

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Courtney, Paul V. (ATR)" (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Thx

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 12:57:46 -0400

Importance: Normal

Sounds good! Travel safely.

From: Courtney, Paul V. (ATR) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 12:57 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Thx

I do please, but I'm in Austin for a case. I'll be back on Thursday. Later this week please?

Paul V. Courtney

Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General

Antitrust Division | U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 11:56:01 AM

To: Courtney, Paul V. (ATR) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Thx

Let's get coffee this afternoon, if you please!

From: Courtney, Paul V. (ATR) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 12:23 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Thx

The Eagle has landed

Paul V. Courtney

Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General

Antitrust Division | U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 10:59:26 AM

To: OAG-Weaponization WG (b) (6)

Subject: Thx

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Wharton, Kendra (ODAG)" (b) (6) >, "Singh, Aakash (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Outreach

Date: Mon, 19 May 2025 13:59:22 -0400

Importance: Normal

Yes, I spoke with Reince already. The 28th works but early is better...

Ed

Ed Martin

From: Wharton, Kendra (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 1:54 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6) Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: FW: Outreach

Ed, Aakash –

(b) (5)

Do you both have an hour or so to meet with the PIAB folks next Wednesday, May 28th? I am free before 11:30, between 12-1, or between 2:30-4 pm. We can also loop in the others, but I wanted to start with you first.

Kendra

From: Wharton, Kendra (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 10:33:49 AM

To: Davine, Robert P. EOP/PIAB (b) (6)

Cc: Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Outreach

I'm free until 12:45, and then from 1:30 to 2:30.

Kendra

From: Davine, Robert P. EOP/PIAB (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:58 AM

To: Wharton, Kendra (ODAG) (b) (6)

000003

Cc: Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Outreach

Thanks Kendra! How about if we have a brief phone call today? I am good anytime except for 1-1:30PM. Just give me a time and I will call your cell.

From: Wharton, Kendra (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 9:52 AM

To: Davine, Robert P. EOP/PIAB (b) (6) >; Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Outreach

Hi Bob –

I'm generally available today through Wednesday for a call/Teams if you'd like to speak in advance. I will be on official travel Thursday, but can make myself available on Friday. As for next week, Wednesday, May 28th would work best for me.

I look forward to speaking with you.

Kendra

Kendra Wharton

Associate Deputy Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice | ODAG

950 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, D.C. 20530

(b) (6)

Cell: (b) (6)

From: Davine, Robert P. EOP/PIAB (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 19, 2025 8:58 AM

To: Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6) Wharton, Kendra (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Outreach

Aakash/Kendra:

Would like to chat live about setting up a meeting with you and two of our Board members on 27 or 28 May?

I can make any time work – let me know what's good for you.

Thanks!

Bob Davine

Director | [President's Intelligence Advisory Board](#)

U: (b) (6) | S: (b) (6) | Main: (b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Joe Cameron" <joe@modernfortis.com>

Cc: "Margo Klosterman" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Sole-Source Contract Discussion

Date: Tue, 20 May 2025 12:42:31 -0400

Importance: Normal

Inline-Images: image001.png

Great. Yes, thank you for all your kindness and effort for me.

Ed

Ed Martin

From: Joe Cameron <joe@modernfortis.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 12:21 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Cc: Margo Klosterman (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Sole-Source Contract Discussion

Mr. Martin,

It's great to reconnect with you, sir. I had the privilege of working alongside my colleague Frank Russo, as well as Mike Howell and Sam Dewey, helping secure support from law enforcement organizations for your confirmation process—most recently with the United Coalition of Public Safety (UCOPS).

First and foremost, congratulations on your new role at the Department of Justice. I wanted to reach out and see if you might be available for a brief phone call regarding what is being called a "Biden Auto-Pen" contract. The **sole-source** contract is substantial, with a value exceeding \$250 million.

I appreciate your time and look forward to the opportunity to speak with you again.

Stay safe,



Joseph M. Cameron

CEO/President

Joe@ModernFortis.com

O: (202) 800-1015

C: (b) (6)

800 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20006

000008

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From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Nieves, Brian (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: RE: HJC Contact Info

Date: Tue, 20 May 2025 16:32:35 -0400

Importance: Normal

Perfect. Thank you!

Ed

From: Nieves, Brian (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 3:53 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: HJC Contact Info

Ed – As discussed, below is the phone number for Caroline Nabity from the House Judiciary Committee. She is the Chief Oversight Counsel and, last Congress, was also Chief Counsel for the Weaponization Subcommittee.

Caroline Nabity: (b) (6)

Best,

Brian D. Nieves

Deputy Chief of Staff & Senior Counsel for Policy
Office of the Deputy Attorney General

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Nieves, Brian (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: McCabe, Neil

Date: Tue, 20 May 2025 18:55:28 -0400

Importance: Normal

Thank you.

Ed Martin

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 6:55:15 PM

To: Nieves, Brian (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: McCabe, Neil

Ok.

Ed Martin

From: Nieves, Brian (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 6:51:12 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: McCabe, Neil

It's a process but it was brought up to PPO at the meeting this afternoon. Will check in with them in a few days for a status update.

Best,
Brian

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 6:42:31 PM

To: Nieves, Brian (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: McCabe, Neil

Brian

I'm checking in after your PPO meeting because I really need to get Neil McCabe on board. I need the help on logistics, schedule, policy, and everything else I'm doing.

He's already in the system from working at the US attorney's office. Did you guys have a chance to get him cleared?

Thx.

Ed

Ed Martin

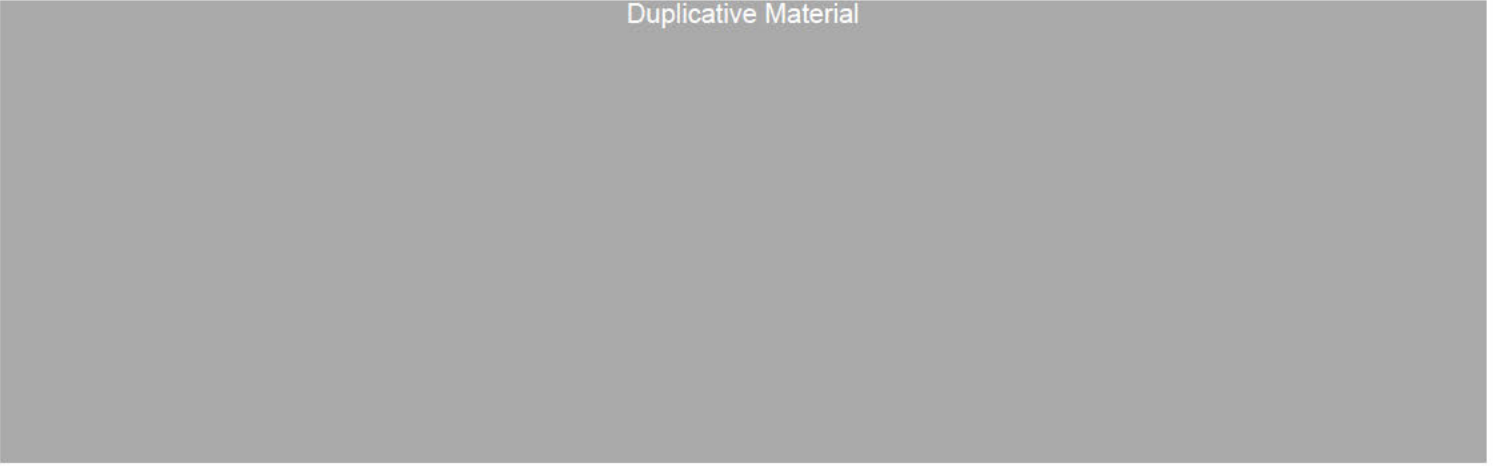
From: Nieves, Brian (ODAG) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 3:52:53 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) [REDACTED] (b) (6)

Subject: HJC Contact Info

Duplicative Material



From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)" (b) (6)

Cc: "McGavick, Gates (PAO)" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Catchup

Date: Wed, 21 May 2025 16:18:02 -0400

Importance: Normal

Will do!

Thx.

Ed

Ed Martin

From: Gilmartin, Chad (PAO) (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 11:20:43 AM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Cc: McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Catchup

Apologies for the late response here – sounds great! Keep me and my colleague, Gates (cc'd), posted. Thank you!

-Chad

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 8:00 AM

To: Gilmartin, Chad (PAO) (b) (6)

Subject: Catchup

Chad

I've been in frenetic onboarding at both Pardon and Weaponization. Sorry I've been slow in getting in touch.

Todd made sure to tell me yesterday to be in touch on media. I'll do better.

Thx.

All the best.

Ed

Ed Martin

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Singh, Aakash (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Accepted: WWG

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 04:43:18 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: unnamed

Event: Accepted: WWG

Start Date: 2025-05-22 10:00:00 -0400

End Date: 2025-05-22 11:00:00 -0400

Location: TAX Main Conf Room 4141

Class: X-PERSONAL

Date Created: 2025-05-22 04:43:16 -0400

Date Modified: 2025-05-22 04:43:20 -0400

Priority: 5

DTSTAMP: 2025-05-22 04:43:16 -0400

Attendee: Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Poplin, Cody (ODAG)" (b) (6), "Martin, Edward (USADC)" (b) (6)

Cc: "Perkins, Paul (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: URGENT: DDC Brief re FBI / J6

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 04:44:21 -0400

Importance: Normal

Sorry. I saw this while driving and meant to answer when I stopped.
All good.

Ed Martin

From: Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 10:03:00 PM

To: Martin, Edward (USADC) (b) (6); Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

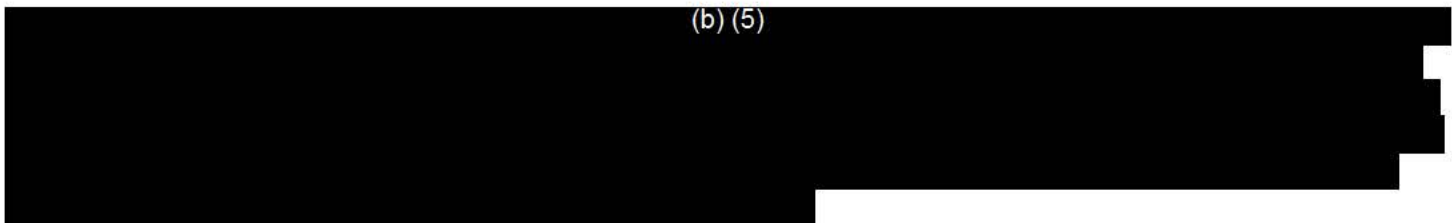
Cc: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: URGENT: DDC Brief re FBI / J6

Hi Ed,

I wanted to quickly flag that we intend to file the attached brief tonight in *Does v. DOJ*, 25-325 (DDC). The brief addresses certain comments you made during a recent press conference.

(b) (5)



Please let us know if you would like to discuss or have any questions. I apologize for the late and short notice. If we do not hear from you, we will otherwise plan to file by 10:30 pm.

Thank you,
Cody

--

Cody M. Poplin

Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General

U.S. Department of Justice

(b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "DAGSchedule40 (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Accepted: Weaponization working group meeting

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 08:51:07 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: unnamed

Event: Accepted: Weaponization working group meeting

Start Date: 2025-05-22 12:30:00 -0400

End Date: 2025-05-22 12:50:00 -0400

Location: DAG Conference Room 4111

Class: X-PERSONAL

Date Created: 2025-05-22 08:51:07 -0400

Date Modified: 2025-05-22 08:51:08 -0400

Priority: 5

DTSTAMP: 2025-05-22 08:51:07 -0400

Attendee: DAGSchedule40 (ODAG) (b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "(b) (6) (ODAG)" (b) (6) (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email
(b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email (b) (6) (ODAG)" <(b) (6)>

Subject: Visitors with SFC MCCABE

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 09:34:52 -0400

Importance: Normal

(b) (6)

CCed on this email is Sgt. First Class Neil McCabe who will be bringing three visitors to see me at 2:15 PM today.

Can you please work with him to get them here and meet in a conference room on the fourth floor?

Ed Martin

From: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 7:56:35 AM

To: Attias, Joseph (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Pestana, Diego (ODAG) (b) (6); McDonald, Colin (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Wise, Jared (ODAG) (b) (6); Davis, Nick (ODAG) (b) (6); Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)

<(b) (6)>

Cc: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: Late Arrival

Good morning, I will be arriving around noon today. (b) (6). Please reach out to (b) (6) if assistance is needed.

Thanks

(b) (6) Staff Assistant
Office of the Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Dept. of Justice

(b) (6) (direct)
(b) (6) (mobile)
(b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)
To: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6) >
Cc: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6) (b) (6) >

Subject: Peter Ticktin meeting today

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 09:44:25 -0400

Importance: Normal

(b) (6)

CCed on this email is Peter Ticktin who will be coming to see me at about 3PM today.
Can you please work with him to get him here and meet in a conference room on the fourth floor?
Thx.
Ed

Ed Martin

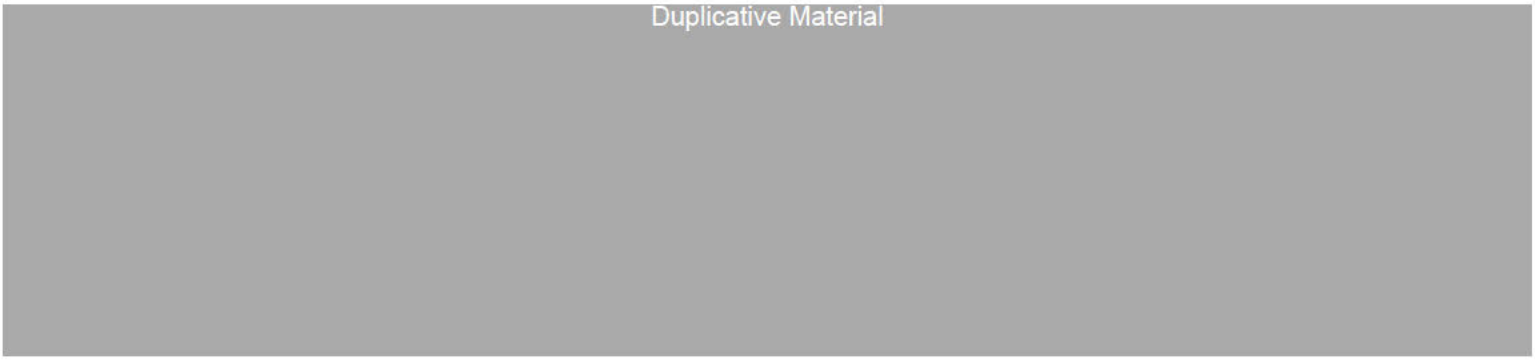
From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 9:30:23 AM
To: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6); (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6) >
Subject: Re: Late Arrival

Sounds good, (b) (6)
I will send you two emails right now about some visitors coming to see me today. One group of visitors will be at 2:15 PM and the other group will be at 3:15 PM.
Thx.
Ed

Ed Martin

From: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6) >
Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 7:56 AM
To: Attias, Joseph (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Pestana, Diego (ODAG) (b) (6) >;
McDonald, Colin (ODAG) (b) (6); Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Wise,
Jared (ODAG) (b) (6); Davis, Nick (ODAG) (b) (6); Martin, Edward Jr.
(PARDON) (b) (6)
Cc: (b) (6) (ODAG) (b) (6) >
Subject: Late Arrival

Duplicative Material



From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Wise, Jared (ODAG)" (b) (6) >, "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

Subject: VA

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 09:59:04 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: EM_TO_DO_LIST.pdf; KS_NOTES_OF_Call_to_the_VA_Rep_4_10_25(1).pdf

Ed Martin

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 9:58:03 AM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject:

Ed Martin

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) (b) (6)

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 11:37:53 -0400

Importance: Normal

Joe

My phone number is (b) (6). Please share your cell #.

Ed Martin

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b)(6) - Ed Martin Email Address

Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Link

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 16:01:39 -0400

Importance: Normal

Ed Martin

From: Breanna Morello (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 22, 2025 4:00:42 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) <(b) (6)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Link

<https://guest.ecamm.live/564db14c2>

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

Subject:

Date: Thu, 22 May 2025 16:42:18 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: DRAFT_EXECUTIVE_ORDER_05.01_v3_(1)_(002).docx

Ed Martin

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "DAGSchedule40 (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Accepted: Weekly Weaponization Working Group Meeting

Date: Fri, 23 May 2025 12:01:15 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: unnamed

Event: Accepted: Weekly Weaponization Working Group Meeting

Start Date: 2025-05-30 12:00:00 -0400

End Date: 2025-05-30 12:20:00 -0400

Location: DAG Conference Room 4111

Class: X-PERSONAL

Date Created: 2025-05-23 12:01:15 -0400

Date Modified: 2025-05-23 12:01:17 -0400

Priority: 5

DTSTAMP: 2025-05-23 12:01:15 -0400

Attendee: DAGSchedule40 (ODAG) (b) (6)

Recurs: Weekly on FR until 2025-08-29

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Fox, Jordan (ODAG)" (b) (6) >

Subject: Re: Weekly weaponization working group meetings

Date: Fri, 23 May 2025 12:02:08 -0400

Importance: Normal

Phew. Thx.

Ed Martin

From: Fox, Jordan (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 12:01:50 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Weekly weaponization working group meetings

Hi Ed,

I'm sorry I should have been more clear in my email. The weekly meetings will start next Friday.

Thanks!

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 12:01:05 PM

To: Fox, Jordan (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: Re: Weekly weaponization working group meetings

Sorry. Just saw this. Did you mean today? I set up a meeting with Alice Johnson today and I'm at her office now.

This weekly meeting is great but today is tough.

Ed

Ed Martin

From: Fox, Jordan (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 10:56 AM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6) Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

DeLorenz, Chris (ODAG) (b) (6) Henricks, Aaron (ODAG) (b) (6)

Bhirud, Ketan (ODAG) (b) (6); Day, Vance (ODAG) (b) (6) Davis, Nick

(ODAG) (b) (6) >; Wharton, Kendra (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Wise, Jared (ODAG)

(b) (6) >; Kapoor, Vetan (ODAG) (b) (6)

Cc: Nieves, Brian (ODAG) (b) (6)

Subject: Weekly weaponization working group meetings

Hi everyone,

000069

Todd and Emil would like to start having weekly meetings every Friday with the Weaponization Working Group. I am going to send a recurring calendar invite for every Friday at 12pm.

Thanks,
Jordan

Jordan Fox

Chief of Staff

Office of the Deputy Attorney General

(b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Mark Halperin" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL]

Date: Fri, 23 May 2025 16:27:15 -0400

Importance: Normal

Thank you. Enjoyed it. I admire you and your work.
Ed

Ed Martin

From: Mark Halperin (b) (6)

Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 3:09:11 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Counselor,

Very grateful to you for coming on.

Please return regularly.

Mark

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)
To: "Eric Early" <early@earlysullivan.com>, (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email
(b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email
Cc: "Charles Herring" (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Publicly filed Documents
Date: Fri, 23 May 2025 19:45:13 -0400
Importance: Normal
Inline-Images: image001.jpg

Thank you.

