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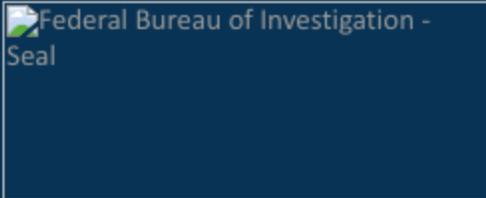
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December 01, 2021
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Daily News Briefing

(In coordination with the Office of Public Affairs)

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

IN THE NEWS

Authorities: Student Kills Three, Wounds Eight at Michigan School

The [Associated Press](#) (11/30, Householder, Kryska) and the [New York Times](#) (11/30, Atkinson, Smith, Boudette) reported that a 15-year-old male sophomore shot 11 people, killing three, at Oxford High School in Oxford Township, Michigan on Tuesday. According to the articles, the suspect's identity has not been disclosed, and that the suspect used a 9mm Sig Sauer handgun, which was purchased by the suspect's father four days prior. Coverage also noted that deputies arrested the suspect "within minutes of arriving at the school in response to a flood of 911 calls about the attack" and that the deputies arrested him "after he emerged from a bathroom with the gun, which he said had seven rounds of ammunition still in it." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/30, Abdel-Baqui, Chapman) reported that a law enforcement official said that the suspect "appears to have acted alone and didn't resist arrest or fire at officers" and that law enforcement officers "were still investigating possible motives for the shooting." The story was also reported on by the [Washington Post](#) (11/30, Thebault, Knowles, Bailey, Paul, Beachum, Kornfield), [Fox News](#) (11/30, Colton, Best), [NBC News](#) (11/30, Burke, Madani), [CBS News](#) (11/30, Albert, Freiman, Reardon), [Reuters](#) (11/30, Szekely), [United Press International](#) (11/30, Haynes, Coote), [CNN](#) (11/30, Vera, Romine), [The Hill](#) (11/30, Oshin), [HuffPost](#) (11/30, Ruiz-Grossman, Visser, Russo), [Washington Examiner](#) (11/30, Severi), [Forbes](#) (11/30, Walsh), [The Guardian](#) (11/30, Yang) and [Newsweek](#) (11/30, Roos).

U.S. Judge Sentences Wife of Mexican Drug Lord 'El Chapo' to Three Years in Prison

[Reuters](#) (11/30, Lynch) reported that a U.S. judge sentenced the wife of imprisoned Mexican drug kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman to three years in prison on Tuesday after she pleaded guilty to helping the Sinaloa drug cartel. According to the article, before her sentencing in a federal court in Washington, Emma Aispuro, 32, pleaded with U.S. District Judge Rudolph Contreras to show her mercy. "With all due respect, I address you today to express my true regret for any and all harm that I may have done, and I ask that you and all the citizens of this country forgive me," she said in Spanish through an interpreter. The [Associated Press](#) (11/30, Whitehurst) reported that Aispuro also helped her husband plan a dramatic escape through a tunnel dug underneath a prison in Mexico in 2015 by smuggling a GPS watch to him disguised as a food item. The article noted that the charges included Aispuro

knowingly and willfully conspiring to distribute heroin, cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamine for several years. She also pleaded guilty to a money-laundering conspiracy charge and to engaging in transactions with a foreign narcotics trafficker. The [New York Times](#) (11/30, Feuer) added that the Sinaloa cartel remains one of Mexico's most powerful criminal mafias, even in El Chapo's absence. It is said to be run by an uneasy alliance of his sons, one of his brothers, and his longtime partner, Ismael Zambada García, all of whom have been indicted in the United States. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/30, de Cordoba), [CNBC](#) (11/30, Macias), [NBC News](#) (11/30, Planas), [Newsweek](#) (11/30, Klawans), the [Washington Examiner](#) (11/30, Aabram), [Business Insider](#) (11/30, Mitchell), [CNN](#) (11/30, Santana), [BBC](#) (11/30, Staff Writer), the [Washington Post](#) (11/30, Duggan), and [Fox News](#) (11/30, Conklin) also reported on the story.

CNN Suspends Chris Cuomo for Helping Brother in Scandal

The [Associated Press](#) (11/30, Bauder) reported that CNN indefinitely suspended anchor Chris Cuomo on Tuesday after details emerged about his efforts to help his brother, former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who was facing multiple accusations of sexual harassment earlier this year. According to the article, CNN said that documents newly released by New York's attorney general "indicated Cuomo took a greater level of involvement in his brother's efforts than CNN executives previously knew." Coverage also noted that according to the documents, Chris Cuomo "pressed sources for information on his brother's accusers and reported back to the governor's staff, and was active in helping craft their response to the charges." The [Washington Post](#) (11/30, Barr, Ellison) reported that CNN has not yet announced who Cuomo's replacement will be, but that on Tuesday evening, anchor Anderson Cooper extended his 8 p.m. show into Cuomo's usual 9 p.m. slot. The story was also covered by the [New York Times](#) (11/30, Grynbaum, Koblin), [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/30, Mullin), [Reuters](#) (11/30, Serjeant), [CNN](#) (11/30, Darcy, Stelter), [NBC News](#) (11/30, Stelloh), [CBS News](#) (11/30, Albert, Cates), [Fox News](#) (11/30, Wulfsohn), [USA TODAY](#) (11/30, Spector), [Bloomberg](#) (11/30, Eckhouse, Smith), [Politico](#) (11/30, Hooper), [Forbes](#) (11/30, Bissada), [Newsweek](#) (11/30, Villarreal), [The Guardian](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) and [The Epoch Times](#) (11/30, Nguyen Ly).

US Panel Backs First-Of-A-Kind COVID-19 Pill From Merck

The [Associated Press](#) (11/30, Perrone) reported that a panel of Food and Drug Administration (FDA) health advisers voted 13-10 in support of Merck's new COVID-19 pill, molnupiravir, stating that the antiviral drug's benefits outweigh its risks. According to the article, the vote "specifically backed the drug for adults with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who face the greatest risks, including older people and those with conditions like obesity and asthma." The panel also recommended that the treatment "shouldn't be used in vaccinated people, who weren't part of Merck's research and haven't been shown to benefit." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/30, Hopkins, McKay) reported that according to a final analysis, the drug was found to be 30% effective at reducing the risk of hospitalization and death in high-risk people, lower than the 50% efficacy first announced. The [New York Times](#) (11/30, Robbins, Zimmer) reported that due to the FDA panel's vote of support, Merck's pill "could be authorized for use in the United States within days and available to patients within weeks." The story was also covered by the [Washington Post](#) (11/30, Johnson, Shepherd), [Reuters](#) (11/30, Maddipatla), [CNN](#) (11/30, Fox, Christensen), [NBC News](#) (11/30, Lovelace Jr.), [CBS News](#) (11/30, Tin), [Politico](#) (11/30, Foley), [The Epoch Times](#) (11/30, Nguyen Ly), [The Independent](#) (11/30, Woodward), [CNBC](#) (11/30, Kimball), [Newsweek](#) (11/30, Brady), [Forbes](#) (11/30, Kaplan), [The Hill](#) (11/30, Coleman), [Axios](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) and [Business Insider](#) (11/30, Staff Writer).

