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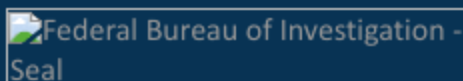
From: FBI News Briefing <[REDACTED]>

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Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - DRAFT: FBI Daily News Briefing - March 5, 2025

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March 05, 2025 Federal Bureau of Investigation Daily News Briefing

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

IN THE NEWS

President Trump Takes Victory Lap in Speech to Congress, Democrats Protest

[Reuters](#) (03/05, Oliphant, Mason, Slattery) and the [Associated Press](#) (03/04, Goldin) reported that President Donald Trump delivered a 100-minute-long televised speech to Congress that largely focused on domestic policy rather than foreign affairs. He made brief mentions of Ukraine, the Middle East, and national security, reiterating past positions and announcing a critical minerals deal with Ukraine and the detention of a terrorism suspect. Much of his address highlighted his conservative agenda, including proposed tax cuts, a border bill, and various executive orders on social issues. The speech prompted protests from Democrats, some of whom left the chamber, and skepticism regarding Trump's handling of inflation and overall economic concerns. Overall, his approval ratings remained around 44%, indicating lingering doubts among the public. [Fox News](#) (03/04, Colton) reported that President Trump declared that "America is back" in his speech. The article highlighted President Trump's claims that his administration had accomplished more in 43 days than most administrations accomplish in four or eight years. The [Associated Press](#) (03/04, Video) also published a video with President Trump saluting Director Patel and AG Bondi during the speech. Additional reporting on the story was provided by [ABC News](#) (03/04, Hoffman), [CBS News](#) (03/04, Doan, Pandise, Tin), [CNBC](#) (03/04, Breuninger), [CNN](#) (03/04, Liptak), [NBC News](#) (03/04, Kapur), [New York Post](#) (03/04, Nelson), [New York Times](#) (03/04, Miller), [NPR](#) (03/04, Shivaram), [Politico](#) (03/04, Stokols), [The Hill](#) (03/04, Stanage), [USA Today](#) (03/04, Bailey, Anderson), [Wall Street Journal](#) (03/04, Gurman), [Washington Examiner](#) (03/04, Lim), [Washington Post](#) (03/04, Viser), and [Washington Times](#) (03/04, Wilson). The [New York Times](#) (03/04, Firestone) also posted an opinion piece on the story.

President Trump Says U.S. Has Apprehended 'Top Terrorist'

[CNN](#) (03/04, Rabinowitz, Cohen, et al.) reported that President Trump announced in his joint address to Congress that the U.S. is transporting a "top terrorist" involved in the 2021 bombing at Kabul airport's Abbey Gate in Afghanistan. 13 U.S. service members and at least 170 Afghan civilians were killed. According to the article, Mohammad Sharifullah, is being charged with providing and conspiring to provide material support for terrorism. "Tonight, I am pleased to announce that we have just apprehended the top terrorist responsible for that atrocity, and he is right now on his way here to face the swift sword of American justice," Trump said. The article also quoted Director Patel's post on X: "As President Trump just announced, I can report that tonight the FBI, DOJ, and CIA have extradited one of

the terrorists responsible for the murder of the 13 American soldiers at Abbey Gate during the disastrous Afghanistan withdrawal. One step closer to justice for these American heroes and their families.” Additional reporting on the story was provided by [Associated Press](#) (03/04, Tucker, Miller), [Axios](#) (03/04, Ravid), [AFP](#) (03/04, Staff Writer), [CBS News](#) (03/05, Brennan, Freiman, LaPorta), [Daily Wire](#) (03/04, Mahieu), [The Hill](#) (03/04, Mitchell), [The Independent](#) (03/05, Bedigan), [Newsmax](#) (03/04, Swanson), [Reuters](#) (03/04, Shalal), [Washington Examiner](#) (03/04, Brest), and [Wall Street Journal](#) (03/04, Leary).

U.S. Lists DOJ, FBI Buildings in Washington for Possible Sale

The [Associated Press](#) (03/04, Colvin, Sisak) reported that the Trump administration has released a list of over 440 federal properties targeted for potential sale, including the FBI headquarters and the main Department of Justice building. According to the article, the list was later revised to 320 entries, with all properties in Washington, D.C. removed, including the J. Edgar Hoover Building and the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building. The goal of selling these properties is to eliminate costly maintenance and save taxpayer dollars, with estimated annual savings of over \$430 million in operating costs. The article explained that several of the buildings on the initial chopping block house agencies that Trump has long criticized and targeted, notably the FBI and Justice Department. The FBI and HUD headquarters are also prime examples of the brutalist architectural style that Trump has tried for years to eliminate, preferring traditional, neo-classical architecture instead. Additional reporting on the story was provided by [Bloomberg](#) (03/04, Korte, Wong), [CNN](#) (03/04, Blackburn, Mash), [Fox Business](#) (03/04, Casiano), [The Daily Beast](#) (03/04, Ornedo), [The Independent](#) (03/04, Feinberg), [Newsmax](#) (03/04, Koutsobinas), [New York Times](#) (03/04, Ngo, Jewett, O'Brien), [Politico](#) (03/04, Cai, Nguyen), [Reuters](#) (03/04, Sullivan, Reid), [Seattle Times](#) (03/04, Hutton), [USA Today](#) (03/04, Wire), and [WJLA \(ABC-7\)](#) (03/04, Bourque).

Trump Administration Expels Senior FBI Officials, Sparks Fears of Wider Purge Amid Jan. 6 Inquiry

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (03/04, Gurman, Barber, Viswanatha) reported that the Trump administration has ordered the expulsion of senior FBI officials, with over two dozen already pushed out. The expulsions target investigators and prosecutors involved in Trump probes, with thousands more potentially at risk of being fired, sparking fears of a mass purge. According to the article, Director Patel is expected to shrink the bureau's counterintelligence and counterterrorism work, and move agents from securities fraud, antitrust violations, and other white-collar cases to pursue drug-trafficking and violent street crime. Additionally, the article explained that thousands of FBI agents were ordered to answer a 12-question survey about their work on the Jan. 6 riot. Agents paused field work to complete the survey. The central question asked, “What was your role in the investigations or prosecutions relating to events that occurred at or near the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.” The article highlighted that last Thursday, Director Patel told lawmakers at his FBI confirmation that FBI employees would be protected from political retribution. “Every FBI employee will be held to the same standard and no one will be terminated for case assignments,” he said under oath. On Saturday, the FBI agents association in a note told its members not to resign or offer to resign: “While we would never advocate for physical noncompliance, you need to be clear your removal is not voluntary.” The agents association followed up with another message Sunday, telling members to answer the Jan. 6 survey with a response that included the sentence, “I have not been advised of my rights in this matter.” The article noted that the senior FBI executives given the Justice Department ultimatum last week had by the Monday deadline cleared out their offices and turned in their badges. Together, they represented close to 200 years of FBI experience.

