Secretary of the Army Ryan McCarthy says at least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened as a result of the assault on the Capitol Building on Jan. 6, according to a released summary of a call with Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., on Sunday.


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US Files Dozens Of Charges In Wake Of Capital Siege.

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*USA Today* (1/10, Penzenstadler, Phillips, Voyles Pulver, 12.7M) reports, "Federal authorities continued Sunday to round up people following a deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol this week—including two men accused of carrying plastic restraints and others who allegedly carried weapons or stole from the building. At least 58 people have been arrested and charged for incidents in or near the Capitol on Wednesday. Those arrested have come from 24 states and the District of Columbia." The Justice Department "has filed more than 55 criminal cases related to the riot that left five dead."

*The New York Times* (1/8, Wright, 20.6M) reports that the number of arrests is expected to grow quickly as investigators scrutinize social media to identify the protesters, and some participants could face more serious charges.

*CNN* (1/8, Scannell, 89.2M) reports, "An Alabama man allegedly parked a pickup truck packed with 11 homemade bombs, an assault rifle and a handgun two blocks from the US Capitol building on Wednesday for hours before authorities ever noticed, according to federal prosecutors. Another man allegedly showed up in the nation's capital with an assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition and told acquaintances that he wanted to shoot or run over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, prosecutors said." CNN adds, "The revelations are some of the most unsettling details federal prosecutors have made public this week as they detail the extent of the arsenal available to aid pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol. Other individuals have been arrested for taking guns and ammunition onto Capitol grounds and more charges are expected to come as a wide-ranging investigation unfurls."

*Bloomberg* (1/10, 3.57M) reports Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), citing Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, said Sunday that "at least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened after Wednesday's assault on the U.S. Capitol." *Reuters* (1/10, Shalal) reports Crow said McCarthy told him the Pentagon was aware of "further possible threats posed by would-be terrorists" in the days up to and including the inauguration of Democratic President-elect Joe Biden on Jan. 20. "Long guns, Molotov cocktails, explosive devices and zip ties were recovered, which suggests a greater disaster was narrowly averted," Crow, a former Army Ranger, said in a summary of his call with McCarthy. McCarthy assured him the Pentagon was working with local and federal law enforcement to coordinate security preparations after what he described as "deficient law enforcement threat reporting" ahead of last Wednesday.

*Reuters* (1/8, Brice) reports, "Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen announced the FBI would team up with Washington's police department to jointly investigate the death of Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who was injured while defending the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday. 'Just because you've left the D.C. region, you can still expect a knock on the door if we find out you were part of the criminal activity at the Capitol,' Steven D'antuono, the FBI Washington Field Office's assistant director in charge, told reporters in a telephone news briefing."

*The New York Times* (1/8, Goldman, Ismay, Fuchs, 20.8M) reports, "The sweeping investigation took shape after a security breakdown two days earlier allowed hundreds of people backing President Trump's efforts to overturn the election results to rush into the Capitol in a deadly rampage. The debacle prompted sharp recriminations and the firings of top officials who were entrusted with protecting lawmakers. Dozens have been arrested, including 13 who face federal charges." The Times adds, "Law enforcement officials also backed off a suggestion that Mr. Trump could face criminal charges for inciting the riot after a top prosecutor had said a day earlier that investigators were examining anyone involved, 'not only' the rioters. 'Don't expect any charges of that nature,' Ken Kohl, a top prosecutor in the U.S. attorney's office in Washington, told reporters in a telephone briefing on Friday."

*The Wall Street Journal* (1/8, A1, Gurman, Viswanath, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports on its front page that federal prosecutors on Friday announced charges against at least 13 "alleged members of the pro-Trump mob who stormed the halls of Congress." *The Washington Post* (1/8, Hau, 10.52M) reports the Justice Department and FBI "announced charges Friday against Derrick Evans, a freshman West Virginia lawmaker," Richard Barnett, "an Arkansas man who told the media he posed for photos on a desk in" House Speaker Pelosi's office, and Lonnie Leroy Coffman, "an Alabama man whose truck allegedly carried 11 molotov cocktails and a semiautomatic rifle to this week's U.S. Capitol riots." The Post adds that "also charged with unlawful entry was Hawaii Proud Boys founder and unsuccessful state house candidate Nicholas Robert Ochs, who gave media interviews saying he participated in the break-in, an FBI arrest affidavit unsealed Friday alleged."

*The Chicago Sun-Times* (1/8, Seidel, 970K) reports that Barnett "has become one of the most notorious figures among those who broke into the Capitol Wednesday, after photographs surfaced of him with his feet on Pelosi's desk. Prosecutors cited those photographs in a statement of facts filed as part of the case against him. They said they also viewed video surveillance and
a video-recorded interview Barnett gave.” Prosecutors “said Barnett was asked about an envelope he was holding featuring Pelosi’s signature. Barnett allegedly said, ‘I did not steal it. I bled on it because they were macing me and I couldn’t f---ing see so I figured I am in her office. I got blood on her office. I put a quarter on her desk even though she ain’t f---ing worth it. And I left her a note on her desk that says “Nancy, Bigo was here, you b----”’ Barnett “is being held in the Washington County (Ark.) jail after he was charged by federal prosecutors with three counts for storming the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday.”

The AP (1/8, Calahan) reports, “A Florida man accused of making off with Pelosi’s lectern during the chaos was arrested Friday night on a federal warrant and was being held Saturday without bail in Pinellas County, Florida. Jail records do not show if Adam Johnson, 36, of Parrish, Florida, has an attorney. Johnson was charged Saturday with theft, violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.”

The Miami Herald (1/9, DeLeon, 647K) reports from Bradenton, Florida, that Johnson “was arrested by Federal Marshals and booked into the Pinellas County Jail shortly after 9 p.m. Friday. He has been charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; one count of theft of government property; and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds, according to a federal complaint. A warrant was issued on Friday and Johnson was charged in federal court in D.C. on Saturday.” Pelosi’s lectern “had been stored in her suite, under a staircase to the third floor on the House side of the Capitol building, before the Capitol was breached, her staff told FBI agents. The lectern – valued at more than $1,000 according to the House curator — was found by Senate staff on Thursday in the Red corridor of the Senate wing off the Rotunda in the Capitol.”

On NBC Nightly News (1/8, story 3, 3:04, Holt, 5.57M), Tom Costello reported “some suspects have identified themselves, as well. Josiah Colt who climbed down from the Senate balcony then sat in Vice President Pence’s chair says he was ‘caught up in the moment.’ In a statement to KBOI-TV, he says, ‘My actions have brought shame upon myself, my family and friends and beautiful country. I beg for forgiveness from America and from my home state of Idaho.’ Former Midland, Texas mayoral candidate Jenny Cudd posted her own video: ‘We did break down the Nancy Pelosi’s office door. And somebody stole her gavel.’ Nationwide, hundreds of federal agents are pursuing riot suspects. Among the felony charges they could face, felony rioting, federal assault and murder charges, obstruction of Congress, destruction of congressional documents, conspiracy and insurrection.”

The AP (1/9, Hollingsworth) reports, “An Iowa man was jailed early Saturday on charges accusing him of taking part in the riot at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of President Donald Trump.” The AP adds, “Des Moines Police Sgt. Paul Pariez said officers assisted the FBI in arresting 41-year-old Doug Jensen on Friday night at his home on the south side of the city. Jensen was booked into the Polk County Jail early Saturday on five federal charges, including trespassing and disorderly conduct counts, according to news releases from the FBI’s field office in Omaha, Nebraska and the county sheriff’s office.” According to the AP, “Video posted online during the storming of the Capitol on Wednesday showed a man who appears to be Jensen, who is white, pursuing a Black officer up an interior flight of stairs. A mob of people trails several steps behind. At several points, the officer says ‘get back,’ to no avail.”

The New York Times (1/8, Goldman, 20.8M) reports prosecutors on Thursday “filed a criminal complaint accusing a man named Mark J. Lefflingwell of punching a Capitol Police officer repeatedly in the head and chest, before apologizing,” and they “unsealed charges against a Maryland resident, Christopher Alberts, accusing him of illegally carrying a 9-millimeter pistol at the riot.” Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, McGrath, 5.57M) reports Cogensia, a marketing firm near Chicago, has fired CEO Brad Rukstales, a Republican donor to President Trump, who “was arrested by U.S. Capitol Police on Wednesday” after “being part of the mob that broke into the U.S. Capitol.”

In the lead story for NBC’s Today (1/8, 2.86M), Savannah Guthrie said there have been “more than 80 arrests so far, and investigators this morning, they are poring through videos and images casting about for leads. They want to identify more suspects.” On NBC Nightly News (1/8, story 9, 1:43, Holt, 5.57M), Gabe Gutierrez reported, “One pro-Trump rioter in face paint and a horned hat confronted law enforcement holding a spear. The man now identified as Jake Angell told NBC News, ‘The fact that he had a bunch of our traitors in office hunkered down put on their gas masks and retreat into the underground bunker, I consider that a win.’ Police say Angell is a known follower of QAnon, a far right extremist group.”

On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 3, 2.05, Muir, 8.95M), Chief Justice Correspondent Pierre Thomas reported that federal authorities “are determined to leave no stone unturned, ramping up efforts to bring all the Trump supporters who desecrated the Capitol to justice.” On ABC’s Good Morning America (1/8, 3.14M), Martha Raddatz reported that on Wednesday, “despite the loss of life and the desecration of the Capitol, those rioters were allowed to just leave the building. They lingered on the plaza for hours triumphant, giving one another high-fives with no consequences. This morning the acting US attorney for the District of Columbia said the failure to arrest more people is making his job harder adding, ‘I can’t answer why the Capitol Police did not zip tie these people as they were leaving the Capitol.’ CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.28M) also covered the search for protesters accused of committing crimes on Wednesday.
On the lead NBC Nightly News (1/9, lead story, 3:46, Diaz-Balart, 5.98M) segment, Tom Costello reported on the arrests, while on the CBS Weekend News (1/9, story 4, 1:52, Diaz, 577K), Adriana Diaz reported, "Roughly 100 people have been arrested for Wednesday’s attack."

The Washington Post (1/9, Weiner, Hsu, 10.52M) reports 16 people “have been charged in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia with crimes related to the storming of the Capitol, including a man who admitted to stealing a document from Pelosi’s office. Forty others face charges in D.C. Superior Court.” The Post calls these federal cases “the low-hanging fruit of the investigation” since they are “people who either identified themselves in online postings or were quickly identified by others who saw the images and recognized the individuals.” The Wall Street Journal (1/9, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), AP (1/9, Callahan), Reuters (1/9, McKay), Politico (1/9, Semones, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/9, Lonas, 5.69M), among other outlets, provide similar coverage of the new arrests.

President Could Be Investigated For “Inciting” Riot. On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 2, 2:31, Karl, 6.95M), Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl reported that DC Attorney General Karl Racine (D) has “said he’ll investigate whether the President is legally responsible for inciting the riot,” and he also “mentioned Rudy Giuliani who said this at the rally: ‘Let’s have trial by combat!’ And the President’s son, Don Jr, who posted a since-removed video taken backstage at the rally before the riot. The President and his children watching the crowds gather. Don Jr’s girlfriend Kimberly dancing as the Trumps celebrated. This was Don Jr’s message to Trump supporters before they stormed the capital. ‘If you’re going to be the zero and not the hero, we’re coming for you.’"

Pierre Thomas said on ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 4, 0:35, Muir, 6.95M) that the DOJ’s current focus “is on the people who broke into the Capitol, but the investigation is in the early stages and questions about [Trump’s role in the] incitement will likely be for the incoming attorney general Merrick Garland.” On CBS This Morning (1/8, 2:37M), Ben Tracy said that Trump’s comments “before the assault on the Capitol may be investigated by US attorneys for leading to the violence.”

However, on ABC World News Tonight (1/9, story 4, 2:31, Llamas, 839K), on Saturday night, Tom Llamas reported, “There is now a nationwide manhunt under way for every rioters breaching the Capitol building.” Kenneth Molon added a senior Justice Department official on Saturday said “no incitement charges are expected against any...speakers” at the rally prior to the unrest, including Trump.

DOJ Investigating Shooting Death Of Protester. Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/9, Benner, Schmitt, 20.66M) reports interim US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Saturday announced that his office “is leading investigations into the deaths of a woman who entered the Capitol building with a crowd of rioters on Jan. 6 and an officer who was killed while trying to police the violent mob.” The Times says prosecutors in the office’s Civil Rights division “opened a formal, federal excessive force case into the shooting death of Ashli Babbitt, who was shot by a Capitol Police officer as she and a group of President Trump’s supporters swarmed the building,” though “the investigation into Ms. Babbitt’s shooting is routine, standard procedure whenever an officer deploys lethal force,” a Justice Department spokeswoman said. The Times adds the office “also opened a federal homicide investigation into the death of Brian D. Sicknick, a Capitol Hill police officer who died after pro-Trump rioters struck him with a fire extinguisher.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports it has obtained two video clips that “shed new light on the fatal shooting by police of Trump supporter and Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt as she and other rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol.” The Post says Babbitt “and others were attempting to breach a barricaded door inside the Capitol building on Wednesday afternoon, angrily demanding that three U.S. Capitol Police officers who were guarding the door step aside, one of the clips shows.” The Post adds the officers “moved away as colleagues in tactical gear arrived behind the rioters, according to the clip and other video posted online. Roughly 35 seconds after the officers moved away, as she climbed up toward a broken section of the unguarded door, Babbitt was shot by an officer on the other side,” as she was “trying to get into the Speaker’s Lobby, a hallway that would have given them access to the House of Representatives chamber.” According to the Wall Street Journal (1/8, Salmatar, Atworth, Seetharaman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), five people have died in connection to the "Capitol riot."

Laptop Stolen From Pelosi’s Office, Aide Says. Reuters (1/8, Satter) reports a laptop was stolen from Pelosi’s office “during the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, one of her aides said on Friday.” Reuters adds Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) “said on Twitter that a laptop was taken from his office,” and Acting US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Thursday “said that some of the thefts might have potentially jeopardized what he described as ‘national security equities.’” According to Reuters, "The theft of electronic devices from congressional offices has been a persistent worry following the invasion by pro-Trump followers."

NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reports, "At least three Democrats in Congress said that the pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol on Wednesday stole computers from their offices, raising cybersecurity concerns." Speaker Pelosi “had a laptop stolen, as did Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., who tweeted about the theft. It wasn’t immediately clear what protections were on those devices, though Congress generally lags behind the federal government in implementing cybersecurity measures. Not all..."
FBI Seeks Information On Capital Rioters. The Hill (1/9, 5.69M) reports, “The FBI has put up what appear to be electronic posters in Washington, D.C., seeking information on anyone who participated in the Capitol breach on Wednesday.” The Hill adds, “Photos of bus stops shared by journalists on social media say, ‘Seeking Information’ and include pictures of some of rioters inside the U.S. Capitol. The posters also share a phone number to contact the FBI’s Washington, D.C., office. ‘DC bus stops now feature signs posted by the FBI seeking information about participants in the Capitol insurrection,’ CNN reporter Jim Acosta tweeted along with a photo of a poster taken at night.”
**FBI: No Evidence Of Antifa Participation In Siege.** The AP (1/10, Biesecker, Kunzelman, Flacco, Mustian) reports, “The insurrectionist mob that showed up at the president’s behest and stormed the U.S. Capitol was overwhelmingly made up of longtime Trump supporters, including Republican Party officials, GOP political donors, far-right militants, white supremacists, and adherents of the QAnon myth that the government is secretly controlled by a cabal of Satan-worshiping pedophile cannibals.” The AP “reviewed social media posts, voter registrations, court files and other public records for more than 120 people either facing criminal charges related to the Jan. 6 unrest or who, going maskless amid the pandemic, were later identified through photographs and videos taken during the melee.” Steven D’Antuono, “the assistant director in charge of the FBI’s Washington field office, told reporters that investigators had seen ‘no indication’ antifa activists were disguised as Trump supporters in Wednesday’s riot.”

**NBC News** (1/8, 4.91M) reports, “Despite suggestions from conservative pundits and some Republican members of Congress, there is no evidence that anti-fascist activists were involved in the pro-Trump Capitol riots,” D’Antuono said on a call with reporters Friday. “We have no indication of that, at this time,” D’Antuono said when asked whether antifa activists had disguised themselves as Trump supporters in an effort to frame them for the violent riots in which five people died, including Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports, “To date, no evidence supports the claim that individuals with antifa connections formed part of the riots that took place on Capitol grounds. The FBI has said it does not believe antifa or any of its associates are responsible for the violence unleashed. Wednesday’s events were widely documented, via videos, tweets and live-streams from reporters already covering the day’s events. Video and photos confirm that many of the rioters were supporters, and individuals with right-wing and extremist beliefs. The usual antifa tactics such as wearing masks and face coverings to avoid detection were uncommon among rioters, making identification process an easier task.”

The Washington Times (1/8, Mordock, 626K) reports that the FBI’s announcement “debunks claims pushed forward by some right-wing pundits and politicians that the anarchist movement’s supporters were part of the angry mob that stormed the Capitol.” D’Antuono’s statement “supports comments made Thursday by Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Michael Sherwin. Mr. Sherwin said he also saw no evidence Antifa was involved in the riot.”

The New York Times (1/9, Alba, 20.8M) reports, “Since Wednesday, far-right activists and allies of the president have made the claim, often while presenting easily disproved evidence, that the rioters were made up of antifa supporters, not backers of President Trump. Among those pushing the falsehood were Representative Matt Gaetz, a Florida Republican, who said while objecting to the electoral votes for Mr. Biden that people in the mob were ‘in fact members of the violent terrorist group antifa.’ Ken Paxton, the attorney general of Texas, also said antifa was involved.” The Times adds, “A new analysis by the media insights company Zignal Labs found that the unfounded rumor had been mentioned 411,099 times across cable television, social media, and in print and online news outlets on Wednesday and Thursday. It was by far the most widely shared false or misleading claim about the Capitol Hill mob, Zignal said.”

**BuzzFeed News** (1/9, Silverman) reports, “Speaking in the House Wednesday night after the attempted coup, Gaetz cited a Washington Times article that claimed a facial recognition company had identified two antifa members among the crowd at the Capitol. That story was removed by the outlet after BuzzFeed News reported that the facial recognition company said it was ‘outright false.’ The paper later published a corrected version that acknowledged the firm had identified ‘neo-Nazis and other extremists’ — not antifa members.”

**Some Extremist Groups Pleased By Chaotic Siege.** Reuters (1/8, Hesson, Parker, Cooke, Hart) reports, “As the nation recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, some right-wing and anti-
government extremists saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda. Among the inspired was Mike Dunn, a 20-year-old follower of the ‘boogaloo’ anti-government movement, whose adherents anticipate a revolution toppling the federal government or a second U.S. civil war.” Dunn, who lives in Virginia, said three or four groups of loyalists under his command helped storm the Capitol this week amid a motley mix of rioters who supported President Donald Trump’s attempts to overturn the results of the November presidential election. While most ‘boogaloo’ are libertarians who largely oppose Trump, Dunn said the group embraced the moment to strike against the government.

The *Washington Post* (1/8, Peiser, 10.52M) reports that since “pro Trump rioters” stormed the Capitol on Wednesday without masks, “Internet sleuths” have “had a unique opportunity to easily identify them. And many made it even easier — they live-streamed their participation and later bragged about their escapades.” According to the Post, an “untold number of Twitter users and Instagram accounts are feverishly working...to ID and name the participants who stormed down the halls of the Capitol, ransacking lawmakers’ offices and occupying the House Chamber.”

The *Washington Post* (1/8, Timberg, Harwell, Hsu, 10.52M) also reports federal officials “looking to prosecute the mob of Trump supporters who overran the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday stand to get powerful help from cellphone records, facial recognition tools and other technologies to assist in the identification of anyone who was there that day.” The Post highlights that the Capitol “has a vast cellular and wireless data infrastructure of its own to make communications efficient in a building made largely of stone and that extends deep underground and has pockets of shielded areas,” and as such “phone records may determine the owners of these devices fairly easy.”

The *Washington Post* (1/10, Klemko, 10.52M) reports, “Before a mob of Trump supporters staged a riot in the U.S. Capitol and thousands of Americans became amateur detectives working to identify the culprits, a loosely connected group of seasoned online sleuths were ringing alarm bells and picking off extremists online, one by one.” The Post adds, “For a nationwide network of left-wing activists who seek out and publish the identities of those they believe to be violent ‘fascists,’ some investigations can take months, years even. Or it can take 10 minutes,” and “that’s how much time Molly Conger spent on her laptop last month searching for the man who used the right-wing social media site Parler to share that he was a police officer and pledge support to a member of the Proud Boys extremist group, advocating violence against Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”

More Coverage. The *Washington Post* (1/10, 10.52M) runs a feature titled “The Capitol Mob: A Raging Collection Of Grievances And Disillusionment” about some of those involved in the riot and their motivations.

FBI Offers $50K Reward For Information On DC Pipe Bombs. *Reuters* (1/8) reported, “The FBI is offering a reward of up to $50,000 for information on the individuals responsible for placing pipe bombs in the committee headquarters of the key U.S. political parties in the capital, the agency said.” *CBS News* (1/8, Siese, 5.39M) reports the FBI “released photos via social media of what appears to be someone in a gray hooded jacket, black gloves, and black pants, clutching an object in one hand.” *McClatchy* (1/8, Kenney, 29K) reports, “Authorities didn’t say how the person in the photo is connected to the pipe bomb incidents.”

Also reporting are CNN (1/8, Walton, 89.21M) and the *Daily Caller* (1/8, Nieto, 375K).

Pipe Bombs At RNC, DNC Headquarters Had Timers, Official Says. The *New York Times* (1/8, Ismay, 20.6M) reports the pipe bombs “found on Wednesday afternoon outside the Democratic and Republican party headquarters, blocks from the Capitol, contained crude mechanical timing devices, according to a law enforcement official with their initial examination, suggesting they were intended to be detonated.” However, the Times adds it “was not clear when they were meant to explode, but thousands of people were in the area that afternoon as a mob encouraged by...” Trump stormed the Capitol, where lawmakers had convened to certify...Joseph R. Biden Jr.’s election, leaving five people dead. It was also not clear whether the bombs were connected to the siege.”
The Washington Examiner (1/8, Giartelli, 853K) reported, "The bombs were each about 12 inches long by an inch and a half wide." The devices were "made with a battery, steel wool, and an unknown explosive powder. One of them was found with a cellphone that may have been meant to detonate it."

Schumer Urges FBI To Be Vigilant Of Further Threats Of Violence. Newsday (NY) (1/10, Coburn, Hernandez, 776K) reports, "Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) on Sunday expressed concern more political violence could follow the mob attack Wednesday on the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., by supporters of President Donald Trump." Schumer "said he pressed" FBI Director Wray "in a conversation Saturday to track down those involved in Wednesday’s siege on Congress, in which five people died, and to be on the alert for further violence. ‘The threat of violent extremist groups remains high and the next few weeks are critical in our democratic process,’ Schumer said in a statement, noting President-elect Joe Biden will be inaugurated Jan. 20. ‘Given that the same incendiary, dangerous rhetoric online that occurred before January 6, which proved to be a warning of the insurrectionist attack, has only escalated since, I impressed upon Director Wray the vitalness of the FBI to work with other federal and state agencies to remain highly proactive and extremely vigilant to defend our democracy.'"

Trump Supporters Reportedly Planning More Unrest For Jan. 16-20. The Washington Post (1/9, Timberg, Harwell, Lang, 10.52M) reports the planning for Wednesday’s assault on the U.S. Capitol happened largely in plain view, with chatter in far-right forums explicitly discussing how to storm the building, handcuff lawmakers with zip ties and disrupt the certification of Joe Biden’s election — in what they portrayed as responding to orders from President Trump," and Twitter on Friday “said it was particularly concerned about contributing to a possible ‘secondary attack’ on the U.S. Capitol and state government facilities the weekend of Jan. 16-17." According to the Post, “Concerns about more violent incidents appear to be well-founded.” The Post adds demonstrations are scheduled to culminate with what organizers have dubbed a ‘Million Militia March’ on Jan. 20 as Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala D. Harris are to be sworn in on the same Capitol grounds that rioters overran on Wednesday.”

In a more than 2,200-word front-page article, the Washington Post (1/9, A1, Miller, Jaffe, Nakhlawi, 10.52M) says “the temporary seizure of a global seat of power was, at its core, an outgrowth of delusional and destructive forces cultivated online and unleashed by the president.” In a nearly 3,100-word front-page article, the New York Times (1/9, A1, Barry, McIntyre, Rosenberg, 20.6M) casts the unsuccessful “insurrection” as “the culmination of a sustained assault by the president and his enablers on fact-based reality, one that began long before the November election but took on a fevered urgency as the certainty of Mr. Trump’s defeat solidified.” A Wall Street Journal (1/8, Ballhaus, Palazzolo, Restuccia, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article headlined ‘Trump And His Allies Set The Stage For Riot Well Before January 6’ provides similar coverage, while an AP (1/9, Woodward, Riehmann) analysis states that the occupation of the Capitol came as “no surprise” as Trump “left many clues he wouldn’t go quietly.”

In his Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) column, David Von Drehle also asserted that “a collection of distortions, delusions and outright lies galvanized a mob of thousands to storm the Capitol in a brief but deadly insurrection.” Von Drehle added, “This unprecedented event was fomented inside a digitally networked community in which extraordinary claims are widely accepted on the basis of the wildest nonsense.”

DC Mayor Calls For Immediate Increase In Pre-Inaugural Security. The New York Times (1/10, Feuer, 20.6M) reports that in wake of Wednesday’s violence, District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) "issued an urgent appeal to start preparing immediately for more potential violence before, during and after" next week’s presidential inauguration. Bowser called on DHS "to move up to Monday the implementation of heightened security measures that are otherwise set to begin on Jan. 19." Bowser told CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), "Given the events of last week, that this inauguration preparation has to be different than any other inauguration with only 10 days to go."

Kenneth Moton said on ABC World News Tonight (1/10, story 2, 3.00, Llamas, 4.78M) that “a senior official tell[s] ABC News there’s a very serious national security concern for more domestic terrorism for the inauguration, possibly bringing extensive violence.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Levy, Kendall, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports law enforcement agencies are preparing for more marches by Trump supporters in Washington and elsewhere. The Seattle Times (1/10, 1.19M) reports Trump supporters rallied in Olympia, Washington, on Sunday under heavy security.

Experts Caution Rioters To Assume More Hostile Position On Police. The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports that in a “crowd where some carried flags bearing a thin blue line — a pro-police symbol that critics claim also stands for white supremacy and opposition to the Black Lives Matter movement — and shirts adorned with ‘Blue Lives Matter,’ a tide of anger and frustration rose as officers pushed them back” from the Capitol, and “nearly three hours after the building was breached, police cleared the grounds and used batons and chemical munitions to confront the mob.” The Post adds “some promised to return with..."
FBI Probing Whether Some Rioters Intended Harm To Legislators. The Washington Post (1/8, Barrett, Hsu, Zapołoski, 10.52M) reports, “FBI agents are trying to determine whether some who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday intended to do more than cause havoc and disrupt the certification of President-elect Joe Biden’s victory, and are sifting through evidence to see whether anyone wanted to kill or capture lawmakers or their staffs, according to people familiar with the investigation.” The Post adds that “investigators also are working to determine the motivations and larger goals, if any, of those who had weapons or other gear suggesting they planned to do physical harm. Some rioters, for instance, were photographed carrying zip ties, a plastic version of handcuffs, and one man was arrested allegedly carrying a pistol on the Capitol grounds.

“We’re not looking at this as a grand conspiracy, but we are interested in learning what people would do with things like zip ties,” said a law enforcement official, who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation.”

The New York Times (1/9, Levenson, 20.6M) reports, “A man who had an assault rifle was charged with threatening Nancy Pelosi, the House speaker, after he traveled to Washington for the pro-Trump rally on Wednesday and sent a text message saying he would put ‘a bullet in her noggin on Live TV,’” the federal authorities said. “The Times adds, “Federal agents said the man, Cleveland Grover Meredith Jr., had been staying at a Holiday Inn in Washington and had weapons in his camper-style trailer, including a Glock handgun, a pistol, a Tavor X95 assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition. Meredith was charged with transmitting a threat in interstate commerce, possession of an unregistered firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition, according to court records.”

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Pelosi Says Trump’s Supporters Who Stormed Capitol Chose Their “Whiteness” Over Democracy. The Hill (1/9, Williams, 5.69M) reports House Speaker Pelosi “said Saturday that the rioters who took part in the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday chose their ‘whiteness over democracy.’” The Hill adds her remark “came after Pelosi acknowledged the number of people who died of COVID-19 on Wednesday and Thursday, both of which were records for single-day coronavirus deaths in the United States.”

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However, Brent Staples, a member of the New York Times editorial board, writes at the New York Times (1/9, 20.5M) that US history “is rife with episodes of political violence far bloodier and more destructive than the one...Trump incited at the Capitol,” and remarks by public officials and commentators to “tell the country again and again that the carnage was an aberration and ‘not who we are’ as a people,” are “dangerous on a variety of counts. For starters, it allowed many Americans to view the president’s insistence that he had won an election in which he was actually trounced, and his simultaneous embrace of right-wing extremism, as political theater that will pass uneventfully from the stage when...Biden is inaugurated.” He concludes, “The mob assault on the Capitol was an outgrowth of what came before.”

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him appeared to show ‘an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day.’ Both men are charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.”

ABC News

(1/8, Meek, 2.44M) reports, “Federal agents and detectives from the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department have launched a broad and multigrigged investigation into the mayhem and death Wednesday at the United States Capitol, that sources tell ABC News includes an effort to determine the motives of a paramilitary faction of the mob that invaded the heart of American government. ‘We’re talking about a very complex investigation,’ said Robert Boyce, a 56-year veteran and former chief of detectives of the New York Police Department. That effort involves scanning volumes of social media posts, reviewing hours of security camera footage, and combing through mountains of cellphone data to determine exactly what occurred, investigators told ABC News.”

Daily Beast: Lengthy Process To Determine If Booby Traps Were Left Behind. The Daily Beast (1/8, Shannon, 933K) reports that “there are innumerable potential hiding places” in the Capitol “for lethal devices that can be activated later, by a remote trigger such as a cell phone, or by a vibration-sensitive device like the one that sets off a car alarm when a vehicle rummages by or honks. Or somebody could have stuck a handgun inside a vase or hollow lamp or behind a toilet, à la Michael Corleone’s first hit. Intending to return later as a tourist, reclaim the gun and assassinate some lawmaker. To clear a 15-by-15 foot office, would take four bomb techs all day.’ Dave Williams, a former FBI bomb tech who investigated the Oklahoma City bombing, the World Trade Center bombing and other attacks, told SpyTalk. ‘They’d have to look under carpets, at all the fire alarms, light switches, lamps, even light bulbs. A light bulb can be modified so when you turn it on, it explodes. If you have a five-drawer file cabinet, each drawer should be opened remotely.”

FBI Warned Capitol Police Of Possibility Of Violence Before Riot. NBC News (1/10, Dilanian, 4.91M) reports, ‘The FBI and the New York City Police Department passed information to U.S. Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during the protests Wednesday against the counting of the Electoral College vote, and the FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington, senior law enforcement officials said.’ NBC News adds, ‘The previously unreported details undercut the assertion by a top FBI official that officials had no indication that violence was a possibility, and they add to questions about what intelligence authorities had reviewed before the Capitol riot, which led to the death of an officer and four other people, including a rioter who was shot and killed by police.’

Social media is just part of a full intelligence picture, and while there was First Amendment-protected activity on social media to include some people making threats, to this point, investigators have not found that there was an organized plot to access the Capitol, a senior FBI official said.”

The AP (1/10, Long, Balsamo, Mascaro) reports, “Despite ample warnings about pro-Trump demonstrations in Washington, U.S. Capitol Police did not bolster staffing on Wednesday and made no preparations for the possibility that the planned protests could escalate into massive violent riots, according to several people briefed on law enforcement’s response.” According to the AP, “The revelations shed new light on why Capitol Police were so quickly overrun by rioters. The department had the same number of officers in place as on a routine day. While some of those officers were outfitted with equipment for a protest, they were not staffed or equipped for a riot. ‘They were left naked,’ Rep. Maxine Waters, D-California, said of the police in an interview with AP. She had raised security concerns in a Dec. 28 meeting of House Democrats and grilled Steven Sund, the Capitol Police chief, during an hourlong private call on New Year’s Eve. ‘It turns out it was the worst kind of non-security anybody could ever imagine.’

The Los Angeles Times (1/8, Zou, 3.37M) reports, ‘Officers at a U.S. Capitol perimeter fence tried to hold their line but failed as intruders overpowered the barrier. Officers at another gate, seemingly overwhelmed, appeared to walk off as the intruders passed by. Another lone officer tried to hold back an advancing group before fleeing through the halls of Congress. In many cases, the officers were in normal uniform. Nowhere were there the skirmish lines of officers in riot gear seen during other recent events, including Black Lives Matter protests.’ The Times adds, “The stunning collapse of national security left many of the nation’s leaders cowering behind benches and fearing for their lives,” but “by Thursday, much of their shock had been supplanted by anger — with leading lawmakers demanding resignations from the Capitol’s top security officials and calling for broad investigations into the array of tactical failures under their watch.”

The Wall Street Journal (1/9, Calvert, Youssef, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that uneven communications between local and federal agencies hindered a forceful response to the riot.

Pete Williams reported on NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 3, 1:10, Snow, 3.76M) that the New York Police Department “notified the US Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during last week’s electoral vote count. Law enforcement officials say the NYPD’s intelligence unit sent a packet of information to police agencies nationwide describing the violent rhetoric and the threats of social media, with a separate report sent directly to Capitol Police. And a senior FBI official says agents contacted
more than a dozen suspected extremists. These are people who were already under FBI surveillance, and who indicated a desire to come to Washington last week. These disclosures do add to the questions about why the Capitol Police were not better prepared when the rioters stormed in, and why there wasn't a greater sense of urgency throughout the federal government about the possibility that the Capitol was a target. The Washington Post (1/10, Tan, 10.52M) reports "embattled" Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund "stepped down from his post on Friday, days earlier than he said he would." On Thursday, Sund said his resignation would be effective January 16.

USA Today (1/10, Bohan, Fritze, Brook, 12.7M) reports Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) "said Sunday it took nearly two hours for the Pentagon to give authorization for his state to send its National Guard into Washington to help protect the U.S. Capitol as it came under attack." Hogan said on CNN's State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), "Our Guard mobilized and was ready, but we couldn't actually cross over the border into DC without the okay. And that was quite some time, ... I can't speak as to what was going on the other end of the line back at the Pentagon or in the White House, ... All I know is that we were trying to get answers and we weren't getting answers."

Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) on MSNBC's Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, "One thing that I think is particularly striking is the low number of arrests. Here you have videos of folks engaged in criminal behavior, and the number of arrests is very small. That's unacceptable." Peters added, "We have to send a strong signal to those folks who were engaged in this action, that they will be sought out, they will be punished, and anyone else who tries to do this in the future is going to certainly face a very different result than what we saw this last week."

Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) on MSNBC's Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, "Had it not been for the gunshot of the one shot fired by that plainclothes officer in the Speaker's Lobby right behind the House gallery, right there, if those people had been able to get through, they would have had us who were in the gallery up on the third floor trapped...and I have no doubt some of us who look like me would have been hanging from the railings of the third floor onto the House floor swinging like fruit."

Lawmakers Investigating Police Preparation Ahead Of Capitol Occupation. Reuters (1/8, Cornwell, So. Breens, Januta, Tanfani) reports that following "the historic security breach of the iconic domed building that houses the U.S. House and Senate, lawmakers told harrowing tales of their escapes from grave danger in the deadly mob assault that many say was incited by Trump," and "several told Reuters that top Capitol security officials had assured them they would be safe ahead of the planned protests and that everything was under control." In interviews with Reuters "and in public statements, lawmakers turned over the failure of the Capitol Police -- a 2,000-member force dedicated to guarding the Capitol Grounds -- and other agencies." The Hill (1/8, Marcus, 5.69M) reports Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), the chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that oversees Capitol Police funding, "said Friday he's asked the police chief to provide all communications during the pro-Trump riots that unfolded this week and will investigate whether any officers assisted rioters."

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, A1, Holder, Flatow, 3.57M) interviewed several current and former police leaders about "the logistics of how preparation for a major rally or protest typically works -- and why Wednesday's preparation was such a dismaying contrast to typical practice." In a nearly 2,000-word article, Politico (1/8, 6.73M) says "the successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters...represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history." According to Politico, "Minutes by minute, individual officers sometimes acted bravely, but hour by hour, Wednesday's events demonstrated a top-to-bottom failure by a key federal law-enforcement agency. The crisis can't even be called a failure of imagination, as 9/11 is sometimes seen, because in many ways the idea that the pro-Trump mob might march on the Capitol to disrupt the proceedings inside seemed all but obvious. Nor was this an incident that just slipped under the radar: The joint session inside was the single biggest news event in the United States that day, and the rioters had been planning disruptive protest for weeks, in the open."

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) says in an editorial, "Top law enforcement officials and key members of Congress have said plainly what Americans could see -- that the events Wednesday were enabled by a failure of law enforcement and a collapse of security." The Post adds, "To prevent another such failure, on Inauguration Day and subsequently, there must be a robust investigation of the causes for evident shortcomings in leadership, planning, intelligence, coordination and tactics." The Post calls for the implementation of long-term security measures, concluding the Capitol building "must remain the people's house -- but one that is secure from insurrection."

McCarthy Says National Guard Could Be Permitted To Carry Guns In DC Ahead Of Inauguration. Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy on Friday told the AP (1/8, Baldor) that Defense Department officials "are reviewing restrictions on the use of force by National Guard members and could allow troops to carry batons or guns in Washington, D.C., as they brace for more protests and possible violence around the Jan. 20 inaugural. In particular, McCarthy told The AP...that any changes will be determined by the intelligence gathered in the coming days about potential threats. But he said they are looking at allowing troops to carry their M-4 rifles or 9 mm Berettas, and he will know more in a day or two."

Pentagon Officials: Quick-Reaction Force Was Not Deployed When Capital Was Stormed Due To Lack Of Planning. The Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) reports, "A small quick-reaction force assembled by the Defense Department to
assist if needed during protests in Washington on Wednesday did not immediately respond when a pro-Trump mob stormed the Capitol because of a lack of a prior planning with Capitol Police over how it might be deployed, Pentagon officials said. A "timeline of events that the Pentagon released Friday night" indicates that the force was at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland and authorized for use by acting defense secretary Christopher C. Miller if additional support is requested by civil authorities. The Post adds, "But a senior defense official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said the Defense Department and Capitol Police hadn't reached an agreement or settled on a concept of operation ahead of time."

Meanwhile, a nearly 3,700-word front-page Washington Post (1/9, A1, Demirjian, Leong, Kane, Davis, 10.52M) article chronicles how Capitol police "lost control" of the situation even though Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund had previously "assured members of Congress that his force of 2,000 officers could handle the large expected crowds, according to multiple people who spoke with Sund in the days leading up to the siege."

However, the Los Angeles Times (1/6, 3.37M) reports the attack on the US Capitol "has spurred congressional leaders to demand a 'robust inquiry' into the 'mind-boggling' failure of national security," but they don't have to "look far for accountability. Congress itself is both client and overseer of the U.S. Capitol Police - a secretive agency whose procedures and actions have been kept under wraps for decades by lawmakers themselves." Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs Executive Director Jonathan Smith said, "The Capitol Police is uniquely opaque, even among federal law enforcement." The Times adds that not much is known regarding "how the Capitol Police operate. Congress has exempted the agency from the Freedom of Information Act, preventing the public from requesting records - unlike with other agencies, such as the FBI."

House Democrats Bring Up Possibility Capitol Rioters Received Internal Aid. Ferris, Barron-Lopez, 6.73M) reports more House Democrats "say they're concerned that tactical decisions by some Capitol Police officers worsened Wednesday's riots and have raised the possibility that the pro-Trump mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol might have had outside help." Videos have come to light "showing a small number of officers pulling down barricades for the rioters and, in another instance, stopping for a photo with one of them." Politico adds, "Some of those incidents were raised on a 3.5-hour caucus call by House Democrats on Friday, demanding an investigation not only into the decisions by the Capitol Police leadership but by some rank-and-file officers caught on camera." However, the legislators additionally brought up "general concerns that the rioters had some sort of outside help not necessarily attributable to the Capitol police corps." Rep. Steve Horsford (D-SC) "told his colleagues he thought the riots were 'an inside job,' according to two lawmakers on the call."

Statehouses Nationwide Heighten Security After US Capitol "Overrun." According to the AP (1/8, Lieb), "The insurrection by supporters of...Trump at the U.S. Capitol this week has prompted governors and lawmakers in several states to heighten security at their own capital buildings as they gather amid a pandemic for legislative sessions and inaugural ceremonies." The AP reports that state legislatures are concerned that if "the U.S. Capitol - a shining symbol of democracy with a dedicated police force - can be overrun by a violent mob, could state capitols be next?"

Armed Protestors Used Michigan State Capitol Siege Like A Dry Run For Wednesday Attack. The New York Times (1/9, Gray, 20.6M) says protestors with guns rushed Michigan's State Capitol in April and "demanded entry into the House of Representatives' chamber, chanting 'Let Us In.'" Some of the protestors, "wearing camouflage fatigues with semiautomatic rifles slung over their shoulders, watched ominously from the gallery above the Senate chamber as the elected officials did their work." On Wednesday, as the US Capitol was breached, Michigan State Sen. Sylvia Santana (D) said, "Michigan was the precursor for what happened." A Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) article headlined "After Trial Runs At Statehouses Last Year, The Far-right's Violent Tactics Erupted At The Capitol" provides similar coverage.

More Commentary. in a piece for MSNBC (1/9, 8.1M), Frank Figliuzzi, who was the assistant director for counterintelligence at the FBI, writes, "In the aftermath of the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 7, there will be resignations, hearings and inquiries at the Capitol Police department, the respective House and Senate sergeant-at-arms offices, and other law enforcement or military entities. The warning signs and intelligence were there - they were just ignored. But let's be clear - what happened to our democracy that day was not an intelligence failure; it was a failure to act upon available intelligence." Figliuzzi adds, "The lights are blinking red, and they will continue to signal our vulnerability for the final two weeks of this leaderless administration. Our adversaries are watching. Whether or not they act on the available intelligence depends on our capacity to see what they see: a soft target that needs to secure far more than the building on Capitol Hill."