Ed Martin

From: Eric Early <early@earlysullivan.com>
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 6:32:22 PM
To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6) (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email >
Cc: Charles Herring (b) (6) >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Publicly filed Documents

Ed and Neil,

Attached please find 2 documents which were publicly filed regarding Herring's dispute with among others, William Kennard. I can explain the status of these actions when you want.

A. Redacted publicly filed version of Counterclaims before Judge Nichols filed in Federal Court in D.C on May 5, 2024. Pertinent paragraphs:

1. Opening paragraph
2. Paragraphs 1-15
3. Paragraphs 24-25
4. Paragraph 30
5. Paragraphs 78-91
6. Paragraphs 94-98
7. Paragraphs 101-121
8. Paragraphs 141-144

B. Publicly filed Complaint against among others, William Kennard in San Diego State Court. Filed March 7, 2022. Pertinent paragraphs:

9. Opening paragraph
10. Paragraph 9
11. Paragraphs 35-49
12. Paragraphs 89-94

As for the deposition transcripts of ATT's Person Most Knowledgeable, which was taken in the San Diego action, I am reviewing any potential confidentiality designation issues to determine whether I can share them.

Thanks,
Eric



ERIC P. EARLY | MANAGING PARTNER
[Early Sullivan Wright Gizer & McRae LLP](#)

323.301.4660 **Main**

323.301.4670 **Direct**

323.301.4676 **Fax**

6420 Wilshire Blvd., 17th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90048

early@earlysullivan.com

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From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6) (b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email
(b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email

Subject: Fw: (b) (5)

Date: Sat, 24 May 2025 21:00:01 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: (b) (5).commutation.summary.docx; (b) (5) -
_Petition_for_Commutation.pdf

Ed Martin

From: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Saturday, May 24, 2025 8:59:29 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: (b) (5)

Ed Martin

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Derek Utley" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: (b) (6) Pardon Request

Date: Tue, 27 May 2025 05:34:50 -0400

Importance: Normal

Received.

Ed Martin

From: Derek Utley (b) (6)

Sent: Monday, May 26, 2025 1:05:15 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: (b) (6) Pardon Request

Hey Ed. I just wanted to confirm you received?
Sent from my iPhone

On May 19, 2025, at 5:26 PM, Derek Utley (b) (6) wrote:

Ed,

Please see the original pardon application for (b) (6)

(b) (6)

He's just a hard working American.

I really want him to finally get a pardon because he turned his life around and is a role model for so many people. He's one of the kindest people I've ever been friends with. I am confident the President would issue a full pardon if it crossed his desk. Thank you for your attention on this, I greatly appreciate it.

Derek

Derek Utley

Chairman

X Strategies, LLC

Mobile: (b) (6)

www.xstrats.com

303 Evernia Street, Suite 200

West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Pardon Application (b) (6) Draft DEC 2020 (H4255356x7A869).PDF

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email

Subject: Fw: Today

Date: Tue, 27 May 2025 13:01:08 -0400

Importance: Normal

Ed Martin

From: Misty Callahan <(b) (6)>

Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 11:26:07 AM

To: Alex Marlow (b) (6) >; (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email <(b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email>; Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Today

Hello all!

Please see below for the link to the Riverside studio we use. Just be sure to use Chrome as your browser when you click on the link.

Best,
Misty

Link: (b) (6)

From: Alex Marlow (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 10:24 AM

To: (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email >; Misty Callahan (b) (6); (b) (6) (b) (6)

Subject: Today

Hi Ed and Neil, looking forward to the interview today, my producer Misty is CCed

Misty, please send around the link to Ed Martin and his right hand Neil McCabe

Guys, feel free to hit me with any points that you wanna make sure we touch on.

Plan is to talk at 1pm E

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Haley, Vincent M. EOP/WHO" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Scheduling appt with Seth Keshel

Date: Tue, 27 May 2025 15:38:54 -0400

Importance: Normal

Will try

Ed Martin

From: Haley, Vincent M. EOP/WHO (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 1:11:42 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: Scheduling appt with Seth Keshel

Do you have any interest in attending since weaponization around the election is in your writ? Seth Keshel was introduced to me through Newt and he apparently is credible on election integrity, including a look back at concerns about 2020. (b) (5)

From: Seth Keshel (b) (6)

Sent: Saturday, May 24, 2025 8:42 PM

To: Vince Haley (b) (6)

Cc: Gorman, Alexander J. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Haley, Vincent M. EOP/WHO (b) (6); Centorino, Scott G. EOP/WHO (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Scheduling appt with Seth Keshel

Gentlemen,

I am looking forward to visiting with you all on Thursday at 2 PM. I will be accompanied by my wife, Arizona State Rep. Rachel Keshel, and we should both be squared away with the security desk as directed by Alex.

I have prepared a slideshow which I can pull up on my device, or provide to someone else if there is need or desire to put it up on a projector or screen for a better view. I will also bring a few printouts of some complex material that should be spread out on the desk or table with us for reference, which you can keep. I have also had a read book printed up and spiral bound with six state summaries of findings for 2024 (all swings states), my national recap, and four appendix items which will appear in the presentation.

WHO I AM

I am a former Army Captain of Military Intelligence and Afghanistan veteran with a penchant for trend analysis and number crunching. I developed these skills while at Ole Miss as a statistician for the baseball program about ten years before advanced analytics became important in the college game. I left Ole Miss after I received my commission in 2008, and spent the 2010-11 "surge" year in western Afghanistan, further honing my analytical mindset in a combat environment. I was always more political than most, and in 2016, I perfectly predicted the election that year despite the phony polling based on what is now my speciality - party registration data - a nearly perfect indicator of electoral trend.

This validated experience and continued study enabled me to quickly identify the anomalies, irregularities, and outright electoral chaos and fraud of the 2020 election long before many noticed it. For instance, I had been watching Florida, which shifted in the same direction as Michigan and Pennsylvania in every presidential race since 1952... except for, of

course, the 2020 race. I was then able to dig into various counties away from major metros and identify clearly aberrant totals that made no sense but were consistent with the lawless conduct of that election and the law/rule changes in place during President Trump's first term in the White House. In the immediate aftermath of the week of 11/3, I pushed my research everywhere to party chairs and found many had already left on vacation. Ultimately, I wound up connecting with General Flynn, who pushed me into the circle of analysts who did all we could to keep POTUS in office, not realizing courts wouldn't take the issue up in earnest.

When the election integrity movement began in 2021 with the Maricopa County audit (which I did not work in), my research became focal online, on X, Telegram, Truth Social (starting in 2022), and other platforms such as Substack, where I operate the #75 ranked publication covering US politics worldwide. I was all over every podcast you could find, on Bannon's War Room, the Cyber Symposium, and at various events across the country. I spoke at more than 200 in 45 states between 2021 and the present, and in 2021, President Trump commended my work on election integrity both in writing and at his rally in Cullman, Alabama. I eventually lost my day job making six figures over my activism on elections.

Most recently, I made a perfect prediction of the 2024 election down to the exact electoral count, getting all 56 races right: https://skeshel.substack.com/p/the-final-prediction?utm_source=publication-search

The beautiful irony of that prediction is that it landed less than a month after the NYT threw a hit piece at me, making fun of my modeling (which accounts for traditional analytics AND my own proprietary understanding of how many *ballots* are possible in a state or county based on existing laws and my own precinct analysis that shows exactly how many can be stuffed, and where. That piece is here: <https://archive.ph/2024.10.15-213622/https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/15/technology/seth-keshel-2024-election-trump.html>

So, to keep it short - I am grateful you're allowing me to come present. I will PROMISE you this will not be a waste of time. I am not after a job, but I will tell you that I've given up my entire life now at 40 to help solve this existential problem, and I further pledge to you that you will receive and see information that you've not seen anywhere else. People who get branded as "election deniers" come with many theories and there are some in the ranks who aren't so credible, but no one has shot holes in my theories for the four years I've been standing. Please come with all the questions you have - you will not offend me at all.

I would attach a CV, but given the nature of this meeting, I'm not so sure it's as relevant as my industry recommendations. You can find those, and the commendation from President Trump, in the attachments. I will do my level best to arm you with the best possible actionable intelligence with which we can establish the shortest distance between theory and solutions, and intend to remain available as a resource to you.

Thank you,

Seth Keshel, MBA

On Tue, Apr 29, 2025 at 11:23 AM Vince Haley <(b) (6)> wrote:

Alex -

Seth Keshel (copied) is coming to DC at end of May.

Please schedule a one hour appointment with Seth, and please include Scott, (copied) when Seth comes to town.

Seth, in the meantime feel free to send Scott and me anything you think we should absorb before our meeting.

Thank you.

Vince

> On Apr 28, 2025, at 4:43 PM, Seth Keshel (b) (6) > wrote:

>

> Mr Haley,

>

>

> I am requesting a small slice of your time so I may discuss my findings with you, as much as you'd like to see, because I am afraid none of the working groups have explained a lot of what my research shows and how simple the electoral reforms could potentially be IF AND ONLY IF we have the right narratives in place.

>

> I can do remotely, or at my expense coming to you. I will also be in DC at end of May if time allows for me to meet you in person. I will subscribe you to my journal and I truly hope to hear back from you. I've really put my life on hold hoping to be part of the solution and have a lot of what you need to see.

>

> I don't need a job - I want to fix my country.

>

> Thank you,

>

> Seth Keshel

> (b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email

Subject: Fw: Glenn Beck TV Zoom Link for 5.28

Date: Wed, 28 May 2025 12:04:49 -0400

Importance: Normal

Ed Martin

From: Sarah Kolk (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 10:24:57 AM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Cc: Stephen Smith (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Glenn Beck TV Zoom Link for 5.28

Hi Mr. Martin - you can use this same link for your interview with Glenn today at 12:15pm ET.

We will test with someone from your team at 12pm ET.

Best,

Sarah

From: Sarah Kolk (b) (6) >

Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 2:47 PM

To: (b)(6) - Ed Martin DOJ Email

Cc: Stephen Smith (b) (6)

Subject: Glenn Beck TV Zoom Link for 5.28

Hello Mr. Martin -

below is the Zoom link for your interview with Glenn tomorrow at 2:45pm ET for 15 minutes. If you or someone from your team is able to hop on at 2pm ET to test the connection that would be great.

Best,

Sarah Kolk
Senior Booking Producer
The Glenn Beck Radio & TV Program

Mercury Control 1 is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: The Glenn Beck Program - TV

Time: May 28, 2025 12:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

(b) (6)

000123

Meeting ID: (b) (6)

One tap mobile

+13462487799, (b) (6) US (Houston)
+17193594580, (b) (6) US

Dial by your location

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US

Meeting ID: (b) (6)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/aAc6RjkZp>

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b)(6) - Ed Martin (b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email

Date: Wed, 28 May 2025 12:43:30 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Alternate_Electors_Pardon.docx

Ed Martin

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6) (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email
(b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email

Subject: Fw: Pardons

Date: Wed, 28 May 2025 17:56:07 -0400

Importance: Normal

Ed Martin

From: Gillespie, Kira (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:32:45 PM

To: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6) Sargent-Burns, Rosalind A. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Pardons

Paul, here is the updated complete list from the White House:

Pardons

Kevin Baisden
Mark Bashaw
Julie Chrisley
Todd Chrisley
Kentrell Gaulden
Michael Grimm
Michael Harris
Jeremy Hutchinson
Marlene Kernan
James Kernan
Tanner Mansell
John Moore
Gov. John Rowland
Charles Scott
Alexander Sittenfeld
Earl Smith
Charles Tanner

Commutations

Lawrence Duran
Larry Hoover
Marian Morgan
Garnett Smith
Edward Sotelo
Joe Sotelo
Anabel Valenzuela
Imaad Zuberi

Have a good evening!

Thanks,

Kira

From: Gillespie, Kira (PARDON) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:02 PM
To: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6); Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6); Sargent-Burns, Rosalind A. (PARDON) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Pardons

We have been promised a complete list later this evening, but so far have been informed of eight, I believe all pardons :

Gov. John Rowland
Alexander Sittenfeld
Michael Grimm
Jeremy Hutchinson
Marlene Kernan
James Kernan
Tanner Mansell
John Moore

Kira

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From: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 4:52:49 PM
To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6); Sargent-Burns, Rosalind A. (PARDON) (b) (6); Gillespie, Kira (PARDON) (b) (6) >
Subject: Pardons

Do you have a list of pardons/commutations granted today?

Paul R. Perkins
Associate Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
(b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email <(b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email>, (b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email
(b)(6) - Ed Martin Personal Email

Subject: Fw: Pardons

Date: Wed, 28 May 2025 18:13:05 -0400

Importance: Normal

Ed Martin

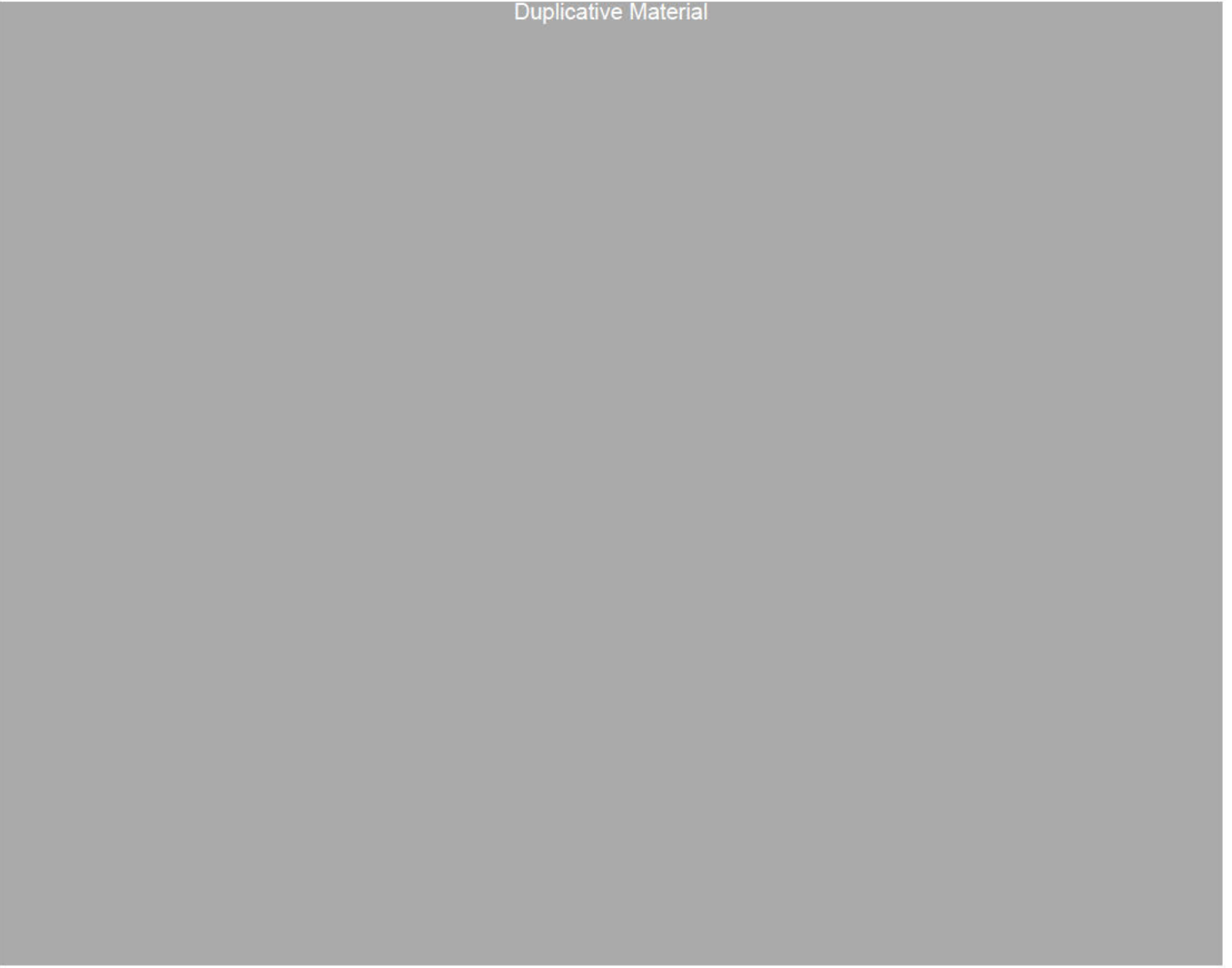
From: Gillespie, Kira (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 5:32:45 PM

To: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6) Sargent-Burns, Rosalind A. (PARDON) (b) (6) >

Subject: RE: Pardons

Duplicative Material



From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" <(b) (6)>

To: "Singh, Aakash (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Accepted: WWG

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 06:24:45 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: unnamed

Event: Accepted: WWG

Start Date: 2025-05-30 10:00:00 -0400

End Date: 2025-05-30 11:00:00 -0400

Location: TAX Main Conf Room 4141

Class: X-PERSONAL

Date Created: 2025-05-29 06:24:44 -0400

Date Modified: 2025-05-29 06:24:47 -0400

Priority: 5

DTSTAMP: 2025-05-29 06:24:44 -0400

Attendee: Singh, Aakash (ODAG) (b) (6)

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email, (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email

Subject: Fw: TSC Letter

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 10:36:23 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: Threat_Screening_Center_-_Shortest_Version.pdf

Ed Martin

From: Wise, Jared (ODAG) <(b) (6)>

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 8:45:46 AM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Cc: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: TSC Letter

Ed,

Attached is a PDF of the letter to the Threat Screening Center. I used a virtual signature that Neal provided. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,

Jared Wise

Senior Advisor

Office of the Deputy Attorney General

United States Department of Justice

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: James letter

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 10:38:00 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: 2025-05-29_James_letter.docx

Inline-Images: EF4E0027-1B1C-4414-9541-25127ED7F8E5.png

Mary,

Please format the attached letter and return to me as a PDF and Word document.

I have also attached a screenshot of Mr. Martin's signature.

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe

Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney

DOJ: (b) (6)

Personal: (b) (6)

"Please consider the environment before printing this email."

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edmund R. Martin, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'E' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'Jr.'.

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Yi, YunChong K. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Bio for Ed Martin for the PARDON Website

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 11:31:09 -0400

Importance: Normal

Yes. That works. Thank you, Ma'am.

From: Yi, YunChong K. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 11:30 AM

To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Bio for Ed Martin for the PARDON Website

Sounds good. I didn't send this language to Jordan. Assuming you will send it to him if/when a final version is approved?

From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 11:24 AM

To: Yi, YunChong K. (PARDON) (b) (6) >

Subject: RE: Bio for Ed Martin for the PARDON Website

Excellent. Thank you. I sent Jordan a recent photo of Mr. Martin.

From: Yi, YunChong K. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 11:03 AM

To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Bio for Ed Martin for the PARDON Website

Neil: Below are some suggested edits/changes to Ed's bio for consideration.

Suggested Revised Bio:

Edward J. Martin, Jr. was appointed the U.S. Pardon Attorney on May 14, 2025. He was also named by President Donald J. Trump to serve as the Director of the Weaponization Working Group for the Department of Justice. He previously served as the Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia where he led the office responsible for prosecuting local and federal cases in the nation's capital.

