

FBI PUBLIC AFFAIRS – DIRECTOR’S AM NEWS BRIEFING

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Police Say Indianapolis Gunman Legally Bought Guns Used In Shooting. The [AP](#) (4/18, Smith) reports police have revealed Brandon Scott Hole, 19, the former employee “who shot and killed eight people at a FedEx facility in Indianapolis,” had “legally bought the two rifles used in the attack despite red flag laws designed to prevent such purchases.” The AP adds the police “did not say where Hole bought what they described as ‘assault rifles,’ citing the ongoing investigation, but said he was seen using both rifles during the shooting.” [Reuters](#) (4/18) reports the purchases “were made a few months after Hole was briefly placed under psychiatric detention in March and a shotgun was seized from his home when his mother contacted law enforcement to report he might try to commit ‘suicide by cop,’ according to the FBI.”

The [Washington Post](#) (4/17, Kornfield, Bella, 10.52M) reports the gunman “who fatally shot eight people at a FedEx plant Thursday used two legally purchased assault rifles, police said Saturday, raising new questions as many call for tighter restrictions on powerful firearms and more safeguards on who can own them.” The Post adds police “said the shooter, a former employee at the facility, bought rifles legally last July and September – months after his mother said she feared her son would attempt ‘suicide by cop.’ That led authorities to question Brandon Hole, temporarily detain him for mental health reasons and seize his shotgun. The gun was not returned, officials say.”

The [New York Times](#) (4/18, Robertson, Watkins, Martínez, 20.6M) reports Hole’s case “appeared, at first, to be exactly the kind of situation” that “so-called red flag laws, which allow the authorities to temporarily take away guns from people declared by a judge to be too unstable to have them,” are “designed to address,” but “while many details are still unclear, Mr. Hole’s case is a sobering example of how even states with widely supported safeguards can fail to prevent dangerous people from obtaining firearms.” According to the Times, “experts say [the laws] are often used only as short-term solutions.”

However, asked on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/18, story 2, 2:20, Davis, 4.85M) whether the system failed, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Chief Randal Taylor said, “Only from the standpoint, if he would have been found in violation of that law, maybe he wouldn’t have been able to purchase these weapons legally. But I don’t know enough about it that I can say that anyone dropped the ball, per se.”

In addition, Nikki Battiste reported on the [CBS Evening News](#) (4/18, story 2, 1:55, Duncan, 1.24M) that the deputy chief of the IMPD “says authorities had not deemed Hole’s subject to Indiana red flag law.” Battiste continued, “The deputy chief told us Branden Hole agreed to let police keep the shotgun they took from him in March 2020. The prosecutor’s office told us it is reviewing its records from that incident.”

[CNN](#) (4/18, Holcombe, Kaur, Levenson, 89.21M) reports on its website that the shooting “shows how easy it can be to buy and use deadly weapons of war in the United States.” CNN adds the attack “marks at least the 45th mass shooting – defined as four or more casualties, excluding the shooter – since the Atlanta-area spa shootings March 16.”

Indianapolis Police Identify Shooter As 19-Year-Old Former FedEx Employee. The [Indianapolis Star](#) (4/16, Evans, 662K) reports Indianapolis police on Friday identified “the man who shot and killed eight people Thursday at a FedEx facility in Indianapolis and then killed himself” as Brandon Scott Hole, 19, but “it remains unclear why Hole...shot and killed the eight workers at the facility near Indianapolis International Airport.” However, the Star adds that Hole “was a former FedEx employee. He last worked for the company in 2020, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department Deputy Chief Craig McCart said.”

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/16, lead story, 3:39, Muir, 6.23M), Victor Oquendo reported the shooting occurred at “FedEx’s second largest hub in the world, roughly 100 workers present at the time.” Oquendo added, “Authorities say he drove to the facility, got out and started shooting randomly, making his way into the building. The massacre taking just one to two minutes. Police say he killed himself before officers arrived.”

Meanwhile, Oquendo continued on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/16, story 2, 0:25, Muir, 6.23M) that the FBI, which is “assisting local police in the case, saying that the suspect’s mom reported he might try to commit suicide by cop. He was held by police. They removed a shotgun from his house and say that gun was not returned to him.” Likewise, Catie Beck reported on [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/16, lead story, 2:34, Holt, 4.83M) that Hole “was known to local police and FBI for a mental health condition.” The [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Molloy, Bella, Berman, Witte, 10.52M) reports that as Hole’s shotgun was “seized and not returned, it was unclear how he had obtained the rifle used Thursday night.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/16, Mendell, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Coroners Identify Four Sikhs Among The Victims Of Indianapolis Shooting. The [AP](#) (4/16, Smith, Callahan) reports coroners “released the names of the victims late Friday, a little less than 24 hours after the latest mass shooting to rock the U.S.” and “four of them were members of Indianapolis’ Sikh community.” According to the AP, “The attack was another blow to the

Asian American community a month after six people of Asian descent were killed in a mass shooting in the Atlanta area and amid ongoing attacks against Asian Americans during the coronavirus pandemic." [Reuters](#) (4/16, Kalia, Caspani, Hosenball) reports law enforcement officials "said they had not immediately determined whether racial or ethnic hatred was behind the killings. But a Sikh civil rights advocacy group called for an investigation of any possible hate bias involved in the crime."

The [New York Times](#) (4/16, Mervosh, Bahr, Chokshi, Chiarito, 20.6M) says the victims "were identified by the police as Matthew R. Alexander, 32; Samaria Blackwell, 19; Amarjeet Johal, 66; Jaswinder Kaur, 64; Jaswinder Singh, 68; Amarjit Sekhon, 48; Karli Smith, 19; and John Weisert, 74. Some family members of victims who were Sikh provided different spellings and ages: Jasvinder Kaur, 50; Amarjit Sekhon, 49; and Jaswinder Singh, 70."