In a piece for USA Today (1/8, 12.7M), Todd Gitlin writes, "For months, supporters of President Donald Trump have mounted acts and threats of violent insurrection against federal and state governments. In September, FBI and Homeland Security officials warned a Senate committee of the "high lethality" of white supremacist groups. Gitlin adds, "Insurrectionary activity has taken place nationwide. Congress must quickly convene an investigative commission to get answers to questions including...which officials in the FBI, Homeland Security, and other agencies were aware of violent preparations in the run-up to the congressional vote yesterday to count and affirm the states' election results," and "which white supremacist groups were under surveillance after the FBI and Homeland Security warned of 'high lethality.'"
In a piece for Politico (1/8, 6.73M), Garrett M. Graff writes, "The successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters on Wednesday represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history, a catastrophic collapse that may well and up costing one Capitol Police officer his life and the entire security leadership of the Capitol their jobs." Graff adds, "With both houses of Congress in a crucial joint session, the crowds that first approached the Capitol's outer fence were no larger than the department deals with routinely. Yet within minutes, the outer fence lines had collapsed and officers were in full-blown retreat." Graff adds, "Through the afternoon Wednesday and through Thursday, current and former major city police chiefs traded puzzled and worried calls, all amazed at the assault on – and stunningly easy fall of – one of the world’s supposedly most secure buildings."

US Officials Reportedly Open Murder Probe Into Death Of Capitol Police Officer. The AP (1/8, Mascaro, Daily) reports Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick “has died from injuries suffered as President Donald Trump’s supporters stormed the Capitol.” The US Capitol Police “said in a statement that... Sicknick was injured ‘while physically engaging with protesters’ during the Wednesday riot,” making him “the fifth person to die because of the Capitol protest and violence.” Sicknick’s family released a statement reading: “Many details regarding Wednesday’s events and the direct causes of Brian’s injuries remain unknown, and our family asks the public and the press to respect our wishes in not making Brian’s passing a political issue.” On CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.37M), Jeff Pegues said Sicknick, was “a 12-year veteran who served in the first responders unit.”

Reuters (1/8, Singh, Heavey, Holland) reports a law enforcement official told CNN that federal prosecutors “are opening a murder investigation” into Sicknick’s death. On the CBS Evening News (1/8, story 4, 2:11, O’Donnell, 4.08M), Jeff Pegues said investigators are “still at the beginning of this investigation, but, obviously, they’re going to use cell phone data and video from inside the Capitol to try to get the person or persons responsible.” On ABC’s Good Morning America (1/8, 3.14M), Pierre Thomas said police “want to know if he was assaulted and if that mob played a role in his death. Was it murder?”

The New York Times (1/8, Santora, Specia, 20.6M) reports that “it was unclear where Mr. Sicknick’s encounter with the rioters took place, but photos and a video posted by a local reporter during the night of chaos showed a man spraying a fire extinguisher outside the Senate chamber, with a small number of police officers overlooking the area on a nearby stairway.” Reuters (1/8, Lynch, Brice) has more on the investigation into Sicknick’s death.

A front-page Washington Post (1/8, A1, Hermann, Weiner, Heim, Jackman, 10.52M) article reports a White House spokesman “said Trump and his administration extend their prayers to Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick’s family as we all grieve the loss of this American hero,” while House Speaker Pelosi “ordered flags at the U.S. Capitol to be flown at half-staff,” and “Thursday night, officers lined up in front of the Capitol in silence to honor their fallen colleague.” On the lead ABC World News Tonight (1/8, lead story, 4.22, Muir, 6.95M) segment, Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl said Vice President Pence “offered his condolences, and the White House put out a statement from a deputy press secretary, but nothing from the President himself. Trump, more isolated than ever, remained behind closed doors at the White House today, amidst growing calls for him to resign.” Meanwhile, Reuters (1/8, Hunnicutt) reports Joe Biden on Friday “expressed sympathy to the family of the U.S. Capitol police officer killed in Wednesday’s invasion of Congress by pro-Trump supporters, and said those responsible would be held accountable.” Biden said, “The people responsible should be held accountable, and they will be.”

Reueters (1/8, Nater, Laing, 3.57M) reports that aside from Sicknick and Babbitt, three others “died Wednesday when thousands of pro-Trump supporters forced their way into the U.S. Capitol in Washington, smashing windows and ransacking offices.” Meanwhile, a front-page Washington Post (1/9, A1, Jamison, Natanson, Woodrow Cox, Horton, 10.52M) article chronicles Babbitt’s journey from capital ‘guardian’ to invader.

Officer Held Back Rioters For Nearly One Minute. Reuters (1/10, Hale) reports Capitol Police officer Eugene Goodman “is being hailed for his role steering an angry mob away from the Senate chambers in Wednesday’s deadly storming’ of the Capitol. Goodman can be seen in a video “getting rioters to move away from the Senate as police raced to secure the chamber.” The New York Post (1/10, Brown, 7.45M) reports analysis of the video “shows that he held them back for almost a minute – at the exact time as a half-dozen armed officers were inside the chamber desperately trying to secure it.”

Officer Who Was On Duty Wednesday Dies In Apparent Suicide. The New York Daily News (1/10, Splendorio, 2.51M) reports Howard Liebengood, “a longtime officer with U.S. Capitol Police,” died Saturday while off duty “in what’s being described as an apparent suicide. Capitol Police did not reveal a cause of death for Liebengood in its announcement Sunday,” but two sources said it was suicide, and “a colleague with Capitol Police also referred to Liebengood’s death as a suicide in a Facebook post Sunday.”

CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that President Trump “ordered that the flag flying above the White House be lowered to half-staff on Sunday to honor US Capitol Police officers Brian Sicknick and [Liebengood], who were both on duty when a mob of Trump’s supporters stormed the US Capitol on Wednesday.”
Pro-Trump Police Unions “Angry” With President Over Call For Supporters To March On Capitol. In an exclusive, the *Washington Times* (1/8, Mordock, 626K) reports police unions nationwide “mobilized like never before to support Mr. Trump ahead of the presidential election,” but “police unions that once blasted Mr. Biden for his tepid denunciation of rioters, say they are angry that Mr. Trump urged his supporters to march to the Capitol.”

Police Departments Nationwide Investigating If Their Officers Stormed Capitol. The *New York Times* (1/8, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports police departments nationwide have “suspended officers or referred them to internal reviews for attending the events on Jan. 6 in Washington that devolved into an assault on the U.S. Capitol.” According to the Times, “The commanding officers or officials involved in the cases in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington State stressed that while the officers attended as private citizens, the question of whether they broke the law would be investigated.”

Reuters (1/10, Caspar) reports that “police departments in Virginia and Washington state have placed officers on leave as authorities examine whether they took part in unlawful acts while off-duty.” Reuters adds, “Fire departments in Florida and New York City have also said they reported to federal authorities allegations that some of their members may have been present when the mob broke into the Capitol as Congress met to certify the results of the Nov. 3 presidential election. The police department in the small town of Rocky Mount, Virginia, said on Sunday it had placed two officers on administrative leave after it learned they attended an ‘event’ in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday while off-duty.”

Experts: Foreign Intelligence Officials Likely Entered Capitol Building. Government Matters (DC) (1/10, Haddon) reports that former ODNI National Security Policy Analyst Katrina Mulligan “said the possibility that a bad actor could have gotten into the Capitol building” during its assault last week “is more than plausible and has almost certainly occurred.” Mulligan estimates there to be “over 100,000 foreign intelligence officials believed to be living in the Washington, D.C. area.” Mulligan said last week’s events are “exactly the kind of situation that a foreign intelligence official would be seeking to exploit for these sorts of purposes.” Former Deputy Assistant DHS Secretary for Counterterrorism Policy Tom Warrick said foreign adversaries “don’t have to go after the most classified secrets—they can go after cell phones, laptops, papers left on desks as people are evacuated.”

Three Sri Lankan Nationals Charged in Federal Court With Aiding 2019 Bombings. The *Los Angeles Times* (1/8, Omsbath, 3.37M) reports, “Three Sri Lankan nationals were charged Friday in federal court in Los Angeles with supporting an ISIS cell that killed hundreds of people in a string of coordinated suicide bombings that shook Sri Lanka in 2019.” Mohamed Naufar, Mohamed Anwar Mohamed Riskan and Ahamed Milhan Hayathu Mohamed are “accused of conspiring to provide material support to ISIS.” Naufar and Milhan are also charged with aiding and abetting the receipt of military training from ISIS.

The *AP* (1/8) reports, “The men have no California connection but the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force that headed the investigation is based in Los Angeles, according to the U.S. attorney’s office. They were ‘being held in Sri Lanka, and it wasn’t immediately clear whether they had attorneys who could speak for them.’ Nick Hanna, U.S. attorney for the Central District of California, said in a statement, ‘This case clearly demonstrates that the United States will take decisive action to ensure terrorists face justice when they target Americans anywhere in the world. This complaint makes clear that we stand ready with these charges in the event the defendants attempt to evade justice.’

Dominion Voting Systems Sues Ex-Trump Lawyer Sidney Powell For $1.3B. *USA Today* (1/8, Cummings, 12.7M) reports, “Dominion Voting Systems filed a defamation lawsuit against attorney Sidney Powell over claims relating to the 2020 election. Powell has ‘variously implicated Dominion, deceased Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez, the CIA and Chinese communists in a plot to rig the election against Trump.’ The lawsuit says, ‘Dominion was founded in Toronto for the purpose of creating a fully auditable paper-based vote system that would empower people with disabilities to vote independently on verifiable paper ballots.’ The company says her claims are not rooted in any factual basis but instead rely on ‘declarations from a motley crew of conspiracy theorists, con artists, armchair experts,’ and anonymous sources who were
judicially determined to be ‘wholly unreliable.” The *Wall Street Journal* (1/8, Corse, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

**Trump Faces Calls To Pardon WikiLeaks’ Assange.** The *New York Times* (1/10, Vogel, 20.6M) reports WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange’s allies “have ramped up a push for a last-minute pardon from President Trump, enlisting a lobbyist with connections to the administration, trying to rally supporters across the political spectrum and filing a clemency petition with the White House.” However, the Times says the initiative “comes at a delicate moment for Mr. Assange and during a period of tension between the United States and Britain over a case that his supporters say has substantial implications for press freedoms.”

**FBI Raids Homes, Offices Of Tennessee State Lawmakers.** NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reported, “Federal authorities raided homes and offices of several Tennessee lawmakers on Friday, including the property of former state House Speaker Glen Casada, officials said.” FBI agents searched properties with “addresses associated with Casada, fellow GOP state Reps. Robin Smith and Todd Warner and Casada’s former chief of staff, Cade Cothran, said David Boling, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Nashville.” Casada resigned from “his leadership role in summer 2019, after he admitted to sending a series of sexually inappropriate and racist text messages.”

The *AP* (1/8, Kruesi, Mattise) reports U.S. Attorney’s Office for Middle Tennessee spokesman David Boling said FBI agents searched the homes and offices of state lawmakers” on Friday. The searches “included the homes of former GOP House Speaker Glen Casada and state Rep. Robin Smith,” but Boling “declined to provide any further information regarding the nature of the searches and how many lawmakers were involved.”

**SolarWinds Taps Krebs, Stamos To Look Into Company’s Practices Following Hack.** Bloomberg (1/8, Sebbenius, 3.57M) reports SolarWinds "has tapped prominent security experts Chris Krebs and Alex Stamos to review its practices after suspected Russian hackers compromised the company’s software and conducted a sprawling hack across the U.S. government and private sector.” Krebs previously headed the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency “and was known for instilling confidence in the integrity of the 2020 elections until he was fired by President Donald Trump in November.” Bloomberg adds that Stamos “served as chief security officer at Facebook until 2018 and is currently director of the Stanford Internet Observatory.”

The *Washington Times* (1/8, Blake, 62K) reports that Stamos said, “We have already engaged in helping understand and recover from what looks to be one of the most serious foreign intrusion campaigns in history, and we will be helping others learn from this attack.” Meanwhile, Krebs “worked as Microsoft’s director for cybersecurity policy before joining CISA, a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as the agency’s first director beginning in late 2018.” The agency was “charge of securing the nation’s election infrastructure when millions of Americans voted in the recent White House race decisively won by President-elect Joseph R. Biden.”

Reporting similarly are *Law360* (1/8, Subscription Publication, 9K) and *TechCrunch* (1/8, Whitaker, 502K). **DHS Advisory Explains How Attackers Hid In Plain Sight.** CNN (1/8, Fung, 89.21M) reports that on Friday a DHS bulletin found the Russian-linked hackers behind the SolarWinds breach “gave themselves top administrative privileges, allowing them to spy on their targets with impunity.” The DHS advisory "represents the agency’s most detailed explanation yet of how the attackers were able to monitor high-value intelligence targets undetected for months," revealing "that
investigators are increasingly focused on the attackers’ use of Microsoft products to hide in plain sight.” Experts and officials “have said for weeks that the attackers likely abused credentials and impersonated legitimate users to conduct their spying campaign.” Now CISA “has confirmed that happened, describing step-by-step how the attackers hid their tracks.”

**Federal Cyber Group Announces SolarWinds Hack Affected Fewer Than 10 Agencies.** The *Washington Examiner* (1/7, Gross, 888K) reports that the US Cyber Unified Coordination Group (UCG) “announced on Jan. 5 that it had identified fewer than 10 agencies affected by the [SolarWinds] cyberattack,” though “investigators are still working to determine the scope of the damage.” The group “did not list the affected agencies, but news reports have suggested the U.S. departments of Treasury, Commerce, State, Energy, and Homeland Security were victims of the attack.” It “said the attack originated from an advanced attacker, likely Russian in origin.” UCG includes agencies such as the FBI and CISA.

**Federal Courts’ Filing System Likely Breached By SolarWinds Hack.** The *Washington Examiner* (1/8, Dunleavy, 888K) reports, “The online filing system used by the federal court system was likely breached in the SolarWinds hack, suspected to be orchestrated by Russia.” The Administrative Office of the US Courts “revealed an ‘apparent compromise of the confidentiality’ of its case management and electronic case files system ‘due to these discovered vulnerabilities’ and said this week that it was ‘under investigation.’” The agency is working with DHS “on a ‘security audit’ related to the cyberattacks that ‘greatly risk compromising highly sensitive non-public documents … particularly sealed filings’ stored on the online system, adding that ‘due to the nature of the attacks, the review of this matter and its impact is ongoing.’”

**FBI Alert Warns Of Growing Egregor Ransomware Threat.** *Gov Info Security* (1/9, Ferguson) reports, “The FBI issued a private industry warning this week over the growing threat from the operators behind the Egregor ransomware variant and other cybercriminal gangs affiliated with the group.” Since September, the group and its affiliates “claim to have compromised approximately 150 corporate networks both in the U.S. and other countries.” They have demanded as much as $4 million, according to a Group-IB report. The group “operates in a service model, which includes the operators of the actual ransomware as well as affiliated cybercriminals that carry out their own attacks and receive a percentage of the ransom if the money is paid by the victim,” according to the FBI. The FBI alert says, “Egregor ransomware utilizes multiple mechanisms to compromise business networks, including targeting business network and employee personal accounts that share access with business networks or devices.”

**Barrett: FBI Continues To Set The Standard For Government Transparency.** In a piece for the *Washington Post* (1/7, Barrett, 10.52M), Devin Barrett argues that while recent books authored by former FBI officials “have tended to be about hard men in dark suits, whispering worriedly about Russians, President Trump and existential threats to democracy,” the FBI “still sets a gold standard for excellence and ethics that should be followed more widely.” Barrett examines Frank Figliuzzi’s new book, “The FBI Way: inside the Bureau’s Code of Excellence,” which “is in the spirit of earlier tomes that combine federal-agent tradecraft with a dash of self-improvement advice.”

**Democrats Move Toward Second Trump Impeachment.** Tom Llamas said in the lead story on *ABC World News Tonight* (1/10, lead story, 4.30, 4.76M) that in “fallout from the deadly siege on the Capitol,” House Democrats are “on the path to impeach President Trump for a second time though he has just 10 days left in office. Democrats say he must be held accountable for his words. The charge: incitement of insurrection. … As Congress heads towards impeachment, a growing number of Republicans are calling for the President to resign.” ABC’s Rachel Scott reported House Speaker Pelosi is “telling her party to get ready to come back to Washington, the single [impeachment] article charging Trump with incitement of insurrection.” He said the day would “be wild,” pressuring his loyal Vice President to undo the will of the people.” Trump: “Mike Pence is going to have to come through for us.” Scott: “But when he didn’t, rioters were later heard chanting, ‘Hang Mike Pence.” … With his inner circle now shrinking, the President is hunkered down inside the White House, trying to assemble a defense team…as a growing number of Republicans and former allies concern him.” Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R): “What we had was an incitement to riot at the United States Capitol.” ABC’s George Stephanopoulos: “So you think it was an impeachable offense?” Christie: “Oh, sure. Yeah. I think if inciting to insurrection isn’t, then I don’t know what is.”

Jericka Duncan said in opening the *CBS Weekend News* (1/10, lead story, 3:05, 13.72M), “Tonight, President Trump faces a hard reckoning with history. In the wake of the assault on the US Capitol that he incited, Mr. Trump faces a second impeachment, perhaps even criminal charges.” CBS’ Nikole Killion: “As he enters his final full week in office, President Trump will try to shore up his legacy. Senior advisors tell CBS News he is expected to deliver remarks Monday and make a trip to the border Tuesday. But calls for the President to resign now are growing from within his own party.” Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA): “The best way for our country to heal is for the President to resign and go away, as soon as possible.”
Kate Snow opened NBC Nightly News (1/10, lead story, 3:10, 3.76M) with the “growing calls for the President of the United States to either resign or be impeached by Congress – and not just from Democrats, but some Republicans now calling on him to step aside. The President is not even speaking to his own Vice President at this point. We’re also seeing new video tonight of just what happened on Wednesday at the Capitol. And we’re learning security warnings ahead of that day were ignored.” NBC’s Kelly O’Donnell: “With Joe Biden soon to take office, senior Democrats suggest Speaker Pelosi could complete House impeachment but delay sending the article to the Senate for trial, giving the new Administration breathing room.” House Majority Whip Clyburn: “One hundred days he needs to get his agenda off and running, and maybe we’ll send the articles some time after that.” Clyburn said on Fox News Sunday (1/10, 1.03M), “The Senate determines guilt or innocence and that has to do with the Senate schedule. Now, the House has to do its business. We call ourselves the people’s house, the vast majority of the American people – I saw the poll results this morning – say this man should be removed from office.”

Toomey, on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), said, “I think the President did commit impeachable offenses. There is little doubt in my mind about that. I don’t know as a practical matter it is actually possible to do an impeachment in the handful of days that are left. ... I am also not at all clear that it is constitutionally permissible to impeach someone after they have left office. So there may not be a viable impeachment route at this point. But certainly, he could resign and that would be a very good outcome.” On MSNBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), Toomey said, “The President has disqualified himself. I don’t think he’s a viable candidate for office ever again because of the outrageous behavior in the post-election period.” The Philadelphia Inquirer (1/10, Madej) reports Toomey “remarked that he doesn’t think the ‘unbelievable behavior of Wednesday...could’ve been reasonably expected,’ and that Trump’s actions are ‘widely different from the offensive tweets that were common during his presidency.’

On CBS Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) said, “I understand the concerns that just as President Biden takes over responsibility for leading our nation through this tragic pandemic, that we might be distracted by weeks in the Senate by a Senate trial. That’s why I’ve called for President Trump to do the right thing finally and resign or for Vice President Pence to secure the next 10 days through the 25th Amendment.”

Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.23M), said, “There is no doubt about it: He should be impeached. But you have to be practical about what we are doing. We have two paths to go. We are ready to install a new government. If I was Joe Biden, I’d want to put my government together and put confidence back into the American people that we can govern ourselves and be the beacon of light for the whole country and the whole world.”

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), on MSNBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), said, “The assault on the capitol was a violent insurrection that was incited and encouraged by Donald Trump. It was an attack on Congress, an attack on the country, and an attack on the Constitution. ... That’s why House Democrats are united in demanding and seeking his immediate removal.” On CNN’s Inside Politics (1/10, 812K), Rep. Mondaire Jones (D-NY) said, “This President must be impeached and removed, and anything less than that is an abdication of Congress’ constitutional responsibility to be a check on the executive branch and to protect the American people from a very dangerous, unhinged, lawless chief executive.” Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), on ABC’s This Week (1/10, 2.99M), said, “Our main priority is to ensure the removal of Donald Trump as President of the United States. Every minute and every hour that he’s in office represents a clear and present danger, not just to the United States Congress, but frankly to the country.”

However, some Republicans expressed skepticism. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO), on CBS Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), said, “To remove him from office clearly is not going to happen between now and the last day he’s in office.” Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (1/10), said, “It’s unfortunate that instead of unifying us right now, Biden, the Democrats, have chosen to use this to talk about ridiculous things about impeaching a President who isn’t going to be in office in about nine days.” Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (1/10, 1.35M), said, “The Democrats are going to try to remove the President from office just seven days before he is set to leave anyway. I do not see how that unifies the country.”

The AP (1/10, Superville, Fram, Jalonick) reports Pelosi said Sunday that the House will proceed with impeachment “as she pushes the vice president and cabinet to invoke constitutional authority to force him out, warning that Trump is a threat to democracy after the deadly assault on the capitol.” CBS 80 Minutes (1/10, 9.8M) showed Pelosi saying, “I like the 25th Amendment because it gets rid of him. He’s out of office. But there is strong suit in the Congress for impeaching the President a second time. This President is guilty of inciting insurrection.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Restuccia, Kendall, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Vice President Pence “isn’t expected to move forward with a 25th Amendment process, people familiar with his thinking said.”

The New York Times (1/10, Levin, 20.6M) reports, “Momentum for impeaching [Trump] a second time was growing rapidly over the weekend among rank-and-file Democrats and some Republicans, setting the stage for a final showdown that would test the boundaries of politics, accountability and the Constitution.” In addition to Toomey, Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) has expressed openness to impeachment and Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has called on Trump to resign.
USA Today (1/10, Fritze, 12.7M) reports Trump “begins one of the most perilous weeks of his presidency Monday as momentum for a second impeachment soared over the weekend and a growing number of Republicans broke ranks to openly call for his removal.” Trump “has only days remaining in his term — a point supporters noted — but the debate over how Congress should respond is focused largely on his legacy and his ability to control the GOP” after leaving office.

The Washington Post (1/10, 10.52M) reports, “Tensions are breaking out among Democrats over how aggressively to push” for impeachment, “aware that many voters hope Congress will prevent Trump from provoking further violence, but also wanting Biden to be free to take immediate action on the coronavirus pandemic and a faltering economy. Some Democrats said privately that they are wary of impeachment but unsure how to slow its momentum given the intensifying passions against Trump.”

Fox News (1/10, Bitzer, 23.99M) reports on its website that Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) said Sunday that the article of impeachment has 195 cosponsors. The Los Angeles Times (1/10, 3.37M) says being impeached twice would make Trump “the first U.S. president to hold that unwelcome distinction.” Reuters (1/10, Cornwell, Chilacu, Psaledakis), Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M), Political (1/10, McCaskill, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/10, 5.69M) also cover the moves toward impeachment.

Polls Show Majority Support For Trump’s Removal Or Early Exit. CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that the potential second impeachment “starts out more popular than any other removal process of a president in recent American history. Removing Trump from office remains quite unpopular among Republicans, however. A look across polls conducted since riots at the Capitol on Wednesday shows that a clear plurality of Americans overall want Trump out of office. An average across polls since Wednesday (in which no pollster is counted more than once) shows that 50% of Americans want Trump to either be impeached, for the 25th Amendment to be invoked or for Trump to resign from office.”

The Hill (1/10, Mastrangelo, 5.69M) reports that an ABC News/Ipsos poll of 570 adults (1/8-1/9) found that 57% want Trump removed from office, with 67% saying Trump “deserves a ‘good amount’ of the blame for the riots in Washington, D.C. last week.”

Trump Plans “Defiant” Final Week. The AP (1/10, Colvin) reports Trump “enters the last days of his presidency isolated and shunned by former allies and members of his own party as he faces a second impeachment and growing calls for his resignation.” But Trump, “cut off from the social media channels that have been the lifeblood of his presidency,” will nonetheless try to go on offense in his last 10 days, with no plans of resigning.” Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Trump “and a dwindling circle of advisers plan a defiant final week in office, according to people familiar with the matter.” The President is “preparing at least one more round of pardons, and will try a final time to advance his administration’s effort to bring Big Tech to heel, the people said, though it isn’t clear what he may do.”

The New York Times (1/10, Haberman, 20.8M) writes that “even without Twitter, and even under a new threat of impeachment, Mr. Trump remains until Jan. 20 the most powerful man in the world, with access to the White House briefing room, the East Room and the Oval Office to communicate his thoughts. He has a press office devoted to issuing his statements and a cadre of reporters assigned to cover what he says and does.” Still, the Washington Post (1/10, Rucker, 10.52M) writes, Trump “is now destined to slink out of the White House considerably diminished from the rampaging, fearsome force he and his advisers imagined he would be in his post-presidency.”

The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports, “Eight days before reluctantly leaving office, Trump will visit the border in South Texas on Tuesday to tout partial construction of the massive wall he promised to deliver — far more than critics wanted, far less than he wanted, and none funded by Mexico.” Meanwhile, Reuters (1/10, Mason) reports, “his White House is in ‘meltdown’ as it lurches through his final days, current and former officials said,” and many White House staffers “are upset and embarrassed by the turn of events, and are eager to move on.”

CBS’ Schieffer: Trump’s “Reign Mirrored His Own Chaotic Life.” Bob Schieffer said on the CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 11, 1:50, Duncan, 13.72M), “It’s ending as it began: in chaos, controversy, and confusion. His reign mirrored his own chaotic life. He lurches from one crisis to another, from financial windfalls to bankruptcies, from tabloid scandals to audacious lies. He introduced us to a bizarre cast of characters, from porn stars to the crackpots and clowns who inhabit the dark fringes of American politics. As we saw in those awful scenes unfolding in the Capitol, we came to understand that the man who had a manic desire for power had no real understanding of the power he possessed or what happens when it is misused. He will be gone soon. But he showed us America was not broken. He was.”

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Used Violent Imagery In Speech To Followers Before Capitol Violence. The New York Times (1/10, Savage, 20.8M) reports, “The speech that President Trump delivered to his supporters just before they attacked the Capitol last week is a central focus as House Democrats prepare an article of impeachment against him for inciting the deadly riot.” In the speech, the Times says, Trump “repeated many of his falsehoods about how the election was stolen, then dispatched the marchers to the Capitol.” The Times also says it was “riddled with violent imagery and calls to fight harder than before,” while “he made only a passing suggestion that the protest should be nonviolent.”
Monday, January 11, 2021

TOP NEWS

Analysis

Assange Victory Leaves Whistleblowers, Journalists Hanging

A U.K. court's recent refusal to endorse claims that the prosecution of Julian Assange amounts to an attack on freedom of speech highlights the need to introduce a public interest defense into English law to protect journalists and whistleblowers, lawyers say.

Read full article ▶

Ignore 'Scaremongering' On FCA Circuit Split, Justices Told

Whistleblowers told the U.S. Supreme Court on Friday that a prominent circuit split over whether the False Claims Act requires objectively benign billing is actually "irrelevant," and a hospice chain is engaging in "scaremongering" to convince the high court otherwise.

1 document attached | Read full article ▶

Supreme Court To Hear Guam's $160M Landfill Superfund Suit

The U.S. Supreme Court agreed Friday to take up Guam's effort to force the U.S. Navy to chip in on a $160 million landfill cleanup effort, granting the territory's petition for writ of certiorari a little less than a year after the D.C. Circuit found that the statute of limitations had expired on the case.

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SolarWinds Taps Ex-Cyber Chief Krebs in Wake Of Major Hack
SolarWinds Corp., the software provider at the center of the sprawling cyber espionage campaign that has breached several government agencies and the federal court system, has retained a new cyber consulting firm created by ousted U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency director Chris Krebs and former Facebook chief security officer Alex Stamos to help recover from the likely Russia-backed cyberattack.

OUTLOOK

The U.S. Department of Defense's new anti-drone strategy will help speed up bringing new technology on board and eliminate redundant development efforts that have seen the department ineffectively spend billions of dollars, its counter-drone chief said Friday.

ENFORCEMENT

US Sanctions Iraqi Military Leader, Citing Human Rights Abuse
The U.S. Treasury Department announced sanctions Friday against Iraqi Popular Mobilization Committee Chairman Falih al-Riyadiy for what the department identified as a link to "serious human rights abuse.

LITIGATION

Berkshire-Owned Aerospace Co. Settles Investor Suit for $21M
Investors of an aerospace parts manufacturer now owned by Berkshire Hathaway Inc. asked an Oregon federal judge Friday to approve a $21 million deal to end claims the company issued misleading proxy materials leading up to its merger.

Air Force Can't Escape Suit Over Ex-Airman's Mass Shooting
A Texas federal judge has denied the U.S. Air Force's bid to escape a suit
over a deadly 2017 church mass shooting by a former airman, saying it breached a duty of care in failing to inform the FBI about the shooter's conviction by a court-martial.

L3Harris, Aviation Co. Agree To End Bid-Rigging Feud
A small, minority-owned airport operations management company has agreed to dismiss its anti-competition claims leveled against L3Harris Technologies Inc., the parties told a Virginia federal judge on Friday.

EXPERT ANALYSIS

Personal Bias
Judges On Race: The Power Of Discretion In Criminal Justice
Judges should take into consideration the several points of law enforcement and prosecutorial discretion — from traffic stops to charging decisions and sentencing recommendations — that often lead to race-based disparate treatment before a criminal defendant even reaches the courthouse, say Judge Juan Villeda and Laurel Quanto at Colorado's Eighth Judicial District Court.

$ Attorneys Business Development Tips For The New Year
Lawyers should remember that the basics of interpersonal relationships have not changed despite the completely virtual environment caused by the pandemic, and should leverage the new year as an excuse to connect with clients in several ways, say Megan Sanase and Courtney Hudson at Pillsbury.

LEGAL INDUSTRY

DLA Piper Among 19 Firms Urging Trump's Removal
Nineteen American law firms, including the legal behemoth DLA Piper, have urged Vice President Mike Pence to remove President Donald Trump from power using the 25th Amendment after he incited supporters who attacked the Capitol, according to Crowell & Moring LLP.

6,800 Lawyers Urge Congress To Remove And Impeach Trump
The nonprofit Lawyers for Good Government on Friday released an open letter, signed by over 6,800 attorneys, calling for the removal and impeachment of President Donald Trump after his supporters stormed the Capitol on Wednesday in an effort to stop Congress from certifying the election results and demanding Trump illegally remain in office.

Fur-Wearing 'Kid' At Capitol Takeover Is Brooklyn Judge's Son
One of the riotous pro-Trump supporters who took part in the shocking breach of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday caused national attention for the outfit he was wearing: a full-bodied fur pelt underneath a bulletproof vest. That man is the son of a Brooklyn Supreme Court judge, a spokesman confirmed Friday.
Dominion Launches $1.3B Suit Against Sidney Powell
The court fight over the November presidential election took another turn Friday when Dominion Voting Systems Corp. sued pro-Trump attorney Sidney Powell for defamation in D.C. federal court.
Read full article »

Legal Industry Job Growth Stagnant After Months Of Gains
The legal industry failed to experience job growth for the first time in months but continued to outpace other sectors of the economy that faced huge hits in December due to rising COVID-19 cases and renewed efforts to curb the pandemic.
Read full article »

5 Legal Tech Trends To Watch In 2021
Leading technologists are incredibly bullish about digital transformation in the legal industry and are predicting big things in 2021.
Read full article »

Up Next At High Court: FTC’s Key Tool On Chopping Block
The U.S. Supreme Court will hear its first oral arguments of 2021 on Monday in a case involving the availability of bond hearings to certain detained migrants, before turning to a dispute over First Amendment rights on college campuses and a showdown over a billion-dollar antitrust tool used by the Federal Trade Commission. Law360 breaks down what to expect.
Read full article »

Ex-Alta Mesa Atty Returns To Marathon Oil As GC
Marathon Oil Corp., the largest independent refiner in the U.S., announced Friday that it has brought on Kimberly Warama as senior vice president and general counsel, marking something of a homecoming for the former general counsel of Alta Mesa Resources Inc.
Read full article »

Norton Rose Fulbright Names New Diversity Chief
Norton Rose Fulbright has tapped the San Antonio-based chair of its women’s employee development network to serve as the firm’s next U.S. chief of diversity and inclusion.
Read full article »

Calif. State Bar Approves Plan To Expand Temporary Licensees
A California State Bar committee on Friday voted to extend the temporary lawyer licensing program to layoff-affected workers since July 2019 whose scores passed the newly reduced threshold, providing a path for more law graduates to be admitted to the bar without having to retake the exam.
Read full article »

South Dakota Bar Won’t Say If Pot Law Protects Lawyers
The South Dakota State Bar’s ethics committee declined to weigh in on whether the state’s constitutional amendment legalizing marijuana protects attorneys from disciplinary action if they represent pot clients, saying only that the committee believes it is unethical for them to do so.
Read full article »

Judge Denies WaPo’s Bid To Unseal Hearing In Wilkinson Suit
A Virginia federal judge rejected The Washington Post’s request to open a hearing held Friday in the Washington Football Team’s bid to seal certain documents in a now-dismissed case against lobbyist Beth Wilkinson, who is probing allegations of sexual harassment in the NFL teams’ front office.
Read full article »

Contempt Hearing For Ex-Girardi Attys To Be Held In Person
An Illinois federal judge said Friday he will hold a contempt hearing for two former Girardi Keese PC attorneys accused of covering up the alleged theft of $2 million in client settlement funds until it’s safe enough to have the hearing in person.
Read full article »
In Case You Missed It: Hottest Firms And Stories On Law360

For those who missed out, here’s a look back at the few firms, stories and expert analyses that generated the most buzz on Law360 last week.

Read full article »

Law360’s Pro Say: A New AG For A Country In Crisis

President-elect Joe Biden's decision to select D.C. Circuit Judge Merrick Garland as the next attorney general was quickly overshadowed by an unprecedented attack on the U.S. Capitol by a mob of President Donald Trump's supporters looking to upend the election.

Read full article »

JOBS
Search full listings or advertise your job opening.
All information and inquiries should be directed to
So you all have the times. Let's try to murder board this afternoon can invite WTO to participate too.

Also this will add to the questions I'll get.

Secretary of the Army Ryan McCarthy says at least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened as a result of the assault on the Capitol Building on Jan. 6, according to a released summary of a call with Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., on Sunday.


Jill Sanborn
Federal Bureau of Investigation

------- Forwarded message -------
From: "Tyson, Jill C. (OCA) (FBI)"
Date: Jan 10, 2021 8:55 PM
Subject: Briefing schedule
To: "Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI)"
Cc:
So you all have the times. Let's try to murder board this afternoon can invite WFO to participate too.

Also this will add to the questions I'll get.

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Jill Sanborn
Federal Bureau of Investigation
From: SIOC
Subject: CIRG'S DAILY SITREP
To: 
Cc: SIOC
Sent: January 11, 2021 6:03 AM (UTC-05:00)
Attached: FBI Dir Briefing210111.doc,

The NC3 will serve in a supportive role and will be comprised of FBIHQ Divisions as well as federal, state, and local partners.

Efforts for Preventing Violence and Criminal Activity (PVCA) in the National Capital Region.
Please see the attached bending requests.
WEATHER FOR TODAY

NCR – Cloudy, with a high/low of 44°/29°
There are no active watches, warnings or advisories.

Richmond, VA – A chance of sprinkles after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high/low of 50°/31°
There are no active watches, warnings or advisories.

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Strategic Information & Operations Center | FBIHQ, Room 5712
Emergency Action Specialist | Watch Commander: SSA

The FBI Strategic Information and Operations Center (SIOC) produced this message and any attachments for situational awareness which may be subject to change.

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UNCLASSIFIED/LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE
All information and inquiries should be directed to FBI(21cv558)-2627.
US Files Dozens Of Charges In Wake Of Capital Siege. USA Today (1/10, Penzenstadler, Phillips, Voyles Pulver, 12.7M) reports, "Federal authorities continued Sunday to round up people following a deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol this week — including two men accused of carrying plastic restraints and others who allegedly carried weapons or stole from the building. At least 58 people have been arrested and charged for incidents in or near the Capitol on Wednesday. Those arrested have come from 24 states and the District of Columbia." The Justice Department "has filed more than 55 criminal cases related to the riot that left five dead."

The New York Times (1/9, Wright, 20.6M) reports that the number of arrests "is expected to grow quickly as investigators scrutinize social media to identify the protesters, and some participants could face more serious charges."

CNN (1/8, Scannell, 89.2M) reports, "An Alabama man allegedly parked a pickup truck packed with 11 homemade bombs, an assault rifle and a handgun two blocks from the US Capitol building on Wednesday for hours before authorities ever noticed, according to federal prosecutors. Another man allegedly showed up in the nation's capital with an assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition and told acquaintances that he wanted to shoot or run over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, prosecutors said." CNN adds, "The revelations are some of the most unsettling details federal prosecutors have made public this week as they detail the extent of the arsenal available to aid pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol. Other individuals have been accused of taking guns and ammunition onto Capitol grounds and more charges are expected to come as a wide-ranging investigation unfurls."

Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), citing Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, said Sunday that "at least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened after Wednesday's assault on the U.S. Capitol." Reuters (1/10, Shalal) reports Crow "said McCarthy told him the Pentagon was aware of 'further possible threats posed by would-be terrorists' in the days up to and including the inauguration of Democratic President-elect Joe Biden on Jan. 20. 'Long guns, Molotov cocktails, explosive devices and zip ties were recovered, which suggests a greater disaster was narrowly averted,' Crow, a former Army Ranger, said in a summary of his call with McCarthy. McCarthy assured him the Pentagon was working with local and federal law enforcement to coordinate security preparations after what he described as 'deficient law enforcement threat reporting ahead of last Wednesday.'"

Reuters (1/8, Brice) reports, "Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen announced the FBI would team up with Washington's police department to jointly investigate the death of Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who was injured while defending the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday. 'Just because you've left the D.C. region, you can still expect a knock on the door if we find out you were part of the criminal activity at the Capitol,' Steven D'antuono, the FBI Washington Field Office's assistant director in charge, told reporters in a telephone news briefing."

The New York Times (1/8, Goldman, Ismay, Fuchs, 20.6M) reports, "The sweeping investigation took shape after a security breakdown two days earlier allowed hundreds of people backing President Trump's efforts to overturn the election results to rush into the Capitol in a deadly rampage. The debacle prompted sharp recriminations and the firings of top officials who were entrusted with protecting lawmakers. Dozens have been arrested, including 13 who face federal charges." The Times adds, "Law enforcement officials also backed off a suggestion that Mr. Trump could face criminal charges for inciting the riot after a top prosecutor had said a day earlier that investigators were examining anyone involved, 'not only' the rioters. 'Don't expect any charges of that nature,' Ken Kohl, a top prosecutor in the U.S. attorney's office in Washington, told reporters in a telephone briefing on Friday."

The Wall Street Journal (1/8, A1, Gurman, Viswanatha, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports on its front page that federal prosecutors on Friday announced charges against at least 13 "alleged members of the pro-Trump mob who stormed the halls of Congress." The Washington Post (1/8, Hsu, 10.52M) reports the Justice Department and FBI "announced charges Friday against Derrick Evans, "a freshman West Virginia lawmaker," Richard Barnett, "an Arkansas man who told the media he posed for photos on a desk in" House Speaker Pelosi's office, and Lonnie Larry Coffman, "an Alabama man whose truck allegedly carried 11 molotov cocktails and a semiautomatic rifle to this week's U.S. Capitol riots." The Post adds that "also charged with unlawful entry was Hawaii Proud Boys founder and unsuccessful state house candidate Nicholas Robert Ochs, who gave media interviews saying he participated in the break-in, an FBI arrest affidavit unsealed Friday alleged."

The Chicago Sun-Times (1/8, Seidel, 970K) reports that Barnett "has become one of the most notorious figures among those who broke into the Capitol Wednesday, after photographs surfaced of him with his feet on Pelosi's desk. Prosecutors cited those photographs in a statement of facts filed as part of the case against him. They said they also viewed video surveillance and a video-recorded interview Barnett gave." Prosecutors "said Barnett was asked about an envelope he was holding featuring
Pelosi’s signature. Barnett allegedly said, ‘I did not steal it. I bled on it because they were macing me and I couldn’t f—ing see so I figured I am in her office. I got blood on her office. I put a quarter on her desk even though she ain’t f—ing worth it. And I left her a note on her desk that says “Nancy, Bigo was here, you b—.”’ Barnett is being held in the Washington County (Ark.) jail after he was charged by federal prosecutors with three counts for storming the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday.

The AP (1/9, Callahan) reports, “A Florida man accused of making off with Pelosi’s lectern during the chaos was arrested Friday night on a federal warrant and was being held Saturday without bail in Pinellas County, Florida. Jail records do not show if Adam Johnson, 36, of Parrish, Florida, has an attorney. Johnson was charged Saturday with theft, violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.”

The Miami Herald (1/9, De Leon, 647K) reports from Bradenton, Florida, that Johnson “was arrested by Federal Marshals and booked into the Pinellas County jail shortly after 9 p.m. Friday. He has been charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; one count of theft of government property; and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds, according to a federal complaint. A warrant was issued on Friday and Johnson was charged in federal court in D.C. on Saturday.” Pelosi’s lectern “had been stored in her suite, under a staircase to the third floor on the House side of the Capitol building, before the Capitol was breached, her staff told FBI agents. The lectern — valued at more than $1,000 according to the House curator — was found by Senate staff on Thursday in the Red corridor of the Senate wing off the Rotunda in the Capitol.”

On NBC Nightly News (1/8, story 3, 3:04, Holt, 5.57M), Tom Costello reported “some suspects have identified themselves, as well. Josiah Colt who climbed down from the Senate balcony then sat in Vice President Pence’s chair says he was ‘caught up in the moment.’ In a statement to KBOI-TV, he says, ‘My actions have brought shame upon myself, my family and friends and beautiful country. I beg for forgiveness from America and from my home state of Idaho.’ Former Midland, Texas mayoral candidate Jenny Cudd posted her own video: ‘We did break down the Nancy Pelosi’s office door. And somebody stole her gavel.’ Nationwide, hundreds of federal agents are pursuing riot suspects. Among the felony charges they could face, felony rioting, federal assault and murder charges, obstruction of Congress, destruction of congressional documents, conspiracy and insurrection.”

The AP (1/9, Hollingsworth) reports, “An Iowa man was jailed early Saturday on charges accusing him of taking part in the riot at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of President Donald Trump.” The AP adds, “Des Moines Police Sgt. Paul Parizek said officers assisted the FBI in arresting 41-year-old Doug Jensen on Friday night at his home on the south side of the city. Jensen was booked into the Polk County Jail early Saturday on five federal charges, including trespassing and disorderly conduct counts, according to news releases from the FBI’s field office in Omaha, Nebraska and the county sheriff’s office.” According to the AP, “Video posted online during the storming of the Capitol on Wednesday showed a man who appears to be Jensen, who is white, pursuing a Black officer up an interior flight of stairs. A mob of people trails several steps behind. At several points, the officer says ‘get back,’ to no avail.”