Martin, a New Jersey native, is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross, where he completed an Indonesian Studies program while studying abroad in Indonesia, the Pontifical Gregorian University, where he interned on the personal senior staff of Pope John Paul, II and Saint Louis University, where he received his J.D.

Martin has worked as a public servant for decades with non-profit organizations, the Missouri state government and now in the Federal government. He is also a co-author of The New York Times bestseller "The Conservative Case for Trump."

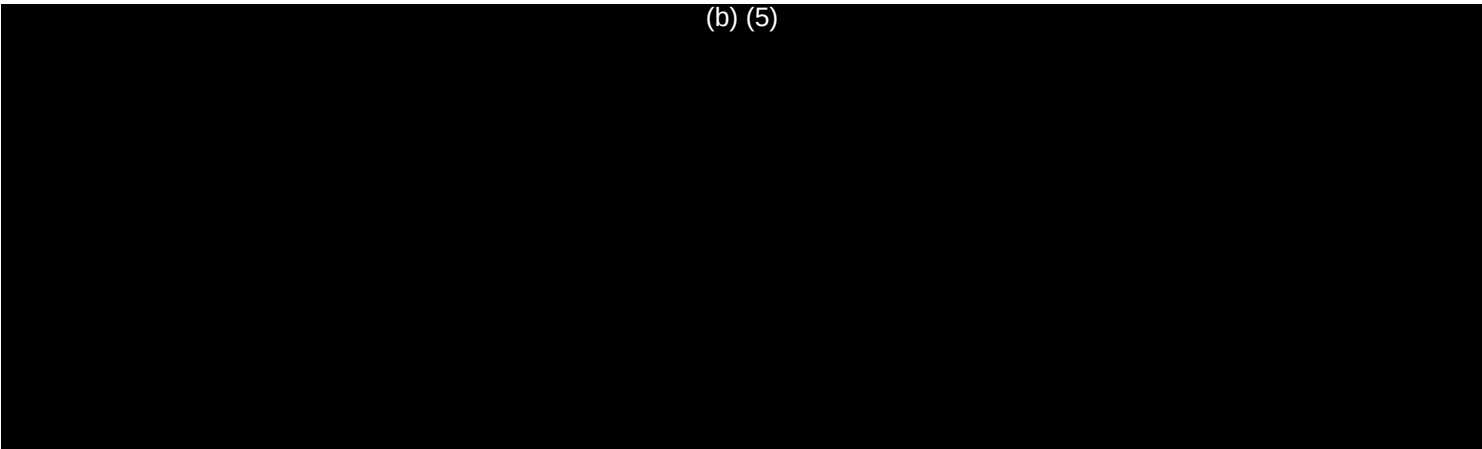
From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 6:57 PM

To: Yi, YunChong K. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Bio for Ed Martin for the PARDON Website

(b) (5)



From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Robert Bowes" (b) (6)

Subject: Please review

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 15:07:51 -0400

Importance: Normal

May 29, 2025

New York Attorney General Letitia James
Office of the New York State Attorney General
28 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10005
Delivered by email: NYSAG@ag.ny.gov

Dear Attorney General James:

As Associate Deputy United States Attorney General, I receive frequent requests for information and clarification. I take these requests seriously and act on them with letters like this one you are receiving.

I am writing about the serious matter of Iran sanctions evasion by Standard Chartered Bank, featured in the case now before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Brutus Trading, LLC, vs. Standard Chartered Bank 25-115. Recent reports of the bank's interaction with representatives of the Office of the New York State Attorney General raise troubling concerns.

Whistleblowers report that alleged illicit payments were disclosed to senior attorneys in your office in meetings February 14, 2024, and March 20, 2024. The NYS Attorney General was made aware that previously unknown \$9.6 billion in illegal payments were made by Standard Chartered Bank to entities listed on the Treasury Office of Foreign Asset Control that are Specifically Designated Global Terrorists. Your office was advised that Standard Chartered Bank failed in its obligations to file any Suspicious Activity Reports on the \$9.6 billion, nor did the bank disclose the payments as required under its active Deferred Prosecution Agreement.

These payments appear to have violated United States law and were not among any of the illicit payments made by Standard Chartered Bank that are the subject of an ongoing Deferred Prosecution Agreement between the bank and the United States Government.

Assistant New York Attorney General Scott Spiegelman and other representatives from your office participated in these two 2024 meetings. Representatives of the Federal Reserve, the New York District Attorney's Office, and DOJ officials joined your officials in previous meetings.

In opening this inquiry, several matters require your response. Did senior attorneys in the New York Attorney General's office who attended these meetings communicate with you regarding the \$9.6 billion of alleged illegal Iran sanctions payments made by Standard Chartered Bank?

Did you have any discussions on this \$9.6 billion with or reach any agreement on the legal case disposition strategy with any Biden administration official? Were you aware of or did you participate in any Biden DOJ decision-making regarding the case?

Why, when presented with irrefutable evidence, did you not further investigate, suspend or revoke the Standard Chartered Bank license to operate? It appears that the bank's license was instead renewed

after your involvement while these serious sanctions issues remain unresolved.

These and other questions require your answers, under oath, by June 5, 2025. I look forward to your cooperation with my letter of inquiry after request. Please do not hesitate to call my office or schedule a time to meet.

All the best.

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe
Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney
DOJ: (b) (6)
Personal: (b) (6)

“Please consider the environment before printing this email.”

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: JAMES letter redone.

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 15:19:15 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: 2025-05-29_JAMES2_LETTER.docx

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe

Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney

DOJ: (b) (6)

Personal: (b) (6)

“Please consider the environment before printing this email.”

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: smooth

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 16:19:16 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: 2025-05-29_JAMES2_LETTERsmooth.docx

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe

Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney

DOJ: (b) (6)

Personal: (b) (6)

“Please consider the environment before printing this email.”

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) " (b) (6)

Subject: Roseann Barr in Washington

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 16:38:00 -0400

Importance: Normal

Ma'am:

I work for ADAG Ed Martin, who runs the Weaponization Working Group and works as the U.S. Pardon Attorney, at Main Justice.

Would Ms. Barr like to have an office call with Mr. Martin when she is in Washington?

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe

Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney

DOJ: (b) (6)

Personal: (b) (6)

"Please consider the environment before printing this email."

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)
To: (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email, (b)(6) - Neil McCabe Personal Email, "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)
Subject: Fw: Ed Martin photos
Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 16:51:01 -0400
Importance: Normal
Inline-Images: image001.png; image002.png; image003.png; image004.png

I think it's too tight tomorrow.

Ed Martin

From: Elswick, Jon (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 4:45:43 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors (b) (6)
Cc: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Ed Martin photos

Just touching base if Friday would still work and if so what time and also to confirm location.

--



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jon Elswick
Photo Editor / Washington
1100 13th Street, NW #500
Washington, DC 20005

M (b) (6)

From: Elswick, Jon (b) (6)
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 7:45 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors (b) (6)
Cc: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)
Subject: Re: Ed Martin photos

Yes, Friday is good for us. It'll probably be staff photog Scott Applewhite.

And, I guess I don't know for sure where the office is, but are you in the main Justice building?

Regards,

Jon



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jon Elswick
Photo Editor / Washington
1100 13th Street, NW #500
Washington, DC 20005

M (b) (6)

From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 7:36 PM
To: Elswick, Jon (b) (6), WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors
(b) (6) >
Cc: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: Ed Martin photos

You don't often get email from (b) (6) [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Could someone come over Friday? We can have him at his desk and outside with his signature trench coat.

From: Elswick, Jon (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 7:34 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors (b) (6) >
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Ed Martin photos

Dear Neil,

Could we work on doing a portrait session with him. Would be happy to get some current images of him besides that older one of him we always seem to use.

Let me know what timing might work and will get a photog assigned.

Regards,

Jon

--



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jon Elswick
Photo Editor / Washington
1100 13th Street, NW #500
Washington, DC 20005

000154

M (b) (6)

From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)
Date: Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 7:29 PM
To: WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors (b) (6)
Subject: Ed Martin photos

Some people who received this message don't often get email from
(b) (6) [Learn why this is important](#)

[EXTERNAL]

Dear AP:

Please work with me to develop some more recent and decent photos of Ed Martin.

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe
Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney
DOJ: (b) (6)
Personal: (b) (6)

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From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) " (b) (6) >

Subject: Statement from ADAG Ed Martin

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 17:07:48 -0400

Importance: Normal

Mr. Mathias:

Here is a statement from ADAG Ed Martin. You may use in completely, or not at all:

"I am proud of the stand President Donald J. Trump, and his administration, is taking against one of the world's oldest and most toxic hatreds, ant-Semitism," said Associate Attorney General Edward R. Martin Jr., who serves as the president's director of the Weaponization Working Group and the U.S. Pardon Attorney.

"As the District of Columbia's U.S. Attorney, I met with leaders in the Jewish community to hear their concerns, and I directed my prosecutors to pursue those concerns, when they pointed to criminal activity," Martin said. "Their support for my confirmation honored me and my staff."

Martin said he was not Tim Hale's attorney, but he met him through his advocacy for J6 defendants and their families and had nothing to do with his politics or his twisted worldview. "The comments and antics of Tim Hale revolt me. Full stop."

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe

Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney

DOJ: (b) (6)

Personal: (b) (6)

"Please consider the environment before printing this email."

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Elswick, Jon" (b) (6), "WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors"
(b) (6)

Cc: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Ed Martin photos

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 17:11:00 -0400

Importance: Normal

Inline-Images: image001.png; image002.png

Jon:

Friday is just too tight right now and we want to be fair to you and your time.

Next week?

V/r,

Neil

From: Elswick, Jon (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 4:46 PM

To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) WDC - Washington DC Photo Editors (b) (6) >

Cc: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Ed Martin photos

Duplicative Material



From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)
To: "Perkins, Paul (ODAG)" (b) (6) "Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO)"
(b) (6) "Jag, Rachel (ODAG)" (b) (6) "Poplin,
Cody (ODAG)" (b) (6), "Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)"
(b) (6) "McGavick, Gates (PAO)" (b) (6)

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 17:27:44 -0400

Importance: Normal

Very good.

From: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:23 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6)
Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6); Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)
(b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Any statement to the press needs to be cleared by OPA/PAO.

Also, Ed is referred to as the Associate AG. He's not the Associate AG. He's an Associate Deputy AG. Chad is the Acting Associate.

From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:18 PM
To: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6) Jag,
Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6); Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)
(b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

This went out.

From: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:14 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6)
Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6); Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)
(b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Can we please hold off on releasing this statement?

From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:12 PM
To: Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6) Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin,
Cody (ODAG) (b) (6); Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)
(b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

"I am proud of the stand President Donald J. Trump, and his administration, is taking against one of the world's oldest and most toxic hatreds, ant-Semitism," said Associate Attorney General Edward R.

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Martin Jr., who serves as the president's director of the Weaponization Working Group and the U.S. Pardon Attorney.

"As the District of Columbia's U.S. Attorney, I met with leaders in the Jewish community to hear their concerns, and I directed my prosecutors to pursue those concerns, when they pointed to criminal activity," Martin said. "Their support for my confirmation honored me and my staff."

Martin said he was not Tim Hale's attorney, but he met him through his advocacy for J6 defendants and their families and had nothing to do with his politics or his twisted worldview. "The comments and antics of Tim Hale revolt me. Full stop."

From: Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:10 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Gilmartin, Chad (PAO) (b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Can you please share statement with the group for awareness?

From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:10 PM
To: Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6) Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Gilmartin, Chad (PAO) (b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

We sent him a statement.

From: Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 4:46 PM
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6) >; Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6) Gilmartin, Chad (PAO) (b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Inquiry on Ed comments.

From: United States Department of Justice <no-reply@usdoj.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 12:33 PM
To: Press (b) (6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Date: Thursday, May 29, 2025 - 12:33PM EDT

Name: Christopher Mathias

Email: (b) (6)

Topic: Pardon Attorney

Media Outlet: Xeteo

Deadline: Noon on Friday, May 30, 2025

Inquiry:

Hi,

This is Chris Mathias. I'm a reporter on assignment for Zeteo. I'm writing a story about the Trump administration's purported fight against antisemitism.

This story will mention that U.S. Pardon Attorney Ed Martin apologized last month for calling Timothy Hale-Cusanelli the insurrectionist who dressed like Hitler and reportedly said “Hitler should have finished the job” an “extraordinary leader” and an “extraordinary man” during a fundraiser for Jan. 6 rioters last year held at President Trump’s golf resort in Bedminster, New Jersey. It will mention that Trump withdrew Mr. Martin's nomination to be the top federal prosecutor for the nation’s capital after bipartisan backlash over his ties to Jan6ers.

Does the DOJ or Mr. Martin have any response or comment to these details and assertions?

Thanks. You can reach me at (b) (6).

Chris Mathias

From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: (b) (6) " (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Statement from ADAG Ed Martin

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 17:29:35 -0400

Importance: Normal

Please note the corrected title.

"I am proud of the stand President Donald J. Trump, and his administration, is taking against one of the world's oldest and most toxic hatreds, ant-Semitism," said **Associate Deputy Attorney General Edward R. Martin Jr.**, who serves as the president's director of the Weaponization Working Group and the U.S. Pardon Attorney.

"As the District of Columbia's U.S. Attorney, I met with leaders in the Jewish community to hear their concerns, and I directed my prosecutors to pursue those concerns, when they pointed to criminal activity," Martin said. "Their support for my confirmation honored me and my staff."

Martin said he was not Tim Hale's attorney, but he met him through his advocacy for J6 defendants and their families and had nothing to do with his politics or his twisted worldview. "The comments and antics of Tim Hale revolt me. Full stop."

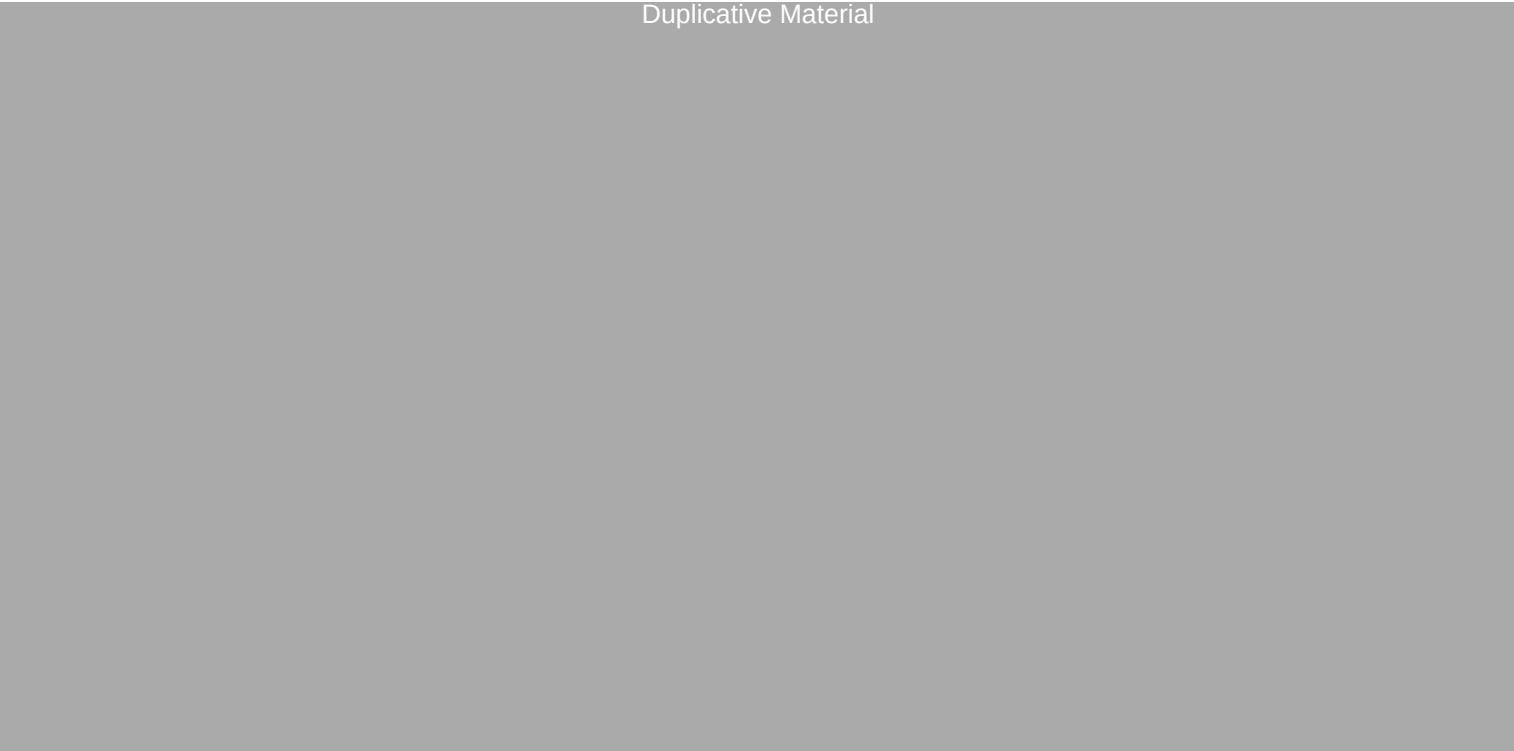
From: McCabe, Neil (PARDON)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:08 PM

To: (b) (6)

Subject: Statement from ADAG Ed Martin

Duplicative Material



From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Perkins, Paul (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 17:30:22 -0400

Importance: Normal

I gave the corrected title to the reporter.

