground unconscious and bleeding profusely from the head after a federal officer outside the Mark O. Hatfield Federal Courthouse fired a less-lethal round at him. He was standing with both arms in the air holding a large speaker across the street from the courthouse when he was hit."

Carson: Destroying History First Step Towards "Destroying A Country."

HUD Secretary Carson said on the [Joe Pags Show](#) (7/13), "If you wanted to destroy a country and if you wanted to fundamentally change that country, one of the first things you would do is try to destroy their history because it is your history that gives you your identity and your identity is what gives you your beliefs. If you don't stand for anything, you'll fall for anything and that's basically what's going on right now. ... If we take down everything that's objectionable to us we won't have anything left because if you go through anybody's life, you won't find perfection."

USA Today Fact-Check Agrees Trump Campaign Using "Nazi Symbol."

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Ernst, 492K) reports "USA Today critics are livid over a new 'fact check' that President Trump's campaign is using 'a Nazi symbol' – and American eagle – on its

merchandise." A piece titled "Fact Check: Trump Campaign Accused Of T-Shirt Design With Similarity To Nazi Eagle" received a "True" ruling over the weekend and "immediately sparked negative feedback on social media from incredulous readers."

Federalist: Ocasio-Cortez Flashed "White Power" "OK" Sign During Event. [The Federalist](#) (7/13, Zempel, 126K) reports Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) "flashed a double white-power symbol during a Zoom conference about New York City's crime uptick." While answering one question, the congresswoman "quickly flashed the notorious white supremacy symbol – the once-innocuous 'OK' sign, wherein the thumb and pointer finger touch to form a circle and the last three fingers are extended – with both hands while gesturing. She even flashed it a second time at the end of the call."

White House: Native Americans "Very Angry" As DC NFL Team Retires Name.

The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Bowden, 4.57M) reports the White House on Monday "doubled down on criticism" of the Washington NFL team "for retiring their name and logo, citing a news report that found the majority of Native Americans were not offended by it." Speaking to reporters, White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany said President Trump criticize the decision by the NFL team because Native Americans would be made "very angry" by the decision.

Earlier Monday, [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 7, 1:55, Holt, 5.82M) reported the team "announced its retiring the logo and name, now widely viewed as a racist slur against Native Americans." In a statement, the team said it's "working closely to develop a new name and design approach that will enhance the standing of our proud, tradition-rich franchise." The [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 5, 1:50, O'Donnell, 4.36M) reported that in a statement, the National Congress of American Indians said, "We commend the Washington NFL team for eliminating a brand that disrespected, demeaned, and stereotyped all native people."

[ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 5, 1:15, Muir, 7.15M) reported that while the team did not announce a new name Monday, "one potential name gaining traction among fans tonight: the Washington Redtails, in honor of the Tuskegee Airmen." A [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 14.2M) editorial welcomes what it says was a long-overdue change.

OSC: Federal Employees Can Support Black Lives Matter On The Job.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Dinan, 492K) reports the Office of Special Counsel says "Black Lives Matter is not inherently political so federal employees are free to express their support for the movement while on the job." The OSC "says employees can wear BLM pins, post supportive messages to their social media accounts during work time, or let fellow employees or members of the public know of their support."

Soros Organization Giving \$220M To Black Groups In Pursuit Of "Whole-Scale Reform."

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Herndon, 18.61M) reports the Open Society Foundations, "the philanthropic group founded by the business magnate George Soros," is set to "announce...that it is investing \$220 million in efforts to achieve racial equality in America, a huge financial undertaking that will support several Black-led racial justice groups for years to come." Of the \$220 million, the foundation will "invest \$150 million in five-year grants for selected groups, including progressive and emerging organizations like the Black Voters Matter Fund and Repairers of the Breach," as well as "more established Black political organizations like the Equal Justice Initiative." Patrick Gaspard, the President of the Open Society Foundations, is quoted as saying, "it's time to double down. And we understood we can place a bet on these activists...who see this as a moment of not just incrementalism, but whole-scale reform."

Progressive Groups Forming PAC To Support Police Defunding Advocates.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Barrow) reports that “a coalition of progressive groups is forming a political action committee to back local candidates who want to redirect money away from traditional police departments into other social services.” The WFP Justice Fund, which is led by the Working Families Party and the Movement for Black Lives’ Electoral Justice Project, has filed paperwork with the Federal Election Commission and “plans immediately to begin accepting contributions and vetting candidates to support.”

Number Of Minneapolis Police Stops, Searches Declines.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/13, Lehman, 78K) reports the “embattled Minneapolis Police Department has mostly ceased stopping and searching residents of the city, as resources are stretched thin by anti-cop protests and surging gun violence.” Official data released by the MPD “show that cumulative stops fell 36 percent in the week after George Floyd’s death.” That trend “has persisted – over the week between July 6 and July 12, MPD officers made just 193 stops, down 77 percent from the same week in 2019.”

The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (7/13, Jany, 1.04M), meanwhile, reports residents of one block say it “has become even less of a priority for police and City Hall after the unrest that followed George Floyd’s death in police custody, leading to calls to reimagine policing in the city.”

Seattle Protesters Sue City Over Alleged Excessive Force By Police.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports, “Twelve people, or their families, who were hurt or killed in Seattle protests over the past six weeks filed financial claims Monday against the city of Seattle, King County and Washington state, alleging police used excessive force or failed to secure the safety of peaceful protesters.” The claimants say “they, or their loved ones, were hit by cars, shot, pepper sprayed, tear-gassed, put in chokeholds or knocked unconscious in protests against systemic racism and police brutality.”

LATimes Examines California City That Defunded Police Amid Bankruptcy.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, Chabria, 4.64M) examines the town of Stockton, California, which “was hit hard by foreclosures and bad municipal investments during the Great Recession” and was forced to declare bankruptcy, “slashing the Police Department’s budget by \$14 million and losing a quarter of its 440 officers – an involuntary defunding that dropped the number of sworn officers to some of the lowest levels per capita in the country.”

Catholic Churches Burned, Vandalized Over Weekend.

The [Fox News](#) (7/13, Parke, 27.59M) website reports that a “slew of Catholic churches from Florida to California were burned and vandalized over the weekend as police continue to investigate whether or not they are connected to protests targeting symbols and statues.” The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Rowan, 448K) reports that “in two cases, authorities found two statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary mutilated outside Catholic parishes.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, Arellano, 4.64M), meanwhile, reports that “local, regional and national officials are investigating” the cause of a fire Saturday at California’s 215-year-old San Gabriel Mission.

Black Mothers Who Lost Children To Racial Violence Speak Out.

[ABC World News Tonight](#)Vi (7/13, story 6, 2:25, Muir, 7.52M) reported, “Across the country tonight, growing pressure on lawmakers to move forward on police reform in the wake of George Floyd’s death and the protests that followed.” ABC (Roberts) added, “As legislatures from Charleston to Boston debate measures on police reform, seven women, seven mothers, raising their voices, joining the fight. Forever connected in grief, they are speaking out after losing their own children violently, many at the hands of police.” Wanda Cooper-Jones, mother of Ahmaud Arbery, said, “There’s nothing you can really tell a person that’s going through this

type of pain to make to make them feel better.” Roberts: “These moms say that they’re sharing their stories with the hope the rest of us won’t be content to sit silently. They’re hoping this moment will spark a real movement for change.”

Black ESPN Employees Speak Out About Racism At Network.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Draper, 18.61M) reports that the “nationwide conversation over systemic racism and equality has prompted a series of discussions and forums at ESPN, where Black employees, many of them behind the cameras, have begun speaking out about the everyday racism and barriers they face at the sports media giant.” In conference calls and meetings over the last month, “they have detailed to their bosses and colleagues what they see as behavior and long-entrenched practices that have led to embarrassing missteps and kept many career Black employees from rising through the ranks.”

“Mute White People” GIF Appears On Instagram.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Colton, 448K) reports a sticker uploaded to GIPHY by Refinery29 and now “appearing on Instagram reads, ‘mute white people.’” The Examiner confirmed the sticker “on Instagram Monday, following a [tweet](#) from Townhall’s Katie Pavlich.” While Pavlich and the Examiner both refer to the GIF as a “button,” it does not mute posts.

COUNTER-TERRORISM

Bahrain To Execute Two Shiite Protesters.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Yee, 18.61M) reports two Bahraini men “who say they were tortured into making false confessions were sentenced to death for the fifth time on Monday in what international rights groups called another stain on Bahrain’s record of imprisoning, torturing and executing government critics.” The two men, both Shiites, were “first arrested and tried for a bombing that killed a police officer in 2014.” The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Dadouch, 14.2M) reports the nation’s highest court “reinstated the death sentences after reviewing all the evidence again.”

Taliban Attack On Afghan Spy Agency’s Office Kills 11.

[Voice of America](#) (7/13, 48K) reports Officials in Afghanistan “say a Taliban suicide assault on a provincial headquarters of the Afghan spy agency has killed at least 11 people and injured 63 others.” The insurgent raid in Aybak, the capital city of northern Samangan province, “comes amid a string of Taliban attacks in the last week that killed a number of Afghan forces, posing fresh challenges to US-led peacemaking efforts.” Provincial governor Abdul Latif Ibrahimi” told VOA that civilians, including women, were among the victims of Monday’s attack on the National Directorate of Security (NDS).” The Taliban “confirmed three of its fighters carried out the ‘martyrdom’ attack, saying they killed dozens of NDS personnel and injured many more.” Officials in Samangan “said the attack began with a suicide bomber detonating an explosives-packed car at the main entrance, enabling other attackers to storm the NDS compound and engage Afghan forces in an hours-long gunfight.”

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

Stone Says Mueller Team Went After Him Because They Had “Nothing” On Russia Collusion.

Roger Stone said on [Fox News’ Hannity](#) (7/13, 535K) that the person leading his prosecution on special counsel Robert Mueller’s team “made it very clear to one of my lawyers after a hearing, she asked to see them privately, that if I would re-remember certain phone conversations I had with candidate Trump, if I would ‘come clean,’ if I would ‘confess,’ that they might be willing to,

you know, recommend leniency to the judge, perhaps I wouldn't even serve any jail time. I didn't have to think about it very long. I said absolutely not. There was no circumstance under which I would bear false witness against the President." Stone added, "They wanted me to be the ham in their ham sandwich because they knew the Mueller report, particularly on Russia, was a dud. They had nothing." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Mordock, 492K) reports, "Stone claimed prosecutors offered him leniency and promised to keep him out of jail in the Russian collusion probe in exchange for information implicating Mr Trump. 'They were hoping I would recharacterize my phone calls.'" Stone told Hannity. The Times adds, "Former Trump attorney Michael Cohen told federal investigators that he overheard a July 2016 phone call between Stone and then-candidate Trump in which Stone claimed to have spoken with WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange. Stone claimed the website planned to release a batch of information, according to Cohen's testimony. Rick Gates, a former Trump campaign official, offered similar testimony during Stone's November 2019 trial."

[Politico](#) (7/13, Choi, 4.29M) reports, "Speaking with Hannity, Stone repeated the sentiment, saying that he was up against a 'stacked jury' and a 'biased judge.' During his trial, Stone had several tête-à-têtes with" US District Judge Amy Berman Jackson. "At one point, he posted a picture of her with crosshairs on his Instagram account in February 2019. Stone later apologized for the post and tried to downplay the crosshairs as a Celtic symbol. Jackson and Stone's interactions in the courthouse would at times get heated, with both sides showing frustration with the other." Stone "called Andrew Weissmann, a top prosecutor on Mueller's team, 'the most ethically bankrupt prosecutor I've ever come across,' accusing him of political bias in his investigation into the president. Stone also said prosecutor Jeannie Rhee, who is of Korean descent, 'has all the charm of a North Korean prison guard,' and laid into her for her donations to Democratic candidates, including Hillary Clinton."

Judge Wants More Details On Trump's Commutation Of Stone's Sentence. The [AP](#) (7/13, Tucker) reports that on Monday, US District Judge Amy Berman Jackson "demanded more information about President Donald Trump's decision to commute the prison sentence of longtime ally Roger Stone." Jackson "ordered that the parties provide her by Tuesday with a copy of the executive order that commuted Stone's sentence," and "also asked for clarity about the scope of the clemency, including whether it covers just his prison sentence or also the two-year period of supervised release that was part of his sentence."

[Axios](#) (7/13, Axios, 521K) reports that the Justice Department's Office of the Pardon Attorney released the clemency order the President signed for Stone. According to the order, "the commutation voids all elements of Stone's sentence, including a \$20,000 fine and two years of supervised release." the Justice Department wrote in a statement to the court accompanying the order, "Roger J. Stone's felony convictions – for obstructing the United States Congress, making false statements, and tampering with a witness – still stand."

McEnany Defends Stone Sentence Commutation, Highlights Clinton, Obama Pardons. The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Boyer, 492K) reports that the White House on Monday defended Trump's commutation for Stone and "said former presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama indulged in politically connected pardons and wholesale clemency." White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany said Stone's clemency "was a very important moment for justice in this country," and that the President has used his pardon power "sparingly." McEnany "said Mr. Trump has issued 36 pardons and commutations in nearly four years, while Mr. Obama issued 1,927 in eight years." McEnany "also contrasted the clemency for Stone with some of Mr. Clinton's infamous 11th-hour pardons."

Trump Does Not Rule Out Pardoning Flynn.

[CNBC](#) (7/13, Breuninger, Mangan, 3.62M) reports on its website that in comments to reporters Monday, President Trump "did not rule out granting a pardon to his first national security advisor Michael Flynn." Trump said, "I don't have a decision to make" about a pardon for Flynn "until I find out what's going to happen" with Flynn's efforts to have his conviction dismissed.

Trump said, "I think he's doing very well with respect to his case. ... I hope that he's going to be able to win it." Also providing similar coverage is the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 14.2M).