The New York Times (1/8, Goldman, 20.9M) reports prosecutors on Thursday “filed a criminal complaint accusing a man named Mark J. Leffingwell of punching a Capitol Police officer repeatedly in the head and chest, before apologizing,” and they “unsealed charges against a Maryland resident, Christopher Alberts, accusing him of illegally carrying a 9-millimeter pistol at the riot.” Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, McGrath, 3.57M) reports Cogensia, a marketing firm near Chicago, has fired CEO Brad Ruikstoks, a Republican donor to President Trump, who “was arrested by U.S. Capitol Police on Wednesday” after “being part of the mob that broke into the U.S. Capitol.”

In the lead story for NBC’s Today (1/8, 2.86M), Savannah Guthrie said there have been “more than 80 arrests so far, and investigators this morning, they are poring through videos and images casting about for leads. They want to identify more suspects.” On NBC Nightly News (1/8, story 9, 1.43, Holt, 5.57M), Gabe Gutierrez reported, “One pro-Trump rioter in face paint and a horned hat confronted law enforcement holding a spear. The man now identified as Jake Angeli told NBC News, ‘The fact that he had a bunch of our traitors in office hunkered down put on their gas masks and retreat into the underground bunker, I consider that a win. Police say Angeli is a known follower of QAnon, a far right extremist group.”

On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 3, 2:05, Muir, 6.95M), Chief Justice Correspondent Pierre Thomas reported that federal authorities “are determined to leave no stone unturned, ramping up efforts to bring all the Trump supporters who desecrated the Capitol to justice.” On ABC’s Good Morning America (1/8, 3.14M), Martha Raddatz reported that on Wednesday, “despite the loss of life and the desecration of the Capitol, those rioters were allowed to just leave the building. They lingered on the plaza for hours triumphant, giving one another high-fives with no consequences. This morning the acting US attorney for the District of Columbia said the failure to arrest more people is making his job harder adding, ‘I can’t answer why the Capitol Police did not zip tie these people as they were leaving the Capitol.” CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.28M) also covered the search for protesters accused of committing crimes on Wednesday.
On the lead NBC Nightly News (1/9, lead story, 3:46, Diaz-Balart, 5.98M) segment, Tom Costello reported on the arrests, while on the CBS Weekend News (1/9, story 4, 1:52, Diaz, 577K), Adriana Diaz reported, “Roughly 100 people have been arrested for Wednesday’s attack.”

The Washington Post (1/9, Weiner, Hsu, 10.52M) reports 16 people “have been charged in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia with crimes related to the storming of the Capitol, including a man who admitted to stealing a document from Pelosi’s office. Forty others face charges in D.C. Superior Court.” The Post calls these federal cases “the low-hanging fruit of the investigation” since they are “people who either identified themselves in online postings or were quickly identified by others who saw the images and recognized the individuals.” The Wall Street Journal (1/8, Subscription Publication, 8.41M, AP (1/9, Callahan), Reuters (1/9, McKay), Politico (1/8, Semones, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/9, Lonas, 5.69M), among other outlets, provide similar coverage of the new arrests.

President Could Be Investigated For "Inciting" Riot. On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 2, 2:31, Karl, 6.95M), Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl reported that DC Attorney General Karl Racine (D) has “said he’ll investigate whether the President is legally responsible for inciting the riot,” and he also “mentioned Rudy Giuliani who said this at the rally. ‘Let’s have trial by combat!’ And the President’s son, Don Jr, who posted a since-removed video taken backstage at the rally before the riot. The President and his children watching the crowds gather. Don Jr’s girlfriend Kimberly dancing as the Trumps celebrated. This was Don Jr’s message to Trump supporters before they stormed the capital. If you’re going to be the zero and not the hero, we’re coming for you.”

Pierre Thomas said on ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 4, 0:35, Muir, 6.95M) that the DOJ’s current focus “is on the people who broke into the Capitol, but the investigation is in the early stages and questions about [Trump’s role in the] incitement will likely be for the incoming attorney general Merrick Garland.” On CBS This Morning (1/8, 2:37M), Ben Tracy said that Trump’s comments “before the assault on the Capitol may be investigated by US attorneys for leading to the violence.”

However, on ABC World News Tonight (1/9, story 4, 2:31, Llamas, 839K), on Saturday night, Tom Llamas reported, “There is now a nationwide manhunt under way for every rioter breaching the Capitol building.” Kenneth Molon added a senior Justice Department official on Saturday said “no incitement charges are expected against any...speakers” at the rally prior to the unrest, including Trump.

DOJ Investigating Shooting Death Of Protester. Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/9, Benner, Schmitt, 20.6M) reports interim US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Saturday announced that his office “is leading investigations into the deaths of a woman who entered the Capitol building with a crowd of rioters on Jan. 6 and an officer who was killed while trying to police the violent mob.” The Times says prosecutors in the office’s Civil Rights division “opened a formal, federal excessive force case into the shooting death of Ashli Babbit, who was shot by a Capitol Police officer as she and a group of President Trump’s supporters swarmed the building,” though “the investigation into Ms. Babbit’s shooting is routine, standard procedure whenever an officer deploys lethal force,” a Justice Department spokeswoman said. The Times adds the office “also opened a federal homicide investigation into the death of Brian D. Sicknick, a Capitol Hill police officer who died after pro-Trump rioters struck him with a fire extinguisher.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports it has obtained two video clips that “shed new light on the fatal shooting by police of Trump supporter and Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt as she and other rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol.” The Post says Babbitt “and others were attempting to breach a barricaded door inside the Capitol building on Wednesday afternoon, angrily demanding that three U.S. Capitol Police officers who were guarding the door step aside, one of the clips shows.” The Post adds the officers “moved away as colleagues in tactical gear arrived behind the rioters, according to the clip and other video posted online. Roughly 35 seconds after the officers moved away, as she climbed up toward a broken section of the unguarded door, Babbitt was shot by an officer on the other side,” as she was “trying to get into the Speaker’s Lobby, a hallway that would have given them access to the House of Representatives chamber.” According to the Wall Street Journal (1/8, Saftler, Aiworth, Seetharaman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), five people have died in connection to the “Capitol riot.”

Laptop Stolen From Pelosi’s Office, Aide Says. Reuters (1/8, Satter) reports a laptop was stolen from Pelosi’s office “during the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, one of her aides said on Friday.” Reuters adds Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) “said on Twitter that a laptop was taken from his office,” and Acting US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Thursday “said that some of the thefts might have potentially jeopardized what he described as ‘national security equities.’” According to Reuters, “The theft of electronic devices from congressional offices has been a persistent worry following the invasion by pro-Trump followers.”

NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reports, “At least three Democrats in Congress said that the pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol on Wednesday stole computers from their offices, raising cybersecurity concerns.” Speaker Pelosi “had a laptop stolen, as did Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., who tweeted about the theft. It wasn’t immediately clear what protections were on those devices, though Congress generally lags behind the federal government in implementing cybersecurity measures. Not all Senate
computers automatically encrypt their hard drives or require a password to log in if they’re unused for a few minutes. Emails were visible on a desktop computer left running at Pelosi’s office.

**Prosecutors Seek To Revoke Ball For Vets for Trump Co-Founder.** The Washington Post (1/9, Jackman, 10.52M) reports Joshua Macias, 42, a co-founder of Vets for Trump who was “free on bail after appearing outside a Philadelphia election center with a concealed handgun, was outside the Capitol during the siege by Trump supporters Wednesday and posted video of himself, leading Philadelphia prosecutors to request his bail be revoked.” The Post says Macias and Antonio LaMotta, 61, were arrested in Philadelphia on Nov. 5 near the Philadelphia Convention Center, where the presidential election vote was being counted,” because they were carrying firearms without permits.

**West Virginia Lawmaker Who Participated in Storming Capitol Resigns.** The New York Times (1/9, 20.6M) reports West Virginia state Del. Derrick Evans (R) “resigned on Saturday after participating in the storming of the United States Capitol.” The Times says the resignation, effective immediately, comes as he faces two federal charges: one for knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one for violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.” The Washington Post (1/9, Kornfield, 10.52M) reports Evans “chronicled the riot Wednesday on Facebook Live, capturing the moment the crowd cracked open the Capitol’s door and he crossed the threshold.”

**Pennsylvania Man Charged in Siege.** A number of local news outlets covered the arrests of those from their areas. For example, the Harrisburg (PA) Patriot-News (1/8, Benscoter, 557K) reports, “A Pennsylvania man who was charged by Capitol Police for taking part in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday also was charged with federal offenses. Officials at the U.S. Department of Justice announced Friday.” Terry Brown, of Myerstown, Pennsylvania, “was one of 13 people charged federally.” Brown “was charged with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.” FBI Director Wray said in a statement, “To be clear, what took place that day was not First Amendment-protected activity, but rather an affront on our democracy. The FBI, along with our local, state, and federal partners, is committed to ensuring that justice is served. We will continue to aggressively investigate each and every individual who chose to ignore the law and instead incite violence, destroy property, and injure others.”

**Man In “Camp Auschwitz” Sweatshirt Identified.** CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports, “A rioter who stormed the US Capitol Wednesday wearing a sweatshirt emblazoned with the phrase ‘Camp Auschwitz’ has been identified as Robert Keith Packer of Virginia, according to three sources. ... One Virginia resident, who spoke to CNN on the condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter, described Packer as a long-time extremist who has had run-ins with the law.”

**FBI Seeks Information On Capital Rioters.** The Hill (1/9, 6.69M) reports, “The FBI has put up what appears to be electronic posters in Washington, D.C., seeking information on anyone who participated in the Capitol breach on Wednesday.” The Hill adds, “Photos of bus stops shared by journalists on social media say ‘Seeking Information’ and include pictures of some of rioters inside the U.S. Capitol. The posters also share a phone number to contact the FBI’s Washington, D.C., office. ‘DC bus stops now feature signs posted by the FBI seeking information about participants in the Capitol insurrection,’ CNN reporter Jim Acosta tweeted along with a photo of a poster taken at night.”
**FBI: No Evidence Of Antifa Participation In Siege.** The AP (1/10, Biesecker, Kunzelman, Flacco, Mustian) reports, “The insurrectionist mob that showed up at the president’s behest and stormed the U.S. Capitol was overwhelmingly made up of longtime Trump supporters, including Republican Party officials, GOP political donors, far-right militants, white supremacists, and adherents of the QAnon myth that the government is secretly controlled by a cabal of Satan-worshiping pedophile cannibals.” The AP “reviewed social media posts, voter registrations, court files and other public records for more than 120 people either facing criminal charges related to the Jan. 6 unrest or who, going maskless amid the pandemic, were later identified through photographs and videos taken during the melee.” Steven D’Antuono, “the assistant director in charge of the FBI’s Washington field office, told reporters that investigators had seen ‘no indication’ antifa activists were disguised as Trump supporters in Wednesday’s riot.”

**NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reports, “Despite suggestions from conservative pundits and some Republican members of Congress, there is no evidence that anti-fascist activists were involved in the pro-Trump Capitol riots,” D’Antuono said on a call with reporters Friday. “We have no indication of that, at this time,’ D’Antuono said when asked whether antifa activists had disguised themselves as Trump supporters in an effort to frame them for the violent riots in which five people died, including Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick.”**

**The Washington Post (1/9, Userso, 10.52M) reports, “To date, no evidence supports the claim that individuals with antifa connections formed part of the riots that took place on Capitol grounds. The FBI has said it does not believe antifa or any of its associates are responsible for the violence unleashed. Wednesday’s events were widely documented, via videos, tweets and live-streams from reporters already covering the day’s events. Video and photos confirm that many of the rioters were supporters, and individuals with right-wing and extremist beliefs. The usual antifa tactics such as wearing masks and face coverings to avoid detection were uncommon among rioters, making identification process an easier task.”**

**The Washington Times (1/8, Mordock, 626K) reports that the FBI’s announcement “debunks claims pushed forward by some right-wing pundits and politicians that the anarchist movement’s supporters were part of the angry mob that stormed the Capitol.” D’Antuono’s statement “supports comments made Thursday by Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Michael Sherwin. Mr. Sherwin said he also saw no evidence Antifa was involved in the riot.”**

**The New York Times (1/9, Alba, 20.8M) reports, “Since Wednesday, far-right activists and allies of the president have made the claim, often while presenting easily disproved evidence, that the rioters were made up of antifa supporters, not backers of President Trump. Among those pushing the falsehood were Representative Matt Gaetz, a Florida Republican, who said while objecting to the electoral votes for Mr. Biden that people in the mob were ‘in fact members of the violent terrorist group antifa.’ Ken Paxton, the attorney general of Texas, also said antifa was involved.” The Times adds, “In analysis by the media insights company Zignal Labs found that the unfounded rumor had been mentioned 411,099 times across cable television, social media, and in print and online news outlets on Wednesday and Thursday. It was by far the most widely shared false or misleading claim about the Capitol Hill mob, Zignal said.”**

**BuzzFeed News (1/8, Silverman) reports, “Speaking in the House Wednesday night after the attempted coup, Gaetz cited a Washington Times article that claimed a facial recognition company had identified two antifa members among the crowd at the Capitol. That story was removed by the outlet after BuzzFeed News reported that the facial recognition company said it was ‘outright false.’ The paper later published a corrected version that acknowledged the firm had identified ‘neo-Nazis and other extremists’ not antifa members.”**

**Some Extremist Groups Pleased By Chaotic Siege.**Reuters (1/8, Hesson, Parker, Cooke, Harte) reports, “As the nation recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, some right-wing and anti-government groups were cheering the scenes of destruction and lawlessness.”

**FBI (21cv558)-2639**
extremists saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda. Among the inspired was Mike Dunn, a 20-year-old follower of the 'boogaloo' anti-government movement, whose adherents anticipate a revolution toppling the federal government or a second U.S. civil war. Dunn, who lives in Virginia, said three or four groups of loyalists under his command helped storm the Capitol this week amid a motley mix of rioters who supported President Donald Trump's attempts to overturn the results of the November presidential election. While most 'boogaloo' are libertarians who largely oppose Trump, Dunn said the group embraced the moment to strike against the government.

The Washington Times (1/8, Blake, 8:20K) says Proud Boys Chairman Henry "Enrique" Tarrio on Thursday promised to raise money and secure legal representation for "supporters of...Trump facing charges for storming the Capitol building during the deadly insurrection the day before." In addition, Reuters (1/8, Hasson, Parker, Cooke, Harte) reports Tarrio "would not broadly denounce people who entered the Capitol building during riots a day earlier, calling it 'a form of protest.'" Reuters says that even as "most Americans recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol," some right-wing and anti-government extremists "saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda."

On NBC's Today (1/8, 2:86M), Gabe Gutierrez said, "Wednesday's storming of the Capitol by Trump supporters included many followers of conspiracy theory groups like QAnon. Now there are growing concerns about the President's connections to these groups and their plans to continue inciting chaos in the wake of his election defeat." According to Gutierrez, "QAnon is a far-right extremist group that among other outlandish things believed Democrats are running a satanic pedophile ring out of a D.C. pizza parlor."

"Internet Sleuths" Identifying "Pro-Trump Rioters." The Washington Post (1/8, Peiser, 10:52M) reports that since "pro-Trump rioters" stormed the Capitol on Wednesday without masks, "Internet sleuths" have "had a unique opportunity to easily identify them. And many made it even easier — they live-streamed their participation and later bragged about their escapades." According to the Post, an "untold" number of Twitter users and Instagram accounts are "ferociously working...to ID and name the participants who stormed down the halls of the Capitol, ransacking lawmakers' offices and occupying the House Chamber."

The Washington Post (1/8, Timberg, Harwell, Hsu, 10:52M) also reports federal officials "looking to prosecute the mob of Trump supporters who overran the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday stand to get powerful help from cellphone records, facial recognition tools and other technologies to assist in the identification of anyone who was there that day." The Post highlights that the Capitol "has a vast cellular and wireless data infrastructure of its own to make communications efficient in a building made largely of stone and that extends deep underground and has pockets of shielded areas," and as such "phone records make determining the owners of these devices trivially easy."

The Washington Post (1/10, Klemko, 10:52M) reports, "Before a mob of Trump supporters staged a riot in the U.S. Capitol and thousands of Americans became amateur detectives working to identify the culprits, a loosely connected group of seasoned online sleuths were ringing alarm bells and picking off extremists online, one by one... The Post adds, "For a nationwide network of left-wing activists who seek out and publish the identities of those they believe to be violent 'fascists,' some investigations can take months, years even. Or it can take 10 minutes," and "that's how much time Molly Conner spent on her laptop last month searching for the man who used the right-wing social media site Parler to share that he was a police officer and pledge support to a member of the Proud Boys extremist group, advocating violence against Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.... Turns out the man was a Prince William County sheriff's deputy."

More Coverage. The Washington Post (1/10, 10:52M) runs a feature titled "The Capitol Mob: A Raging Collection Of Grievances And Disillusionment" about some of those involved in the riot and their motivations.

FBI Offers $50K Reward For Information On DC Pipe Bombs. Reuters (1/8) reported, "The FBI is offering a reward of up to $50,000 for information on the individuals responsible for placing pipe bombs in the committee headquarters of the key U.S. political parties in the capitol, the agency said." CBS News (1/8, Siese, 5:39M) reports the FBI "released photos via social media of what appears to be someone in a gray hooded jacket, black gloves, and black pants, clutching an object in one hand." McClatchy (1/8, Kenney, 29K) reports, "Authorities didn't say how the person in the photo is connected to the pipe bomb incidents."

Also reporting are CNN (1/8, Walton, 89.21M) and the Daily Caller (1/8, Nisto, 375K).

Pipe Bombs At RNC, DNC Headquarters Had Timers, Official Says. The New York Times (1/8, Ismay, 20:6M) reports the pipe bombs "found on Wednesday afternoon outside the Democratic and Republican party headquarters, blocks from the Capitol, contained crude mechanical timing devices, according to an official familiar with their initial examination, suggesting they were intended to be detonated." However, the Times adds it "was not clear when they were meant to explode, but thousands of people were in the area that afternoon as a mob encouraged by...Trump stormed the Capitol, where lawmakers had convened to certify...Joseph R. Biden Jr.'s election, leaving five people dead. It was also not clear whether the bombs were connected to the siege."
The Washington Examiner (1/8, Giaritelli, 888K) reported, “The bombs were each about 12 inches long by an inch and a half wide.” The devices were “made with a battery, steel wool, and an unknown explosive powder. One of them was found with a cellphone that may have been meant to detonate it.”

Schumer Urges FBI To Be Vigilant Of Further Threats Of Violence. Newsday (NY) (1/10, Coburn, Hernandez, 776K) reports, “Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) on Sunday expressed concern more political violence could follow the mob attack Wednesday on the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., by supporters of President Donald Trump.” Schumer said he pressed FBI Director Wray in a conversation Saturday to track down those involved in Wednesday’s siege on Congress, in which five people died, and to be on the alert for further violence. “The threat of violent extremist groups remains high and the next few weeks are critical in our democratic process,” Schumer said in a statement, noting President-elect Joe Biden will be inaugurated Jan. 20. “Given that the same incendiary, dangerous rhetoric online that occurred before January 6, which proved to be a warning of the insurrectionist attack, has only escalated since, I impressed upon Director Wray the villainy of the FBI to work with other federal and state agencies to remain highly proactive and extremely vigilant to defend our democracy.” Reuters (1/10, Staff) reports, “in a statement, Schumer said he had spoken on Saturday with FBI Director Christopher Wray to urge him to ‘relentlessly pursue’ the attackers.”

Trump Supporters Reportedly Planning More Unrest For Jan. 16-20. The Washington Post (1/9, Timberg, Harwell, Lang, 10.52M) reports the planning for Wednesday’s assault on the U.S. Capitol happened largely in plain view, with chatters in far-right forums explicitly discussing how to storm the building, handcuff lawmakers with zip ties and disrupt the certification of Joe Biden’s election — in what they portrayed as responding to orders from President Trump — and Twitter on Friday “said it was particularly concerned about contributing to a possible ‘secondary attack’ on the U.S. Capitol and state government facilities the weekend of Jan. 16-17.” According to the Post, “Concerns about more violent incidents appear to be well-founded.” The Post adds demonstrations “are scheduled to culminate with what organizers have dubbed a ‘Million Militia March’ on Jan. 20 as Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala D. Harris are to be sworn in on the same Capitol grounds that rioters overrun on Wednesday.”

In a more than 2,200-word front-page article, the Washington Post (1/9, A1, Miller, Jaffe, Nakhlawi, 10.52M) says “the temporary seizure of a global seat of power was, at its core, an outgrowth of delusional and destructive forces cultivated online and unleashed by the president.” In a nearly 3,100-word front-page article, the New York Times (1/8, A1, Barry, McIntire, Rosenberg, 20.6M) casts the unsuccessful “insurrection” as “the culmination of a sustained assault by the president and his enablers on fact-based reality, one that began long before the November election but took on a fevered urgency as the certainty of Mr. Trump’s defeat solidified.”

Experts Caution Rioters To Assume More Hostile Position On Police. The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports that in a “crowd where some carried flags bearing a thin blue line — a pro-police symbol that critics claim also stands for white supremacy and opposition to the Black Lives Matter movement — and shirts adorned with ‘Blue Lives Matter,’ a tide of anger and frustration rose as officers pushed them back” from the Capitol, and “nearly three hours after the building was breached, police cleared the grounds and used batons and chemical munitions to confront the mob.” The Post adds “some promised to return with..."
weapons, ready to fight if necessary,” while one man “repeatedly announced he would be back with his rifle for the inauguration of...Biden.” According to the Post, “Police experts worry this souring sentiment may lead to more violence in the months ahead.”

**Pelosi Says Trump’s Supporters Who Stormed Capitol Chose Their “Whiteness” Over Democracy.** The Hill (1/9, Williams, 5:59M) reports House Speaker Pelosi “said Saturday that the rioters who took part in the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday chose their ‘whiteness’ over democracy.” The Hill adds her remark “came after Pelosi acknowledged the number of people who died of COVID-19 on Wednesday and Thursday, both of which were records for single-day coronavirus deaths in the United States.”

However, Brent Staples, a member of the New York Times editorial board, writes at the New York Times (1/9, 20.5M) that US history “is rife with episodes of political violence far bloodier and more destructive than the one...Trump incited at the Capitol,” and remarks by public officials and commentators to “tell the country again and again that the carnage was an aberration and ‘not who we are’ as a people,” are “dangerous on a variety of counts. For starters, it allowed many Americans to view the president’s insistence that he had won an election in which he was actually trounced, and his simultaneous embrace of right-wing extremism, as political theater that will pass uneventfully from the stage when...Biden is inaugurated.” He concludes, “The mob assault on the Capitol was an outgrowth of what came before.”

**FBI Probing Whether Some Rioters Intended Harm To Legislators.** The Washington Post (1/8, Barrett, Hsu, Zapolosky, 10.52M) reports, “FBI agents are trying to determine whether some who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday intended to do more than cause havoc and disrupt the certification of President-elect Joe Biden’s victory, and are sifting through evidence to see whether anyone wanted to kill or capture lawmakers or their staffers, according to people familiar with the investigation.” The Post adds that “investigators also are working to determine the motivations and larger goals, if any, of those who had weapons or other gear suggesting they planned to do physical harm. Some rioters, for instance, were photographed carrying zip ties, a plastic version of handcuffs, and one man was arrested allegedly carrying a pistol on the Capitol grounds. ‘We’re not looking at this as a grand conspiracy, but we are interested in learning what people would do with things like zip ties,’” said a law enforcement official, who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation.”

The New York Times (1/9, Levenson, 10.52M) reports, “A man who had an assault rifle was charged with threatening Nancy Pelosi, the House speaker, after he traveled to Washington for the pro-Trump rally on Wednesday and sent a text message saying he would put ‘a bullet in her noggin on Live TV;’ the federal authorities said.” The Times adds, “Federal agents said the man, Cleveland Grover Meredith Jr., had been staying at a Holiday Inn in Washington and had weapons in his camper-style trailer, including a Glock handgun, a pistol, a Tavor X95 assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition. Meredith was charged with transmitting a threat in interstate commerce, possession of an unregistered firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition, according to court records.”

NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 2, 2:25, Snow, 3.78M) reported that “at least two more allegedly involved in the attack on the Capitol were arrested” on Sunday. NBC’s Ron Allen said Larry Runde’s Brock of Texas and Eric Gavelek Munchel of Tennessee are “both charged with violently entering the Capitol and disorderly conduct.”

The Washington Post (1/10, Hsu, 10.52M) reports that Brock, “a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, was arrested in Texas and charged with one count of knowingly entering a restricted building and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct, prosecutors said. Brock identified himself to the New Yorker last week as the man photographed in the well of the Senate chamber wearing a green combat helmet, tactical vest, and black and camo jacket. The photo shows the man holding a white flex cuff, used by police to restrain subjects, prosecutors said.”

USA Today (1/10, Connolly, Macaraeg, Stephenson, Dorman, Wegner, 12.7M) reports, “Munchel, 30, was being held in a Nashville jail Sunday on a federal warrant, online records show. An FBI spokesperson, Samantha Shero, confirmed the arrest. The federal prosecutor’s office in Washington is handling the case. ‘Photos depicting his presence show a person who appears to be Munchel carrying plastic restraints, an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day,’ the office said in a news release.”

The New York Times (1/10, Goldman, Benner, 20.6M) reports the Justice Department “said that photographs of a person who appeared to be Mr. Munchel showed him ‘carrying plastic restraints, an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day.’ DOJ said images of a person who appeared to be Brock showed him ‘dressed in a green helmet, green tactical vest with patches, black and camo jacket, and beige pants holding a white flex cuff, which is used by law enforcement to restrain and/or detain subjects.’” The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports Brock, “a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, confirmed to The New Yorker magazine that he was involved in Wednesday’s breach of the Capitol.” The CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 2, 1:45, Duncan, 13.72M) also covers the arrests.

HuffPost (1/10, 363K) reports, “Officials also arrested” Brock, “who lives in Texas, saying he appeared to be holding a white flex cuff, which is used by law enforcement to restrain and/or detain subjects.” The FBI “also said the photos of him...
appeared to show "an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day." Both men are charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds."

ABC News (1/8, Wee, 2.44M) reports, "Federal agents and detectives from the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department have launched a broad and multipart investigation into the mayhem and death Wednesday at the United States Capitol, that sources tell ABC News includes an effort to determine the motives of a paramilitary faction of the mob that invaded the heart of American government. 'We're talking about a very complex investigation,' said Robert Boyce, a 35-year veteran and former chief of detectives of the New York Police Department. That effort involves scanning volumes of social media posts, reviewing hours of security camera footage, and combing through mountains of cellphone data to determine exactly what occurred, investigators told ABC News."

Daily Beast: Lengthy Process To Determine if Booby Traps Were Left Behind. The Daily Beast (1/8, Shannon, 933K) reports that "there are innumerable potential hiding places" in the Capitol "for lethal devices that can be activated later, by a remote trigger such as a cell phone, or by a vibration-sensitive device like the one that sets off a car alarm when a vehicle rummages by or honks. Or somebody could have stuck a handgun inside a vase or hollow lamp or behind a toilet, à la Michael Corleone's first hit. Intending to return later as a tourist, reclaim the gun and assassinate some lawmaker. To clear a 15-by-15 foot office, would take four bomb techs all day,' Dave Williams, a former FBI bomb tech who investigated the Oklahoma City bombing, the World Trade Center bombing and other attacks, told SpyTalk. "They'd have to look under carpets, at all the fire alarms, light switches, lamps, even light bulbs. A light bulb can be modified so when you turn it on, it explodes. If you have a five-drawer file cabinet, each drawer should be opened remotely."

FBI Warned Capitol Police Of Possibility Of Violence Before Riot. NBC News (1/10, Dianian, 4.91M) reports, "The FBI and the New York City Police Department passed information to U.S. Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during the protests Wednesday against the counting of the Electoral College vote, and the FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington, senior law enforcement officials said." NBC News adds, "The previously unreported details undercut the assertion by a top FBI official that officials had no indication that violence was a possibility, and they add to questions about what intelligence authorities had reviewed before the Capitol riot, which led to the death of an officer and four other people, including a rioter who was shot and killed by police. 'Social media is just part of a full intelligence picture, and while there was First Amendment-protected activity on social media to include some people making threats, to this point, investigators have not found that there was an organized plot to access the Capitol,' a senior FBI official said."

The AP (1/10, Long, Balsamo, Mascaro) reports, "Despite ample warnings about pro-Trump demonstrations in Washington, U.S. Capitol Police did not bolster staffing on Wednesday and made no preparations for the possibility that the planned protests could escalate into massive violent riots, according to several people briefed on law enforcement’s response." According to the AP, "The revelations shed new light on why Capitol Police were so quickly overrun by rioters. The department had the same number of officers in place as on a routine day. While some of those officers were outfitted with equipment for a protest, they were not staffed or equipped for a riot. 'They were left naked,' Rep. Maxine Waters, D-California, said of the police in an interview with AP. She had raised security concerns in a Dec. 28 meeting of House Democrats and grilled Steven Sund, the Capitol Police chief, during an hourlong private call on New Year’s Eve. 'It turns out it was the worst kind of non-security anybody could ever imagine."

The Los Angeles Times (1/8, Zou, 3.37M) reports, "Officers at a U.S. Capitol perimeter fence tried to hold their line but failed as intruders overthrew the barrier. Officers at another gate, seemingly overwhelmed, appeared to walk off as the intruders passed by. Another lone officer tried to hold back an advancing group before fleeing through the halls of Congress. In many cases, the officers were in normal uniform. Nowhere were there the skirmish lines of officers in riot gear seen during other recent events, including Black Lives Matter protests." The Times adds, "The stunning collapse of national security left many of the nation’s leaders cowering behind benches and fearing for their lives," but "by Thursday, much of their shock had been supplanted by anger — with leading lawmakers demanding resignations from the Capitol’s top security officials and calling for broad investigations into the array of tactical failures under their watch."

The Wall Street Journal (1/8, Calvert, Youssef, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that uneven communications between local and federal agencies hindered a forceful response to the riot.

Pete Williams reported on NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 3, 1:10, Snow, 3.76M) that the New York Police Department "notified the US Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during last week's electoral vote count. Law enforcement officials say the NYPD's intelligence unit sent a packet of information to police agencies nationwide describing the violent rhetoric and the threats of social media, with a separate report sent directly to Capitol Police. And a senior FBI official says agents contacted
more than a dozen suspected extremists. These are people who were already under FBI surveillance, and who indicated a
desire to come to Washington last week. These disclosures do add to the questions about why the Capitol Police were not
better prepared when the rioters stormed in, and why there wasn't a greater sense of urgency throughout the federal government
about the possibility that the Capitol was a target.” The Washington Post (1/10, Tan, 10.52M) reports “embattled” Capitol Police
Chief Steven Sund “stepped down from his post on Friday, days earlier than he said he would.” On Thursday, Sund said his
resignation would be effective January 16.

USA Today (1/10, Bohan, Fritze, Brook, 12.7M) reports Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) “said Sunday it took nearly two
hours for the Pentagon to give authorization for his state to send its National Guard into Washington to help protect the U.S.
Capitol as it came under attack.” Hogan said on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), “Our Guard mobilized and was ready,
but we couldn’t actually cross over the border into DC without the okay. And that was quite some time. ... I can’t speak as to what
was going on the other end of the line back at the Pentagon or in the White House. ... All I know is that we were trying to get
answers and we weren’t getting answers.”

Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) on MSNBC’s Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, “One thing that I think is particularly striking is the
low number of arrests. Here you have videos of folks engaged in criminal behavior, and the number of arrests is very small.
That’s unacceptable.” Peters added, “We have to send a strong signal to those folks who were engaged in this action, that they
will be sought out, they will be punished, and anyone else who tries to do this in the future is going to certainly face a very
different result than what we saw this last week.”

Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) on MSNBC’s Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, “Had it not been for the gunshot of the one shot
fired by that plainclothes officer in the Speaker’s Lobby right behind the House gallery, right there. If those people had been able
to get through, they would have had us were in the gallery up on the third floor trapped...and I have no doubt some of us
who look like me would have been hanging from the railings of the third floor onto the House floor swinging like fruit.”

Lawmakers Investigating Police Preparation Ahead Of Capitol Occupation. Reuters (1/8, Cornell, So, Berens, Janutta, Tanfani) reports that following “the historic security breach of the iconic domed building that houses the U.S. House and Senate, lawmakers told harrowing tales of their escapes from grave danger in the deadly mob assault that many say was incited by Trump,” and “several told Reuters that top Capitol security officials had assured them they would be safe ahead of the
planned protests and that everything was under control.” In interviews with Reuters “and in public statements, lawmakers fumed
over the failure of the Capitol Police – a 2,000-member force dedicated to guarding the Capitol Grounds – and other agencies.”
The Hill (1/8, Marcos, 5.69M) reports Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), the chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that
oversees Capitol Police funding, “said Friday he’s asked the police chief to provide all communications during the pro-Trump riots
that unfolded this week and will investigate whether any officers assisted rioters.”

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, A1, Holder, Flatow, 3.57M) interviewed several current and former police leaders about “the
logistics of how preparation for a major rally or protest typically works – and why Wednesday’s preparation was such a dismaying
counter to typical practice.” In a nearly 2,000-word article, Politico (1/8, 6.73M) says “the successful storming of the U.S. Capitol
by pro-Trump rioters...represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history.” According to Politico, “Minute by
minute, individual officers sometimes acted bravely, but hour by hour, Wednesday’s events demonstrated a top-to-bottom failure
by a key federal law-enforcement agency. The crisis can’t even be called a failure of imagination, as 9/11 is sometimes seen,
because in many ways the idea that the pro-Trump mob might march on the Capitol to disrupt the proceedings inside seemed all
but obvious. Nor was this an incident that just slipped under the radar: The joint session inside was the single biggest news event
in the United States that day, and the rioters had been planning disruptive protest for weeks, in the open.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) says in an editorial, “Top law enforcement officials and key members of Congress
have said plainly what Americans could see – that the events Wednesday were enabled by a failure of law enforcement and a
collapse of security.” The Post adds, “To prevent another such failure, an inauguration Day and subsequently, there must be a
robust investigation of the causes for evident shortcomings in leadership, planning, intelligence, coordination and tactics.” The
Post calls for the implementation of long-term security measures, concluding the Capitol building “must remain the people’s
house – but one that is secure from insurrection.”

McCarthy Says National Guard Could Be Permitted To Carry Guns In DC Ahead Of Inauguration. Army Secretary
Ryan McCarthy on Friday told the AP (1/8, Baldor) that Defense Department officials “are reviewing restrictions on the use of
force by National Guard members and could allow troops to carry batons or guns in Washington, D.C., as they brace for more
protests and possible violence around the Jan. 20 inaugural.” In particular, McCarthy “told The AP...that any changes will be
determined by the intelligence gathered in the coming days about potential threats. But he said they are looking at allowing
troops to carry their M-4 rifles or 9 mm Berettas, and he will know more in a day or two.”

Pentagon Officials: Quick-Reaction Force Was Not Deployed When Capitol Was Stormed Due To Lack Of
Planning. The Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) reports, “A small quick-reaction force assembled by the Defense Department to
assist if needed during protests in Washington on Wednesday did not immediately respond when a pro-Trump mob stormed the Capitol because of a lack of a prior planning with Capitol Police over how it might be deployed, Pentagon officials said. A timeline of events that the Pentagon released Friday night indicates that the force was at “Joint Base Andrews in Maryland and authorized for use by acting defense secretary Christopher C. Miller if additional support is requested by civil authorities.” The Post adds, “But a senior defense official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said the Defense Department and Capitol Police hadn’t reached an agreement or settled on a concept of operation ahead of time.”

Meanwhile, a nearly 3,700-word front-page Washington Post (1/8, A1, Demirjian, Leonnig, Kane, Davis, 10.52M) article chronicles how Capitol police “lost control” of the situation even though Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund had previously “assured members of Congress that his force of 2,000 officers could handle the large expected crowds, according to multiple people who spoke with Sund in the days leading up to the siege.”

However, the Los Angeles Times (1/8, 3.37M) reports the attack on the US Capitol “has spurred congressional leaders to demand a ‘robust’ inquiry into the ‘mind-boggling’ failure of national security,” but they don’t have to “look far for accountability. Congress itself is both client and overseer of the U.S. Capitol Police — a secretive agency whose procedures and actions have been kept under wraps for decades by lawmakers themselves.” Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs Executive Director Jonathan Smith said, “The Capitol Police is uniquely opaque, even among federal law enforcement.”

The Times adds that not much is known regarding “how the Capitol Police operate.” Congress has exempted the agency from the Freedom of Information Act, preventing the public from requesting records — unlike with other agencies, such as the FBI.

House Democrats Bring Up Possibility Capitol Rioters Received Internal Aid. Politico (1/8, Cheney, Ferris, Barron-Lopez, 6.73M) reports more House Democrats “say they’re concerned that tactical decisions by some Capitol Police officers worsened Wednesday’s riots and have raise the possibility that the pro-Trump mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol might have had inside help.” Videos have come to light showing a small number of officers pulling down barricades for the rioters and, in another instance, stopping for a photo with one of them. Politico adds, “Some of those incidents were raised on a 3.5-hour caucus call by House Democrats on Friday, demanding an investigation not only into the decisions by the Capitol Police leadership but by some rank-and-file officers caught on camera.” However, the legislators additionally brought up “general concerns that the rioters had some sort of outside help not necessarily attributable to the Capitol’s police corps.” Rep. Steve Horsford (D-SC) told his colleagues he thought the riots were ‘an inside job,’ according to two lawmakers on the call.

Statehouses Nationwide Heighten Security After US Capitol “Overrun.” According to the AP (1/8, Lieb), “The insurrection by supporters of...Trump at the U.S. Capitol this week has prompted governors and lawmakers in several states to heighten security at their own capital buildings as they gather amid a pandemic for legislative sessions and inaugural ceremonies.” The AP reports that state legislatures are concerned that if the U.S. Capitol — a shining symbol of democracy with a dedicated police force — can be overrun by a violent mob, could state capitols be next?

Armed Protestors Used Michigan State Capitol Siege Like A Dry Run For Wednesday Attack. The New York Times (1/9, Gray, 20.6M) says protestors with guns rushed Michigan’s State Capitol in April and “demonstrated entry into the House of Representatives’ chamber, chanting ‘Let Us In.’” Some of the protestors, “wearing camouflage fatigues with semiautomatic rifles slung over their shoulders, watched ominously from the gallery above the Senate chamber as the elected officials did their work.”

On Wednesday, as the US Capitol was breached, Michigan State Sen. Sylvia Saratana (D) said, “Michigan was the precursor for what happened.” A Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) article headlined “After Trial Runs At Statehouses Last Year, The Far-right’s Violent Tactics Erupted At The Capitol” provides similar coverage.

More Commentary. in a piece for MSNBC (1/9, 8.1M), Frank Figliuzzi, who was the assistant director for counterintelligence at the FBI, writes, “In the aftermath of the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 7, there will be resignations, hearings and inquiries at the Capitol Police department, the respective House and Senate sergeant-at-arms offices, and other law enforcement or military entities. The warning signs and intelligence were there — they were just ignored. But let’s be clear — what happened to our democracy that day was not an intelligence failure; it was a failure to act upon available intelligence.” Figliuzzi adds, “The lights are blinking red, and they will continue to signal our vulnerability for the final two weeks of this leaderless administration. Our adversaries are watching. Whether or not they act on the available intelligence depends on our capacity to see what they see: a soft target that needs to secure far more than the building on Capitol Hill.”

In a piece for USA Today (1/8, 12.7M), Tod Gitlin writes, “For months, supporters of President Donald Trump have mounted acts and threats of violent insurrection against federal and state governments. In September, FBI and Homeland Security officials warned a Senate committee of the “high lethality” of white supremacist groups.” Gitlin adds, “Insurrectionary activity has taken place nationwide. Congress must quickly convene an investigative commission to get answers to questions including...which officials in the FBI, Homeland Security, and other agencies were aware of violent preparations in the run-up to the congressional vote yesterday to count and affirm the states’ election results,” and “which white supremacist groups were under surveillance after the FBI and Homeland Security warned of ‘high lethality.’”
In a piece for *Politico* (1/8, 6.73M), Garrett M. Graff writes, “The successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters on Wednesday represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history, a catastrophic collapse that may well end up costing one Capitol Police officer his life and the entire security leadership of the Capitol their jobs.” Graff adds, “With both houses of Congress in a crucial joint session, the crowds that first approached the Capitol’s outer fence were no larger than the department deals with routinely. Yet within minutes, the outer fence lines had collapsed and officers were in full-blown retreat.” Graff adds, “Through the afternoon Wednesday and through Thursday, current and former major city police chiefs traded puzzled and worried calls, all amazed at the assault on – and stunningly easy fall of – one of the world’s supposedly most secure buildings.”

**US Officials Reportedly Open Murder Probe Into Death Of Capitol Police Officer.** The *AP* (1/8, Mascaro, Daily) reports Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick “has died from injuries suffered as President Donald Trump’s supporters stormed the Capitol.” The US Capitol Police “said in a statement that...Sicknick was injured ‘while physically engaging with protesters’ during the Wednesday riot,” making him “the fifth person to die because of the Capitol protest and violence.” Sicknick’s family released a statement reading: “Many details regarding Wednesday’s events and the direct causes of Brian’s injuries remain unknown, and our family asks the public and the press to respect our wishes in not making Brian’s passing a political issue.” On *CBS This Morning* (1/8, 2.37M), Jeff Pegues said Sicknick, was “a 12-year veteran who served in the first responders unit.”

*Reuters* (1/8, Singh, Heavey, Holland) reports a law enforcement official told CNN that federal prosecutors “are opening a murder investigation” into Sicknick’s death. On the *CBS Evening News* (1/8, story 4, 2:11, O’Donnell, 4:08M), Jeff Pegues said investigators are “still at the beginning of this investigation, but, obviously, they’re going to use cell phone data and video from inside the Capitol to try to get the person or persons...responsible.” On *ABC’s Good Morning America* (1/8, 3.14M), Pierre Thomas said police “want to know if he was assaulted and if that mob played a role in his death. Was it murder?”

The *New York Times* (1/8, Santora, Specia, 20.6M) reports that “it was unclear where Mr. Sicknick’s encounter with the rioters took place, but photos and a video posted by a local reporter during the night of chaos showed a man spraying a fire extinguisher outside the Senate chamber, with a small number of police officers overlooking the area on a nearby stairway.” *Reuters* (1/8, Lynch, Brice) has more on the investigation into Sicknick’s death.