From: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 5:23 PM

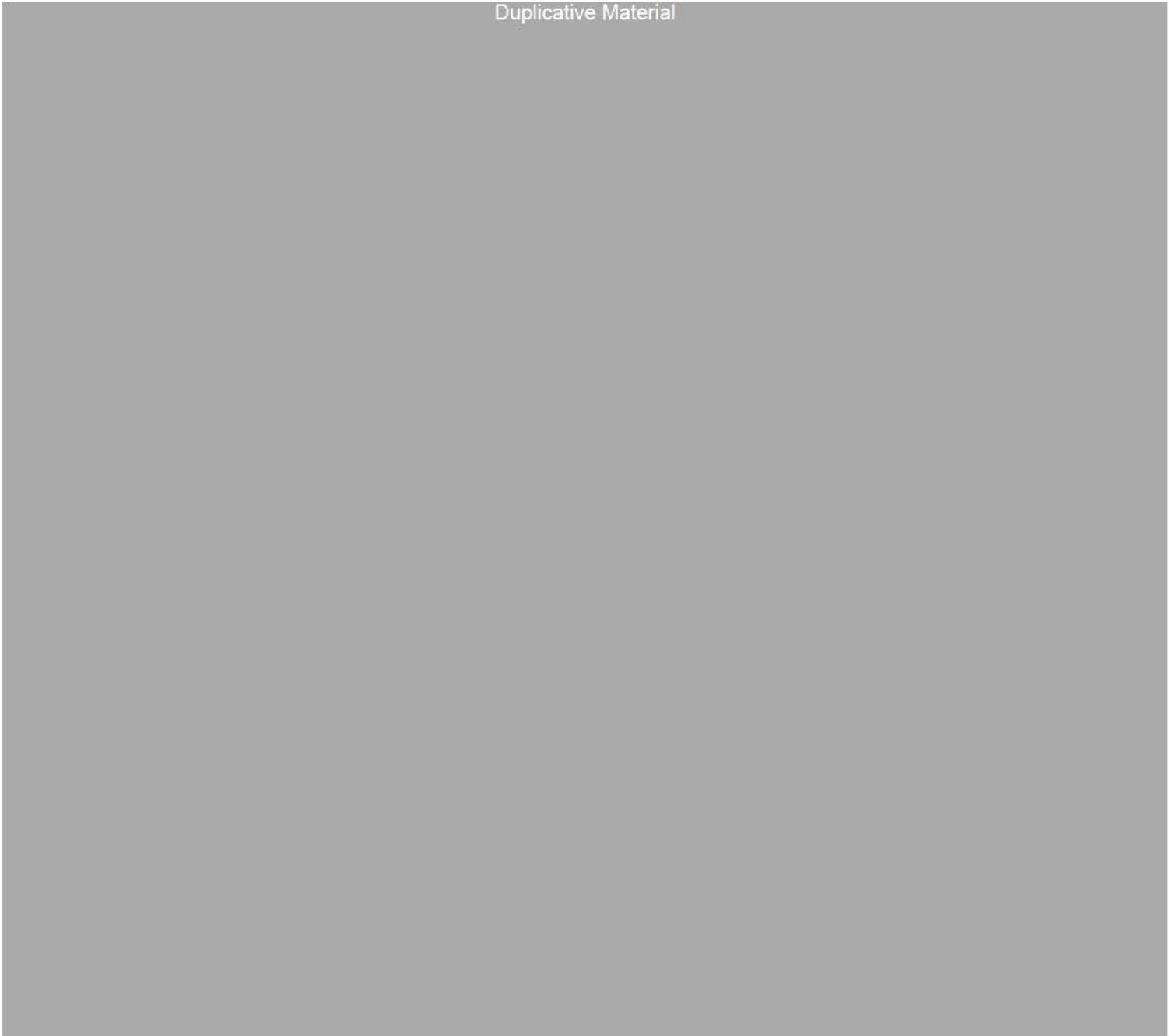
To: McCabe, Neil (PARDON) (b) (6) Baldassarre, Natalie (PAO) (b) (6)

Jag, Rachel (ODAG) (b) (6) Poplin, Cody (ODAG) (b) (6); Gilmartin, Chad (PAO)

(b) (6) McGavick, Gates (PAO) (b) (6)

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Webform submission from: Media Inquiries

Duplicative Material



From: "McCabe, Neil (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "nysag@nys.ag.ny.gov" <nysag@nys.ag.ny.gov>

Cc: (b) (6) (b) (6), "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)"
(b) (6)

Subject: Letter of inquiry for AG James

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 17:44:53 -0400

Importance: Normal

Attachments: 2025-05-29_Letter_James.pdf

Ma'am:

Please find the attached letter to New York Attorney General Letitia James from Director of the Weaponization Working Group and U.S. Pardon Attorney Edward R. Martin Jr., who is copied on this email.

Very respectfully,

McCabe

Neil W. McCabe

Senior Advisor to the Weaponization Czar/DOJ Pardon Attorney

DOJ: (b) (6)

Personal: (b) (6)

"Please consider the environment before printing this email."

From: "Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON)" (b) (6)

To: "Perkins, Paul (ODAG)" (b) (6)

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] DOJ News Briefing for May 29, 2025

Date: Thu, 29 May 2025 20:16:09 -0400

Importance: Normal

Inline-Images: ~WRD0000.jpg

Paul,

Sorry. Just saw this. Tomorrow first thing?

Ed

Ed Martin

From: Perkins, Paul (ODAG) (b) (6)

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 6:08:58 PM

To: Martin, Edward Jr. (PARDON) (b) (6)

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] DOJ News Briefing for May 29, 2025

Hey Ed. Let me know when you have a minute to discuss. I want to make sure we're operating together here.

Martin recently sent a letter to the National Archives requesting information about White House operations under the Biden administration, the source said

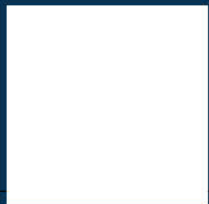
From: DOJ News Briefing <DOJMediaAnalyst@barbaricum.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 6:30 AM

To: DOJ.News.Clips (b) (6)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] DOJ News Briefing for May 29, 2025

[View in Browser](#)



May 29, 2025
Department of Justice
Daily News Briefing

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- [Rudy Giuliani Says Pam Bondi "Struggling" With Epstein Files](#)

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- [Trump Administration Says It's Working To Return A Guatemalan Man Deported To Mexico](#)
- [U.S. Judge Grants Russian-Born Harvard Scientist Bail In Immigration Case](#)
- [Judge Rules That Trump Administration Wrongly Ended Humanitarian Parole For Hundreds Of Thousands](#)
- [Checks On Migrant Children By Homeland Security Agents Stir Fear](#)
- [ICE Surpasses Border Patrol In Arrests As White House Demands More](#)
- [CR: MS-13 Member, Child Sex Offender Nabbed Amid Federal Immigration Enforcement On Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard](#)
- [Justice Department Investigates California Over Trans Athlete Policies](#)
- [Former Alabama Police Officer Sentenced For Raping Handcuffed Woman During Traffic Stop](#)
- [16 States Sue Trump Over \\$1.4 Billion In Science Cuts](#)
- [US To Start Revoking Chinese Student Visas, Escalating Crackdown](#)
- [Trump Grants Clemency To 26 People, Including Former Gang Leader](#)
- [Trump Considers Pardoning Men Convicted Of Planning To Kidnap Michigan Governor](#)
- [Trump's Pardons Highlight Justice Department's Pullback From Public Corruption Cases](#)
- [U.S. Authorities Arrest Mexican Immigrant Who Allegedly Threatened To Shoot Trump](#)
- [Sean 'Diddy' Combs Allegedly Threatened To Leak Sex Tapes Of His Ex](#)
- [George Santos' Former Treasurer Sentenced To Probation Over Bogus Campaign Finance Reports](#)
- [Colorado Man Who Threatened Election Officials Asks For Leniency In Sentencing](#)
- ['Come To The Dark Side': California Inmate Used Lawyer In Alaska Fentanyl Empire](#)
- [Leader Of Smuggling Ring Gets 10 Years In Prison After Indian Family Froze To Death](#)
- [Los Angeles Freight Forwarder Charged In Massive Mexican Smuggling Scheme](#)
- [Minneapolis Bloods Gang Member Gets Life Sentence In Racketeering Case](#)
- [Indiana Man Sentenced To Life For Murdering Witness, Involvement In Drug Ring](#)
- [Colorado Man Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison For Distributing Deadly Fentanyl To Texas Resident](#)
- [Repeat Washington State Drug Trafficker Sentenced To 10 Years In Prison](#)
- [Judge Delays Miami Trial Of Five Men Accused Of Plotting Assassination Of Haiti's President](#)
- [Plane Is Diverted After Kansas Man Assaults Crew Member](#)
- [After Mistrial In FCI Dublin Abuse Case, New Charges Leave Out One Of The Accusers](#)
- [Former Massachusetts Sheriff's Office Official Arrested, Charged With Extorting Employees](#)
- [Portland Hotel Worker Testifies Border Patrol Agent Pointed Gun At Him In 2020](#)
- [Columbus Woman Sentenced To 23 Years In Prison For Sexual Exploitation And Abuse Of Toddler](#)
- [Fresno Man Pleads Guilty To Sexually Exploiting Children Over Social Media](#)
- [Former North Dakota Principal Pleads Guilty To Child Sex-Related Charges](#)
- [Former ComEd Officials On Track For Sentencing After Judge, Feds Resolve Legal Challenges](#)
- [South Carolina Man Indicted For Multi-Million Dollar Medicare Fraud And Ponzi Schemes](#)
- [DC Man Faces Up To 30 Years In Prison For Attempt To Steal Nearly \\$500,000 In Mail Fraud](#)
- [Convicted Sex Offender Posed As MLB Prospect To Steal From Virginia Family](#)
- [U.S. Attorney Files Letter In Support Of Motion For Dismissal Of NIOSH Suit In West Virginia](#)
- [Jeanine Pirro Vows To Tackle Violence As Top Federal Prosecutor In DC](#)
- [Antitrust Lawsuit Against General Dynamics, HII Revived In Appeals Court](#)
- [FBI Director Kash Patel Fumes Over James Comey 'Copycats' Forcing Overwhelmed Agency To Pull Agents Off Child Sex Predator, Drug Trafficking Cases](#)
- [How The FBI Came To Investigate Seattle Protests](#)
- [Nellie Ohr Made False Statements To Congress About Trump-Russia Investigation, FBI Memo Shows](#)
- [FBI Analyst Found With Multiple Child Pornography Videos, Texas Cops Say](#)
- [Comey Rips Patel, Bongino On Leadership Abilities, Reopened FBI Cases](#)

- [DEA Warns Carfentanil Poses Growing Threat In El Paso](#)
- [DEA Houston Warns Of Synthetic Opioid Hitting Houston And Surrounding Areas](#)
- [Mike Gannon Retires From DEA](#)
- [Still No Update On Federal Investigation In North Dakota](#)
- [Baton Rouge Man Accused Of Making, Selling Machine Gun Conversion Devices Arrested](#)
- [NTSB Investigating BGE Practices After Deadly Bel Air House Explosion](#)
- [Ohio Senate Honors U.S. Marshals Service's Northern Ohio Violent Fugitive Task Force For 60,000th Arrest](#)
- [Officials Say Mother Who Fled Rochester With Four Children Arrested In California](#)
- [As Texan As They Come: Inside The Life Of U.S. Marshal T. Michael O'Connor](#)
- [U.S. Marshals Arrest Suspect Accused Of Assaulting Woman At Knoxville Apartment In Mississippi](#)
- [U.S. Marshals Say Two Murder Suspects Captured On The Same Day](#)
- [Second Suspect Arrested In Attack On Off-Duty NYPD Officer In The Bronx](#)
- [Judge Declines To Block Transfer Of Death Row Inmates Granted Clemency By Biden To 'Supermax' Facility](#)
- [Transgender Former Employee Is Suing Liberty University Over Firing](#)
- [Christian Students Challenge Virginia's Exclusion Of Tuition Aid To Theological Majors](#)
- [New Mexico Police Immune In Shooting Of Man With Airsoft Rifle](#)
- [Illinois Calls On Seventh Circuit To Renew Public Transit Gun Restrictions](#)
- [Federal Court Blocks Trump From Imposing Sweeping Tariffs Under Emergency Powers Law](#)
- [Judge Refuses To Temporarily Block The Trump Administration From Removing Copyright Office Director](#)
- [Judge Blocks White House From Ending Congestion Pricing In New York City](#)
- [Ghost Tax Preparer Pleads Guilty To Wire Fraud Conspiracy, Faces Up To 20 Years In Prison](#)
- [South Dakota Tribe Declares State Of Emergency Over Crime](#)
- [Implant Maker Exactech May Conclude Bankruptcy Without TPG Settlement](#)
- [Bankruptcy Trustee Seeks Return Of Payments Pickleball Rocks Founder Sent Pre-Bankruptcy](#)
- [Tate Brothers Face Rape And Trafficking Charges In The UK](#)
- [Federal Judge Issues \\$20 Million Verdict Against Syria For Torture Of U.S. Citizen Taken Captive In 2019](#)

[WASHINGTON SCHEDULE](#)

[IN THE NEWS](#)

Ed Martin, In His New Role After US Attorney Nomination Fizzled, Is Reaching Out To Witnesses In DOJ Weaponization Probes

[CNN](#) reported that after failing to secure confirmation as the top US attorney in Washington, DC, Ed Martin is now actively serving in multiple new roles inside the Justice Department that give him even more power to punish President Donald Trump's adversaries and reward his supporters. After the Senate torpedoed his nomination, Trump tapped Martin to serve as the director of the department's Weaponization Working Group, which focuses on investigating officials who prosecuted Trump and to serve as the department's lead pardon attorney, a historically nonpartisan position. In his first few weeks on the job, Martin has already sent letters, made calls, and even visited some individuals he believes may have relevant information for his investigations into the alleged politicization of the department, according to a source familiar with this work. On her first day in office, Attorney General Pam

Bondi issued a memo laying out how the weaponization group would focus on examining the state and federal investigations into Trump as well as the prosecutions related to the US Capitol riot on January 6, 2021, and other conservative causes. Martin, the source said, is breathing new life into the effort as he takes control of the project, which has expanded to include subjects such as pardons issued by former President Joe Biden. Trump has remained fixated on the investigations he has faced and having an ally like Martin in these jobs gives him new ways to retaliate. Martin recently sent a letter to the National Archives requesting information about White House operations under the Biden administration, the source said. He is also seeking information related to Operation Crossfire Hurricane, the code name for the investigation into links between the 2016 Trump campaign and Russia. He has not sent letters to any individuals informing them they are the target of an investigation, according to the source.

Ex-Trump Defense Lawyer Emil Bove, A Top Justice Department Official, Is Picked To Be Federal Judge

The [Associated Press](#) reported that President Donald Trump said Wednesday he is nominating his former criminal defense lawyer Emil Bove, who as a high-ranking Justice Department official was behind the controversial move to drop the corruption case against New York City Mayor Eric Adams, to become a federal appeals court judge. Trump picked Bove to fill a vacancy on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which hears cases from Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The nomination, which is subject to Senate confirmation, comes just months into Bove's contentious tenure at the department. "Emil is SMART, TOUGH, and respected by everyone," Trump said in a social media post announcing the nomination. "He will end the Weaponization of Justice, restore the Rule of Law, and do anything else that is necessary to, MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN. Emil Bove will never let you down!" Bove is likely to face intense scrutiny in the Senate, with Democrats raising alarm about Bove's actions during his short Justice Department tenure. Democratic New Jersey Sens. Cory Booker and Andy Kim called his nomination "deeply troubling." [Fox News](#) highlighted that U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi also praised his nomination on X. Emil has been "indispensable partner at the Department of Justice" she said, and "has worked tirelessly from day one as we make America safe again." "It is hard to imagine going to work without Emil, but our loss here at DOJ will be the country's gain!" she added. [ABC News](#) noted that Bove is known for his purge of career law enforcement officials across the DOJ and FBI prior to the arrivals of Senate-confirmed leaders, as well as his role in the DOJ's decision to drop the criminal corruption prosecution of New York City Mayor Eric Adams. Bove's nomination means some of his most controversial actions will be put under the spotlight in what could be a bruising confirmation hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Sources told ABC News that Republicans expect to schedule his confirmation hearing within the coming weeks. Bove had served as a prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York for roughly a decade and worked on several high-profile terrorism, espionage and narcotics cases, including the indictment of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. [Politico](#) added that Bove, 44, is currently the principal associate deputy attorney general, a top Justice Department post in which he oversees all of the department's operations. He overhauled the department's strategy on immigration, redeploying anti-terrorism squads toward immigration enforcement and ordering the prosecution of state and local officials who obstruct federal immigration authorities.

The story was also reported on by [UPI](#), the [Washington Post](#), [Florida Politics](#), [Reuters](#), the [New York Times](#), [CNN](#), [The Hill](#), the [New Jersey Globe](#), [Courthouse News Service](#), [Roll Call](#), [USA Today](#), [Bloomberg Law](#), [Forbes](#), [Axios](#), [Law.com](#), [Law360](#), the [New York Sun](#), the [Daily Beast](#), the [Washington Examiner](#)

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 225 outlets across 35 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in California (53), Colorado (29), Pennsylvania (25), Michigan (22), and New York (15).

Rudy Giuliani Says Pam Bondi “Struggling” With Epstein Files

[2Paragraphs](#) reported that podcaster Benny Johnson asked former NYC mayor Rudy Giuliani if he thinks Americans will ever see anything more related to the Epstein files. Regarding the Department of Justice’s handling of the Epstein files, Giuliani said: “I think they’re struggling with it. I really do believe that.” When asked why, Giuliani replied: “I think it probably involves something that can have big implications on our national security, foreign policy, allies. It has to be something very very sensitive.” Democrats are responding to Giuliani’s remarks with humor. As the X account Patriot Takes replied: “LOL, they don’t want to bring their friends to justice. Why are they protecting these people?” More than one suggested that Bondi “hasn’t released it because they can’t figure out how to scrub Trump’s name without it being obvious.” During the interview with Johnson, in addition to saying that he finds Epstein’s suicide in prison “hard to believe,” Giuliani also said that maybe the Justice Department and FBI haven’t released more information is because “maybe this isn’t the right period of time to do it, given what’s going on in Ukraine, given what’s going on in the Middle East, uh, this can’t be, you know, some kind of a, um, personal, personal thing. This is a government thing.”

Judge Says U.S. Effort To Deport Mahmoud Khalil On Foreign Policy Grounds Is Likely Unconstitutional

The [Associated Press](#) reported that a federal judge said the Trump administration’s effort to deport Mahmoud Khalil because of his pro-Palestinian activism at Columbia University likely violates the Constitution. In a lengthy order issued on Wednesday, Judge Michael Farbiarz wrote the government’s primary justification for removing Khalil — that his beliefs may pose a threat to U.S. foreign policy — could open the door to vague and arbitrary enforcement. Still, Farbiarz stopped short of ordering Khalil released from a Louisiana jail, finding his attorneys had not sufficiently responded to another charge brought by the government: that Khalil did not properly disclose certain personal details in his permanent residency application. The judge said he would review additional evidence in the coming days as he continues to consider Khalil’s request for release. Attorneys for Khalil argue his detention is part of a broader attempt by the Trump administration to suppress constitutionally protected free speech. In letters sent from the jail, Khalil has described his arrest as “a direct consequence of exercising my right to free speech as I advocated for a free Palestine and an end to the genocide in Gaza.” The federal government has not accused Khalil of breaking any laws. Instead, they have submitted a memo signed by Secretary of State Marco Rubio arguing that Khalil’s presence in the country may pose a threat to U.S. foreign policy interests. He government also said he withheld information from his residency application about his involvement in some organizations, including a United Nations agency that resettles Palestinian refugees and a Columbia protest group. The judge on Wednesday said attorneys for Khalil had not properly responded to those allegations, but would be permitted to address the issue in the future. The [Wall Street Journal](#) reported that while the judge still needs to issue a final ruling, his comments suggested the Trump administration will face significant roadblocks in court as it tries to deport foreign students who engaged in pro-Palestinian protests. Khalil played a prominent role in the protests that roiled Columbia University in the spring of 2024, negotiating with the university on behalf of the students and giving interviews to the media. Khalil was arrested as part of the Trump administration’s crackdown on what it calls antisemitism on college campuses.

The story was also reported on by [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), the [Washington Post](#), the [New York Times](#), the [Courthouse News Service](#), the [New York Daily News](#), and the [Bergen Record](#).

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 139 outlets across 32 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in California (30), Colorado (14), Pennsylvania (14), Minnesota (9), and New York (6).