Four Victims Remain Hospitalized As Sikhs Call For Thorough Investigation Into Shooter's Motives. On [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/18, story 2, 2:15, Snow, 6.41M), Kathy Park reported four of the victims "are still hospitalized. Everyone is in stable condition and are expected to survive." [USA Today](#) (4/18, Herron, Bacon, 12.7M) reports those who lost their lives "were identified as Amarjeet Johal, 66; Jaswinder Kaur, 50; Amarjit Sekhon, 48; Jaswinder Singh, 68; Karli Smith, 19; Samaria Blackwell, 19; Matthew R. Alexander, 32; [and] John Weisert, 74."

The [Detroit Free Press](#) (4/18, Terranella, Warikoo, 2.16M) reports that as police are seeking to understand Hole's motives, "four of the eight shooting victims belonged to the Sikh community," a loss that the [Washington Post](#) (4/18, Kornfield, 10.52M) says "cuts deep in this tightknit community, connected by faith and a common heritage tied to the Punjabi region of India." Aasees Kaur, a representative of the Sikh Coalition, "said the deadly assault in Indianapolis underscores the bigotry that Sikhs have faced and the need for more-robust efforts to track hate crimes, which are underreported and difficult to prosecute." According to the Post, while authorities "have not yet offered a motive for the shooting, Kaur said it feels like her community was targeted." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/18, Naughton, O'Brien, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Operations At FedEx Facility Temporarily Suspended As Investigation Continues. On [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/17, story 3, 2:27, Díaz-Balart, 3.44M), Kathy Park reported the gunman's motive is "still under review." Park added that "most of the crime-scene tape that surrounded the facility where the shooting took place has since been removed," though "operations at the site have been temporarily suspended." In a more than 2,500-word article, the [Washington Post](#) (4/17, A1, 10.52M) says that the facility "is a sprawling, nondescript warehouse with multiple shifts of workers – a popular workplace for recent high school graduates starting their adult lives, but also a gathering place for older Indian immigrants searching for community in addition to a paycheck." The Post profiles the victims who died in the mass shooting.

Families Of FedEx Employees Unable To Reach Their Loved Ones Due To Company's Cell Phone Policy. On the [CBS Evening News](#) (4/16, lead story, 3:42, O'Donnell, 3.77M), Nikki Battiste reported FedEx "doesn't allow cell phones inside during work, so some frantic family members have been unable to reach those here during the attack." Battiste added the cell phones of "some employees...are still in their cars." Likewise, the [New York Times](#) (4/16, A1, Bahr, Robertson, 20.6M) says the "chaos within the facility, and in the homes of the employees, was intensified by the fact that many employees did not have cellphones with them." The Times adds that a FedEx spokesman "confirmed on Friday that cellphone access is limited within the warehouse, where packages are sorted for shipping, to minimize distractions. Such policies are common in the industry. But for family members, not hearing from their loved ones was agonizing." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/16, Gryta, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Gunman's Family Apologizes For His Actions. On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/17, story 2, 2:17, Johnson, 3.89M), Will Carr reported the gunman's family on Saturday "released a statement. They say they're devastated and they tried to get him help. They're also offering their apologies to the victims and their families." The [Indianapolis Star](#) (4/17, Rudavsky, 662K) reports the family "fervently apologized and notes that the family had tried to get...Hole, 19, help." However, Nikki Battiste reported on the [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/17, story 2, 2:04, Diaz, 1.74M) that a relative "said Hole simply did not get the help he needed."

Biden Condemns "Epidemic" Of Gun Violence As A "National Embarrassment" In Wake Of Indianapolis Mass Shooting. [Bloomberg](#) (4/16, Fabian, Jacobs, 3.57M) reports that "a day after a gunman opened fire at a FedEx Corp. facility near Indianapolis International Airport, killing eight people and wounding several others before apparently taking his own life," President Biden on Friday "called the spate of mass shootings in the U.S. a 'national embarrassment,'" while [Politico](#) (4/16, Leonard, 6.73M) reports that he "called gun violence an 'epidemic' in the U.S. and renewed calls on Congress to bring gun reform legislation to his desk in the wake of yet another mass shooting, this one at a shipping center in Indianapolis."

Biden also [tweeted](#), "Vice President Harris and I have been briefed on the mass shooting at a FedEx facility in Indianapolis. God bless the eight individuals we lost and their loved ones, and we pray for the wounded for their recovery. We can, and must, do more to reduce gun violence and save lives."

On the [CBS Evening News](#) (4/16, story 2, 1:49, O'Donnell, 3.77M), Weijia Jiang reported the President "hosted a foreign leader in person for the first time at the White House, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga. But it was a domestic challenge that set him off – gun violence." Biden: "Who in God's name needs a weapon that can hold 100 rounds, or 40 rounds, or 20

rounds? It's just wrong. And I'm not going to give up until it's done." Jiang added that the President "grew defensive when asked why he is prioritizing infrastructure legislation over police reform and gun control." Biden: "I've never not prioritized this. No one has worked harder to deal with the violence used by individuals using weapons than I have. I'm the only one ever to have passed an assault weapons ban." Jiang continued, "That was 27 years ago, the last time Congress passed significant gun reform. Today marked the third time the Biden White House has lowered flags to honor victims of gun violence."

[USA Today](#) (4/16, Garrison, 12.7M) reports the US over the past month has "mourned eight killed March 16 at three spas in the Atlanta and 10 people killed less than a week later inside a supermarket in Boulder, Colorado. The White House also lowered flags after a driver April 2 rammed his car into two officers and a barricade near the U.S. Capitol, killing Capitol Police Officer William 'Billy' Evans."

Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (4/16, Samuels, 5.69M) reports Vice President Harris on Friday "called for an end to gun violence in the wake of yet another mass shooting after eight people were killed at a FedEx facility in Indianapolis." [Reuters](#) (4/16, Bose, Psaledakis) reports the Vice President "said there is 'no question this violence must end.'"