A front-page *Washington Post* (1/8, A1, Hermann, Weiner, Heim, Jackman, 10.52M) article reports a White House spokesman “said Trump and his administration extend our prayers to Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick’s family as we all grieve the loss of this American hero,” while House Speaker Pelosi “ordered flags at the U.S. Capitol to be flown at half-staff,” and “Thursday night, officers lined up in front of the Capitol in silence to honor their fallen colleague.” On the lead *ABC World News Tonight* (1/8, lead story, 4:22, Muir, 6:95M) segment, Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl said Vice President Pence “offered his condolences, and the White House put out a statement from a deputy press secretary, but nothing from the President himself. Trump, more isolated than ever, remained behind closed doors at the White House today, amidst growing calls for him to resign.” Meanwhile, *Reuters* (1/8, Hummncutt) reports Joe Biden on Friday “expressed sympathy to the family of the U.S. Capitol Police officer killed in Wednesday’s invasion of Congress by pro-Trump supporters, and said those responsible would be held accountable.” Biden said, “The people responsible should be held accountable, and they will be.”

*Bloomberg* (1/8, Mutter, 3.57M) reports that aside from Sicknick and Babbitt, three others “died Wednesday when thousands of pro-Trump supporters forced their way into the U.S. Capitol in Washington, smashing windows and ransacking offices.” Meanwhile, a front-page *Washington Post* (1/9, A1, Jamison, Nationan, Woodrow Cox, Horton, 10.52M) article chronicles “Babbitt’s journey from capital ‘guardian’ to invader.”

**Officer Held Back Rioters For Nearly One Minute.** *Reuters* (1/10, Hale) reports Capitol Police officer Eugene Goodman “is being hailed for his role steering an angry mob away from the Senate chambers in Wednesday’s deadly storming” of the Capitol. Goodman can be seen in a video “getting rioters to move away from the Senate as police raced to secure the chamber.” The *New York Post* (1/10, Brown, 7.45M) reports analysis of the video “shows that he held them back for almost a minute – at the exact time as a half-dozen armed officers were inside the chamber desperately trying to secure it.”

**Officer Who Was On Duty Wednesday Dies In Apparent Suicide.** The *New York Daily News* (1/10, Sblendorio, 2.51M) reports Howard Liebengood, “a longtime officer with U.S. Capitol Police,” died Saturday while on duty “in what’s being described as an apparent suicide. Capitol Police did not reveal a cause of death for Liebengood in its announcement Sunday, but two sources said it was suicide, and “a colleague with Capitol Police also referred to Liebengood’s death as a suicide in a Facebook post Sunday.”

*CNN* (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that President Trump “ordered that the flag flying above the White House be lowered to half-staff on Sunday to honor US Capitol Police officers Brian Sicknick and [Liebengood], who were both on duty when a mob of Trump’s supporters stormed the US Capitol on Wednesday.”
Pro-Trump Police Unions “Angry” With President Over Call For Supporters To March On Capitol. In an exclusive, the Washington Times (1/6, Mordock, 526K) reports police unions nationwide “mobilized like never before to support Mr. Trump ahead of the presidential election,” but “police unions that once blasted Mr. Biden for his tepid denunciation of rioters, say they are angry that Mr. Trump urged his supporters to march to the Capitol.”

Police Departments Nationwide Investigating If Their Officers Stormed Capitol. The New York Times (1/6, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports police departments nationwide have “suspended officers or referred them to internal reviews for attending the events on Jan. 6 in Washington that devolved into an assault on the U.S. Capitol.” According to the Times, “The commanding officers or officials involved in the cases in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington State stressed that while the officers attended as private citizens, the question of whether they broke the law would be investigated.”

Reuters (1/10, Caspani) reports that “police departments in Virginia and Washington state have placed officers on leave as authorities examine whether they took part in unlawful acts while off-duty.” Reuters adds, “Fire departments in Florida and New York have also said they reported to federal authorities allegations that some of their members may have been present when the mob broke into the Capitol as Congress met to certify the results of the Nov. 3 presidential election. The police department in the small town of Rocky Mount, Virginia, said on Sunday it had placed two officers on administrative leave after it learned they attended an ‘event’ in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday while off-duty.”

The New York Post (1/9, Edelman, 7.45M) reports, “The FBI is investigating whether active or retired FDNY firefighters took part in the siege at the U.S Capitol, The Post has learned. The department issued a statement Saturday in response to questions about a photo posted to Twitter of a man wearing a jacket marked ‘FDNY Squad 252’ on the back, standing near the entrance to the Capitol and carrying an American flag. ‘The department received anonymous allegations that active or retired members were present at the events at the United States Capitol on January 6 and, as required, has provided that information to the FBI,’ the statement said.”

Experts: Foreign Intelligence Officials Likely Entered Capitol Building. Government Matters (DC) (1/10, Haddon) reports that former ODNI National Security Policy Analyst Katrina Mulligan “said the possibility that a bad actor could have gotten into the Capitol building” during its assault last week “is more than plausible and has almost certainly occurred.” Mulligan estimates there to be “over 100,000 foreign intelligence officials believed to be living in the Washington, D.C. area.” Mulligan said last week’s events are “exactly the kind of situation that a foreign intelligence official would be seeking to exploit for these sorts of purposes.” Former Deputy Assistant DHS Secretary for Counterterrorism Policy Tom Warrick said foreign adversaries “don’t have to go after the most classified secrets — they can go after cell phones, laptops, papers left on desks as people are evacuated.”

Three Sri Lankan Nationals Charged In Federal Court With Aiding 2019 Bombings. The Los Angeles Times (1/8, Ormseth, 3.37M) reports, “Three Sri Lankan nationals were charged Friday in federal court in Los Angeles with supporting an ISIS cell that killed hundreds of people in a string of coordinated suicide bombings that shocked Sri Lanka in 2019.” Mohamed Naufar, Mohamed Anwar Mohamed Riskan and Ahamed Milhan Hayathu Mohanned are “accused of conspiring to provide material support to ISIS.” Naufar and Milhan are “also charged with aiding and abetting the receipt of military training from ISIS.”

The AP (1/8) reports, “The men have no California connection but the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force that headed the investigation is based in Los Angeles, according to the U.S. attorney’s office. They were ‘being held in Sri Lanka and it wasn’t immediately clear whether they had attorneys who could speak for them,’ Nick Hanna, U.S. attorney for the Central District of California, said in a statement. ‘This case clearly demonstrates that the United States will take decisive action to ensure terrorists face justice when they target Americans anywhere in the world. This complaint makes clear that we stand ready with these charges in the event the defendants attempt to evade justice.”

Dominion Voting Systems Sues Ex-Trump Lawyer Sidney Powell For $1.3B. USA Today (1/6, Cummings, 12.7M) reports, “Dominion Voting Systems filed a defamation lawsuit against attorney Sidney Powell over claims relating to the 2020 election. Powell has ‘variously implicated Dominion, deceased Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez, the CIA and Chinese communists in a plot to rig the election against Trump.’ The lawsuit says, ‘Dominion was founded in Toronto for the purpose of creating a fully auditable paper-based vote system that would empower people with disabilities to vote independently on verifiable paper ballots.’ The company ‘says her claims are not rooted in any factual basis but instead rely on declarations from a motley crew of conspiracy theorists, con artists, armchair ‘experts,’ and anonymous sources who were judicially determined to be ‘wholly unreliable.’” The Wall Street Journal (1/6, Corse, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.
Trump Faces Calls To Pardon WikiLeaks' Assange. The New York Times (1/10, Vogel, 20.6M) reports WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's allies "have ramped up a push for a last-minute pardon from President Trump, enlisting a lobbyist with connections to the administration, trying to rally supporters across the political spectrum and filing a clemency petition with the White House." However, the Times says the initiative "comes at a delicate moment for Mr. Assange and during a period of tension between the United States and Britain over a case that his supporters say has substantial implications for press freedoms."

FBI Raids Homes, Offices Of Tennessee State Lawmakers. NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reported, "Federal authorities raided homes and offices of several Tennessee lawmakers on Friday, including the property of former state House Speaker Glen Casada, officials said." FBI agents searched properties with "addresses associated with Casada, fellow GOP state Reps. Robin Smith and Todd Warner and Casada's former chief of staff, Cade Cothren, said David Boling, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Nashville." Casada resigned from "his leadership role in summer 2019, after he admitted to sending a series of sexually inappropriate and racist text messages."

The AP (1/8, Kruesi, Mattise) reports U.S. Attorney's Office for Middle Tennessee spokesman David Boling "said FBI agents searched the homes and offices of state lawmakers" on Friday. The searches "included the homes of former GOP House Speaker Glen Casada and state Rep. Robin Smith," but Boling "declined to provide any further information regarding the nature of the searches and how many lawmakers were involved."

WSMV-TV Nashville, TN (1/8, Sulek, Wenzel, 230K) reports Tennessee House Speaker Cameron Sexton said in a statement, "I have been, and I will continue to be in full cooperation with the authorities as their investigation continues. On the advice of both Ethics and Legal Counsel, I am placing everyone that was subject to the execution of today's search warrants on administrative leave until further notice." CBS News (1/8, S.39M) reports Republican Governor Bill Lee "told reporters Friday that he had spoken to current House Speaker Cameron Sexton about the searches, describing them as "FBI raids.""

The Chattanooga Times Free Press (1/10, 168K) reports that Tennessee legislators believe that the raids focus "could be on the controversial 2019 passage of Gov. Bill Lee's school voucher bill." Critics "charged at the time that various promises to fund pet projects and take other actions were extended by GOP lawmakers to pass fellow Republican Lee's voucher bill."

WSMV-TV Nashville, TN (1/8, Finley, 230K) reports former Speaker of the House Glenn Casada has also "been embroiled in controversy over racist and sexist text messages as well as additional allegations of misconduct is stepping down as House Speaker."

Also reporting are Tennessean (1/10, 645K), Tennessean (1/10, 645K), Tennessean (1/8, 645K), and WSMV-TV Nashville, TN (1/8, Sulek, Wenzel, 230K).

SolarWinds Taps Krebs, Stamos To Look Into Company's Practices Following Hack. Bloomberg (1/8, Sebenius, 3.57M) reports SolarWinds "has tapped prominent security experts Chris Krebs and Alex Stamos to review its practices after suspected Russian hackers compromised the company's software and conducted a sprawling hack across the U.S. government and private sector." Krebs previously headed the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency "and was known for instilling confidence in the integrity of the 2020 elections until he was fired by President Donald Trump in November." Bloomberg adds that Stamos "served as chief security officer at Facebook until 2018 and is currently director of the Stanford Internet Observatory."

The Washington Times (1/8, Blake, 626K) reports that Stamos said, "We have already engaged in helping understand and recover from what looks to be one of the most serious foreign intrusion campaigns in history, and we will be helping others learn from this attack." Meanwhile, Krebs "worked as Microsoft's director for cybersecurity policy before joining CISA, a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as the agency's first director beginning in late 2018." The agency was "charge of securing the nation's election infrastructure when millions of Americans voted in the recent White House race decisively won by President-elect Joseph R. Biden."

Reporting similarly are Law360 (1/8, Subscription Publication, 9K) and TechCrunch (1/8, Whitaker, 502K).

DHS Advisory Explains How Attackers Hid In Plain Sight. CNN (1/8, Fung, 89.21M) reports that on Friday a DHS bulletin found the Russian-linked hackers behind the SolarWinds breach "gave themselves top administrative privileges, allowing them to spy on their targets with impunity." The DHS advisory "represents the agency's most detailed explanation yet of how the attackers were able to monitor high-value intelligence targets undetected for months," revealing "that investigators are increasingly focused on the attackers' use of Microsoft products to hide in plain sight." Experts and officials "have said for weeks that the attackers likely abused credentials and impersonated legitimate users to conduct their spying campaign. Now CISA "has confirmed that happened, describing step-by-step how the attackers hid their tracks."
Federal Cyber Group Announces SolarWinds Hack Affected Fewer Than 10 Agencies. The Washington Examiner (1/7, Gross, 888K) reports that the US Cyber Unified Coordination Group (UCG) "announced on Jan. 5 that it had identified fewer than 10 agencies affected by the [SolarWinds] cyberattack," though "investigators are still working to determine the scope of the damage." The group "did not list the affected agencies, but news reports have suggested the U.S. departments of Treasury, Commerce, State, Energy, and Homeland Security were victims of the attack." It "said the attack originated from an advanced attacker, likely Russian in origin." UCG includes agencies such as the FBI and CISA.

Federal Courts' Filing System Likely Breached By SolarWinds Hack. The Washington Examiner (1/8, Dunleavy, 888K) reports, "The online filing system used by the federal court system was likely breached in the SolarWinds hack, suspected to be orchestrated by Russia." The Administrative Office of the US Courts "revealed an apparent compromise of the confidentiality of its case management and electronic case files system 'due to these discovered vulnerabilities' and said this week that it was 'under investigation.'" The agency is working with DHS "on a 'security audit related to the cyberattacks that greatly risk compromising highly sensitive non-public documents ... particularly sealed filings' stored on the online system, adding that 'due to the nature of the attacks, the review of this matter and its impact is ongoing.'"

FBI Alert Warns Of Growing Egregor Ransomware Threat. Gov info Security (1/9, Ferguson) reports, "The FBI issued a private industry warning this week over the growing threat from the operators behind the Egregor ransomware variant and other cybercriminal gangs affiliated with the group." Since September, the group and its affiliates "claim to have compromised approximately 150 corporate networks both in the U.S. and other countries." They have demanded as much as $4 million, according to a Group-IB report. The group "operates in a service model, which includes the operators of the actual ransomware as well as affiliated cybercriminals that carry out their own attacks and receive a percentage of the ransom if the money is paid by the victim," according to the FBI. The FBI alert says, "Egregor ransomware utilizes multiple mechanisms to compromise business networks, including targeting business network and employee personal accounts that share access with business networks or devices."

Barrett: FBI Continues To Set The Standard For Government Transparency. In a piece for the Washington Post (1/7, Barrett, 10.52M), Devin Barrett argues that while recent books authored by former FBI officials "have tended to be about hard men in dark suits, whispering worriedly about Russians, President Trump and existential threats to democracy," the FBI "still sets a gold standard for excellence and ethics that should be followed more widely." Barrett examines Frank Figliuzzi's new book, "The FBI Way: inside the Bureau's Code of Excellence," which "is in the spirit of earlier tomes that combine federal-agent tradecraft with a dash of self-improvement advice."

Democrats Move Toward Second Trump Impeachment. Tom Llamas said in the lead story on ABC World News Tonight (1/10, lead story, 4:30, 4.79M) that in "fallout from the deadly siege on the Capitol," House Democrats are "on the path to impeach President Trump for a second time though he has just 10 days left in office. Democrats say he must be held accountable for his words. The charge: incitement of insurrection. ... As Congress heads towards impeachment, a growing number of Republicans are calling for the President to resign." ABC's Rachel Scott reported House Speaker Pelosi is "telling her party to get ready to come back to Washington, the single [impeachment] article charging Trump with incitement of insurrection. He predicted the day would be wild,' pressuring his loyal Vice President to undo the will of the people." Trump: "Mike Pence is going to have to come through for us." Scott: "But when he didn't, rioters were later heard chanting, 'Hang Mike Pence.'" With his inner circle now shrinking, the President is hunkered down inside the White House, trying to assemble a defense team...as a growing number of Republicans and former allies condemn him." Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R): "What we had was an incitement to riot at the United States Capitol." ABC's George Stephanopoulos: "So you think it was an impeachable offense?" Christie: "Oh, sure. Yeah. I think if inciting to insurrection isn't then I don't know what is."

Jewicka Duncan said in opening the CBS Weekend News (1/10, lead story, 3:05, 13.72M), "Tonight, President Trump faces a hard reckoning with history. In the wake of the assault on the US Capitol that he incited, Mr. Trump faces a second impeachment, perhaps even criminal charges," CBS' Nicola Killion: "As he enters his final full week in office, President Trump will try to shore up his legacy. Senior advisors tell CBS News he is expected to deliver remarks Monday and make a trip to the border Tuesday. But calls for the President to resign now are growing from within his own party." Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA): "The best way for our country to heal is for the President to resign and go away, as soon as possible." Kate Snow opened NBC Nightly News (1/10, lead story, 3:10, 3.76M) with the "growing calls for the President of the United States to either resign or be impeached by Congress - and not just from Democrats, but some Republicans now calling on him to step aside. The President [is] not even speaking to his own Vice President at this point. We're also seeing new video tonight of just what happened on Wednesday at the Capitol. And we're learning security warnings ahead of that day were ignored."
Kelly O'Donnell: “With Joe Biden soon to take office, senior Democrats suggest Speaker Pelosi could complete House impeachment but delay sending the article to the Senate for trial, giving the new Administration breathing room.” House Majority Whip Clyburn: “One hundred days he needs to get his agenda off and running, and maybe we’ll send the articles some time after that.” Clyburn said on Fox News Sunday (1/10, 1.08M). “The Senate determines guilt or innocence and that has to do with the Senate schedule. Now, the House has to do its business. We call ourselves the people’s house, the vast majority of the American people. I saw the poll results this morning—say this man should be removed from office.”

Toomey, on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), said, “I think the President did commit impeachable offenses. There is little doubt in my mind about that. I don’t know as a practical matter it is actually possible to do an impeachment in the handful of days that are left. I am also not at all clear that it is constitutionally permissible to impeach someone after they have left office. So there may not be a viable impeachment route at this point. But certainly, he could resign and that would be a very good outcome.” On NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), Toomey said, “The President has disqualified himself. I don’t think he’s a viable candidate for office ever again because of the outrageous behavior in the post election period.” The Philadelphia Inquirer (1/10, Madej) reports Toomey “remarked that he doesn’t think the ‘unbelievable behavior of Wednesday...could’ve been reasonably expected,’ and that Trump’s actions are ‘wildly different from the offensive tweets that were common during his presidency.’”

Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.23M), said, “There is no doubt about it. He should be impeached. But you have to be practical about what we are doing. We have two paths to go. We are ready to install a new government. If I was Joe Biden, I’d want to put my government together and put confidence back into the American people that we can govern ourselves and be the beacon of light for the whole country and the whole world.”

Rep. Hank Johnson (D-NY), on NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), said, “The assault on the capitol was a violent insurrection that was incited and encouraged by Donald Trump. It was an attack on the Congress, an attack on the country, and an attack on the Constitution. That’s why House Democrats are united in demanding and seeking his immediate removal.” On CNN’s Inside Politics (1/10, 812K). Rep. Mondaire Jones (D-NY) said, “This President must be impeached and removed, and anything less than that is an abdication of Congress' constitutional responsibility to be a check on the executive branch and to protect the American people from a very dangerous, unhinged, lawless chief executive.” Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), on ABC’s This Week (1/10, 2.99M), said, “Our main priority is to ensure the removal of Donald Trump as President of the United States. Every minute and every hour he’s in office represents a clear and present danger, not just to the United States Congress, but frankly to the country.”

However, some Republicans expressed skepticism. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO), on CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), said, “To remove him from office clearly is not going to happen between now and the last day he’s in office.” Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), on Fox News Sunday Morning Futures (1/10), said, “It’s unfortunate that instead of unifying us right now, Biden, the Democrats, have chosen to use this to talk about ridiculous things about impeaching a President who isn’t going to be in office in about nine days.” Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), on Fox News Sunday Morning Futures (1/10, 1.39M), said, “The Democrats are going to try to remove the President from office just seven days before he is set to leave anyway. I do not see how that unifies the country.”

The AP (1/10, Supervile, Fram, Jalonick) reports Pelosi said Sunday that the House will proceed with impeachment “as she pushes the vice president and Cabinet to invoke constitutional authority to force him out, warning that Trump is a threat to democracy after the deadly assault on the Capitol.” CBS’ 60 Minutes (1/10, 9.8M) showed Pelosi saying, “I like the 25th Amendment because it gets rid of him. He’s out of office. But there is strong suit in the Congress for impeaching the President a second time. This President is guilty of inciting insurrection.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Restuccia, Kendall, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Vice President Pence “isn’t expected to move forward with a 25th Amendment process, people familiar with his thinking said.”

The New York Times (1/10, Levin, 20.6M) reports, “Momentum for impeaching [Trump] a second time was growing rapidly over the weekend among rank-and-file Democrats and some Republicans, setting the stage for a final showdown that will test the boundaries of politics, accountability and the Constitution.” In addition to Toomey, Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) has expressed openness to impeachment and Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has called on Trump to resign.

USA Today (1/10, Fritz, 12.7M) reports Trump “begins one of the most perilous weeks of his presidency Monday as momentum for a second impeachment soared over the weekend and a growing number of Republicans broke ranks to openly call for his removal.” Trump “has only days remaining in his term—a point supporters noted—but the debate over how Congress should respond is focused largely on his legacy and his ability to control the GOP” after leaving office.
The Washington Post (1/10, 10.52M) reports, "Tensions are breaking out among Democrats over how aggressively to push" for impeachment, "aware that many voters hope Congress will prevent Trump from provoking further violence, but also want[ing] Biden to be free to take immediate action on the coronavirus pandemic and a faltering economy. Some Democrats said privately that they are wary of impeachment but unsure how to slow its momentum given the intensifying passions against Trump."

Fox News (1/10, Blitzer, 23.99M) reports on its website that Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) said Sunday that the article of impeachment has 196 cosponsors. The Los Angeles Times (1/10, 3.57M) says being impeached twice would make Trump "the first U.S. president to hold that unwelcome distinction." Reuters (1/10, Cornwell, Chiacu, Psaledakis), Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M), Politico (1/10, McCaskill, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/10, 5.89M) also cover the moves toward impeachment.

Polls Show Majority Support For Trump's Removal Or Early Exit. CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that the potential second impeachment "starts out more popular than any other removal process of a president in recent American history. Removing Trump from office remains quite unpopular among Republicans, however. A look across polls conducted since riots at the Capitol on Wednesday shows that a clear plurality of Americans overall want Trump out of office... An average across polls since Wednesday (in which no pollster is counted more than once) shows that 50% of Americans want Trump to either be impeached, for the 25th Amendment to be invoked or for Trump to resign from office."

The Hill (1/10, Mastio, 3.69M) reports that an ABC News/ipsos poll of 570 adults (1/8-1/9) found that 57% want Trump removed from office, with 67% saying Trump "deserves a 'good amount of the blame for the riots in Washington, D.C. last week.'"

Trump Plans "Defiant" Final Week. The AP (1/10, Cobin) reports Trump "enters the last days of his presidency isolated and shunned by former allies and members of his own party as he faces a second impeachment and growing calls for his resignation." But Trump, "cut off from the social media channels that have been the lifeline of his presidency," will "nonetheless try to go on offense in his last 10 days, with no plans of resigning." Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Trump "and a dwindling circle of advisors plan a defiant final week in office, according to people familiar with the matter." The President is "preparing at least one more round of pardons, and will try a final time to advance his administration's effort to bring Big Tech to heel, the people said, though it isn't clear what he may do."

The New York Times (1/10, Haberman, 20.6M) writes that "even without Twitter, and even under a new threat of impeachment, Mr. Trump remains until Jan. 20 the most powerful man in the world, with access to the White House briefing room, the East Room and the Oval Office to communicate his thoughts. He has a press office devoted to issuing his statements and a cadre of reporters assigned to cover what he says and does." Still, the Washington Post (1/10, Rucker, 10.52M) writes, Trump "is now destined to slink out of the White House considerably diminished from the strapping, fearsome force he and his advisers imagined he would be in his post-presidency."

The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports, "Eight days before reluctantly leaving office, [Trump] will visit the border in south Texas on Tuesday to tout partial construction of the massive wall he promised to deliver — far more than critics wanted, far less than he wanted, and none if funded by Mexico." Meanwhile, Reuters (1/10, Mason) reports, "his White House is in 'meltdown' as it lurches through his final days, current and former officials said," and many White House staffers "are upset and embarrassed by the turn of events, and are eager to move on."

CBS' Schieffer: Trump's "Reign Mirrored His Own Chaotic Life." Bob Schieffer said on the CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 11, 1:50, Duncan, 13.72M), "It is ending as it began: in chaos, controversy, and confusion. ... His reign mirrored his own chaotic life. He lurched from one crisis to another, from financial windfalls to bankruptcies, from tabloid scandals to audacious lies. He introduced us to a bizarre cast of characters, from porn stars to the crackpots and clowns who inhabit the dark fringes of American politics. ... As we saw in those awful scenes unfolding in the Capitol, we came to understand that the man who had a manic desire for power had no real understanding of the power he possessed or what happens when it is misused. He will be gone soon. But he showed us America was not broken. He was."

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Used Violent Imagery In Speech To Followers Before Capitol Violence. The New York Times (1/10, Savage, 20.6M) reports, "The speech that President Trump delivered to his supporters just before they attacked the Capitol last week is a central focus as House Democrats prepare an article of impeachment against him for inciting the deadly riot." In the speech, the Times says, Trump "repeated many of his falsehoods about how the election was stolen, then dispatched the marchers to the Capitol." The Times also says it was "riddled with violent imagery and calls to fight harder than before," while "he made only a passing suggestion that the protest should be nonviolent."
WASHINGTON — The FBI and the New York City Police Department passed information to U.S. Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during the protests Wednesday against the counting of the Electoral College vote, and the FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington, senior law enforcement officials said.

The previously unreported details undercut the assertion by a top FBI official that officials had no indication that violence was a possibility, and they add to questions about what intelligence authorities had reviewed before the Capitol riot, which led to the death of an officer and four other people, including a rioter who was shot and killed by police.

"Social media is just part of a full intelligence picture, and while there was First Amendment-protected activity on social media to include some people making threats, to this point, investigators have not found that there was an organized plot to access the Capitol," a senior FBI official said.
It was immediately obvious after the Capitol was seized by a violent mob Wednesday that Capitol Police, whose job is to defend the facility and the lawmakers who work there, had completely misjudged the security threat. The chief of the force was quickly forced out of his job, as were other key legislative security officials.

As evidence mounts that some extremists had told the world what they had in mind through social media, questions are emerging about whether the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security and other federal agencies took the postings seriously enough — and why, if they did, they didn’t step in until well after the building was under attack.

Asked Friday whether the slow police response Wednesday was the result of an intelligence failure, the official who leads the FBI’s Washington field office, Steven D’Antuono, said no. "There was no indication that there was anything [planned] other than First Amendment-protected activity," he said.

D.C. Police Chief Robert Contee said something similar Thursday, telling reporters, "There was no intelligence that suggested there would be a breach of the U.S. Capitol."

Ken Rapuano, the assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense, told reporters that the Justice Department and other law enforcement officials told the Defense Department repeatedly that they had no indications that there would be "significant violent protests."

But there were ample indications of potential violence.

NBC News has reported that a digital flyer made public on Instagram and Facebook last month referred to what would happen as "Operation Occupy the Capitol."

On the fringe message board 8kun, which is popular with QAnon followers, users talked for weeks about a siege of the Capitol.
"You can go to Washington on Jan 6 and help storm the Capitol," an 8kun user said Tuesday, a day before the siege. "As many Patriots as can be. We will storm the government buildings, kill cops, kill security guards, kill federal employees and agents, and demand a recount."

Daniel J. Jones, president of Advance Democracy Inc., a global research organization that studies disinformation and extremism, told NBC News in a story published the day before the riot: "In regard to the protests planned for Jan. 6, the violent rhetoric we're seeing online is at a new level. There are endorsements of violence across all of the platforms."

How could the FBI and other agencies have missed all that? It turns out they didn't, officials said.

"Prior to this event, the FBI obtained credible and actionable information about individuals who were planning on traveling to the protests who expressed a desire to engage in violence," the senior FBI official said. "The FBI was able to discourage those individuals from traveling to D.C."

The official added that "the FBI and our federal, state and local partners collected and shared available intelligence in preparation for the various planned events."

"The FBI was prepared to adapt as needed to fluid events on the ground, including having rapid response teams in reserve," the official said. "Throughout most of the day the crowd was peaceful and nonconfrontational.

"However, when it became clear that some individuals were surging onto the Capitol grounds and entering the buildings, the U.S. Capitol Police requested assistance. Within 50 minutes of that request, three FBI tactical teams were on scene to gain control of the area and offer protection to congressional members and staff. Over the course of the evening, the FBI presence ultimately grew to over 150 agents and other personnel."

The official wasn't in a position to explain why D'Antuono, the head of the
Washington field office, said there had been no indications of violence.

The FBI official said that by dissuading some extremists from traveling to Washington, the bureau may have prevented an even more violent situation.

New York police, who have the most robust intelligence collection and analytical arm of any local police agency in the country, sent law enforcement agencies across the country — including Capitol Police — an intelligence packet describing threats and violent rhetoric on social media in the weeks and days leading up to the rally, multiple senior law enforcement officials said.

The officials said Capitol Police were given a specific and separate intelligence report describing extremist rhetoric and threats of violence that appeared on social media in connection with the rally.

Law enforcement officials familiar with the intelligence assessments said President Donald Trump's exhortation of the crowd to march on the Capitol probably prompted a much larger contingent of people to head there than might otherwise have gone.

Capitol Police and the FBI's Washington field office didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

It wasn't just police agencies that issued warnings. A private intelligence report issued in December, obtained by NBC News, said the "'million-MAGA march' in Washington DC on 6 January is the next major flashpoint ... the mass event (which will be held in the National Mall and outside the Capitol) is likely to spark street violence, some of which may be lethal, between Antifa and Trump supporters or far-right groups."

Many questions remain about why the FBI, Homeland Security and other agencies didn't do more to make sure the Capitol was protected. Officials have said Capitol Police reassured everyone that they could handle the situation, and key lawmakers said they heard the same assurances from the force.
The Metropolitan Police Department in Washington is responsible for crowd control in the city, and the mayor told Justice Department officials that she didn’t want or need their help. While city police helped retake the Capitol, they were unable to stop the crowd from getting there in the first place.

The FBI is also under scrutiny. Its top investigative priority is terrorism, foreign and domestic. Had this been an al Qaeda plot to storm the Capitol, some experts said, it is likely that the FBI would have arrested the participants before they left their home airports on the way to Washington.

One difference, however, is that there is no domestic terrorism statute, which gives the FBI fewer avenues to legally monitor suspects, including their postings on the dark web, said NBC News contributor Frank Figliuzzi, a former assistant director of the FBI.

Outside a criminal investigation of a specific person or group, Figliuzzi said Saturday, "the FBI is not permitted to look and monitor the very same things that you and I can look at on Twitter and Parler."

Joyce Vance, a former U.S. attorney for northern Alabama, said the FBI has tools to monitor potential violence by domestic extremists. She suggested that the issue was one of emphasis and will.

"The challenge for FBI and DOJ is to assign a permanent priority to domestic white supremacist terror groups and treat them as seriously as they treat foreign terrorism," she said.

SFSAFBI

Secretary, Washington, D.C. Chapter
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Quote of the Day

"Indoguration" — A celebration of Major Biden, the first-ever rescue pup to become First Dog. FDOTUS has a nice bark for you.

Accountability

The Story

House Democrats will be taking action against President Trump.

For the siege?

Yes. Last week, hundreds of Trump supporters stormed the Capitol in a deadly siege — scaling walls, shattering windows, beating police officers, and breaking into federal offices. A gallows was erected. Some chanted “hang Pence.” Two men allegedly carried zip-tie handcuffs. A pickup truck carrying Molotov cocktails and guns was found near the Capitol. And by one account, rioters were mere seconds away from breaking into the Senate chamber while congressional reps were present. Five people have died.

Tell me about Trump’s role.

The president is being accused of inciting the insurrection. At a rally before the attack, Trump told supporters to “walk down to the Capitol” and “fight like hell.” He also said that they’ll “never take our country back with weakness.” Now, some lawmakers — including those whose staff had to hide during the attack — are saying “enough.”

Go on...

Today, House Democrats are working to pass a resolution calling on VP Mike Pence and Trump’s Cabinet to invoke the 25th Amendment. If they agree, Pence and the Cabinet would declare the president unfit for office, making Pence the acting
president. But it seems unlikely, so Dems have a backup plan: they'll introduce articles of impeachment against the president. The House could vote on it as early as tomorrow. Then they would normally send it over to the Senate, but given that the Senate's on recess until Jan 19 (the day before President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration), the plans may lay dormant for a while. Read: a few months.

What's the holdup?

House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-SC) said the House could wait until Biden's first 100 days are over, so as to give the new president time to get the ball rolling on his agenda. It would be an unprecedented move: never has a president faced an impeachment trial after leaving office. Nor has one been impeached twice. If found guilty, the Senate could disqualify Trump from ever holding office again. Meaning, he wouldn't be allowed to run in 2024 – something he's reportedly been planning.

What are people saying?

Democrats say repercussions are necessary in order to protect Americans. One poll shows that more than half of Americans believe Trump should be removed from office. But House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) said that impeaching Trump with less than two weeks in office would "only divide our country more." Republican Sens. Pat Toomey (PA) and Lisa Murkowski (AK) are urging Trump to resign, saying he's caused enough damage. Meanwhile, Trump has reportedly talked about trying to pardon himself.

Unfollow
Social media companies have temporarily or permanently banned @realdonaldtrump. Following the violent attack on the US Capitol last week, Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, Pinterest, Shopify, Snapchat, TikTok, Twitch, and Discord have restricted President Trump’s account or accounts and hashtags affiliated with violence and pro-Trump conspiracies like #StopTheSteal. And it’s got people talking about...

Free speech...Some people are asking about it. Here’s what you need to know: The First Amendment generally applies when the gov restricts a person’s freedom of speech. In this case, private companies (think: Twitter and Facebook) have the liberty to set their own rules and guidelines, and have a right to hit ‘mute’ on any accounts on their platforms not following T&C. Now, companies that once exempted world leaders like Trump are saying ‘a line’s been crossed.’ But some critics are saying ‘too little, too late’ and pointing at Trump’s years of inflammatory posts. Others are concerned about what this means more broadly: a handful of people able to decide at whim which types of content can reach Americans’ eyes.

Parler...The relatively new social media platform has soared in popularity among conservatives who’ve seen greater restrictions on FB and Twitter. Mostly because, unlike Twitter and Facebook, it’s got lax content moderation and doesn’t prohibit hate speech or disinformation. But after some users encouraged violence and crime (some even called for violence ahead of Inauguration Day), Apple and Google cut off the service. And Amazon — which hosts the server for Parler — also banned it for its violation of company rules. Now, Parler appears to have gone dark as it looks for another host.

And Also...This
**Where people are mourning...**

*Indonesia.* Over the weekend, a passenger jet carrying 62 people crashed into the Java Sea minutes after takeoff. The cause is still under investigation but the 26-year-old Boeing plane was flying amid heavy rain when it lost over 10,000 feet in altitude in less than 60 seconds. Authorities have located the black boxes and are continuing with search and rescue operations. This is the first major crash to affect Indonesia since the *Lion Air crash* in 2018 — when 189 passengers and crew of the Boeing 737 Max were killed. And it raises further scrutiny around the country's aviation sector, which has been plagued by crashes and safety concerns.

**Where there are coronavirus updates...**

*The US.* Last week, it recorded over 21,000 coronavirus-related deaths — the deadliest week to date. One analysis shows that America has been averaging over 2,700 daily deaths and has seen hospitalizations top more than 131,000. The numbers come amid the nation's largest ever vaccination effort, which has faced criticism for its less-than-warp speed.

*Africa.* It has topped 3 million confirmed COVID-19 cases. South Africa reportedly accounts for more than 30% of the continent's total infections (over 1.2 million cases) and is currently dealing with a more contagious variant of the virus. And while the high numbers could be because of the country's high testing rate compared to other African countries, the president is weighing additional restrictions as the country awaits the first 1.5 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine later this month.
What'll have people geeking out...

CES 2021. Today, the 54th annual tech show kicks off virtually for the first time ever. It could showcase disinfectant gadgets, next-gen fitness equipment, and robots that'll help you cook dinner, among other tech. Code us in.

What's prompting backlash...

Vogue.

Who's planning their return...

You couldn't help but wonder...
Here we are. 11 days into 2021. Whether you’re a resolution fan or not, it’s never a bad idea to check in on your habits. And do everything you can to set yourself up for success. So we partnered with WW (Weight Watchers Reimagined) to share a few tips. Drumroll, please...

1. **Start small.** You don’t have to make five-star, three-course gourmet meals every night just because you’re trying to cook more. Set manageable milestones, and build up to the kinda chef you wanna be.

2. **Remove friction.** If you’re trying to make a behavior a habit, you want to create a situation where it’s as easy as possible to do that behavior. Trying to eat more fruit and veg? Chop some peppers and wash your berries beforehand so they’re ready when you are.

3. **Keep tabs.** Tracking your progress can help you stay organized – and motivated. The WW app makes it easy with their action plan and progress report features. Take the new personal assessment to get a custom wellness plan.
It's week two of our 21-day How to Skimm Your Life Challenge, brought to you by Bank of America, Blue Apron, and Lancôme. Ready, set, Skimm your life.

Today’s challenge: Trim some phone contacts. Because your ex-boyfriend’s uncle probably doesn’t need to be in there anymore. Don’t just phone this one in. Take 10 minutes to delete people you no longer, well, contact. If you have an iPhone, log onto iCloud to mass delete. Hit the command key and hold it down to select all the people you want to kiss goodbye. Hit the gear icon in the bottom left and select “delete.” Bye, bye, bye.

Better late than never. Check out last week’s challenges here.
Here are our favorite picks to help you take a break today...

1. **15 products that’ll help you live your smartest life in 2021.** Out with the old, in with the new. We’ve got a budgeting journal, reusable produce bags, and a powerful bathroom scrubber. Let us upgrade ya.

2. **Colorful cookware straight out of a fancy magazine.** Le Creuset’s cast iron Dutch oven is ideal for braising, roasting, frying...basically anything you do in the kitchen. And it’s made to last. Oh, and now it comes in Agave, a beautiful combo of lush green and striking blue. *Get cooking.*

3. **13 productivity hacks TikTokers swear by.** Turns out the app that gave us weird cooking ideas and viral dance challenges also happens to have some incredible work hacks. Thanks for everything, TikTok.

*PS: Want more? Sign up to get weekly recs in your inbox.*

*PS: This is a sponsored post.*
For when you're trying to cut back on sugary coffee and energy drinks...

Try this one instead. It's a tasty, healthy alternative with 10 grams of protein and just 80 cals per bottle. Post...Skimm'rs get 25% off plus free shipping on any variety pack. Bottoms up.*

For when you actually need to get dressed...

Ease into it with a pair of skinny jeans from this company. They're made from premium denim and the same stuff used in leggings. Basically, the perfect mix of support and stretch. Look and feel good.*

For when you're thinking 'new year, new language'...

That's definitely how the saying goes. This language learning app teaches words you'll actually use in real conversations. And uses speech recognition tech to help you pronounce them juuust right. PS: Skimm'rs get up to 60% off. Yummos.*

*PS: This is a sponsored post.

Skimm'rs

We like to celebrate the wins, big and small. Let us know how your friends, neighbors, coworkers (and yes, even you) are making career moves, checking off goals, or making an impact in the community.

Rising together... an inclusive Dallas-Fort Worth-based organization designed to empower women working toward their personal and professional goals. More here.

Read all about it... After her NYC events business closed down due to the pandemic, she's pivoted its site. Now it's a hyper-local newsletter that shares breakdowns of local news to BIPOC millennial New Yorkers. Check it out.

(Some) Birthdays...theSkimm's

*Paging all members of theSkimm. Reach out here for a chance to be featured.
Skimm Share

Skimm HQ's keeping mental health top of mind. Share theSkimm with your friend who's all about honoring "me" time.

Or use this referral link theskimm.com/?r=3JJ21

Skimm'd by Maria del Carmen Corpus, Muriza Smajlaj, Clom Robinosu, and Julie Shain
TO: THE DIRECTOR AND SENIOR STAFF
DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 6:30 AM EST

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US Files Dozens Of Charges In Wake Of Capital Siege.

USA Today (1/10, Penzenstadler, Phillips, Voyles Pulver, 12.7M) reports, "Federal authorities continued Sunday to round up people following a deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol this week - including two men accused of carrying plastic restraints and others who allegedly carried weapons or stole from the building. At least 58 people have been arrested and charged for incidents in or near the Capitol on Wednesday. Those arrested have come from 24 states and the District of Columbia." The Justice Department "has filed more than 55 criminal cases related to the riot that left five dead."

The New York Times (1/9, Wright, 20.6M) reports that the number of arrests "is expected to grow quickly as investigators scrutinize social media to identify the protesters, and some participants could face more serious charges."

CNN (1/8, Scannell, 89.21M) reports, "An Alabama man allegedly parked a pickup truck packed with 11 homemade bombs, an assault rifle and a handgun two blocks from the US Capitol building on Wednesday for hours before authorities ever noticed, according to federal prosecutors. Another man allegedly showed up in the nation's capital with an assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition and told acquaintances that he wanted to shoot or run over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, prosecutors said." CNN adds, "The revelations are some of the most unsettling details federal prosecutors have made public this week as they detail the extent of the arsenal available to aid pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol. Other individuals have been accused of taking guns and ammunition onto Capitol grounds and more charges are expected to come as a wide-ranging investigation unfolds."

Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), citing Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, said Sunday that "at least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened after Wednesday's assault on the U.S. Capitol." Reuters (1/10, Shalal) reports Crow "said McCarthy told him the Pentagon was aware of 'further possible threats posed by would-be terrorists' in the days up to and including the inauguration of Democratic President-elect Joe Biden on Jan. 20. 'Long guns, Molotov cocktails, explosive devices and zip ties were recovered, which suggests a greater disaster was narrowly averted,' Crow, a former Army Ranger, said in a summary of his call with McCarthy. McCarthy assured him the Pentagon was working with local and federal law enforcement to coordinate security preparations after what he described as 'deficient law enforcement threat reporting' ahead of last Wednesday."

Reuters (1/8, Brice) reports, "Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen announced the FBI would team up with Washington's police department to jointly investigate the death of Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who was injured while defending the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday. 'Just because you've left the D.C. region, you can still expect a knock on the door if we find out you were part of the criminal activity at the Capitol,' Steven D'antuono, the FBI Washington Field Office's assistant director in charge, told reporters in a telephone news briefing."

The New York Times (1/8, Goldman, Ismay, Fuchs, 20.6M) reports, "The sweeping investigation took shape after a security breakdown two days earlier allowed hundreds of people backing President Trump's efforts to overturn the election results to rush into the Capitol in a
deadly rampage. The debacle prompted sharp recriminations and the firings of top officials who were entrusted with protecting lawmakers. Dozens have been arrested, including 13 who face federal charges. The Times adds, “Law enforcement officials also backed off a suggestion that Mr. Trump could face criminal charges for inciting the riot after a top prosecutor had said a day earlier that investigators were examining anyone involved, not only the rioters. 'Don't expect any charges of that nature,' Ken Kohl, a top prosecutor in the U.S. attorney’s office in Washington, told reporters in a telephone briefing on Friday.”