Trump Administration Says It's Working To Return A Guatemalan Man Deported To Mexico

The [Associated Press](#) reported that the Trump administration said in court filings on Wednesday that it was working to bring back a Guatemalan man who was deported to Mexico in spite of his fears of being harmed there, days after a federal judge ordered the administration to facilitate his return. The man, who is gay, was protected from being returned to his home country under a U.S. immigration judge's order at the time. However, the U.S. put him on a bus and sent him to Mexico instead, a removal that U.S. District Judge Brian Murphy found likely "lacked any semblance of due process." According to court documents, Mexico has since returned him to Guatemala, where he is in hiding. In a court filing on Wednesday, government lawyers said that a so-called significant public benefit parole packet had been approved and was awaiting additional approval from Homeland Security Investigations. The designation allows people who aren't eligible to enter the U.S. to do so temporarily, often for reasons related to law enforcement or legal proceedings. Officials in the Phoenix ICE field office spoke with the man's lawyers over the weekend and are working to bring him back to the U.S. on a plane chartered by ICE. An earlier court proceeding had determined that the man, identified by the initials O.C.G., risked persecution or torture if returned to Guatemala. He also feared returning to Mexico, where he says he was raped and extorted while seeking asylum in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Tricia McLaughlin, who called Murphy a "federal activist judge," said O.C.G. was in the country illegally, was "granted withholding of removal to Guatemala" and was instead sent to Mexico, which she said was "a safe third option for him, pending his asylum claim." [CNN](#) reported that after entering the U.S. and being deported a first time, the Guatemalan man reentered the U.S. again in 2024, at which point he sought asylum, having suffered "multiple violent attacks" in Guatemala. On his way to the U.S. during the second trip, O.C.G. said that he was raped and held for ransom in Mexico, a detail he made known to an immigration judge during proceedings. In 2025, a judge ruled he should not be sent back to his native country. [Fox News](#) reported that the order from Murphy to return O.C.G. came in response to a class action lawsuit filed on behalf of him and three other plaintiffs, identified as immigrants from Cuba, Ecuador, and Honduras who are residents of Massachusetts and Texas.

The story was also reported on by the [New York Times](#), the [Washington Examiner](#), and [CBS News](#).

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 74 outlets across 25 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in New York (9), Florida (8), Texas (5), Minnesota (5), and Ohio (4).

U.S. Judge Grants Russian-Born Harvard Scientist Bail In Immigration Case

[Reuters](#) reported that on Wednesday, a federal judge in Vermont ruled that the continued detention by immigration authorities of a Russian-born scientist at Harvard University was unjustified, removing a key hurdle to the researcher being released from U.S. custody more than three months after she was detained at an airport in Boston. U.S. District Judge Christina Reiss said during a hearing in Burlington, Vermont, that it appeared immigration authorities had detained Kseniia Petrova in February and canceled her visa without any factual or legal basis for doing so after discovering frog embryo samples in her luggage. Reiss was not able to order Petrova's full release from government custody, as federal prosecutors in Boston earlier this month criminally charged her with illegally attempting to smuggle the frog embryo samples into the country. She is now being held by the U.S. Marshals Service, and a judge in her criminal case would need to decide whether to grant her bail as well when she goes before the court as soon as next week. However, Reiss said bail in her related immigration case was appropriate as ICE has indicated that it intends to re-detain Petrova if a judge in her criminal case grants her bail. Petrova was detained at Logan International Airport in Boston on February 16th on her return from a trip to France. Petrova, who works at Harvard Medical School, has said her boss asked her to bring back frog embryo samples for ongoing experiments. Reiss, who is presiding over a lawsuit Petrova filed challenging her

immigration detention, said Petrova raised a substantial claim that "her current detention is the product of a process that has nothing to do with the merits of this case." Reiss said the embryos were "non-hazardous, non-toxic, non-living, and posed a threat to no one," and that Petrova had established a likelihood of proving they did not qualify as the type of biological material she needed to declare to customs. The judge said that while Petrova asked at the airport to be allowed to return to France, the government instead detained her with the intent to deport her to Russia, a prospect Petrova has said she fears after protesting Russia's war in Ukraine. The [New York Times](#) reported that the case has attracted high-level attention from officials in the Trump administration, who took an unusual step earlier this month, after Judge Reiss indicated she planned to release Petrova. Hours after that hearing, the DOJ unsealed the felony smuggling charges against Petrova.

The story was also reported on by the [Wall Street Journal](#), [The Hill](#), [Law & Crime](#), [VTDigger](#), [The Boston Globe](#), [The Harvard Crimson](#), [ABC News](#), [CNN](#), and [NBC News](#).

Judge Rules That Trump Administration Wrongly Ended Humanitarian Parole For Hundreds Of Thousands

The [Associated Press](#) reported that a federal judge ruled on Wednesday that the Trump administration wrongly ended humanitarian parole for hundreds of thousands of people allowed to live in the U.S. temporarily. According to the article, the decision is another legal setback for President Donald Trump's plans for mass deportation, but it may prove temporary, and its immediate impact was unclear. U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani in Boston sided with people who were already admitted to the U.S. but were unable to renew their short-term permits. They cover parole policies that benefited Afghans, Ukrainians, Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, Venezuelans, and children from Central American countries trying to join their parents in the U.S., among others. Talwani said two orders by Department of Homeland Security officials to suspend renewals pending further review were unlikely to survive a legal challenge. She wrote that one of the orders "gives no reasoned explanation" for the actions. Earlier this year, a group of American citizens and immigrants sued the Trump administration for ending the long-standing legal tool presidents have used to allow people from countries where there's war or political instability to enter and temporarily live in the U.S. The humanitarian parole programs allowed in 875,000 migrants who have legal U.S. residents as sponsors. Trump has been ending legal pathways for immigrants to come to the U.S. and implementing campaign promises to deport millions of people who are in the U.S. illegally. The plaintiffs include eight immigrants who entered the U.S. legally before the Trump administration ended what it called the "broad abuse" of humanitarian parole. They can legally stay in the U.S. until their parole expires, but the administration stopped processing their applications for asylum, visas, and other requests that might allow them to remain longer. None are identified by their real names because they fear deportation. Among them are Maksym and Maria Doe, a Ukrainian couple; Alejandro Doe, who fled Nicaragua following the abduction and torture of his father; and Omar Doe, who worked for more than 18 years with the U.S. military in his home country of Afghanistan.

The story was also reported on by [Reuters](#), the [New York Times](#), and [CBS News](#).

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 88 outlets across 27 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in Florida (11), New York (11), Texas (5), Georgia (4), and Minnesota (4).

Checks On Migrant Children By Homeland Security Agents Stir Fear

The [New York Times](#) reported that for more than a decade, unaccompanied children fleeing hardship have journeyed north from Central America and crossed the Mexico-U.S. border. Many of them have been allowed to stay in the U.S., and the government has spared most of them the full weight of immigration enforcement. Under the Trump administration, more of those children are coming face to face with federal agents. From New York to Hawaii, agents have been showing up unannounced at

schools, homes, and migrant shelters to interview the children. The Trump administration has called these surprise visits “wellness checks” intended to ensure that the children are enrolled in school and being properly cared for. However, the agents are primarily from Homeland Security Investigations. The Trump administration’s use of criminal investigators for these checks has stirred anxiety among immigrants and has alarmed educators, advocates, and lawyers, who see the visits as a tactic to accelerate deportations. Tricia McLaughlin, a spokeswoman for the Homeland Security Department, said that in the course of these checks, agents have detained some caregivers who are in the country unlawfully. In cases where there were no other adults authorized to care for the children, agents have placed the children in government care. She said the government’s efforts were driven by concerns that unaccompanied minors were at risk of sex trafficking and other exploitation. She cited two cases, including a man wanted for “attempted aggravated homicide” in Guatemala who was approved to be the sponsor of a 14-year-old relative. The visits are being spearheaded by the Homeland Security investigative unit, but like many aspects of the Trump administration’s crackdown on immigrants, the checks are being carried out with assistance from other federal agencies, including the FBI and the DEA. Most troubling to critics of the checks is the involvement of a federal social services agency that has previously operated independently of ICE and other law enforcement entities. The agency, the Office of Refugee Resettlement, is a division of the Health and Human Services Department, and has the principal legal responsibility for the welfare of unaccompanied minors. Detaining and deporting immigrants has not been part of the resettlement agency’s mission, but documents reviewed by the news outlet show that the agency has hired at least seven detention and deportation specialists in recent weeks.

ICE Surpasses Border Patrol In Arrests As White House Demands More

[Newsweek](#) reported that more migrants are being arrested and detained within the U.S. than at the southwest border, but the White House reportedly wants even more to be held despite limited capacity in detention centers. In a major shift for immigration enforcement, the latest detention data from ICE showed 11,367 of those booked into facilities in May were arrested by the agency, while 2,415 came from Customs and Border Protection (CBP). In May 2024, 20,131 arrivals were arrested by CBP, compared to 8,451 by ICE. The shift in arrests comes amid an Axios report Wednesday that White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller is putting pressure on Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem to triple the number of daily arrests made by her agents, including those working for ICE. The latest detention data from ICE, dated May 23rd, showed a notable switch from large numbers of custody book-ins from the border to those arrested by DHS agents within the U.S. ICE enforcement, aided by other agencies including the DEA and the FBI, ramped up in the weeks following Trump's inauguration on January 20th, while illegal border crossings continued to plummet. Data from the Transactional Access Records Clearinghouse (TRAC), which follows government data on immigration, showed Texas was holding the largest number of detainees in Fiscal Year 2025, which began in October 2024. A total of 48,870 people were being held in ICE facilities across the country, but ICE is only funded by Congress for around 47,000 beds. The agency is looking for billions of dollars in extra funding through the GOP budget currently moving through the Capitol. That will likely help Noem increase the number of arrests, which Miller is said to have demanded of her last week. He wants to see 3,000 arrests per day, roughly triple the number agents are making right now. ICE's private prison partners GEO Group and CoreCivic have announced plans for expanded and new detention facilities, but DHS will need funding from Congress for extra agents to carry out enforcement. Those funds are currently appropriated in the House-passed budget bill, which is now being debated in the Senate.

CR: MS-13 Member, Child Sex Offender Nabbed Amid Federal Immigration Enforcement On Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard

[Fox News](#) provided continued reporting regarding immigration enforcement operations carried out on Tuesday on the Massachusetts islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard which resulted in about 40

arrests. An ICE press release stated that the effort marked a major win for public safety — a documented MS-13 member as well as "at least one child sex offender" were among those arrested. ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations Boston acting Field Office Director Patricia H. Hyde, noted, "ICE officers and FBI, DEA and ATF agents worked together to arrest a significant number of illegal alien offenders which included at least one child predator. Our partners in the U.S. Coast Guard facilitated a safe and efficient transport of the alien offenders off Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, ensuring the safety of the residents of those communities." [The Boston Globe](#) reported that photos and videos of the detained immigrants, wearing neon life jackets, circulated online as they were taken off the islands in Coast Guard boats. State Senator Julian Cyr, who represents the Cape and Islands, said the action has left his constituents "in fear, disrupted businesses of all kinds, and sent a chilling message to many residents who have lived, worked, and contributed to island life for years." Governor Maura Healey said Massachusetts officials have received "zero information" about the arrests and others ICE has conducted, and "that needs to change."

Justice Department Investigates California Over Trans Athlete Policies

The [New York Times](#) reported that the DOJ announced on Wednesday that it was ramping up an investigation into California high school sports after a transgender girl qualified for three events at the upcoming state track and field championships. The department said that a state law allowing transgender athletes to compete in girls' sports could violate Title IX, a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination at educational institutions. According to the article, the move by the DOJ was the latest example of the Trump administration using federal powers to pressure Democratic-led states on matters normally decided at the local level. The announcement came one day after President Trump threatened to strip "large scale" federal funding from California if the state did not bar transgender athletes from participating in women's sports. In particular, he said he wanted "local authorities" to block the transgender girl from participating in the track and field meet that begins on Friday in Clovis, California. The DOJ said on Wednesday that it had sent legal notices to the state attorney general, state superintendent of public instruction, and the California Interscholastic Federation, a nongovernmental body that has regulated high school sports competition in the state for decades. The department said it was joining a U.S. Department of Education investigation into CIF and had directed the U.S. Attorney's Office in Southern California to review the state's policies. In the legal notices, Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K. Dhillon called it "alarming news" that the track and field athlete was allowed to compete for girls state titles this week in the long jump, triple jump, and high jump. Dhillon said in a statement, "Title IX exists to protect women and girls in education. It is perverse to allow males to compete against girls, invade their private spaces, and take their trophies." The DOJ also said on Wednesday that it was supporting an earlier lawsuit filed on behalf of girls in California who say that state law is creating an unfair competitive environment. The plaintiffs, both high school athletes in Riverside, said they lost opportunities on their girls' cross-country team because of a trans girl who was allowed to compete. U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli was quoted as saying, "The law is clear: Discrimination on the basis of sex is illegal and immoral. My office and the rest of the Department of Justice will work tirelessly to protect girls' sports and stop anyone — public officials included — from violating women's civil rights." [The Hill](#) reported that the DOJ said the inquiry will establish "whether California, its senior legal, educational, and athletic organizations, and the school district are engaging in a pattern or practice of discrimination on the basis of sex."

The story was also reported on by the [Los Angeles Times](#), [The Desert Sun](#), [Fox News](#), [KXTV-ABC](#), [KCAL-CBS](#), [KTLA-CW](#), [KTTV-FOX](#), and [KNBC-NBC](#).

Former Alabama Police Officer Sentenced For Raping Handcuffed Woman During Traffic Stop

[The Birmingham News](#) reported that a former Alabama police officer has been sentenced to federal prison for sexually assaulting a woman while on duty and receiving sexually explicit photos of a minor. According to federal officials, Jarrod Gailen Webster, who was a Killen police officer, pleaded guilty earlier this year and admitted that on November 12th, 2023, he violated the civil rights of a woman after initiating a traffic stop on the woman. He was sentenced on Wednesday to 15 years in prison. Webster asked the woman to step out of her vehicle and asked her what she wanted to do to “get out of this.” When the woman told Webster that she was not going to do anything for him, Webster handcuffed the woman, opened the rear door of his patrol vehicle, removed his bulletproof vest, turned off his body cam and raped her. According to his plea agreement, he also forced her to perform oral sex on him. The victim, investigators said, “did not feel like she could say no... and believed that (Webster) would shoot and kill her if she did not engage in these sex acts.” Webster said that if she told anybody what happened, he would find out where she was. Additionally, Webster admitted that between June 2016 and October 2018, he communicated with a minor by phone. The girl was 15 when the communication began. Webster asked the minor to produce and send him sexually explicit images of herself. The minor victim sent multiple photos to Webster at his request, at least one of which constituted child sexual abuse material. Webster pleaded guilty to one count of deprivation of rights under color of law and one count of sexual exploitation of children. Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K. Dhillon of the DOJ’s Civil Rights Division was quoted as saying, “Jarrod Webster forcibly assaulted a woman after a traffic stop, and exploited a minor to receive sexually explicit images. This was a gross abuse of his authority as a police officer and a betrayal of the public trust. I am proud of our DOJ Civil Rights team for holding him accountable.” Northern District of Alabama U.S. Attorney Prim F. Escalona stated, “This sentence sends a clear message that such criminal conduct will not be tolerated. I commend the dedication of our law enforcement partners and prosecutors to ensure that Webster was held accountable for his actions.” The article highlighted that the FBI Birmingham Field Office investigated the case, and that Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Royster for the Northern District of Alabama and Trial Attorney Sarah Howard of the Civil Rights Division’s Criminal Section prosecuted the case. Birmingham’s FBI Special Agent in Charge David R. Fitzgibbons was also quoted as saying, “Law enforcement officers are entrusted with significant responsibility and are therefore held to a higher standard. Today’s sentencing clearly demonstrates there are serious consequences when someone tarnishes the badge by breaking the law. Jerrod Webster brought shame to the badge by committing the horrific crimes of sexually assaulting a woman in his care and receiving sexually explicit images of a minor.”

The story was also reported on by [WAAY-ABC](#), [WBMA-ABC](#), and [WHNT-CBS](#).

16 States Sue Trump Over \$1.4 Billion In Science Cuts

The [New York Times](#) reported that sixteen states sued the Trump administration on Wednesday, asking a federal court to block cuts in programs and funding for the National Science Foundation that they argue are critical to maintaining the U.S.’ position as a global leader in science, technology, engineering, and math. The states sought the court order on grounds that the foundation’s actions violated the law and would cause immediate and irreparable harm to the states involved in the lawsuit. According to the lawsuit, the foundation last month began ending projects that were focused on increasing the participation of women, minorities, and people with disabilities in STEM fields. This month, it said it would cap indirect research costs, like laboratory space and equipment, at 15 percent of granted funds. The states said in court papers that the cuts were “in complete derogation of the policies and priorities set by Congress.” According to a list published by the foundation, more than 1,700 research grants at the N.S.F. had been canceled as of Wednesday, which amounts to \$1.4 billion worth of cuts. The federal government has worked to broaden participation of women and minorities in science and technology since at least 1980, upon direction from Congress. According to the lawsuit, that directive has been substantively amended only to also explicitly include people with disabilities. In court papers, the

coalition of states said the foundation's directive to cap indirect costs at 15 percent for all N.S.F. research projects awarded to universities would be devastating. The State University of New York, for instance, would lose \$18 million. The lawsuit comes amid a series of changes at the foundation as it tries to align its policies with those of the Trump administration, including issuing an updated statement of priorities to exclude the funding of activities supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion. In addition to New York, who is leading the legal challenge filed in Federal District Court in Manhattan, the other states joining in the lawsuit were California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, and Washington.

The story was also reported on by [Bloomberg](#), the [Courthouse News Service](#), the [Los Angeles Times](#), [Newsday](#), and [CNN](#).

US To Start Revoking Chinese Student Visas, Escalating Crackdown

[Bloomberg](#) reported that the US plans to start "aggressively" revoking visas for Chinese students, Secretary of State Marco Rubio said, escalating the Trump administration's push for greater scrutiny of foreigners attending American universities. Rubio said in a statement that students affected would include "those with connections to the Chinese Communist Party or studying in critical fields." The US will also enhance scrutiny "of all future visa applications from the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong," he added. China had the second most students in the US of any country in 2024, behind India. China's Foreign Ministry didn't immediately reply to a request for comment made outside working hours. International students accounted for 5.9% of the total US higher education population of almost 19 million. In the 2023-2024 school year, more than 1.1 million foreign students came to the US, with India and China accounting for about half, according to the Institute of International Education. The number of Chinese students has declined in the US — it fell 4% to about 277,000 students in 2024 — amid increased tension between the two adversaries. The FBI has warned that China has sought to exploit "America's deeply held and vital culture of collaboration and openness on university campuses."

The story was also reported on by the [Washington Post](#), [Al Jazeera](#), the [Associated Press](#), [Axios](#), the [BBC](#), [CNN](#), the [Daily Mail](#), [Fox News](#), the [Independent](#), [NBC News](#), the [New York Times](#), [Politico](#), [Reuters](#), [The Guardian](#), [The Hill](#), [USA Today](#), [Washington Examiner](#), [Washington Times](#)

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 286 outlets across 35 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in Texas (31), California (21), Wisconsin (20), North Carolina (19), and Pennsylvania (14).