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CAPITOL VIOLENCE NEWS

Prosecutors Charge Man Who Allegedly Assaulted Police at the US Capitol and Brought Hatchets to FBI Headquarters

[CNN](#) (11/30, Rabinowitz) reported that federal prosecutors unsealed charges against Timothy Desjardins on Monday, who allegedly attempted to hop over security chains behind the FBI headquarters in Washington, DC, with two hatchets just hours after the US Capitol riot on January 6. According to the article, Desjardins was caught on video using a broken wooden table leg to beat Capitol Police officers on the Lower West Terrace of the Capitol, the site of some of the most brutal fighting between officers and the mob. The article noted that at 2 a.m. on January 7, FBI agents reported a security breach when they found Desjardins attempting to climb over security chains outside FBI headquarters. [Reuters](#) (11/30, Hosenball) noted that the FBI said that Desjardins' alleged participation in the riot was corroborated when, the morning after the riot, Washington police recovered a backpack which

investigators believe Desjardins was wearing during the riot. The FBI said that inside the backpack was a Desjardins identification card, two walkie-talkies, and three axes. [Newsweek](#) (11/30, Strozewski), the [Providence Journal](#) (11/30, Mulvaney), [MassLive](#) (11/30, Bonner), and the [Boston Herald](#) (11/30, Sobey) also reported on the story.

Meadows Cooperates With January 6 House Panel After Talk of Contempt Vote

The [Associated Press](#) (11/30, Jalonick, Tucker) reported that Mark Meadows, Donald Trump's former chief of staff, is cooperating with a House panel investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection, putting off the panel's threat to hold him in contempt, the committee's chairman said Tuesday. The panel "will continue to assess his degree of compliance," Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson said in a statement. He said Meadows has produced records and will soon appear for an initial deposition. According to [Reuters](#) (11/30, Zengerle), Thompson did not rule out future action against Meadows. Noting that the panel expects all witnesses to provide all the information requested that it is lawfully entitled to receive, Thompson said: "The committee will continue to assess his degree of compliance with our subpoena after the deposition." [CNN](#) (11/30, Grayer, Cohen, Gangel, Nobles), the [New York Times](#) (11/30, Broadwater), the [Washington Post](#) (11/30, Blake), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/30, Tau, Hughes), [CBS News](#) (11/30, Kim, Quinn, Linton), [NBC News](#) (11/30, Gregorian), [Fox News](#) (11/30, Singman), [USA Today](#) (11/30, Jansen), [New York Post](#) (11/30, Brufke, Chamberlaine), and [The Guardian](#) (11/30, Sing, Ho) also reported on the story.

"QAnon Shaman" Jacob Chansley to Appeal 41-Month Sentence for Role in Capitol Attack

[CNBC](#) (11/30, Mangan) reported that Jacob Chansley, the so-called QAnon shaman, filed an appeal seeking to void his guilty plea and 41-month prison sentence for his notorious role in the Jan 6 Capitol riot. According to the article, Chansley became a symbol of the insurrection, when hundreds of other supporters of then-President Trump disrupted the ongoing confirmation of the election victory of President Biden. The article noted that the appeal came after Chansley replaced his defense attorney Albert Watkins with a new lawyer, John Pierce, who at one point had represented Kyle Rittenhouse. [CBS News](#) (11/30, Quinn, Legare) and [Business Insider](#) (11/30, Balevic) also reported on the story.

January 6 Defendant Charged With Tasing Fanone Allegedly Talked of Assassinating President Biden

[Newsweek](#) (11/30, Villarreal) reported that Daniel Rodriguez, a Capitol riot defendant accused of tasing Metropolitan Police Department Officer Michael Fanone, said that he would assassinate President Joe Biden if he got the chance, court documents allege. According to the article, Rodriguez allegedly made his comments on a Telegram group chat called "Patriots 45 MAGA Gang," prosecutors said in court documents. Participants in the group chat advocated violence against certain groups and individuals who supported the results of the 2020 presidential election. The article noted that FBI agents arrested Rodriguez on March 31. In a three-hour interview with agents following the arrest, Rodriguez repeatedly cried, [Courthouse News](#) reported. He also told agents that he tased Fanone, who has since spoken often about the assault he endured during the January 6 insurrection and the traumatic stress he has felt since. The [Los Angeles Daily News](#) (11/30, Emery), and [KABC \(ABC-7\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

Patriots 45 MAGA Gang' Planned Violence on January 6, Prosecutors Say

[CNN](#) (11/30, Polantz) added that the "Patriots 45 MAGA Gang" ruffed about their anger toward officials who supported the 2020 election result and gloated about the violence of the siege. They also attended pro-Trump and anti-coronavirus mask mandate rallies in Southern California. Before January 6, they collected weapons and gear, including a stun gun, pepper spray, gas masks, and walkie-talkies, and traveled together to the January 6 Stop the Steal rallies. The day before the riot, they "joined a caravan" in Kentucky headed toward DC, setting up a radio app on cellphones so the caravan could communicate.

Trump Called Aides Hours Before Capitol Riot to Discuss How to Stop Biden Victory

[The Guardian](#) (11/30, Lowell) reported that hours before the deadly attack on the US Capitol this year, Donald Trump made several calls from the White House to top lieutenants at the Willard Hotel in Washington and talked about ways to stop the certification of Joe Biden's election win from taking place on 6 January. According to the article, the former president first told the lieutenants his vice-president, Mike Pence, was reluctant to go along with the plan to commandeer his largely ceremonial role at the joint session of Congress in a way that would allow Trump to retain the presidency for a second term. The article noted that the former president's remarks came as part of strategy discussions he had from the White House with the lieutenants at the Willard – a team led by Trump lawyers Rudy Giuliani, John Eastman, Boris Epshteyn, and Trump strategist Steve Bannon – about delaying the

certification. The [Daily Mail](#) (11/30, Elkind), [Forbes](#) (11/30, Reimann), and [The Week](#) (11/30, Weber) also reported on the story.

January 6 Defendants' Grand Jury Testimony Helped Prosecutors Charge Capitol Police Officer

[Politico](#) (11/30, Cheney) reported that Jacob Hiles, who breached the Capitol on Jan. 6, became a crucial grand jury witness who helped the Justice Department charge Michael Riley, a Capitol Police officer, for seeking to obstruct the investigation into the attack. According to the article, prosecutors say Riley, who didn't know Hiles but shared an interest in fishing, sent Hiles Facebook messages urging him to delete incriminating posts about entering the Capitol. But Hiles never deleted the posts, prosecutors say, and instead, the Justice Department used them to charge Riley for his attempted obstruction. [The Epoch Times](#) (11/30, Steiber) also reported on the story.

Judges Dubious Toward Trump Bid to Suppress U.S. Capitol Riot Records

[Reuters](#) (11/30, Wolfe) reported that U.S. appeals court judges on Tuesday signaled skepticism toward former President Donald Trump's bid to keep records about his conversations and actions before and during the deadly Jan. 6 Capitol riot by a mob of his supporters away from congressional investigators. According to the article, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit heard a three-hour oral argument in Trump's appeal of a judge's decision that the records should be turned over to a House of Representatives committee. The article noted that the House select committee investigating the riot has asked the National Archives, the U.S. agency housing Trump's White House records, to produce visitor logs, phone records, and written communications between his advisers. The panel has said it needs the records to understand any role Trump may have played in fomenting the violence. [Politico](#) (11/30, Gerstein, Cheney) also reported on the story.