The Wall Street Journal (1/8, A1, Gurman, Viswanatha, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports on its front page that federal prosecutors on Friday announced charges against at least 13 “alleged members of the pro-Trump mob who stormed the halls of Congress.” The Washington Post (1/8, Hsu, 10.52M) reports the Justice Department and FBI “announced charges Friday against” Derrick Evans, “a freshman West Virginia lawmaker,” Richard Barnett, “an Arkansas man who told the media he posed for photos on a desk in” House Speaker Pelosi’s office, and Lonnie Leroy Coffman, “an Alabama man whose truck allegedly carried 11 molotov cocktails and a semiautomatic rifle to this week’s U.S. Capitol riots.” The Post adds that “also charged with unlawful entry was Hawaii Proud Boys founder and unsuccessful state house candidate Nicholas Robert Ochs, who gave media interviews saying he participated in the break-in, an FBI arrest affidavit unsealed Friday alleged.”

The Chicago Sun-Times (1/8, Seidel, 970K) reports that Barnett “has become one of the most notorious figures among those who broke into the Capitol Wednesday, after photographs surfaced of him with his feet on Pelosi’s desk. Prosecutors cited those photographs in a statement of facts filed as part of the case against him. They said they also viewed video surveillance and a video-recorded interview Barnett gave.” Prosecutors “said Barnett was asked about an envelope he was holding featuring Pelosi’s signature. Barnett allegedly said, ‘I did not steal it. I bled on it because they were macing me and I couldn’t f---ing see so I figured I am in her office. I got blood on her office. I put a quarter on her desk even though she ain’t f---ng worth it. And I left her a note on her desk that says ‘Nancy, Bigo was here, you b------.’’ Barnett ‘is being held in the Washington County (Ark.) jail after he was charged by federal prosecutors with three counts for storming the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday.”

The AP (1/9, Callahan) reports, “A Florida man accused of making off with Pelosi’s lectern during the chaos was arrested Friday night on a federal warrant and was being held Saturday without bail in Pinellas County, Florida. Jail records do not show if Adam Johnson, 36, of Parrish, Florida, has an attorney. Johnson was charged Saturday with theft, violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.”

The Miami Herald (1/9, DeLeon, 647K) reports from Bradenton, Florida, that Johnson “was arrested by Federal Marshals and booked into the Pinellas County jail shortly after 9 p.m. Friday. He has been charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; one count of theft of government property; and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds, according to a federal complaint. A warrant was issued on Friday and Johnson was charged in federal court in D.C. on Saturday.” Pelosi’s lectern “had been stored in her suite, under a staircase to the third floor on the House side of the Capitol building, before the Capitol was breached, her staff told FBI agents. The lectern — valued at more than $1,600 according to the House curator — was found by Senate staff on Thursday in the Red corridor of the Senate wing off the Rotunda in the Capitol.”

On NBC Nightly News (1/8, story 3, 3:04, Holt, 5.57M), Tom Costello reported “some suspects have identified themselves, as well. Josiah Colt who climbed down from the Senate balcony then sat in Vice President Pence’s chair says he was ‘caught up in the moment.’ In a statement to KBOI-TV, he says, ‘My actions have brought shame upon myself, my family and friends and beautiful country. I beg for forgiveness from America and from my home state of Idaho.’ Former Midland, Texas mayoral candidate Jenny Cudd posted her own video: ‘We did break down the Nancy Pelosi’s office door. And somebody stole her gavel.’ Nationwide, hundreds of federal agents are pursuing riot suspects. Among the felony charges they could face, felony rioting, federal assault and murder charges, obstruction of Congress, destruction of congressional documents, conspiracy and insurrection.”
The *AP* (1/9, Hollingsworth) reports, "An Iowa man was jailed early Saturday on charges accusing him of taking part in the riot at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of President Donald Trump." The *AP* adds, "Des Moines Police Sgt. Paul Parizek said officers assisted the FBI in arresting 41-year-old Doug Jensen on Friday night at his home on the south side of the city. Jensen was booked into the Polk County Jail early Saturday on five federal charges, including trespassing and disorderly conduct counts, according to news releases from the FBI’s field office in Omaha, Nebraska and the county sheriff’s office." According to the *AP*, "Video posted online during the storming of the Capitol on Wednesday showed a man who appears to be Jensen, who is white, pursuing a Black officer up an interior flight of stairs. A mob of people trails several steps behind. At several points, the officer says ‘get back,’ to no avail."

The New York Times (1/8, Goldman, 20.6M) reports prosecutors on Thursday "filed a criminal complaint accusing a man named Mark J. Leffingwell of punching a Capitol Police officer repeatedly in the head and chest, before apologizing," and they "unsealed charges against a Maryland resident, Christopher Alberts, accusing him of illegally carrying a 9-millimeter pistol at the riot."

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, McGrath, 3.57M) reports Cogensia, a marketing firm near Chicago, has fired CEO Brad Rukstales, a Republican donor to President Trump, who "was arrested by U.S. Capitol Police on Wednesday" after "being part of the mob that broke into the U.S. Capitol."

In the lead story for *NBC’s Today* (1/8, 2.86M), Savannah Guthrie said there have been "more than 80 arrests so far, and investigators this morning, they are poring through videos and images casting about for leads. They want to identify more suspects." On "NBC Nightly News" (1/8, story 9, 1:43, Holt, 5.57M), Gabe Gutierrez reported, "One pro-Trump rioter in face paint and a horned hat confronted law enforcement holding a spear. The man now identified as Jake Angeli told NBC News, ‘The fact that he had a bunch of our traitors in office hunkered down, pouting on their gas masks and retreat into the underground bunker, I consider that a win.’ Police say Angeli is a known follower of QAnon, a far right extremist group."

On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 3, 2:05, Muir, 6.95M), Chief Justice Correspondent Pierre Thomas reported that federal authorities “are determined to leave no stone unturned, ramping up efforts to bring all the Trump supporters who desecrated the Capitol to justice.” On ABC’s Good Morning America (1/8, 3.14M), Martha Raddatz reported that on Wednesday, "despite the loss of life and the desecration of the Capitol, those rioters were allowed to just leave the building. They lingered on the plaza for hours triumphant, giving one another high-fives with no consequences. This morning the acting US attorney for the District of Columbia said the failure to arrest more people is making his job harder adding, ‘I can’t answer why the Capitol Police did not zip tie these people as they were leaving the Capitol.’ CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.28M) also covered the search for protesters accused of committing crimes on Wednesday.

On the lead NBC Nightly News (1/9, lead story, 3:46, Díaz-Balart, 5.9M) segment, Tom Costello reported on the arrests, while on the CBS Weekend News (1/9, story 4, 1:52, Díaz, 577K), Adriana Díaz reported, “Roughly 100 people have been arrested for Wednesday’s attack.”

The Washington Post (1/9, Weiner, Hsu, 10.52M) reports 15 people “have been charged in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia with crimes related to the storming of the Capitol, including a man who admitted to stealing a document from Pelosi’s office. Forty others face charges in D.C. Superior Court.” The Post calls these federal cases “the low-hanging fruit of the investigation” since they are “people who either identified themselves in online postings or were quickly identified by others who saw the images and recognized the individuals.” The Wall Street Journal (1/9, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), AP (1/9, Callahan), Reuters (1/9, McKay), Politico (1/9, Semones, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/9, Lonas, 5.69M), among other outlets, provide similar coverage of the new arrests.

**President Could Be Investigated For “Inciting” Riot.** On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 2, 2:31, Karl, 6.95M), Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl reported that DC Attorney General Karl Racine (D) has “said he’ll investigate whether the President is legally responsible for inciting the riot,” and he also “mentioned Rudy Giuliani who said this at the rally: ‘Let’s have trial by combat!’ And the President’s son, Don Jr, who posted a since-removed video taken backstage at the rally before the riot. The President and his children watching the crowds
gather. Don Jr’s girlfriend Kimberly dancing as the Trumps celebrated. This was Don Jr’s message to Trump supporters before they stormed the capital: “If you’re going to be the zero and not the hero, we’re coming for you.”

Pierre Thomas said on ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 4, 0:35, Muir, 6.95M) that the DOJ’s current focus is on the people who broke into the Capitol, but the investigation is in the early stages and questions about [Trump’s role in the] incitement will likely be for the incoming attorney general Merrick Garland.” On CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.37M), Ben Tracy said that Trump’s comments “before the assault on the Capitol may be investigated by US attorneys for leading to the violence.”

However, on ABC World News Tonight (1/9, story 4, 2:31, Llamas, 839K), on Saturday night, Tom Llamas reported, “There is now a nationwide manhunt under way for every rioter breaching the Capitol building.” Kenneth Moton added a senior Justice Department official on Saturday said “no incitement charges are expected against any... speakers” at the rally prior to the unrest, including Trump.

DOJ Investigating Shooting Death Of Protester. Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/9, Benner, Schmitt, 20.6M) reports interim US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Saturday announced that his office “is leading investigations into the deaths of a woman who entered the Capitol building with a crowd of rioters on Jan. 6 and an officer who was killed while trying to police the violent mob.” The Times says prosecutors in the office’s Civil Rights division “opened a formal, federal excessive force case into the shooting death of Ashli Babbitt, who was shot by a Capitol Police officer as she and a group of President Trump’s supporters swarmed the building,” though “the investigation into Ms. Babbitt’s shooting is ‘routine, standard procedure whenever an officer deploys lethal force,’ a Justice Department spokeswoman said.” The Times adds the office “also opened a federal homicide investigation into the death of Brian D. Sicknick, a Capitol Hill police officer who died after pro-Trump rioters struck him with a fire extinguisher.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports it has obtained two video clips that “shed new light on the fatal shooting by police of Trump supporter and Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt as she and other rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol.” The Post says Babbitt and others were attempting to breach a barricaded door inside the Capitol building on Wednesday afternoon, angrily demanding that three U.S. Capitol Police officers who were guarding the door step aside, one of the clips shows.” The Post adds the officers “moved away as colleagues in tactical gear arrived behind the rioters, according to the clip and other video posted online. Roughly 35 seconds after the officers moved away, as she climbed up toward a broken section of the unguarded door, Babbitt was shot by an officer on the other side,” as she was “trying to get into the Speaker’s Lobby, a hallway that would have given them access to the House of Representatives chamber.” According to the Wall Street Journal (1/8, Safdar, Ailworth, Seetharaman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), five people have died in connection to the “Capitol riot.”

Laptop Stolen From Pelosi’s Office, Aide Says. Reuters (1/8, Satter) reports a laptop was stolen from Pelosi’s office “during the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, one of her aides said on Friday.” Reuters adds Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) “said on Twitter that a laptop was taken from his office,” and Acting US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Thursday “said that some of the thefts might have potentially jeopardized what he described as national security equities.” According to Reuters, “The theft of electronic devices from congressional offices has been a persistent worry following the invasion by pro-Trump followers.”

NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reports, “At least three Democrats in Congress said that the pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol on Wednesday stole computers from their offices, raising cybersecurity concerns.” Speaker Pelosi "had a laptop stolen, as did Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., who tweeted about the theft. It wasn’t immediately clear what protections were on those devices, though Congress generally lags behind the federal government in implementing cybersecurity measures. Not all Senate computers automatically encrypt their hard drives or require a password to log in if they’re unused for a few minutes. Emails were visible on a desktop computer left running in Pelosi’s office.”

Prosecutors Seek To Revoke Bail For Vets for Trump Co-Founder. The Washington Post (1/9, Jackman, 10.52M) reports Joshua Macias, 42, a co-founder of Vets for Trump who was
“Free on bail after appearing outside a Philadelphia election center with a concealed handgun, was outside the Capitol during the siege by Trump supporters Wednesday and posted video of himself, leading Philadelphia prosecutors to request his bail be revoked.” The Post says Macias “and Antonio LaMotta, 51, were arrested in Philadelphia on Nov. 5 near the Philadelphia Convention Center, where the presidential election vote was being counted,” because they were carrying firearms without permits.

**West Virginia Lawmaker Who Participated In Storming Capitol Resigns.** The *New York Times* (1/9, 20.6M) reports West Virginia state Del. Derrick Evans (R) “resigned on Saturday after participating in the storming of the United States Capitol.” The Times says the resignation, effective immediately, comes as he “faces two federal charges: one for knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one for violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.” The *Washington Post* (1/9, Kornfield, 10.52M) reports Evans “chronicled the riot Wednesday on Facebook Live, capturing the moment the crowd cracked open the Capitol’s doors and he crossed the threshold.”

**CBS News** (1/8, Donaghe, 5.39M) reports, “Evans is charged with entering a restricted area, Ken Kohi, principal assistant U.S. Attorney for D.C., said on a press call.” CBS News adds, “In a criminal complaint released Friday, an FBI agent wrote he identified Evans as the person in the live-streamed video by comparing the voice to the lawmaker’s voice in a campaign video. In addition, the agent wrote, ‘Evans identifies himself by first and last name in the video recording the offense.’”

**WNYT** (1/8, Harvey) reports, “Evans, who was elected to the House of Delegates in November and was sworn in Dec. 14, posted multiple videos of himself to social media showing him entering the Capitol alongside fellow supporters of President Donald Trump. ‘Derrick Evans is in the Capitol,’ he can be heard saying multiple times in a since-deleted video.”

**Pennsylvania Man Charged In Siege.** A number of local news outlets covered the arrests of those from their areas. For example, the *Harrisburg (PA) Patriot-News* (1/8, Benscoter, 567K) reports, “A Pennsylvania man who was charged by Capitol Police for taking part in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday also was charged with federal offenses, officials at the U.S. Department of Justice announced Friday.” Terry Brown, of Myerstown, Pennsylvania, “was one of 13 people charged federally.” Brown “was charged with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; or knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.” FBI Director Wray said in a statement, “To be clear, what took place that day was not First Amendment-protected activity, but rather an affront on our democracy. The FBI, along with our local, state, and federal partners, is committed to ensuring that justice is served. We will continue to aggressively investigate each and every individual who chose to ignore the law and instead incite violence, destroy property, and injure others.”

Similarly, the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (1/9, Heisig, 1.22M) reports from Cleveland, Ohio, “FBI agents late Friday raided the home of a former Cleveland Metropolitan School District employee. The move came a day after she submitted a conspiracy theory-referencing resignation letter to the district, and after authorities posted a picture that raised questions as to whether she participated in a riot at the U.S. Capitol led by supporters of outgoing President Donald Trump.” Agents “were present for several hours at a house on East 365th Street in suburban Willoughby. The 49-year-old former Cleveland schools employee, who worked for the district as an occupational therapist, is listed as the home’s owner. Cleveland.com and The Plain Dealer are not identifying her because she has not been charged with a crime.”

**Man In “Camp Auschwitz” Sweatshirt Identified.** CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website, “A rioter who stormed the US Capitol Wednesday wearing a sweatshirt emblazoned with the phrase ‘Camp Auschwitz’ has been identified as Robert Keith Packer of Virginia, according to three sources. ... One Virginia resident, who spoke to CNN on the condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter, described Packer as a long-time extremist who has had run-ins with the law.”

The *New York Times* (1/8, Eddy, 20.6M) reports on how the image from the day of “a bearded man wearing a black hoodie emblazoned with ‘Camp Auschwitz’” has had ‘particular
resonance as anti-Semitism and far-right nationalism are on the rise worldwide. And for people who survived the Nazi death camp...there was added pain with the realization that later generations may not have learned the lessons of the Holocaust.”

**FBI Seeks Information On Capital Rioters.**

*The Hill* (1/9, 5.69M) reports, "The FBI has put up what appear to be electronic posters in Washington, D.C., seeking information on anyone who participated in the Capitol breach on Wednesday.” The Hill adds, "Photos of bus stops shared by journalists on social media say, ‘Seeking Information’ and include pictures of some of rioters inside the U.S. Capitol. The posters also share a phone number to contact the FBI’s Washington, D.C., office. ‘DC bus stops now feature signs posted by the FBI seeking information about participants in the Capitol insurrection,’ CNN reporter Jim Acosta tweeted along with a photo of a poster taken at night.”

*BuzzFeed News* (1/8, Onibada) reports, “As part of the ongoing investigation to identify key perpetrators, the FBI shared a message online appealing for information on individuals who participated and instigated the violence. ‘We are accepting tips and digital media depicting rioting or violence in and around the U.S. Capitol on January 6,’ said the official Twitter account for the FBI.” BuzzFeed News adds, “The callout for support was met with collective indignation, which quickly turned to trolling. Several people online pointed to the numerous social media posts, interviews, and open planning that had gone toward Wednesday’s attack. It was suggested that there were more qualified figures who were up to the task.”

*FedScoop* (1/8, Barnett) reports, “As a riotous mob of Trump supporters filled the U.S. Capitol building Wednesday, many left plum digital footprints federal law enforcement agencies can easily use to track them down and charge them.” The FBI “has some of the most powerful facial recognition systems in the country, according to outside experts,” and “because few arrests were made during the deadly unrest, law enforcement officials will now have to depend on that technology to speed up the process of tracking apparent criminals through the many videos, images and other digital ‘fingerprints’ they left behind. Paired with the reams of open source information, the FBI has the technology to easily identify possible criminals, rather than having to manually connect the dots, a former FBI official told FedScoop. ‘For most people [that were] there, it is not going to be very hard to ID them,’ the official said.”

*FBI: No Evidence Of Antifa Participation In Siege.* The *AP* (1/10, Biesecker, Kunzelman, Flaccus, Mustian) reports, "The insurrectionist mob that showed up at the president’s behest and stormed the U.S. Capitol was overwhelmingly made up of longtime Trump supporters, including Republican Party officials, GOP political donors, far-right militants, white supremacists, and adherents of the QAnon myth that the government is secretly controlled by a cabal of Satan-worshiping pedophile cannibals.” The AP “reviewed social media posts, voter registrations, court files and other public records for more than 126 people either facing criminal charges related to the Jan. 6 unrest or who, going maskless amid the pandemic, were later identified through photographs and videos taken during the melee.” Steven D’Antuono, “the assistant director in charge of the FBI’s Washington field office, told reporters that investigators had seen ‘no indication’ antifa activists were disguised as Trump supporters in Wednesday’s riot.”

*NBC News* (1/8, 4.91M) reports, “Despite suggestions from conservative pundits and some Republican members of Congress, there is no evidence that anti-fascist activists were involved in the pro-Trump Capitol riots,” D’Antuono “said on a call with reporters Friday. ‘We have no indication of that, at this time,’ D’Antuono said when asked whether antifa activists had disguised themselves as Trump supporters in an effort to frame them for the violent riots in which five people died, including Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick.”

The *Washington Post* (1/9, Usero, 10.52M) reports, “To date, no evidence supports the claim that individuals with antifa connections formed part of the riots that took place on Capitol grounds. The FBI has said it does not believe antifa or any of its associates are responsible for the violence unleashed. Wednesday’s events were widely documented, via videos, tweets and live-streams from reporters already covering the day’s events. Video and photos confirm that many of the rioters were supporters, and individuals with right-wing and extremist beliefs. The usual antifa tactics such as wearing masks and face coverings to avoid detection were uncommon among...
rioters, making identification process an easier task."

The Washington Times (1/9, Mordock, 626K) reports that the FBI’s announcement “debunks claims pushed forward by some right-wing pundits and politicians that the anarchist movement’s supporters were part of the angry mob that stormed the Capitol.” D’Antuono’s statement “supports comments made Thursday by Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Michael Sherwin. Mr. Sherwin said he also saw no evidence Antifa was involved in the riot.”

The New York Times (1/9, Alba, 20.6M) reports, “Since Wednesday, far-right activists and allies of the president have made the claim, often while presenting easily disproved evidence, that the rioters were made up of antifa supporters, not backers of President Trump. Among those pushing the falsehood were Representative Matt Gaetz, a Florida Republican, who said while objecting to the electoral votes for Mr. Biden that people in the mob were ‘in fact members of the violent terrorist group antifa.’ Ken Paxton, the attorney general of Texas, also said antifa was involved.” The Times adds, “a analysis by the media insights company Zignal Labs found that the unfounded rumor had been mentioned 411,099 times across cable television, social media, and in print and online news outlets on Wednesday and Thursday. It was by far the most widely shared false or misleading claim about the Capitol Hill mob, Zignal said.”

BuzzFeed News (1/9, Silverman) reports, “Speaking in the House Wednesday night after the attempted coup, Gaetz cited a Washington Times article that claimed a facial recognition company had identified two antifa members among the crowd at the Capitol. That story was removed by the outlet after BuzzFeed News reported that the facial recognition company said it was ‘outrage false.’ The paper later published a corrected version that acknowledged the firm had identified ‘neo-Nazis and other extremists’ – not antifa members.”

Some Extremist Groups Pleased By Chaotic Siege. Reuters (1/8, Hesson, Parker, Cooke, Harte) reports, “As the nation recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, some right-wing and anti-government extremists saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda. Among the inspired was Mike Dunn, a 20-year-old follower of the ‘boogaloon’ anti-government movement, whose adherents anticipate a revolution toppling the federal government or a second U.S. civil war.” Dunn, “who lives in Virginia, said three or four groups of loyalists under his command helped storm the Capitol this week amid a motley mix of rioters who supported President Donald Trump’s attempts to overturn the results of the November presidential election. While most ‘boogaloo’ are libertarians who largely oppose Trump, Dunn said the group embraced the moment to strike against the government.”

The Washington Times (1/8, Blake, 626K) says Proud Boys Chairman Henry “Enrique” Tarrio on Thursday promised to raise money and secure legal representation for “supporters of...Trump facing charges for storming the Capitol building during the deadly insurrection the day before.” In addition, Reuters (1/8, Hesson, Parker, Cooke, Harte) reports Tarrio “would not broadly denounce people who entered the Capitol building during riots a day earlier, calling it ‘a form of protest.’” Reuters says that even as “most Americans recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol,” some right-wing and anti-government extremists “saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda.”

On NBC’s Today (1/8, 2.86M), Gabe Gutierrez said, “Wednesday’s storming of the Capitol by Trump supporters included many followers of conspiracy theory groups like QAnon. Now there are growing concerns about the President’s connections to these groups and their plans to continue inciting chaos in the wake of his election defeat.” According to Gutierrez, “QAnon is a far-right extremist group that among other outlandish things believed Democrats are running a satanic pedophile ring out of a DC pizza parlor.”

“Internet Sleuths” Identifying “Pro-Trump Rioters.” The Washington Post (1/8, Peiser, 10.52M) reports that since “pro-Trump rioters” stormed the Capitol on Wednesday without masks, “Internet sleuths” have “had a unique opportunity to easily identify them. And many made it even easier - they live-streamed their participation and later bragged about their escapades.” According to the Post, an “untold” number of Twitter users and Instagram accounts are “feverishly working...to ID and name the participants who stormed down the halls of the Capitol, ransacking lawmakers’ offices and occupying the House Chamber.”
The Washington Post (1/8, Timberg, Harwell, Hsu, 10.52M) also reports federal officials "looking to prosecute the mob of Trump supporters who overran the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday stand to get powerful help from cellphone records, facial recognition tools and other technologies to assist in the identification of anyone who was there that day." The Post highlights that the Capitol "has a vast cellular and wireless data infrastructure of its own to make communications efficient in a building made largely of stone and that extends deep underground and has pockets of shielded areas," and as such "phone records make determining the owners of these devices trivially easy."

The Washington Post (1/10, Klemko, 10.52M) reports, "Before a mob of Trump supporters staged a riot in the U.S. Capitol and thousands of Americans became amateur detectives working to identify the culprits, a loosely connected group of seasoned online sleuths were ringing alarm bells and picking off extremists online, one by one." The Post adds, "For a nationwide network of left-wing activists who seek out and publish the identities of those they believe to be violent 'fascists,' some investigations can take months, years even. Or it can take 10 minutes," and "that's how much time Molly Conger spent on her laptop last month searching for the man who used the right-wing social media site Parler to share that he was a police officer and pledge support to a member of the Proud Boys extremist group, advocating violence against Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. Turns out the man was a Prince William County sheriff's deputy."

More Coverage. The Washington Post (1/10, 10.52M) runs a feature titled "The Capitol Mob: A Raging Collection Of Grievances And Disillusionment" about some of those involved in the riot and their motivations.

FBI Offers $50K Reward For Information On DC Pipe Bombs.

Reuters (1/8) reported, "The FBI is offering a reward of up to $50,000 for information on the individuals responsible for placing pipe bombs in the committee headquarters of the key U.S. political parties in the capital, the agency said." CBS News (1/8, Siese, 5.39M) reports the FBI "released photos via social media of what appears to be someone in a gray hooded jacket, black gloves, and black pants, clutching an object in one hand." McClatchy (1/8, Kenney, 29K) reports, "Authorities didn't say how the person in the photo is connected to the pipe bomb incidents."

Also reporting are CNN (1/8, Walton, 89.21M) and the Daily Caller (1/8, Nieto, 375K).

Pipe Bombs At RNC, DNC Headquarters Had Timers, Official Says. The New York Times (1/8, Ismay, 20.6M) reports the pipe bombs "found on Wednesday afternoon outside the Democratic and Republican party headquarters, blocks from the Capitol, contained crude mechanical timing devices, according to an official familiar with their initial examination, suggesting they were intended to be detonated." However, the Times adds it "was not clear when they were meant to explode, but thousands of people were in the area that afternoon as a mob encouraged by... Trump stormed the Capitol, where lawmakers had convened to certify... Joseph R. Biden Jr.'s election, leaving five people dead. It was also not clear whether the bombs were connected to the siege."

The Washington Examiner (1/8, Giantelli, 888K) reported, "The bombs were each about 12 inches long by an inch and a half wide." The devices were "made with a battery, steel wool, and an unknown explosive powder. One of them was found with a cellphone that may have been meant to detonate it."

Schumer Urges FBI To Be Vigilant Of Further Threats Of Violence.

Newsday (NY) (1/10, Coburn, Hernandez, 776K) reports, "Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) on Sunday expressed concern more political violence could follow the mob attack Wednesday on the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., by supporters of President Donald Trump." Schumer said he pressed" FBI Director Wray "in a conversation Saturday to track down those involved in Wednesday's siege on Congress, in which five people died, and to be on the alert for further violence. 'The threat of violent extremist groups remains high and the next few weeks are critical in our democratic process,' Schumer said in a statement, noting President-elect Joe Biden will be inaugurated Jan. 20. 'Given that the same incendiary, dangerous rhetoric online that occurred before January 6, which proved to be a warning of the insurrectionist attack, has only escalated..."
since, I impressed upon Director Wray the vitalness of the FBI to work with other federal and state agencies to remain highly proactive and extremely vigilant to defend our democracy.” Reuters (1/10, Staff) reports, “In a statement, Schumer said he had spoken on Saturday with FBI Director Christopher Wray to urge him to ‘relentlessly pursue’ the attackers.”

**Trump Supporters Reportedly Planning More Unrest For Jan. 16-20.** The Washington Post (1/9, Timberg, Harwell, Lang, 10.52M) reports the planning “for Wednesday’s assault on the U.S. Capitol happened largely in plain view, with chatters in far-right forums explicitly discussing how to storm the building, handcuff lawmakers with zip ties and disrupt the certification of Joe Biden’s election – in what they portrayed as responding to orders from President Trump,” and Twitter on Friday “said it was particularly concerned about contributing to a possible ‘secondary attack’ on the U.S. Capitol and state government facilities the weekend of Jan. 16-17.” According to the Post, “Concerns about more violent incidents appear to be well-founded.” The Post adds demonstrations “are scheduled to culminate with what organizers have dubbed a ‘Million Milha March’ on Jan. 20 as Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala D. Harris are to be sworn in on the same Capitol grounds that rioters overran on Wednesday.”

In a more than 2,200-word front-page article, the Washington Post (1/9, A1, Miller, Jaffe, Nakhlawi, 10.52M) says “the temporary seizure of a global seat of power was, at its core, an outgrowth of delusional and destructive forces cultivated online and unleashed by the president.”

In a nearly 3,100-word front-page article, the New York Times (1/9, A1, Barry, McIntire, Rosenberg, 20.6M) casts the unsuccessful “insurrection” as “the culmination of a sustained assault by the president and his enablers on fact-based reality, one that began long before the November election but took on a fevered urgency as the certainty of Mr. Trump’s defeat solidified.” A Wall Street Journal (1/8, Ballhaus, Palazzolo, Restuccia, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article headlined “Trump And His Allies Set The Stage For Riot Well Before January 6” provides similar coverage, while an AP (1/9, Woodward, Riechmann) analysis states that the occupation of the Capitol came as “no surprise” as Trump “left many clues he wouldn’t go quietly.”

In his Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) column, David Von Drehle also asserted that “a collection of distortions, delusions and outright lies galvanized a mob of thousands to storm the Capitol in a brief but deadly insurrection.” Von Drehle added, “This unprecedented event was fomented inside a digitally networked community in which extraordinary claims are widely accepted on the basis of the wispiest nonsense.”

**DC Mayor Calls For Immediate Increase In Pre-Inaugural Security.** The New York Times (1/10, Feuer, 20.6M) reports that in the wake of Wednesday’s violence, District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) “issued an urgent appeal to start preparing immediately for more potential violence before, during and after” next week’s presidential inauguration. Bowser called on DHS “to move up to Monday the implementation of heightened security measures that are otherwise set to begin on Jan. 19.” Bowser told CBS’ Face The Nation” (1/10, 2.91M), “Given the events of last week, that this inauguration preparation has to be different than any other inauguration with only 10 days to go.”

Kenneth Moton said on ABC World News Tonight” (1/10, story 2, 3:00, Llamas, 4.76M) that “a senior official tells [ABC News] there’s a very serious national security concern for more domestic terrorism for the inauguration, possibly bringing extensive violence.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Levy, Kendall, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports law enforcement agencies are preparing for more marches by Trump supporters in Washington and elsewhere. The Seattle Times (1/10, 1.19M) reports Trump supporters rallied in Olympia, Washington, on Sunday under heavy security.

**Experts Caution Rioters To Assume More Hostile Position On Police.** The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports that in a “crowd where some carried flags bearing a thin blue line – a pro-police symbol that critics claim also stands for white supremacy and opposition to the Black Lives Matter movement – and shirts adorned with ‘Blue Lives Matter,’ a tide of anger and frustration rose as officers pushed them back” from the Capitol, and “nearly three hours after the building was breached, police cleared the grounds and used batons and chemical munitions to confront the mob.” The Post adds “some promised to return with weapons, ready to fight if necessary,” while one man “repeatedly announced he would be back with his rifle for the...
inauguration of... Biden." According to the Post, "Police experts worry this souring sentiment may lead to more violence in the months ahead."

Pelosi Says Trump’s Supporters Who Stormed Capitol Chose Their “Whiteness” Over Democracy. The Hill (1/9, Williams, 5.69M) reports House Speaker Pelosi said Saturday that the rioters who took part in the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday chose their ‘whiteness’ over democracy." The Hill adds her remark "came after Pelosi acknowledged the number of people who died of COVID-19 on Wednesday and Thursday, both of which were records for single-day coronavirus deaths in the United States.”

However, Brent Staples, a member of the New York Times editorial board, writes at the New York Times (1/9, 20.6M) that US history "is rife with episodes of political violence far bloodier and more destructive than the one...Trump incited at the Capitol," and remarks by public officials and commentators to "tell the country again and again that the carnage was an aberration and ‘not who we are’ as a people,” are “dangerous on a variety of counts. For starters, it allowed many Americans to view the president’s insistence that he had won an election in which he was actually trounced, and his simultaneous embrace of right-wing extremism, as political theater that will pass uneventfully from the stage when...Biden is inaugurated.” He concludes, “The mob assault on the Capitol was an outgrowth of what came before.”

FBI Probing Whether Some Rioters Intended Harm To Legislators.
The Washington Post (1/8, Barrett, Hsu, Zapotosky, 10.52M) reports, "FBI agents are trying to determine whether some who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday intended to do more than cause havoc and disrupt the certification of President-elect Joe Biden’s victory, and are sifting through evidence to see whether anyone wanted to kill or capture lawmakers or their staffers, according to people familiar with the investigation.” The Post adds that "investigators also are working to determine the motivations and larger goals, if any, of those who had weapons or other gear suggesting they planned to do physical harm. Some rioters, for instance, were photographed carrying zip ties, a plastic version of handcuffs, and one man was arrested allegedly carrying a pistol on the Capitol grounds. ‘We’re not looking at this as a grand conspiracy, but we are interested in learning what people would do with things like zip ties,” said a law enforcement official, who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation.”

The New York Times (1/9, Levenson, 20.6M) reports, “A man who had an assault rifle was charged with threatening Nancy Pelosi, the House speaker, after he traveled to Washington for the pro-Trump rally on Wednesday and sent a text message saying he would put ‘a bullet in her noggin on Live TV,’ the federal authorities said.” The Times adds, “Federal agents said the man, Cleveland Grover Meredith Jr., had been staying at a Holiday Inn in Washington and had weapons in his camper-style trailer, including a Glock handgun, a pistol, a Tavor X95 assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition. Meredith was charged with transmitting a threat in interstate commerce, possession of an unregistered firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition, according to court records.”

NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 2, 2:25, Snow, 3.76M) reported that “at least two more allegedly involved in the attack on the Capitol were arrested” on Sunday. NBC's Ron Allen said Larry Rundell Brock of Texas and Eric Gavleek Munchel of Tennessee are “both charged with violently entering the Capitol and disorderly conduct.”

The Washington Post (1/10, Hsu, 10.52M) reports that Brock, "a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, was arrested in Texas and charged with one count of knowingly entering a restricted building and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct, prosecutors said. Brock identified himself to the New Yorker last week as the man photographed in the well of the Senate chamber wearing a green combat helmet, tactical vest, and black and camo jacket. The photo shows the man holding a white flex cuff, used by police to restrain subjects, prosecutors said.”

USA Today (1/10, Connolly, Macareeg, Stephenson, Dorman, Wegner, 12.7M) reports, “Munchel, 30, was being held in a Nashville jail Sunday on a federal warrant; online records show. An FBI spokesperson, Samantha Shero, confirmed the arrest. The federal prosecutor’s office in Washington is handling the case. ‘Photos depicting his presence show a person who appears to be Munchel carrying plastic restraints, an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted...
on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day,’ the office said in a news release."

The New York Times (1/10, Goldman, Benner, 20.6M) reports the Justice Department ‘said that photographs of a person who appeared to be Mr. Muncheil showed him ‘carrying plastic restraints, an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day.’” DOJ said images of a person who appeared to be Brock showed him "clad in a green helmet, green tactical vest with patches, black and camo jacket, and beige pants holding a white flex cuff, which is used by law enforcement to restrain and/or detain subjects.’’ The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports Brock, ‘a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, confirmed to The New Yorker magazine that he was involved in Wednesday’s breach of the Capitol.” The CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 2, 1:45, Duncan, 13.72M) also covers the arrests.

HuffPost (1/10, 363K) reports, “Officials also arrested” Brock, “who lives in Texas, saying he appeared to be holding ‘a white flex cuff, which is used by law enforcement to restrain and/or detain subjects.’” The FBI “also said the photos of him appeared to show ‘an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day.’ Both men are charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.”

ABC News (1/8, Meek, 2.44M) reports, “Federal agents and detectives from the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department have launched a broad and multipronged investigation into the mayhem and death Wednesday at the United States Capitol, that sources tell ABC News includes an effort to determine the motives of a paramilitary faction of the mob that invaded the heart of American government. ‘We’re talking about a very complex investigation,’ said Robert Boyce, a 35-year veteran and former chief of detectives of the New York Police Department. That effort involves scanning volumes of social media posts, reviewing hours of security camera footage, and combing through mountains of cellphone data to determine exactly what occurred, investigators told ABC News.”

Daily Beast: Lengthy Process To Determine If Booby Traps Were Left Behind. The Daily Beast (1/8, Shannon, 933K) reports that “there are innumerable potential hiding places” in the Capitol “for lethal devices that can be activated later, by a remote trigger such as a cell phone, or by a vibration-sensitive device like the one that sets off a car alarm when a vehicle rumbles by or honks. Or somebody could have stuck a handgun inside a vase or hollow lamp or behind a toilet, à la Michael Corleone’s first hit, intending to return later as a tourist, reclaim the gun and assassinate some lawmaker. ‘To clear a 15-by-15 foot office, would take four bomb techs all day,’ Dave Williams, a former FBI bomb tech who investigated the Oklahoma City bombing, the World Trade Center bombing and other attacks, told SpyTalk. ‘They’d have to look under carpets, at the fire alarms, light switches, lamps, even light bulbs. A light bulb can be modified so when you turn it on, it explodes. If you have a five-drawer file cabinet, each drawer should be opened remotely.’”

FBI Warned Capitol Police Of Possibility Of Violence Before Riot.

NBC News (1/10, Dilanian, 4.91M) reports, "The FBI and the New York City Police Department passed information to U.S. Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during the protests Wednesday against the counting of the Electoral College vote, and the FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington, senior law enforcement officials said.” NBC News adds, "The previously unreported details undercut the assertion by a top FBI official that officials had no indication that violence was a possibility, and they add to questions about what intelligence authorities had reviewed before the Capitol riot, which led to the death of an officer and four other people, including a rioter who was shot and killed by police. 'Social media is just part of a full intelligence picture, and while there was First Amendment-protected activity on social media to include some people making threats, to this point, investigators have not found that there was an organized plot to access the Capitol,' a senior FBI official said.”
The AP (1/10, Long, Balsamo, Mascaro) reports, "Despite ample warnings about pro-Trump demonstrations in Washington, U.S. Capitol Police did not bolster staffing on Wednesday and made no preparations for the possibility that the planned protests could escalate into massive violent riots, according to several people briefed on law enforcement's response." According to the AP, "The revelations shed new light on why Capitol Police were so quickly overrun by rioters. The department had the same number of officers in place as on a routine day. While some of those officers were outfitted with equipment for a protest, they were not staffed or equipped for a riot. 'They were left naked,' Rep. Maxine Waters, D-California, said of the police in an interview with AP. She had raised security concerns in a Dec. 28 meeting of House Democrats and grilled Steven Sund, the Capitol Police chief, during an hourlong private call on New Year's Eve. 'It turns out it was the worst kind of non-security anybody could ever imagine.'"

The Los Angeles Times (1/8, Zou, 3.37M) reports, "Officers at a U.S. Capitol perimeter fence tried to hold their line but failed as intruders overturned the barrier. Officers at another gate, seemingly overwhelmed, appeared to walk off as the intruders passed by. Another lone officer tried to hold back an advancing group before fleeing through the halls of Congress. In many cases, the officers were in normal uniform. Nowhere were there the skirmish lines of officers in riot gear seen during other recent events, including Black Lives Matter protests." The Times adds, "The stunning collapse of national security left many of the nation's leaders cowering behind benches and fearing for their lives," but "by Thursday, much of their shock had been supplanted by anger - with leading lawmakers demanding resignations from the Capitol's top security officials and calling for broad investigations into the array of tactical failures under their watch."

The Wall Street Journal (1/9, Calvert, Youssef, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that uneven communications between local and federal agencies hindered a forceful response to the riot.

Pete Williams reported on NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 3, 1:10, Snow, 3.76M) that the New York Police Department "notified the US Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during last week's electoral vote count. Law enforcement officials say the NYPD's intelligence unit sent a packet of information to police agencies nationwide describing the violent rhetoric and the threats of social media, with a separate report sent directly to Capitol Police. And a senior FBI official says agents contacted more than a dozen suspected extremists. These are people who were already under FBI surveillance, and who indicated a desire to come to Washington last week. ... These disclosures do add to the questions about why the Capito! Police were not better prepared when the rioters stormed in, and why there wasn't a greater sense of urgency throughout the federal government about the possibility that the Capitol was a target." The Washington Post (1/10, Tan, 10.52M) reports "embattled" Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund "stepped down from his post on Friday, days earlier than he said he would." On Thursday, Sund said his resignation would be effective January 15.

USA Today (1/10, Bohan, Fritze, Brook, 12.7M) reports Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) "said Sunday it took nearly two hours for the Pentagon to give authorization for his state to send its National Guard into Washington to help protect the U.S. Capitol as it came under attack." Hogan said on CNN's State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), "Our Guard mobilized and was ready, but we couldn't actually cross over the border into DC without the okay. And that was quite some time. ... I can't speak as to what was going on the other end of the line back at the Pentagon or in the White House. ... All I know is that we were trying to get answers and we weren't getting answers."

Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) on MSNBC's Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, "One thing that I think is particularly striking is the low number of arrests. Here you have videos of folks engaged in criminal behavior, and the number of arrests is very small. That's unacceptable." Peters added, "We have to send a strong signal to those folks who were engaged in this action, that they will be sought out, they will be punished, and anyone else who tries to do this in the future is going to certainly face a very different result than what we saw this last week."

Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) on MSNBC's Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, "Had it not been for the gunshot of the one shot fired by that plainclothes officer in the Speaker's Lobby right behind the House gallery, right there, if those people had been able to get through, they would have had us who were in the gallery up on the third floor trapped...and I have no doubt some of us who look
Lawmakers Investigating Police Preparation Ahead Of Capitol Occupation. Reuters (1/8, Cornwell, So, Berens, Januta, Tanfani) reports that following “the historic security breach of the iconic domed building that houses the U.S. House and Senate, lawmakers told harrowing tales of their escapes from grave danger in the deadly mob assault that many say was incited by Trump,” and “several told Reuters that top Capitol security officials had assured them they would be safe ahead of the planned protests and that everything was under control.” In interviews with Reuters “and in public statements, lawmakers fumed over the failure of the Capitol Police – a 2,000-member force dedicated to guarding the Capitol Grounds – and other agencies.” The Hill (1/8, Marcos, 5.69M) reports Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), the chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that oversees Capitol Police funding, “said Friday he’s asked the police chief to provide all communications during the pro-Trump riots that unfolded this week and will investigate whether any officers assisted rioters.”