Trump Grants Clemency To 26 People, Including Former Gang Leader

The [Wall Street Journal](#) and the [Associated Press](#) reported that President Trump has pardoned or commuted the sentences of 26 people in recent days, including former lawmakers, reality-television stars, and a one-time gang leader convicted of murder. It was noted that the White House didn't provide details on the president's decision. James Callahan, the former leader of the International Union of Operating Engineers, pleaded guilty in 2025 to knowingly filing false annual reports to the Labor Department. His pardon came on the eve of his sentencing hearing. Todd and Julie Chrisley were sentenced in 2022 for conspiracy to defraud banks out of more than \$30 million in fraudulent loans by submitting false documents. Trump announced his intention to pardon them on Tuesday, saying the celebrity couple had been "given a pretty harsh treatment based on what I'm hearing." Kentrell Gaulden, the rapper known as NBA YoungBoy, was sentenced in December 2024 to just under two years in prison for possessing a weapon as a convicted felon. In a message posted on Instagram, Gaulden thanked Trump "for granting me a pardon and giving me the opportunity to keep building—as a man, as a father, and as an artist." Michael Grimm, a former congressman from New York, pleaded guilty to tax fraud in 2014 and was sentenced to eight months in prison. Larry Hoover, a co-founder of the Gangster Disciples in Chicago,

has been in prison since the early 1970s for crimes including murder. In recent years, artists such as Kanye West and Drake have pushed for his case to be reconsidered. John G. Rowland, the former governor of Connecticut, served two prison sentences. He resigned in 2004 during his third term and served 10 months in federal prison after pleading guilty to a corruption-related charge. In 2014, he was convicted and later sentenced to 30 months in prison for attempting to conceal his paid role in a congressional campaign from the Federal Election Commission. In 2019, Imaad Zuberi pleaded guilty to several charges related to influence peddling, campaign-finance violations, and unregistered lobbying on behalf of numerous foreign states. Zuberi was a major political donor to candidates from both parties. Another pardon was issued for Army Lt. Mark Bradshaw, who was convicted in 2022 of reporting to work without undergoing a COVID-19 test. The [New York Times](#) identified the rest of the recipients of Trump's latest acts of clemency as Michael Harris, Jeremy Hutchinson, James Kernan, Marlene Kernan, Tanner Mansell, John Moore, Earl Smith, Alexander Sittenfeld, Charles Tanner, Charles Scott, Kevin Eric Baisden, Marian Morgan, Garnett Smith, Edward Sotelo, Joe Sotelo, Anabel Valenzuela, and Lawrence Duran.

The storyline was also reported on by the [Associated Press](#) (James Callahan), the [Associated Press](#) (Todd and Julie Chrisley), the [Associated Press](#) (Michael Grimm), the [Associated Press](#) (John Rowland), [Axios](#), [CNN](#), the [Connecticut Post](#), [El News](#), [The National News Desk](#), [Newsweek](#), the [New York Times](#) (Todd and Julie Chrisley), the [New York Times](#) (Kentrell Gauden), the [New York Times](#) (Larry Hoover), the [New York Times](#) (Imaad Zuberi), [Politico](#), [Rolling Stone](#), the [Washington Post](#), the [Washington Times](#), [WTVO-ABC](#), [WVUE-FOX](#), and [WMAQ-NBC](#)

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 72 news outlets across 28 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in New York (8), Florida (7), Texas (5), Virginia (5), and Georgia (4).

Trump Considers Pardoning Men Convicted Of Planning To Kidnap Michigan Governor

The [Wall Street Journal](#) reported that President Trump said he is considering pardoning the men who are serving prison terms for conspiring to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. "I will take a look at it," Trump said in the Oval Office on Wednesday. The president suggested that the men were unfairly convicted, asserting that they "got railroaded." The article further quoted Trump who stated the following: "You know, they were drinking, and I think they said stupid things, but I'll take a look at that." It was noted that federal prosecutors portrayed Adam Fox and Barry Croft as violent extremists who hatched a plan to kidnap the governor over her policies to contain the pandemic. Prosecutors said that in 2020, the men took steps to plan for the kidnapping. "These defendants were outside a woman's house in the middle of the night with night-vision goggles, and guns, and a plan to kidnap her," Assistant U.S. Attorney Nils Kessler said in his closing argument during the trial. The indictment said the defendants used encrypted text messages, held meetings in a business that had a secret trap door, and talked about blowing up a bridge to hinder the law-enforcement response. Defense lawyers said they were entrapped and egged on by government informants and FBI agents. A first trial ended with a hung jury for Croft and Fox, while two others were acquitted and another two pleaded guilty. Croft and Fox were both found guilty at a second trial in 2022. Croft was sentenced to nearly 20 years in prison, while Fox was sentenced to 16 years in prison. Other men were sentenced to prison terms after being convicted of aiding in the kidnapping plot. Whitmer has said the plot was the result of violent and divisive political rhetoric in the country. Pardon Attorney Ed Martin said earlier this month he is taking a "hard look" at their cases.

The story was also reported on by [Bloomberg](#), [Breitbart](#), [CBS News](#), the [Daily Wire](#), [The Hill](#), [Just the News](#), the [Michigan Advance](#), [MLive.com](#), [Deadline Detroit](#), the [Detroit Free Press](#), the [Detroit News](#), and [WDIV-NBC](#)

Trump's Pardons Highlight Justice Department's Pullback From Public Corruption Cases

[NBC News](#) reported that the government's evidence against Scott Jenkins was compelling, including undercover video and other corroboration showing the sheriff of Culpeper County accepting over \$75,000 in exchange for giving law enforcement authority to local businessmen, as well as two undercover FBI special agents. His co-defendants all pleaded guilty, and jurors didn't take long to convict Jenkins last year, deliberating for around two hours before they found him guilty on all counts. When Jenkins was sentenced to 10 years in prison in March, the Acting U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Virginia said he "violated his oath of office and the faith the citizens of Culpeper County placed in him when he engaged in a cash-for-badges scheme." But on Monday, President Donald Trump announced he was pardoning Jenkins, calling him "a victim of an overzealous Biden Department of Justice" who "doesn't deserve to spend a single day in jail." It's part of a broader pattern for Trump, who in the first few months of his second term has pardoned at least four supportive former public officials who were convicted of financial improprieties. Trump, who faced two separate federal criminal cases that were dropped after he was re-elected in November, has long argued that he was a victim of the weaponization of the Justice Department and the FBI, and he has been sympathetic to those who make similar claims, particularly those who are politically aligned with him. In February, Trump pardoned Rod Blagojevich, the former governor of Illinois, whose sentence he had commuted in 2020, after he was convicted on corruption charges related to bribery. Trump pardoned former Tennessee State Sen. Brian Kelsey in March, just over two weeks into a 21-month sentence over a campaign finance-related fraud conviction. Last month, Trump pardoned former Las Vegas City Councilmember Michele Fiore, who had been set to be sentenced this month after she was convicted on conspiracy and wire fraud charges related to misused fundraising. Those four figures and their pardons aren't the only evidence of a Justice Department de-emphasizing public corruption cases. In the early days of the administration, the Justice Department also dropped a campaign finance case against former Rep. Jeff Fortenberry of Nebraska, who had been set to go on trial next month.

U.S. Authorities Arrest Mexican Immigrant Who Allegedly Threatened To Shoot Trump

[Reuters](#) reported that immigration authorities arrested an immigrant from Mexico who allegedly threatened to shoot President Donald Trump, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security said on Wednesday. Ramon Morales Reyes allegedly sent a letter to an ICE officer stating that he would "shoot your precious president in [his] head" at one of his rallies, according to DHS, which published an image of the letter. Morales said in the letter that ICE had been deporting his family members although he did not mention anyone specifically. "We are tired of this president messing with us Mexicans - we have done more for this country than you white people," the letter reads. It was noted that Trump was targeted in two assassination attempts during his 2024 presidential campaign, including a shooting at a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania. The suspects in both of those attempts were U.S. citizens. "All politicians and members of the media should take notice of these repeated attempts on President Trump's life and tone down their rhetoric," Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said in a statement. Morales entered the U.S. illegally at least nine times from 1998-2005, according to DHS. He had previous arrests for a felony hit-and-run and other crimes. He is currently being held by ICE in Wisconsin and awaiting deportation. [Fox News](#) added that in April, the Justice Department charged a man from Texas with threatening to harm ICE agents. Similar threats made by a man in North Carolina last week also resulted in an arrest on federal charges.

The story was also reported on by [BBC](#), the [Daily Beast](#), the [Daily Caller](#), [The Hill](#), [Law & Crime](#), and the [Washington Examiner](#)

Sean 'Diddy' Combs Allegedly Threatened To Leak Sex Tapes Of His Ex

[Reuters](#) reported that Sean "Diddy" Combs routinely beat his ex-girlfriend and during fits of rage threatened to release sex tapes of her to the internet, a stylist testified on Wednesday at the hip-hop mogul's sex trafficking trial. Deonte Nash, who worked as a stylist for Casandra Ventura from 2008 to 2018, alleged that Combs repeatedly beat Ventura and threatened to release the tapes while raging at her for not being obedient. "He told her she f--ked up and he was going to put her sex tapes on the internet," Nash said, recounting an alleged incident in 2013 or 2014. Combs has pleaded not guilty to five counts including racketeering and sex trafficking. He faces up to life in prison if convicted on all counts. Last week, Scott Mescudi testified that his car was set on fire in 2012, shortly after Combs learned that the rapper had a romantic relationship with Ventura. Prosecutors say the alleged arson was one of several violent or illegal acts that Combs or his associates undertook to prevent women from leaving his orbit and keep his abuse quiet. On Wednesday, a lawyer for Combs told the judge outside the jury's presence that prosecutors' questions to an arson investigator implied that Combs had a role in the destruction of fingerprint evidence, arguing the questions were grounds for a mistrial. U.S. District Judge Arun Subramanian swiftly denied the request, saying none of the testimony was unfair to Combs. He told jurors to disregard the questions and answers about the fingerprints. The [Associated Press](#) revealed that Assistant U.S. Attorney Christy Slavik countered that "a mistrial is absolutely unwarranted here," telling the judge that she only asked the arson investigator about the fate of fingerprint cards taken from Mescudi's car to counter defense suggestions that the firebombing was poorly investigated and that the area was not canvassed for fingerprints.

The story was also reported on by [ABC News](#), [BBC](#), [CNN](#), [Courthouse News Service](#), [Court TV](#), [Fox News](#), [The Hill](#), [NBC News](#), [People](#), [Rolling Stone](#), [Scripps News](#), [TMZ](#), [USA Today](#), [Us Weekly](#), the [Washington Post](#), the [New York Post](#), the [Hollywood Reporter](#), [WCBS-CBS](#), and [WNBC-NBC](#)

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 121 news outlets across 31 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in California (19), Colorado (14), Pennsylvania (14), New York (9), and Minnesota (7).

George Santos' Former Treasurer Sentenced To Probation Over Bogus Campaign Finance Reports

The [Associated Press](#) reported that George Santos' former campaign treasurer was sentenced on Wednesday to three years of probation for her role in fabricating campaign finance reports for the disgraced ex-congressman from New York. Nancy Marks, addressing a federal judge on Long Island, said she'd learned from her mistakes, walked away from politics, and started her life all over again at the age of 59. The veteran political operative, who pleaded guilty to federal conspiracy charges last year, said she has been working nights at a warehouse and started taking courses toward a college degree, hoping to move into a management position. "I thought I had found a friend in George Santos," Marks said on Wednesday. "But everything about him was a lie. I thought it was a true friend and a true person. He was not." Assistant U.S. Attorney Anthony Bagnuolo, in arguing for 18 months in prison, said Marks was "no rube," but a seasoned political operative who provided the local contacts and "veneer of legitimacy" Santos needed to pull off his scheme. "There are real victims in this case, but Nancy Marks is not one of them," he said. U.S. District Judge Joanna Seybert said she considered Marks' responsibilities to her elderly mother and the fact that she was a first-time offender in deciding not to impose prison time. But she also gave Marks a stern warning as she handed down her sentence, which includes being ordered to pay more than \$178,000 in restitution. The article explained that Marks admitted to helping Santos inflate his campaign donations during the 2022 election cycle in order to hit the fundraising thresholds needed to qualify for backing from the national Republican Party. Prosecutors say Marks filed campaign

finance reports that listed a number of false donors, including at least 10 members of her family and Santos' family.

The story was also reported on by [Courthouse News Service](#), [Newsday](#), and the [New York Times](#)

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 111 news outlets across 23 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in California (18), New York (16), Pennsylvania (14), Colorado (11), and Florida (5).

Colorado Man Who Threatened Election Officials Asks For Leniency In Sentencing

The [Associated Press](#) reported that Teak Ty Brockbank posted online that Colorado's top election official should be executed and her former counterpart in Arizona should also be killed. But Brockbank, who faces up to five years in prison when he is sentenced on Thursday for making online threats, is asking for leniency. He says he made those posts when he was drinking heavily and socially isolated, spending his evenings consuming conspiracy theories online. Brockbank pleaded guilty in October to one count of transmitting interstate threats between September 2021 and August 2022 against Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold and former Arizona Secretary of State Katie Hobbs, now the state's governor, as well as against a Colorado state judge and federal law enforcement agents. Under a plea deal, prosecutors agreed not to pursue charges against him for having firearms he was barred from possessing because of a previous conviction or for online threats he made later. One such threat was against Griswold last year for her role in helping the prosecution of former Colorado clerk, Tina Peters. They also say he threatened judges on the Colorado Supreme Court after they removed Donald Trump from the state's ballot. The U.S. Supreme Court later restored Trump's name to the ballot. Brockbank, who has been behind bars since he was arrested in August 2024, is asking to be sentenced to the time he has already served plus three years of supervised release and possibly six months in home detention or in a halfway house. That's less than is recommended by federal sentencing guidelines but Brockbank's lawyer, Tom Ward, said that sentence would allow him to get unspecified treatment.

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 49 news outlets across 22 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in New York (7), California (5), Minnesota (4), Colorado (4), and Washington (3).

'Come To The Dark Side': California Inmate Used Lawyer In Alaska Fentanyl Empire

The [Los Angeles Times](#) reported that before he worked for what he allegedly called "the cartel," Justin Facey's law career was unremarkable. Facey's modest solo practice was based in a gray office building in Anchorage, where he shared space with personal injury attorneys, a chiropractor, and a financial advisor. But in 2023, Facey took on a client who changed his firm's fortunes — and brought him under the eye of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. Agents were monitoring the phone of an inmate in California who was suspected of trafficking huge amounts of drugs to Alaska when they read a text message that Facey allegedly sent to a fellow lawyer. "Come to the dark side," he wrote in the message, which was cited in court documents. "I just signed a lease on a HUGE new office space. Three attorney offices, plus a paralegal bullpen, reception area, etc." Prosecutors say Facey broke the law working for Heraclio Sanchez Rodriguez, who has been serving a life sentence in California since 1998. Last week, Facey was charged with maintaining a "drug-involved premises," as well as possessing a shotgun, rifle, and two handguns while selling meth and fentanyl. From his prison cell in Monterey County, Sanchez used contraband cellphones to direct one of the largest drug trafficking organizations in Alaska. More than 60 people are accused of colluding with Sanchez to smuggle fentanyl, methamphetamine, and heroin from Southern California to Alaska, where the narcotics were sold at staggering markups. Sanchez has pleaded not guilty to charges that he trafficked drugs, laundered money, and had two women kidnapped, murdered, and buried in the Alaskan wilderness. Facey acted as

consigliere to Sanchez and, after his law license was suspended in February, became a drug dealer himself, prosecutors wrote in a motion seeking to jail the attorney pending a trial.

Leader Of Smuggling Ring Gets 10 Years In Prison After Indian Family Froze To Death

The [Associated Press](#) reported that more than three years after a family of four from India froze to death while trying to enter the U.S. along a remote stretch of the northern border during a blizzard, the convicted ringleader of an international human smuggling plot was sentenced in Minnesota on Wednesday to 10 years in prison. Federal prosecutors had recommended nearly 20 years for Harshkumar Ramanlal Patel and nearly 11 years for the driver who was supposed to pick them up, Steve Anthony Shand, who got 6½ years on Wednesday with two years of supervised release. "The crime in many respects is extraordinary because it did result in the unimaginable death of four individuals, including two children," U.S. District Judge John Tunheim said. "These were deaths that were clearly avoidable." Thomas Leinenweber told the court before sentencing that Patel maintains his innocence and argued he was no more than a "low man on the totem pole." He asked for time served, 18 months. But Acting U.S. Attorney Lisa Kirkpatrick said Patel exploited the migrants' hopes for a better life in America, out of his own greed. "We should make no mistake, it was the defendant's greed that set in motion the facts that bring us here today," she said. Patel, in an orange uniform and handcuffed, declined to address the court. He showed no visible emotion as the sentence was issued. The judge noted that he is likely to be deported to India after completing his sentence. He cooperated as marshals handcuffed him and led him from the courtroom. Shand, who had been free pending sentencing, showed no visible reaction to his own sentence either. The judge ordered him to report to prison on July 1 and agreed to recommend that he serve his sentence at FPC Pensacola in Florida where he can be near his family.

The story was also reported on by [BBC](#), [CBC](#), and the [New York Times](#)

The Associated Press article was reprinted by 112 news outlets across 35 states and Washington, DC, with the most reprints occurring in Florida (9), California (8), Minnesota (7), Ohio (7), and Pennsylvania (7).

Los Angeles Freight Forwarder Charged In Massive Mexican Smuggling Scheme

[Courthouse News Service](#) reported that a freight forwarding company based in Los Angeles and two of its executives were charged with running a billion-dollar smuggling scheme over the last 12 years involving shipping goods from and through the U.S. to Mexico, using shell companies and fake documents, bribing customs officials in Mexico, and paying kickbacks to a cartel. Humberto Lopez Belmonte and Ralph Olarte were arrested this week, according to a statement on Wednesday by the U.S. Attorney's Office. They and their company, which does business as HR Logistics, were charged in a 22-count grand jury indictment with smuggling, wire fraud, and money laundering among other crimes. Prosecutors claim that Lopez and Olarte set up a series of shell companies in Mexico that they used as the named recipients of shipments of goods that either passed through the U.S. as so-called bonded goods that arrived at U.S. ports from overseas to be transported to Mexico or of goods that originated in the U.S. These shell companies, however, weren't the real customers for whom HR Logistics handled shipments. The freight forwarders, according to prosecutors, also lied on the official paperwork they filed with U.S. Customs and Border Protection about what was in the shipments they transported from ports in California to Mexico. In addition, the pair are accused of bribing border officials in Mexico to let their shipments cross into the country without paying any customs and of telling their truckers which lanes to choose when they arrived at border inspection so that they would be handled by officials who had been paid off. The two, the government charges, also paid kickbacks to the Jalisco New Generation Cartel.