Man Who Allegedly Assaulted Officers on January 6 Running for Texas House

The [Washington Post](#) (11/30, Bella) reported that Mark Middleton is running for a seat in the Texas House, months after he and his wife were indicted on charges of assaulting two D.C. police officers, according to a public filing on the Texas secretary of state's website. According to the article, Mark Middleton said he was among "the first group to storm the Capitol." He joined the pro-Trump mob in allegedly yelling expletives and striking officers who stood between them and their goal of disrupting the validation of the 2020 presidential election results, according to the FBI. "No more fooling around!" he said in a video posted to his Facebook page shortly after he and his wife, Jalise, were at the Capitol, prosecutors say. "Make America great again! Freedom!" [The Hill](#) (11/30, Schnell) and [Business Insider](#) (11/30, Snodgrass) also reported on the story.

Editorial: It's Long Past Time for the Senate Ethics Panel to Address Hawley's January 6 Actions

The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that ten months after a group of Senate Democrats lodged ethics complaints into the conduct of Republican Sens. Josh Hawley of Missouri and Ted Cruz of Texas regarding their roles in sparking the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, the Senate Ethics Committee has shown no sign of movement. According to the article, Hawley and Cruz were the first two senators to object to the certification of Joe Biden's clear victory in the 2020 election results, citing (with zero evidence) supposed concerns about the election's integrity. That was the same baseless, toxic nonsense then-President Donald Trump had been spewing since before the election. Such talk whipped up the mob of Trump loyalists to attack the Capitol on Jan. 6, the article opined.

Capitol Riot Suspect Entered Air Force Basic Training in San Antonio, Then Got the Boot

The [San Antonio Express-News](#) (11/30, Christenson) reported that Aiden Bilyard, a U.S. Capitol riot suspect, entered basic training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in July and was later charged with attacking police during the Jan. 6 assault on Congress. According to the article, the FBI identified Bilyard as a possible suspect in the riot while conducting a security clearance investigation for Bilyard's future job specialty in the Air Force, which officials could not immediately describe.

Iowa Suspect in US Capitol Riot Has Status Conference Scheduled for Tomorrow

[WHO \(NBC-13\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that a status conference is being held Tuesday for a Des Moines man charged in the January 6th insurrection at the US Capitol. According to the article, Doug Jensen faces multiple federal charges. Jensen was featured prominently in videos and photos from the storming of the Capitol, wearing a "Q" shirt to reference the "QAnon" conspiracy theory. The article noted that in a bid for pretrial release, his attorney said Jensen realized the conspiracy theory, which claims elected officials in Washington, DC are the controlling forces behind an international child sex trafficking organization, including Satan-worshipping "lizard people," was entirely false and he no longer believes in "Q".

Organizer of the 'Stop the Steal' Rally Leading to Capitol Riot to Comply With a Congressional Subpoena
[Business Insider](#) (11/30, Dzhanova) reported that Ali Alexander, the organizer behind the "Stop the Steal" rally in Washington, DC, said he will comply with a congressional subpoena over his role in the Capitol riot on January 6. "The only reason I'm going is because I don't want to go to jail," he said. "So under the threat of imprisonment and spending tens and tens and tens of thousands of dollars on lawyers, I will be privately deposed before this committee in December."

FBI Continues to Search for Suspects Almost a Year After US Capitol Insurrection

[MassLive](#) (11/30, Hook) reported that the FBI tweeted Tuesday that it is continuing to ask the public for information in the search for people who allegedly assaulted law enforcement personnel at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. "The FBI is seeking the public's assistance in identifying individuals who made unlawful entry into the U.S. Capitol building and committed various other alleged criminal violations, such as destruction of property, assaulting law enforcement personnel, targeting members of the media for assault, and other unlawful conduct."

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CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

New York Explosion: Police and FBI Search for Person Behind Blast Amid Potential Terror Concerns

[Fox News](#) (11/30, Wallace) reported that Suffolk County Police Department is working with the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force after an "unspecified device" was detonated Sunday morning, forming a crater on Fox Island in New York. According to the article, investigators said the crater is about four feet wide and two feet deep. There were no injuries reported and the island is uninhabited and typically visited by duck hunters. Acting Suffolk Police Commissioner Stu Cameron said that investigators didn't find any "fragmentation" from the blast site and added that a possible "test run" for terrorist activity is "definitely a concern." "There could be a variety of explanations, but that is definitely a concern. We do know that when people produce homemade explosives, very often they want to test those explosives to make sure they function as intended." The article noted that arson detectives are looking to identify and find the operator of a vessel seen leaving the area at the time of the detonation. The boat is described as having stripes. The [New York Daily News](#) (11/30, Annese) and [Independent](#) (11/30, Sharma) also reported on the story.

FBI Blames Bystander Effect' for Mass Shooter Who Murdered Nine

The [Independent](#) (11/30, Graziozi) reported that an investigation into the 2019 Dayton, Ohio, mass shooting found that gunman, Connor Betts, acted alone and was not aligned with a specific ideological group. According to the article, Betts fired 41 shots inside Dayton's Oregon District on August 4, 2019. He killed 8 people, including his sister, Megan Betts, and injured 27. Betts was then killed by patrol officers. The article noted that the FBI said Betts had a long battle with mental health issues and "the successive loss of significant stabilizing anchors" eventually led to Betts' decision to plan and commit a mass shooting. The article also noted that the FBI blamed "bystander fatigue" as a possible explanation for why Betts's family and friends may not have noticed his worrying state of mind. The FBI explained that bystander fatigue is, "the passivity, inaction, or inattention to concerning behaviors observed by individuals who have a close, interpersonal relationship to a person of concern due to their prolonged exposure to the person's erratic or otherwise troubling behavior over time."

FBI Probing Threats Made To Multiple Pennsylvania School Districts

The [Daily Voice](#) (11/30, Pikora) reported that several local police departments and the FBI are investigating multiple threats against schools in Pennsylvania. On Tuesday, schools mentioned that there were threats on social media, text, and emails. Police departments searched the affected schools and provided extra security, while the FBI assisted and provided additional resources. [KDKA \(CBS-2\)](#) (11/30, Hoffman, Guay) reported that FBI Special Agent Joe Rothrock said, "The FBI has a really good working relationship with a lot of the social media companies, and we have a number of experts here that can help us strip up some of that anonymity that comes with being online." The article noted that the FBI said they do not have national or local statistics, but it appears these social media threats against schools are increasing. [Patch](#) (11/30, Heyl) also reported on the story.