Weissmann To Publish Book On Mueller Investigation.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Italie) reports that Andrew Weissmann, a former top prosecutor for special counsel Robert Mueller, "has a book coming out this fall about the two-year investigation into the alleged ties between Russia and the 2016 campaign of President Donald Trump." Random House announced Monday that "Where Law Ends: Inside the Mueller Investigation" will be published Sept. 29. Weissmann "is calling the book a meticulous account of the Mueller team's probe and its ongoing battles with the Trump administration." [CBS News](#) (7/13, 3.68M) reports Weissmann said in a statement, "I felt it was necessary to record this episode in our history, as seen and experienced by an insider. This is the story of our investigation into how our democracy was attacked by Russia and how those who condoned and ignored that assault undermined our ability to uncover the truth. My obligation as a prosecutor was to follow the facts where they led, using all available tools and undeterred by the onslaught of the president's unique powers to undermine our work. I am deeply proud of the work we did and of the unprecedented number of people we indicted and convicted — and in record speed. But the hard truth is that we made mistakes. We could have done more. 'Where Law Ends' documents the choices we made, good and bad, for all to see and judge and learn from."

Citing the AP report, The [Daily Caller](#) (7/13, Nieto, 716K) provides similar coverage.

Akerman: Trump's Efforts Have Amounted To A Cover-Up. In an op-ed for the [New York Times](#) (7/13, 18.61M), Nick Akerman, an assistant special prosecutor on the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, writes that nothing he saw as an assistant special prosecutor for the Watergate Special Prosecution Force "rises to what we are witnessing now with President Trump." Akerman calls the commutation of Stone's sentence "the latest of multiple, brazen efforts to make the fulfillment of the investigation by the special counsel Robert Mueller all but impossible." To Akerman Trump's efforts "have amounted to a cover-up — and they were often made possible by his ability to control the Justice Department and by the lack of independence of the Mueller investigation. It demands a renewed look at how we empower independent counsels."

Sources Say Mueller Considered Speaking Up Earlier Against Trump And Barr's Attacks. [CNN](#) (7/13, Polantz, Herb, 83.16M) reports that, according to multiple sources familiar with the Mueller team, former special counsel Robert Mueller "chose to break his silence and defend his investigation this weekend after weeks of contemplating doing so, in part because an inflammatory and factually incorrect White House statement attacked his prosecution of President Donald Trump's ally Roger Stone." Mueller's Washington Post op-ed on Saturday...came after members of the special counsel's team had urged him to say something. The sources "said Mueller decided not to speak after the Flynn reversal, but the attacks by the White House justifying Stone's commutation on Friday finally pushed him to speak out and break away from his strict approach to stay above the political fray."

IARPA Pivots To Fight Coronavirus.

[SIGNAL Magazine](#) (7/13, Seffers) reports IARPA director Catherine Marsh "tells SIGNAL Magazine that two research programs at IARPA are now undergoing evaluation to see if they may provide solutions to help counter COVID-19." The Molecular Analyzer for Efficient Gas-phase Low-power INterrogation (MAEGLIN) program "has been developing sensors to detect harmful gaseous chemicals in the air." The program "is investigating how well its newly developed micro-gas chromatograph might work as a breath sensor to detect signs of acute respiratory distress syndrome, a life-threatening condition associated with COVID-19." In addition, the Functional Genomic and Computational Assessments of Threats (FUN GCAT) program "is showing some promise related to the fight against COVID-19." Marsh said, "We pivoted that research, and we went to clinical trials with that a few weeks ago. The early results

are really positive. It seems that for standoff detection, there's a unique signature associated with COVID-19, and you can track the progress of the disease, for example whether it's waxing or waning, if you will."

Evanina Says Trusted Workforce 2.0 Progressing Well.

[ClearanceJobs](#) (7/13, 6K) reports Trusted Workforce 2.0 is the "major overhaul of the security clearance process that has worked to end the record backlog in pending security clearance investigations, and is hoping to ushering in a transformed, more relevant security clearance application process." The ODNI's National Counterintelligence and Security Center in 2018 "announced the Trusted Workforce 2.0 initiative." The efforts of Trusted Workforce 2.0 "have gone so well, NCSC is already looking into what may come next." NCSC Director William Evanina "has speculated that despite the current pandemic, now may be the perfect time to continue process improvements and implement new plans and priorities. We're looking at this as what else can we do while we have momentum going forward? Now might be the time to enhance 2.0 and say what would 2.5 and 3.0 look like?"

France Spy Scandal Highlights China's Growing Intelligence Threat.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Rogan, 448K) reports two former officers of France's foreign intelligence service (CIA equivalent) last week "were sentenced to long prison terms for spying for China." Their treason convictions "illustrate China's growing success in human intelligence recruitment." Inside the General Directorate for External Security, these convictions "will be viewed as extremely painful." Both officers were "respected employees, with one formerly serving as DGSE's top officer, or station chief, in Beijing." That officer, named only as "Henri M.," was "apparently recalled from Beijing to Paris in 1998 after having an affair with the then-ambassador's Chinese interpreter." Both officers were arrested "at the same time in December 2017 after they had retired."

Federal Authorities Seize Internet Domain In Chinese Arms Trafficking Case.

The [AP](#) (7/13) reports federal authorities in Detroit "said Monday an Internet domain has been seized as part of an international arms trafficking investigation into gun silencers from China." Visitors to lafoauto.com "will find a seizure notice bearing law enforcement shields," according to Homeland Security Investigations. More than 350 suppressors "seized by law enforcement across the county were purchased from the website and smuggled into the US from China as automotive parts." Vance Callender, Homeland Security special agent in charge for Michigan and Ohio, said, "This website, operated from China, blatantly disregarded our customs laws, smuggled illegal silencers into our country, and placed the American public at risk."

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Attorney Claims Indiana Hate Crime Allegation Is "Smear Campaign."

The [AP](#) (7/13, Smith) reports from Indianapolis, "An attorney for two people accused of being involved in a reported assault on a Black man at a southern Indiana lake said Monday his clients are victims of a 'smear campaign' and a 'rush to judgment.'" Vauhxx Booker, "a local civil rights activist and member of the Monroe County Human Rights Commission, said five white men pinned him against a tree, shouted racial slurs and one of them threatened to 'get a noose' at Monroe Lake near Bloomington over Independence Day weekend," but David Hennessy, "a criminal defense attorney for Sean Purdy and Caroline McCord – two of the people accused of being involved – said Booker has been 'putting forth a false narrative' about what happened. 'Mr. Booker was the instigator and the agitator,' Hennessy said at a press conference in downtown Indianapolis."

The [Indianapolis Star](#) (7/13, O'Connor, 633K) reports that Hennessy said that "Booker punched his client three times and had to be restrained." Booker, "a member of the Monroe County Human Rights Commission, said he was approached by a group of white men while at the lake on July 4, who said Booker and his friends were trespassing on private property. Booker said the men attacked him and that he was pinned against a tree and subjected to racist language and a threat of lynching. A portion of the incident was captured on video, which Booker posted to Facebook." The Star adds, "The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is conducting an investigation of the incident, as is the FBI. No arrests or charges have been made."

[Indiana Public Media](#) (7/13, Legan) reports, "Booker denied provoking the group, saying when they became agitated, he and a friend offered to leave. As they were leaving, he says five men overpowered him and dragged him to a tree before calling for a noose. He claims at one point, one of the group members jumped on his neck full force with both feet." Hennessy "says Booker only ended up against the tree because he deliberately provoked the group, punching one of the men three times. 'So he's restrained,' Hennessy said. 'If you go on a neighbor's property and you start punching people, you can be restrained, and he ended up against the tree. No talk of a noose, no talk of a rope, no talk of a lynching, no white power.'"

[WTHR-TV](#) Indianapolis (7/13, 465K) reports, "Booker's attorney, Katherine Liell, says the FBI is investigating the case as a possible hate crime." WTHR-TV adds, "Both Sean Purdy and Caroline McCord, two of the people in question, have been identified in the video. Attorneys for the two say that Booker has 'created a false narrative that he is perpetuating with the media, and in doing so, Mr. Booker is harming innocent people. Those innocent people have passed polygraphs. We challenge Mr. Booker to take one.'"

FBI Joins Probe Of Noose Found In Michigan Man's Car.

[WJRT-TV](#) Flint, MI (7/13, 67K) reports from Saginaw, Michigan, "Police are investigating a possible hate crime after a Saginaw resident allegedly found a noose with a racially insensitive note attached in their car Sunday morning." WJRT-TV adds, "The incident was reported around 9 a.m. in the 2200 block of North Carolina Street. The Saginaw Police Department did not release images of the noose or disclose many details of the case while it remains under investigation. A statement from investigators says they are 'treating this case very seriously' and have multiple detectives looking into the origins of the noose and the note. The FBI has been called in to assist with the case."

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (7/13, 925K) reports from Saginaw, Michigan, "Regina Simon couldn't quite believe what she saw. The Saginaw resident was awakened around 7:30 a.m. Sunday, July 12 after her husband Donald got into the family's vehicle at their North Carolina Road home. 'He went to grab a coffee this morning and it was in the side of his door on the truck parked right next to the house,' she said. In the pocket of the door was left behind what appears to be a noose, with a note attached reading 'Accessory to be worn with your BLM T-shirt! Happy protesting!'" Simon "had been out in the neighborhood the day before wearing a Black Lives Matter T-shirt, but no comments had been made by anyone."

Another Defendant In Georgia "Operation Wu Block" Pleads Guilty.

The [Albany \(GA\) Herald](#) (7/13) reports from Athens, Georgia, "A defendant charged in an ongoing, large-scale drug trafficking investigation dubbed 'Operation Wu Block,' has pleaded guilty for her crime, U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia Charlie Peeler said." Latasha Bishop, 33, of Athens-Clarke County, "pleaded guilty to one count of distribution of methamphetamine before U.S. District Judge C. Ashley Royal on July 8. Bishop faces a maximum 20 years in prison, a \$1 million fine and four years of supervised release. Her sentencing date has not been scheduled. A total of 68 individuals were charged with related drug and gun crimes as a result of 'Operation Wu Block.' To date, 45 have pleaded guilty and have been sentenced or are awaiting sentencing."

[AllOnGeorgia](#) (7/13) reports, "Lazaro Hernandez, 28, of Cobb County, remains at-large, charged with conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine, possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and possession with intent to distribute heroin. 'This investigation resulted in the removal of drugs, guns, money and over 60 defendants from our streets, which had an immediate impact on our communities,' said Chris Hacker, Special Agent in Charge of FBI Atlanta."

Maine Man Charged With Shooting At Police Garage.

The [Portland \(ME\) Press Herald](#) (7/13, 244K) reports Abdikareem Hassan has been charged after "firing several shots into the department's parking garage" on July 5. He "was arrested after the traffic stop for operating under the influence, operating a vehicle while being a habitual offender and unauthorized use of property," and the police "said Hassan became uncooperative and assaulted a police officer and an FBI agent, and damaged a police vehicle" following the arrest.

[WMTW-TV](#) Portland, ME (7/13, 105K) reports Hassan was also "charged with assault on a police officer, refusal to submit to arrest or detention and criminal mischief."

Washington State Man Arrested On Suspicion Of Premeditated Assault.

The [San Jose \(CA\) Mercury News](#) (7/13, 456K) reports James David Allen II "was arrested last week by Pinole officers, who found a stolen AR-15 style rifle inside his car and determined he'd driven roughly 800 miles south from his home state, to come to California and attack a stockbroker in San Francisco." The Pinole Police Department added Allen "indicated his willingness to 'shoot it out' with the arresting officers, and remarked that if they hadn't come to him when he was asleep he would have attacked them." The incident "is still being investigated by the FBI."

Fort Hood Soldier's Murder Prompts Veterans To Come Forward With Sexual Assault, Abuse Stories.

[PBS NewsHour](#) (7/13, Rogin, 749K) reports, "For Army veteran Jorgina Butler, the details of Vanessa Guillen's disappearance and murder were hauntingly familiar, because many of them happened to her too. Like Guillen, Butler was stationed at Fort Hood Army Base in Texas from 2009 to 2013. Like Guillen, Butler was subject to sexual mistreatment at the hands of her fellow soldiers. And like Guillen, she declined to file a formal report, for fear of retaliation. "A lot of people say the only difference between me and her story is that I walked away alive,' Butler said." Butler "was one of the hundreds of mostly female veterans to speak out on social media, using the hashtag #IAMVANESSAGUILLEN, to share their stories - many for the first time - after Guillen's remains were found more than two months after she went missing."

Idaho Man Arrested In Connection To Stabbing.

[East Idaho News](#) (7/13) reports that the FBI "arrested [Lance Jonathon Broncho] on Wednesday for stabbing another man on the Fort Hall reservation." The indictment "alleges that Broncho stabbed the man in the stomach on April 7."

New Jersey Man Charged With Child Pornography Distribution.

The [San Jose \(CA\) Mercury News](#) (7/13, 456K) reports Barry David Goldberg "is facing charges of distributing child pornography for allegedly posing as a teen boy online, convincing a Bay Area girl to send him sexually explicit pictures and video, then posting the content on his Snapchat account." The FBI "says Goldberg was arrested after authorities identified him as a man who was both posing as a fictitious 16-year-old boy named Ryan Strauss and as Ryan's sister, Kalie." He was identified through his IP address.

FBI Searching For Missing Pennsylvania Child.

The [Chestnut Hill-Mt. Airy \(PA\) Patch](#) (7/13, 1.03M) reports that the Philadelphia Police Department and the FBI are investigating the disappearance of two-year-old King Hill, who "has not been seen since Tuesday, July 7." Philadelphia Captain Mark Burgmann said, "I've had my investigators working around the clock since we first took this report on this investigation. We are coordinating all references with the FBI – their child abduction rapid deployment team as well as profilers from their behavioral analysis unit."

Oklahoma Man Charged With Murder On Creek National Land.