The story was also reported on by [Law360](#)

Minneapolis Bloods Gang Member Gets Life Sentence In Racketeering Case

[Minnesota Public Radio](#) reported that a member of the Bloods targeted by federal prosecutors in a crackdown on street gangs in Minneapolis is headed to prison for the rest of his life. In October, a jury convicted Desean James Solomon and two other men in connection with the murders of Marcus Banks in 2020 and Rayshawn Brown in 2022. Jurors also convicted Solomon of racketeering conspiracy. In 2023, federal prosecutors in Minnesota launched an effort to use the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act to target the Bloods, Highs, Lows, and other street gangs. The trial was the first to stem from the initiative launched by the U.S. Attorney's Office in which more than 100 alleged gang members have been charged with a variety of crimes. At a hearing in St. Paul on Wednesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Kristian Weir asked U.S. District Judge Susan Richard Nelson to impose a life sentence. "This conviction in this case is a reflection not just of Desean Solomon's personal acts of violence that he committed on behalf of the Bloods, but of everything that the enterprise has done to this entire city for years," Weir said. The prosecutor also noted that after the police murder of George Floyd in 2020, the Bloods increased their drug trafficking activity in South Minneapolis when they "saw an opportunity not to help a wounded community but to funnel even more fentanyl and violence into that wounded community." In sentencing Solomon to life plus 20 years, Nelson noted his lack of remorse and long history of violent crime, which began with the armed robbery of an ice cream shop when he was 18. Solomon is already serving a 36-year state sentence for killing Banks outside the 200 Club in North Minneapolis.

The story was also reported on by [WCCO-CBS](#)

Indiana Man Sentenced To Life For Murdering Witness, Involvement In Drug Ring

The [Times of Northwest Indiana](#) reported that a federal judge handed down a life sentence to a man who played a prominent role in a drug trafficking ring and killed a witness who exposed him for another homicide he allegedly committed. U.S. District Judge Philip P. Simon sentenced Devonte Hodge to life in prison for the murder of Akeem Oliver in October 2016 and 40 years in prison for conspiracy to distribute cocaine and more than 100 grams of heroin. Hodge was convicted after a 6-day jury trial in August. He maintains his innocence. Simon said he couldn't find the words to describe the level of violence Hodge inflicted within the community. Though Hodge was convicted of one homicide, he appears to be responsible for between five and seven murders committed before and during the nine-member drug ring's operations between February 2016 and June 2018. While Hodge's involvement with the criminal enterprise began with drugs, it spiraled, escalating to violence, including the shooting of his girlfriend at the time after she threatened to tell police about his crimes. "This is a jaw-dropping level of violence," Simon said. "And for what?" Assistant U.S. Attorney David Nozick characterized Hodge as one of the most heinous killers that his office has prosecuted in recent years. He believes Hodge is not remorseful for the crimes whatsoever. "He's a manipulator, he claims himself to be the victim here," Nozick said. "And while he probably grew up under rough circumstances ... we're not here to do a deep dive on the psychology, but factually, he's one of the most ruthless killers we've seen in the system." It was noted that Hodge killed Oliver to keep him from speaking further to police, Nozick said. "A witness killer, when we think about societal importance, that's as a heinous as crime as any," Nozick said.

Colorado Man Sentenced To 20 Years In Prison For Distributing Deadly Fentanyl To Texas Resident

[MyTexasDaily.com](#) reported that a 54-year-old man from Denver has been sentenced to 240 months in prison for distributing fentanyl to a resident of Alpine, Texas. Douglas Christopher Steele was found guilty of mailing 20 fentanyl pills, which led to the recipient's death. Steele engaged in a text message conversation with the resident in January 2024, agreeing to send the fentanyl to the man's workplace. The package was mailed on February 2, and received on February 5 by a co-worker. The recipient later messaged Steele about the drug's potency, and was found unresponsive on February 6,

dying shortly after at a hospital. An investigation by Homeland Security Investigations and the Texas Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Division uncovered evidence linking Steele to the crime, including text messages and mailed envelopes. Steele was indicted in May 2024 and arrested in Denver. He pleaded guilty on November 18, 2024. It was noted that the case was announced by Acting U.S. Attorney Margaret Leachman for the Western District of Texas. The investigation received assistance from the Alpine Police Department, Brewster County Sheriff's Office, and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. Assistant U.S. Attorney Amy Greenbaum prosecuted the case.

The story was also reported on by the [Midland Reporter-Telegram](#), the [Odessa American](#), [KOSA-CBS](#), and [KWES-NBC](#)

Repeat Washington State Drug Trafficker Sentenced To 10 Years In Prison

The [Kent Reporter](#) reported that a federal judge sentenced Ramon Duarte Garcia to 10 years in prison for drug trafficking. Duarte Garcia received the sentence on Wednesday in Seattle. Duarte Garcia was arrested in June 2024, following a drug investigation lasting nearly four years. Between 2020 and June 2024, investigators seized more than 32 kilograms of cocaine, 14 kilograms of methamphetamine, 83,000 fentanyl-laced pills, 3 kilograms of heroin, and 1 kilogram of fentanyl powder. Acting U.S. Attorney Teal Luthy Miller said Duarte Garcia had been stopped several times by law enforcement. "In this investigation, federal and state investigators worked from the streets of Seattle to drug suppliers in Mexico and Colombia," Miller said. "Repeat stops by law enforcement did not stop this defendant as he brought large loads of narcotics to our community. Significant prison time is needed to stop his trafficking." DEA Seattle Special Agent in Charge David F. Reames said it took extensive cooperation between the DEA, Seattle Police Department, Internal Revenue Service, and the Colombian National Police to create a top-to-bottom success. According to records filed in the case, Duarte Garcia's drug trafficking activity continued unabated following law enforcement stops in July 2023 and December 2023—during which methamphetamine, cocaine, and two firearms were seized from his vehicle.

The story was also reported on by [KCPQ-FOX](#)

Judge Delays Miami Trial Of Five Men Accused Of Plotting Assassination Of Haiti's President

The [Miami Herald](#) reported that the trial of five men accused of plotting the assassination of Haiti's president has again been delayed, this time to March 2026 — almost five years after the fatal shooting of Jovenel Moïse at his suburban home outside Port-au-Prince. U.S. District Judge Jacqueline Becerra said at a recent hearing that she was not happy about delaying the federal trial, which was originally set for March and then postponed until September of this year. Becerra said she had no choice but to push it back again because of the massive volume of evidence, including more than 2.5 million text messages, emails, and other records that federal prosecutors with the U.S. Attorney's Office are still turning over to the defense lawyers — a basic discovery issue that has turned into a sore point for the judge. "I do not take it lightly in any way that this case has been delayed," Becerra told the five defendants, who were arrested and taken into federal custody in the months after the assassination of Moïse in July 2021. "This is not a delay that I am at all happy with." To date, five of the 11 defendants have pleaded guilty to conspiring to kill Moïse, resulting in life sentences that they hope to get reduced with their cooperation. A sixth defendant pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges involving the smuggling of bulletproof vests that were illegally exported to Haiti for the group of ex-Colombian soldiers who carried out the deadly attack. The remaining five defendants are charged with conspiring in South Florida to kidnap or kill Moïse and related charges, including recruiting the commandos. The conspiracy charge carries up to life in prison.

Plane Is Diverted After Kansas Man Assaults Crew Member

The [New York Times](#) reported that a man from Kansas is facing federal charges after he grabbed a flight attendant on a flight on Tuesday, threw the person to the ground, and tried to drag them up an aisle. Julius Jordan Priester was on a plane flying from Bradley International Airport in Connecticut to Chicago when he began acting erratically around 10 p.m. — some 30 minutes into the one-hour flight, according to a news release from the U.S. Attorney's Office. Priester began taking off his shirt and ran toward the back of the plane while yelling, "Help me." He then grabbed a flight attendant, who was seated, by the shirt collar and forced the person to the ground, shouting, "You're coming with me." He then tried to drag the attendant up the aisle, ignoring flight crew members' calls for him to stop. Passengers helped get Priester back into a seat, where he continued to be disruptive and speak incoherently, prosecutors said. The captain declared an emergency, and the flight was diverted back to Bradley Airport. Connecticut State Police removed Priester from the plane, and an ambulance took him to a hospital for evaluation, prosecutors said. He was arrested at the hospital. Priester was charged with interference with flight crew members and attendants, which carries a maximum of 20 years in prison. Priester is being held pending a bond hearing scheduled for Friday. Prosecutors filed a motion for pretrial detention in part because Priester has a criminal history in Kansas, including a conviction for aggravated assault and a parole violation charge.

The story was also reported on by [Fox News](#), [CT Insider](#), [KWCH-CBS](#), [WLS-ABC](#), [WTIC-FOX](#), and [WVIT-NBC](#)

After Mistrial In FCI Dublin Abuse Case, New Charges Leave Out One Of The Accusers

[KQED-PBS](#) reported that after the sexual abuse trial of a former FCI Dublin guard ended in a mistrial last month, federal prosecutors are dropping one of the five accusers and her related charge from the case ahead of a new trial in the fall. In a superseding indictment filed in federal court last week, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California charged Darrell Wayne Smith with 14 counts of sexual misconduct and related crimes, excluding one count from the earlier indictment that saw the jury unable to come to a verdict on any of the charges. Three indictments have now been filed in the case. The dropped charge was added in the second charging document, which incorporated additional accusations from the woman and another accuser. It was one of seven for abusive sexual contact and stemmed from accusations by a woman who alleged that Smith locked her in her cell and forced her to show him her breasts. The woman played a key role for prosecutors in corroborating the story of another victim, who said Smith had isolated her and forced himself on her multiple times, but the defense also used her to drum up speculation about the validity of all of the accusations against Smith. In their closing argument, Smith's defense attorneys acknowledged that sexual abuse was an issue at FCI Dublin, which was shuttered last year following a sprawling FBI investigation that led to seven former officials' convictions, but they said he was the victim of a scam. Attorneys said that the five women tried to use fabricated stories of abuse by Smith to earn early release and other benefits, like legal immigration status and settlement payouts.

Former Massachusetts Sheriff's Office Official Arrested, Charged With Extorting Employees

The [Boston Globe](#) reported that federal agents arrested a former deputy superintendent in the Norfolk County Sheriff's Office on Wednesday on charges that he allegedly extorted subordinate employees to do free plumbing work at his home during regular business hours. Thomas Brady was indicted by a federal grand jury on four counts of extortion and three counts of use of interstate facilities to commit bribery and extortion, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. He pleaded not guilty to the charges in federal court in Boston on Wednesday and his next court date is scheduled for July 21. Prosecutors say Brady, who served as assistant deputy superintendent for jail operations with the sheriff's office before he was promoted to deputy superintendent in May 2023, allegedly used his position and authority "to order"

two maintenance officers to make repairs at his home during and after work hours between December 2021 and November 2022. Prosecutors said the two officers did the work and feared that if they refused, Brady would use his authority to negatively affect their jobs by changing their work schedules or position. In November, the Massachusetts Ethics Commission issued a preliminary order against Brady alleging he flouted the law on multiple occasions by having his subordinates do free plumbing work at his home. A spokesperson for the sheriff's office said Brady's employment was terminated on May 5. "The Norfolk County Sheriff's Office is aware of today's actions by the U.S. Attorney's Office and has been working closely with them on this inquiry, and we will continue to do so," the sheriff's office said in a statement.

The story was also reported on by [Hoodline](#), the [Miami Herald](#), [MassLive.com](#), [Boston.com](#), the [Boston Herald](#), [WCVB-ABC](#), [WFXT-FOX](#), [WBTS-NBC](#), and [WHDH-TV](#)

Portland Hotel Worker Testifies Border Patrol Agent Pointed Gun At Him In 2020

[The Oregonian](#) reported that Christopher Frison, chief maintenance engineer at the Residence Inn by Marriott in North Portland, went to unclog the toilet in Room 428 at about 5 p.m. on July 27, 2020. He said he knocked several times, called out "maintenance," gave his name, and then waited. What happened next became the subject of hotly debated testimony on Wednesday as a federal judge heard much different versions from Frison and the hotel guest, an agent with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Frison sued the federal government, alleging Joshua Allan Jones engaged in civil assault while on duty. He's seeking unspecified damages. Jones was part of a tactical unit sent to Portland to defend the federal courthouse and other buildings during nightly protests and unrest following the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis. According to Frison, Jones was wearing a sweatshirt with the hood pulled over his head when he "swung" the hotel door open, reached with his right hand behind his back, and suddenly pointed a handgun at Frison's chest. He said Jones held his gun in two hands, both arms outstretched. Frison said Jones pointed the gun at him for 4 to 5 seconds before uttering twice that he "f--- up." Frison refused to enter the room and instead handed the plunger to Jones and left. "I felt very threatened," said Frison. "He could have killed me for no reason." Jones testified that he never pointed his gun at Frison and only held it in his right hand, down to his side with the barrel pointed at the floor. It was noted that Frison's lawyers called a firearms instructor, William McKnight, a former lawyer who instructs officers in Washington and Oregon. Assistant U.S. Attorney Patrick Conti argued that McKnight wasn't familiar with the training of federal law enforcement officers.

Columbus Woman Sentenced To 23 Years In Prison For Sexual Exploitation And Abuse Of Toddler

The [Columbus Dispatch](#) reported that a woman who pleaded guilty to creating videos of herself sexually exploiting and abusing a 3-year-old toddler and then distributing recordings of the abuse will spend more than two decades in prison. Becky Gillespie was sentenced on Wednesday to 23 years in prison for sexual exploitation of a minor and distribution of child pornography. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Ohio said in a news release that on several dates in December 2023, Gillespie created and distributed videos of herself sexually abusing a 3-year-old victim and offered to send videos to other users on Snapchat depicting the abuse. It was noted that one of the users whom Gillespie was communicating with was under investigation in Australia for several child pornography offenses. Federal prosecutors said Gillespie and the other Snapchat user traded sexually explicit content, including the content Gillespie created with the 3-year-old victim. Law enforcement also discovered a photo of a second young victim who was seen posing on Gillespie's nude breasts. The investigation was a joint collaboration with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Australian Federal Police, and the South Australian Joint Anti-Child Exploitation Team.

The story was also reported on by [WBNS-CBS](#)

Fresno Man Pleads Guilty To Sexually Exploiting Children Over Social Media

The [Fresno Bee](#) reported that a man pleaded guilty to having child sexual abuse material, which he traded online with other adults, prosecutors said on Wednesday. Monico Erich Gastelo sexually exploited children online as well as received and distributed the obscene material using Snapchat, Telegram, and other apps. He pleaded guilty to one count of sexual exploitation of children and one count of distribution and receipt of child pornography. Gastelo created a social media account in January 2019 posing as an 18-year-old. He used the account to talk to at least one minor and asked for sexually explicit material. "Not only did this defendant re-victimize abused children depicted in the images, but attempted to victimize actual children within his orbit," Acting U.S. Attorney Michele Beckwith for the Eastern District of California said in a news release. Gastelo used social media apps to speak and trade images with other adults looking for the obscene material between January and March 2020. His phone contained more than 1,500 images and videos of suspected child sexual abuse material, what used to be referred to as "child pornography," according to investigators. Gastelo spoke to a minor through Snapchat in May 2020, sending the minor photos of his penis and asking for the minor to send back explicit images. The article specified that he is scheduled to be sentenced on September 8.

The story was also reported on by [KSEE-NBC](#)

Former North Dakota Principal Pleads Guilty To Child Sex-Related Charges

The [Forum of Fargo-Moorhead](#) reported that a child who was sexually abused by a former principal said the adult should be imprisoned as long as the child lives. The child and his family spoke on Wednesday at the federal courthouse in Fargo during a plea hearing for David Preston George. The 41-year-old pleaded guilty to felony charges of transporting a minor in October 2022 from North Dakota to South Dakota with plans to sexually abuse the child he knew. He also admitted to possessing and distributing child sex abuse images. "I want him to sit in prison and think about what he has done," the child said. During a trip to South Dakota, George slept with and inappropriately touched the child, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Gary Delorme. The child was less than 12 years old at the time, according to court documents. Court documents also said he possessed and distributed sexually explicit images of prepubescent children, some of which depicted sadistic and masochistic conduct. George signed a plea agreement that recommends he serve 40 years in prison for sexually abusing the child. The former principal faced life in prison. An investigation was launched in June 2023 after the North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation received cyber tips that George was using Instagram to send child sex abuse images, Delorme said. He also sent photos of children he knew, including a nude photo of a boy, in exchange for sexually explicit images of children as young as 5 years old. As the investigation continued, law enforcement learned that George had sexually abused a young boy he knew in the summer of 2022. George was arrested on August 14, 2023.

The story was also reported on by [KVLV-NBC](#)

Former ComEd Officials On Track For Sentencing After Judge, Feds Resolve Legal Challenges

The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) reported that four former executives and lobbyists of ComEd are on a clear path to sentencing for their conspiracy aimed at ex-Illinois House Speaker Michael J. Madigan, despite a last-minute challenge to their convictions and President Donald Trump's review of a key law in the case. Michael McClain, Anne Pramaggiore, John Hooker, and Jay Doherty are all set to be sentenced this summer. A jury found them guilty more than two years ago, in May 2023. On Wednesday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Sarah Streicker told U.S. District Judge Manish Shah that officials in D.C. had rejected a challenge to the convictions based on Trump's ordered review of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. The former executives and lobbyists were found guilty of four counts tied to the corrupt practices act, accusing them

of falsifying ComEd's books and records. Defense attorneys objected earlier this year to setting summer sentencing dates, stressing that the review could come out in their favor. Separately, the defense attorneys had also recently challenged the convictions under the Supreme Court's decision in March revolving around the 2022 conviction of former Chicago Ald. Patrick Daley Thompson. The high court undid a lower court ruling in Thompson's case, finding that a law he'd been convicted under outlaws false statements but not misleading ones. Shah on Wednesday rejected the argument that the convictions for falsifying ComEd's books should therefore fall. Shah said "it's not a true statement" to say ComEd purchased services from Doherty's consulting firm when it was, in part, "a pass-through" for a "stream of benefits for Mr. Madigan."

South Carolina Man Indicted For Multi-Million Dollar Medicare Fraud And Ponzi Schemes

[WCSC-CBS](#) reported that a man from Charleston has been indicted on charges that he defrauded Medicare during the COVID-19 pandemic and defrauded customers of his private charter jet company. Patrick Britton-Harr, who used to live in Annapolis, is charged with five counts of health care fraud, one count of money laundering, and six counts of wire fraud. It was noted that the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland unsealed a pair of indictments against him on Wednesday. The first indictment accuses Britton-Harr of offering COVID-19 screening tests to nursing home patients across the country, but then fraudulently billing Medicare through his company, Provista Health, for expensive respiratory pathogen panel tests. Prosecutors say the tests were "medically unnecessary, never ordered by a treating physician as required, and many were never actually performed," and included some tests for patients who had already died. The second indictment alleges Britton-Harr encouraged members of his private air club, AeroVanti, to pay \$150,000 upfront to secure block flight tours in exchange for using their money to purchase specific aircraft in which members would have a financial interest. Prosecutors say he recruited 100 people, who collectively paid approximately \$15 million in upfront payments, to purchase five aircraft. Instead of buying the aircraft, Britton-Harr allegedly misappropriated the money for his own personal benefit. "It is unconscionable for someone to defraud the government and others for personal gain, especially as we faced a global health crisis," U.S. Attorney Kelly O. Hayes said. "Britton-Harr showed a total disregard for those who depend on our Medicare system for health care services and for the individuals he scammed through his private-jet company."