Man Facing 126 Sexual Assault Charges Extradited from Ecuador, Returned to Colorado

[KDVR \(FOX-31\)](#) (11/30, Flynn, Kruegel) reported that Peter Dettmer is facing 126 sexual assault charges from an incident in Colorado. Dettmer was accused of sexually assaulting an incapacitated woman in 2016 and was arrested

by Golden Police Department. Dettmer posted a \$2,000 bond and then disappeared. Dettmer was arrested in Ecuador, on April 27, by the FBI and returned to Jefferson County on November 24. The article noted that former FBI Special Agent Bob Pence said, "it's uncommon to find fugitives that far away, and says the FBI likely received a tip that Dettmer was in Ecuador. They might have an exact location, or it might just be that we hear that he might be somewhere in Ecuador. And then this fugitive investigation would be conducted by Ecuador. FBI has field offices in more than 70 countries, including one next to Ecuador in Colombia. Ecuadorian authorities would be the ones to make any sort of arrest, making worldwide partnerships extremely valuable. Outside the United States, the FBI has no authority to conduct those investigations, no authority to carry weapons normally, and no authority to make arrests. So it's a liaison-type responsibility, and we work with the host countries, and do it very successfully around the world."

Florida Man Jailed on Charges of Kidnapping, Human Trafficking

[Florida Today](#) (11/30, Waler) reported that Robert Johnson was arrested by Cocoa Beach police on November 21 during a traffic stop. Johnson was driving while his license was suspended and stopped by Cocoa Beach police where they later arrested him and found he had numerous charges, including one count of human trafficking. Johnson had been accused of holding a woman hostage about eight months before his arrest. According to the article, the woman mentioned that Johnson approached her in his white semi-truck while she was walking along the road. Johnson and the woman then proceeded to drive off until she wanted to go home and he refused to let her go and drove hours away to pick up a shipment for transport in his truck with the woman still in his vehicle. Johnson was aggressive towards the woman and threatened her with his weapon as she continued to flee. The woman also mentioned that Johnson would sexually batter her inside the truck while a child was present and that the child was used to keep tabs on her. The woman eventually was let go by Johnson and the child was located and taken to Brevard Child Protection Team for a forensic interview. The article noted that the investigation is ongoing and charges are pending related to the child and that the FBI is looking into the incidents that crossed state lines and possibly included international travel into Canada. Johnson was charged with human trafficking, sexual battery of a victim over the age of 18, aggravated assault with a firearm, kidnapping, and two counts of false imprisonment.

U.S. Woman Found Dead in Mexico Hotel Room While on Vacation

[Newsweek](#) (11/30, Angsley) reported that Sativa Transue was found dead in a Mexico hotel room in an apparent homicide. Transue was from Washington and told her family she was heading on a trip to Cancun, Mexico with her boyfriend for Thanksgiving. Transue's sister, Mykayla Bolieu, said she and others became concerned when a flurry of messages from Sativa and were sent to their phones on Friday, just hours before her body was found. The messages were sent from Transue's phone that mentioned she had gotten into an altercation and that stitches were needed. Concerned about the nature of the texts, Tansue's friends contacted the Milton Police Department to file a report and spoke to the FBI. The family was called by the U.S. consulate at 9 a.m. on Saturday who said, Transue had been found dead in her hotel room. According to the article Sativa's boyfriend is in the custody of Cancun police and remains jailed right now after his weekend arrest.

San Francisco Man Sentenced to 29 Years for Murder

[The Reporter](#) (11/30, Bammer) reported that Domingo Howard pleaded guilty on September 3 to several felonies, including voluntary manslaughter, in the fatal robbery of Jose Jimenez in February. According to the article, Howard pointed his gun at Jimenez and another man during a drug deal, who were both inside a parked vehicle, before shooting Jimenez once in the midsection, robbing the men, then fleeing on foot. Howard was then later arrested on March 2, a few days after the shooting, at an apartment complex in Sacramento. Howard was charged with manslaughter, two counts of robbery, a gun enhancement, and a prior strike as a juvenile by Judge William J. Pendergast. The article noted that the arrest was made by the Fairfield Police Department with the assistance of the FBI and other agencies.

FBI Announces Up to \$25,000 Reward in Search of Man Wanted for Murder of Pregnant Girlfriend

[WPVI \(ABC-6\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that the FBI issued an arrest warrant and a \$25,000 reward Tuesday for Justin Smith, a man who allegedly killed his pregnant girlfriend, Dianna Brice, in April. According to the article, Brice's body was found in the woods on April 5 with multiple gunshot wounds in the head, and Smith's vehicle was discovered a mile away engulfed in flames.

FBI Investigates an Ohio Man Accused of Money Laundering Through Hard Rock Casino

[WLWT \(NBC-5\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that the FBI is searching for Ismail Shalash, a man accused of laundering large amounts of money through Hard Rock Casino in Ohio. Shalash would sell luxury vehicles online to privately owned car dealerships and not deliver the promised product once he was paid. Shalash defrauded five victims in four states, totaling \$1.7 million. According to the article, Shalash would sometimes work under the alias Armand Brigante of MDDI Inc. and deceived his victims into believing Brigante was a separate person. Shalash made multiple withdrawals with notes indicating it was for Hard Rock Cincinnati almost immediately after he defrauded his victims and would allegedly cash in large amounts of money into the casino and then cash out the money in credits. The article noted that the FBI stated that a "strong indicator of money laundering is when a player converts money into chips and then redeems those chips (or "cashes-out") within a relatively short period of time." Shalash fled the country shortly after the transactions were made and a federal warrant has been issued for his arrest for wire fraud and money laundering of monetary instruments. The FBI describes Shalash as 6 feet tall, 215 pounds with black hair and brown eyes. He has dual citizenship from Jordan and Palestine and ties to Cincinnati.

FBI Detroit Corruption Probe Eyes Ayers Nonprofit Set Up by Friend

The [Detroit News](#) (11/30, Snell) reported that FBI agents investigating Detroit public corruption are looking into a nonprofit created by a Democratic campaign consultant and high-ranking Oakland County government appointee to benefit Councilwoman Janeé Ayers. According to the article, The nonprofit Progress Detroit Inc. was created by Ayers' friend, consultant Diana McBroom, in June, according to a state business filing. That was two months before FBI agents raided Ayers' home and City Council office as part of a broader hunt for evidence officials received bribes, extorted contractors, or received illegal benefits funneled through nonprofits. Ayers has not been charged in the matter. The article noted that the investigation reveals how FBI agents are building a potential criminal case by focusing on actions taken by members of a politician's inner circle.

Atlanta Couple Pleads Guilty to Millions in COVID-19 and Tax-Related Fraud

[WXIA \(NBC-11\)](#) (11/30, Boyce) reported that Tiyari Collins and Farah Collins pleaded guilty to defrauding the U.S. Small Business Administration. The couple reportedly obtained nearly \$2 million in fraudulent loans from both the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Impact Disaster Loan program. According to the article, Tiyari Collins submitted applications for 11 different fraudulent loans between May 1 and June 30, 2020. Farah Collins was involved in submitting four of the loans as well, leading to \$365,000 in distributed funds. The six fraudulent PPP loans and five fraudulent EIDL loans totaled more than \$1.9 million. The couple spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in fraudulently obtained funds on unauthorized expenditures that ranged from luxury goods and personal credit card bills to office furnishings. They also filed false tax returns in relation to the fraudulent loans. FBI agents were able to recover approximately \$588,900 in fraudulent proceeds. Tiyari Collins pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and one count of aiding and assisting in the preparation of a false tax return. Farah Collins pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud. [STL News](#) (11/30, Nawaz) also reported on the story.