As Indianapolis Mourns, White House Faces More Pressure To Act On Gun Violence. The [Indianapolis Star](#) (4/17, Herron, 662K) reports Indianapolis "is still reeling from the shock of a mass shooting at a FedEx facility that left eight people dead and several others wounded." The Star adds Mayor Joe Hogsett (D) on Saturday joined Rep. Andre Carson (D-IL) "and other officials as well as co-workers, family and friends of those whose lives were lost at a candlelight vigil at Krannert Park on the Westside." According to the Star, those present "offer sympathy and prayers," and "some issued calls for stronger gun laws in the wake of the tragedy at the FedEx Plainfield Ground Operations Center." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/17, Naughton, O'Brien, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Capitol Siege Probe Sees Progress, Roadblocks After 100 Days. [CNN](#) (4/16, Cohen, Schneider, 89.21M) reports, "One hundred days after the January 6 insurrection at the US Capitol, the unprecedented progress and unexpected roadblocks of the investigation are becoming clear." According to CNN, "Prosecutors have moved full speed ahead with hundreds of cases against rioters but haven't made use of the much-discussed sedition laws," and have "rounded up dozens of extremists and militia members yet failed to convince judges that most are too dangerous to release pre-trial." The investigation "is still in its early stages. Prosecutions in the backlogged court system could stretch on for years, even if most rioters ultimately plead guilty."

Indiana "Oath Keepers" Leader Pleads Guilty In Capitol Siege Probe. The [Indianapolis Star](#) (4/16, Magdaleno, 662K) reports, "A heavy metal guitarist from Columbus, Indiana who was armed with bear mace and wore a tactical vest as he joined a mob storming the U.S. Capitol building Jan. 6 has pleaded guilty in federal court." Jon Schaffer, 52, "admitted in Washington DC District Court to obstructing an official proceeding and entering a restricted building with a weapon when he tried to forcibly stop Congress' certification of the U.S. presidential election results. 'These actions are disgraceful and unacceptable,' FBI Deputy Director Paul M. Abbate said in a prepared statement from the United States Department of Justice." The Star adds, "In his plea agreement submitted to Judge Amit P. Mehta on Friday Schaffer admitted to being one of the founders of the Oath Keepers, a national organization that describes itself as 'a non-partisan association of current and formerly serving military, police, and first responders' at its website."

[CNN](#) (4/16, Cohen, 89.21M) reports that Schaffer "pleaded guilty Friday to two crimes related to the US Capitol insurrection, making him the first rioter to do so." Schaffer "pleaded guilty to obstruction of an official proceeding and entering a building with a dangerous weapon. He admitted to carrying bear spray into the Capitol complex during the formal certification of the Electoral College votes." CNN adds, "One hundred days after the January 6 attack, Schaffer is now the first pro-Trump rioter to plead guilty and admit his crimes. In his plea deal, Schaffer is described as a 'founding lifetime member' of the Oath Keepers, though his lawyers previously claimed in court that he didn't know much about the paramilitary group."

[USA Today](#) (4/16, Mansfield, Johnson, 12.7M) reports, "The cooperation agreement is a key turning point for prosecutors who have been pursuing a broad conspiracy case against groups of rioters, including the paramilitary Oath Keepers group and the far-right Proud Boys organization." USA Today adds, "In court documents in March, prosecutors said the ongoing conspiracy inquiry involves 'a large number of participants.' Prosecutors also have indicated that they have significant information on Oath Keepers founder Stewart Rhodes actions during the attack." On Thursday, FBI Director Wray "described the investigation as perhaps the largest inquiry since the 9/11 attacks."

The [AP](#) (4/16, Balsamo, Durkin Richer) reports that Schaffer "has agreed to cooperate with investigators in hopes of getting a lighter sentence, and the Justice Department will consider putting Schaffer in the federal witness security program, U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta said. This signals that federal prosecutors see him as a valuable cooperator as they continue to investigate militia groups and other extremists involved in the insurrection on Jan. 6."

The [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Hsu, Barrett, 10.52M) reports, "The plea marks a new stage in the historic investigation, as prosecutors seek to work up the chain of defendants to gather evidence and better understand the full scope of any planning and organizing of the violence – particularly among groups like the far-right Oath Keepers and the Proud Boys. Dozens of members from both groups appeared to act in concert to storm the building, prosecutors have alleged. Peter Skinner, a former federal prosecutor, called it a 'huge' development, saying such cooperation deals are 'what the government needs to investigate and possibly prosecute the leaders of the organization.'"

The [New York Times](#) (4/16, A1, Feuer, 20.6M) reports Schaffer's cooperation "could prove instrumental in helping prosecutors pursue a separate and much broader conspiracy case against 12 other members of the Oath Keepers who stand accused of some of the most serious charges in the sprawling investigation into the storming of the Capitol." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/16, Viswanatha, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provided similar coverage as did brief [CBS Evening News](#) (4/16, story 5, 0:22, O'Donnell, 3.77M) and [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/16, story 5, 0:43, Holt, 4.83M) segments.

Prosecutors Say Men Arrested For Attempted Theft Of Gun From DC Officer During Capitol Riot. The [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Weiner, 10.52M) reports prosecutors "said Friday they have arrested a man who attempted to grab a service weapon from a D.C. police officer during the attack on the U.S. Capitol in January." According to the Post, "Kyle J. Young, 37, of Redfield, Iowa, was arrested Wednesday along with Albuquerque C. Head, 41, of Kingsport, Tenn. Both are accused of assaulting Michael Fanone, a D.C. officer who was dragged down the steps of the Capitol, attacked with an electroshock weapon and beaten unconscious by the mob." The Post adds that also indicted was "Thomas Sibick, 35, of Buffalo, who was already charged with beating Fanone and stealing the officer's badge and radio. The indictment, unsealed Wednesday, was made public Friday. Daniel Rodriguez, 38, of Fontana, Calif., is accused in a separate indictment of using an electroshock weapon on Fanone."