[KTUL-TV](#) Tulsa, OK (7/13, Adams, 58K) reports that a Tulsa, Oklahoma man "has been charged with murder in the first-degree in Indian Country after he allegedly shot and killed a woman in Philpott Park on July 10." KTUL-TV adds, "According to the affidavit, James Michael Landry, 29, committed the crime on the Creek Nation reservation. The victim was an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation. 'The United States Attorney's Office is pursuing this case consistent with our new responsibilities following the Supreme Court's McGirt decision,' said U.S. Attorney Trent Shores. 'The cooperation among tribal, local, state and federal law enforcement is as strong as ever in northeastern Oklahoma. In this case, investigators with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Tulsa Police Department, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse were on the scene and working together."

Pennsylvania Men Charged With Selling Stolen Merchandise.

The [Somerset County \(PA\) Daily American](#) (7/7, 38K) reports Bradley J. Charlton and John P. Stuart "have been indicted by a federal grand jury in Johnstown on charges of conspiracy and interstate transportation of stolen property." The indictment says that the defendants "conspired with one another, and with others, to unlawfully transport, transmit and transfer in interstate commerce goods, wares and merchandise, knowing the items had been stolen, converted and taken by fraud."

Continuing Coverage: FBI Investigating Disappearance Of Pennsylvania Teenager.

[WPMT-TV](#) Harrisburg, PA (7/13, 93K) reports that the FBI and Lancaster County police have charged Justo Smoker in connection to the kidnapping of Linda Stoltzfoos, who was last seen on Father's Day. The criminal complaint says Smoker "used his cellphone in that exact area the same day Linda disappeared, and a witness saw Smoker's red Kia parked behind a business in the area."

Continuing Coverage: US Marshals Arrest New York Couple In Connection With Attack.

The [Stonington-Mystic \(CT\) Patch](#) (7/13, 1.03M) reports Stonington Police Capt. Todd Olson announced Monday the arrest of Philip Sarnar and Emily Orbay, who will "be charged in connection with an attack at the Quality Inn motel in Mystic on June 26." Olson also "said Sarnar and Orbay are in custody and will be extradited to Connecticut to face assault and hate crime charges."

[Hartford \(CT\) Courant](#) (7/13, Dempsey, 698K) also reports.

Two Plead Guilty To Nebraska Pharmacy Bomb Plot.

The [Kearney \(NE\) Hub](#) (7/13, 80K) reports Hyrum T. Wilson of Nebraska and William Burgamy IV of Maryland "appeared Friday in federal court in Virginia," where they "pleaded guilty to conspiracy to use explosives, conspiracy to distribute controlled substances and money laundering." Prosecutors "said Burgamy ran a website called NeverPressedRX that sold oxycodone and other drugs over the darknet," while Wilson "supplied the drugs." They had "conspired to blow up Cody's U-Save Pharmacy, which sits five minutes from Hyrum Family Value Pharmacy in Auburn."

Illinois Men Charged With Drug Crimes.

[Morningstar](#) (7/13, 73K) reports that following a federal investigation, five Illinois men were indicted in connection to the Chicago cocaine trade. Joshua Moore, The indictment says John Heard, Earnest Greene, Jose Fontanez, and Antonio Maxey sold or were connected to the trafficking of the drug.

FBI Investigating Illinois Bank Robbery.

The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (7/13, 875K) reports that the FBI "is searching for a man who robbed a Glen Ellyn bank over the weekend in the west suburbs." The robbery "happened about 11 a.m. July 11 at the Glen Ellyn Bank and Trust."

FBI Supporting Investigating Into Shooting Death Of Kansas Child.

[KMBC-TV](#) Kansas City, MO (7/13, 205K) reports that the FBI is supporting the investigation into the death of LeGenD Taliferro, who "was asleep in his apartment complex off Bushman Road when someone opened fire on the apartment last month" and died from a gunshot wound. U.S. Attorney General William Barr "directed agents from the FBI, the U.S. Marshals, Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to be on the ground in Kansas City to help local and state authorities."

Florida Man Surrenders To FBI In Connection To 2015 Double Shooting.

The [Miami Herald](#) (7/13, Neal) reports Jonathan Cifuentes "surrendered to the FBI upon arriving at Miami International Airport Friday" after five years on the run. Miami police "believe Cifuentes shot two people after being asked to leave the club" on April 5, 2015. The FBI "offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to Cifuentes' arrest and conviction."

New York Man Facing Federal Kidnapping Charges.

The [Dunkirk \(NY\) Observer](#) (7/13, 23K) reports Patrick James Montross is "facing federal charges after being apprehended in connection to a kidnapping incident involving a teenager that crossed the state lines of California and Nevada last week." The investigation began July 8, when Siskiyou County Sheriff's Office deputies "responded to the Happy Camp, Calif., area...to investigate a report of a missing 14-year-old girl." The investigation "revealed the missing teenager may have left the area with" Montross, who "was visiting the area from Western New York." The FBI supported the investigation.

Guam Man Facing Drug Charges.

[KUAM-TV](#) Dededo, GUM (7/13) reports Mark Mayo, who "was arrested in the early hours of November 2019," faces conspiracy to "distribute meth and attempted possession of meth with intent to distribute charges." The investigation into Mayo began after Lovelia Mendoza cooperated with the federal government in its case against former Yona mayor Jesse Blas, who was convicted.

The [Guam Daily Post](#) (7/13) reports Mayo "was denied his request to suppress the statements he gave to the FBI the day he was taken into custody last November." Defense attorney Rawlen Mantanona "contends his client was impaired, as Mayo has been using meth for a significant period of time."

Federal Prosecutors Say New Jersey Man "Sextorted" California Girl.

The [San Jose \(CA\) Mercury News](#) (7/13, Gartrell, 456K) reports from San Francisco, "A New Jersey man is facing charges of distributing child pornography for allegedly posing as a teen boy online, convincing a Bay Area girl to send him sexually explicit pictures and video, then posting the content on his Snapchat account." The Mercury News adds, "Barry David Goldberg, 55, was charged in late June with distribution of child pornography, a federal offense, according

to recently-unsealed court records. A sworn statement by an FBI agent says Goldberg was arrested after authorities identified him as a man who was both posing as a fictitious 16-year-old boy named Ryan Strauss and as Ryan's sister, Kalie. On June 30, federal Magistrate Judge Laurel Beeler released Goldberg to home pretrial confinement, according to court records. He is set to be arraigned on Friday."

FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

Georgia Man Pleads Guilty To Disrupting PPE Shipments.

[AllOnGeorgia](#) (7/13) reports, "Christopher Dobbins has pleaded guilty to the charge of reckless damage to a protected computer for deleting and modifying his former employer's electronic shipping and other business records. Dobbins's former employer is a medical packaging company that ships, among other things, personal protective equipment ('PPE') to healthcare providers. Dobbins's conduct delayed the shipment of PPE during the COVID-19 pandemic. 'Thanks to the quick reaction of the medical packaging company in contacting the FBI, we were able to react quickly and arrest this disgruntled employee,' said Chris Hacker, Special Agent in Charge of FBI Atlanta. 'During this world wide epidemic it is imperative that we make sure crucial medical supplies are not disrupted or diverted from the front lines of medical care.'"

Grand Jury Indicts Madison Man For Alleged PPP Fraud.

The [Wisconsin State Journal](#) (7/10, Richgels, 372K) reports, "A federal grand jury this week indicted a Madison man for alleged fraud in applying for federal aid related to the COVID-19 pandemic, federal authorities reported." Ahmad Kanan, aka Ahmed Kanaan "is charged with wire fraud and money laundering. The indictment alleges that he committed wire fraud and money laundering in connection with applications for loans through the Paycheck Protection Program."

Mother Of Los Angeles Councilman Is Implicated In Corruption Probe.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, 4.64M) reports, "The corruption case against Los Angeles City Councilman Jose Huizar is spangled with influential City Hall figures – wealthy real estate developers, well-connected lobbyists and a campaign fundraiser known for raking in cash for politicians," but "investigators have also turned the spotlight on a less likely figure in a pay-to-play scandal: an elderly woman who emigrated from Zacatecas, Mexico, once worked in a meatpacking plant, and has lived in a modest home in Boyle Heights." Isidra Huizar, "the 80-year-old mother of the embattled councilman, is one of the unnamed figures mentioned in the sprawling case, according to three sources familiar with the investigation. Federal prosecutors have alleged, without mentioning her by name, that Isidra Huizar helped her son launder bribe money that he received between 2014 and 2017."

Loughlin, Giannulli Seek Reduced Bond In College Admissions Case.

The [Boston Herald](#) (7/13, Dwinell, 410K) reports, "Disgraced Hollywood actress Lori Loughlin, fired by the Hallmark Channel after being embroiled in the college cheating scandal, is appealing to a federal judge in Boston to lower her bond from \$1 million to \$100,000." Loughlin, 55, "has already pleaded guilty to bribing her daughters' way into the University of Southern California as fake crew recruits. She and her designer husband, Mossimo Giannulli, 56, face an Aug. 21 sentencing in Boston. On Monday, Loughlin and Giannulli appealed to federal Judge Nathaniel Gorton to release 'their \$1,000,000 bonds secured by their property, reducing their bail from \$1,000,000 to \$100,000, and removing the requirement that the \$100,000 bonds be secured by money or property.' The Hollywood power couple's attorneys 'respectfully submitted' the cut, adding prosecutors in U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling's Boston office did not object."

[Fox News](#) (7/13, Young, 27.59M) reports, "Lori Loughlin and Massimo Giannulli are moving on from their posh Bel-Air mansion and the property is now in escrow, according to new reports. The couple – who are both awaiting sentencing for their roles in the infamous college admissions scandal after pleading guilty in May – is said to have entertained a number of offers for the palatial Spanish-style estate, settling on a number that still nets them a profit on the property, a source told 'Entertainment Tonight' on Monday." They "listed their Bel Air home in January for \$28.65 million, the outlet reported, but sold the sprawling mansion for an estimated \$18 million to Tinder co-founder Justin Mateen, according to Variety, which cited sources in identifying the estimated sale price."

FBI Continues Probe Of Independence, Missouri Government.

The [Kansas City \(MO\) Star](#) (7/13, Hancock, Hardy, Vockrodt, 549K) reports, "The FBI has once again requested records from Independence City Hall, the latest in a series of inquiries by federal authorities over the last year that appear to be focused on a pair of utilities contracts and medical marijuana regulations." The Star adds, "Late last month, the FBI asked the city to provide coordinate maps of neighborhood boundaries within city council districts. The request, which The Star obtained through its own open records request, adds to a set of recent demands from federal law enforcement." In March, the city "received a grand jury subpoena seeking records of non-public meetings of the Independence City Council and a records request from the FBI for minutes of specific council meetings. In May, the FBI asked for receipts submitted by four members of the Independence City Council for reimbursement"

Second Retired California Police Officer Charged In Alleged eBay Harassment Scheme.

[Silicon Valley Voice \(CA\)](#) (7/13, Towne) reports, "'Good plan and cover, Brian.' That was a what eBay international security executive and retired Santa Clara police sergeant Phil Cooke texted to co-conspirator Brian Gilbert, in August 2019 about the plan to mislead police and FBI agents investigating a harassment campaign against Massachusetts newsletter publishers after posting articles critical of former eBay CEO Devin Wenig's leadership." Cooke "was charged last week in the criminal conspiracy, in which six other eBay security executives, including retired SCPD captain Brian Gilbert, were charged in June. Last week, U.S. Attorney Andrew E. Lelling named Cooke as 'Supervisor 1' who appears in the complaint and other documents in the case."

FBI Reportedly Probing Missouri Ambulance Purchase Linked To Lieutenant Governor.

The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (7/13, Erickson, Suntrup, 685K) reports from Jefferson City, Missouri, "In a move that could entangle Missouri's lieutenant governor, federal investigators have started probing a controversial ambulance purchase deal in mid-Missouri." Cole County Commissioner Jeff Hoelscher "told the Post-Dispatch he spoke with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 9 about the commission's decision to forgo buying ambulances from a company connected to Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe. 'I will say that I can confirm that I was contacted by the FBI related to an ongoing investigation by them,' said Hoelscher, the eastern district commissioner. 'I am assured that I am not the subject or target of the investigation.'"

The [Jefferson City \(MO\) News Tribune](#) (7/14, Haldiman, 48K) reports, "The Cole County Commission today plans to discuss calls the commissioners have received from federal investigators regarding a controversial purchase of ambulances for the county." On Monday, "the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported Federal Bureau of Investigation officials last week called Eastern District Commissioner Jeff Hoelscher and Western District Commissioner Kris Scheperle about the commission's decision to forgo buying ambulances from a company connected to Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe. 'They wanted to let us know that it was related to the ambulance purchases, but that they were not looking into anything about county government,' Hoelscher said. Scheperle added: 'We and the county were not who they were looking at. They just wanted to give us a "heads-up" that they were looking into the purchases.'"

San Francisco Physician Settles Medicare Fraud Allegations.

The [San Francisco Patch](#) (7/13, Karnes) reports from San Francisco, "Dr. Parvez Fatteh has agreed to pay \$400,000 to resolve allegations that he violated the False Claims Act by charging Medicare for physical and occupational therapy performed by unlicensed people, the US Attorney's Office announced in San Francisco on Friday." Dr. Fatteh "owned and operated San Francisco Pain Management and Physical Therapy, which operated under the name Total Health Plus, a clinic that provided physical and occupational therapy and chiropractor services. 'Healthcare fraud is not a victimless crime. Medical professionals who fraudulently bill our government's healthcare programs are stealing from taxpayers and robbing vulnerable patients of necessary medical care,' said FBI Special Agent in Charge Bennett."

Probe Of Alleged Fraud Scheme At Maryland College Continues.

[Bethesda \(MD\) Magazine](#) (7/13, Peetz) reports, "New details about a fraud scheme that caused 'financial loss' at Montgomery College last year could be made public in the fall." BM adds, "In September, the college announced it had fallen victim to a fraud scheme, but neither school officials nor federal investigators disclosed what happened or how much money was lost. Officials have been tight-lipped since, citing the ongoing investigation. In an email last week, Montgomery College spokesman Marcus Rosano wrote that the investigation has not been completed and declined to disclose how much money the college lost." According to BM, "Officials at the Baltimore field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which is looking into the fraud, declined to comment last week."