Alabama Man Pleads Guilty to Bank Fraud Scheme

[Alabama Live](#) (11/30, Robinson) reported that Christopher Montalbano pleaded guilty to a bank fraud scheme and money laundering in Alabama. Christopher and his father, Gus Anthony Montalbano, were indicted earlier this year on a 26-count indictment in federal court charging them with conspiracy to commit bank fraud, false statements on a loan application, and money laundering. According to the article, between 2015 and 2020, Christopher fraudulently obtained millions of dollars in loans from at least sixteen different financial institutions by submitting fraudulent information to the financial institutions in loan applications and in supporting documentation and used the loan proceeds to pay for an extravagant lifestyle. The article noted that the FBI investigated the case along with other agencies.

Josh Duggar Says a Family Friend Can't Testify About His Alleged Child Molestation Admissions Because of 'Priest-Penitent Privilege'

[Insider](#) (11/30, Mark) reported that Josh Duggar, formerly of TLC's "19 Kids and Counting," has been accused of receiving and possessing child pornography in May 2019. Duggar has pleaded not guilty, and a jury selection for his trial began Tuesday. Four of the five alleged molestation victims were Duggar's younger sisters, and the incidents occurred when Duggar himself was a minor. Two of Duggar's sisters have even spoken out about the incidents, saying they forgave their brother. According to the article, Duggar was never criminally charged in connection to the molestation allegations, but prosecutors have said they intend to submit evidence that Duggar "was

investigated for, admitted to, and received counseling for touching and sexually molesting multiple minor females, including at least one instance involving the digital penetration of a prepubescent minor." Duggar's defense attorneys are trying to block a key witness from testifying about the former reality TV star's alleged child molestation admissions, saying the witness' conversations with Duggar are protected by "clergy privilege."

14-Year-Old Columbus Girl Recovered in Detroit Area in Human Trafficking Case

[WLNE \(ABC-6\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that a 14-year-old girl from Ohio has been reunited with her family after she was a victim of human trafficking in the Detroit area. The girl's grandmother filed a missing person report on November 9, 2021, and a Columbus Police detective learned that she was in the Detroit suburb of Southfield, Michigan, and was potentially being trafficked. Police said hundreds of sex advertisements for the girl were found posted on illicit websites and a 30-year-old man from Texas was identified in connection with the case and charges are pending. The article noted that Southfield Police Department and the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force found the girl with assistance from the FBI.

Wisconsin Man Sentenced to 13 Years in Federal Prison for Child Enticement

[WBAY \(ABC-2\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that Neil Frank was sentenced to 13 years in federal prison Monday for seeking to entice a child into having sexual intercourse. Frank was using a social media site to communicate with a 15-year-old, who was located in Wisconsin. Frank asked for graphic digital images, and "expressed his desire to have sexual intercourse with the child" in May of 2020. Frank was arrested by an undercover police officer with the Fox Valley Metro Police Department on May 18 after he drove to an apartment complex where he thought the child lived and at the time of his arrest, he was a registered sex offender. According to the article Frank was charged with using a computer to attempt to entice a minor to engage in unlawful sexual activity and attempting to transfer obscene material to a minor. He's also charged with two counts of committing a felony sex offense as a registered sex offender. After being released from prison Frank will spend five years on supervised release and will continue to be required to register as a sexual offender.

Former Mississippi Police Officer Pleads Guilty to Filming Child Porn on His Phone

[Sun Herald](#) (11/30, Lee) reported that former Picayune police Sergeant Joshua Stockstill plead guilty to producing a video on his cell phone of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct in Mississippi. According to the article, Stockstill was arrested at the police department and fired from his job in July after the FBI asked for assistance identifying him based on a photo that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children produced from a video of Stockstill shown with a child.

FBI: Person of Interest in Missing Arkansas Girl Case from 1995 May Have Had Ties to Tennessee

The [Nashville Tennessean](#) (11/30, Alund) reported that it's been more than 26 years since 6-year-old Morgan Nick disappeared while playing with friends at a little league game in northwest Arkansas. To this day, her kidnapper has not been identified and her disappearance remains a mystery to her family and law enforcement across Arkansas and beyond. According to the article, FBI agents are seeking any information about Billy Jack Lincks, who the agency named a person of interest in the case on Nov. 9. The article noted that Lincks was born and raised in Crawford County, Arkansas. He served with the U.S. Army during World War II and then worked at Braniff Airlines in Dallas from 1962 to 1974. He returned to Van Buren, Arkansas, in the late 1970s. About two months after Morgan's disappearance, the FBI reported, Lincks attempted to abduct a young girl in Van Buren at a location eight miles from the baseball field where Morgan was last seen. Lincks died in prison in 2000. The FBI is requesting help from anyone who knew Lincks.

New York Police Arrest Wanted Fugitive

[Mid Hudson News](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) reported that Anthony Beckford of Poughkeepsie was arrested on November 17 by state troopers and FBI Safe Streets Task Force on a bench warrant. According to the article, in February 2019, the troopers and FBI arrested Beckford for possession with intent to sell heroin and fentanyl, and possession of a firearm with a defaced serial number. Beckford fled the country to avoid prosecution after his release. After a Continued investigation by the State Police and FBI determined Beckford returned to the United States and located him in New York, and arrested him.

Muslim Man Who Masqueraded as Orthodox Jew to Marry Jewish Woman Sparks FBI Investigation

[Washinton Examiner](#) (11/30, Nothis) reported Elijah Hawila, who posed as an Orthodox Jew and claimed to work for the National Security Agency (NSA), is now being looked into by the FBI. According to the article, the FBI became involved when Hawila's wife, identified only as Sally, discovered his Lebanese passport and asked him

about it. Hawila claimed to be an NSA agent and allegedly produced a "fake letter" from coworkers at the agency to prove his employment. The FBI suspected Hawila, whose real name is Ali Hassan Hawila, could be working for a terrorist group and posed as a Jew to infiltrate the Jewish community. So far, the FBI has found nothing to suggest he was involved in terrorism-related activities or falsified any document.

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CYBER DIVISION

FBI Seized \$2.3M From Affiliate of REvil

[CNN](#) (11/30, Lyngaas) reported that US law enforcement officials in August seized roughly \$2.3 million in cryptocurrency tied to ransomware attacks committed by Aleksandr Sikerin, a Russian resident who is affiliated with a notorious ransomware gang known as REvil, according to a court document unsealed Tuesday. According to the article, the seizure is part of an ongoing US law enforcement effort to stymie the sources of funding for Russian and Eastern European cybercriminals following a series of damaging ransomware attacks on US infrastructure. It comes as the White House continues to appeal to Russian President Vladimir Putin to take action against hackers operating from Russian soil. The article noted that while the FBI and Secret Service track accused cybercriminals, the Treasury Department has taken aim at the services the hackers use to launder ransom payments. [Bleeping Computer](#) (11/30, Abrams) also reported on the story.

Ransomware Attack Exposed Personal Info of Hancock Towers Unit Owners

[Loop North News](#) (11/30, Dahlman) reported that a ransomware attack on a property management company in Chicago did not get ransom but exposed personal information about unit owners and prospective unit owners at John Hancock Center. According to the article, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies were notified about the ransomware attack. "With ransomware, there is a federal government list of threat actors or terrorists that you are just not allowed to make any payments to," Alfred Saikali, a privacy, and data security lawyer said. "If you do it, you potentially go to jail and face civil sanctions."