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, A1, Holder, Flatow, 3.57M) interviewed several current and former police leaders about “the logistics of how preparation for a major rally or protest typically works – and why Wednesday’s preparation was such a dismaying contrast to typical practice.” In a nearly 2,000-word article, Politico (1/6, 6.73M) says “the successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters....represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history.” According to Politico, “Minute by minute, individual officers sometimes acted bravely, but hour by hour, Wednesday’s events demonstrated a top-to-bottom failure by a key federal law-enforcement agency. The crisis can’t even be called a failure of imagination, as 9/11 is sometimes seen, because in many ways the idea that the pro-Trump mob might march on the Capitol to disrupt the proceedings inside seemed all but obvious. Nor was this an incident that just slipped under the radar. The joint session inside was the single biggest news event in the United States that day, and the rioters had been planning disruptive protest for weeks, in the open.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) says in an editorial, “Top law enforcement officials and key members of Congress have said plainly what Americans could see – that the events Wednesday were enabled by a failure of law enforcement and a collapse of security.” The Post adds, “To prevent another such failure, on Inauguration Day and subsequently, there must be a robust investigation of the causes for evident shortcomings in leadership, planning, intelligence, coordination and tactics.” The Post calls for the implementation of long-term security measures, concluding the Capitol building “must remain the people’s house - but one that is secure from insurrection.”

McCarthy Says National Guard Could Be Permitted To Carry Guns In DC Ahead Of Inauguration. Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy on Friday told the ABC (1/8, Baldor) that Defense Department officials “are reviewing restrictions on the use of force by National Guard members and could allow troops to carry batons or guns in Washington, D.C., as they brace for more protests and possible violence around the Jan. 20 inaugural.” In particular, McCarthy “told The AP...that any changes will be determined by the intelligence gathered in the coming days about potential threats. But he said they are looking at allowing troops to carry their M-4 rifles or 9 mm Berettas, and he will know more in a day or two.”

Pentagon Officials: Quick-Reaction Force Was Not Deployed When Capitol Was Stormed Due To Lack Of Planning. The Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) reports, “A small quick-reaction force assembled by the Defense Department to assist if needed during protests in Washington on Wednesday did not immediately respond when a pro-Trump mob stormed the Capitol because of a lack of a prior planning with Capitol Police over how it might be deployed, Pentagon officials said.” A “timeline of events that the Pentagon released Friday night” indicates that the force was at “Joint Base Andrews in Maryland and authorized for use by acting defense secretary Christopher C. Miller if additional support is requested by civil authorities.” The Post adds, “But a senior defense official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said the Defense Department and Capitol Police hadn’t reached an agreement or settled on a concept of operation ahead of time.”

Meanwhile, a nearly 3,700-word front-page Washington Post (1/9, A1, Demirjian, Leonnig,
Kane, Davis, 10.52M) article chronicles how Capitol police “lost control” of the situation even though Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund had previously “assured members of Congress that his force of 2,000 officers could handle the large expected crowds, according to multiple people who spoke with Sund in the days leading up to the siege.”

However, the Los Angeles Times (1/9, 3.37M) reports the attack on the US Capitol “has spurred congressional leaders to demand a ‘robust’ inquiry into the ‘mind-boggling’ failure of national security,” but they don’t have to “look far for accountability. Congress itself is both client and overseer of the U.S Capitol Police - a secretive agency whose procedures and actions have been kept under wraps for decades by lawmakers themselves.” Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs Executive Director Jonathan Smith said, “The Capitol Police is uniquely opaque, even among federal law enforcement.” The Times adds that not much is known regarding “how the Capitol Police operate.” Congress “has exempted the agency from the Freedom of Information Act, preventing the public from requesting records – unlike with other agencies, such as the FBI.”

House Democrats Bring Up Possibility Capitol Rioters Received Internal Aid. Politico (1/8, Cheney, Farris, Barron-Lopez, 6.73M) reports more House Democrats “say they’re concerned that tactical decisions by some Capitol Police officers worsened Wednesday’s riots and have raised the possibility that the pro-Trump mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol might have had outside help.” Videos have come to light “showing a small number of officers pulling down barricades for the rioters and, in another instance, stopping for a photo with one of them.” Politico adds, “Some of those incidents were raised on a 3.5-hour caucus call by House Democrats on Friday, demanding an investigation not only into the decisions by the Capitol Police leadership but by some rank-and-file officers caught on camera.” However, the legislators additionally brought up “general concerns that the rioters had some sort of outside help not necessarily attributable to the Capitol’s police corps.” Rep. Steve Horsford (D-ON) “told his colleagues he thought the riots were ‘an inside job,’ according to two lawmakers on the call.”

Statehouses Nationwide Heighten Security After US Capitol “Overrun.” According to the AP (1/8, Liebi), “The insurrection by supporters of...Trump at the U.S. Capitol this week has prompted governors and lawmakers in several states to heighten security at their own capitol buildings as they gather amid a pandemic for legislative sessions and inaugural ceremonies.” The AP reports that state legislatures are concerned that if “the U.S. Capitol - a shining symbol of democracy with a dedicated police force - can be overrun by a violent mob, could state capitals be next?”

Armed Protesters Used Michigan State Capitol Siege Like A Dry Run For Wednesday Attack. The New York Times (1/9, Gray, 20.6M) says protesters with guns rushed Michigan’s State Capitol in April and “demanded entry into the House of Representatives’ chamber, chanting ‘Let Us In.’” Some of the protesters, “wearing camouflage fatigues with semiautomatic rifles slung over their shoulders, watched ominously from the gallery above the Senate chamber as the elected officials did their work.” On Wednesday, as the US Capitol was breached, Michigan State Sen. Sylvia Santana (D) said, “Michigan was the precursor for what happened.” A Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) article headlined “After Trial Runs At Statehouses Last Year, The Far-right’s Violent Tactics Erupted At The Capitol” provides similar coverage.

More Commentary. In a piece for MSNBC (1/9, 8.1M), Frank Figliuzzi, who was the assistant director for counterintelligence at the FBI, writes, “In the aftermath of the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 7, there will be resignations, hearings and inquiries at the Capitol Police department, the respective House and Senate sergeant-at-arms offices, and other law enforcement or military entities. The warning signs and intelligence were there - they were just ignored. But let’s be clear – what happened to our democracy that day was not an intelligence failure; it was a failure to act upon available intelligence.” Figliuzzi adds, “The lights are blinking red, and they will continue to signal our vulnerability for the final two weeks of this leaderless administration. Our adversaries are watching. Whether or not they act on the available intelligence depends on our capacity to see what they see: a soft target that needs to secure far more than the building on Capitol Hill.”

In a piece for USA Today (1/8, 12.7M), Todd Gitlin writes, “For months, supporters of
President Donald Trump have mounted acts and threats of violent insurrection against federal and state governments. In September, FBI and Homeland Security officials warned a Senate committee of the "high lethality" of white supremacist groups. Gitlin adds, "Insurrectionary activity has taken place nationwide. Congress must quickly convene an investigative commission to get answers to questions including...which officials in the FBI, Homeland Security, and other agencies were aware of violent preparations in the run-up to the congressional vote yesterday to count and affirm the states' election results," and "which white supremacist groups were under surveillance after the FBI and Homeland Security warned of 'high lethality'."

In a piece for Politico (1/8, 6.73M), Garrett M. Graff writes, "The successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters on Wednesday represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history, a catastrophic collapse that may well end up costing one Capitol Police officer his life and the entire security leadership of the Capitol their jobs." Politico adds, "With both houses of Congress in a crucial joint session, the crowds that first approached the Capitol's outer fence were no larger than the department deals with routinely. Yet within minutes, the outer fence lines had collapsed and officers were in full-blown retreat." Graff adds, "Through the afternoon Wednesday and through Thursday, current and former major city police chiefs traded puzzled and worried calls, all amazed at the assault on – and stunningly easy fall of – one of the world's supposedly most secure buildings."

**US Officials Reportedly Open Murder Probe Into Death Of Capitol Police Officer.**

The AP (1/9, Mascaro, Daly) reports Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick "has died from injuries suffered as President Donald Trump’s supporters stormed the Capitol." The US Capitol Police "said in a statement that...Sicknick was injured 'while physically engaging with protesters' during the Wednesday riot," making him "the fifth person to die because of the Capitol protest and violence."

Sicknick’s family released a statement reading: "Many details regarding Wednesday’s events and the direct causes of Brian’s injuries remain unknown, and our family asks the public and the press to respect our wishes in not making Brian’s passing a political issue." On CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.37M), Jeff Pegues said Sicknick, was "a 12-year veteran who served in the first responders unit."

Reuters (1/8, Singh, Heavey, Holland) reports a law enforcement official told CNN that federal prosecutors "are opening a murder investigation" into Sicknick's death. On the CBS Evening News (1/8, story 4, 2:11, O'Donnell, 4.08M), Jeff Pegues said investigators are "still at the beginning of this investigation, but, obviously, they're going to use cell phone data and video from inside the Capitol to try to get the person or persons...responsible." On ABC's Good Morning America (1/8, 3.14M), Pierre Thomas said police "want to know if he was assaulted and if that mob played a role in his death. Was it murder?"

The New York Times (1/8, Santora, Specie, 20.5M) reports that "it was unclear where Mr. Sicknick’s encounter with the rioters took place, but photos and a video posted by a local reporter during the night of chaos showed a man spraying a fire extinguisher outside the Senate chamber, with a small number of police officers overlooking the area on a nearby stairway." Reuters (1/8, Lynch, Brice) has more on the investigation into Sicknick's death.

A front-page Washington Post (1/8, A1, Hermann, Weiner, Heim, Jackman, 10.52M) article reports a White House spokesman "said Trump and his administration ‘extend our prayers to Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick’s family as we all grieve the loss of this American hero,’ while House Speaker Pelosi ordered flags at the U.S. Capitol to be flown at half-staff," and "Thursday night, officers lined up in front of the Capitol in silence to honor their fallen colleague." On the lead ABC World News Tonight (1/8, lead story, 4:22, Muir, 6.95M) segment, Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl said Vice President Pence "offered his condolences, and the White House put out a statement from a deputy press secretary, but nothing from the President himself. Trump, more isolated than ever, remained behind closed doors at the White House today, amidst growing calls for him to resign." Meanwhile, Reuters (1/8, Hunicutt) reports Joe Biden on Friday "expressed sympathy to the family of the U.S. Capitol Police officer killed in Wednesday’s invasion of Congress by pro-Trump supporters, and said those responsible would be held accountable."

Biden said, "The people responsible should be held accountable, and they will be."
Bloomberg (1/9, Natter, Laing, 3.57M) reports that aside from Sicknick and Babbitt, three others "died Wednesday when thousands of pro-Trump supporters forced their way into the U.S. Capitol in Washington, smashing windows and ransacking offices." Meanwhile, a front-page Washington Post (1/9, Al, Jamison, Natanson, Woodrow Cox, Horton, 10.52M) article chronicles "Babbitt's journey from capital 'guardian' to invader."

Officer Held Back Rioters For Nearly One Minute. Reuters (1/10, Hals) reports Capitol Police officer Eugene Goodman "is being hailed for his role steering an angry mob away from the Senate chambers in Wednesday's deadly storming" of the Capitol. Goodman can be seen in a video "getting rioters to move away from the Senate as police raced to secure the chamber." The New York Post (1/10, Brown, 7.45M) reports analysis of the video "shows that he held them back for almost a minute - at the exact time as a half-dozen armed officers were inside the chamber desperately trying to secure it."

Officer Who Was On Duty Wednesday Dies In Apparent Suicide. The New York Daily News (1/10, Sblendorio, 2.51M) reports Howard Liebengood, "a longtime officer with U.S. Capitol Police," died Saturday while off duty "in what's being described as an apparent suicide. Capitol Police did not reveal a cause of death for Liebengood in its announcement Sunday," but two sources said it was suicide, and "a colleague with Capitol Police also referred to Liebengood's death as a suicide in a Facebook post Sunday."

CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that President Trump "ordered that the flag flying above the White House be lowered to half-staff on Sunday to honor US Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick and [Liebengood], who were both on duty when a mob of Trump's supporters stormed the US Capitol on Wednesday."

Pro-Trump Police Unions "Angry" With President Over Call For Supporters To March On Capitol. In an exclusive, the Washington Times (1/8, Mordock, 626K) reports police unions nationwide "mobilized like never before to support Mr. Trump ahead of the presidential election," but "police unions that once blasted Mr. Biden for his tepid denunciation of rioters, say they are angry that Mr. Trump urged his supporters to march to the Capitol."

Police Departments Nationwide Investigating If Their Officers Stormed Capitol.
The New York Times (1/9, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports police departments nationwide have "suspended officers or referred them to internal reviews for attending the events on Jan. 6 in Washington that devolved into an assault on the U.S. Capitol." According to the Times, "The commanding officers or officials involved in the cases in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington State stressed that while the officers attended as private citizens, the question of whether they broke the law would be investigated."

Reuters (1/10, Caspani) reports that "police departments in Virginia and Washington state have placed officers on leave as authorities examine whether they took part in unlawful acts while off-duty." Reuters adds, "Fire departments in Florida and New York City have also said they reported to federal authorities allegations that some of their members may have been present when the mob broke into the Capitol as Congress met to certify the results of the Nov. 3 presidential election. The police department in the small town of Rocky Mount, Virginia, said on Sunday it had placed two officers on administrative leave after it learned they attended an 'event' in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday while off-duty."

The New York Post (1/9, Edelman, 7.45M) reports, "The FBI is investigating whether active or retired FDNY firefighters took part in the siege at the US Capitol, The Post has learned. The department issued a statement Saturday in response to questions about a photo posted to Twitter of a man wearing a jacket marked 'FDNY Squad 252' on the back, standing near the entrance to the Capitol and carrying an American flag. 'The department received anonymous allegations that active or retired members were present at the events at the United States Capitol on January 6 and, as required, has provided that information to the FBI,' the statement said."

While Bulk Of Americans Feel Attack On Capitol Was Unacceptable, "Large Portion Of The County At Least Empathizes With What Occurred."

A Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) analysis says that "while most Americans also think that the
actions of the mob” who attacked the Capitol on Wednesday “were unacceptable, a large portion of the country at least empathizes with what occurred or, in some cases, actually approves.” A HuffPost poll released on Friday which was carried out by YouGov indicates that roughly “three-quarters of the country expressed disapproval of what the mob had done.” Meanwhile, a NewsHour poll released the same day which was carried out by Marist College asked whether respondents backed what happened at the Capitol. The Post adds, “Even more expressed opposition than disapproval.” However, the HuffPost polling indicates that one third of Trump backers feel that “those who stormed the Capitol represent people like them or represent Trump supporters broadly.”

**Attack On Capitol Highlighted “Disbelief In Democracy That Has Metastasized Among Many Of” Trump’s Backers.** Meanwhile, a New York Times (1/9, Gabriel, 20.6M) analysis says that the “violent mob inspired by... Trump smashing its way into the Capitol” was “a shocking spectacle” that “highlighted one of the most dangerous parts of Mr. Trump’s legacy: the disbelief in democracy that has metastasized among many of his supporters.” The Times adds that while the “turmoil...has divided Republican officials,” some of the voters who “fervently back” Trump in interviews “expressed sympathy with what they said were the motives of the mob - to stop the counting of Electoral College results in Congress, under the false premise that widespread fraud had deprived the president of re-election.” According to the Times, this stance “suggests that a core part of the Republican Party, both voters and some officials, is dead-set on rejecting the legitimacy of any politics or party but their own.”

**Three Sri Lankan Nationals Charged In Federal Court With Aiding 2019 Bombings.**

The Los Angeles Times (1/8, Ormseth, 3.37M) reports, “Three Sri Lankan nationals were charged Friday in federal court in Los Angeles with supporting an ISIS cell that killed hundreds of people in a string of coordinated suicide bombings that shook Sri Lanka in 2019.” Mohamed Naufar, Mohamed Anwar Mohamed Rikan and Ahmed Milhan Hayathu Mohamad are “accused of conspiring to provide material support to ISIS.” Naufar and Millian are “also charged with aiding and abetting the receipt of military training from ISIS.”

The AP (1/8) reports, “The men have no California connection but the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force that headed the investigation is based in Los Angeles, according to the U.S. attorney’s office.” They were “being held in Sri Lanka and it wasn’t immediately clear whether they had attorneys who could speak for them.” Nick Hanna, U.S. attorney for the Central District of California, said in a statement, “This case clearly demonstrates that the United States will take decisive action to ensure terrorists face justice when they target Americans anywhere in the world. This complaint makes clear that we stand ready with these charges in the event the defendants attempt to evade justice.”

**Jacobsen: Biometric Evidence Used In Fight Against Terrorism May Not Be Reliable.**

In an essay adapted from her upcoming book “First Platoon” for the New York Times (1/9, 20.6M), reporter and author Annie Jacobsen writes President Trump pardoned Clint Lorance, “an Army first lieutenant who ordered his platoon to shoot three unarmed motorcycle riders in Afghanistan, in July 2012, killing two of them,” after “being shown biometric data — fingerprints and DNA — that alleged the Afghan men killed were Taliban bomb makers, not civilians.” Jacobsen writes that “biometric evidence is at the heart” in the case of Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, who “pleaded guilty to killing 16 Afghan villagers in cold blood.” Bales’ “appeal rests, in part, on data provided by a biometrics expert named William Carney — who also worked on the Lorance case.” Jacobsen writes that “these efforts are built upon the century-old law enforcement notion that ‘fingerprints don’t lie.’” However, “in the nascent world of Defense Department biometrics, I learned, fingerprint evidence can be manipulated and misconstrued.”

**Boston Marathon Bomber Sues Over Treatment In Prison.**
The New York Post (1/8, Woods, 7.45M) reported, "Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is suing the federal government for $250,000 over his treatment inside the Colorado supermax prison where he is serving a life sentence — claiming his baseball cap was confiscated and he has been restricted to only three showers a week, according to a new report." In the suit, Tsarnaev accused guards and the warden at the Federal Correctional Complex Florence — called the "Alcatraz of the Rockies" — of being "unlawful, unreasonable and discriminatory," The Boston Herald reported. "Tsarnaev claimed that prison guards confiscated his baseball cap and bandana 'because, by wearing [the cap], I was 'disrespecting' the FBI and the victims' of the April 15, 2013, bombing, according to the report." His treatment, he claimed, "has made him so anxious that it is contributing to his 'mental and physical decline.'"

FAA Chief Issues Statement Warning Public Not To Disrupt Flights With "Unruly Passenger Behavior."

Bloomberg (1/9, Levin, 3.57M) reports Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Stephen Dickson released a statement Saturday vowing "strong enforcement action against anyone who endangers the safety of a flight, with penalties ranging from monetary fines to jail time." Dickson's statement followed "a spate of incidents" last week "involving supporters of President Donald Trump disrupting flights and refusing to wear face masks." Dickson added that FAA keeps tabs on flight safety violations such as "unruly passenger behavior, which can distract, disrupt, and threaten crew members' ability to conduct their key safety functions."

Reuters (1/9, Shepardson) reports Dickson stated, "I expect all passengers to follow crew member instructions, which are in place for their safety and the safety of flight." The story reports Alaska Airlines has "banned 14 passengers from future travel with the carrier after 'unacceptable' behavior on a flight from Washington to Seattle." According to the story, FAA has "opened more than 1,300 enforcement actions against unruly passengers during the past decade."

CNBC (1/9, Josephs, 7.34M) reports last week, one "American Airlines pilot on a Washington-to-Phoenix flight warned travelers he would 'put this plane down and dump people off in the middle of Kansas' to convince passengers to 'behave' on board," There was "another flight" where "American Airlines flight attendants turned up the lights and ordered passengers to their seats after passengers shouted and cursed each other."

Capitol Police To Station Agents At DC-Area Airports After Multiple Members Of Congress Harassed. Politico (1/9, Ferris, 6.73M) reports, "Capitol security officials are escalating safety measures for members of Congress at airports after multiple incidents in which lawmakers have been verbally harassed as they travel to and from Washington." USCP will station agents "at three regional airports" - Reagan International, Dulles International, and Baltimore-Washington International - "through Inauguration Day to assist with security coordination." The action was taken "after the confrontation of many lawmakers in D.C. airports, including Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-S.C.)." Unlike Graham, "many lawmakers, particularly in the House, do not" have a dedicated security detail with them when they travel, and "Several lawmakers have privately been raising concerns that they could be not just confronted verbally, but threatened in more dramatic fashion in the coming days and weeks."

ABC World News Tonight (1/9, story 5, 0:30, Llamas, 839K) broadcast USCP "will be teaming up with other authorities, including US Air Marshals, to provide protection for members of Congress." NBC News (1/10, Moe, Lozano, 4.91M) reports online the Washington Metropolitan Airports Authority and US Air Marshals "will increase security for congressional travel to and from Washington." In addition to Graham, Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT) and Rep. Lou Correa (D-CA) were also "heckled" at airports while traveling home last week.

Pompeo To Designate Yemen's Houthis A Foreign Terrorist Organization.

The Washington Post (1/10, Hudson, Ryan, 10.52M) reports, "The Trump administration has decided to designate Yemen's Houthi rebels as a foreign terrorist organization," according to unnamed sources. The Post says "aid groups and several senior U.S. officials worry" the decision "could worsen a humanitarian crisis." In a memo obtained by the outlet, Secretary of State Pompeo "announced his intention to blacklist the group and add three of its top officials to a list of FBI(21cv558)-2703
Specially Designated Global Terrorists, including leader Abdal Malik al-Houthi.” An official “said the
decision was based on the group’s involvement in terrorist activities, including a missile attack on
a Saudi airport in 2019 and another on a Saudi oil distribution station in 2020.” Pompeo said, “The
designations are intended to hold Ansarallah accountable for its terrorist acts, including cross-
border attacks threatening civilian populations, infrastructure, and commercial shipping.”

The AP (1/11, Mike) reports, “A leading aid organization on Monday warned that U.S.
Secretary of State Mike Pompeo’s move to designate Yemen’s Iran-backed Houthi rebels as a
foreign terrorist organization would deal another ‘devastating blow’ to the impoverished and war-
torn nation.” The Norwegian Refugee Council “said the designation and Pompeo's planned
sanctions on the Houthis ‘will hamstring the ability of aid agencies to respond’ to the humanitarian
needs of millions of Yemenis.” The council, along with other humanitarian agencies active in
Yemen, “have long warned that sanctions could prove catastrophic for efforts to help starving
Yemeni civilians caught in the conflict between the Houthis and the Yemeni government, backed by
a Saudi-led coalition which has been waging war against the rebels.”

COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

Experts: Foreign Intelligence Officials Likely Entered Capitol Building.

Government Matters (DC) (1/10, Haddon) reports that former ODNI National Security Policy
Analyst Katrina Mulligan “said the possibility that a bad actor could have gotten into the Capitol
building” during its assault last week “is ‘more than plausible’ and ‘has almost certainly occurred.’”
Mulligan estimates there to be “over 100,000 foreign intelligence officials believed to be living in
the Washington, D.C. area.” Mulligan said last week's events are “exactly the kind of situation that
a foreign intelligence official would be seeking to exploit for these sorts of purposes.” Former
Deputy Assistant DHS Secretary for Counterterrorism Policy Tom Warlick said foreign adversaries
don't have to go after the most classified secrets – they can go after cell phones, laptops, papers
left on desks as people are evacuated.”

DNI Ombudsman: Administration Politicized Some Intelligence Regarding Foreign
Interference In 2020 Elections.

The New York Times (1/8, Barnes, Savage, Goldman, 20.6M) says that Barry Zulauf, the analytic
ombudsman in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, has “concluded” in a new report
submitted to Congress on Thursday that the Administration “politicized the intelligence around
foreign election interference in 2020, resulting in significant errors in its reports last year to
Congress and the public.” Analysts “believed that the classified document – after interventions by
John Ratcliffe, the current director of national intelligence, to add the warning about China – was
an ‘outrageous misrepresentation of their analysis,’” according to Zulauf. The analysts “believed
that during a drawn-out review process, senior leaders had ‘watered down’ their conclusions
about Russia to make it sound ‘not too controversial’ while diverting attention to China by
bolstering the perception of its threat.”

The Washington Post (1/8, Nakashima, 10.52M) says Zulauf “described an intelligence
community afflicted by a ‘widespread perception in the workforce about politicization’ of analysis
on the topic of foreign election influence – one that he says threatens the legitimacy of the agencies’
work.” According to the Post, “The dispute illustrates the task faced by the incoming
administration, with senior advisers to...Joe Biden saying they want to end what they describe as
a toxic political environment in the intelligence community and produce the best information for
policymakers.”

Dominion Voting Systems Sues Ex-Trump Lawyer Sidney Powell For $1.3B.

USA Today (1/8, Cummings, 12.7M) reports, “Dominion Voting Systems filed a defamation lawsuit
against attorney Sidney Powell over” claims relating to the 2020 election. Powell has “variously
implicated Dominion, deceased Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez, the CIA and Chinese communists
in a plot to rig the election against Trump.” The lawsuit says, “Dominion was founded in Toronto
for the purpose of creating a fully auditable paper-based vote system that would empower people with disabilities to vote independently on verifiable paper ballots.” The company “says her claims are not rooted in any factual basis but instead rely on ‘declarations from a motley crew of conspiracy theorists, con artists, armchair ‘experts,’ and anonymous sources who were judicially determined to be ‘wholly unreliable.’” The *Wall Street Journal* (1/8, Corse, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

**Trump Faces Calls To Pardon WikiLeaks’ Assange.**  The *New York Times* (1/10, Vogel, 20.6M) reports WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange’s allies “have ramped up a push for a last-minute pardon from President Trump, enlisting a lobbyist with connections to the administration, trying to rally supporters across the political spectrum and filing a clemency petition with the White House.” However, the Times says the initiative “comes at a delicate moment for Mr. Assange and during a period of tension between the United States and Britain over a case that his supporters say has substantial implications for press freedoms.”

**Nunes Asks Ratcliffe To Look Into Coronavirus Origins, Wuhan Lab Theory.**  The *Washington Examiner* (1/10, Dunleavy, 888K) reports that Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA), the ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee, called on DNI Ratcliffe “to provide details about the origins of the coronavirus in China, including intelligence community information related to whether COVID-19 may have escaped from a lab in Wuhan.” In a two-page letter, Nunes said the Republicans in his committee “have conducted a long-standing investigation into the rise of China as our foremost national security threat,” and “as part of that probe, we are investigating the outbreak of the coronavirus.” He “asked Ratcliffe to provide the intelligence with a classified notification on Chinese virology research, including ‘an explanation of significant changes in Intelligence Community analysis, or the evolution of such analysis, related to the origin of SARS-CoV-2, research activities in Wuhan labs, efforts by China to block international investigations of a possible lab leak, and actions taken by Chinese authorities that increased COVID-19 worldwide lethality and economic disruptions.’”

**Intel Agencies Directed In Spending Bill To Reveal Knowledge Of UFOs.**  CNN (1/10, Kaur, 89.21M) reports that following the signing of the coronavirus relief and government spending bill in December, DNI and the Secretary of Defense have 180 days “to provide the congressional intelligence and armed services committees with an unclassified report about ‘unidentified aerial phenomena.’” The IC report “must contain detailed analyses of UFO data and intelligence collected by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force and the FBI, according to the Senate intelligence committee’s directive.” It should also outline “an interagency process for ensuring timely data collection and centralized analysis of all unidentified aerial phenomena reporting for the Federal Government,” said the report. It must “designate an official responsible for that process” and “identify any potential national security threats posed by UFOs and assess whether any of the nation’s adversaries could be behind such activity.”

The *International Business Times* (1/10, Manning, 123K) reports, “Congress is interested in this information because of the various videos the Pentagon released in April.” They showed “unidentified area phenomena” that the U.S. Navy stated were real, according to CNN.

**CIA Redesigns Website With New, Modern Images.**  The *Los Angeles Times* (1/8, Miranda, 3.37M) reports that last week the CIA announced “that it had traded its old site design (a bureaucratic harmony of blue and beige) in favor of a sleek new look.” Visitors to the site now “encounter an all-black background with bold white headlines: ‘We are the Nation’s First Line of Defense.’” The agency’s seal “depicting an eagle and a shield, generally rendered in red, white, yellow and blue, has been transformed into stark black and white.” Additionally, “Cosmic-looking circular glyphs serve as navigational symbols. Scattered throughout the site are images of cerebral-yet-stylish individuals with blue-steel glares – of the sort you might find on the faculty page for SCI-Arc.” The Times says the redesign “draws attention
to the lack of good graphic design elsewhere in government.” The New York Times (1/8, Marcus, 20.6M) also reports.

**Kim Jong Un Threatens To Expand Nuclear Arsenal.**

The AP (1/8, Kim) reports, “North Korean leader Kim Jong Un threatened to expand his nuclear arsenal and develop more sophisticated atomic weapons systems, saying the fate of relations with the United States depends on whether it abandons its hostile policy, state media reported Saturday.”

Reuters (1/8, Kim) reports, “North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called the United States the ‘biggest enemy’ and said Washington’s hostile policy toward North Korea would not change regardless of who occupies the White House, state media reported on Saturday.”

CNN (1/9, 89.21M) reports that Kim “said North Korea is pushing ahead with the armaments to deter the United States, comments that appear to show President Donald Trump’s strategy of high-level engagement with Pyongyang...failed to convince Pyongyang to stop its pursuit of a modern nuclear arsenal.” The North Korean leader “said ‘multiple-warhead guidance technology’ is in the final stage, while studies in hypersonic flight that could be applied to new ballistic missiles ‘are complete,’ with North Korea ‘making preparations for their test and production.’”

The Washington Post (1/8, Denyer, 10.52M) reports that Kim said, “There is no more foolish and dangerous act than not reinforcing our own forces while clearly seeing development of state-of-the-art weapons of our enemies.” In the speech, “Kim vowed to develop solid-fuel ICBMs that can be launched from land and sea.” He also “called for more research and development into advanced military equipment, including spy satellites, hypersonic weapons and reconnaissance drones, and said research had nearly been completed on a nuclear submarine.”

The New York Times (1/8, Choe, 20.6M) reports that the speech “marked his first official reaction to the election of Mr. Biden to replace Mr. Trump.”

The AP (1/10, Kim) reports separately, “North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was given the title of general secretary of the ruling Workers’ Party formerly held by his late father and grandfather, state media reported Monday.” The added title is a “move apparently aimed at bolstering his authority amid growing economic challenges.” At the meeting, Kim also “vowed to build more sophisticated nuclear weapons, disclosed economic developmental goals and reshuffled party officials.”

The Hill (1/9, 5.69M) also reports.

**Chinese State Media Denounce Pompeo’s Lifting Of Restrictions On Contact Between US And Taiwan Officials.**

The AP (1/10, Moritsugu) reports, “China’s state media lashed out at the latest move on Taiwan by the departing Trump administration, accusing U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo of ‘seeking to maliciously inflict a long-lasting scar on China-U.S. ties.’” A commentary for the Xinhua News Agency stated “that the lifting of longstanding restrictions on U.S. government contacts with Taiwanese counterparts proves that Pompeo ‘is only interested in stoking unwarranted confrontations, and has no interest in world peace.’” A CGTN commentary “called Pompeo’s announcement ‘a cowardly act of sabotage’ of the next U.S. administration.” Taiwan’s Premier Su Tseng-chang said, “We are expressing our gratitude toward the U.S. for speaking out and supporting Taiwan.”

Reuters (1/10, Ali, Brunnstrom) reports on Saturday, Secretary of State Pompeo “said he was lifting restrictions on contacts between U.S. officials and their Taiwanese counterparts, a move likely to anger China and increase tensions between Beijing and Washington.” The restrictions were, said Pompeo, self-imposed, and lifting them, according to Reuters, “appeared to be another part of an effort...to lock in a tough approach to China.”

The New York Times (1/9, Barnes, Qin, 20.6M) reports, “A set of complex guidelines meant to make it difficult for American officials to visit with Taiwan’s officials was put in place after the adoption of the ‘One China policy’ in 1979, which recognized the communist government in Beijing and removed recognition of the nationalist government that ruled Taiwan.” Pompeo said, “Executive branch agencies should consider all ‘contact guidelines’ regarding relations with Taiwan.
previously issued by the Department of State under authorities delegated to the secretary of state to be null and void.” The Times also reports, “A Biden transition official said Mr. Biden remained committed to the One China policy, as well as the Taiwan Relations Act.”

**CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS**

**Fort Bliss Soldier Charged Over Alleged Sexual Assault Of Private First Class Subsequently Discovered Dead.**

ABC News Tonight (1/9, story 10, 0:18, Llamas, 839K) reported that the Army “says a Fort Bliss soldier has been charged for the alleged sexual assault of another soldier who was later found dead on base. Private First Class Asia Graham was found unresponsive in her barracks on New Year’s Eve. She reportedly accused the soldier charged of sexual assault before her death.”

**Colorado Attorney General’s Office Launches Grand Jury Probe Into McClain’s Death.**

The Hill (1/8, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports, “The Colorado attorney general’s office on Friday announced that it has launched a grand jury investigation into the death of Elijah McClain, a 23-year-old Black man who died after Aurora police put him in a chokehold in 2019.” Weiser said in a release that his office has commenced “a grand jury investigation,” in order to “compel testimony from witnesses and require production of documents and other relevant information that would otherwise be unavailable.” He said, “Our investigation will be thorough, guided by the facts and law, and worthy of the public’s trust.”

**Colorado Officers Will Not Face Charges Over Detainment Of Black Girls.** In a story that also reports on the grand jury probe into McClain’s death, the AP (1/8, Sievin, Nieberg) reports, “Suburban Denver police officers won’t be charged after detaining four Black girls by gunpoint this summer and handcuffing two of them after wrongly suspecting they were riding in a stolen car, prosecutors said Friday.” The August incident also involved personnel from the Aurora Police Department.

**FBI Releases Video Of Armored Car Courier Being Robbed At North Miami Beach ATM.**

The Miami Herald (1/9, Cohen, 647K) reported, “An armored car courier servicing an ATM at a Wells Fargo bank branch in North Miami Beach was robbed by a man driving a blue Honda Civic on Friday afternoon, the FBI said.” The FBI has “released video of an exchange between the robber and the courier — who fired a shot at the robber — and an image of the car’s rear and license plate.” According to FBI agent Michael Leverock, the robbery “happened at about 4 p.m. Friday near an ATM behind a Wells Fargo bank branch at 147th Street and Biscayne Boulevard.”

**FBI(21cv558)-2707**

**Former Michigan Police Officer Pleads Guilty To Civil Rights Charge Of Excessive Force.**

The Detroit Free Press (1/8, Abdel-Baqi, 2.16M) reported, “A former Hamtramck police officer who pistol-whipped two civilians in 2014 and lied about it in police reports pleaded guilty to a civil rights charge of excessive force in U.S. District Court in Detroit on Friday.” Ryan Mcinerney admitted that on the night of June 22, 2014, he stopped a man in his vehicle, ordered him to put his hands up, and without justification, pistol-whipped him several times in the face, according to the Department of Justice.” A news release from the DOJ said, “As a result of the assault, the victim, identified in court documents only as D.M., suffered broken facial bones and lacerations requiring stitches, among other injuries. D.M. did not present a danger to the defendant, and there was no lawful reason for the pistol-whipping.”

**Texas Man Pleads Sentenced In Fake ID Scheme To Get Free Flights.**

The Washington Post (1/8, 10:52M) reported, “A Houston man who U.S. attorneys say manufactured, used and sold fraudulent airline-employee ID cards to gain free-flight privileges on Spirit Airlines was sentenced on Wednesday to 30 months in prison by a U.S. district judge in
California." Hubbard Bell, 32, "a former Mesa Airlines employee who had legitimate access to the Spirit Airlines flight privileges as a work benefit until 2015, allegedly started the scam after Mesa Airlines terminated him in 2015." According to the article, "the fake ID ring ran from early 2016 to late 2017, and it resulted in 1,953 known flight bookings reserved for someone whose name did not match the Mesa Airlines employee used to book the free flight."

**Fugitive Convicted Of Chicago Murder Captured After More Than 20 Years At Large**

The *Times of Northwest Indiana* (1/9, Ortiz, 254K) reported, "On Tuesday the FBI Gang Response Investigative Team received a tip that a fugitive named Joseph Tallies, 55, was living in a home in Lake Station, said Chris Bavender of the FBI Indianapolis office." That same day, "agents arrested the man at a park at Liverpool Road and Decatur Street, which was near his residence, Bavender said. Tallies, "who fled mid-trial, was convicted in absentia of the murder of his brother-in-law and related arson in June 1997, according to a 1998 article from the Chicago Tribune."

**Ohio Resident Facing Drug, Firearm Charges.**

The *Youngstown (OH) Vindicator* (1/9, 135K) reported that a recently filed criminal complaint accuses Youngstown resident Raphael Ortiz "of possessing drugs with intent to distribute them and being a felon in possession of a firearm." The Vindicator added, "The charges stem from a search operation that involved the FBI and other law enforcement organizations.

**FBI Raids Homes, Offices Of Tennessee State Lawmakers.**

*NBC News* (1/8, 4.91M) reported, "Federal authorities raided homes and offices of several Tennessee lawmakers on Friday, including the property of former state House Speaker Glen Casada, officials said." FBI agents searched properties with "addresses associated with Casada, fellow GOP state Reps. Robin Smith and Todd Warner and Casada's former chief of staff, Cade Cothran, said David Boling, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Nashville." Casada resigned from "his leadership role in summer 2019, after he admitted to sending a series of sexually inappropriate and racist text messages."

The *AP* (1/8, Kruesi, Mattise) reports U.S. Attorney's Office for Middle Tennessee spokesman David Boling "said FBI agents searched the homes and offices of state lawmakers" on Friday. The searches "included the homes of former GOP House Speaker Glen Casada and state Rep. Robin Smith," but Boling "declined to provide any further information regarding the nature of the searches and how many lawmakers were involved."

*WSMV-TV* Nashville, TN (1/8, Sulek, Wenzel, 230K) reports Tennessee House Speaker Cameron Sexton said in a statement, "I have been, and I will continue to be in full cooperation with the authorities as their investigation continues. On the advice of both Ethics and Legal Counsel, I am placing everyone that was subject to the execution of today's search warrants on administrative leave until further notice." *CBS News* (1/8, 5.39M) reports Republican Governor Bill Lee "told reporters Friday that he had spoken to current House Speaker Cameron Sexton about the searches, describing them as 'FBI raids."

*The Chattanooga (TN) Times Free Press* (1/10, 168K) reports that Tennessee legislators believe that the raids focus "could be on the controversial 2019 passage of Gov. Bill Lee's school voucher bill." Critics "charged at the time that various promises to fund pet projects and take other actions were extended by GOP lawmakers to pass fellow Republican Lee's voucher bill."

*WSMV-TV* Nashville, TN (1/8, Finley, 230K) reports former Speaker of the House Glenn Casada has also "been embroiled in controversy over racist and sexist text messages as well as additional allegations of misconduct in stepping down as House Speaker."

Also reporting are *Tennesseean* (1/10, 645K), *Tennesseean* (1/10, 645K), *Tennesseean* (1/8, 645K), and *WSMV-TV* Nashville, TN (1/8, Sulek, Wenzel, 230K).

**Investigation In Georgia Leads To Meth Seizure.**

In online coverage, *WGX-KV* Macon, GA (1/8, Helm) reported, "The Butts County Sheriff's Office on Friday announced the results of a months-long" investigation that targeted an alleged methamphetamine trafficking ring. The DEA and the FBI were involved with the investigation.
which led to the seizure of "almost 10 pounds of meth with an estimated street value of over $225,000, along with handguns, assault rifles, vehicles, stolen property, and over $40,000 in cash." The Jackson (GA) Progress-Argus (1/8, Stanford, 11K) and the WALA-TV Atlanta (1/8, Evans, 315K) website also covered this story.

Pennsylvania Judge Orders Detention Of Former University Of Pittsburgh Student Over FBI Threats.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (1/8, 426K) reports U.S. Magistrate Judge Richard Lanzillo "ruled [Friday] that Khaled Miah, 27, will remain in custody as a danger to the community and a flight risk." FBI agents "said Mr. Miah holds Islamic extremist views and had been watching FBI agents who were investigating him." They also "said he used a Twitter account to post threatening messages to Pittsburgh agents and at one point watched an agent's residence."

The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (1/8, Ward, 245K) reports Lanzillo said in his ruling, "Anyone who seems to come within the defendant's orbit ... becomes subject to his surveillance and scrutiny." He added, "This is all with a backdrop of fascination with terrorism and terrorists that cannot be explained by academic interest."

Texas Man Suspected Of Murder Commits Suicide.

KDFW-TV Dallas (1/9, 372K) reports Herbert Nixon Flores, who "was being tracked by the FBI Fugitive Task Force from Los Angeles" in connection to the murder of an ex-girlfriend, "shot himself as more police vehicles approached him" in Irving.

The Los Angeles Times (1/9, 3.37M) reports that Flores' death "brought an end to a manhunt that began the morning of Jan. 5, when, police say, Flores shot his former girlfriend to death in the 9000 block of Barrie Avenue in Pacoima."

Former Federal Agent One Of Four Indicted In Painkillers Case.

The Miami Herald (1/9, 647K) reported that Albérico Añias Crespo, a former US Department of Health and Human Services agent, and three others were recently indicted "on charges of dealing painkillers in Miami-Dade County." The Herald highlighted the FBI's involvement with the investigation of this case.

Convicted Sex Offender Arrested In Utah.

Deseret News (UT) (1/8, 114K) reports Craig Thomas Defa, who "pledged guilty to four counts of sexual exploitation of a minor and unlawful conduct with a 16- or 17-year-old" in November 2019, "has been arrested again in an online undercover investigation by police." He "showed up to meet whom he thought was a 13-year-old girl," and he "was still wearing a GPS monitor on his ankle issued by a judge in his current case." The FBI supported the sting.


The Las Vegas Review-Journal (1/8, 372K) reports that the Las Vegas Valley’s Child Exploitation Task Force arrested Holens Colimon and Jose Calderon-Moller on charges of "attempting to pay a 15-year-old girl for sex as part of an undercover law enforcement sting in Las Vegas." A task force officer "received communications from two separate callers responding to the ad," and they "informed the callers that the girl being offered for prostitution was 15, and in each case, the callers were still willing to meet."

Arizona Identifies Body.

The AP (1/8) reports that the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office announced Friday the identification of Shane Rollman's body, which was "found in a dry creekbed near Interstate 17 on New Year's Day." Rollman's car "had been found abandoned about two miles away at a highway rest area on Sept. 23."

DOL Sues To Void Local 48 Leadership Election In Pennsylvania.
The Philadelphia Inquirer (1/8, Roebuck) reports that the Department of Labor “sued to void the most recent election of the city’s politically powerful electrician’s union Friday, saying labor leader John J. Dougherty and his allies had threatened those who had considered challenging them for leadership positions.” Government lawyers “asked a judge to force Local 98 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to hold a new vote for several top posts” after a raid conducted last October, when agents “sought evidence of similar claims that the union’s top officials had intimidated rivals who questioned Dougherty’s leadership after his 2019 indictment on bribery and embezzlement charges.”