'Everything Is on the Table' on DOJ Purge of Trump Haters, AG Pam Bondi Says

[USA TODAY](#) (03/04, Meyer) reported that the DOJ has fired all of Jan. 6 special counsel Jack Smith's staff and is working to “root out” anyone at the department and FBI who it believes doesn't like President

Donald Trump, Attorney General Bondi has confirmed. AG Bondi, in a Monday night interview with Fox News host Sean Hannity, also said the Justice Department is looking at conducting investigations into the actions of Smith's team and also into the conduct of prosecutors and federal agents involved in the sprawling criminal probe into Russian interference in the 2016 election. "Well, first and foremost, we got rid of the Jack Smith team. Gone. Those people are gone," AG Bondi said. "We're still trying to find ... a lot of people in the FBI and also in the Department of Justice who despise Donald Trump, despise us, don't want to be there. You have to do the right thing and right now we're going to root them out," AG Bondi said. "We will find them, and they will no longer be employed." The article added that AG Bondi told Hannity she's been working with recently confirmed Director Patel to cull the staff of people determined to be problematic. "We're starting at every level of the Justice Department, Sean, and getting rid of the worst of the worst. But there are a lot more people that shouldn't be there." The article highlighted that AG Bondi's statements on the Fox interview indicated a stark shift from her tone earlier this year. During her Jan. 15 Senate confirmation hearing, Bondi denied that she would engage in a politically motivated purge of the Justice Department. "Politics will not play a part," Bondi, a former two-term Florida attorney general, told senators. "I've demonstrated that my entire career as a prosecutor, as attorney general and I will continue to do that."

Continued Reporting: Top FBI Official in New York Forced Out After Resisting Trump Purge of Agents

[The Guardian](#) (03/04, Lakhani) and the [Washington Post](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) reported that James Dennehy, the FBI's top official in New York, was forced out after resisting the Trump Administration's purge of agents who investigated the January 6 assault on the Capitol. According to the article, Dennehy's removal comes after the departure of eight veteran FBI officials involved in criminal investigations into Trump, and may lead to further layoffs of career officers. The article noted that Dennehy had vowed to "dig in" and resist the purge, and his departure has raised concerns about the influence of Trump and his allies in the justice system. "Today, we find ourselves in the middle of a battle of our own as good people are being walked out of the FBI," Dennehy wrote to staff last month. "And others are being targeted because they did their jobs in accordance with the law and FBI policy." The article noted that in his farewell email on Monday, Dennehy urged FBI officials to maintain the agency's independence. "As I leave today, I have an immense feeling of pride – to have represented an office of professionals who will always do the right thing for the right reasons; who will always seek the truth while upholding the rule of law," he wrote. "Who will always handle cases and evidence with an overabundance of caution and care for the innocent, the victims, and the process first; and who will always remain independent". Additional reporting on the story was provided by [Daily Caller](#) (03/04, Natta), [The Hill](#) (03/04, Beitsch), [Indian Express](#) (03/04, Staff Writer), [MSNBC](#) (03/04, Benen), and [SAN](#) (03/04, Nigrelli).

Continued Reporting: AG Bondi Says 'Truckload of Evidence' Related to Epstein Case Has Been Delivered to FBI Headquarters

The [New York Post](#) (03/04, Nava) reported that Attorney General Pam Bondi has received a large amount of evidence related to the Jeffrey Epstein case, which has been delivered to FBI headquarters. "I have the FBI going through them," AG Bondi said, adding that Director Patel "is going to get us a detailed report as to why" the documents had been withheld. "We're going to go through it, go through it as fast as we can, but go through it very cautiously to protect all the victims of Epstein because there are a lot of victims," she said. AG Bondi reiterated that a "team" assembled by Director Patel is going to look over the documents "as fast" as possible so "we can get it out to the American people, because the American people have a right to know." Additional reporting on the story was provided by [ABC News](#) (03/04, Steakin, Faulders, Mallin), [Daily Mail](#) (03/04, Chain), [Daily Wire](#) (03/04, Schow), [The Epoch Times](#) (03/04, Stieber), and [SAN](#) (03/04, Nigrelli).

COUNTERTERRORISM

John Kerry 'Systematically Derailed' FBI Probe of Iranian Terrorists While Pursuing Nuclear Deal

The [New York Post](#) (03/04, Christenson) reported that the Obama administration allegedly "systematically derailed" an FBI probe into Iranian terrorists to pursue a nuclear deal with Tehran. According to the article, then-Secretary of State John Kerry personally interfered to block arrests, contradicting his sworn testimony to Congress. The article noted that the administration's actions included abandoning dozens of Iran-related investigations and setting up a "shadow amnesty program" to protect Iranian criminals, according to whistleblowers. [Newsmax](#) (03/04, Reyner) also reported on the story.

Jordanian Quantico Breach Suspect Freed Under Biden Arrested Again by ICE

[Fox News](#) (03/04, Ruiz) reported that Hasan Yousef Hamdan, a 32-year-old Jordanian national, has been re-arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) after being previously released on bond. According to the article, Hamdan and Mohammad Khair Dabous, 28, were initially arrested for allegedly trespassing at Marine Corps Base Quantico in May 2024. The men allegedly claimed they were contracted drivers for Amazon and were accused of posing as delivery drivers. Military police stopped them at the gate, but the driver allegedly ignored them and tried to move into the compound. "A student overstay somehow gets in contact with someone illegally crossing into the U.S. on the other side of the country. Both of them wind up in that truck," Dave Katz, a former federal firearms instructor who has worked at Quantico and is now the CEO of Global Security Group, said. "There is no possible explanation for what happened other than a sinister one." Quantico is a Marine Corps base that also houses training facilities and a lab for the FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration, which could be potential terror targets, Katz said. The article added that the reason for Hamdan's new arrest is unclear, but he and Dabous still face immigration proceedings after charges related to the breach were dismissed without prejudice.

COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

Fired U.S. Government Workers With Top Security Clearances Were Not Given Exit Briefings, Sources Say

[Reuters](#) (03/04, Gardner, Landay) reported that some U.S. government workers with top security clearances, fired in recent mass layoffs overseen by Elon Musk, were not given standard exit briefings, posing a counterintelligence risk. According to the article, the lack of exit briefings means these workers were not reminded of non-disclosure agreements and were not instructed on what to do if approached by foreign adversaries. The article noted that Kevin Carroll, a former undercover CIA officer, said the failure to conduct final briefings for U.S. officials holding top-secret clearances was a "terrible" counterintelligence risk. "When you get read off the program, they remind you that you agreed to keep information confidential and it would violate the Espionage Act if you don't," he said. The article does not contain a direct FBI mention. An opinion piece from [The Bulletin](#) (03/04, Walton) assessed that Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) poses a counterintelligence disaster due to inadequate security standards when accessing sensitive U.S. databases. According to the article, the abrupt layoff of hundreds of thousands of US federal civil servants creates a fertile ground for hostile foreign intelligence services to recruit disgruntled employees.