FBI Document Showcases How Secure Messaging Apps Stack Up

[Apple Insider](#) (11/30, Peterson) reported that a new FBI document detailing its legal access to secure messaging apps indicates that the agency has a "limited" ability to access the content of messages sent via Apple's iMessage. According to the article, the document, which appears to have been obtained by a group called Property of the People through a FOIA request, details the FBI's ability to "legally access secure messaging app content and metadata." The article noted that the FBI has "limited" access to the content of iMessages and that Apple will provide law enforcement access to a suspect's iMessages if they are backed up to iCloud. The [Daily Star](#) (11/30, Daly) also reported on the story.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Florida Police Officer Terminated for Alleged Interference With Internal Affairs Investigation

[WINK](#) (11/30, Fleischer, Montoya) reported that Jason Jackson, a police officer at the center of an investigation at the Fort Myers Police Department, has been terminated. According to the article, the police department did not release the full investigation but said Jackson was found to have interfered with an internal affairs investigation, associating with convicted felons, maintaining a personal relationship with an active/confidential informant, maintaining a sexual relationship with a former confidential informant and failing to devote time and attention to the service of the city. The article noted that the audit led to a criminal investigation by the FBI that failed to return criminal charges on Jackson and three other officers who retired while they were under investigation. [WBBH \(NBC-2\)](#) (11/30, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

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OTHER FBI NEWS

Owner of the Last Abortion Clinic Says Protesters Harass Patients and Workers, FBI Does Not Respond to Requests for Help

[Business Insider](#) (11/30, Naftulin) reported that on Wednesday, the Supreme Court will hear initial arguments for *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a case that has the potential to reverse 1973's *Roe v. Wade* decision, which granted the federal right to seek an abortion without government intervention. According to the article, Jackson Women's Health, the last abortion clinic in Mississippi, says the state's 15-week ban on abortion is unconstitutional. "For the last, I'd say 30 years, we've been under assault and each year it has worsened," Jackson Women's Health owner Diane Derzis said. According to Derzis, anti-abortion protesters wait in the driveway of Jackson Women's Health every day, sometimes numbering in the hundreds. As abortion-seekers drive up to the clinic, protesters and their children stop cars in the street and bang on their windows. When clinic volunteers escort patients up the sidewalk and to the front door, protesters scream through megaphones that they're "killing babies" and "going to go to hell," said Derzis. The article noted that Derzis said she's shown videos and photos of these incidents to the FBI, but no action has been taken.

How Law Enforcement Is Trying to Stop Mob Retail Thefts

[CNN](#) (11/30, Sanchez, Campbell) reported that with in-store customers expected to return in droves for the holiday shopping season, law enforcement agencies are moving to halt a wave of organized "smash-and-grab" crimes at retailers across the US. According to the article, police departments in major cities are increasing patrols at retailers targeted by mobs of thieves in brazen raids. At the federal level, the FBI said it is in "close contact" with local law enforcement investigating such cases and prepared to take further action. The article noted that an FBI spokesperson told CNN Monday that federal agents are monitoring the spate of brazen thefts and remain in close contact with local police. "Should information come to our attention that constitutes a federal crime, we are prepared to take a more active role," the spokesperson said. The article also noted that the recent group shoplifting incidents come during what experts say is a decades-long decline in overall property crime. The FBI's Uniform Crime Report showed the country's property crime rate at an all-time low in 2020. According to the National Commission for Covid-19 and Criminal Justice, this downward trend has continued into 2021.

Rep. Fortenberry's Legal Team Calls Lead FBI Agent in Case Racist

[KLKN \(ABC-8\)](#) (11/30, Ward) reported that attorneys for Rep. Jeff Fortenberry have submitted a new motion asking the court to order federal prosecutors to disclose more information in the case against the congressman. Fortenberry is accused of lying to FBI agents, who were investigating illegal contributions to his campaign. The article noted that Fortenberry's attorneys are claiming the lead FBI agent in the case could have tainted the investigation because of an anti-Muslim and anti-Arab bias.

Finnish Court Throws Out Messages Obtained by FBI Honeypot Phone Company Anom

[VICE](#) (11/30, Cox) reported that on Tuesday a Finnish court ruled that chat messages secretly gathered by the FBI from encrypted phone company Anom can't be used as evidence against two particular suspects. According to the article, the ruling only directly addresses the prosecution of two people, but the ruling could have a knock-on effect on other prosecutions against other alleged criminals who used Anom phones. The article noted that Anom was an encrypted phone company whose convicted drug-trafficker owner provided it to the FBI in 2018. As the company grew with customers around the world, the devices surreptitiously sent a copy of every message to the FBI and Australian police. This June, authorities went public with the operation and made hundreds of arrests, including of alleged high volume drug smugglers. The article also noted that at the moment, various courts around the world are handling the prosecutions of these alleged criminals.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Putin Warns West: Moscow Has 'Red Line' About Ukraine, NATO

- Associated Press: Putin Warns West: Moscow Has 'Red Line' About Ukraine, NATO

NATO Chief Says Allies Must Prepare for the Worst in Ukraine

- Associated Press: NATO Chief Says Allies Must Prepare for the Worst in Ukraine

Belarus President Offers to Host Russian Nuclear Weapons

- Associated Press: Belarus President Offers to Host Russian Nuclear Weapons

MI6 Spy Chief Says China, Russia, Iran Top UK Threat List

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Iran Strikes Hard Line as Talks Over Nuclear Deal Resume

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German Court Convicts Ex-IS Member in Yazidi Girl's Death

- Associated Press: German Court Convicts Ex-IS Member in Yazidi Girl's Death

Honduras Leftist Leader Could Present Opportunities for U.S.

- Associated Press: Honduras Leftist Leader Could Present Opportunities for U.S.

Former PM Abe Says Japan, U.S. Could Not Stand by if China Attacked Taiwan

- Reuters: Former PM Abe Says Japan, U.S. Could Not Stand by if China Attacked Taiwan

U.S. in Hypersonic Weapon 'Arms Race' with China

- Reuters: U.S. in Hypersonic Weapon 'Arms Race' with China

U.S. Delegation Met With Afghan Taliban Representatives in Qatar

- Reuters: U.S. Delegation Met with Afghan Taliban Representatives in Qatar

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OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Stricter Coronavirus Testing Being Weighed for All Travelers to U.S.

- Washington Post: Stricter Coronavirus Testing Being Weighed for All Travelers to U.S.