FBI Arrests Michigan Man In Capitol Siege Probe. [MLive \(MI\)](#) (4/16, Barrett, 828K) reports, "Facebook messages released to the FBI show a Hancock man charged with four federal crimes for allegedly entering the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 and enjoyed a celebratory beer afterward." Jeremy Sorvisto "was arrested on April 7 as part of an investigation into Karl Dresch, another man from the Upper Peninsula who was charged for breaching the Capitol. FBI agents identified Sorvisto while seeking to find others who may have traveled to Washington, D.C. with Dresch." Sorvisto "was charged with entering a restricted building, disruptive conduct, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. Each is a misdemeanor crime punishable by six months in prison."

Prosecutors Say Nazi Sympathizer Who Stormed Capitol Poses Threat To Jews. [CNN](#) (4/16, Cohen, 89.21M) reports, "The Justice Department said Friday that a Nazi sympathizer who stormed the US Capitol on January 6 poses a threat to Jewish residents in his native New Jersey and therefore shouldn't be released from jail." CNN adds, "The alleged Capitol rioter, Timothy Hale-Cusanelli, was a well-known Nazi sympathizer at the Navy base where he worked in New Jersey. A federal judge ordered him detained last month while he awaits trial, but he has filed new motions with the court seeking his release. Opposing those requests, federal prosecutors told the judge that Hale-Cusanelli poses a danger to the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community in Lakewood, which is near the Navy base where he worked before his arrest. 'Defendant poses a more localized threat to the community, particularly the Hassidic community in Lakewood, New Jersey,' federal prosecutors wrote in a court filing."

Capitol Rioter Who Allegedly Ransacked Pelosi's Office Is Released From Jail. The [Daily Beast](#) (4/18, Nadeau, 933K) reports, "Despite the fact that Capitol insurrectionist William Robert Norwood III allegedly stole body armor, lied to the FBI, and 'led a pack of rioters through the inner sanctum of Speaker Pelosi's office space' where he lifted a paper coaster, he has been released pending his trial, according to Department of Justice documents seen by The Daily Beast. He is charged with two felonies: obstruction of an official proceeding and theft of government property." The Daily Beast adds that Norwood "petitioned the court last week to be released to home detention which was granted Saturday, according to Department of Justice documents which lay out the extent of Norwood's involvement in the Jan. 6 riots," and "as a result of Norwood's lack of criminal history, the D.C. court determined that he is not a threat so society."

Judge Threatens To Hold Woman Charged In Capitol Riot In Contempt For Wearing Mesh Mask. The [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Hsu, 10.52M) reports US District Judge Royce Lamberth on Friday "ordered a Pennsylvania woman charged in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot to show why she should not be jailed pending trial or held in contempt of court for allegedly flouting a requirement that she wear a mask when leaving her home while on bond." According to the Post, "Rachel Marie Powell, a mother of eight who lives in Mercer County, Pa., just east of the state line and Youngstown, Ohio, has pleaded not guilty to eight counts including felony destruction of federal property and obstruction of a congressional proceeding after allegedly carrying an ice ax and large wooden pole into the Capitol." The Post says the FBI had "previously alleged that Powell, wearing a pink hat and carrying a bullhorn, helped shatter a window with a battering ram and appeared to direct others at the scene."

Ohio Is High On List Of Capitol Siege Indictments. The [Cincinnati Enquirer](#) (4/16, Knight, 223K) reports, "Ohio ranks sixth in the country when it comes to federal indictments in the Jan. 6 breach of the U.S. Capitol, according to the U.S.

Department of Justice." The Enquirer adds that "20 Ohioans have been arrested on federal charges related to the infiltration, about 5.3% of the total. Among those arrested, four are associated with an extremist group called the Oath Keepers, whose members "believe that the federal government has been co-opted by a shadowy conspiracy that is trying to strip American citizens of their rights," according to court documents. At least five photographed or filmed themselves during or after the breach. One is charged with assaulting a police officer."

Demonstrators Nationwide Protest Against Police Brutality. [The Hill](#) (4/17, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports, "Hundreds of protesters marched throughout Washington, D.C., on Friday evening, with some engaging in clashes with police, calling for an end to police brutality following a series of fatal shootings and as the end of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin's murder trial nears." Protestors at first assembled "for a rally at Black Lives Matter Plaza in downtown D.C. before walking through the streets and chanting the names of individuals killed by police, including 20-year-old Daunte Wright, who was fatally shot by a police officer during a traffic stop last week, and 13-year-old Adam Toledo, who was shot and killed after a police officer allegedly saw the boy holding a gun."

The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (4/17, Rubenstein, 2.44M) reports, "Hundreds of people marched through downtown Oakland on Friday night to demonstrate against" the shootings of Wright and Toledo, "with some breaking away from the main group to smash windows, set fires and spraypaint red anarchy symbols, according to police statements and video footage."

Meanwhile, the [AP](#) (4/16, Cline, Flaccus) reports police in Portland, Oregon "said Saturday they arrested four people after declaring a riot Friday night when protesters smashed windows, burglarized businesses and set multiple fires during demonstrations that started after police fatally shot a man while responding to reports of a person with a gun." The vandalism "also was part of vigils and demonstrations already planned for the night in the name of people killed in police shootings nationwide."

Bloomberg Analysis: Groundwork For Chauvin Appeal "Has Been Laid." A [Bloomberg](#) (4/17, Lopez, Earls, 3.57M) analysis says, "The groundwork for appealing a possible conviction of Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis police officer accused of killing George Floyd, has been laid even before jurors weigh the charges." Ex-public defender Christa Groshek said, "The defense has really been positioning Chauvin's case for an appeal from day one," with Groshek also saying, "I think there are a tremendous amount of options they will have on appeal." Bloomberg adds that closing arguments are slated to commence Monday, and jurors will subsequently "deliberate Chauvin's fate." He "is charged with second-degree murder, third-degree murder and manslaughter, all of which have different standards of proof."