Democrats Lodge Complaint Against Acting Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove in New York Over Eric Adams Case

The [New York Times](#) (03/04, Bromwich) reported that Senate Democrats on Tuesday asked a New York committee that disciplines lawyers to investigate whether the acting deputy attorney general violated rules of professional conduct by demanding that prosecutors abandon a corruption case against Mayor Eric Adams of New York City. The request, filed by the 10 Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee, asked the New York group to determine whether the official, Emil Bove III, "should be subject to disciplinary action." According to the article, New York's attorney grievance committees allow lawyers to police their own. The committees, which work in private, can recommend disciplinary measures to an appeals court, including disbarment in extraordinary cases. The article mentioned that last month, Bove, a former criminal defense lawyer for President Trump, ordered Manhattan prosecutors to abandon their case against Adams. The order caused upheaval within the Department of Justice, leading to the resignation of at least eight prosecutors, including the acting U.S. attorney in Manhattan, Danielle R. Sassoon. The article noted that the Democratic senators cited Sassoon's resignation letter as they detailed their concerns to an attorney grievance committee in Manhattan, writing that Bove had "explicitly premised the dismissal of charges against Mayor Eric L. Adams upon the extraction of a political favor." The senators also noted that prosecutors have asked that the case be dismissed without prejudice, meaning that they could bring charges anew, calling the arrangement "inherently coercive." [Forbes](#) (03/04, Durkee), and [CNN](#) (03/04, Rabinowitz) also reported on the story.

California Man Sentenced to Over Four Years in Federal Prison for Hate Crime Beating in Culver City

[CBS News](#) (03/04, Rodriguez) reported that a federal judge sentenced a homeless man from California to more than four years in prison for a racially motivated attack in 2021. The DOJ said 38-year-old Jesse Allen Lindsey, a transient with a last known address in Fontana, pleaded guilty to one hate crime count in December 2024. Prosecutors said he was already in state prison on an unrelated conviction when a federal grand jury indicted him earlier this year. The attack happened on June 14, 2021, in Culver City. Investigators claimed that Lindsey punched the woman in the face after she did not give him a lighter or cigarette. The article quoted FBI Assistant Director Akil Davis, who said, "The facts of this case shock the conscience. Mr. Lindsey's actions were heinous, despicable, and inhumane."

Michigan Man Sentenced to Prison for Distributing Child Pornography

[CBS News](#) (03/04, Singleton) reported that a Michigan man was sentenced to 17.5 years in federal prison for distributing child pornography online. Ethan Eversman, 25, of Ionia, was accused of requesting explicit videos from a 15-year-old in New York and sharing the videos with another person, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. Officials say Eversman was a corrections officer with the Eaton County Sheriff's Office. The article quoted Cheyveyea Gibson, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI in Michigan, who said, "Today's sentencing of Ethan Eversman, a former Corrections Deputy, reinforces the FBI's unwavering commitment to enforcing the highest standards of integrity in law enforcement. Members from the FBI's Lansing Resident Agency, in collaboration with our law enforcement partners at the Michigan State Police, worked tirelessly throughout this investigation, in an effort to halt Mr. Eversman's predatory actions. I also want to express my gratitude to the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Western District of Michigan for their vital role in ensuring this child predator faces justice."

Climate Groups Were Counting on \$20 Billion. President Trump Won't Let Them Access It.

The [New York Times](#) (03/04, Friedman, Brown, Savage) reported that two weeks after their bank accounts were frozen amid a swirl of investigations by the Trump administration, nonprofit organizations that were supposed to receive \$20 billion to help curb climate change are still unable to withdraw money, raising concerns about their ability to pay staff. According to the article, the accounts were frozen by Citibank, which holds the money, after Lee Zeldin, the Environmental Protection Agency administrator, suggested there was potential fraud and the FBI and DOJ launched investigations. Those inquiries went forward despite the determination by a top federal prosecutor that there was not enough evidence to open a grand jury criminal probe. The article stated that Zeldin has criticized the policy and the structure of the program that was created by Congress and run by the Biden administration. He called for the money to be returned to the federal government. This week, he asked for a third, concurrent investigation by his agency's acting inspector general. [Breitbart](#) (03/04, Moran) also reported on the story.

Dozens of Canadians Are Charged in \$21 Million 'Grandparent Scam'

The [New York Times](#) (03/04, Sanders) reported that more than two dozen Canadians defrauded hundreds of vulnerable Americans out of \$21 million over three years in what the authorities called a "Grandparent Scam." The article added that on Tuesday, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Vermont announced that 25 Canadian nationals had been charged with conspiring to defraud Americans in 45 states. All of those accused are from Ontario or Quebec, and 23 had been arrested in Canada as of Tuesday afternoon, prosecutors said. According to prosecutors, the conspirators placed phone calls from centers in and near Montreal between the summer of 2021 and June 4, 2024, as part of the scheme. The 25 Canadians whose indictments were unsealed on Tuesday joined nine Americans who had previously been charged in the "Grandparent Scam," the authorities said. The article mentioned that the FBI warned that grandparent schemes targeting older adults are common. A DOJ [press release](#) noted that the case was investigated under the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF). OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. [NBC News](#) (03/04, Romero) also reported on the story.

Continued Reporting: Search for Missing Two-Year-Old Boy Dane Paulsen in Oregon Now Focuses on River

[ABC News](#) (03/04, Forrester) reported that a massive search continues for an Oregon toddler who was reported missing on Saturday afternoon, according to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department. At a news conference Tuesday, authorities said they are now concentrating their search for 2-year-old Dane Paulsen along the Siletz River near his home, saying the evidence now indicates the toddler was at the river's edge before his disappearance. The boy was reported missing at approximately 4:25 p.m. Saturday and was last seen playing in the front yard of his family's Siletz, Oregon, home, "out of sight of his parents," the sheriff's department said in a statement on Sunday. The article mentioned that the Lincoln County Major Crime Team and the FBI are also assisting with the investigation and any new leads, authorities said. The FBI's Victim Service Division is also providing resources to Paulsen's family, officials said. As of Tuesday, at least 195 tips have been investigated, according to the sheriff's department. [KATU \(ABC-2\)](#) (03/04, Slaughter, Aljobery), and the [Daily Mail](#) (03/04, Gable) also reported on the story.