Former SCANA executive to plead guilty Tuesday in VC Summer case.

The [Lexington County \(SC\) Chronicle](#) (7/13, Bellume, 20K) reports former SCANA COO Steve Byrne is set to plead guilty on Tuesday "in a \$9 billion nuclear fraud" case. In his position with SCANA, Byrne "has admitted to knowingly engaging with others in fraud during construction of 2 Westinghouse AP100 reactors" as part of the VC Summer nuclear project. Federal officials "are believed to have offered him a deal to testify against fellow executives and their lawyers who may have participated in the conspiracy."

Interstate Medicare Kickback Scheme Linked To New Jersey Physician.

The [Shore News Network \(NJ\)](#) (7/13) reports from Newark, New Jersey, "Seven people have been charged for their roles in conspiracies to pay and receive kickbacks in exchange for ordering genetic tests, U.S. Attorney Craig Carpenito announced" on Monday. According to SNN, "Three complaints were unsealed today charging the following individuals with conspiring to violate the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute: Lee Besen, 64, of Waverly, Pennsylvania, is charged in two separate complaints, one with Kimberly Schmidt, 45, of Moscow, Pennsylvania, and the other with Terri Haines, of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. The third complaint charges Yitzachok 'Barry' Kurtzer, 60, and Robin Kurtzer, 59, both of Monsey, New York; Amber Harris, 28, of Scranton, Pennsylvania; and Shanelyn Kennedy, 25, of Scranton, Pennsylvania. 'Health Care fraud costs our country billions each year, which is not just absorbed, it is passed down to the consumer,' Acting Special Agent in Charge Joe Denahan of the Newark FBI Field Office said."

GA Addiction Centers In \$122 Million Settlement Of Fraud Claims.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (7/13, Hart, 895K) reports, "A company that runs mental health and substance abuse treatment centers in Georgia and other states will pay \$122 million to settle more than a dozen federal whistleblower lawsuits alleging numerous violations, including that it admitted people who didn't need to be hospitalized, kept patients longer than necessary and routinely used drugs to sedate and chemically restrain patients. Universal Health Services will pay \$117 million to resolve allegations its facilities falsely billed Medicare and other government health programs from 2006 through 2018 for medically unnecessary and

inappropriate services. The settlement includes a case that accused the company's psychiatric facility in Atlanta, Anchor Hospital, of using chemical restraints to discipline patients."

California Restaurateur Convicted Of Fraud Is Sued For Unpaid Rent.

The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (7/13, Kramer, 2.67M) reports, "San Francisco restaurateur Nick Bovis, who pleaded guilty to felony wire fraud charges in a City Hall corruption investigation, has been sued over alleged unpaid rent at his closed restaurant Lefty's Ballpark Buffet." According to the Chronicle, "Bovis and his wife, Connie Morris, allegedly failed to pay more than \$221,000 in rent for the Lefty's location at 145 Jefferson St. in Fisherman's Wharf, landlord Fong Real Estate Company said in a lawsuit filed July 9. Bovis and Morris allegedly failed to pay rent owed in November 2019 and didn't resolve a notice of default in December, according to the lawsuit filed in San Francisco County Superior Court. The suit, a civil claim, is unrelated to the federal criminal charges from a corruption investigation centered on former Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru. Bovis was originally arrested by the FBI in January for attempting to bribe a San Francisco airport commissioner alongside Nuru."

CYBER DIVISION

Britain To Bar Huawei From Its 5G Wireless Networks.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Nakashima, Booth, 14.2M) reports Britain will bar the use of Huawei equipment in its high-speed 5G network, "according to officials familiar with the matter, in what is a major blow to the Chinese technology giant and a significant win for the Trump administration, which has been pressing allies to shun the firm." The British decision, expected to be announced Tuesday, is "part of a growing shift away from China in the global 5G competition." The [Independent \(UK\)](#) (7/13, Stubbley, 1.36M) reports it is "thought the government will announce no new Huawei equipment can be installed in the network from as early as next year." There will also be "a so-called 'rip out' date by which all the existing Huawei technology must be removed." However, it remains "unclear how quickly ministers will attempt to phase out the Chinese telecoms firm, whose involvement in 5G is already capped at 35 per cent."

[BBC News Online \(UK\)](#) (7/14, 1.02M) reports the move is "in part a result of pressure from Washington." However, the "precise time frame and details of the phase-out will be crucial in determining how the decision is received." The government in January announced that "Huawei would be kept out of the sensitive core of the 5G network and limited to 35% market share of its other parts." A key reason is "the Trump Administration has continued what one UK official calls a campaign of 'unrelenting pressure; on the company."

[Politico](#) (7/13, Cooper, 4.29M) reports that since British Prime Minister Boris Johnson took office, "mounting concerns about alleged espionage by Chinese firms, human rights abuses and protectionist trade practices have given rise to increasingly urgent demands for a complete rethink of the UK's stance" towards China. According to Politico, "Johnson's decision earlier this month to grant new visa rights to millions of Hong Kongers, in retaliation for draconian anti-protest laws China imposed on the territory, has infuriated Beijing and led to warnings of repercussions." The AP adds, "A widely expected government U-turn on Chinese tech giant Huawei's role in supplying the UK's 5G network – forced by US sanctions on the firm – will anger Beijing even further, experts say."

Europe Divided On Huawei As US Pressure Grows. [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (7/13, Wintour, 4.19M) reports US national security advisor O'Brien "will meet his counterparts from France, Italy, the UK and Germany in Paris this week to urge European nations to debar the Chinese technology company Huawei from Europe's 5G networks." The meetings "underline how most European governments are facing similar choices to the UK...on how far and quickly to exclude Huawei, and with what consequences in terms of potential Chinese reprisals." France

has" said it will not ban Huawei equipment outright from the country's 5G network but is encouraging operators not to use it and granting only temporary authorisations of up to eight years to those companies that already do – SFR and Bouygues Telecom."

Cybersecurity Expert Says China Could Use TikTok For Espionage.

[Bloomberg](#) (7/13, 4.73M) Technology interviews Kiersten Todt, managing director of the Cyber Readiness Institute and cybersecurity adviser to former president Obama, about "potential cyber threats from TikTok." Todt asserts that the TikTok app could be used for intelligence collection purposes.

TikTok's Threat To Security May Be No Worse Than Other Apps On Your Smartphone. [NBC News](#) (7/13, Collier, 6.14M) reports that, because TikTok "collects significant information on its users," the app has become "a focus of concern among privacy watchdogs, culminating last week in reports that the US is positioning itself to ban TikTok." The app has become "the subject of widespread concern and paranoia, even reaching into the world of esports, with the popular gamer known as Ninja tweeting that he was deleting the app over privacy worries." However, experts say the "reality of TikTok's threat is far more mundane and not particularly unique." While users "should be skeptical of the app's data collection and handling, the attention paid to the app owes more to how TikTok has ended up in the middle of the growing societal concern about data privacy and increasing paranoia about the threat of China."

Wells Fargo Tells Employees To Delete TikTok From Their Company Devices. [CNN International](#) (7/13, Fung) reports a Wells Fargo spokesperson "said the company had identified a 'small number of employees with corporate-owned devices who had installed the TikTok application.'" The statement said, "Due to concerns about TikTok's privacy and security controls and practices, and because corporate-owned devices should be used for company business only, we have directed those employees to remove the app from their devices."

A Guide To Whether To Delete TikTok. The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Fowler, 14.2M) reports on whether users should delete the TikTok app from their devices. Advising everyone to "just delete TikTok out of caution isn't so simple – it has been downloaded more than 2 billion times, and millions of young Americans are relying on it for connection during the coronavirus pandemic." Patrick Jackson, chief technology officer of privacy company Disconnect, provides insights on "what data the TikTok app actually gathers." He said, "TikTok doesn't appear to grab any more personal information than Facebook. That's still an appalling amount of data to mine about the lives of Americans. But there's scant evidence that TikTok is sharing our data with China, and we should be wary of xenophobia dressed up as privacy concerns."

Cyberthreats Against US Courts Rising.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Starks, 4.29M) reports in its Weekly Cybersecurity newsletter that courts are "a potentially lucrative source of sensitive data for hackers, and cyberattacks on the judicial branch are more than just theoretical, with two ransomware attacks since the pandemic." A ransomware attack locked the networks of the Texas Office of Court Administration in May, "and the courts have been working to recover ever since." Joseph Baxter, president of the Conference of State Court Administrators, "said that compared to prominent, massive hacks like the 2017 Equifax breach, 'the judiciary has all that information and then some and in greater volumes that dwarf those private companies.'" He "said that it's 'mind-boggling' to think what hackers might do with data stolen from courts." Courts are pushing Congress "for direct financial aid during the pandemic, including to account for increased cybersecurity expenses."

DOD Names New Top Uniformed Cyber Adviser.

[C4ISR & Networks](#) (7/13, Pomerleau) reports Rear Adm. William Chase III "has been selected to be the senior military adviser for cyber policy to the undersecretary of defense for policy as well as the deputy principal cyber adviser to the defense secretary." Chase will "replace Maj.

Gen. Dennis Crall, who was recently selected to service as the director of command, control, communications, and computers/cyber with J-6 and chief information officer for the Joint Staff as well as his third star." Chase is currently "serving as the deputy director there." With his dual roles, Chase "will serve as the top uniformed cyber policy official at DOD, overseeing a wide portfolio to include implementation of policy, strategy and personnel matters pertaining to cyber issues across the department."

Defense Bill May Rewrite How The US Does Cyber Defense.

[NextGov](#) (7/13) reports a new Office of Joint Cyber Planning "proposed in an amendment to the 2021 defense policy bill aims to help government and private actors respond more quickly to cyber attacks mounted from Russia, China, and elsewhere." The amendment reads, "The Office shall lead Government-wide and public-private planning for cyber defense campaigns, including the development of a set of coordinated actions to respond to and recover from significant cyber incidents." It would "allocate \$15 million to stand up the office as part of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA." Jonathan Reiber, senior director for cyber strategy at AttackIQ and a former chief strategy officer for cyber policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, "said that making those improvements is essential to national security, especially as more adversaries rely on online operations to confront US power."

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Supreme Court Rules Federal Execution May Proceed.

[CNN](#) (7/14, De Vogue, Reporter, 83.16M) reports, "The Supreme Court cleared the way for the resumption of the federal death penalty, in an unsigned order released after 2 a.m. ET Tuesday. The court wiped away a lower court order temporarily blocking the execution of convicted killer Daniel Lewis Lee in a 5-4 vote." Lee, "a one-time white supremacist who killed a family of three, was scheduled to be executed Monday in what would have been the first federal execution in 17 years. On Monday, a federal judge blocked the planned execution of Lee, and three others, citing ongoing challenges to the federal government's lethal injection protocol. The US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit late Monday refused the Justice Department's request to stay the injunction. The Justice Department had appealed the ruling to the Supreme Court."

The [AP](#) (7/13, Balsamo) reports that on Monday, US District Judge Tanya Chutkan "ordered a new delay in federal executions, hours before the first lethal injection was scheduled to be carried out at a federal prison in Indiana." The Administration "immediately appealed to a higher court, asking that the executions move forward." Chutkan "said there are still legal issues to resolve and that 'the public is not served by short-circuiting legitimate judicial process.'"

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Fuchs, 18.61M) says Chutkan "issued a preliminary injunction against the planned execution of Daniel Lewis Lee, citing the 'extreme pain and needless suffering' that could result from the lethal injection protocol the government planned to use." According to the Times, "It was the latest in a flurry of court rulings surrounding the case of Mr. Lee, the first of three federal death row prisoners scheduled to be executed this week." Lee, who "was scheduled to be executed at 4 p.m. at the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute," was "set to be executed for his part in the 1996 killing of a family of three." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Berman, 14.2M), [Politico](#) (7/13, Gerstein, 4.29M), and [Reuters](#) (7/13, Woolston, Allen) have more on Chutkan's ruling.

NYTimes Report: White House Lawyer Lobbied To End Silencer Ban.

In an article titled, "Inside The White House, A Gun Industry Lobbyist Delivers For His Former Patrons," the [New York Times](#) (7/13, Laforgia, Vogel, 18.61M) reports that Michael Williams

"spent nearly two years helping to run a trade group focused on expanding sales of firearm silencers by American manufacturers," but he "could not achieve one of the industry's main goals: overturning a ban on sales to private foreign buyers enacted by the State Department to protect American troops in Afghanistan and elsewhere." The Times adds, "Then Mr. Williams joined the Trump administration." The Times adds, "As a White House lawyer, he pushed to overturn the prohibition, raising the issue with influential administration officials and creating pressure within the State Department." On Friday, the State Department "lifted the ban," which "paved the way for as much as \$250 million a year in possible new overseas sales for companies that...Williams had championed as general counsel of the American Suppressor Association."

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Canadian Diplomat Says Documents Too Sensitive To Give To Huawei Executive's Attorneys.

[CTV News \(CAN\)](#) (7/13, 240K) reports that the Canadian government "is trying to block Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou's access to some documents in her extradition case, arguing in affidavits that disclosing sensitive information would harm national security." CTV News adds, "In an affidavit filed in Federal Court, Global Affairs Canada's director general in South Asia says if sensitive information were released to Meng's legal team, it could undermine Canada's diplomatic strategy and may risk harm to Canadian lives." David Hartman "says China regularly blames foreign governments for the consequences of its actions and it's in Canada's interest to ensure the management of that relationship isn't harmed by the disclosure of sensitive information. 'Generally speaking, such disclosure would inflame tensions between the governments of Canada and China, and would, necessarily, provoke a response harmful to bilateral relations and Canadian interests,' says Hartman's affidavit dated June 26."

FBI Hunting For New Zealand Pornographer After \$20 Million Judgment.