NYTimes Analysis: Dozens Of Police Killings Have Occurred Since Testimony In Chauvin Trial Began. A [New York Times](#) (4/17, A1, Eligon, Hubler, 20.6M) analysis says that since testimony in Chauvin's trial commenced on March 29, no less than 64 individuals "have died at the hands of law enforcement nationwide, with Black and Latino people representing more than half of the dead. As of Saturday, the average was more than three killings a day."

AP Analysis: Black Americans "Facing A Collective Sense Of Grief And Trauma." An [AP](#) (4/17, Stafford) analysis says, "Many Black Americans are facing a collective sense of grief and trauma that has grown more profound with the loss of each life at the hands of police in America. Some see themselves and their children reflected in the victims of police violence, heightening the grief they feel." The AP adds that the racial trauma affecting Black Americans is "built upon centuries of oppressive systems and racist practices that are deeply embedded within the fabric of the nation."

Capehart: Black Americans "Live Under Siege." [Washington Post](#) (4/17, 10.52M) columnist Jonathan Capehart writes, "There is no one way to be Black in America, but there is one way we live while Black in America. No matter our gender, age or socioeconomic status, we are viewed as threats. As a result, we live under siege."

Protesters Demonstrate In Chicago Following Release Of Body Cam Video From Police Shooting Of 13-Year-Old. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (4/16, Keilman, 2.03M) reports hundreds of people "gathered in Logan Square Park on Friday evening to demand justice for 13-year-old Adam Toledo and all victims of police violence, according to organizers." The Tribune describes rally, which "was the first major demonstration against the Chicago Police Department since the city released the troubling video of Toledo's killing Thursday," as "peaceful but passionate."

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/16, story 3, 2:49, Muir, 6.23M), Alex Perez reported that in the video, "you can see Officer Eric Stillman chasing the two suspects, pushing one to the ground, running after the other. The officer yelling to see the suspect's hands. Toledo's right hand momentarily out of view as the boy pivots, turns around and raises both hands. Officer Stillman fires a single shot. Toledo's hands appear to be empty when he was struck. A freeze-frame image shows Toledo holding what appears to be a gun in that right hand. Authorities say it was less than one second from when the weapon seems to disappear, and when the boy is shot in the chest. This nearby security camera capturing the heart-racing moments before the shooting. The 13-year-old allegedly tossing the handgun behind this wooden fence, where it was recovered by police. The firearm seen on the officer's

bodycam. Stillman, immediately after the shooting, calling for an ambulance and beginning CPR. Appearing to be emotional, later sitting on the ground, another officer consoling him. Stillman, seen here in a video for a toy giveaway, joined the force in 2015. He has three complaints and four use of force reports on his record, but has never been disciplined. The police union lawyer representing Stillman defending his actions, saying he was, quote, 'left with no other option.' But the Toledo family attorney says the video speaks for itself." On [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/16, story 3, 1:35, Holt, 4.83M), Rehema Ellis reported, "No charges have been filed against the officer, who's been placed on administrative duty."

In an analysis, the [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Bump, 10.52M) says that "of the 19 other children under the age of 16 shot and killed by police in the past six years, most were the police officers' intended targets." While Toledo "wasn't armed, eight of the 22 children under the age of 16 who were fatally shot by police since 2015 were armed with guns when they were shot, according to Post data. Another four were holding other kinds of weapons, like knives. Three were holding toy guns, like 13-year-old Tyre King, fatally shot in Columbus, Ohio, in 2016. One was driving a car, and the others, including the three youngest, weren't armed at all." The Post adds, "The number of young people shot to death by police since 2015 is relatively small, so we should be cautious in drawing too many conclusions from the pool. It is worth noting, however, that these kids are mostly non-White. (Adam was Hispanic.)"

Death Of Toledo "Renews The Anguish" Among Chicagoans "Still Pained" By 2014 Killing Of McDonald. The [New York Times](#) (4/17, Bosman, 20.6M) reports, "Chicagoans reacted with horror and grief to body-camera video released on Thursday that showed the killing of Adam Toledo," 13, on March 29. The footage shows Toledo being pursued "down an alley by a police officer, who orders him to stop and show his hands. An analysis of the video, slowing down events that took place in the space of a second, shows the teenager then appearing to toss a handgun nearby and raise his hands in the air, just before the officer shoots him in the chest." The Times adds, "For Chicagoans who are still pained by the shooting death of Laquan McDonald by the police in 2014, Adam's death renews the anguish, particularly in heavily Black and Latino neighborhoods where residents have long said they are unfairly targeted by the police."

On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/17, story 6, 1:55, Johnson, 3.89M), correspondent Janai Norman reported Toledo's family is mourning Toledo, "telling ABC News he was a kind and funny kid who loved to laugh, sharing never-before-seen pictures of" him. Norman added that officer Eric Stillman, who fired the fatal shot, "joined the force in 2014. He's had three complaints of misconduct but no disciplinary action and no use of force reports indicating he fired his weapon before this shooting. And the officer's attorney says he faced a life-threatening situation and left with no other option before opening fire."

Hundreds Call For Accountability Over Toledo Killing. On [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/17, story 5, 1:17, Diaz-Balart, 3.44M), correspondent Ron Allen reported that in Chicago, hundreds called for accountability after viewing the body-camera footage of Toledo being shot. Toledo family attorney Adeena Weiss Ortiz said, "He said show me your hands. The child did and there was nothing in his hands when he got shot." According to Allen, "Stillman's attorney says the boy was with an older gang member just after a drive-by shooting and the officer fired, fearing the boy was armed." In a brief broadcast on the demonstrations in Chicago, the [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/17, story 4, 0:12, Diaz, 1.74M) reported they "were mostly peaceful, but there were some clashes with police."

WSJournal Analysis: Toledo Shooting Highlighted Problem Of How Chicago Children Are Being Fatally Shot. A [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/16, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) analysis said the shooting of Toledo highlighted Chicago's problem of how its children are being fatally shot.