Rep. Kiley Calls for FBI to Investigate California High-Speed Rail Project

[KCRA \(NBC-3\)](#) (03/04, Weber) reported that California Congressman Kevin Kiley on Tuesday formally requested that Director Patel open an investigation into the state's high-speed rail project. Shortly after, the California High-Speed Rail Authority responded, saying it welcomed the investigation. According to the article, in a letter shared on social media platform X, Kiley called the high-speed rail project an issue that deserves Director Patel's attention. The request for an investigation comes one month after President Donald Trump called it the "worst managed project" he's ever seen and said he would also investigate it. The U.S. Secretary of Transportation also announced a review of the project last month. The

bullet train between San Francisco and Los Angeles was originally passed by voters as Proposition 1A in 2008 with an estimated \$33 billion price tag. It has since swelled to a cost of more than \$120 billion, and most of the money needed to complete it has yet to materialize. To date, \$13 billion has been spent, according to the state. The article quoted Kiley, who said, "Because the project has consumed billions in federal funding, the FBI has both the authority, and I would argue the responsibility, to pursue these questions and deliver answers to the American people. The Public Integrity Division is uniquely qualified to root out any corruption, recover stolen funds, and restore confidence that our tax dollars are being stewarded carefully." [KXTV \(ABC-10\)](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

Fugitive Found Dead in Stolen Car by FBI SWAT Team at South Nashville Home

[WSMV \(NBC-4\)](#) (03/04, Wethington) reported that the Metro Nashville Police Department has released new information on Tuesday morning's standoff at a home in South Nashville that ended in the death of a fugitive. MNPd reports that 30-year-old Myles Owens V was found dead by an apparent suicide. According to the article, an FBI SWAT team entered the home after making announcements for Owens to surrender and confirming he was inside. He was then found inside a stolen sedan in the garage with a gunshot wound to the head. MNPd said a gun was found on his right side. Police said Owens was wanted on an outstanding federal criminal complaint charging him with possession of an unregistered firearm, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime, and possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute. He also had 20 outstanding failure-to-appear-in-court charges in Davidson County and two in Williamson County. [WZTV \(Fox-17\)](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

Trans Vegan Cult Member Linked to Vermont Border Agent Killing Was Person of Interest in Parents' Murders

[Fox News](#) (03/04, Whitten) reported that a member of a transgender, vegan cult linked to the killing of a Vermont border agent was also a person of interest in the murder of their parents. During a wellness check on Jan. 3, 2023, the bodies of 72-year-old Richard and 69-year-old Rita Zajko were found dead at their home in Chester Heights Borough, Pennsylvania. The Delaware County Medical Examiner's Office confirmed the deaths, which occurred on Dec. 31, 2022, as homicides. The article added that more than a year later, the incident remains an "active investigation" by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). According to the PSP, the couple were found with a firearm inside their home. The firearm "has been linked" to a person of interest in the January 2025 shooting of U.S. Border Patrol Agent David Christopher Maland. Michelle Zajko, the daughter of Richard and Rita, was linked to the firearms found in Teresa Youngblut and Felix "Ophelia" Bauckholt's vehicle during Maland's shooting. "An investigation into the border agent shooting revealed that the weapon used in the killing of the Customs and Border Patrol agent was purchased by a person of interest in the murders of Rita and Richard Zajko," a spokesperson with the PSP said.

Suspect in Custody After Three People Killed on Spirit Lake Reservation in North Dakota

[USA TODAY](#) (03/04, Bragg) reported that a suspect is in custody Tuesday after three members of the Spirit Lake tribe were found dead following a "tragic shooting incident" in St. Michael's, North Dakota, a tribal leader announced. The Bureau of Indian Affairs notified the Spirit Lake Tribal Council of the deadly incident Tuesday morning and law enforcement apprehended a suspect Tuesday afternoon, according to a statement from Lonna J. Street, chairwoman of the Spirit Lake Tribe. The article noted that the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office said earlier Tuesday that officials were looking for a 25-year-old male suspect with no criminal record in connection to the shooting of three people inside a home. The council said in a previous statement that the "incident" occurred within the boundaries of the reservation. The article

added that the outlet has reached out to local law enforcement, the FBI and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for more information about the investigation.

Continued Reporting: Feds Seek Records Tied to Ousted Illinois Mayor's Boyfriend

The [New York Post](#) (03/04, Crane) reported that the feds are seeking records from ex-Dolton Mayor Tiffany Henry's boyfriend and others over a development project in the Illinois town — as authorities continue to separately probe the newly ousted mayor for alleged money mismanagement. The article mentioned that the Village of Dolton was hit with the federal subpoena on Feb. 25 over land allegedly once owned by the now-former mayor's boyfriend. The summons demands documents dating back to 2014, including citations, code violations and all communications between property owners, tenants and village personnel tied to the project. The 41-year-old, who was first elected mayor in 2021, has faced accusations of overseeing off-the-rails spending during her tumultuous mayoral term, including claims she misappropriated taxpayer money to cover personal expenses like a police security detail and lavish travel.

Continued Reporting: Feeding Our Future Trial

The [Minnesota Star Tribune](#) (03/04, Meitrodt) reported that as federal investigators were closing in on Aimee Bock's \$200 million operation, the founder of Feeding Our Future found new ways to personally collect hundreds of thousands of dollars, according to an FBI forensic accountant who testified at her trial Tuesday. The article added that the accountant, Lacia Blackwell, said Bock boasted of her money-making prowess to her then-boyfriend, felon Malcolm Watson, who she berated in a series of messages for not pulling his weight in the relationship, which prosecutors showed the jury on Tuesday. The article mentioned that Bock has been accused by prosecutors of organizing a pay-for-play scheme in which dozens of alleged conspirators stole \$250 million by pretending to feed thousands of children each day at sites across Minnesota.

Former Hawaii Prison Guard Pleads Guilty to Sexually Assaulting Inmates

[KITV \(ABC-4\)](#) (03/04, Martinez) reported that the DOJ announced that a former Hawaii prison guard recently pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting inmates. On Monday, March 3, 2025, 47-year-old Mikael Rivera from Kapolei, pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of inmates under his custody or control. The article added that Rivera was a correctional officer at the Federal Detention Center in Honolulu from 2014 to 2018. According to court documents, while on duty, Rivera committed multiple sexual acts with one inmate who didn't consent and engaged in sexually abusive conduct with two additional inmates under his supervision. The article mentioned that the DOJ-OIG is investigating the case with help from the FBI.

Atlanta Inspector General's Office Staff Accuse City Officials of Retaliation, Refer Investigations to Feds

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (03/04, Bunch) reported that a handful of senior employees in Atlanta's Office of the Inspector General on Monday sent a five-page letter to federal and state authorities, along with city officials, referring eight criminal investigations launched by the government watchdog office in 2023 and 2024. The OIG staff all requested whistleblower protections against any retaliation caused by the letter, and cited recent legislation passed by the Atlanta City Council that, they argue, prohibits the office from investigating criminal activity. According to the article, the March 3 letter refers to the ongoing probes by the DOJ and the FBI. The article added that the allegations range from misconduct, like contracts being awarded to political donors, to millions of dollars funneled to organizations connected to city staff. The letter also details alleged inappropriate pressure on union members during bargaining conversations, and use of contractors for personal projects.