FINANCIAL CRIME & CORPORATE SCANDALS

Deutsche Bank Agrees To Pay $125 Million To Settle Foreign Bribery Violations.
The New York Times (1/8, Goldstein, Enrich, 20.6M) reports, “Deutsche Bank agreed on Friday to pay $125 million to settle a foreign bribery investigation by federal authorities into the bank’s attempts to win business in several countries including Saudi Arabia by making improper payments to politically connected people.” The Wall Street Journal (1/8, Ramey, Patrick, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.

Former Iowa Public Official Sentenced For Mail Fraud.
The AP (1/8) reports former Iowa trash collection official Jeffrey Dworek “was sentenced Friday to 57 months in prison after pleading guilty last August to one count of federal mail fraud.” He “was arrested in 2019 and indicted on 10 mail fraud counts,” and prosecutors “say he set up a shell company purported to provide services to Metro Waste Authority, then paid out company funds for his own use between 2012 and 2017.”

US Charges Two Oregonians With COVID-19 Loan Fraud.
The AP (1/8) reports from Portland, Oregon, “Two men are accused of converting for personal use more than $2.2 million in loans meant to help small businesses during the coronavirus pandemic.” Andrew Aaron Lloyd, 50, of Lebanon, and Russell A. Schort, 38, of Myrtle Creek, “are charged with wire fraud, bank fraud and money laundering in federal court in Eugene. The FBI investigated after receiving information that the men fraudulently obtained Paycheck Protection Program loans, which were authorized by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act.” The AP adds, “Between April 7 and May 8, financial records showed both applied for and received at least three loan payments using three different entities, totaling more than $2.2 million, according to a criminal complaint filed in court.”

CYBER DIVISION

Bloomberg (1/8, Sebenius, 3.57M) reports SolarWinds “has tapped prominent security experts Chris Krebs and Alex Stamos to review its practices after suspected Russian hackers compromised the company’s software and conducted a sprawling hack across the U.S. government and private sector.” Krebs previously headed the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency “and was known for instilling confidence in the integrity of the 2020 elections until he was fired by President Donald Trump in November.” Bloomberg adds that Stamos “served as chief security officer at Facebook until 2018 and is currently director of the Stanford Internet Observatory.”

The Washington Times (1/8, Blake, 626K) reports that Stamos said, “We have already engaged in helping understand and recover from what looks to be one of the most serious foreign intrusion campaigns in history, and we will be helping others learn from this attack.” Meanwhile, Krebs “worked as Microsoft’s director for cybersecurity policy before joining CISA, a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as the agency’s first director beginning in late 2018.” The agency was “charge of securing the nation’s election infrastructure when millions of Americans voted in the recent White House race decisively won by President-elect Joseph R. Biden.”
Reporting similarly are Law360 (1/8, Subscription Publication, 9K) and TechCrunch (1/8, Whittaker, 502K).

DHS Advisory Explains How Attackers Hid In Plain Sight. CNN (1/8, Fung, 89.21M) reports that on Friday a DHS bulletin found the Russian-linked hackers behind the SolarWinds breach "gave themselves top administrative privileges, allowing them to spy on their targets with impunity." The DHS advisory "represents the agency’s most detailed explanation yet of how the attackers were able to monitor high-value intelligence targets undetected for months," revealing "that investigators are increasingly focused on the attackers’ use of Microsoft products to hide in plain sight." Experts and officials "have said for weeks that the attackers likely abused credentials and impersonated legitimate users to conduct their spying campaign." Now CISA "has confirmed that happened, describing step-by-step how the attackers hid their tracks."

Federal Cyber Group Announces SolarWinds Hack Affected Fewer Than 10 Agencies. The Washington Examiner (1/7, Gross, 888K) reports that the US Cyber Unified Coordination Group (UCG) "announced on Jan. 5 that it had identified fewer than 10 agencies affected by the [SolarWinds] cyberattack," though "investigators are still working to determine the scope of the damage." The group said that the affected agencies, but news reports have suggested the U.S. departments of Treasury, Commerce, State, Energy, and Homeland Security were victims of the attack." It "said the attack originated from an advanced attacker, likely Russian in origin." UCG includes agencies such as the FBI and CISA.

Federal Courts’ Filing System Likely Breached By SolarWinds Hack. The Washington Examiner (1/8, Dunleavy, 888K) reports, "The online filing system used by the federal court system was likely breached in the SolarWinds hack, suspected to be orchestrated by Russia." The Administrative Office of the US Courts "revealed an 'apparent compromise of the confidentiality' of its case management and electronic case files system 'due to these discovered vulnerabilities' and said this week that it was 'under investigation.'" The agency is working with DHS "on a 'security audit' related to the cyberattacks that 'greatly risk compromising highly sensitive non-public documents... particularly sealed filings' stored on the online system, adding that 'due to the nature of the attacks, the review of this matter and its impact is ongoing.'"

FBI Alert Warns Of Growing Egregor Ransomware Threat.

Gov_Info_Security (1/9, Ferguson) reports, "The FBI issued a private industry warning this week over the growing threat from the operators behind the Egregor ransomware variant and other cybercriminal gangs affiliated with the group." Since September, the group and its affiliates "claim to have compromised approximately 150 corporate networks both in the U.S. and other countries." They have demanded as much as $1 million, according to a Group-IB report. The group "operates in a service model, which includes the operators of the actual ransomware as well as affiliated cybercriminals that carry out their own attacks and receive a percentage of the ransom if the money is paid by the victim," according to the FBI. The FBI alert says, "Egregor ransomware utilizes multiple mechanisms to compromise business networks, including targeting business network and employee personal accounts that share access with business networks or devices."

New Zealand Central Bank Reports Data System Was Hacked.

The AP (1/10) reports, "New Zealand’s central bank said Sunday that one of its data systems has been breached by an unidentified hacker who potentially accessed commercially and personally sensitive information." The breach involved a "third party file sharing service used by the Reserve Bank of New Zealand to share and store sensitive information." The bank’s governor Adrian Orr said, "We are working closely with domestic and international cybersecurity experts and other relevant authorities as part of our investigation and response to this malicious attack." Orr added, "The nature and extent of information that has been potentially accessed is still being determined, but it may include some commercially and personally sensitive information." Also reporting is Reuters (1/11).

Experts: US Government’s Ability To Protect Against Russian Hackers Has Gotten Worse.
The Washington Post (1/8, Riley, 10.52M) reports, "The U.S. government’s ability to protect itself from Russian hackers has gotten worse," according to 63% of experts on "The Network," a panel of more than 100 cybersecurity experts who participate in an ongoing informal survey. The SolarWinds hack targeted "fewer than 10 federal agencies including the Justice, Homeland Security, and Treasury departments as well as the companies around the globe who were also clients of network management company SolarWinds." According to the experts, the campaign "shows defenses aren't improving faster than the adversaries are innovating." Van Scovoc Associates vice president and chair of the cybersecurity and data privacy practice Norma Krayern said, "How it is that seven years after the [Office of Personnel Management] attack the U.S. government’s systems are still not able to identify and protect itself against sophisticated ... hackers is unfathomable.”

US Government Spent Billions To Stop Cyberattacks In FY20.
The Daily Caller (1/8, Hukeri, 375K) reports that the IC formally blamed Russia for the attack on SolarWinds and federal agencies in a statement last week, stating that hackers had been launching attacks on federal networks for nearly nine months before first being detected. According to the New York Times, "SolarWinds said 33,000 of its customers used the program and around half downloaded the malicious code." The government was subjected to the attack "for months before software company SolarWinds discovered in December their information technology program Orion - used by government agencies - had been compromised." According to Deltek, "Roughly $18.7 billion in federal spending was allocated for cybersecurity initiatives in fiscal year 2020" - almost half of which "went to the Pentagon and agencies under its oversight" such as DIA and NSA.

WPost Profiles Bellingcat Investigative Collaborative.
The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) highlights "the global corps of sleuths known as Bellingcat." According to the Post, "The investigative collaborative - which relies on both paid and volunteer researchers combing through 'open-source' digital data available to anyone with the right searching skills - has been responsible for several eye-popping scoops: pinning the crash of a Malaysian airliner in Ukraine to a Russian missile, unmasking spies supposedly behind the poisoning of a Russian double agent in England and dissecting the racist motives of the Christchurch, New Zealand, mosque mass shooter." However, "Bellingcat's occasional use of what is essentially a black market for data raises questions for American newsrooms.”

LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

FBI Partners With Illinois On Task Force To Tackle Unemployment Fraud.
The Chicago Tribune (1/8, Jimenez, 2.03M) reported, "As reports of unemployment insurance fraud continue to rise, Illinois has partnered with the FBI to create a task force aimed at curbing the issue." Attorney General Kwame Raoul on Friday announced "the launch of the task force, which includes the state’s Department of Employment Security, State Police and Department of Revenue, as well as the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Inspector General and the IRS." The task force will "allow federal, state and local law enforcement to share resources as the state looks to address widespread fraud, Kwame said in a Friday news release.”

LAWFUL ACCESS

Groups Request Supreme Court To Rule On Whether Americans Can Keep Phone Passcodes Secret.
In an exclusive, the Wall Street Journal (1/8, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that a pair of civil-liberties organizations filed a petition requesting the US Supreme Court to rule on the question of whether Americans are constitutionally permitted to keep their passcodes secret. The petition was filed on Thursday by the American Civil Liberties Union and the Electronic Frontier
FBI Continues To Set The Standard For Government Transparency.

In a piece for the Washington Post (1/7, Barrett, 10.52M), Devlin Barrett argues that while recent books authored by former FBI officials “have tended to be about hard men in dark suits, whispering worriedly about Russians, President Trump and existential threats to democracy,” the FBI “still sets a gold standard for excellence and ethics that should be followed more widely.” Barrett examines Frank Figliuzzi’s new book, “The FBI Way: Inside the Bureau’s Code of Excellence,” which “is in the spirit of earlier tomes that combine federal-agent tradecraft with a dash of self-improvement advice.”

Garland Can Fix DOJ.

A Washington Post (1/10, 10.52M) editorial argues Appeals Court Judge Merrick Garland, Joe Biden’s nominee for attorney general, is an “unusual choice” for the position as he is a sitting judge, but the decision is “an inspired one for perhaps the most important job in the next administration.” According to the Post, Garland’s nomination “sends an emphatic message that Mr. Biden does not want what President Trump desired in an attorney general: a lackey who will serve as the president’s personal attorney. Instead, Mr. Biden chose an apolitical judge who will serve with the independence and credibility befitting the nation’s top lawyer.” The Post adds the Justice Department “needs that — badly.”

Comey To Publish New Book Ahead Of The Inauguration.

The Washington Post (1/7, Jurecic, 10.52M) reports former FBI Director James Comey will publish next week his new book, “Saving Justice,” and his is “fram[ing] the book as part of a larger project of rebuilding American institutions in Trump’s wake.” The latest work “is more of a user’s manual for the justice system, whose independence and integrity Trump has done his best to undermine,” as opposed to a memoir.

Judge Orders Pretrial Release Of Accused Eco-Saboteur Joseph Dibee.

The Oregonian (1/8, 1.02M) reports U.S. District Judge Ann Aiken “ordered the pretrial release of eco-saboteur Joseph M. Dibee as soon as he tests negative for COVID-19.” Aiken “said she was ‘really disturbed’ by the medical issues at the jail, considering that she had received weekly status reports that no one in the jail had contracted coronavirus, and learned only of Dibee’s positive test when she ordered he be tested after his lawyer requested it.”

Sacramento Opens Applications For Online Citizens Academy.

The Woodland (CA) Daily Democrat (1/8, 15K) reports that the FBI Sacramento Field Office “is encouraging civil, business, and religious community leaders to complete an online application to attend its virtual FBI Citizens Academy.” The Academy’s Spring 2021 courses will “be offered entirely online, enabling leaders from regions located far from FBI field offices to attend,” and they “provide community leaders with a view into how the FBI Sacramento Field Office serves communities within its 34-county region in California.”


WTNH-TV Hartford, CT (1/8, 212K) reports that the Connecticut FBI Safe Streets Taskforce is working to “keep communities safe by addressing serious and violent crimes” throughout Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport. The article profiles the efforts of task force members throughout the state.

OTHER WASHINGTON NEWS
Democrats Move Toward Second Trump Impeachment.

Tom Llamas said in the lead story on ABC World News Tonight (1/10, lead story, 4:30, 4.76M) that in “fallout from the deadly siege on the Capitol,” House Democrats are “on the path to impeach President Trump for a second time though he has just 10 days left in office. Democrats say he must be held accountable for his words. The charge: incitement of insurrection. ... As Congress heads towards impeachment, a growing number of Republicans are calling for the President to resign.” ABC’s Rachel Scott reported House Speaker Pelosi is “telling her party to get ready to come back to Washington, the single [impeachment] article charging Trump with incitement of insurrection. He predicted the day would ‘be wild,’ pressuring his loyal Vice President to undo the will of the people.” Trump: “Mike Pence is going to have to come through for us.” Scott: “But when he didn’t, rioters were later heard chanting, ‘Hang Mike Pence.’ ... With his inner circle now shrinking, the President is hunkered down inside the White House, trying to assemble a defense team...as a growing number of Republicans and former allies condemn him.” Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R): “What we had was an incitement to riot at the United States Capitol.” ABC’s George Stephanopoulos: “So you think it was an impeachable offense?” Christie: “Oh, sure. Yeah. I think if inciting to insurrection isn’t, then I don’t know what is.”

Jericka Duncan said in opening the CBS Weekend News (1/10, lead story, 3:05, 13.72M), “Tonight, President Trump faces a hard reckoning with history. In the wake of the assault on the US Capitol that he incited, Mr. Trump faces a second impeachment, perhaps even criminal charges.” CBS’ Nicole Killion: “As he enters his final full week in office, President Trump will try to shore up his legacy. Senior advisors tell CBS News he is expected to deliver remarks Monday and make a trip to the border Tuesday. But calls for the President to resign now are growing from within his own party.” Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA): “The best way for our country to heal is for the President to resign and go away, as soon as possible.”

Kate Snow opened NBC Nightly News (1/10, lead story, 3:10, 3.76M) with the “growing calls for the President of the United States to either resign or be impeached by Congress - and not just from Democrats, but some Republicans now calling on him to step aside. The President is not even speaking to his own Vice President at this point. We’re also seeing new video tonight of just what happened on Wednesday at the Capitol. And we’re learning security warnings ahead of that day were ignored.” NBC’s Kelly O’Donnell: “With Joe Biden soon to take office, senior Democrats suggest Speaker Pelosi could complete House impeachment but delay sending the article to the Senate for trial, giving the new Administration breathing room.” House Majority Whip Clyburn: “One hundred days he needs to get his agenda off and running, and maybe we’ll send the articles some time after that.” Clyburn said on Fox News Sunday (1/10, 1.08M), “The Senate determines guilt or innocence and that has to do with the Senate schedule. Now, the House has to do its business. We call ourselves the people’s house, the vast majority of the American people - I saw the poll results this morning - say this man should be removed from office.”

Toomey, on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), said, “I think the President did commit impeachable offenses. There is little doubt in my mind about that. I don’t know as a practical matter it is actually possible to do an impeachment in the handful of days that are left. ... I am also not at all clear that it is constitutionally permissible to impeach someone after they have left office. So there may not be a viable impeachment route at this point. But certainly, he could resign and that would be a very good outcome.” On NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), Toomey said, “The President has disqualified himself. I don’t think he’s a viable candidate for office ever again because of the outrageous behavior in the post election period.” The Philadelphia Inquirer (1/10, Madej) reports Toomey “remarked that he doesn’t think the ‘unbelievable behavior of Wednesday...could’ve been reasonably expected,’ and that Trump’s actions are ‘wildly different from the offensive tweets that were common during his presidency.’”

On CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) said, “I understand the concerns that just as President Biden takes over responsibility for leading our nation through this tragic pandemic, that we might be distracted by weeks in the Senate by a Senate trial. That’s why I’ve called for President Trump to do the right thing finally and resign or for Vice President Pence to secure the next 10 days through the 25th Amendment.”
Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.23M), said, “There is no doubt about it: He should be impeached. But you have to be practical about what we are doing. We have two paths to go. We are ready to install a new government. If I was Joe Biden, I’d want to put my government together and put confidence back into the American people that we can govern ourselves and be the beacon of light for the whole country and the whole world.”

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), on NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), said, “The assault on the capital was a violent insurrection that was incited and encouraged by Donald Trump. It was an attack on the Congress, an attack on the country, and an attack on the Constitution. … That’s why House Democrats are united in demanding and seeking his immediate removal.” On CNN’s Inside Politics (1/10, 812K), Rep. Mondaire Jones (D-NY) said, “This President must be impeached and removed, and anything less than that is an abdication of Congress’ constitutional responsibility to be a check on the executive branch and to protect the American people from a very dangerous, unhinged, lawless chief executive.” Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), on ABC’s This Week (1/10, 2.99M), said, “Our main priority is to ensure the removal of Donald Trump as President of the United States. Every minute and every hour that he’s in office represents a clear and present danger, not just to the United States Congress, but frankly to the country.”

However, some Republicans expressed skepticism. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO), on CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), said, “To remove him from office clearly is not going to happen between now and the last day he’s in office.” Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (1/10), said, “It’s unfortunate that instead of unifying us right now, Biden, the Democrats, have chosen to use this to talk about ridiculous things about impeaching a President who isn’t going to be in office in about nine days.” Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (1/10, 1.38M), said, “The Democrats are going to try to remove the President from office just seven days before he is set to leave anyway. I do not see how that unifies the country.”

The AP (1/10, Supervile, Fram, Jalonick) reports Pelosi said Sunday that the House will proceed with impeachment “as she pushes the vice president and Cabinet to invoke constitutional authority to force him out, warning that Trump is a threat to democracy after the deadly assault on the Capitol.” CBS’ 60 Minutes (1/10, 9.8M) showed Pelosi saying, “I like the 25th Amendment because it gets there is strong suit in the Congress for impeaching the President a second time. This President is guilty of inciting insurrection.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Restuccia, Kendall, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Vice President Pence “isn’t expected to move forward with a 25th Amendment process, people familiar with his thinking said.”

The New York Times (1/10, Levin, 20.6M) reports, “Momentum for impeaching [Trump] a second time was growing rapidly over the weekend among rank-and-file Democrats and some Republicans, setting the stage for a final showdown that would test the boundaries of politics, accountability and the Constitution.” In addition to Toomey, Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) has expressed openness to impeachment and Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has called on Trump to resign.

USA Today (1/10, Fritze, 12.7M) reports Trump “begins one of the most perilous weeks of his presidency Monday as momentum for a second impeachment soared over the weekend and a growing number of Republicans broke ranks to openly call for his removal.” Trump “has only days remaining in his term – a point supporters noted – but the debate over how Congress should respond is focused largely on his legacy and his ability to control the GOP” after leaving office.

The Washington Post (1/10, 10.52M) reports, “Tensions are breaking out among Democrats over how aggressively to push” for impeachment, “aware that many voters hope Congress will prevent Trump from provoking further violence, but also want[ing] Biden to be free to take immediate action on the coronavirus pandemic and a faltering economy. Some Democrats said privately that they are wary of impeachment but unsure how to slow its momentum given the intensifying passions against Trump.”

Fox News (1/10, Bittzer, 23.99M) reports on its website that Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) said Sunday that the article of impeachment has 195 cosponsors. The Los Angeles Times (1/10, 3.37M) says being impeached twice would make Trump “the first U.S. president to hold that unwelcome distinction.” Reuters (1/10, Cornwell, Chiacu, Psaidakis), Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M), Politico
Polls Show Majority Support For Trump's Removal Or Early Exit. CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that the potential second impeachment "starts out more popular than any other removal process of a president in recent American history. Removing Trump from office remains quite unpopular among Republicans, however. A look across polls conducted since riots at the Capitol on Wednesday shows that a clear plurality of Americans overall want Trump out of office. ... An average across polls since Wednesday (in which no pollster is counted more than once) shows that 50% of Americans want Trump to either be impeached, for the 25th Amendment to be invoked or for Trump to resign from office."

The Hill (1/10, Mastrangelo, 5.69M) reports that an ABC News/Ipsos poll of 570 adults (1/8-1/9) found that 57% want Trump removed from office, with 67% saying Trump "deserves a 'good amount' of the blame for the riots in Washington, D.C. last week."

Trump Plans "Defiant" Final Week. The AP (1/10, Colvin) reports Trump "enters the last days of his presidency isolated and shunned by former allies and members of his own party as he faces a second impeachment and growing calls for his resignation." But Trump, "cut off from the social media channels that have been the lifeblood of his presidency," will "nonetheless try to go on offense in his last 10 days, with no plans of resigning." Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Trump "and a dwindling circle of advisers plan a defiant final week in office, according to people familiar with the matter." The President is "preparing at least one more round of pardons, and will try a final time to advance his administration's effort to bring Big Tech to heel, the people said, though it isn't clear what he may do."

The New York Times (1/10, Haberman, 20.6M) writes that "even without Twitter, and even under a new threat of impeachment, Mr. Trump remains until Jan. 20 the most powerful man in the world, with access to the White House briefing room, the East Room and the Oval Office to communicate his thoughts. He has a press office devoted to issuing his statements and a cadre of reporters assigned to cover what he says and does." Still, the Washington Post (1/10, Rucker, 10.52M) writes, Trump "is now destined to sink out of the White House considerably diminished from the strapping, fearsome force he and his advisers imagined he would be in his post-presidency."

The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports, "Eight days before reluctantly leaving office, [Trump] will visit the border in South Texas on Tuesday to tout partial construction of the massive wall he promised to deliver — far more than critics wanted, far less than he wanted, and none it funded by Mexico." Meanwhile, Reuters (1/10, Mason) reports, "his White House is in 'meltdown' as it lurches through his final days, current and former officials said," and many White House staffers "are upset and embarrassed by the turn of events, and are eager to move on."

CBS's Schieffer: Trump's "Reign Mirrored His Own Chaotic Life." "Bob Schieffer said on the CBS Weekend News" (1/10, story 11, 1:50, Duncan, 13.72M), "It is ending as it began: in chaos, controversy, and confusion. ... His reign mirrored his own chaotic life. He lurched from one crisis to another, from financial windfalls to bankruptcies, from tabloid scandals to audacious lies. He introduced us to a bizarre cast of characters, from porn stars to the clowns who inhabit the dark fringes of American politics. ... As we saw in those awful scenes unfolding in the Capitol, we came to understand that the man who had a manic desire for power had no real understanding of the power he possessed or what happens when it is misused. He will be gone soon. But he showed us America was not broken. He was."

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Used Violent Imagery In Speech To Followers Before Capitol Violence. The New York Times (1/10, Savage, 20.6M) reports, "The speech that President Trump delivered to his supporters just before they attacked the Capitol last week is a central focus as House Democrats prepare an article of impeachment against him for inciting the deadly riot. " In the speech, the Times says, Trump "repeated many of his falsehoods about how the election was stolen, then dispatched the marchers to the Capitol." The Times also says it was "filled with violent imagery and calls to fight harder than before," while "he made only a passing suggestion that the protest should be nonviolent."

WPost A1: Trump Urged Top Georgia Elections Investigator To "Find The Fraud" In Separate Call. The Washington Post (1/9, A1, Gardner, 10.52M) reports in a front-page article,
“President Trump urged Georgia’s lead elections investigator to ‘find the fraud’ in a lengthy December phone call, saying the official would be a ‘national hero,’ according to an individual familiar with the call who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the conversation.” The President “placed the call to the investigations chief for the Georgia secretary of state’s office shortly before Christmas – while the individual was leading an inquiry into allegations of ballot fraud in Cobb County, in the suburbs of Atlanta, according to people familiar with the episode.” Additionally, the New York Times (1/9, Fausset, Benner, 20.6M) reports that at the time, Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger’s “office was conducting an audit of more than 15,000 ballots in Cobb County,” which “appeared to be an effort to placate Mr. Trump and his allies, who repeatedly, and baselessly, argued that he lost the election in Georgia by around 12,000 votes because of a ‘rigged’ system.”

Administration Reportedly Pushed Atlanta US Attorney To Resign. The Wall Street Journal (1/9, Viswanatha, Gurman, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports White House officials pushed US Attorney Byung Pak in Atlanta to resign before the Georgia runoff elections because Trump was unhappy with Pak for not launching an investigation into his claims of election fraud, according to people familiar with the matter. ABC World News Tonight (1/9, story 3, 0:45, Llamas, 839K) provided similar coverage in a brief broadcast.

Biden Still Planning To Take Oath Of Office On Capitol Steps.
The Washington Post (1/9, Davies, Viser, 10.52M) reports Biden “still plans to be sworn in on the steps of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 20, exactly two weeks after a pro-Trump mob with rioters wielding Confederate flags stormed the building to attack the very nation Biden was elected to lead.” According to the Post, “The Biden administration has the added weight of showing strength and stability to the rest of the world, which watched in horror as American democracy wavered from the exact place where he is to take the oath of office.”

In her Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) column, Ruth Marcus says Biden’s response to the storming of the capitol provides “grounds for optimism,” as he “rose to the terrible occasion” on Wednesday, in contrast to Trump, who “refused to accept, no less condemn, the consequences of his reckless words.” Marcus adds Biden “is the presidential voice the country needs.”

Trump Denounces Twitter After Accounts Are Permanently Suspended.
The New York Times (1/8, A1, Conger, Isaac, 20.6M) reports on its front page that Twitter “said on Friday that it had permanently banned President Trump from its service ‘due to the risk of further incitement of violence,’ effectively cutting him off from his favorite megaphone for reaching the public and capping a series of actions by mainstream sites to limit his online reach.” The Washington Post (1/8, A1, Romm, 10.52M) reports on its front page that Twitter’s action “amounted to a historic rebuke for a president who had used the social-networking site to fuel his rise to political prominence.” The Post adds that a “defiant” Trump “lashed out in response late Friday, accusing Twitter in a statement of having ‘coordinated with the Democrats and the Radical Left’ to remove his account,” and he “threatened regulation, promising a ‘big announcement’ to come, and said he is looking ‘at the possibilities of building out our own platform in the near future!’”

According to Politico (1/8, Lima, 6.73M), Twitter “muzzled the president of the United States three times in a matter of hours: First, it permanently suspended his personal account, @realDonaldTrump, saying his use of it posed an unacceptable risk of violence. Then, it removed a series of Trump’s tweets on the White House’s official @POTUS account, where he had lashed out at Twitter’s decision Friday night and vowed, ‘We will not be SILENCED!’ And when the identical messages popped up later on Trump’s campaign Twitter account, the company permanently suspended that account too.”

Earlier in the day, the Washington Times (1/8, Boyer, 626K) reports Trump had “said...his followers will be a political force for years to come.” The President had tweeted, “The 75,000,000 great American Patriots who voted for me, AMERICA FIRST, and MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN, will have a GIANT VOICE long into the future. They will not be disrespected or treated unfairly in any way, shape or form!!!” However, Politico Magazine (1/8, 6.68M) senior staff writer Michael
Kruse highlights that without access to Twitter on Wednesday, Trump "wasn't able to employ his preferred method of communication to stoke or incite supporters. He wasn't able to launch at leaders of his party his usual mob-boss loyalty tests. And he wasn't able to distract and divert and defend himself in the telltale ways to which Americans have grown so accustomed."

Meanwhile, *Bloomberg* (1/8, Wagner, 3.52M) also reports Twitter "suspended several high-profile supporters of Trump, including former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn and attorney Sidney Powell, as part of an effort to remove accounts linked to the QAnon conspiracy group prominent at Wednesday's storming of the U.S. Capitol." *Reuters* (1/8, Venkat, Culliford, Paul) report Twitter "also suspended Ron Watkins, the administrator of fringe message board 8kun, which effectively serves as home base for the QAnon conspiracy movement," and the *Washington Times* (1/8, Lovelace, 626K) reports "prominent conservative commentators," including actor James Woods and #WalkAway movement leader Brandon Straka, "are claiming that they are losing Twitter followers in droves, with some asserting that Twitter is deleting their following." The *Times* adds that when asked about the claim, a spokesperson for Twitter "pointed to the company's approach to fighting accounts engaged in platform manipulation and spam."

In a *Washington Post* (1/8, 10.52M) op-ed, Graham Lampa, Director of Digital Communications at the Atlantic Council and a former State Department official during the Obama and Trump Administrations, argues that as the @realDonaldTrump account was used to "announce official decisions," it should be given to the government after Trump leaves office.

"Ballistic" Trump Seeks Alternative Communication Methods After Twitter Bans. *Politico* (1/8, Orr, Lippman, Nguyen, Stein, 6.73M) reported President Trump "has many prized possessions," but "few seemed to inspire as much personal joy as his Twitter feed," and "on Friday night, he lost it. And then, he lost his mind." A senior Administration official characterized the President as "ballistic" and said that Trump was "scrambling to figure out what his options are." *Politico* also reports the President in a White House statement "said he’d been 'negotiating with various other sites' while 'we also look at the possibilities of building out our own platform in the near future,'" but aides "did not reveal what plans were in the works." The *AP* (1/9, Bajak) reports that while he has been "deprived of his big online megaphone, Trump does have alternative options of much smaller reach."

On the *CBS Weekend News* (1/9, lead story, 1:36, Diaz, 577K), Paula Reid described Saturday as "an unusually quiet day...at the White House, and it's partly because we have not heard from Trump on Twitter." Reid added Twitter "banned the President due to the risk of further incitement of violence," and Rachel Scott reported on *ABC World News Tonight* (1/9, story 2, 0:29, Scott, 683K) that sources "tell ABC News he regrets condemning the violence, and now he's lost his biggest political tool." Both *AP* (1/9, Mackani, Colvin) and *Politico Magazine* (1/9, Robertson, 6.73M) analyses eulogize the @realDonaldTrump account and look back on its biggest tweets.

Meanwhile, Jo Ling Kent reported on *NBC Nightly News* (1/9, story 2, 2:38, Diaz-Balart, 5.98M) that since the ban, the President has "tried to tweet from other campaign and staff accounts, triggering a game of whack-a-mole with Twitter quickly taking down his posts." *The Hill* (1/9, Lonas, 5.69M) reports Twitter on Saturday "banned...Trump's official campaign account and his digital director for attempting to use their accounts to give the president a platform to speak on Twitter after he was permanently suspended Friday." A spokesperson for the company told The Hill, "As stated in our ban evasion policy, if it is clear that another account is being used for the purposes of evading a ban, it is also subject to suspension."

*Politico* (1/9, Scola, 6.73M) says that after spending "more than 1,400 days of trying to placate and handle...Trump and his allies, the tech industry is taking on the Trump machine with just days left in the president's term." *Politico* adds "the rat-tat-tat of take-downs" by Twitter, Facebook, Reddit, TikTok, Snapchat, Pinterest, Google, and Apple "was a striking display of the tech industry's power to shape the fate of even the president of the United States. And it comes after years of efforts by both Democrats and Republicans in Washington to cut Silicon Valley down to size — including lawsuits that Trump's antitrust enforcers have filed in recent months against Facebook and Google, plus efforts on both the right and left to challenge Section 230, the provision in communications law that limits online platforms' liability for what users post to them."
A front-page *New York Times* (1/9, A1, Roose, 20.6M) article says "Trump’s muzzling provides a clarifying lesson in where power resides in our digital society – not just in the precedent of law or the checks and balances of government, but in the ability to deny access to the platforms that shape our public discourse." The Time adds Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey and Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg “have never appeared on a ballot. But they have a kind of authority that no elected official on earth can claim. This power appears mostly in subtle and unspoken ways – like the eerily calm, hostage-like video Mr. Trump filmed on Thursday, hours after Twitter and Facebook threatened to delete his accounts.”

In his *Politico Magazine* (1/9, 6.88M) column, founding editor John F. Harris describes Twitter’s ban of Trump as “a signal moment – a historic move, even before we know the consequences that will flow from it.” Harris adds the ban “represents an effort to reassert the notion that filters have a place in political communication and that some voices have lost their claim on public legitimacy – even when that voice has 89 million followers and is just two months past receiving the second-highest number of votes in U.S. election history.” However, he says the question “seems unavoidable: Are you sure about this?”

Meanwhile, *Politico Magazine* (1/9, 6.88M) senior media writer Jack Shafer expresses skepticism that Trump’s pledge to build a “media empire” will succeed. Shafer adds that if the President does “start a cable channel,” Fox News “will savage him when he poses a threat to its viewership and revenues. The same goes for the Trump-lovers at NewsMax and D.A.N.”

In addition, *New York Times* (1/8, 20.6M) opinion writer at large Charlie Warzel questions if “a disgraced president addicted to outrage and innately governed by the same forces as the attention economy survive without his primary outlet.” Per Warzel, “I think it all depends on whether Mr. Trump is, himself, a platform as formidable as some of the platforms he uses.”

*Trump Allies, ACLU Criticize Twitter For Ban On President’s Account.* The *Washington Post* (1/9, Romm, Dawsey, 10.52M) reports Twitter’s ban of the President has “sparked a fierce political backlash among his most fervent allies on Saturday, sending some of his supporters – and the White House itself – scrambling to find another potent tool to communicate online.” According to the Post, “Many prominent conservatives – including Brad Parscale, Trump’s former campaign manager, and Rush Limbaugh, the leading voice in right-wing radio – reacted to Trump’s suspension by blasting Twitter, quitting the site outright or encouraging the president’s loyal following to turn to alternative services.”

The *Hill* (1/9, Lasas, 5.69M) reports Secretary of State Pompeo as well as Sens. Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Ted Cruz (R-TX) “expressed their displeasure with Twitter’s decision,” as did Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-CO), Ken Buck (R-CO), Beth Van Duyne (R-TX), and Dan Crenshaw (R-TX). The *Washington Times* (1/9, Boyer, 626K) reports Donald Trump Jr. “said Saturday that Big Tech’s ban of President Trump is ‘sick and sad,’ and he urged followers to sign up for his web site in anticipation that he will also be banned.”

In addition, the *Washington Times* (1/8, Lovelace, 626K) says that although the American Civil Liberties Union “has repeatedly locked horns with Mr. Trump and his administration,” the ACLU on Friday raised “concerns about social media platforms banning users, in the aftermath of Twitter’s decision to permanently suspend” him.

However, the *New York Times* (1/9, Liptak, 20.6M) reports that although the bans on Trump “may have been wise, scholars who study the First Amendment said...they were perfectly lawful” because the First Amendment "prohibits government censorship and does not apply to decisions made by private businesses.” The Times adds they “were nonetheless uneasy about the developments, which underscored the enormous power of a handful of social media companies that are largely insulated from accountability and may change positions on what speech is acceptable as executives come and go.”

In his *Washington Post* (1/9, Boyer, 10.52M) column, Fred Hiatt similarly argued that while the President and his allies are “complaining” that his “free-speech rights are being squelched by the liberal cancel culture,” they are “wrong” because Twitter “is a private company, and it has no obligation to distribute Trump’s lies or provocations.”

Meanwhile, a *Bloomberg* (1/9, Frier, 3.57M) article headlined “Twitter’s Trump Ban Deemed Necessary, Derided As Long Overdue” says that the ban “is unlikely to let Twitter off the hook after
years of enabling the president, allowing a portion of America to be sucked into an angry alternate reality.” Bloomberg adds the company “is already facing criticism from Democrat politicians, who will take control of U.S. Congress and the presidency in less than two weeks.”

Democrats Look To Penalize Social Media Platforms For Failing To Censor Trump. The Washington Post (1/8, Romm, 10.52M) says Facebook, Google and Twitter are “staring down the prospect of harsh new regulations in Washington, as politically ascendant Democrats in Congress pledge to take fresh aim at Silicon Valley for its role in stoking the deadly riots at the U.S. Capitol this week.” According to the Post, “The violent mob that stormed the House and Senate, leaving the two chambers in lockdown, has emboldened party lawmakers who say that social media sites failed to heed their repeated warnings - and that they did too little, too late, in response to...Trump and his incendiary online rhetoric.” The Post says “some Democrats now are promising to use their powerful new perch...to proffer the sort of tough new laws and other punishments that tech giants have successfully fended off for years.” A Reuters (1/8, Paul, Culliford) analysis says that although social media companies “took action against users and groups spurring on the siege of Capitol Hill this week, culminating in the suspension of...Trump’s accounts, it was too little too late.”

Reddit Bans Trump Forum. The New York Times (1/8, Isaac, 20.6M) reports Reddit “banned a forum dedicated to discussing and promoting...Trump from its site on Friday, the latest of the major technology platforms to diminish Mr. Trump digitally after his supporters staged an assault on the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday.” The Post says the r/donaldtrump subreddit “had tens of thousands of subscribers before it was removed, and was considered one of a few highly visible places online where Trump supporters could gather and express solidarity with the president.”

Apple, Google Take Action Against Parker. The Wall Street Journal (1/8, Horwitz, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Apple threatened Parker that it faces a ban from its App Store, and The Hill (1/8, Klar, 5.69M) also says Google on Friday suspended the social media company “from its app store while joining Apple in calling on the platform to tighten its content moderation rules or risk permanent removal.”

Facebook Suspends Account Of Virginia State Senator, “Walk Away” Page. The Washington Post (1/8, Vozzella, 10.52M) reports Facebook on Friday suspended the official account of Virginia state Sen. Amanda Chase, R-Chesterfield, “days after the self-described 'Trump in heels' praised rioters who stormed the U.S. Capitol as 'patriots' while also suggesting that left-wing 'antifa or BLM agents of destruction' were really to blame.” The Post says that Chase, who "spoke to the crowd of...Trump's supporters in Washington on Wednesday but left before they crashed through Capitol security, cannot post or comment for seven days, or post live video for 60 days on her official Senate page, according to a written notice,” although her personal Facebook page “was not affected.” Meanwhile, the Washington Times (1/8, Zantow, 626K) reports that Virginia state Senate Democrats “are demanding” Chase, a Republican gubernatorial hopeful, “resign for participating in the march to the U.S. Capitol, where a mob stormed the building.”

In addition, the Washington Times (1/8, Ernst, 626K) reports that Brandon Straka, the founder of the “Walk Away” movement, on Friday revealed that “his team, and his 500,000-strong Facebook page with citizens who abandoned the Democratic Party were purged from the site this week.”

“Trump Loyalists” Raised Funds Via Livestream While Storming Capitol. The New York Times (1/8, Browning, Lorenz, 20.6M) reports some of the “mob of Trump loyalists” who occupied the Capitol this week raised money via livestreaming website Dive. The Times adds the “increasing popularity” of Dive “shows how an online exodus of far-right figures on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube since the November election has now moved beyond alternative social-networking, news and video sites like Rumble, Gab and Parler.” According to the Times, “That shift gained further momentum this week after Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitch limited President Trump’s accounts for inciting Wednesday’s violence and clamped down on other right-wing personalities.”

WPPost Analysis: Fox News “Unquestionably” Contributed To “Poisoned” Reality Of Trump Supporters. A Washington Post (1/8, Bump, 10.52M) analysis says it is "not the case that Fox News bears sole responsibility for this disinformation that’s poisoned the sense of reality
of so many Trump supporters. But it’s unquestionably the case that the network, shows like ‘Fox & Friends’ and the prime time ‘opinion’ lineup contributed to it.”

Toledo Blade Staff Accuse Management Of Altering Stories On Capitol Attack. The Washington Post (1/8, Elfrink, 10.52M) reports that as staffers of the Toledo Blade, “like journalists everywhere, scrambled Wednesday to document the attack on the Capitol by a pro-Trump mob incited by the president, they say a curious edict came down from management: to avoid calling the rioters ‘Trump supporters’ in Web headlines and to change stories and photo captions to say that others might be involved in the violence.” According to the Post, “The journalists’ concerns intensified on Thursday when Susan Block, wife of the chairman of Block Communications, a family-owned company that owns the Blade, posted an all-caps Facebook rant in support of the mob and calling Vice President-elect Kamala D. Harris a ‘——’.”

YouTube Removes Bannon Podcast After Giuliani Makes “False Election Claims.” The Hill (1/9, Jenkins, 5.69M) says that YouTube on Friday “pulled former White House chief strategist Stephen Bannon’s ‘War Room’ podcast channel from its platform” over “false election claims,” which USA Today (1/9, Tyko, 12.7M) reports came after Trump’s personal attorney Rudy Giuliani appeared on the podcast. However, USA Today adds Giuliani “still had a Twitter account as of Saturday.”

Parler Removes Some Of Wood’s Posts As Apple, Google, And Amazon Crack Down On Site. The Washington Times (1/9, Blake, 626K) reports “pro-Trump lawyer” L. Lin Wood, who was “newly kicked off Twitter,” confirmed on Saturday that he had “some of his posts yanked...from rival social media service Parler, a supposed free speech haven popular among fellow conservatives,” after he “called for the execution of Vice President Mike Pence.”

Meanwhile, The Hill (1/9, 5.69M) reports Apple on Saturday “suspended the social media platform Parler from the App Store for what it deems the company’s lack of moderation of threats of violence.” In a statement, Apple told The Hill, “We have always supported diverse points of view being represented on the App Store, but there is no place on our platform for threats of violence and illegal activity.” Apple added, “Parler has not taken adequate measures to address the proliferation of these threats to people’s safety. We have suspended Parler from the App Store until they resolve these issues.” According to The Hill, Google “suspended Parler from Google Play in wake of the riot, due to ‘continued posting’ in the app that ‘seeks to incite ongoing violence in the U.S.’”

In addition, the Wall Street Journal (1/9, Hagey, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Amazon on Saturday halted cloud computing services for Parler. The Hill (1/9, Polus, 5.69M) reports that Amazon Web Services “is the latest tech giant to take steps to limit the social networking app favored by conservatives and right-wing groups for lack of content moderation.” Bloomberg (1/9, Day, 3.57M) reports Amazon employees earlier Saturday had “called for the company’s cloud unit to cut ties with Parler after reports that the social media network was used by those who planned Wednesday’s riot at the U.S. Capitol.”

Fox News Seeking To Convince Trump Supporters To Stick With Network. The New York Times (1/9, Grynbaum, 20.6M) reports the “imminent end of the Trump presidency has presented a challenge to the enormously popular, enormously profitable Fox News – the crown jewel of Rupert Murdoch’s American empire – whose right-wing stars yoked themselves to Mr. Trump more tightly than any other mainstream pundits over the past four years.” The Times adds Fox News executives are “unfazed by the lamentations of liberal critics, but the defection of conservative viewers to fringier pro-Trump outlets like Newsmax was more concerning,” and so the network is focused on “finding a path forward: sympathize with the grievances of a Trump-adoring audience that has finally acknowledged its tribe has fallen. Become a MAGA safe space.”

Gab Sees New Users After Trump’s Twitter Ban. The Hill (1/9, Lonas, 5.69M) reports social networking website Gab, which is “popular among far-right users,” has recorded “a spike in website traffic and growth after the Capitol attacks and...Trump’s suspension from Twitter this week.” Gab CEO Andrew Torba “said that the platform saw a 40 percent increase in traffic during the riot that killed five people, and resulted in dozens of arrests, according to NPR.”