Chicago Mayor Says She Will Not Resign Over Toledo Shooting. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (4/18, Pratt, Byrne, 2.03M) reports Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot (D) on Sunday "blasted unsubstantiated social media chatter as 'homophobic, racist and misogynistic rumors' and indicated she is not resigning." The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (4/18, Schuba, 970K) reports the claim that Lightfoot "planned to step down Sunday was apparently fueled by a now-deleted tweet sent by Ja'Mal Green, an activist and former mayoral candidate who continues to call for her resignation," though [Fox News](#) (4/18, Fordham, 23.99M) reports on its website that Green "seemed slightly apologetic for spreading rumors that Lightfoot intended to resign."

[CNN](#) (4/18, Bradner, 89.21M) reports on its website that "following last week's release of video of the police killing of 13-year-old Adam Toledo, the mayor faces a new round of questions about how Chicago Police Department policies and oversight will change – and why she hasn't yet delivered on her promise."

More Than 130 Individuals Arrested As Demonstrations Over Wright Killing Continue. On [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/17, story 6, 1:00, Allen, 3.44M), correspondent Ron Allen reported that in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, demonstrations against Daunte Wright's killing commenced "with no curfew in effect for the first time. But authorities say the peaceful gathering changed." Minnesota Department of Public Safety Commissioner John Harrington said, "We started to see individuals dressed with helmets, with respirators, and gas masks. We were notified that a part of the fence had been breached." According to Allen,

"Dozens of officers arresting more than 130 people. The most in six-straight nights of clashes with worried-nearby residents caught in the middle." The [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/17, story 3, 0:21, Diaz, 1.74M) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

NYTimes Analysis: Air Fresheners In Car Rearview Mirrors "May Be Treated As Illegal In A Majority Of States." A [New York Times](#) (4/17, Baker, Bogel-Burroughs, 20.6M) analysis says, "the air fresheners that dangle from rearview mirrors" in cars "may be treated as illegal in a majority of states, which have laws prohibiting objects near the windshield that can obstruct motorists' views. They are part of a suite of low-level offenses, such as tinted windows or broken taillights, that civil rights advocates complain have become common pretexts for traffic stops that too often selectively target people of color." The encounter that resulted in Wright's killing "began when officers initiated a traffic stop and raised the issue of a hanging air freshener, according to Mr. Wright's mother." Pete Orput, "the Washington County attorney, said officers had noticed an expired registration tab on Mr. Wright's license plate and decided to pull his car over. One of the officers later noted the air freshener hanging from the mirror, which was a violation of the law, Mr. Orput said."

Brooklyn Center, MN Officials Criticizing Police Response To Protesters. The [AP](#) (4/16, Richmond, Ibrahim) reports Brooklyn Center, Minnesota Mayor Mike Elliott and other "elected leaders in the Minneapolis suburb where a police officer fatally shot Daunte Wright want officers to scale back their tactics amid nightly protests, leaving some law enforcement called in to assist asking whether the city still wants their help." The Post adds officers on Friday night "fired irritants into a crowd of several hundred after part of an outer fence was opened. Demonstrators dissipated shortly after 10 p.m. when officers quickly advanced. Flash bangs and sponge grenades were fired into the crowd, and several protesters who neared a group of officers were pepper sprayed. Some demonstrators scrambled through yards and over backyard fences to evade a perimeter authorities set up for a block around the police department."

Meanwhile, the [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Craig, Foster-Frau, 10.52M) in a more than 2,300-word article says the "unrest" in Brooklyn Center "offers [a] warning to other U.S. suburbs, experts say." The Post reports "demographers and sociologists" highlight "the growing ethnic and economic diversity that continues to sweep into America's suburbs, making those communities the new front line in the nation's culture clashes over racism and policing." The Post adds that as "immigrants and people of color move deeper into the suburbs, increasingly shattering historical stereotypes of White, picket-fence communities, they are redefining politics and contributing to a rise in non-White officeholders. But even as the political leadership of suburban governments becomes more diverse, scholars say the police forces and other local government institutions often lag, creating new flash points for tension among residents."

Alleged Police, FBI Infiltration Of Portland Protests Raises Concerns. [KGW-TV](#) Portland, OR (4/16, Iboshi, 345K) reports from Portland, Oregon, "An unnamed informant. Plainclothes FBI agents. Tactics typically used in drug cases or serious crimes are being used by police monitoring protests in Portland, according to court records." KGW-TV adds, "Activists and civil rights attorneys fear this police surveillance may violate the right to free speech – a risk they worry outweighs any potential benefit. 'I think it has a potential chilling impact on First Amendment speech,' said J. Ashlee Albies, a civil rights attorney in Portland." Albies "worries the tactic may deter law abiding citizens from participating in demonstrations and undermine trust between law enforcement and the community." On April 13, Portland police "declared a riot after demonstrators threw fireworks and set a fire at the Portland Police Association building. Officers arrested one person, 19-year-old Alma Raven-Guido. Court records later revealed that an unnamed informant within the crowd helped identify Raven-Guido, who faces charges of arson, criminal mischief and riot."

DOJ Investigating If "Russiagate" Inquirer Kash Patel Leaked Classified Information. The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/16, Chaitin, 888K) reported the Justice Department is "investigating whether Kash Patel, a former high-ranking Trump Administration official who was instrumental in revealing secrets behind the 'Russiagate' controversy, improperly disclosed classified information." The alleged inquiry was "revealed in a column Friday by Washington Post columnist David Ignatius, who cited 'two knowledgeable sources who requested anonymity because of the sensitivity of the probe.'" The sources "said the investigation began this year with a complaint submitted by an intelligence agency, which was not identified." The column "said the sources would not provide further details, and Patel could not be reached for comment."