[ONE News \(NZL\)](#) (7/13, 21K) reports, "The FBI and lawyers for 22 women are continuing a global hunt for New Zealand pornographer Michael James Pratt and millions of dollars worth of alleged hidden assets." Pratt, "accused of tricking women into performing in sex videos in southern California hotel rooms and posting them on popular porn websites, disappeared after the women filed a US civil lawsuit resulting in a \$19.4 million judgement in their favour. Pratt, 36, also faces life in prison if arrested and found guilty in the US on criminal charges including sex trafficking by force, fraud and coercion. 'Pratt remains at large,' an FBI spokesperson told AAP."

OTHER FBI NEWS

Pandemic Leads To Early Release For Missouri Pharmacist Convicted Of Diluting Medication.

[KCTV-TV](#) Kansas City, MO (7/13, Ricono, Smith, 133K) reports from Kansas City, Missouri, "A Kansas City pharmacist who diluted prescriptions for profit will be released from federal prison early." KCTV-TV "has learned Robert Courtney qualifies for home confinement as part of a new federal program to help with prison populations. Families of Courtney's victims are starting to be notified, and they are very upset." Courtney "diluted all sorts of important lifesaving medications, and he did it for money. He was supposed to spend the next 30 years in prison, but now the COVID-19 pandemic is changing the terms his sentence. Courtney directly prepared medications for cancer patients and delivered them to doctors. A pharmaceutical rep noticed he had more patients than medicine and raised a red flag. An FBI sting operation eventually caught Courtney red-handed."

Texas Judge Hosts Human Trafficking Panel Ahead Of Operation Freedom Anniversary.

The [Katy \(TX\) Times](#) (7/13, Sadek, 21K) reports, "With the approaching first anniversary of Operation Freedom, Fort Bend County Judge KP George hosted a Facebook Live panel with several community members and elected officials to discuss human and sex trafficking on July 9." Operation Freedom "was a joint investigation conducted in the summer of 2019 by 22 agencies at the local, state and federal level that resulted in the arrest of 64 people involved in human trafficking in Fort Bend County. Five adults and two girls aged 15 and 17 were rescued. According to Micah Gamboa, executive director of Elijah Rising, human trafficking often involves force, fraud, and coercion to exploit the victim's vulnerability, drawing them into the commercial sex trade." The Times adds, "FBI Houston Special Agent Richard Rennison emphasized that force, fraud, or coercion are not necessary for victims under the age of 18 – even if the victim participates voluntarily, it is still a crime."

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Trump Retweets Criticism Of CDC, Claims "Very Good" Relationship With Fauci.

Coverage of the federal response to the coronavirus pandemic focuses on the reported rift between the White House and NIAID Director Fauci, with the President insisting his relationship with Fauci is "very good" despite recent criticism from Administration officials and the President himself. The President is also getting attention for retweeting criticism of US health officials and agencies posted over the weekend by a former television game show host.

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Lambert, Holland) reports the President "took a swipe at health experts in his government leading the U.S. response to the coronavirus." The President "[retweeted](#) to his 83 million followers the accusations of a former game show host that 'everyone is lying,' including" the CDC. Chuck Woolery wrote Sunday night "without citing evidence," "The most outrageous lies are the ones about Covid 19. Everyone is lying. The CDC, Media, Democrats, our Doctors, not all but most, that we are told to trust." [Politico](#) (7/13, Forgey, 4.29M) reports that "in another post Trump [retweeted](#), Woolery claimed there exists 'so much evidence, yes scientific evidence, that schools should open this fall. It's worldwide and it's overwhelming. BUT NO.'"

Trump also retweeted a segment of a Woolery podcast that was critical of Fauci. The [New York Post](#) (7/13, Bowden, 4.57M) reports the President later "defended what he called a 'very good relationship'" with Fauci. Trump told reporters, "I have a very good relationship with Dr. Fauci, I've had for a long time, right from the beginning. ... I find him to be a very nice person. ... I don't always agree with him – I closed the borders, as you know, to China, I did the ban on China, heavily infected and we saved tens of thousands of lives – and Dr. Fauci will admit that was a good decision."

[Bloomberg](#) (7/13, Sink, 4.73M) says Trump's "conciliatory tone was a notable shift after White House officials over the weekend circulated to reporters a dossier of guidance Fauci had made early in the pandemic that was subsequently reversed," which "came after Trump publicly criticized Fauci in a pair of television interviews." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, McGinley, Abutaleb, 14.2M) reports the White House's efforts to undermine Fauci have "drawn rebukes from public health experts, scientists and mostly Democratic politicians, who argue it is dangerous for the Trump administration to disparage a highly respected government infectious-disease expert as the coronavirus continues to exact a heavy toll on the nation."

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Jackson, Fritze, 10.31M) reports, "As some White House aides dismissed reports of internal tension, others aired their beef with Fauci publicly." Director of Trade and Manufacturing Policy Navarro said, "Dr. Fauci has a good bedside manner with the public but he has been wrong about everything I have interacted with him on." [The Hill](#) (7/13, Samuels, Hellmann, 2.98M) reports HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Adm. Brett Giroir

"downplayed any rift within the White House coronavirus task force before offering some criticism of Fauci." Giroir said, "I respect Dr. Fauci a lot, but Dr. Fauci is not 100% right and he also doesn't necessarily, and he admits that, have the whole national interest in mind." Stephen Collinson writes on the [CNN](#) (7/13, 83.16M) website, "Instead of focusing on the out-of-control coronavirus disaster in Florida and other early opening states, the White House is trying to destroy the reputation of one of America's most respected public servants...for telling the truth about how bad things are getting."

The [AP](#) (7/13, Colvin, Lemire, Miller) says Fauci "has been increasingly sidelined by the White House as he sounds alarms about the virus, a most unwelcome message at a time when Trump is focused on pushing an economic rebound." A [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Bump, 14.2M) analysis says, "It's not unusual that President Trump and his team should try to attack or undercut someone," but what is "unusual about the White House's efforts to undermine [Fauci] is that the only way in which Fauci has undercut the president is by being honest about the moment." The Post adds, "What Fauci has done is make obvious both that the pandemic is as bad as it seems and that there are ways in which it can be addressed which at times conflict with what Trump would like to see."

On the [CBS Evening News](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 4, 1:50, O'Donnell, 4.36M), Paula Reid reported, "This afternoon, President Trump put a positive spin on his relationship with Dr. Anthony Fauci. ... [But] Fauci tells CBS News he is now 'persona non grata' at the White House after months of speaking his mind and contradicting the President. ... This weekend, White House advisors openly criticized Fauci, some of whom feel he doesn't represent the interests of the Trump Administration." [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 4, 2:10, Holt, 6.11M) similarly reported that the nation's "most prominent medical voice in this crisis...finds himself increasingly at odds with the Trump Administration tonight and a target as he becomes more blunt about what we face and the response." NBC's Geoff Bennett reported Fauci is "under fire from within...targeted by a White House effort to discredit him and his dire warnings about the coronavirus crisis. ... Fauci no longer briefs the President and hasn't spoke to him in more than a month. In recent weeks, Fauci has become increasingly vocal about the country's coronavirus response."

Jonathan Karl of [ABC World News Tonight](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 2, 2:25, Muir, 7.15M) reported, "Fauci says he hasn't briefed the President in more than two months. Multiple White House officials tell ABC News that he has a nickname in the West Wing: 'Dr. Gloom and Doom.' Today, he ignored it all, focusing on the health crisis." Fauci: "We haven't even begun to see the end of it yet." The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Shear, Weiland, 18.61M) reports Fauci "returned to the White House" on Monday, one day "after President Trump's press office tried to undermine the reputation of the nation's top infectious disease expert with an anonymously attributed list of what it said were his misjudgments in the early days of the coronavirus." Fauci met with Chief of Staff Meadows; White House officials "declined to comment on what was discussed in the conversation...though one official called it a good conversation and said they continued to have a positive relationship."

[CNBC](#) (7/13, Lovelace, 3.62M) reports on its website that in an interview on Monday, Fauci "said the United States is seeing a surge in new Covid-19 infections because the country never shut down entirely." Fauci said, "We did not shut down entirely, We need to draw back a few yards and say, 'OK, we can't stay shut down forever.' ...You've got to shut down but then you've got to gradually open."

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 14.2M) highlights the Administration's moves to discredit Fauci. The Post says Trump "told Fox News that Dr. Fauci 'is a nice man, but he's made a lot of mistakes,'" and says the "unknowns, mistakes and discovery are at the core of science that Dr. Fauci has devoted his career to pursuing." The Post then highlights past statements regarding the pandemic made by Administration officials, and concludes that "we don't so much worry for Dr. Fauci ... we worry plenty for the country, which is heading in the wrong direction as Dr. Fauci's advice is ignored."

Karen Tumulty writes in her column for the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 14.2M) that the White House is treating Fauci "like some kind of political opponent tells you a lot about why the United States is doing worse than so many other countries in the battle to contain the novel coronavirus." Tumulty adds, "Trump, who is allergic to admitting error, has apparently decided that he doesn't want to listen to Fauci's expert advice anymore – if, in fact, he ever really did." However, "as for the rest of us, we should be learning and adjusting as Fauci does. It could mean the difference between life and death." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Howell, 492K) and [Axios](#) (7/13, Ayesh, 521K) are among the other outlets reporting on the alleged rift.

US Case Count Nears 1% Of Total Population. All three broadcast networks led their Monday evening newscasts with coverage of the continuing rise in new coronavirus cases as the total US case count neared 3.5 million and deaths topped 138,000. On [ABC World News Tonight Vi](#) (7/13, lead story, 5:35, 7.52M), David Muir said, "Cases are rising in 39 states in the country, and...about one out of every 100 Americans has now tested positive." California is "shutting down all indoor dining, movie theaters, museums, and zoos," and the Los Angeles Unified School District announced it "will not open their classrooms when school starts next month. ... After Florida reported 15,000 new cases in a single day, the highest daily total of any state at any time in the pandemic, [on Monday it] added 12,000 more."

Norah O'Donnell said on the [CBS Evening NewsVi](#) (7/13, lead story, 4:10, 4.36M), "California is effectively back under lockdown tonight. ... Closures come as coronavirus infections are now growing in 40 states and at a rate nearly twice as fast as in April. In Florida, new cases have jumped so dramatically that the Sunshine State now ranks ahead of all but three countries in infections worldwide." O'Donnell said Fauci warned Monday that "we haven't even begun to see end of the pandemic." Lester Holt opened [NBC Nightly NewsVi](#) (7/13, lead story, 3:15, 5.82M) by saying, "There are any number of fresh signs this country's weak and uneven response to the COVID pandemic is falling apart at the seams. Daily infections up. Hospital admissions up. And deaths up, too." Mola Lenghi reported on the [CBS Evening NewsVi](#) (7/13, story 2, 1:45, O'Donnell, 4.36M) that in Arizona, "one out of every four" residents tested has been positive for COVID-19.

Mulvaney: "We Still Have A Testing Problem In This Country."

[Politico](#) (7/13, Oprysko, 4.29M) reports that on Monday, former Acting Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney "criticized the U.S. coronavirus testing process, calling his family's difficulties in obtaining tests and delays in the results 'inexcusable' in the seventh month of the pandemic, splitting from his former boss' repeated boasts about testing." Mulvaney told [CNBC](#), "I know it isn't popular to talk about in some Republican circles, but we still have a testing problem in this country. ... That is simply inexcusable at this point in the pandemic."

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Santucci, 10.31M) reports Mulvaney "argued that any future relief package should focus on COVID itself as the 'root cause' of the recession, rather than on remedies like stimulus checks." [The Hill](#) (7/13, Seipel, 2.98M) also covers Mulvaney's remarks, while [NBC Nightly NewsVi](#) (7/13, story 3, 2:25, Holt, 5.82M) surveyed delays in testing across the US.

Verma Stresses Need To Follow Coronavirus Recommendations.

CMS Administrator Verma said on the [Brian Mudd ShowVi](#) (7/13), "I think it's important for every American to know that as we open up the economy, [it is] very important that we follow those recommendations: wearing a mask; washing your hands; if you're sick, stay at home; and being socially distant." Later in the interview, Verma was asked how long Americans will have to live with masks, social distancing and other precautions. Verma said, "The virus is out there, and until we have a vaccine and until we have large portions of the country that have been vaccinated, I think we're going to have this for some time."

GOP Elected Officials Wary About Jacksonville Convention.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, A1, Epstein, Fandos, Mazzei, 18.61M) reports that as COVID-19 cases "surge in Florida, including 15,300 reported on Sunday, more Republicans are taking a wait-and-see approach" regarding next month's GOP convention in Jacksonville. Rep. Darin LaHood (R-IL) told the Times, "Everybody just assumes no one is going." LaHood "was one of eight House members" who told the Times "they did not plan to attend, joining party veterans" like Sens. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Susan Collins (R-ME), and Charles Grassley (R-IA) "who have already said they will skip the event." However, the Time found that "rank-and file-officials, like locally elected delegates and R.N.C. members...were more inclined to go."

Trump campaign spokesman Hogan Gidley said on [Fox News' The Story](#) (7/13), "We're looking to move forward with [the convention] in Jacksonville. The President is very excited about it, but of course, he wants the American people to be safe."

Texas Supreme Court Allows Houston To Cancel In-Person GOP Convention. The [AP](#) (7/13, Merchant) reports that on Monday, the Texas Supreme Court "upheld Houston's refusal to allow the state Republican convention to hold in-person events in the city due to the coronavirus pandemic." The court dismissed "an appeal of a state district judge's denial of a temporary restraining order sought by the state Republican Party." Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner (D) "said last week that he had directed city lawyers to terminate the contract because he believed the event could not be held safely."