The story was also reported on by [WBFF-FOX](#) and [WCBD-NBC](#)

DC Man Faces Up To 30 Years In Prison For Attempt To Steal Nearly \$500,000 In Mail Fraud

[WBFF-FOX](#) reported that a man has pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to commit mail fraud and bank fraud, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland. Dajuan Taylor admitted his role in a scheme that involved stealing, altering, and fraudulently negotiating approximately 53 checks, attempting to defraud victims of at least \$497,766.80. The guilty plea was announced by U.S. Attorney Kelly O. Hayes, alongside Postal Inspector in Charge Damon E. Wood of the United States Postal Inspection Service, Washington Division. Between July 2018 and November 2021, Taylor and his co-conspirators used social media platforms, including Instagram, to recruit individuals to provide their account information. Some participants were aware of the scheme, while others were not, as their bank accounts were used to negotiate stolen checks. Taylor further used fraudulent transaction information to recruit additional bank-account holders. Taylor faces a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison for each count, with sentencing set for September 2. It was noted that Hayes commended the United States Postal Inspection Service for its investigative work and thanked Assistant U.S. Attorney LaShanta Harris for prosecuting the case.

The story was also reported on by [WJLA-ABC](#) and [WDVM-TV](#)

Convicted Sex Offender Posed As MLB Prospect To Steal From Virginia Family

The [Miami Herald](#) reported that a convicted sex offender accused of defrauding multiple ex-girlfriends then began posing as a Major League Baseball prospect to steal from a family in Virginia he was spending "significant" time with. Janike Dunbar Holt has pleaded guilty to federal charges stemming from his scheme, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Virginia. In 2023, Holt moved from North Carolina to Roanoke, where he scammed the mother of his brother's children and her mother, whom she lived with. In Virginia, Holt never registered his sex offender status with the state, prosecutors said. His conviction was related to sex acts with a 15-year-old in North Carolina in 2018. Though Holt was living with a girlfriend in Roanoke, he regularly stayed at the family's home. Holt lied to the family, along with his brother and girlfriend, that he was wrongly convicted of sex crimes involving the teen in North Carolina. He also lied by telling them he was recruited to play for an MLB team — and "that they would all be moving as a result of his purported" upcoming career. To dupe the family and his brother, he texted them from burner phones, pretending to be officials with MLB and Minor League Baseball. He's accused of using the officials' actual names. In court documents, a federal investigator wrote that the texts from the burner phones "indicated that Holt would purportedly be signing a Major League Baseball contract" with a certain team in March 2023.

The story was also reported on by the [Daily Voice](#)

U.S. Attorney Files Letter In Support Of Motion For Dismissal Of NIOSH Suit In West Virginia

[WCHS-ABC](#) reported that Acting U.S. Attorney Lisa G. Johnston for the Southern District of West Virginia filed a letter of support last week for Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s motion to dismiss a lawsuit over cuts at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Johnston filed a letter on May 23 urging a federal court to dismiss the lawsuit filed in April after they said an injunction issued in the case resolved the issue. The lawsuit stemmed from cuts to jobs within coal-related programs at a facility in Morgantown and sought to reinstate the employees and stop the reductions in force. On May 13, U.S. District Judge Irene Berger granted an injunction in the case, halting the layoffs and giving the federal government 20 days to certify that all of the affected programs and jobs were reinstated. Lawyers for Kennedy and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have since sought to have the entire case dismissed because they say the issues raised in the original lawsuit are moot due to the injunction. Layoffs of about 200 people at the facility were announced in April as part of a nationwide reduction in force. The move was met by concern by several lawmakers, including Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, who said some of those that were set to be laid off worked in programs that were vital to the coal mining industry in West Virginia. NIOSH provides programs and services that oversee miner safety and health, including black lung screening. On the same day the injunction was granted, Capito announced that about 100 of the workers who were laid off were returning to their jobs. Kennedy and HHS now have less than a week to certify that all of the jobs have been reinstated.

Jeanine Pirro Vows To Tackle Violence As Top Federal Prosecutor In DC

[Fox News](#) reported that Jeanine Pirro took the oath of office to serve as the Interim U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia during an event in the Oval Office on Wednesday. Attorney General Pam Bondi administered the oath alongside President Donald Trump. "We need to send a message that justice will be honored in the District of Columbia," Pirro said after taking the oath. "My voice should be heard loud and clear: No more. No more tolerance of hatred. No more mercy for criminals." The article further quoted Pirro who added the following: "Violence will be addressed directly with the appropriate punishment, and this city will again become a shining city on a hill in an America that President Trump has promised to make great again and will make safe again." [ABC News](#) indicated that Trump said he has

confidence in Pirro to improve safety in D.C. "Jeanine Pirro, I have no doubt will be an exceptional U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, one of the truly most important positions in our country of any position, where she will restore public safety in our nation's capital, break up vicious street gangs and criminal networks, and ensure equal justice under the law. You'll see very, very big improvements in the D.C. area, that I can promise you," the president said. [Politico](#) revealed that Trump issued a pardon for Pirro's ex-husband, Albert Pirro, who had been convicted on conspiracy and tax evasion charges in 2000 as one of his last acts in office in 2021.

The story was also reported on by [The Hill](#), [NBC News](#), [NewsNation](#), [Scripps News](#), [USA Today](#), the [Washington Times](#), [WTTG-FOX](#)

Antitrust Lawsuit Against General Dynamics, HII Revived In Appeals Court

[Virginia Business](#) reported that a federal appeals court panel ruled this month that two former naval engineers who claimed that General Dynamics, Huntington Ingalls Industries, and more than a dozen other government contractors and shipbuilders illegally agreed to not poach each other's employees will receive a rehearing. A two-judge majority reversed the federal judge's 2024 dismissal and remanded the case for rehearing in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The plaintiffs said in the lawsuit, filed in October 2023, that executives at 20 defendant corporations had an "unwritten gentleman's agreement" to not actively recruit other companies' employees, and that this led to lower wages for naval engineers. Although the lawsuit covered the period beginning in 2000, the complaint said the "no-poach conspiracy" likely dated back to the 1980s. Among the defendants are Virginia-based Newport News Shipbuilding, General Dynamics Information Technology, Serco, and CACI International, as well as parent companies HII and General Dynamics. In the ruling, the two-judge majority wrote that the defendants "allegedly covered up their no-poach conspiracy by, among other things, 'carefully avoiding putting anything in writing' and using coded language to refer to it. That meets the affirmative-acts standard." However, the chief judge wrote in a dissenting opinion that the plaintiffs, Susan Scharpf and Anthony D'Armiento, did not meet the statute of limitations on their antitrust claims.

FBI Director Kash Patel Fumes Over James Comey 'Copycats' Forcing Overwhelmed Agency To Pull Agents Off Child Sex Predator, Drug Trafficking Cases

The [New York Post](#) reported that the FBI has been overwhelmed investigating James Comey "copycats" in the wake of his controversial "86 47" Instagram post, Director Kash Patel revealed Wednesday. "Do you know how many copycats we've had to investigate as a result of that beachside venture from the former director?" Patel told Fox News "Special Report" host Bret Baier, during an interview from the bureau's academy in Quantico, Virginia. Patel indicated that the uptick in potential threats against President Trump since Comey's May 15 post has been so substantial that the FBI has had to redirect significant resources – including agents focused on child sex crimes and drug trafficking – to investigate them. "Do you know how many agents I've had to take offline from chasing down child sex predators, fentanyl traffickers, terrorists .. because everywhere across this country people are popping up on social media and think that a threat to the life of the president of the United States is a joke ... and they can do it because [Comey] did it?" the FBI chief said. "That's what I'm having to deal with every single day," Patel fumed. "And that's why I'm having to pull my agents and analysts off – because [Comey] thought it was funny to go out there and make a political statement." The FBI did not immediately respond to The Post's request for details on the surge in possible threats against Trump since the former FBI director's Instagram post. The [Daily Beast](#) detailed that FBI director Kash Patel launched a scathing rebuke against James Comey in an interview in which Patel warned, "I won't be lectured on how to run the FBI by that man." Patel ranted about the former Trump administration FBI director in an interview with Fox News' Bret Baier, claiming the former FBI chief's "beachside venture," in which he posted a photo of seashells that spelled out the numbers "86" and "47," has led to "copycat" threats against President Donald Trump. Patel claimed in his

Wednesday Fox News interview that Comey "is a private citizen and he can walk around the beach and talk about seashells and Crayola crayons for all I care about, and talk about how we're the conspiracy theorists," but, he added, "if he wants to come after me, no problem." The [Washington Examiner](#) noted that FBI Director Kash Patel addressed questions about Jeffrey Epstein's death and the files surrounding the convicted sex trafficker in a new interview. Observers have questioned whether Epstein killed himself and have argued for wide-ranging specifics surrounding the late financier to be released, but they may have to wait a bit longer. "I'm not going to withhold information from the American public, ever. But I'm also not going to rush to get it out there in a format in which they can't rely on it," Patel said in an interview with Fox News. "We are diligently working on that, and it takes time to go through years of investigations, years of political maneuvering, and years of cover-up," he added. Patel also continued to insist that Epstein killed himself. "I'm telling you he killed himself," he said. [Fox News](#) highlighted that various conspiracy theories continue to swirl around January 6 Capitol Hill riots more than four years later, but FBI director Kash Patel promised a "definitive answer" to one of the most pressing questions about the nation-shattering event is "coming." "People have had questions about January 6th and whether or not there were FBI sources – not agents, sources – on the ground during January 6. And I told you I would get you the definitive answer to that. And we have, and we are in the process again of working with our partners to divulge that information, and it is coming," Patel said during a "Special Report" exclusive interview Wednesday. Patel added the answer may "surprise and shock people because of what past FBI leaders have said about it." Last year, Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz released his highly anticipated report on the FBI's Handling of its Confidential Human Sources and Intelligence Collection Efforts in the Lead Up to the Jan. 6, 2021 Electoral Certification. According to the report, there were a total of 26 confidential human sources in the crowd outside the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, but only three of them were assigned by the FBI to be there. The report stressed that none of the sources were authorized or directed by the bureau to "break the law" or "encourage others to commit illegal acts." One of the three confidential human sources tasked by the FBI to attend the rally entered the Capitol building, while the other two entered the restricted area around the Capitol. If a confidential human source is directed to be at a certain event, they are paid by the FBI for their time. Patel told Fox News chief political anchor Bret Baier the information from the DOJ IG report is "definitely a piece of the truth." A second [Fox News](#) article added that FBI Director Kash Patel promised transparency as remaining questions linger about the federal investigation into the July 2024 assassination attempt on then-candidate President Donald Trump. In an exclusive interview with Fox News' Bret Baier, Patel touched on the growing public demand for answers as speculation swirls around the high-profile attack in Butler, Penn. "I don't know that there's more to know, but you're going to know everything we know," Patel told Baier on Special Report. Patel, appointed amid calls for sweeping reform, pushed back on the growing conspiracy theories and insisted that the American people would learn the full truth. "We take assassination attempts, especially of the President of the United States, extremely seriously," he said. "And we don't feel that the American people have been given the information they need on that. And we're digging through the files, and we're getting them a more robust picture of what happened and whether or not there were any connections." Pressed by Baier on theories circulating online, from an inside attempt to sabotage Trump's campaign to foreign interference, Patel dismissed the speculation outright. "That's a great example of people looking for things where things don't exist," he said. He acknowledged that the death of the would-be assassin, Thomas Matthew Crooks, allowed for more transparency than ongoing cases, such as the Merchant investigation in New York, and claimed that relevant disclosures had already been made public.

The story was also reported on by the [Daily Caller](#)

How The FBI Came To Investigate Seattle Protests

[Axios](#) reported that the FBI is scrutinizing what happened at dueling Seattle protests over the weekend, while some locals are questioning why the city permitted a Christian group with anti-trans views to hold a rally in the city's historically LGBTQ+ neighborhood. The FBI says it is investigating "allegations of targeted violence against religious groups" in Seattle after a conservative demonstration drew counterprotesters, leading to clashes with police and 23 arrests. Following that initial protest, Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell issued a written statement saying the conservative group that organized Saturday's "far-right rally," Mayday USA, purposefully chose the location at Capitol Hill's Cal Anderson Park "to provoke a reaction." That caused the group's leaders to plan a second protest outside Seattle City Hall on Tuesday, accusing the mayor of unfairly blaming them for violence committed by others. Members of the Christian group demanded that the mayor either apologize or resign. "Freedom of religion isn't a suggestion," FBI deputy director Dan Bongino posted on X on Tuesday while announcing the agency has asked its team "to fully investigate" the weekend's events in Seattle. Harrell said in an emailed statement shared with Axios Wednesday that the city has received "no official notice" of an FBI investigation. The FBI told Axios that it had no further comment.

The story was also reported on by the [Independent](#), the [Washington Examiner](#), the [Washington Times](#), the [Daily Caller](#), the [Daily Signal](#), the [Tampa Free Press](#), [The Blaze](#)

Nellie Ohr Made False Statements To Congress About Trump-Russia Investigation, FBI Memo Shows

The [Washington Examiner](#) reported that a newly declassified FBI memo on Wednesday revealed that Nellie Ohr, a researcher for opposition research firm Fusion GPS, gave false testimony to Congress in 2018 about her involvement in the Trump-Russia investigation, including her communications with Justice Department officials during the heat of the 2016 election. According to a 2019 internal analysis by the FBI's public corruption squad in Washington, which was made public Wednesday by Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Ohr falsely denied having any knowledge of then-ongoing DOJ investigations and denied sharing her research with anyone outside Fusion GPS — including with her husband, Bruce Ohr, then a senior DOJ official.

The story was also reported on by the [New York Post](#), [Just the News](#), the [Daily Mail](#)

FBI Analyst Found With Multiple Child Pornography Videos, Texas Cops Say

The [Charlotte Observer](#) reported that an FBI employee is accused of having multiple videos of children being sexually assaulted, Texas police said. Brian Rausch, an analyst with the FBI in Houston, was arrested May 27 and his home was searched, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Precinct 3 said in a news release. McClatchy News reached out to the FBI office in Houston for comment but did not immediately receive a response. An investigation by the precinct's internet crimes against children unit was conducted in May and found that Rausch was in possession of multiple videos of child sexual assault, deputies said. Authorities raided the FBI employee's home the morning of May 27. Rausch was charged with five counts of possession of child pornography in Harris County, deputies said.

The story was also reported on by [Houston Public Media](#), the [New York Post](#), the [Latin Times](#), the [Idaho Statesman](#), [Texas Daily](#), [Hoodline](#)

Comey Rips Patel, Bongino On Leadership Abilities, Reopened FBI Cases

[The Hill](#) reported that former FBI Director James Comey criticized the bureau's current leadership and questioned why FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino would announce on social media that the bureau was reopening certain cases of "potential public corruption." In the process, he took a dig at Bongino's recent career switch. "It's a little confusing to me, honestly. I'm sure it's a huge adjustment to go from being a podcaster to being the deputy director of the FBI, but I don't understand this tweet," Comey told CNN's

Wolf Blitzer on ["The Situation Room"](#) on Wednesday. Bongino said Sunday on social media the FBI is either reopening or dedicating additional resources toward investigating "number of cases of potential public corruption." "These cases are the DC pipe bombing investigation, the cocaine discovery at the prior administration's White House, and the leak of the Supreme Court Dobbs case," Bongino said. The first case apparently refers to the investigation into pipe bombs placed outside the Republican National Committee and the Democratic National Committee a day before the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol. Comey said he assumed that investigation "was never closed." "The FBI never closes such a thing, so I guess it means they're going to focus on it more," he said. On the leaked draft opinion in the case of Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, which eventually led to the overturning of Roe v. Wade, Comey noted that the Supreme Court released a report on its investigation into the incident in 2023., which failed to identify who was behind the leak. "I don't know what the FBI's role is there," Comey said. The third case involved the discovery in 2023 of cocaine at the White House, which quickly became political fodder for Republicans heading into the presidential election year. "I thought the Secret Service investigated that," Comey said. "So I don't follow it and understand it." Comey also said it struck him as unusual that the deputy director would announce these FBI decisions via a post on the social platform X. "The FBI often calls for public assistance or, in matters of great public concern, will announce an investigation to reassure the public," he said. "This seems much more narrowly targeted, maybe to a former podcast audience," he added. Comey said he's not confident in the FBI leadership but said he has faith in the career officials there, who Comey said he hopes will be able to guide FBI Director Kash Patel and Bongino. But he said he lacks confidence in the leaders themselves. "Nothing in their life or their career gives me confidence that they know anything about leading an organization like that. And so I would have serious doubts. I bet they do internally about whether they have doubts. Great. Let the people who know what they're doing give you advice, and listen to them," he said.

The story was also reported on by [USA Today](#).

DEA Warns Carfentanil Poses Growing Threat In El Paso

[KFOX/KDBC-FOX/CBS](#) reported that the DEA is raising alarms about the emergence of a highly dangerous drug, carfentanil, on the streets. Carlos Briano from the DEA discussed the issue with the news outlet during an interview. Briano stated, "It's more potent than fentanyl. Two milligrams of fentanyl could kill you, but with carfentanil, it's.02 milligrams." He said that carfentanil is being seen more in Las Cruces than in El Paso. When asked if carfentanil is a problem in the El Paso area, Briano confirmed its presence by saying, "Yes, we have seen it in the El Paso area. It's a significant concern for law enforcement and public health officials." Briano added, "According to the CDC, in 2023, there were 23 deaths related to carfentanil, but it's gone up to 2024 to 238." He said carfentanil is a tranquilizer for elephants and advised the public on what to do if they suspect someone is using or has been exposed to carfentanil. Briano advised the public by saying, "If you suspect someone has been exposed, call 911 immediately or 988. Do not handle the substance yourself, as it can be absorbed through the skin or inhaled." The article noted that the DEA continues to monitor the situation closely and urges the community to stay informed and vigilant.

DEA Houston Warns Of Synthetic Opioid Hitting Houston And Surrounding Areas

[KRIV-FOX](#) reported that the Houston field office for the DEA is putting out a serious and stern warning about a synthetic drug called Nitazene that's leading to seizures and overdoses in teens and adults. The DEA says Harris, Fort Bend, Montgomery, and Brazoria County have all been impacted by Nitazene, which is 25% more potent than fentanyl. Special Agent William Kimbell with the DEA says Nitazene, a killer synthetic drug, has been in our area since 2022. Kimbell stated, "In the last year, we've become more and more concerned because our number of seizures have gone up in between November and February of this year. We have had a 15% increase of overdoses from Nitazene in Houston. Nitazene is a typical opioid. It suppresses your breathing, it suppresses your blood pressure, and your body is so suppressed,