Police Identify Austin Gunman As Former Sheriff's Detective Accused Of Child Sexual Assault. The [Washington Post](#) (4/18, Shamma, Thebault, 10.52M) reports the FBI and US Marshals Service are assisting in the manhunt "for a former law enforcement officer who allegedly opened fire at an apartment complex in Austin on Sunday, killing three people before fleeing." The Post adds that Austin police "identified the suspect as Stephen Nicholas Broderick, 41, a former detective at the Travis County Sheriff's Office who is considered armed and dangerous," but the [Austin \(TX\) American Statesman](#) (4/18,

Martinez-Cabrera, Plohetski, Autullo, Odam, Subscription Publication, 261K) reports interim Austin Police Chief Joe Chacon "said police are no longer classifying the incident as an active shooter situation," as "preliminary information is that Broderick knew the victims and that the shooting was targeted to them." [Fox News](#) (4/18, Fordham, 23.99M) reports online that police "said that the three lifeless bodies were all adults, including two Hispanic females, and one Black male."

While [CNN](#) (4/18, Silverman, Elassar, 89.21M) reports on its website that his motive "is currently unknown," the [AP](#) (4/18, Vertuno) says Travis County District Attorney Jose Garza "said in a statement that Broderick had been arrested for sexual assault of a child last June and was released on \$50,000 bond." The AP adds Garza "said that the district attorney's office on Sunday filed a motion to revoke that bond and is actively supporting law enforcement as they pursue Broderick." The [Dallas Morning News](#) (4/18, Keomoungkhoun, 772K) says a spokesperson for the Travis County sheriff's office "told the American-Statesman that Broderick was a property crimes detective and resigned after the arrest." The [New York Post](#) (4/18, Fitz-Gibbon, 7.45M) and the [New York Daily News](#) (4/18, Feldman, 2.51M), as well as the [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/18, story 9, 0:15, Davis, 4.85M) and [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/18, lead story, 1:35, Snow, 6.41M) segments, provided similar coverage.

The [Houston Chronicle](#) (4/18, Blackman, 982K) reports the shooting "rattled the capital city and a nation already on edge, coming amid a string of mass shootings across the country." Likewise, [USA Today](#) (4/18, Martinez-Cabrera, Bacon, 12.7M) reports "the rampage was the latest of several shooting attacks across the nation," but President Biden's calls "for tighter gun restrictions to combat the carnage have drawn little support in Texas." According to USA Today, "The shooting comes two days after the Texas House of Representatives approved and sent to the state Senate a bill that would allow anyone at least 21 years old to carry a handgun without a permit."

Wisconsin Police Arrest Suspect For Shooting At Kenosha Bar The [Kenosha \(WI\) News](#) (4/18, Smith, 91K) reports the Kenosha Sheriff's Department on Sunday arrested a suspect "for a shooting that left three men dead and three injured in a shooting early Sunday morning at the Somers House Tavern near Kenosha," and announced they "will be referring at least one charge of first-degree intentional homicide to the Kenosha County district attorney with additional charges pending further information." The News adds Sheriff's Sgt. David Wright "said no additional information would be released on the suspect Sunday afternoon. But according to Kenosha County Jail records, a 24-year-old homeless man was booked into the jail at 5:19 p.m. Sunday on a charge of first-degree homicide. Court records indicated that the man previously had a Racine address."

The [Washington Post](#) (4/18, Beachum, 10.52M) reports the sheriff's department on Sunday morning had "described the suspect as a Black male over 6 feet tall wearing a light-colored hooded sweatshirt," but "didn't confirm if the person of interest with pending charges was the suspect described in their previous statements." The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (4/18, Carson, 844K) reports that according to Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth, the suspected shooter "was a patron who 'wasn't cooperating with the management' at the tavern," and while the man left the bar, he "returned a short time later, about 12:45 a.m., and began shooting." Beth added the shooter "'knew who the victims were' and targeted them." The [AP](#) (4/18) reports Beth "said he believed at least one handgun was used." [Axios](#) (4/18, Rummel, 1.26M) and the [Fox News](#) (4/18, Stimson, 23.99M) website provide similar coverage.

Meanwhile, the [New York Times](#) (4/18, Ramzy, Kwai, 20.6M) describes the shooting as "the latest instance of gun violence in a nation where such bloodshed has grown wearily commonplace." [USA Today](#) (4/18, Carson, Bacon, 12.7M) reports mass shootings "have claimed four or more American lives every week for the past six weeks, leaving dozens dead and several more people wounded." USA Today adds that Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers (D) "called it a 'senseless tragedy' and said he and his wife are 'thinking of the families and loved ones affected and the entire Kenosha community as they grieve and grapple with yet another tragic incident of gun violence.'"

[CNN](#) (4/18, Spells, Yan, 89.21M) reports on its website that the US "has suffered at least 47 mass shootings since March 16, when eight people were killed at three Atlanta-area spas."

Florida Nurse Charged For Threatening To Kill Harris. The [Miami Herald](#) (4/16, Weaver, 647K) reports that "a longtime nurse at Jackson Memorial Hospital has been charged in Miami federal court with making threats to kill Vice President Kamala Harris, which she recorded in a series of videos she sent to her husband in prison." According to the Herald, "Federal authorities say the threats from Niviane Petit Phelps, a 39-year-old mother of three who lives in Miami Gardens, were serious enough that she practiced at a gun range and applied for a concealed weapons permit." The Herald says Phelps, "who is Black...threatened to kill Harris in the videos because she believes the vice president 'isn't actually Black,' according to the complaint by a Secret Service agent, who spoke with her before her arrest this month."

Maxwell Has To Stand Trial After Judge Turns Down Dismissal Request. [Bloomberg](#) (4/16, Hurtado, 3.57M) reports Ghislaine Maxwell "must stand trial on sex-trafficking charges after a U.S. judge rejected her dismissal

request, paving the way for a trial that could begin as soon as July." Maxwell "is accused of recruiting girls for sex for former boyfriend Jeffrey Epstein in a scheme that ran from 1994 to 2004."