California Rolling Back Reopening As Cases Mount.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, 18.61M) reports that "with cases surging" in California, Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) on Monday "announced one of the most sweeping rollbacks of any state's reopening plans, saying Monday that he would move to close indoor operations statewide for restaurants, wineries, movie theaters, zoos and card rooms, and bars would be forced to close all operations." The [Los Angeles Times](#) (7/13, Gutierrez, 4.64M) reports 30 counties "will be forced to shutter gyms, churches, hair salons, malls and other businesses."

[CNBC](#) (7/13, Higgins-Dunn, 3.62M) reports on its website that California hospitals have "reported an increase in coronavirus patients, growing 28% over a two-week period, he said. There were 6,485 people hospitalized" with COVID-19 as of Sunday. [Reuters](#) (7/13, Shumaker) and the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, A1, Prang, Hobbs, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) also cover the situation in California.

Oregon Faces Rural Outbreaks Of Coronavirus After Earlier Success.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Conger, 18.61M) reports that while California and the state of Washington experienced large, early outbreaks of coronavirus, Oregon had fewer cases, but that may be changing now. The state "is now undergoing a viral surge in rural areas."

NYTimes Analysis: In Pushing To Reopen Schools, DeVos Has Abandoned Advocacy For Local Control.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Green, 18.61M) reports in an analysis that at the outset of the pandemic, Education Secretary DeVos "stuck to the message of decades of conservative education advocacy." DeVos advocated "local and parental control" and "freeing states of federal mandates" but "as President Trump pushes public schools to reopen this fall, Ms. DeVos is demanding they do as Washington says, a stance diametrically opposite to how she has led the department." DeVos "has become the face of the Trump administration's efforts to pry open the schoolhouse doors through force and threats."

The [CBS Evening News](#) (7/13, story 3, 1:45, O'Donnell, 4.36M) reported that the Trump Administration and teacher unions "are at odds" over reopening the nation's schools. CBS' Janet Shamlian added that the Administration is continuing "its full court press to reopen schools." DeVos: "There is nothing in the data that would suggest that kids being back in school is dangerous to them." In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication,

7.57M) says that the scientific, medical, and economic evidence argues for reopening schools in the fall.

Kudlow: Trump Willing To Consider Additional Aid To Help Reopen Schools. NEC Director Kudlow said on [Fox Business' Varney & Co.](#) (7/13, 64K), "We all agree kids need to be in school. Kids staying home do a lot of harm and damage to the kids. I think interpersonal teaching is the best way to do it. Social reacting is very important and of course, you don't want to miss another school year or a school year which would set them back in terms of their actual learning process. Parents will have a hard time, single moms would have a hard time if they're home. Two working parent families would have a difficult time. There are a million reasons why we need to go back to school and I want to say, the President has said that he is willing to consider additional aid...in order to help reopen the schools."

Carson Says There Is "No Evidence" Children Are "Particularly Vulnerable" To COVID-19. HUD Secretary Carson said on [Cheddar Business](#)^{Vi} (7/13), "There is really no evidence that children are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. What we really have to start doing is teaching our young people that even though you're not likely to get it, you should assume that you're an asymptomatic carrier and if you're an asymptomatic carrier, teach them how they should interact with older vulnerable people. That would do a lot for our society very quickly."

Pressley Says She Wouldn't Trust DeVos "To Care For A House Plant." [USA Today](#) (7/13, Cummings, 10.31M) reports Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA) "tore into" DeVos after she backed President Trump's "demand that schools reopen during the coronavirus pandemic, which has killed more than 135,000 people" in the US. In appearances on Sunday morning news shows, DeVos "defend[ed] Trump's insistence that schools reopen even as the number of confirmed cases across the county continue to spike. And she repeated Trump's threat to withhold federal funds from schools that refuse to resume in-person classes." Sunday afternoon, Pressley [tweeted](#), "@BetsyDeVosED you have no plan. Teachers, kids and parents are fearing for their lives. You point to a private sector that has put profits over people and claimed the lives of thousands of essential workers. I wouldn't trust you to care for a house plant let alone my child." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Chiu, 14.2M) says Pressley "was one of several Democratic leaders...who publicly blasted DeVos following her Sunday TV appearances."

Nation's Largest School Districts Rejecting Trump's Calls To Reopen. [Politico](#) (7/13, Gaudiano, Quilantan, 4.29M) says the nation's largest school systems "are rejecting the president across the country, with one city and county after another opting for virtual education or just a few days a week in school. And the president has little power to do anything about it." [Axios](#) (7/13, Fernandez, 521K) reports that public schools in Los Angeles and San Diego "will not be sending children back to campuses next month and will instead administer online classes due to concerns over the ongoing threat of the coronavirus." The districts "are the largest in the country thus far to announce that they will not return to in-person learning in the fall, even as the Trump administration aggressively pushes for schools to do so." Stephanie Gosk said on [NBC Nightly News](#)^{Vi} (7/13, story 5, 2:20, Holt, 6.11M) that New York City schools "may not open either. The Governor saying it will depend on the data."

The [AP](#) (7/13, Licon, Geller) reports that "officials and health experts in hard-hit Miami pushed back against pressure," both from Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) and Trump, "to bring students back to classrooms next month." The AP says DeSantis "has argued that children have not proven to be vectors for the disease and that if retailers like Walmart can be reopened safely, then schools should be able to as well." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Armus, Noack, Beachum, Shammas, Bellware, O'Grady, Wagner, Denham, 14.2M) reports that Miami Mayor Francis Suarez (R) said Monday, "There is no doubt that our death rate is going to go up after the next week or two."

Judge To Hear Arguments On Student Visa Limitations Suit Tuesday.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Binkley) reports that “more than 200 universities are backing a legal challenge to the Trump administration’s new restrictions on international students, arguing that the policy jeopardizes students’ safety and forces schools to reconsider fall plans they have spent months preparing.” The AP says the institutions “have signed court briefs supporting Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as they sue U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in federal court in Boston.” According to the AP, “A judge is scheduled to hear arguments Tuesday in the case brought by Harvard and MIT,” and “if the judge does not suspend the rule, colleges across the U.S. will have until Wednesday to notify ICE if they plan to be fully online this fall.”

[Politico](#) (7/13, Sitrin, 4.29M) reports that 17 states and the District of Columbia are also “suing to block [ICE] from implementing a policy requiring international student visa holders to take all or most of their classes in-person at colleges this fall or risk deportation.” According to Politico, “The proposed ruling rescinds an exemption – issued by ICE’s Student and Exchange Visitor Program on March 13, 2020 – that allowed international students with F-1 and M-1 visas to remain in the country while taking all or most of their classes online as colleges across the nation were pivoting to remote-only learning in the early weeks of the pandemic.” [The Hill](#) (7/13, Kruzel, 2.98M) and [USA Today](#) (7/13, Shesgreen, 10.31M), among other news outlets, also report the story.

Number Of Indian Students In US Has Declined During Trump Administration.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Slater, Masih, 14.2M) reports on the impact Administration’s announcement of “a policy shift that will make it more difficult for international students to remain in the country,” has had on Indian students. The “more than 200,000 Indian students in the United States,” contributed “an estimated \$8 billion to the U.S. economy last year, according to the Institute of International Education.” The Post says the desire to study in the US has decreased “since the start of the Trump administration. Before the 2016 presidential election, the number of Indian students was growing annually by double-digit percentages, but the growth rate fell sharply in the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 academic years.” The policy change “will only deepen the sense that the United States is no longer as welcoming to foreign students as it once was.”

WPost Finds Misdiagnoses, “Lackluster Care” At College Health Centers.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Abelson, 14.2M) reports that it has documented “scores of problems” at college health centers nationwide. With millions preparing to return to school during a pandemic, “the ability of campus health services to safeguard and care for students will be tested as never before – and many colleges appear unprepared for the challenge.” The Post says that it assessed “roughly 1,700 four-year residential campuses” by “interview[ing] more than 200 students, parents and health officials and examin[ing] thousands of pages of medical records and court documents and 5,500 reviews of student health centers posted on Google.” According to the Post, “College students reported they commonly waited days or weeks for appointments and were routinely provided lackluster care. Dozens of students ended up hospitalized – and some near death – for mistakes they said were made at on-campus clinics.”

Giuliani Appears To Contradict Trump’s Reason For Not Releasing Tax Returns.

The [Daily Beast](#) (7/13, Wilstein, 1.39M) reports that while President Trump has claimed for years “that he can’t release his tax returns because at least some of them are still under audit by the IRS,” on Sunday, his attorney, Rudy Giuliani, “blew up that excuse once and for all.” Giuliani said on [Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures](#) that the Supreme Court ruling that Trump must turn over his financial records to New York investigators was “terribly decided.” He added, “They have no reason to believe that there is anything wrong with his tax returns. All these tax returns have by and large – maybe not the last one – but all of them have been audited, all of

them have either been passed on or settled. There should be some finality in tax returns. In other words, we get audited, we make a deal, we pay the government, you don't come after me forever for that." The Daily Beast says the statement "directly contradicted both Trump and his spokesperson's excuse for not just releasing the returns to the public voluntarily."

House Plans To Revisit Effort To Obtain Trump's Financial Records.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Cheney, 4.29M) reports that the House plans to "quickly revisit its effort to obtain President Donald Trump's personal financial records." In a filing late Monday, the house urged the High Court "to take its final formal steps on the matter so lawmakers can reignite the issue in the lower courts." The House's top lawyer, Douglas Letter, "urged the justices to immediately effectuate their July 9 ruling on the House's subpoena for Trump's records," which would enable the House to "return to the U.S. District Court judge who initially heard the case and ask for renewed consideration."

Despite Recent Victories, Manhattan DA Remains Politically Vulnerable.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Ransom, 18.61M) reports that although winning "a landmark victory in the Supreme Court over President Trump that paved the way for prosecutors to obtain the president's tax returns," and securing "a conviction against Harvey Weinstein" in February, Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. "still has not said whether he is seeking re-election." The Times says Vance "remains politically vulnerable: He is facing a growing list of emboldened challengers, including two civil rights lawyers, an assemblyman and a former federal prosecutor," and he has "raised only \$29,000 for a re-election campaign, according to his disclosure forms."

Court Rules Trump Cannot Withhold Funds From California Sanctuary Cities.

[The Hill](#) (7/13, Coleman, 2.98M) reports that the US Court of Appeals in San Francisco "ruled Monday that the Trump administration cannot withhold federal grants from California sanctuary cities, affirming previous rulings in the state." The court "said its ruling that the Justice Department cannot block police funds from cities not enforcing immigration laws does not extend nationally."

Federal Budget Deficit Hit \$864B In June.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Crutsinger) says that on Monday, the Treasury Department "reported...that the deficit hit \$864 billion last month, an amount of red ink that surpasses most annual deficits in the nation's history and is above the previous monthly deficit record of \$738 billion in April." The AP adds, "For the first nine months of this budget year, which began Oct. 1, the deficit totals \$2.74 trillion, also a record for that period," putting "the country well on the way to hitting the \$3.7 trillion deficit for the whole year that has been forecast by the Congressional Budget Office." [Reuters](#) (7/13, Dunsmuir) indicates that in June, "outlays were up 223% to \$1.1 trillion, a record increase for any month," the "bulk" of which "was \$511 billion for the government's Paycheck Protection Program, set up in April and designed to keep small businesses afloat by funding loans that are forgivable if certain criteria are met."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Stein, 14.2M) reports the US "spent about \$2 trillion more than it took in via tax revenue from April to June alone." The Post adds, "Numerous White House officials and conservative Republican lawmakers have expressed frustration with the amount of spending approved by Congress," and "concerns about the deficit have affected the current round of negotiations, with some White House and GOP officials pushing for the next stimulus package to cost only \$1 trillion." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, A1, Davidson, Subscription Publication, 7.57M), [Axios](#) (7/13, Rummler, 521K), the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Heflin, 448K), and the [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Dinan, 492K), among other news outlets, also report the story.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) writes in an editorial about the overall federal spending since the outset of the pandemic. The Journal deems some of the spending necessary, but warns that not just future generations, but next year's taxpayers, will be saddled with offsetting the budget deficit.

Trump Reportedly Raised Possibility Of Selling Puerto Rico In Wake Of Hurricane Maria.

[USA Today](#) (7/13, Cummings, 10.31M) reports President Trump "raised the possibility of selling Puerto Rico in 2017 after Hurricane Maria devastated the US territory, former Acting DHS Secretary Elaine Duke told The [New York Times](#)" in a story published Friday. Duke said, "The President's initial ideas were more of as a businessman, you know. ... Can we outsource the electricity? Can we sell the island? You know, or divest of that asset?" Duke explained "the possibility of selling Puerto Rico was 'never seriously considered or discussed' after Trump floated the idea."

The [Daily Beast](#) (7/13, Montgomery, 1.39M) also indicates "Duke said the idea didn't come up in a serious way after Trump's initial proposal," and [Business Insider](#) (7/13, Porter, 3.67M) that Duke "described being shocked at the president's remarks at a meeting after Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in 2017, where he suggested 'divesting' or 'selling' the island."

Politico Report: Meadows Already Planning His Exit From White House.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Cook, 4.29M) profiles Chief of Staff Meadows, and reports that "three-and-a-half months in, he has told people he is struggling with the chief's job and that if [President] Trump wins re-election, he'll only stay in the role for an additional year, if that long." Politico adds, "While he has brought in a handful of staffers loyal to him in the legislative affairs, communications and press offices, Meadows has yet to establish a strong power base in a White House known for backbiting – and he has not been able to execute on many conservative priorities."

Goodspeed To Chair Council Of Economic Advisers.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Cook, 4.29M) reports "the White House has officially named Tyler Goodspeed as acting chair of its Council of Economic Advisers, a policy committee that plays a leading role in the economic response to the coronavirus-induced recession." Goodspeed "has served on the council since 2017 as a senior economist, chief economist for macroeconomic policy and then as a member. He's expected to stay in his new role through President Donald Trump's reelection bid."

Trump Appoints White House Tech Adviser As Pentagon's CTO.