Merck's Covid Treatment Pill Wins Blessing of F.D.A. Panel

- New York Times: Merck's Covid Treatment Pill Wins Blessing of F.D.A. Panel

Trump-Appointed Judges Block Biden Administration Vaccine Mandate for Health-Care Workers

- Washington Post: Trump-Appointed Judges Block Biden Administration Vaccine Mandate for Health-Care Workers

Future of Abortion Rights at Stake as Supreme Court Considers Mississippi Case

- Washington Post: Future of Abortion Rights at Stake as Supreme Court Considers Mississippi Case

GOP Lawmakers Trade Insults on Twitter in Latest Intraparty Blowup

- Wall Street Journal: GOP Lawmakers Trade Insults on Twitter in Latest Intraparty Blowup

House GOP Leaders Face Calls to Confront Islamophobia Among Their Ranks

- Washington Post: House GOP Leaders Face Calls to Confront Islamophobia Among Their Ranks

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BIG PICTURE

Wall Street Journal

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

New York Times

- Variant Arrived in Europe Sooner Than Was Known
- As Passengers Flew, Fear Ran Around World
- D.A.s Reopen Police Killings Of Years Past

Washington Post

- Divided FDA advisers back first pill for covid-19
- Biden to ratchet up covid posture
- The future of abortion rights goes before court

Financial Times

- Powell signals support for quicker 'taper' of Fed's bond-buying scheme
- Biden faces US legislative logjam in run-up to Christmas
- US lifts upper limit on government-backed home mortgages to almost \$1m

ABC News

- 3 students killed, 6 others injured at Michigan school shooting; Ghislaine Maxwell accuser testifies on Day 2 of trial; CNN suspends Chris Cuomo for how he allegedly assisted his brother

CBS News

- At least 3 dead in Michigan school shooting; 7-year-old girl summits Grand Teton.

NBC News

- FDA panel votes to recommend approval of Merck's antiviral pill as omicron variant spreads, 15-year-old suspect in custody after deadly shooting at Michigan high school, and one-on-one with labor secretary on shipping backlog and jobs.

Fox News

- Supreme Court hearing Mississippi abortion case leaves Roe v. Wade on the line, confidence in military declining rapidly, new survey shows, and shooting at Michigan high school leaves 3 dead, 8 injured.

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

Washington Schedule

White House

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

US Senate

- Business meeting to consider H.R.4660, to designate the Federal Building and United States Courthouse located at 1125 Chapline Street in Wheeling, West Virginia, as the "Frederick P. Stamp, Jr. Federal Building and United States Courthouse", H.R.390, to redesignate the Federal building located at 167 North Main Street in Memphis, Tennessee as the "Odell Horton Federal Building", S.2938, to designate the United States Courthouse and Federal Building located at 111 North Adams Street in Tallahassee, Florida, as the "Joseph Woodrow Hatchett United States Courthouse and Federal Building", and the nominations of Carlton Waterhouse, of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Amanda Howe, of Virginia, David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, and Henry Christopher Frey, of North Carolina, each to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Jennifer Clyburn Reed, of South Carolina, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission, and 4 General Services Administration Resolutions; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. – 9:45 AM – Host: Environment and Public Works Committee
- Hearings to examine the nominations of Leonard Philip Stark, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit, Victoria Marie Calvert, and Sarah Elisabeth Geraghty, both to be a United States District Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, Jacqueline Scott Corley, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Dale E. Ho, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Katherine Vidal, of California, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.– 10:00 AM – Host: Judiciary Committee
- Hearings to examine the nominations of Scott A. Nathan, of Massachusetts, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, and John R. Bass, of New York, to be an Under Secretary (Management), Mark Brzezinski, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, and Michael M. Adler, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium, all of the Department of State. – 10:00 AM – Host: Foreign Relations Committee
- Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jessica Rosenworcel, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, Jainey Kumar Bavishi, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Arun Venkataraman, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, and routine lists in the Coast Guard; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Gigi B. Sohn, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, and Alan Davidson, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Jed David Kolko, of California, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Viqar Ahmad, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary, and to be Chief Financial Officer, all of the Department of Commerce. – 10:15 AM – Host: Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
- Business meeting to consider the nominations of Erik Adrian Hooks, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Michael Kubayanda, of Ohio, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, Laurel A. Blatchford, of the District of Columbia, to be Controller, Office of Federal Financial Management, Office of Management and Budget, Ebony M. Scott, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the

District of Columbia, and Donald Walker Tunnage, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. –11:00 AM – Host: Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

- Briefing: To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters. – 2:00 PM – Host: Intelligence Committee
- Hearings to examine an end-of-year look at the state of VA. – 3:00 PM – Host: Veterans' Affairs Committee

US House of Representatives

- Hearing: The Administrative Procedure Act at 75: Ensuring the Rulemaking Process is Transparent Accountable and Effective - 10:00 AM | 2141 Rayburn HOB - Host: Committee on the Judiciary | Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law
- Hearing: FY2022 Budget and U.S. - Africa Relations - 10:00 AM | 2172 Rayburn HOB - Host: Committee on Foreign Affairs | Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights
- Hearing: Oversight of the Treasury Department's and Federal Reserve's Pandemic Response - 10:00 AM - Host: Committee on Financial Services
- Hearing: Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Corporation for National and Community Service - 10:15 AM - Host: Committee on Education Labor
- Hearing: The Future of Federal Work - 10:15 AM | 2154 Rayburn HOB - Host: Committee on Oversight and Reform | Subcommittee on Government Operations
- Hearing: Holding Big Tech Accountable: Targeted Reforms to Techs Legal Immunity - 10:30 AM | 2123 Rayburn HOB - Host: Committee on Energy and Commerce | Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
- Hearing: A Review of the Decadal Survey for Astronomy and Astrophysics in the 2020s - 11:00 AM - Host: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology | Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics
- Business Meeting: Business Meeting on a Report Recommending that the House of Representatives Cite Jeffrey B. Clark for Criminal Contempt of Congress - 7:00 PM | 390 Canon HOB - Host: Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack

Cabinet Members

- Secretary Blinken is on travel to Latvia and Sweden from November 29-December 2, 2021. He has the following on his schedule for today:
- 8:30 AM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken participates in NATO Session 3: Georgia and Ukraine, in Riga, Latvia.
- 10:00 AM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken participates in NATO Session 4: Afghanistan, in Riga, Latvia.
- 1:00 PM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken participates in NATO Session 5: Western Balkans, in Riga, Latvia.
- 3:45 PM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken holds a Press Availability, in Riga, Latvia
- 6:35 PM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken meets with Swedish Foreign Minister Ann Linde, in Stockholm, Sweden.
- 7:00 PM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken attends the OSCE Welcome Reception, in Stockholm, Sweden.
- 7:30 PM LOCAL: Secretary Blinken participates in a Working Dinner with OSCE Ministers, in Stockholm, Sweden.