Former New York School Administrator Pleads Guilty to Production of Child Pornography

[WKBW \(ABC-7\)](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) reported that the U.S. Attorney's Office announced that 51-year-old Matthew Fisher, a former administrator at the Gow School in South Wales, has pleaded guilty to the production of child pornography. The article added that according to the U.S. Attorney's Office, between June 2022 and November 2023, Fisher lived on campus while employed at the Gow School, and he used hidden cameras to create and attempt to create videos of at least five minor males engaged in sexually explicit conduct. Investigators said they seized several of Fisher's electronic devices and found child pornography depicting the five minor males and other yet-to-be-identified minor individuals. A DOJ [press release](#) noted that the plea is the result of an investigation by the FBI, Child Exploitation Task Force, under the direction of Special Agent-in-Charge Matthew Miraglia.

FBI Files Shed Some Light on Shanquella Robinson Investigation

[WSOC \(ABC-9\)](#) (03/04, Bruno) reported that the FBI is starting to release files in response to multiple Freedom of Information Act requests by the reporting outlet dating back to 2023. The FBI released two parts of documents related to the Shanquella Robinson investigation. The agency is continuing to search for responsive records and more may be released in the coming months. The article mentioned that Shanquella Robinson went to Cabo, Mexico, in 2022 with six people she considered friends. She never returned home. Her father says her travel-mates told him she died of alcohol poisoning. An autopsy in Mexico claimed she died of neck and spinal cord injuries. A video also surfaced of Robinson being attacked by someone on the trip. The article noted that about a month after she died, FBI records show they spoke to a person, whose name was redacted from the file, who referenced that fight and said, "They aren't sure what happened." But the unknown person claimed Robinson's friends said she was drinking and "hit her head on the toilet." The documents say the person also told investigators they saw pictures of Robinson's body and said, "There are bruises on her and she looks like she was stomped on." The person also believed there were cameras in the house. A lot of the information is still being protected by the FBI and was redacted in the files. That includes interviews with people who said they had information about the case and social media accounts associated with her travel-mates. The FBI kept track of all of their social media accounts from Dropbox to Twitter. The article added that the FBI files say agents searched Robinson's phone. What they found in the phone is redacted. The files also state that in November 2022, authorities in Mexico told the FBI they needed to interview someone on the trip so they could get a temporary detention order. Mexican prosecutors eventually would issue an arrest warrant, but no one was ever extradited. The Robinson family is suing all of the travel-mates, including the person they say is seen hitting Robinson in the video. Court records show she changed her name and now lives in Connecticut.

Florida Police, FBI Search for Titusville Woman Missing Under "Highly Suspicious Circumstances"

[WFTV \(ABC-9\)](#) (03/04, Maggiore) reported that Titusville Police are asking the community for help in the case of a 72-year-old woman who is missing under "highly suspicious circumstances." Police said Jesse Kirk was reported missing by a friend around 9 AM on March 4th when she did not show up for her morning walk, which was highly unusual for her to miss. Investigators later found Kirk's burned car in a remote area of Christmas in Orange County near State Road 50. The article added that investigators said when they visited Kirk's home in Titusville, they found 35-year-old David Armstrong Barber lurking in the area. According to police Barber had several new burns on him and appeared to be suspicious. He was ultimately arrested for Loitering and Prowling in the area. Detectives later discovered Barber is the estranged boyfriend of Kirk's niece. The article mentioned that the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and the FBI are assisting Titusville Police on the case.

FBI, HSI Conduct Joint Operation, Make Arrest in Connection to Crypto Investment Scheme

The [Southern Sentinel](#) (03/05, Givens) reported that officials with the Tippah County Sheriff's Department, FBI, and the Homeland Security Investigations federal law enforcement agency conducted a joint operation in Ripley on Thursday, Feb. 27 that led to the arrest of Qiyu Lin, a Chinese national who is being accused of defrauding a Tippah County resident out of a "substantial" amount of money through a cryptocurrency investment scheme. The article added that according to TCSD officials, a local resident contacted the department to report suspicions that an investment plan they were contributing funds towards was a scam. Department officials investigated and determined that the individual's suspicions were merited, and set up a joint operation with the FBI and HSI to catch the individual or individuals involved. According to department officials, individuals involved in the scam would drive from out of state to Tippah County and pick up cash payments from the local resident, under the premise that the funds would be invested in Bitcoin.

Continued Reporting: FBI Looking for More Victims of East Memphis Doctor

[Newsnation](#) (03/04, Arthur) reported that the FBI announced it is looking for more potential victims of Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, who they say were patients at the Poplar Avenue Clinic. On Friday, Kumar was indicted on 23 various counts of allegedly coercing people into sexual acts, healthcare fraud, and reusing single-use devices on patients. Investigators believe he targeted patients between September 2019 and April 2024. The FBI says the doctor who owns the clinic specializes in oncology and gynecology. Allegations against Kumar are laid out in a 28-page indictment. One allegation said, "Kumar reused hysteroscope medical devices marked as 'single use' on his patients without properly cleaning, disinfecting, and/or sterilizing."

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CYBER DIVISION

Continued Reporting: Trump Administration Halts Offensive Cyber Operations Against Russia

[Axios](#) (03/04, Sabin) reported that the U.S. Cyber Command has been ordered to pause planning offensive cyber operations against Russia, which could impact the country's ability to respond to cyber threats. According to the article, the move is part of President Trump's efforts to reset diplomatic ties with Russia, and has been celebrated by the Kremlin, but criticized by cybersecurity experts who warn it could take months to recover from. The article noted that the pause in operations could allow Russian cyber operatives to re-wire their networks and disguise their activities, making it harder for the US to detect and respond to cyber threats from Russia and other countries. The article highlighted that the administration has also reportedly reassigned dozens of FBI officials investigating foreign election interference — which Russia has repeatedly been accused of.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Ex-Surgeon Tells French Court He Used Status to Sexually Abuse Children

The [Guardian](#) (03/04, Chrisafis) reported that a former French surgeon on trial for the sexual abuse of hundreds of patients has told the court he used his status as a doctor to attack children but still believed he was a good medical practitioner. "I was a surgeon who benefited from my status to attack children, I don't deny that," Joël Le Scouarnec, 74, told a court in Vannes, Brittany, on Tuesday, in what is one of France's largest ever child abuse cases. The article noted that the digestive surgeon, who often operated on children with appendicitis, is accused of attacking 299 patients at a dozen hospitals across France between 1989 and 2014, most of them children aged under 15, with an average age of 11.

He is accused of targeting some when they were under anaesthetic, in the post-surgery recovery room or in their hospital beds. The article added that evidence in the four-month trial will include handwritten notebooks in which Le Scouarnec listed patients' initials and his alleged crimes against them. Police cross-checked the notebooks with hospital records to identify potential victims – some had been unconscious and anaesthetised at the time and were told of the alleged abuse for the first time ahead of the trial. According to the article, despite Le Scouarnec being flagged to French authorities by the FBI in 2004 for viewing child abuse imagery on the dark web, for which he was convicted and given a four-year suspended prison sentence in France in 2005, he was never prevented from working with children and continued to gain prestigious jobs in hospitals across the country, including in Brittany and the west of France.