The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Gertz, 492K) reports President Trump "has designated his White House technology adviser to take up the influential post of chief technology officer (CTO) at the Pentagon, according to White House and Pentagon officials." Michael J. Kratsios, "currently serving as Mr. Trump's senior policy adviser on technology, will be named acting undersecretary of defense for research and engineering on Monday, said officials familiar with the decision." Defense Secretary Esper said Monday, "In seeking to fill this position, we wanted someone with experience in identifying and developing new technologies and working closely with a wide range of industry partners. ... We think Michael is the right person for this job, and we are excited to have him on the team."

Judge Rules Trump's Niece Can Talk About Family While Promoting Book.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Smith, 448K) reports that a judge has released President Trump's niece, Mary Trump, "to speak freely about her family in the lead-up to the release of her book, Too Much And Never Enough: How My Family Created the World's Most Dangerous

Man, which is set to be published Tuesday." The President's younger brother, Robert, Mary's uncle, "led the effort to keep the book from publishing and to force Mary to stay silent." But Judge Hal Greenwald "denied the claim that Mary's book was in violation of a family settlement or that there was any wrong done by the book's publisher, Simon & Schuster."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Jacobs, 14.2M) says Greenwald's decision "prioritizes the First Amendment over a dated confidentiality agreement among members of the Trump family." Greenwald "refused to apply a broad view of the estate settlement." He wrote that "what was confidential was the financial aspect." The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Feuer, 18.61M) says the ruling "was largely a symbolic victory, given that it came on the eve of the official release of the book."

Kruse: Book "Most Incisive Rendering" Of Why Trump "Is The Way He Is." In a piece for [Politico Magazine](#) (7/13, 4.24M), Michael Kruse writes that in her new book, Mary Trump's assessment of President Trump is that he is "the damaged product of an absent mother and a sociopathic father." Although Mary Trump is "a partisan...with an ax to grind," she "also holds a Ph.D. in psychological studies. And in these taut 211 pages, she puts us in new rooms, shows us new scenes with new details and lets us hear from members of the president's nuclear family who have been conspicuously and obstinately mum." While the book "is not likely to hurt the president politically" or "lead immediately to any legal jeopardy he doesn't already face," it does "help us understand him, offering the most incisive rendering yet of why he is the way he is."

Trump Gets Second 45-Day Extension On Financial Disclosure Forms.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Fahrenthold, Narayanswamy, 14.2M) reports that President Trump "has been granted a second 45-day extension to file his personal financial disclosure forms, which will give the American public its only detailed look at the president's private business interests." The Post adds "the forms are supposed to detail Trump's income, debt, stock holdings and outstanding loans for 2019. They were originally due May 15, but Trump got an extension until the end of June." The Post also reports that "on June 29, Scott Gast, deputy counsel to the president, granted Trump a second extension, until Aug. 13." Federal law "allows only two such extensions."

Castro To Seek Chair Of House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Hudson, 14.2M) reports Rep. Joaquin Castro (D-TX) "will announce this week that he will compete for the chairmanship of the powerful House Foreign Affairs Committee, according to congressional aides familiar with his planning, in an effort aimed at recapturing a key position for the party's progressive wing after years of centrist leadership." The decision will pit Castro against "more senior colleagues," but the move "is also seen as an effort by progressives to redefine the party's priorities on foreign policy following the apparent defeat" of Chairman Eliot Engel in a primary last month.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

As Global Cases Hit 13M, WHO Warns Countries "Headed In The Wrong Direction."

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Issa) reports that "the number of coronavirus infections around the world hit 13 million on Monday...climbing by a million in just five days." The pandemic has now killed "more than half a million people in six-and-a-half months," and WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Monday "said there would be no return to the 'old normal' for the foreseeable future, especially if preventive measures were neglected." Said Tedros, "Let me be blunt, too many countries are headed in the wrong direction, the virus remains public enemy number one."

US-Canada Travel Ban Expected To Be Extended Once Again.

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Ljunggren, Scherer) reports the US and Canada are “set to extend a ban on non-essential travel that was imposed to fight the coronavirus outbreak, although a final decision has not been taken.” Reuters cites “two Ottawa sources familiar with the matter.” The ban, which was introduced in March, “has been extended several times and is due to expire on July 21.” Although some US politicians in northern states are “pressing for the measures to be relaxed, the Ottawa sources said the extension was virtually inevitable given the seriousness of the crisis in the United States.”

According to [Politico](#) (7/13, Rodriguez, Lippman, 4.29M), the Administration is “planning to extend restrictions barring non-essential travel across the Mexican and Canadian borders until at least late August.” A senior Administration official told Politico, “It’s an almost certainty.”

Countries Struggle With When To Reopen Borders. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, A1, Mandhana, Pannett, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) reports that governments around the world, particularly in countries that depend on foreign workers and international tourism, are struggling to decide when to reopen their borders. The Journal says the result is a mix of travel regulations that are likely to slow the world economic recovery.

Hong Kong Virologist Claims Chinese Government Censored Her Research.

In an interview with [Fox News](#) (7/13, Creitz, 27.59M) on Monday, a “Hong Kong virologist who fled to the U.S. earlier this year” said “lives could have been saved if the Chinese government hadn’t censored her work.” Li-Meng Yan told host Bill Hemmer, “This is a huge pandemic we have seen in the world. It’s more than anything we’ve known in human history. So, the timing is very, very important. If we can stop it early, we can save lives.” Yan told Fox News “that she believes the Chinese government knew about the novel coronavirus well before acknowledging the outbreak publicly.”

WPost Analysis: Neighbors Dubai, Abu Dhabi Respond To Coronavirus Differently.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Schemm, 14.2M) compares the pandemic response by neighbors Dubai and Abu Dhabi. While Abu Dhabi “has been relatively insulated from this global crisis,” Dubai, “which depends on international travel, trade, real estate and especially tourism, has been devastated by a disease that makes people stay home.”

Iran’s Nuclear Facilities Increasingly Under Attack.

[Fox News](#) (7/13, McKay, 27.59M) reports on its website that there was a fire Sunday at the Shahid Tondgooyan petrochemical plant in Iran, and “hours earlier, more than 500 miles away, detonations rocked the basement of an old, nondescript home in a northern pocket of Tehran.” Both incidents “came fewer than two days after a string of explosions – and power outages – were reported” Friday. While “some Iranian officials denied” the incidents “altogether,” a “swirl of suspicion continues to linger around the series of seemingly harmonized attacks, with many suspecting Israel – and the United States – as pulling strings.”

China, Iran Negotiate Trade Deal That Envisions Massive Investments From Beijing.

[Axios](#) (7/13, Lawler, 521K) reports China and Iran have negotiated a deal “that would see massive investments flow into Iran, oil flow out, and collaboration increase on defense and intelligence.” Axios says that “if the proposals become reality, Chinese cash, telecom infrastructure, railways and ports could offer new life to Iran’s sanctions-choked economy – or, critics fear, leave it inescapably beholden to Beijing.”

NYTimes Report: Russia “Working To Hedge Its Bets With Taliban.”

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Mashal, Schwartz, 18.61M) reports that the “recent revelation of an American intelligence assessment that Russia had provided the Taliban with bounties to attack U.S. and coalition troops stunned political leaders in Washington and added a potent dose of Cold War-style skulduggery to deliberations over Afghanistan’s future.” However, “while that

would be a notable escalation of Russian interference in Afghanistan, it was clear to many officials that Russia had been working to hedge its bets with the Taliban for years." The Times says that US and Afghan officials and "foreign diplomats" say "that what began as a diplomatic channel between Russia and the Taliban just under a decade ago has more recently blossomed into a mutually beneficial alliance that has allowed the Kremlin to reassert its influence in the region."

Taliban Attack Afghan Intelligence Compound.

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Mashal, Rahim, 18.61M) reports that on Monday in Aybak, Afghanistan, the Taliban "waged a sustained assault against an Afghan intelligence complex...killing at least 11 people and wounding more than 60 others, part of a bloody wave of violence...across the country's north." Taliban "insurgents detonated a car bomb at the entrance of the provincial headquarters of Afghanistan's National Directorate of Security," which "opened the way for fighters to enter the intelligence agency complex, where they battled the Afghan forces for hours."

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (7/13, Beyrer, 78K) reports the attack left "at least 40" dead. To the Free Beacon, Monday's attack "marks another bloody example of the terrorist group increasing its military operations in the northern part of the country."

Trump Congratulates Duda On Reelection Win.

President Trump took to [Twitter](#) last night to write, "Congratulations to my friend President @AndrzejDuda of Poland on his historic re-election! Looking forward to continuing our important work together across many issues, including defense, trade, energy, and telecommunications security!"

The [AP](#) (7/13, Gera, Scislowka) reports that on Monday, Duda had "declared victory...in a runoff election in which he narrowly won a second five-year term, acknowledging the campaign he ran was often too harsh as he appealed for unity and forgiveness." According to the AP, the race between Duda and Warsaw Mayor Rafal Trzaskowski "was dominated by cultural issues." The AP adds "the government, state media and the influential Roman Catholic Church all mobilized in support of Duda and sought to stoke anti-Semitism, homophobia and xenophobia in order to shore up conservative support." Duda "received 51.03% of Sunday's vote, while Trzaskowski got 48.97%."

According to the [New York Times](#) (7/13, Pronczuk, Santora, 18.61M), "Duda and the governing party have fought to control the courts and media, while stoking fear of gay people, the European Union and foreigners." The Times adds, "For many in the opposition, the race was not only a contest between competing visions for Poland, but a last chance to save institutions that form the bedrock of a healthy democracy." The Times also reports that while "Poland's major cities, from Gdansk in the north to Krakow in the south, were bastions of resistance...the governing party rallied its faithful in rural communities, many left behind in the rapid transition from communism to capitalism." The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Morris, Noack, Kalan, 14.2M), [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (7/13, Walker, 4.19M) and [Politico](#) (7/13, Wanat, 4.29M), among other news outlets, have more on Duda's victory.

US Rejects China's South China Sea Claims.

The [AP](#) (7/13, Lee, Baldor) reports that on Monday, the Administration "escalated its actions against China...by stepping squarely into one of the most sensitive regional issues dividing them and rejecting outright nearly all of Beijing's significant maritime claims in the South China Sea." Secretary of State Pompeo said in a statement, "The world will not allow Beijing to treat the South China Sea as its maritime empire. ... America stands with our Southeast Asian allies and partners in protecting their sovereign rights to offshore resources. ... We...reject any push to impose 'might makes right' in the South China Sea or the wider region." The Administration "presented the decision as an attempt to curb China's increasing assertiveness in the region,"

but the move "will almost certainly have the more immediate effect of further infuriating the Chinese."

The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Wong, Crowley, 18.61M) says "the announcement was the strongest and most explicit support by Washington of a ruling in 2016 by an international tribunal at The Hague that China had violated international law with its actions." Pompeo's statement "aligns US policy directly with that ruling and puts Washington in a position to enforce the tribunal's decision, even though China has rejected it." The Times adds "the statement is not explicit on US military aid, but leaves open the possibility that the United States might come to the defense of nations like Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines if clashes erupt because of Chinese aggression." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Lee, Baldor, 492K) recalls that "previously, US policy had been to insist that maritime disputes between China and its smaller neighbors be resolved peacefully through UN-backed arbitration." [Reuters](#) (7/13, Pamuk) and the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Wong, Subscription Publication, 7.57M), among other news outlets, also report the story.

In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (7/13, Subscription Publication, 7.57M) deems the US decisions on the South China Sea a necessary step, and lauds the Administration for taking it.

Brownback, Cruz, And Rubio Sanctioned By China For Championing Uighurs. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Bradsher, 18.61M) reports that on Monday, China "announced...that it would impose sanctions on three American lawmakers and a diplomat in retaliation for similar moves last week by the Trump administration against four officials in China." According to the Times, "The largely symbolic sanctions targeted" Sens. Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Marco Rubio (R-FL), and Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ). Also named "were Sam Brownback, President Trump's ambassador at large for international religious freedom, and the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, a United States government agency that focuses on human rights."

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 14.2M) reports that China "vowed to retaliate after the Trump administration used the Global Magnitsky Act to blacklist Chen Quanguo, the Communist Party secretary in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region in northwestern China and a member of the Politburo; Zhu Hailun, party secretary of the Xinjiang political and legal committee; and Wang Mingshan, party secretary of the Xinjiang public security bureau." The Post adds, "In addition to stopping them and their immediate family members from entering the United States, the designation freezes their U.S. assets and prohibits Americans from doing business with them." According to the Post, the US sanctions "were part of a broader campaign against human rights abuses in Xinjiang, coming immediately after President Trump last week signed into law the new Uighur Human Rights Policy Act."

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Tian) says Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told reporters on Monday, "The US actions seriously interfere in China's internal affairs, seriously violate the basic norms of international relations and seriously damage Sino-US relations. ... China will make further responses based on how the situation develops." [Politico](#) (7/13, Forgey, 4.29M) reports that "in recent years, the Chinese government has detained an estimated 1 million or more ethnic Turkic minorities." Politico says Cruz, Rubio and Smith "have been outspoken critics of China's activities in Xinjiang." The [Washington Times](#) (7/13, Meier, 492K), [USA Today](#) (7/13, Hjelmgaard, 10.31M) and the [Washington Examiner](#) (7/13, Mastrangelo, 448K), among other news outlets, also report the story.

Pro-Democracy Candidates Win Hong Kong Elections, But Fear They Could Be Arrested. The [New York Times](#) (7/13, Ramzy, Yu, May, 18.61M) reports, "Defying warnings from local officials that the Hong Kong opposition's unofficial primary vote could be illegal under a sweeping new security law, hundreds of thousands of people chose avowedly pro-democracy candidates to run in citywide elections this year." According to the Times, "Early returns showed that the more than 600,000 people who had voted favored candidates who were prominent supporters of the months of demonstrations," which the Times says "could lead to an intensifying confrontation with the authorities, who could bar some from running." The Times

reports that “opposition candidates, whose calls for democratic freedoms could be deemed as hostile to China’s ruling Communist Party, say they fear that whoever has protested the law could be disqualified from running or jailed.”