Family Of Tamir Rice Asks Garland To Reopen Probe Into Rice's Killing. The [New York Times](#) (4/16, Benner, 20.6M) reports, "The family of Tamir Rice, a 12-year-old boy who was shot and killed in 2014 by the Cleveland police, has asked Attorney General Merrick B. Garland to reopen the Justice Department's investigation into the shooting, which was closed in December after the department said it could not charge the officers." In a letter to Garland from Friday, attorneys representing Rice's mother said, "The election of President Biden, your appointment, and your commitment to the rule of law, racial justice, and police reform give Tamir's family hope that the chance for accountability is not lost forever." The attorneys added, "We write on their behalf to request that you reopen this investigation and convene a grand jury to consider charges against the police officers who killed Tamir."

Medical Expert: Police Actions Did Not Cause Prude's Death. The [AP](#) (4/16, Sisak) reports, "Prosecutors overseeing a grand jury investigation into the death of Daniel Prude last year in Rochester, New York, undercut the case for criminal charges with testimony from a medical expert who said three police officers who held Prude to the ground until he stopped breathing didn't do anything wrong." Dr. Gary Vilke "told the grand jury that Prude, a 41-year-old Black man, died of a heart attack caused by the medical phenomenon known as excited delirium." Transcripts disclosed to the public on Friday indicate that Vilke "said the officers' actions, which included placing a mesh hood over Prude's head, had no impact on his breathing."

Charges Still Possible For Officers Who Restrained Prude. The [AP](#) (4/17) reports, "Newly released grand jury transcripts shed more light on why police officers who restrained Daniel Prude avoided criminal charges in his death, but the city of Rochester and the officers could still be held accountable." Disciplinary charges remain a possibility for "the officers, lawyers for Prude's estate have filed a civil lawsuit and a federal civil rights action also is possible."

Law Enforcement Warns Of Growing Vaccine Card Scams. The [Washington Post](#) (4/18, A1, Diamond, 10.52M) reports that US law enforcement officials are attempting to curtail the growing market for illegal vaccine cards. North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein (D), who "led a recent effort with 47 colleagues demanding that eBay and other e-commerce platforms" to crack down on such offers, has "pointed to the FBI's warning that anyone who makes or buys a fake vaccine card is breaking the law."

Federal Grand Jury Probing Dark Money In US Steel Industry. The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (4/16, Sallah, 426K) reports that "hundreds of millions of dollars...stolen from a Ukraine bank" and "secretly moved into the United States" were "used to pump up the cash reserves of Warren Steel in a money laundering scheme carried out across the country, the U.S. Justice Department alleges." Federal prosecutors "say Ukraine oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky, a powerful figure in his country who was banned last month by the State Department from entering the United States, secretly purchased a dozen other steel mills in small towns from Ohio to Texas." The Post-Gazette adds, "Bank records, emails and other critical documents were turned over to a federal grand jury examining the finances of the Ohio mill that prosecutors say became a conduit for tens of millions of dollars siphoned from PrivatBank in Ukraine, according to two sources familiar with the probe."

FBI Probing Pension Fund's \$14M In Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Projects. The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (4/18, Distefano, McCoy) reports, "The FBI is investigating the purchase of millions of dollars in real estate in Harrisburg by Pennsylvania's largest pension fund, The Inquirer has learned." The Inquirer adds, "People familiar with the newly disclosed probe say federal authorities are digging into the PSERS fund's authorization of \$13.5 million in spending in recent years to purchase and demolish buildings near its headquarters in the state capital. While remaining silent about the focus of the investigation, the pension plan itself disclosed earlier this month that federal authorities, using a grand jury, have subpoenaed records from its management."

Biden Administration Is Improving Cyber Defenses Against Russia And China. The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (4/16, 234K) reported the SolarWinds hack was "exposed as the legislative process unfolded for what Sen. Angus King (I-ME) called 'the most comprehensive piece of national cybersecurity legislation ever passed in US history.'" The 2021 annual defense bill "included 27 cyber defense provisions, from efforts to improve email security to the creation of a new Office of the National Cyber Director within the White House." The provisions were "largely the result of the work of the congressionally mandated Cyberspace Solarium Commission, which Senator King co-chaired with Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI)." On Thursday, a senior Administration official "said in a press briefing that the efforts already underway to increase multi-factor authentication and

other security measures across the nine affected agencies will be the 'hallmark' of an upcoming executive order focused on the government's software procurement."

US Investigating Breach At Code Testing Company. [Reuters](#) (4/16) reported federal investigators are "probing an intrusion at San Francisco-based software auditing company Codecov that affected an unknown number of its 29,000 customers, raising the specter of knock-on breaches at companies elsewhere." Codecov "said in a statement hackers began tampering with its software – which is used across the tech industry to help test code for mistakes and vulnerabilities – on January 31." However, the intrusion was "only detected earlier this month when an astute customer noticed there was something off about the tool." The breach "drew comparisons to the recent compromise of Texas software firm SolarWinds, both because the breach could have follow-on effects at many of the organizations that use Codecov and because of the length of time that the doctored software remained in circulation."

Garland Moves To Allow DOJ To Impose Changes On Police Departments. The [Washington Post](#) (4/16, Nakamura, 10.52M) reports that on Friday, Attorney General Garland "rescinded a Trump-era near-ban on the Justice Department's use of consent decrees to force the restructuring of local law enforcement agencies, signaling a push from the Biden administration to resume use of the tactic amid a continued outcry from liberal groups about abusive policing." According to the Post, "In a four-page memo to staff, Garland said he would rescind the 2018 order from former attorney general Jeff Sessions that imposed strict new measures aimed at drastically limiting the use of the settlement agreements with local police. Under Garland's memo, Justice Department lawyers who are leading the litigation, including the assistant attorneys general or U.S. attorneys, will be authorized to approve the consent decrees."

The [New York Times](#) (4/16, Benner, 20.6M) says Garland's memo "was not unexpected, and it revives one of the department's most effective tools in forcing law enforcement agencies to evaluate and change their practices." The Times also says his action comes "as the Justice Department prepares to step up its role in investigating allegations of racist and illegal behavior by police forces amid a nationwide outcry about the deaths of Black people at the hands of officers." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/16, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

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