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OTHER FBI NEWS

Courts Push Back on DOJ's Effort to Expand Reach of President Trump's Jan. 6 Pardon

[Politico](#) (03/04, Cheney) reported that federal judges are pumping the brakes on the DOJ's newfound claim that President Donald Trump's blanket pardon of Jan. 6 defendants was meant to cover a broad list of crimes that have nothing to do with the attack on the Capitol. The article stated that it began with a tense hearing before a Trump-appointed district judge in Washington, D.C. last week. Since then, three federal appeals courts have also signaled skepticism about the scope of Trump's Jan. 6 clemency. The article mentioned that federal prosecutors have begun claiming in recent weeks that Trump intended to absolve Jan. 6 rioters for many unrelated crimes the FBI discovered during the nationwide investigation into the attack on the Capitol. But some judges and legal experts say that interpretation is strained. The article noted that the conflict flared most recently in California in the case of a Jan. 6 defendant with a history of domestic violence. The defendant, Benjamin Martin, claimed Trump's blanket pardon also covered his unrelated conviction for illegally possessing firearms. Martin argued that the gun conviction was "related" to the events of Jan. 6 because FBI agents discovered the illegal weapons in Martin's home while they were executing a search warrant for separate evidence of the Jan. 6 riot.

During Immigration Raid, DHS Secretary Noem Says ICE Bringing 'Consequences'

[ABC News](#) (03/04, Scott, Shalvey, et al.) reported that Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem said U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is bringing "consequences" during raids in Virginia on Tuesday. "There are consequences," said Noem, who was present during the pre-operation debrief. The raids were assisted by the FBI, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The article mentioned that ABC News was embedded with ICE during two targeted operations on Tuesday. During the first stop, officials arrested a man they say is a member of the 18th Street Gang who was in the country illegally. The second operation saw agents detain a man who officials said had been convicted of sexual battery. The man, they said, had been deported twice and re-entered the country illegally. [Fox News](#) (03/04, Shaw) also reported on the story.

Top Federal Prosecutor in Washington Takes New Step to Respond to Gun Crimes

The [Epoch Times](#) (03/04, Stieber) reported that the top federal prosecutor in Washington is vowing to crack down on gun crimes in the nation's capitol. "Hey, thugs with guns: We comin'," President Donald Trump's interim U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Ed Martin wrote on March 1 on the social media platform X. According to the article, Martin on Monday ordered prosecutors in his office to pursue every firearms case referred to them and to seek pretrial detention against every person charged with such an offense, according to a memorandum obtained by Reuters. The directive is part of a new initiative he called "Make D.C. Safe Again." In another post on X, Martin said he had recently met with

Director Patel and requested help to make Washington safe again. "He said: 'whatever you need.' Literally. Thank you, sir. Hey, thugs with guns, you hear that? Yup, we comin'," Martin wrote. The [Washington Examiner](#) (03/04, Hallas) also reported on the story.

U.S. Health Agency Says Employees Can Apply for Early Retirement

[Reuters](#) (03/04, Wingrove, Levine) reported that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services told employees on Monday they could apply for early retirement over the next 10 days and should respond to a request for information on their accomplishments of the past week, according to emails. The HHS told employees in an email that it received authorization on Monday from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management to offer early retirement under the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority, which impacts agencies "that are undergoing substantial restructuring, reshaping, downsizing, transfer of function or reorganization." According to the article, employees at HHS, which includes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), had previously been told that they did not have to respond to DOGE's emails and there would be "no impact to your employment with the agency if you choose not to respond." Multiple other U.S. agencies had also told employees not to respond immediately to DOGE's demand, including the FBI and State Department.

Federal Judge Awards \$2 Million to Family of Man Killed by FBI Agent in Failed Hostage Rescue

[Houston Landing](#) (03/04, Trombly) reported that a federal judge in Houston awarded nearly \$2 million in damages on Monday to the mother and son of a Honduran man fatally shot by an FBI agent during a botched rescue attempt in 2018. Judge Kenneth Hoyt ruled that Special Agent Gavin Lappe acted negligently by firing his rifle through the window of a home fatally wounding Ulises Valladares. The article stated that Hoyt also found no evidence to support Lappe's claim that Valladares, who had been held for ransom, had grabbed his gun. "Statements by the agents otherwise are not only untrue and unsupported by scientific evidence or logic, they represent intentional falsehoods," Hoyt wrote in a ten-page order. The article noted that Hoyt determined that Lappe's actions were negligent and concluded that the federal government could be held liable for Valladares's death. As a result, Valladares's family members were awarded damages, which included compensation for the emotional distress of losing him, the loss of financial support, and the costs of repatriating his body to Honduras. Valladares's son, Ulysses Valladares Jr., was awarded \$1.3 million, while Valladares's mother, Justina Garcia, received \$611,000. Hoyt also granted \$475,000 in attorney fees.

FBI Jacksonville's Historic Search for Justice

[Texas Border Business](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) reported that five years ago, a murder victim's story was buried under 7,200 tons of landfill debris. In January 2020, the FBI's Jacksonville Evidence Response Team (ERT) leveraged their scientific expertise, critical partnerships, and relentless determination to recover the remains of missing Clay County, Florida, woman Susan Mauldin. According to the article, this historic case marked the FBI's first successful landfill search for covered remains and underscores the Bureau's unwavering commitment to justice for victims, said FBI Special Agent Lauren Regucci, senior lead of the Jacksonville Evidence Response Team.

UT Martin Hosts FBI Collegiate Academy

[NWTN Radio](#) (03/04, McFarlin) reported that representatives from the FBI came to the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus to provide a program called the FBI Collegiate Academy to show students what work at the FBI is like. The sessions of the FBI Collegiate Academy were held in the Latimer-Smith Engineering and Science Building at UT Martin. Special Agent in Charge Joseph E. Carrico of the Tennessee Division of the FBI was one of several FBI employees who spoke to the students. The article quoted Carrico, who said, "Students will get a better understanding of what the FBI does, what our role is – not what they see on television and in movies. Our goal is to peel back the layers and give them a

greater understanding of what the real mission and what the dedication of the folks who work at the FBI are all about, and not just what they read on a social media post." Several of the 20 students in attendance are majoring in computer science or cybersecurity, areas of great growth in FBI investigations, Carrico said. Carrico said the FBI Collegiate Academy is a great opportunity for the FBI to engage with the community and get its message out to the people.

New FBI Atlanta Head Says Agency's Biggest Goal Is Keeping Georgians Safe

[Atlanta News First](#) (03/04, Quinn) reported that on Tuesday, Special Agent Paul Brown detailed his priorities as the new Special Agent in Charge of FBI Atlanta. "I want Georgians to see their FBI," said Brown, in an interview. Brown, who joined the FBI in 2006, most recently served as the special agent in charge of the Mobile Field Office. Brown will oversee operations at the Atlanta FBI headquarters and 14 field offices across Georgia. According to the article, he said their priorities are counter-terrorism, cybersecurity, continuing with the downward trend of violent crime, and a new emphasis on immigration enforcement operations. Brown said every day their agents partner with other federal agencies in assisting with arrests of those in the country illegally. The article quoted Brown, who said, "The additional resources we expect to get will most likely come from the Washington region, and that's something that Director Patel has been clear about. He wants to put every available resource possible, we still have to have a functioning headquarters and there are some capabilities to maintain, but he wants to streamline that as much as possible." [WSB \(ABC-2\)](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) also reported on the story.