Visitors

- No events are scheduled

General Events

- [Brookings Institution: Kissinger in the Middle East](#)– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 10:00 AM. The first successful Arab-Israeli peace negotiation, the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt in 1979, owed much to the process started by U.S. Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger five years earlier. Using all the tools in the diplomatic toolkit, Kissinger brokered the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement agreement and the Israeli-Syrian Separation of Forces Agreement, laying the groundwork for the Arab-Israeli peace process for the following four decades. In his new book, “Master of the Game: Henry Kissinger and the Art of Middle East Diplomacy”, Martin Indyk, the former U.S. ambassador to Israel and special envoy for the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, aims to explain the arc of American diplomatic influence in the Middle East through Kissinger’s experience.
- [Heritage Foundation: The Iran Nuclear Negotiations: Why the Humpty Dumpty JCPOA Should Not Be Renewed](#)– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 11:00 AM. The U.S. has held six rounds of indirect talks with Iran about reviving the flawed 2015 nuclear deal, which the Trump Administration withdrew from in 2018. Although the Biden Administration seeks to re-enter the agreement, formally called the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and then follow up with another agreement to “lengthen and strengthen” its weak and time-limited restrictions on Iran’s nuclear program, Iran has balked and is dragging its feet on returning to negotiations. Join us as a panel of experts explain why the United States should not settle for a risky return to the JCPOA, which rewarded Iran with disproportionate economic benefits in exchange for weak, temporary, and easily reversible restrictions on key aspects of its nuclear program and no restrictions whatsoever on its ballistic missile program, the most likely Iranian platform for delivering a nuclear weapon.
- [Center for Strategic and International Studies: Modi Government's Midterm Reform Assessment](#)– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 9:00 AM. On November 30, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government will cross the halfway point of its second term in office. Despite the Covid-19 surges, related workforce dislocations, and continued weakness in bank balance sheets, India has recently been achieving record levels of trade and investment. Our expert presenters will review the Modi government's recent track record on economic reforms and offer thoughts on priorities for the next two and a half years. The event's speakers will include Ila Patnaik, Mihir Sharma, and Akhilesh Tilotia. The event will be moderated by Richard Rossow, the Wadhvani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies at CSIS and include a short presentation on the CSIS Reform Scorecard by the Chair's Associate Fellow, Kriti Upadhyaya.
- [Center for Strategic and International Studies: China's Power: Up for Debate 2021 - Keynote Remarks by Secretary Christine Wormuth on the U.S. Army's View of the China Challenge](#)– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 9:30 AM. On December 1 from 9:30 am - 10:15 am ET, Secretary of the U.S. Army Christine Wormuth will deliver keynote remarks on the challenges posed by China’s growing power and the view from the United States Army. Her remarks will be followed by a Q&A session hosted by Bonny Lin, director of the China Power Project and senior fellow for Asian security at CSIS. Secretary Wormuth was sworn into her current position in May 2021, becoming the first woman to serve as the U.S. Army Secretary. Prior to this position, Secretary Wormuth served in numerous leadership roles at the Pentagon, including Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Force Development.
- [Center for Strategic and International Studies: Book Event: Global Jihad: A Brief History](#)– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 3:00 PM. In his recently released book, *Global Jihad: A Brief History*, Glenn E. Robinson traces the history of global jihadism in the twentieth century through four distinct jihadi waves that each had global ambitions. Most violent jihadi movements in the twentieth century focused on removing corrupt, repressive secular regimes throughout the Muslim world. But following the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, a new form of jihadism emerged—global jihad—turning to the international arena as the primary locus of ideology and action. With this book, Glenn E. Robinson develops a compelling and provocative argument about this violent political movement's evolution.
- [Brookings Institution: Kissinger in the Middle East](#)– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 10:00 AM. The first successful Arab-Israeli peace negotiation, the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt in

1979, owed much to the process started by U.S. Secretary of State and National Security Advisor Henry Kissinger five years earlier. Using all the tools in the diplomatic toolkit, Kissinger brokered the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement agreement and the Israeli-Syrian Separation of Forces Agreement, laying the groundwork for the Arab-Israeli peace process for the following four decades. In his new book, “Master of the Game: Henry Kissinger and the Art of Middle East Diplomacy”, Martin Indyk, the former U.S. ambassador to Israel and special envoy for the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, aims to explain the arc of American diplomatic influence in the Middle East through Kissinger’s experience.

- Cato Institute: The Politics Industry: How Political Innovation Can Break Partisan Gridlock and Save Our Democracy– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 12:00 PM. Political polarization and dysfunction are more than just the byproducts of a bad national mood. They emerge in large part from the legal and institutional machinery of politics and elections, shaped over the years by those on both sides of the ideological divide. America has repeatedly managed to escape earlier periods of factional antipathy, insider domination, and gridlock through its openness to a practice both simple and powerful: political innovation. It’s time for a renewed era of political innovation, argues business leader Katherine Gehl, author (with famed business strategist Michael Porter) of *The Politics Industry*.
- Atlantic Council: Launching Economic Statecraft– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 9:00 AM. Financial markets, industry and regulation have become the front lines of foreign policy. The Atlantic Council’s new Economic Statecraft Initiative leverages deep sectoral expertise in sanctions, trade, investment, and finance to examine how America and its partners navigate policies based less on strategies than fine print, and how governments can work arm-in-arm with the private sector. Join the Atlantic Council on Wednesday, December 1 for a morning of conversation with White House leadership, industry executives, and leading academics and journalists on issues ranging from US-EU regulatory cooperation on China and the future of combatting illicit finance, to how the US frames national policy when economics—not traditional security—plays the most important role.
- Atlantic Council: Brazil’s democratic institutions: What may be ahead entering an election year?– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 3:00 PM. Brazil’s 2022 elections are coming at a consequential moment for the future of the country. As with elections around the world, narratives have the potential to be shaped by polarization and disinformation. Brazilian democratic institutions will play an increasingly vital role around what may shape up to be a tense electoral environment. Brazilians will be weighing issues ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic to the economy, social spending, and security in casting their vote for president, state governors, and congressional representatives. What is the impact of recent legislative changes on the Brazilian electoral system? What is the role of Congress in ensuring resilient democratic institutions and in the ultimate balance of power?
- Wilson Center: Lonely at the Barricades: How to Strengthen the Global Defense of Democracy– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 11:00 AM. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, democracy advocates were already sounding alarms about a global “democratic recession.” In maps charting freedom in the world, the various shades of authoritarianism had been spreading ominously. Freedom House has recorded an annual decline in global freedom for 15 years in a row, and less than 20 percent of the global population now lives in a country classified as “free.” The pandemic brought a double blow to democracy, distracting attention from these troubling trends while further weakening democratic institutions. Strongmen and elected leaders alike clothed anti-democratic actions as public health measures, curtailing protests supposedly to encourage social distancing, and limiting speech supposedly to control disinformation. Under the last administration, the United States was inconsistent in its defense of democracy.
- Wilson Center: The Climate Footprint of Plastics: Search for Solutions in Asia, Europe, and the United States– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 9:00 AM. When most people think of plastic waste they might picture discarded bottles on the ground or straws in the sea, but along the entire supply chain—from oil extraction and manufacturing to disposal—single-use plastic packaging waste is emitting carbon dioxide into our atmosphere. The Center for International Environmental Law estimates that without drastic steps to reign in plastic use, by 2050, up to 13 percent of our total remaining carbon budget will be used up by plastics. The International Energy Agency predicts that petrochemicals, including plastic, will account for

45% of the growth in oil and gas mining from 2018 to 2040. A growing number of researchers and activists are warning that the world must drastically reduce single-use plastic production and consumption to keep the earth from warming beyond the 1.5°C target.

- Wilson Center: Achievements of State Building in Ukraine– Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Location: Virtual Event, 10:00 AM. Ukraine emerged in 1991 as the second-largest post-Soviet nation. Several steps were critical in realizing this final break from Russia and the Soviet Union, none more important than the December 1, 1991 referendum. The population voted overwhelmingly for independence, thus providing the political foundation for this new country. The Belovezha Accords soon followed and with it, the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Thirty years later after this consequential vote, we will gather four distinguished scholars from various disciplines – law, history, political science, and philosophy – to discuss Ukraine’s three decades of independence, its achievements in state-building, and what must still be achieved in the coming decade.

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