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (7/13, 14.2M) says “freedom has been rapidly disappearing from the former British colony,” but if China thought “it was well on its way to crushing the pro-democracy movement that arose in Hong Kong” it is “in for a surprise: Over the weekend, hundreds of thousands of Hong Kongers turned out again, this time to vote in unofficial primaries for opposition candidates in upcoming elections for the territory’s legislature.” To the Post, it was “a historic display of civic will and courage.”

O’Brien: US Mulling Asylum For Hong Kong Residents. Asked in an interview with [Townhall](#) (7/13, Benson, 177K) if the US would offer residency to residents of Honk Kong, National Security Adviser O’Brien said, “President Trump would like to have some of those folks come to America and he announced that on June 6, when he talked about Hong Kong. We’re going to be looking for opportunities to give asylum, and I think you’ll hear more about that from the State Department very soon.”

UN Expert Accuses White House Of “Onslaught” Against Media.

[Reuters](#) (7/13, Farge) reports the “UN special rapporteur on freedom of expression on Monday accused the White House of mounting an ‘onslaught’ against the media and referred to a negative ‘Trump effect’ on global press freedom.” In his “last official press briefing before his six-year tenure ends later this month, David Kaye said in a series of forthright comments that he hoped ‘attacks’ on U.S. journalists would end” when President Trump leaves office. Kaye told reporters, “Clearly the signature issue over the past four years now has been the way in which this particular president addresses the media: The way he denigrates the media, denigrates freedom of expression.”

Seoul Mayor Who Killed Himself Accused Of Sexual Harassment By Former Secretary.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Kim, 14.2M) reports that a former secretary of Seoul Mayor Park Won-soon, who killed himself last week, has accused him of sexually harassing her over a four-year period. The allegations, according to the Post, “threatened his reputation as a ‘feminist mayor’ and a high-profile supporter of the country’s #MeToo movement.”

US Offers Support For Protesters In Bulgaria.

[Politico](#) (7/13, Oliver, 4.29M) reports the US Embassy in Sofia on Monday “threw its weight behind anti-corruption protesters calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Boyko Borissov as they poured into the streets for a fifth night straight.” The move comes as Bulgaria is “experiencing its biggest anti-government protests in seven years amid a growing corruption crisis that has exposed how oligarchs have exerted control over key parts of the state such as the judiciary and the security apparatus.” In a statement, the Embassy said, “Every nation deserves a judicial system that is non-partisan and accountable to the rule of law. We support the Bulgarian people as you peacefully advocate for increased faith in your democratic system and promote the rule of law in Bulgaria. No one is above the law.”

Disappearances In Mexico Now Top 73,000.

The [Washington Post](#) (7/13, Sheridan, 14.2M) reports Mexico “added more than 11,000 people to its official count of the disappeared on Monday, bringing the total during a 14-year epidemic of criminal violence to more than 70,000.” The all-time total, “now 73,201, is the result of an ambitious search for cases filed with state prosecutors and other authorities that never made it into national totals.”

THE BIG PICTURE

Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[Coronavirus Spending Pushes US Budget Deficit To \\$3 Trillion For 12 Months Through June](#)
[California Pulls Back On Reopening Amid Surge In Coronavirus Cases](#)
[Jumbled Covid-19 Border Rules Baffle Companies, Stymie Tourism](#)
[US Rejects Most Chinese Maritime Claims In South China Sea](#)
[The Real Power Brokers In China: Those Who Wield The Rubber Stamps](#)
[Demand For Chief Diversity Officers Is High. So Is Turnover.](#)

New York Times:

[Los Angeles And San Diego Schools To Go Online-Only In The Fall](#)
[Headed To The Convention? Not I, More Republicans Are Saying](#)
[Bottleneck For US Coronavirus Response: The Fax Machine](#)
[Is Your State Doing Enough Coronavirus Testing?](#)
[Inside The White House, A Gun Industry Lobbyist Delivers For His Former Patrons](#)
[Redskins To Drop Name, Yielding To Pressure From Sponsors And Activists](#)

Washington Post:

[Delays In Jobless Benefits Plague Many Thousands](#)
[Demand Surges For Vials Used To Deliver Vaccines](#)
[Small Towns, Big Changes](#)
[Sudden End Of 'Redskins' Was Decades In Making](#)
[Trump 2020 Chief, Fond Of Spotlight, Sees It Get Harsher](#)
[Mexico's Jalisco Cartel Rising On Wave Of Brazen Violence](#)

Financial Times:

[Andrzej Duda Wins Re-Election As Polish President](#)
[China Imposes Sanctions On US Lawmakers In Retaliation For Xinjiang Measures](#)
[Russian Governor's Arrest Sparks Anti-Putin Protests](#)
[Hong Kong Migration To UK Could Hit 200,000](#)

Washington Times:

[Trump Administration Rejects Nearly All Of Beijing's Claims In South China Sea](#)
[Federal Employees Can Support Black Lives Matter On The Job, Office Of Special Counsel Rules](#)
[Mask Mandates Cause Chafing Over Enforcement: 'It's Overkill, And It's Not The Role Of Government'](#)
[FDA Fast-Tracks Vaccines As California Leads Charge Toward Second Lockdown](#)
[Redskins' Name To Be Retired After 87 Years](#)
[Activists Cheer Redskins' Change, Set Sights On New Targets](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Coronavirus-Rising Cases; Trump-Fauci; Navy-Warship Explosion; Ghislaine Maxwell; Washington Redskins-Name Change; Black Mothers Who Lost Children Speak Out; Actress Kelly Preston Dies Of Breast Cancer; 'Glee' Actress's Body Found In Lake; Severe Weather; Florida-Woman Comforts Husband With Alzheimer's in Nursing Home.

CBS: Coronavirus-Rising Cases; Coronavirus-Arizona; Coronavirus-School Openings Debate; Trump-Fauci; Washington Redskins-Name Change; Navy-Warship Explosion; 2020 Election; 'Glee' Actress's Body Found In Lake; Actress Kelly Preston Dies Of Breast Cancer; Norah O'Donnell on Colbert.

NBC: Coronavirus-Rising Cases; Coronavirus-Healthcare Workers; Coronavirus-Testing; Trump-Fauci; Coronavirus-School Openings Debate; Navy-Warship Explosion; Washington Redskins-

Name Change; 'Glee' Actress's Body Found In Lake; Actress Kelly Preston Dies Of Breast Cancer; Florida-Woman Comforts Husband With Alzheimer's in Nursing Home.

Network TV At A Glance:

Coronavirus – 23 minutes, 20 seconds

Trump-Fauci – 6 minutes, 25 seconds

Washington Redskins-Name Change – 5 minutes, 0 seconds

Navy-Warship Explosion – 3 minutes, 0 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Coronavirus-Dr. Fauci; Coronavirus-California; 'Glee' Actress's Body Found In Lake; Navy-Warship Explosion.

CBS: Coronavirus-Dr. Fauci; Coronavirus-Florida; 2020 Election; Abortion Laws Blocked; China-TikTok; Federal Executions Blocked.

FOX: Coronavirus-School Openings Debate; Coronavirus-Oregon; Coronavirus-Florida; Texas-GOP Virtual Convention.

NPR: Coronavirus-Military Medical Personnel Deployed To Hot Spots; Coronavirus-California; Roger Stone; Federal Deficit; Wall Street.

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

Today's Events In Washington.

White House:

- President Trump — Meets with the Secretary of State
- Vice President Pence — Visits Louisiana, meeting Governor John Bel Edwards and his healthcare team on their efforts to combat coronavirus (COVID-19), before he and Gov. Edwards participate in a roundtable discussion with higher education leaders at LSU's Tiger Stadium focusing on fall reopening plans and university sports programs then host a press briefing

US Senate:

- Senate on recess from 2 Jul – 20 Jul

US House:

- House Appropriations Committee markup hearing – Markup hearing on 'FY 2021 Defense Appropriations Bill', 'FY 2021 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill', and 'FY 2021 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill'
Location: Rm 1100, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC; 10:00 AM
- House Homeland Security subcommittees joint virtual hearing on pandemic supply preparedness and response – Emergency Preparedness, Response, & Recovery Subcommittee and Oversight, Management, & Accountability Subcommittee joint virtual hearing on 'Reviewing Federal and State Pandemic Supply Preparedness and Response', with testimony from former Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator Craig Fugate; California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Director Mark Ghilarducci; and Government Accountability Office Homeland Security and Justice Team Director Chris Currie; *12:00 PM*
- House Financial Services subcommittee virtual hearing on 'capital markets and worker protections in the coronavirus era' – Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets Subcommittee virtual hearing on 'Promoting Economic Recovery: Examining Capital Markets and Worker Protections in the COVID-19 Era'; *12:00 PM*

- Energy Secretary Brouillette testifies to House Commerce subcommittee on oversight of DOE during coronavirus – Energy Subcommittee hybrid hearing on ‘Oversight of DOE During the COVID-19 Pandemic’, with testimony from Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette * Held via Cisco Webex and in Rm 2123, Rayburn House Office Building; 12:00 PM
- House Natural Resources subcommittee remote hearing on energy infrastructure and environmental justice – Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee remote hearing on ‘Energy Infrastructure and Environmental Justice: Lessons for a Sustainable Future’, held via Cisco Webex; 1:00 PM
- House Science Committee online hearing on ‘coronavirus, extreme heat, and environmental justice’ – Online hearing on ‘Sweltering in Place: COVID-19, Extreme Heat, and Environmental Justice’, held via Cisco Webex, with testimony from Moms Clean Air Force National Field Director Heather McTeer Toney; National Wildlife Federation Vice President of Environmental Justice, Climate, and Community Revitalization Dr Mustafa Santiago Ali; Texas Southern University Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy Dr Robert Bullard; and Community In-Power & Development Association founder and Director Hilton Kelley; 2:00 PM
- House Foreign Affairs subcommittee hearing on ‘transatlantic cooperation during coronavirus’ – Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment Subcommittee hearing on ‘The Importance of Transatlantic Cooperation During the COVID-19 Pandemic’, held virtually via Cisco Webex, with testimony from former U.S. Trade Representative / former Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs Michael Froman; former National Security Council Senior Director for European Affairs Dr Karen Donfried; former Office of the Secretary of Defense Principal Director for European and NATO Policy Rachel Ellehuus; and Heritage Foundation Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy Vice President Dr James Jay Carafano; 2:00 PM
- House of Representatives not in session

Cabinet Officers:

- Energy Secretary Brouillette testifies to House Commerce subcommittee on oversight of DOE during coronavirus – Energy Subcommittee hybrid hearing on ‘Oversight of DOE During the COVID-19 Pandemic’, with testimony from Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette * Held via Cisco Webex and in Rm 2123, Rayburn House Office Building; 12:00 PM
- Agriculture Secretary Perdue participates in virtual ReConnect announcement ceremony – Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue hosts virtual press conference featuring a ceremony announcing new investments made in broadband through the U.S. Department of Agriculture ReConnect Program to bring high-speed broadband internet to rural communities in Mississippi, via Zoom, alongside Mississippi Governor Tate Reeves and Republicans Sens. Roger Wicker and Cindy Hyde-Smith; 1:30 PM
- Secretary of State Pompeo meets with THE PRESIDENT

Visitors:

- No visitors scheduled

This Town:

- John Kerry discusses the state of the ocean at Carnegie Endowment virtual event – ‘The Fragile State of the World’s Ocean: A Transatlantic Response’ Carnegie Endowment for International Peace online event, on how the U.S. and the European Union can best lead and steward global efforts to prevent natural disasters by protecting the fragile ocean. Speakers include former Secretary of State John Kerry, European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans, and Fisheries Virginijus Sinkevicius, Carnegie President Williams Burns, and Our Daily Planet founder Monica Medina; 9:00 AM
- POLITICO Playbook virtual interview with Austin, TX, mayor – POLITICO Playbook virtual interview with Austin, TX, Mayor Steve Adler speaking with Playbook Authors Anna Palmer

and Jake Sherman on how he is navigating the city's response to the jump in number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in Texas; 9:00 AM

- AU online discussion on coronavirus in South Asia – American University presents 'The Future of Kashmir and the Impact of COVID-19 on South Asia' online discussion, with featured speakers including AU School of International Service Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies Akbar Ahmed and Pakistani Ambassador to the U.S. Dr Asad Majeed Khan; 11:00 AM
- Washington Post Live discussion with Dem Rep. Pramila Jayapal – Washington Post Live 'Race in America' online discussion, with Democratic Rep. Pramila Jayapal discussing her new book, 'Use the Power You Have: A Brown Woman's Guide to Politics and Political Change'; 11:30 AM
- Axios virtual event on 'Future of Telehealth' – 'Future of Telehealth' live, virtual event on how new technology is disrupting the health care space, with FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, Oscar Health co-founder and CEO Mario Schlosser, and Ro co-founder and CEO Zach Reitano; 12:30 PM
- Washington Post Live discussion with Susan Rice – Washington Post 'Cape Up Live' online discussion, with former National Security Advisor Susan Rice speaking with Washington Post Columnist Jonathan Capehart on U.S.-China tensions, President Donald Trump's relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin, the geopolitical impact of coronavirus (COVID-19), race in America, the 2020 presidential campaign, and her interest in a future run for office; 3:30 PM
- HRC 'Vote Equal, Vote Safe' online town hall – Human Rights Campaign hosts 'Vote Equal, Vote Safe' online town hall, hosted by activist and 'Post Save the People' host DeRay Mckesson to help reach and engage young people, primarily of color, and educate them about mail-in voting and inspire them to make their voices heard this November. Speakers include former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro, Democratic Rep. Ayanna Pressley, HRC President Alphonso David, and young LGBTQ people of color in Texas and Arizona; 8:00 PM
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation Annual Building Resilience Through PPP Conference – U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation hosts Annual Building Resilience Through Private-Public Partnerships Conference, 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' * Held virtually due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

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