FBI Tampa Reminds the Public to 'Take a Beat' During National Consumer Protection Week

[WWSB \(ABC-7\)](#) (03/04, Staff Writer) reported that scammers profit when their targets fail to take pause and give in to their urgent demands. With National Consumer Protection Week upon us, FBI Tampa Division Special Agent in Charge Matthew Fodor, is reminding the public to be aware of the tactics often used to steal your hard-earned money. The article quoted Fodor, who said, "The scams are increasingly sophisticated, and the scammers well-versed on ways to lure you in. They may try to instill trust, induce empathy, or fear, or promise huge payments, companionship, or employment. For this reason, the FBI created the "Take A Beat" campaign to remind the public to resist the pressure to act quickly. Instead, pause for a moment and assess the situation." According to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, Florida routinely ranks among the top three states in the nation for reported losses. The article mentioned that the FBI is committed to investigating and pursuing those who commit fraud and will continue working with our federal, state, and local partners to ensure these criminals are brought to justice.

FBI Training Exercise Shows Coordination at the U.S.-Mexico Border

[Spectrum News](#) (03/04, Garcia) reported that FBI agents hosted a training exercise in El Paso practicing hostage negotiations. The video included an interview with Special Agent in Charge John Morales, who said, "You have a great opportunity today because all of you are going to be participating in what we call one of our Weapons of Mass Destruction exercises. In this case this one is called Operation Downfall, where we had a terrorist cell steal radiological equipment, smuggle it into the United States, and their plan is to carry out an attack in the United States."

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OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS

Trump Still Wants to Move His Hush Money Case to Federal Court as He Appeals

[MSNBC](#), [ABC News](#), [Law360](#), [Business Insider](#)

Republicans Target Four 'Sanctuary' Cities as Trump Pushes Mass Deportations
[Associated Press](#)

Trump Administration Readies Order to Bolster U.S. Shipbuilders, Punish China
[Wall Street Journal](#)

How Federal Workers Are Dealing With the \$1 Limit on Their Corporate Cards
[Wall Street Journal](#)

Trump Administration Disbands Two Committees Advising on Economic Stats
[Wall Street Journal](#)

RFK Jr.'s Health Department Heightens Scrutiny of Vaccines
[Wall Street Journal](#)

DOJ Cites Trump Order to Put Cognizant Execs Bribery Trial On Hold
[Wall Street Journal](#)

Coast Guard Intercepts Russian Nationals, Dominican Republic Migrants
[New York Post](#)

Trump's Justice Department Throws Lifeline to GOP Clerk in Prison for 2020 Election Tampering
[CNN](#)

D.C. Prosecutor Drops Bid to Investigate Schumer for Purported Threat
[Washington Post](#)

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BIG PICTURE

Wall Street Journal

- [Trump's 'Swift and Unrelenting Action' Tests Americans' Appetite for Upheaval](#)
- [The Two-Headed Monster Stalking the Economy Has a Name: Stagflation](#)
- [What a Fast-Changing World Means for Your Money](#)
- [The Day Trump's Tariff Threats Became a Reality for America Inc.](#)
- [Putin Played a Long Game. It's Starting to Pay Off.](#)

New York Times

- [A Combative Trump Says 'America Is Back' and Taunts His Political Rivals](#)
- [Trump Asserts Term Is Off to a 'Swift and Unrelenting' Start](#)
- [Trump Officials Mark Hundreds of Federal Properties for Potential Sale](#)
- [Trump Administration Pushes to Slash I.R.S. Work Force in Half](#)
- [As Measles Spreads, Kennedy Embraces Remedies Like Cod Liver Oil](#)

Washington Post

- [Defiant Trump Signals Full Speed Ahead on Divisive Policies](#)
- [Wall Street Worries Trump Tariffs Could Wreck the Souring Economy](#)
- [Trump Administration Makes Hundreds of Federal Properties Available for Sale](#)
- [Bowser Signals D.C. Will Paint Over BLM Plaza After GOP Threatens Funding](#)
- [Why HR Experts Say Musk's '5 Things' Emails Won't Work](#)

Fox News

- Trump Promises 'This Will Be Our Greatest Era' in Joint Address to Congress; President Donald Trump Concludes Remarks After Declaring 'America's Momentum Is Back'; 13-Year-Old Cancer Survivor Earns Standing Ovation as He Becomes Secret Service Agent During Trump Speech.

CNN

- Takeaways From Trump's Address to Congress; Rep. Al Green Is Removed From Chamber for Protesting During President Trump's Address; 'Reagan Must Be Rolling In His Grave': Hear Democratic Response to Trump's Address.

NBC News

- Trump to Make High-Stakes Address Marking Six Weeks in Office; Market Turmoil and Business Warnings as New Tariffs Begin; Trump Voters Weigh In on the President's First Six Weeks.

CBS News

- Trump Voters Say President Needs More Time to Turn Economy Around; Why Calvin Coolidge Was Known as "Silent Cal"

ABC News

- Trump Delivers 1st Address of His 2nd Term to Joint Session of Congress Zelenskyy: It's 'Time to Make Things Right' After Trump Clash; Dolly Parton's Husband of Nearly 60 Years, Carl Dean, Dead at 82.

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WASHINGTON SCHEDULE

White House

President Trump

- The President has no public events scheduled.

Vice President Vance

- No official presidential schedule released or announced.

US Senate

- Hearings to examine the nominations of David Fotouhi, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator, and Aaron Szabo, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of the Environmental Protection Agency – 10:00 AM – Host: Environment and Public Works
- Hearings to examine advancing American interests in the Western Hemisphere. – 10:00 AM – Host: Foreign Relations
- Hearings to examine the nomination of Jayanta Bhattacharya, of California, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. – 10:00 AM – Host: Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
- Hearings to examine the nomination of James Bishop, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. – 10:00 AM – Host: Budget

- Business meeting to consider an authorization to subpoena the production of memoranda, documents, records, and other materials from the Massachusetts Port Authority, and an authorization to subpoena the production of memoranda, documents, records, and other materials from NewPoint Strategies, LLC. – 10:00 AM – Host: Commerce, Science, and Transportation
- Hearings to examine stemming the tide of antisemitism in America. – 10:15 AM – Host: Judiciary
- Hearings to examine the posture of the United States Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2026 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217. – 2:30 PM – Host: Armed Services
- To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters. – 2:30 PM – Host: Intelligence
- Hearings to examine reforming SBIR-STTR for the 21st century. – 2:30 PM – Host: Small Business and Entrepreneurship

US House of Representatives

- Hearing: End the Typhoons: How to Deter Beijing's Cyber Actions and Enhance America's Lackluster Cyber Defenses – 9:15 AM – Host: Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party
- Business Meeting: Markup of Various Measures – 9:45 AM – Host: Committee on Small Business
- Hearing: "America Builds: Coast Guard Acquisitions and Infrastructure". – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
- Hearing: "Countering Threats Posed by the Chinese Communist Party to U.S. National Security." – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Homeland Security
- Markup: Markup of Various Measures. – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Financial Services
- Hearing: Scaling for Growth: Meeting the Demand for Reliable Affordable Electricity. – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Energy and Commerce
- Hearing: A Hearing with Sanctuary City Mayors – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
- Hearing: Assessing the Threat to U.S. Funded Research – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
- Markup: H.R. 1789 the Promptly Ending Political Prosecutions and Executive Retaliation Act; H.R. 1526 the No Rogue Rulings Act; H.R. 1702 the JUDGES Act of 2025; and H.R. 1605 the Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2025. – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on the Judiciary
- Hearing: Oversight Hearing on: "Examining the Office of Insular Affairs' Role in Fostering Prosperity in the Pacific Territories and Addressing External Threats to Peace and Security" – 10:00 AM – Host: Committee on Natural Resources
- Hearing: Fiscal Year 2026 Member Day – 10:15 AM – Host: Committee on Appropriations
- Hearing: "Strengthening WIOA: Improving Outcomes for America's Workforce" – 10:15 AM – Host: Committee on Education and Workforce
- Hearing: Legislative Hearing on: Discussion Draft Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding VA Benefits Act; Discussion Draft Preserving Lawful Utilization of Services for Veterans Act of 2025; and Discussion Draft: To amend title 38 United States Code to allow for certain fee

agreements for services rendered in the preparation presentation and prosecution of initial claims and supplemental claims for benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and for other purpo. – 10:15 AM – Host: Committee on Veterans' Affairs

- Hearing: Fiscal Year 2026 Member Day. – 10:30 AM – Host: Committee on Appropriations
- Hearing: Bridging the Gap: Turkey Between East and West. – 2:00 PM – Host: Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Hearing: Fixing Bidens Broadband Blunder – 2:00 PM – Host: Committee on Energy and Commerce

Cabinet Members

- **Secretary of State Rubio** attends meetings and briefings at the Department of State.

Visitors

- No events scheduled.

General Events

- Brookings: USMCA Forward 2025 launch: Navigating North American trade amid global changes – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Brookings Institution, 1:30 PM. The United States Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA), negotiated during the first Donald Trump administration as a replacement for NAFTA, governs U.S. trade with its two largest trading partners. The USMCA is up for review by July 2026. This review will provide an important opportunity to take stock of the operation of the agreement, update it to address new issues—such as access to critical minerals, the transition to EVs and AI regulation—and strengthen the foundations for competition with China. Yet despite the opportunities that USMCA presents, the agreement's future is uncertain. President Trump has proposed placing 25% tariffs on imports from Mexico and Canada unless the countries stop flows of fentanyl and illegal migrants. Canada and Mexico have also said they will enact retaliatory tariffs, potentially leading to an escalating trade war.
- CSIS: The Electricity Supply Bottleneck on U.S. AI Dominance – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Online event, 12:00 PM. Please join the CSIS Energy Security and Climate Change Program for a conversation with Vivian Lee, Managing Director and Partner at Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and Shanu Mathew, Portfolio Manager and Research Analyst at Lazard Asset Management. Vivian and Shanu will discuss the state of AI electricity demand, the implications of DeepSeek, the trend towards colocation, prospects for nuclear, and other key dynamics at the intersection of AI and electricity. Cy McGeady, Fellow with the CSIS Energy Security and Climate Change Program, will moderate the conversation.
- CSIS: CSIS Report Launch: Enhancing Defense Industrial Cooperation Between Australia and the United States – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Online event, 5:00 PM. The United States-Australia alliance has long been critical for maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific and advancing both countries' interests in the region. Over the past several years, an increasingly aggressive China has further reinforced the vital nature of this relationship.
- Carnegie: Reforming and Realigning the U.S.-Australia Alliance – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Online event, 4:00 PM. As the United States and Australia face an increasingly turbulent world, they should have an unparalleled opportunity to fashion a broader, stronger, and multilayered partnership. The rise of Chinese power, economic uncertainty, and technological disruption make strengthening this alliance an urgent priority. But despite a shared history and

broad bipartisan support for the alliance in both countries, critical deficiencies in current defense strategies and operational coordination must be remedied.

- CATO Institute: Federal Health Care Regulation – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Online event, 9:00 AM. The freedom to make one's own health decisions is a fundamental human right. When governments respect this right, health care becomes more universal as a matter of course. Health reform begins with eliminating laws and regulations that interfere with an individual's right to make their own health decisions. The Department of Government Efficiency effort can make both government and health care more efficient by advocating—within the executive branch and before Congress—the elimination of regulations that interfere with this fundamental right.
- AEI: A Conversation with House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Jason Smith on Tax Reform – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: AEI Auditorium, 10:00 AM. At the end of 2025, key provisions in the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) are set to expire, including the repeal of personal and dependent exemptions, the expansion of the state and local tax deduction cap, and the child tax credit. Other portions of TCJA, including further lowering the corporate tax rate, are up for negotiation as well.
- AEI: School Rethink 2.0: Shaping the Future with Personalization, Mastery Learning, and AI – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: AEI Auditorium, 4:00 PM. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the flawed nature of how American education delivers instruction to students, and the continued downward trend of National Assessment of Educational Progress scores confirm schools need to do better. Many have argued that new modes of instruction that better fit the diversity of students' needs would help right the ship. But what would these look like in practice?
- Atlantic Council: After the vote: What's next for Kosovo's future? – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Atlantic Council, 10:00 AM. On Wednesday, March 5 at 10:00 a.m. ET, the Atlantic Council's Europe Center will host a conversation to debrief Kosovo's parliamentary elections which took place on February 9.
- Wilson Center: Protecting Maritime Security and Stability in the Indo-Pacific: Challenges for the United States and Japan – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Online event, 9:00 AM. Protecting the freedom of navigation and overflight across the Indo-Pacific remains a shared security and commercial interest for both the United States and Japan. Yet, Beijing's continued unlawful gray zone coercion across the South China Sea and the East China Sea threatens the stability of the world's most populous region. Join us for an online discussion on how the new administrations in Japan and the United States can work together to enhance maritime security and maintain stability across the Indo-Pacific.
- Wilson Center: Between Two Hills: Canada-US Perspectives in Ottawa and Washington – Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Location: Online event, 2:00 PM. In a period marked by widespread change across North America, cross-border ties remain the linchpin of the historic Canada-US relationship. Between and within both countries' federal legislatures, dialogue and leadership on shared priorities like economic security, border management, and continental defense serve to strengthen bilateral relations and benefit Canadians and Americans alike.

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