Republicans Who Opposed Electoral Certification “Denounced By Critics” At Home.
The AP (1/10, Collins) reports, “Republican members of Congress who voted against certifying Joe Biden’s presidential victory, even after a mob broke into the Capitol, are being denounced by critics in their home districts who demand that they resign or be ousted. Protesters, newspaper editorial boards and local-level Democrats have urged the lawmakers to step down or for their colleagues” to expel them.

The Arizona Republic (1/10, 1.05M) reports that pro-Trump election protest organizer Ali Alexander said in an online video that Reps. Andy Biggs (R-AZ) and Paul Gosar (R-AZ) “help[ed] make Wednesday’s pro-Trump gathering in Washington happen. ... Biggs strenuously denies any involvement with the Wednesday event. Gosar’s chief of staff did not respond to an inquiry.”

Businesses Suspend Donations To Legislators Who Opposed Certification. The AP (1/10, Ortutay) reports, “Businesses are rethinking political contributions in the wake of the deadly Capitol siege.” Marriott is “stopping donations to the 147 Republicans who opposed certifying [Biden’s] election.” Reuters (1/10, Shepardson, Dinapoli) reports the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association is also suspending donations to lawmakers who voted against certification. The Washington Post (1/10, Frankel, Stein, 10.52M) reports Commerce Bank “also said in a statement that its PAC has ‘suspended all support for officials who have impeded the peaceful transfer of power.’”

The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Glaizer, Francis, Cutter, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Citigroup and JPMorgan Chase announced they are halting all PAC donations to all candidates in the coming months. Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) and Axios (1/10, Allassan, 1.26M) also report.

Law School Alumni And Students Push For Cruz And Hawley To Be Disbarred. The Washington Post (1/10, Strauss, 10.52M) reports, “More than 5,000 law school alumni and students have signed a petition” calling for Sens. Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Josh Hawley (R-MO) to be disbarred over what they say were their efforts to undermine the peaceful transition of power after a free and fair election.”

On CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA) said of Cruz and Hawley, “I think they are going to pay a big price for this. I think their reputations have been affected.” On NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 1.58M), Toomey said, “They’re going to have a lot of soul-searching to do. The problem is they were complicit in the big lie, this big lie that Donald Trump won the election in a landslide and it was all stolen. They compounded that with this notion that somehow this could all be reversed in the final moments of the congressional proceedings. So that’s going to haunt them for a very long time.”

Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE), on CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), said, “I’ve called for them to resign, and what I’ll be looking for in the coming days and weeks is whether they take any accountability, whether they take any actions that will actually persuade some of their many voters and supporters and constituents that they know what they did was wrong.”

Attending Physician Warns Lawmakers Were Potentially Exposed To COVID.

The Washington Post (1/10, Wang, Firozi, DeBonis, 10.52M) reports lawmakers who “hunkered down together for safety while a pro-Trump mob attacked the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday may have been exposed to someone in the same room who was infected with the coronavirus, according to the Office of Attending Physician.” In an email on Sunday, Brian Monahan, the attending physician to Congress, said, “On Wednesday January 6, many members of the House community were in protective isolation in room located in a large committee hearing space.” Monahan added, “The time in this room was several hours for some and briefer for others. During this time, individuals may have been exposed to another occupant with coronavirus infection.”

According to the AP (1/10, Mascaro), “Dozens of lawmakers were whisked to the secure location after pro-Trump insurrectionists stormed the Capitol that day, breaking through barricades to roam the halls and offices and ransacking the building.” Politico (1/10, Tamborrino, 6.73M) reports “several” Republicans “were seen without masks while in the crowded room, despite being offered extras by Democrats.” In addition, the New York Times (1/10, Cochrane, 20.6M) reports that “before the mob breached the Capitol,” House Speaker Pelosi, overseeing the certification of Joe Biden’s “victory and debate over a Republican effort to subvert those results in
certain states, admonished Republicans for having too many people on the floor and for some objectors refusing to wear masks as they spoke."

**Warner Tells Facebook To Preserve Digital Evidence.**

The Hill (1/9, Castronuovo, 5.69M) reports Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA), the ranking member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, "is calling on mobile carriers and social media companies to preserve content and data connected with Wednesday’s pro-Trump riot at the Capitol." The Hill says Warner’s office on Saturday “announced that the Senate Democrat sent letters to CEOs of 11 companies, including AT&T, Verizon, Apple, Facebook, Google, Twitter and Parler, telling them to ‘immediately preserve content and associated meta-data connected to Wednesday’s insurrectionist attack on the United States Capitol.’”

**Warnock Uses Post-Election Sermon To Condemn Capitol Riot.**

The AP (1/10, Morrison) reports Sen.-elect Raphael Warnock (D-GA) on Sunday focused “his first sermon since being declared a winner in Georgia’s U.S. Senate runoff election” on “last week’s deadly Capitol Hill riot that all but overshadowed his historic victory.” Warnock said, “We saw the cruel, the angry, the disrespectful, and the violent break their way into the people’s house – some carrying Confederate flags, signs and symbols of an old world order passing away.” The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (1/10, Judd, 1.46M) reports that although Warnock “referred to Trump only as the current occupant of the White House,” other pastors who spoke on Sunday “more directly criticized Trump’s role in the Capitol assault, which left five people, including a police officer, dead.”

**Schwarzenegger Compares Capitol Riot To Kristallnacht.**

USA Today (1/10, Willis, 12.7M) reports former California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) on Sunday “came out swinging his ‘Conan the Barbarian’ sword against” President Trump "and the ‘spinelessness’ of Republican politicians,” while the AP (1/10, Calvan) reports Schwarzenegger “compared the mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol to the Nazis and called...Trump a failed leader who ‘will go down in history as the worst president ever.’”

The New York Times (1/10, Fuchs, 20.6M) reports Schwarzenegger “compared the riot at the Capitol last week to Kristallnacht, a rampage in Germany in 1938 in which Nazi-inspired mobs burned synagogues and destroyed Jewish-owned shops.” The Times adds that he “wove his experiences growing up in Austria after World War II to what he was witnessing in the United States.” Meanwhile, the Washington Post (1/10, Barr, 10.52M) reports Schwarzenegger “argued that Trump "sought a coup by misleading people with lies" in his baseless attempt to overturn the results of the presidential election, won by former vice president Joe Biden.” Schwarzenegger predicted Trump “will go down in history as the worst president ever” and “soon will be as irrelevant as an old tweet.”

The Los Angeles Times (1/10, Wigginsworth, 3.37M) also reports Schwarzenegger “said that those politicians who stood behind [Trump] are ‘complicit with those who carried the flag of self-righteous insurrection into the Capitol.’” The Times adds that he “called for elected representatives and citizens to look past their political parties and personal disagreements, put democracy first and work together toward healing by accepting...Biden as the country’s next leader and wishing him success.” The San Francisco Chronicle (1/10, Hwang, 2.44M) notes Schwarzenegger “took over from Trump as the host of ‘The Celebrity Apprentice’ after Trump’s 2016 election, but said he would not return after one season, citing Trump’s continued involvement as executive producer.”

**Apple, Google, Amazon Shut Down Parler.**

The AP (1/10, Bajak, Ortutay) reports, “President Donald Trump has been kicked off of most mainstream social media platforms” and “it remains to be seen how fast or where – if anywhere – on the Internet he will be able to reach his followers.” The AP adds that what it calls “the far-right-friendly Parler had been the leading candidate...until Google and Apple removed it from their app stores and Amazon decided to boot it off its web hosting service,” which the company said “could knock it offline for a week, though that might prove optimistic,” and “without a smartphone app,
it's hard to imagine Parler gaining mainstream success." The AP also reports that Parler, which it calls a "magnet for the far right claims more than 12 million users" compared to "the 89 million followers Trump had on Twitter." Parler CEO John Matze said the moves by Google, Apple, and Amazon are "a coordinated attack by the tech giants to kill competition in the marketplace."

USA Today (1/10, Menton, Tyko, 12.7M) reports, "Far-right-friendly Parler...reportedly removed a post by pro- Trump lawyer Lin Wood, where he threatened violence against Vice President Mike Pence." Wood wrote in response, "The use of rhetorical hyperbole is NOT unlawful."

USA Today adds that "losing access to the app stores of Google and Apple - whose operating systems power hundreds of millions of smartphones - severely limits Parler's reach, though it will continue to be accessible via web browser."

The New York Times (1/10, Nicas, Alba, 20.6M) reports, "Parler's plight immediately drew condemnation from those on the right," and "Parler has now become a test case in a renewed national debate over free speech on the internet and whether tech giants such as Facebook, Google, Apple and Amazon have too much power." The Times says that "for years, Facebook and Twitter had defended people's ability to speak freely on their sites, while Amazon, Apple, Google and others had stayed mostly hands-off with apps like Parler" and "that allowed misinformation and falsehoods to flow across online networks." American Civil Liberties Union lawyer Ben Wizner said Parler's situation was troubling. He said, "I think we should recognize the importance of neutrality when we're talking about the infrastructure of the internet." The Times also reports that many "right-wing personalities" will "still have ample followings on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube."

The Washington Post (1/10, Romm, Lerman, 10.52M) reports that Amazon's "move...threatens to darken the site indefinitely after its users glorified the recent riot at the U.S. Capitol." Parler, adds the Post, "has emerged as a haven for conservative users who have fled mainstream Silicon Valley sites that crack down on harmful, viral falsehoods online."

Rep. Devin Nunes (R-CA), on Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures" (1/10), said, "The effect of this is that there's no longer a free and open social media company or site for any American to get on any longer because these big companies - Apple, Amazon, Google - they have just destroyed Parler. ... If you don't want to be regulated by left-wingers, they get to decide what's violent and not violent. It's preposterous. ... This is clearly a violation of antitrust, civil rights, the RICO statute, there should be a racketeering investigation on all the people who coordinated this attack on not only a company but on all of those like us."

Breitbart (1/10, 1.26M) cites Nunes' appearance on Fox, in which he "called on the Department of Justice to launch an investigation into tech companies' efforts to remove Parler as a platform from the internet." Nunes said, "these big companies, Apple, Amazon, Google, they have just destroyed a - what was likely - Parler is likely a billion-dollar company. Poof, it's gone."

Parler CEO John Matze, on Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures" (1/10), said, "It's devastating, it is what it is. It's an assault on everybody. They all work together to make sure at the same time we would lose access to not only our apps but they are actually shutting all of our servers off tonight, off the internet. They made an attempt to not only kill the app, but actually destroy the entire company and it's not just these three companies, every vendor from text message services to e-mail providers to our lawyers, all ditched us too on the same day and they are trying to falsely claim that we were somehow responsible for the events that occurred on the sixth. ... every vendor we talked to say they won't work with us because if Apple doesn't approve or Google doesn't approve, they won't. They have given us no legitimate remedy."

The Daily Caller (1/10, Lyman, 375K) reports that Apple stated, "Parler has not upheld its commitment to moderate and remove harmful or dangerous content encouraging violence and illegal activity, and is not in compliance with the App Store Review Guidelines." Parler CEO Matze said, "Apple will be banning Parler until we give up free speech, institute broad and invasive policies like Twitter and Facebook, and we become a surveillance platform."

WSJournal: Tech Companies' Attack On Right-wing Populism Likely To Strengthen It. The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) in an editorial says that the tech giants are seeking to destroy right-wing populism through Parler, adding that Parler is taking an approach similar to that of other social-media companies a few years ago, and that it recently
increased the number of volunteer content moderators it uses. The Journal also says that actions by tech companies are an important cause of populism in recent years and such actions will only intensify opposition. The Journal further says that these actions may be in violation of antitrust laws.

Some US Diplomats Write Cables Condemning Trump.
The AP (1/10) reports, "In a highly unusual move, American diplomats have drafted two cables condemning President Donald Trump's incitement of the deadly assault on the Capitol and calling for administration officials to possibly support invoking the 25th Amendment to remove him from office." The cables were drafted in the State Department's "dissent channel." The AP calls them "an extraordinary protest against a sitting U.S. president by American diplomats." Meanwhile, Secretary of State Pompeo "condemned the violence at the Capitol but has pointedly not addressed the role Trump played in encouraging his supporters who stormed the building."

EU Foreign Policy Chief Says Capitol Violence Shows Danger Of "Disinformation."
Reuters (1/10, Abnett) reports that EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell on Sunday said "that last week's siege of the U.S. Capitol exposed the dangers of allowing the degradation of democratic values to go unchecked and disinformation to spread on social media." Borrell called it "a wake-up call for all democracy advocates." Borrell also said, "the events in Washington also show that disinformation constitutes a real threat for democracies."

Pope Offers Prayers For Victims Of Violence, Urges US Leaders To Promote Calm.
The AP (1/10, D'Emilio) reports on Sunday, Pope Francis said "that he is praying for those who died in the U.S. Capitol rioting and has appealed for calm to prevail in the United States." Francis said, "I exhort the authorities of the state and the entire population to maintain a high sense of responsibility with the aim of calming souls, promoting national reconciliation and safeguarding the democratic values rooted in American society."

NPR (1/10, Schwartz, 3.69M) reports on its website that the Pope "offered prayers Sunday for those who lost their lives during the siege at the U.S. Capitol - and encouraged Americans to come together in a spirit of reconciliation."

Average US COVID Death Toll Exceeding 3,000 Per Day.
On ABC World News Tonight (1/10, story 4, 2:05, 4.76M), Tom Llamas said, "As bad as the COVID surge is now, it's expected to get even worse, with the effect of the holidays." ABC's Zohreen Shah added that frontline medical workers are "desperately racing to save lives as the average daily death toll soars above 3,000." On the CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 4, 2:05, 13.72M), Jericka Duncan said, "The raging COVID crisis is still breaking records. For a second straight day, the US reported a record number of cases on Saturday, with more than 278,000 new infections. More than 3,600 people died." Lilia Luciano added Los Angeles County "is smashing COVID records with 900,000 infected and 12,000 deaths. Right now, about 200 Angelinos a day are dying from COVID, more than from all other causes combined." Meagan Fitzgerald reported on NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 4, 2:50, Snow, 3.76M) that in Los Angeles County, "more people are dying from the virus than all other causes combined. A similar scene at some hospitals in neighboring Arizona."

Meanwhile, the AP (1/10, Thompson) reports California "desperately needs more medical workers," but "almost no help is coming from a volunteer program" that Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) "created at the start of the pandemic." According to the AP, "An army of 95,000 initially raised their hands, and just 14 are now working in the field." The AP adds, "Very few volunteers actually met qualifications for the California Health Corps, and only a tiny sliver have the high-level experience needed to help with the most serious virus cases that are stretching intensive care units to the limit."

The Los Angeles Times (1/10, Mejia, 3.37M) also reports on the dilemma facing hospital discharge planners as hospitals in California fill up with patients with COVID. According to the
Times, these workers are trying “to free up beds in dangerously full hospitals confronting a deluge of COVID patients, which requires them to “juggle family preferences, healthcare plans and intake restrictions at nursing homes while trying to free up beds.”

**Slow COVID Vaccine Rollout In US Highlights Challenges Of Decentralized Distribution Plan.**

The *Wall Street Journal* (1/10, Smith, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that a slow rollout of COVID vaccines across the US demonstrates “the challenges of a decentralized distribution plan that relies on states and localities to handle the complicated last-mile logistics of getting shots into people’s arms, supply-chain experts say.”

*USA Today* (1/10, Ball, 12.7M) reports, “Anger and frustration are surging across the country as the federal government leaves states to handle the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Through Friday, states had received 22.1 million doses of the vaccines.” Of those doses, “about 6.7 million - less than one-third - had been administered.” On *ABC World News Tonight* (1/10, story 3, 2:35, Llamas, 4.76M), Trevor Ault similary reported the vaccine rollout nationwide “has gotten off to a sluggish start. Of the 22 million doses distributed, less than seven million shots have been administered so far.”

*CNN* (1/10, Waldrop, 89.21M) reports on its website that NIAID Director Fauci told Newsday’s Randi Marshall this week in a virtual event: “It got off to a slow start and we need to do better at every level, but I believe that we will pick up momentum as we get beyond the holiday season into the first couple of weeks in January.” Fauci warned against jumping to conclusions about the pace of the vaccine rollout in such a short time period, saying “we just started.”

According to the AP (1/10, Choi), “Public health officials sounded the alarm for months, complaining that they did not have enough support or money to get COVID-19 vaccines quickly into arms. Now the slower-than-expected start to the largest vaccination effort in U.S. history is proving them right.” On *CBS’ Face The Nation* (1/10, 2.17M), former FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said, “It’s a distribution issue now, and it will be supply issue in a few weeks. The feds say it is with the states, and the states say it is with the feds. You have 40 million doses on the shelves. We have 50 million Americans above the age of 65. We have supply to push it out to that population. We need to use the big box stores, and the federal sites that the administration is talking about. We need to try everything to create multiple distribution points. A lot of senior citizens are not going to want to go to a stadium to get an inoculation. They want to go to their local pharmacy or a doctor’s office. But we need to get them out more aggressively. It will become a supply issue once we get the logistics down right. And we don’t have it right now. We aren’t doing a good job getting it to patients.”

**Cuomo Expands COVID Vaccination Eligibility As New York City Opens Mass Vaccination Sites.** The *New York Times* (1/10, Rubinstein, 20.6M) reports that following stories from New York medical providers saying that “they had been forced to throw out precious [COVID] vaccine doses because of difficulties finding patients who matched precisely with the state’s strict vaccination guidelines,” state health officials on Saturday loosened eligibility guidelines. The Times adds, “Now, medical providers can administer the vaccine to any of their employees who interact with the public if there are extra doses in a vial and no one from ‘the priority population can come in before the doses expire,’ the new guidelines read.” This marks the “second time in two days that Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo’s administration has loosened the restrictions.”

Meanwhile, *Reuters* (1/10, Caspani) reports that two mass COVID vaccination sites opened in New York City on Sunday, one at Brooklyn Army Terminal and the other at Batgate Contract Postal Station in the borough of the Bronx. The two sites were open for part of the day on Sunday before they start operating round the clock, seven days a week on Monday as part of New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio’s push to set up 250 vaccination locations to meet the ambitious goal of inoculating 1 million New Yorkers by the end of the month.” Reuters adds, “Three other smaller sites also opened on Sunday in Brooklyn, the Bronx and in Queens.” Separately, the CDC “has said healthcare workers and nursing home residents and staff should have priority for the limited supply of vaccines.”

**Hogan Debating Vaccination Strategy For Maryland.** Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R),
on CNN's State Of The Union (1/10, 1.23M), discussed the vaccination strategy for the state, specifically whether doses should be held in reserve. Hogan said, "We are having discussions with both the Biden team, and tomorrow we have a meeting with the coronavirus team at the White House. I met on Friday with [CDC Director] Robert Redfield. I talked with a number of other governors. There is an argument on both sides, look, we want to make sure we don't run out of the second dose. But it is a gray area as to where can we ramp up the production. Right now we are not getting them out fast enough into people's arms. I just want to make sure we get as many out as fast as possible without endangering people with regard to the second dose. It is a discussion; everybody is arguing about what is the right path."

Florida Vaccine Efforts Lead To Long Waits, Confusion Amid COVID Surge. The New York Times (1/10, A1, Mazzei, Adelson, Kelly, 20.6M) reports "Florida is in an alarming new upward spiral" amid its COVID outbreak, "with nearly 20,000 cases of the virus reported on Friday and more than 15,000 on Saturday." However, its "well-intended effort to throw open the doors of the vaccine program to everyone 65 and older has led to long lines, confusion and disappointment." The Times adds the state, "which has already prioritized a large swath of its population to receive the vaccine, illustrates the challenges of expanding a vaccination program being developed at record speed and with limited federal assistance."

Some Prestigious Academic Hospitals In The US Are Vaccinating People Not In High-Priority Groups. The New York Times (1/10, Mandavilli, 20.6M) reports some of the "most prestigious academic hospitals" in the US have begun vaccinating employees who are not part of high-priority groups. For example, at Columbia University, Harvard, and Vanderbilt, "workers who have nothing to do with patient care, and who are not 75 or older, have been offered the shots." While federal officials have said that some states are adhering too closely to guidance about priority groups, FDA Commissioner Hahn said states should still prioritize groups that "make sense."

Debate Grows Over Merits Of Giving Inmates Priority Vaccine Access. On NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 6, 2:35, Snow, 3.76M), Steve Patterson said that "America's correctional facilities, COVID may have its highest form of freedom." Patterson added, "The COVID case rate is 5 1/2 times higher for incarcerated people compared to the general public. So far, more than 325,000 inmates have contracted the virus, with nearly 75,000 staff members getting sick. Nearly 2,000 inmates have died." He continued, "Advocates say incarcerated people should be among the first prioritized to receive a vaccine. Arguing our jails are overcrowded, filled with aging populations and pre-existing conditions, and several outbreaks started in jail ended up circulating outside."

Anti-Abortion Leaders Endorsing COVID Vaccines. The AP (1/10, Crary) reports, "In a growing consensus, religious leaders at the forefront of the anti-abortion movement in the United States are telling their followers that the leading vaccines available to combat COVID-19 are acceptable to take, given their remote and indirect connection to lines of cells derived from aborted fetuses."

Hospitals, Pharmacists Claim Vials Of Pfizer Vaccine Contain More Doses Than Expected. Politico (1/10, Luthi, Roubein, 6.73M) reports some hospitals threw away "doses of Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine because the federal government is giving some of the facilities syringes that can only extract five doses from vials that often contain more." Pharmacists in the US have found "that the standard five-dose vials of the vaccine from Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech often contained enough material for six or even seven shots." In response, "regulators in the U.S. and Europe agreed to allow use of those 'overfill' doses to maximize the reach of coronavirus vaccines amid the raging pandemic."

Chicago Public Schools To Reopen Monday Over Teachers Union's Criticism. The Washington Post (1/10, Reiss, 10.52M) reported, "Chicago Public Schools will reopen for some students Monday for the first time since last spring amid an escalating clash between city officials, who are threatening to withhold pay from teachers who do not show up, and the powerful Chicago Teachers Union, which contends that schools are not properly outfitted to combat the coronavirus."
Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot (D) “said she is determined to reopen schools Monday, starting a phased return to in-person learning, and that city officials are ‘doing everything we can to place safety in this pandemic at front and center.’” Teachers, however, “said they found conditions unacceptable and called the demand for them to start teaching ‘heartless.’”

Meanwhile, the Washington Post (1/10, Strauss, 10.52M) separately reports, “Scores of nurses in the Chicago Public Schools district have objected to officials’ plans to begin bringing students back to classrooms on Monday, saying they do not think it is safe to do so.” The Post adds, “A statement signed by 147 school nurses...says: ‘Many of us are CPS parents ourselves, and all wish to be back in school buildings, but the simple fact is that it is currently not safe to do this.’”

WSJournal Analysis: Senate Control Will Allow Democrats To Reverse Some Trump Policies.

A Wall Street Journal (1/10, Kiernan, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) analysis says that in taking control of the Senate, Democrats will find it easier for them to reverse parts of outgoing President Trump’s agenda, adding to the Biden administration’s toolbox a little-known congressional procedure to erase executive-branch regulations.”

Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.23M), discussed his upcoming role as the swing vote in the Senate, and his position on a number of potential issues. When asked about $2,000 relief checks, Manchin said, “If they’re targeted.” On eliminating the filibuster: “I’m basically for making this place work together. I want to make it work.”

Harris To Be Tie-Breaking Vote In Senate. Politico (1/10, Cadelago, 6.73M) reports the “vice presidential portfolio” of Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA) “was nebulous before last week. But thanks to Democrats’ upset victories in two Georgia Senate run-offs, Harris has unexpectedly earned a new title: Senate tie breaker.” Axios (1/10, Kight, 1.26M) says the role “has the potential to define her as vice president – and as a possible 2024 presidential contender.”

DC Presses Statehood Bid.

The New York Times (1/10, Wines, 20.6M) reports the day “after a mob rampaged through the halls of Congress,” District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) “heaped praise on the Metropolitan Police Department officers who had rushed to restore order after the Capitol’s police force was overwhelmed,” and she “saw no small amount of irony in their role.” According to the Times, “Wednesday’s riot, in which 56 city police officers were injured, has become Example One in a renewed and decidedly uphill effort to change the legislators’ minds” on statehood, and “backers are counting on the Democratic Party’s control of Congress and the White House to reinvigorate a push for statehood legislation that Republicans have long bottled up.”

Congressional Waiver For Austin Not Expected Until After Inauguration.

The New York Times (1/10, Steinhauser, 20.6M) reports Joe Biden “is facing an arduous struggle to get his choice for secretary of defense in place by Inauguration Day, a senior national security position that all but one president in modern history has secured by Day 1,” which “stems from the need of the nominee, Lloyd J. Austin III, a retired four-star Army general, to obtain a congressional exemption from a law that bars recently retired active-duty officers from serving in the top Pentagon job.” The Times adds that while “only the Senate votes to confirm the secretary, House approval of General Austin’s waiver is also required. The House Armed Services Committee will not be holding a hearing on the matter until the day after Mr. Biden is sworn in.”

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Countries Facing Economic Crises Over COVID Responses.

The Washington Post (1/10, A1, Wroughton, 10.52M) reports that the pandemic “is hurtling heavily leveraged nations into an economic danger zone, threatening to bankrupt the worst-affected,” such as Costa Rica, as worldwide, “the pandemic is racking up a mind-blowing bill: trillions of...
dollars in lost tax revenue, ramped-up spending and new borrowing set to burden the next generation with record levels of debt. In the direst cases — low- and middle-income countries, mostly in Africa and Latin America, that are already saddled with backbreaking debt — covering the rising costs is transforming into a high-stakes test of national solvency. “The Post adds analysts “call it a ‘debt tsunami’. National accounts are sinking into the red at a record pace.”

NYTimes Analysis: China Ignores Mistakes Of COVID Response.
The New York Times (1/10, Qin, Hernández, 20.6M) reports that China has opened a “sprawling exhibition” at a museum in Wuhan that “paints a stirring tale of how the city’s sacrifices in a brutal 76-day lockdown led to triumph over the coronavirus and, ultimately, rebirth,” although it is “striking for what is not included.” According to the Times, “There is no mention of the whistle-blowing role of Ai Fan, one of the first doctors to sound the alarm in Wuhan, where the virus is believed to have originated, or the decision by Zhang Yongzhen, a Shanghai doctor, to share its genome with the world against official orders.” The Times adds the Chinese Communist Party’s efforts to “spin the narrative” about the pandemic “have taken on new urgency as the Jan. 23 anniversary of Wuhan’s lockdown draws closer.”

Africa Exceeds 3M COVID Cases.
The AP (1/10, Meldrum) reports Africa “passed the milestone of 3 million confirmed cases COVID-19 on Sunday, including more than 72,000 deaths, according to the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.” The AP adds South Africa, “with more than 1.2 million reported cases, including 32,824 deaths, accounts for more than 30% of the total for the continent of 54 countries and 1.3 billion people.” Per the AP, “The high proportion of cases in South Africa, could be because the country carries out more tests than many other African countries.”

UK Government Faces New Criticism For Surge In COVID Cases.
The AP (1/10, Lawless) reports, “The U.K. is the epicenter of Europe’s COVID-19 outbreak once more, and Prime Minister Boris Johnson’s Conservative government is facing questions, and anger, as people demand to know how the country has ended up here — again.” The AP adds a lot “of the blame for Britain’s poor performance has been laid at the door of Johnson, who came down with the virus in the spring and ended up in intensive care.” According to the AP, critics claim “his government’s slow response as the new respiratory virus emerged from China was the first in a string of lethal mistakes.”

WSJournal Analysis: Israel’s Successful Vaccine Effort Offers Lessons For US.
A Wall Street Journal (1/10, Schwartz, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) analysis argues the US should learn from Israel’s COVID vaccination campaign, which has helped the country vaccinate almost one-fifth of its population in three weeks.

Pompeo Expected To Declare Houthi Rebels A Foreign Terrorist Organization.
The New York Times (1/10, Jakes, 20.6M) reports Secretary of State Pompeo “will designate the Houthi rebels in Yemen as a foreign terrorist organization...at the risk of exacerbating a famine in one of the world’s poorest nations.” The result of the declaration would be “that fighters within the relatively decentralized movement will be cut off from financial support and other material resources that are routed through U.S. banks or other American institutions.” That, says the Times, may not affect them much, but “experts said it would chill humanitarian efforts to donate food and medicine to Houthi-controlled areas in northern and western Yemen,” where, according to the UN, about 80% of the population depends on food assistance.

US Ambassador To Israel Reflects On Tenure.
The New York Times (1/10, Halbfinger, 20.6M) reports on US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman, who “will complete his tour of duty in Israel this month having etched his name in history as one of America’s most influential envoys.” Friedman “drove the radical overhaul of
White House policy toward the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, dreaming up the seemingly endless list of political giveaways that President Trump bestowed upon Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his supporters on the Israeli right.” Friedman said, “There’s no going back on what we’ve been able to do.”

US Ambassador Announces First Step Towards Consulate In Western Sahara.

The AP (1/10, Elshamy) reports US Ambassador to Morocco David Fischer “took part in a ceremony Sunday in Dakhla, the first formal step to open a consulate” in Western Sahara, which “recognizes Morocco’s authority over the land – in exchange for Morocco normalizing relations with Israel.”

Kim Elected General Secretary Of North Korea’s Workers’ Party.

Reuters (1/10, Shin) reports North Korean leader Kim Jong-un “has been elected as general secretary of the ruling Workers’ Party during its ongoing congress, taking over the title from his late father,” it was announced on state media KCNA Monday. It also announced that Kim Yo Jong, Kim’s sister, “remained a member of the Central Committee but was not included in its politburo.”

Indonesia Says It Has Located Black Boxes Of Jetliner That Crashed Saturday.

ABC World News Tonight (1/10, story 5, 0:25, Llamas, 4.75M) reported that in Indonesia, “investigators [are] on the scene of that devastating plane crash. They have located the black boxes and will retrieve them when the sun comes up. Underwater footage showing divers searching the bottom of the Java Sea, where pieces of the plane came to rest. One important clue already recovered, what is believed to be one of the engines.”

The CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 6, 0:15, Duncan, 13.72M) reported, “Divers have found parts of the wreckage of a jetliner that crashed into the sea shortly after takeoff [Saturday] in Jakarta, Indonesia. The aircraft, an older model Boeing 737. There were 62 people on board, and no survivors.”

NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 5, 1:25, Snow, 3.76M) reported, “We’re getting our first look at the wreckage scattered under the sea. We have an important update involving the plane’s black boxes.” NBC’s Matt Bradley added, “As Navy divers hunt for clues scattered on the ocean floor, others working late into the night to recover debris, like airplane parts, luggage, clothing, and corpses. This is not a rescue mission. All 62 people on board the Boeing 737 500, including 10 children, were killed.” NBC also reported, “The plane’s black boxes have been located, but not yet recovered.”

The AP (1/10, Milko, Tarigan) reports, “The head of Indonesia’s National Search and Rescue Agency, Bagus Puruhito, said officials believe they identified the location of the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder…because emergency signals transmitted by the devices were detected by a navy ship’s sonar system.”

Reuters (1/10, Nangoy, Christina) reports the plane “was headed on a domestic flight to Pontianak in West Kalimantan on Saturday.” Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports, “Indonesian investigators...confirmed the plane was intact when it struck the Java Sea.” The New York Times (1/10, Beech, Suhaartono, 20.6M) reports the captain was “a former Indonesian Air Force pilot who was widely admired and had more than 30 years of flying experience.” USA Today (1/10, Hines, 12.7M), the Washington Post (1/10, Mellen, 10.52M), and Wall Street Journal (1/10, Ermont, Singgih, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) also cover the news.

Japarov Elected President Of Kyrgyzstan.

The New York Times (1/10, Nechepurenko, 20.6M) reports, “A populist politician and convicted kidnapper won a landslide victory on Sunday in a snap presidential election in Kyrgyzstan.” Sadyr Japarov got nearly 80% of the vote in “the only democracy in Central Asia.” Japarov said, “I call on all opponents to unite; the minority should submit to the majority.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Grove, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that voters also approved constitutional changes to increase the president’s powers.
**Egypt, Ethiopia, And Sudan Fall To Progress During Negotiations On Blue Nile Dam.**

The AP (1/10) reports, “Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia failed to achieve a breakthrough in the African Union-led talks to resolve their years-long dispute over the controversial dam that Ethiopia is building on the Blue Nile.” Officials “of the three nations met online for the second time in a week in efforts to find an agreed approach to resume their talks focused on the filling and operation of the Grand Ethiopia Renaissance Dam.”

**Honduran President Accused Of Drug Trafficking To US.**

ABC World News Tonight” (1/10, story 8, 0:20, Llamas, 4.76M) reported, “The President of Honduras has been accused of helping traffic cocaine to the United States. Prosecutors citing Juan Orlando Hernandez as a co-conspirator in a drug trafficking case. They allege he took millions of dollars in bribes and used Honduras’ military to protect cocaine laboratories and shipments. He has not been charged and has denied the allegations.”

The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that federal prosecutors in New York made the allegations.

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**THE BIG PICTURE**

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**Headlines From Today’s Front Pages.**

***Wall Street Journal:***

- House To Move To Impeach Trump After Push To Have Pence Remove Him From Office
- One Trump Fan’s Descent Into The US Capitol Mob
- Twitter, Facebook And Others Silenced Trump. Now They Learn What’s Next.
- Maradona Devotees Created Their Own Church For Hero Worship
- Amazon, Walmart Tell Consumers To Skip Returns Of Unwanted Items

***New York Times:***

- Inside A Deadly Siege: How A String Of Failures Led To A Dark Day At The Capitol
- House Moves To Force Trump Out, Vowing Impeachment If Pence Won’t Act
- Police Reassess Security For Inauguration And Demonstrations After Capitol Attack
- How Parker, A Chosen App Of Trump’s Fans, Became A Test Of Free Speech
- The Art Of The Lie? The Bigger The Better
- ‘It Became Sort Of Lawless’: Florida Vaccine Rollout Turns Into A Free-For-All

***Washington Post:***

- Mob Driven By Grievances And Disillusionment
- Many Countries Facing “Debt Tsunami”
- Baseless Fraud Claims Cost GOP In Ga.
- House Moves Ahead With Bid To Remove Trump
- Capitol Police Chief: Backup Was Denied
- A Weakened President’s Unsure Future

***Financial Times:***

- Vaccine Makers Prepare For Game Of Covid Cat And Mouse
- US Senators Back At Impeaching Trump Over Capitol Siege
- Iran’s $70B Battle: ‘Tanker Seizure’ ‘Slap In The Face’ To South Korea
- Saudi Arabia Tries To Lure Multinationals From Dubai

***Washington Times:***

- ‘Wipe People Out’: Republicans Blast Big Tech’s Bid To ‘Erase’ Trump’s Supporters
- Joe Biden Missed Many Opportunities To Learn About Son’s Business Dealings
- ‘Hello, My Wonderful Social Justice Warriors’: School Sued Over Critical Race Theory Instruction
We're Not Revolutionists," Pennsylvania Brewery Champions Fight Against 'Unlawful Orders'; Pelosi Sets Timetable For Likely Trump Impeachment; North Korea Issues Threat To US As Message To Biden

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:
ABC: Capitol Siege-Fallout; Siege-Violence; Vaccines: COVID; Indonesia-Plane Crash; Chicago-Man On Shooting Spree; Winter Storm; Honduras-Drug Trafficking; EMT Rescues Man From Burning Truck; St. Louis-Family Time Capsule.
CBS: Capitol Siege-Fallout; Siege-Violence; Siege-Worldwide Perception; COVID; Chicago-Man On Shooting Spree; Indonesia-Plane Crash; Winter Storm; Policing Double Standards; Educators Adapt Lesson Plans; Woman's Basketball; Reflections On Trump's Presidency.
NBC: Capitol Siege-Fallout; Siege-Violence; Siege-Capitol Police; COVID; Indonesia-Plane Crash; Vaccines; California-Prisoners Escape; Powerball; Shipping Returns; 15 Year Old Creates Charity To Give Kids In Need Shoes.

Network TV At A Glance:
Capitol Siege-Fallout – 10 minutes, 45 seconds
Siege-Violence – 7 minutes, 10 seconds
COVID – 7 minutes, 0 seconds
Indonesia-Plane Crash – 2 minutes, 5 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:
ABC: Pelosi-Impeachment; Siege-Violence; PGA-Moving Venue From Trump Golf Club; COVID.
CBS: Pelosi-Impeachment; Trump-Social Media Bans; Parler Bans; Siege-Violence; Siege-Capitol Police; COVID; Chicago-Man On Shooting Spree.
FOX: Siege-Capitol Police; Siege-Violence; Parler Bans; Businesses Suspend Political Contributions.
NPR: Pelosi-Impeachment; Trump-Social Media Bans; PGA-Moving Venue From Trump Golf Club; Siege-Violence; Vaccines.

WASHINGTON'S SCHEDULE

Today's Events In Washington.
White House:
- President Trump — Will work from early in the morning until late in the evening. He will make many calls and have many meetings.
- Vice President Pence — Leads a White House Coronavirus Task Force meeting.

US Senate:
- Senate on recess from 7 Jan - 19 Jan

US House:
- House meets in pro forma session – House of Representatives meets in pro forma session *
  Chamber on recess from 8 Jan - 19 Jan
  Location: U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC; 11:00 AM

Cabinet Officers:
- Transportation Secretary Chao resigns following U.S. Capitol riots – Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao resignation effective, announced last week in the wake of the attacks on the U.S. Capitol following a protest rally addressed by President Donald Trump, which her resignation letter called 'a traumatic and entirely avoidable event' and said that they had 'deeply troubled her in a way that she simply cannot set aside' * Secretary of Education Betsy Devos also announced her resignation on the same day, effective last week, telling President Trump in her letter that there was 'no mistaking the impact his rhetoric had on the situation'. However, critics have suggested that both could be avoiding participating in potential Cabinet responsibilities in declaring that President Trump was 'unable to discharge the powers
and duties of the office' and invoking the 25th Amendment, which would remove him from office.

 Visitors:
- No visitors scheduled.

 This Town:
- U.S. Supreme Court releases an order list: 9:30 AM
- U.S. Supreme Court hearing — U.S. Supreme Court hearing, via teleconference: 'Pham v. Guzman Chavez' (Whether the detention of an alien who is subject to a reinstated removal order and who is pursuing withholding or deferral of removal is governed by Title 8 Section 1231 or Section 1226 of the United States Code?); 10:00 AM
- Annual 'Roadmap to State Highway Safety Laws' released — Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety unveil 2021 Roadmap of State Highway Safety Laws' report — ranking all 50 states and the District of Columbia on the passage of 16 'essential' traffic safety laws, with each state given a green, yellow or red rating based on the number of optimal safety laws enacted; the best and worst states named; and gaps in each state’s traffic safety laws identified. Livestreamed news conference with Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety President Cathy Chase; Democratic Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi; New York state Sen. David Carlucci; Impact Teen Drivers (California) Education Outreach Coordinator Ivette Chaidez; New Jersey state Assemblyman Nicholas Chiaramonti; Medical College of Wisconsin Comprehensive Injury Center Director Stephen Hargarten; and State Farm Insurance Federal Affairs Vice President and Counsel Alan Maness; 11:00 AM
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce co-hosts webinar on ‘Arts & Entertainment in the Pandemic Era’ — 'Starring Role: Arts & Entertainment in the Pandemic Era’ webinar hosted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Global Innovation Policy Center in collaboration with Americans for the Arts, the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, and the National Endowment for the Arts, to spotlight the economic and cultural contributions made by those in the arts and entertainment sectors, and the challenges and opportunities they face in the pandemic era. Speakers include actor Annette Bening; U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Suzanne Clark and Strategic Alliances and Outreach Senior Vice President Rick Wade; Musician Verdine White; National Assembly of State Arts Agencies President and CEO Pam Breaux; The Actors Fund President and CEO Joseph Benincasa; National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Mary Anne Carter; and Recording Industry Association of America Chairman and CEO Mitch Glazier; 3:00 PM
- 2020 Law Enforcement Officer Fatalities report released — Law Enforcement Officer Fatality Report released by National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, providing officer fatality data for 2020. Report details the number of officers killed in firearms-related and traffic-related incidents, as well as deaths due to other causes, along with preliminary data showing circumstances of fatal shootings, trends in traffic-related fatalities, details of deaths due to causes other than traffic and firearms, and other demographic and jurisdictional data points

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Services including embedded Tweets are also subject to Twitter for Websites’ information and privacy policies. The FBI News Briefing is published five days a week by Bulletin Intelligence, which creates custom briefings for government and corporate leaders. We can be found on the Web at BulletinIntelligence.com, or called at (703) 483-6100.
Outgoing Capitol Police chief: House, Senate security officials hamstrung efforts to call in National Guard

Capital Police Chief Steven Sund testifies before House lawmakers in July 2019. (Congressional Quarterly/CQ Roll Call/AP)

By Carol E. Lee, David J.日夜，Peter Hermann and Edwin Donovan
Jan. 10, 2021 at 11:38 p.m. EST

Two days before Congress was set to formalize President-elect Joe Biden’s victory, Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund was growing increasingly worried about the size of the pro-Trump crowds expected to stream into Washington in protest.

To be on the safe side, Sund asked House and Senate security officials for permission to request that the D.C. National Guard be placed on standby in case he needed quick backup.

But, Sund said Sunday, they turned him down.

In his first interview since pro-Trump rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol last week, Sund, who has since resigned his post, said his supervisors were
reluctant to take formal steps to put the Guard on call even as police intelligence suggested that the crowd President Trump had invited to Washington to protest his defeat probably would be much larger than earlier demonstrations.

House Sergeant at Arms Paul Irving said he wasn’t comfortable with the “optics” of formally declaring an emergency ahead of the demonstration, Sund said. Meanwhile, Senate Sergeant at Arms Michael Stenger suggested that Sund should informally seek out his Guard contacts, asking them to “lean forward” and be on alert in case Capitol Police needed their help.

Irving could not be reached for comment. A cellphone number listed in his name has not accepted messages since Wednesday. Messages left at a residence he owns in Nevada were not immediately returned, and there was no answer Sunday evening at a Watergate apartment listed in his name. A neighbor said he had recently moved out.

Stenger declined Sunday to comment when a reporter visited his Virginia home. “I really don’t want to talk about it,” he said.

It was the first of six times Sund’s request for help was rejected or delayed, he said. Two days later on Wednesday afternoon, his forces already in the midst of crisis, Sund said he pleaded for help five more times as a scene far more dire than he had ever imagined unfolded on the historic Capitol grounds.

An army of 8,000 pro-Trump demonstrators streamed down Pennsylvania Avenue after hearing Trump speak near the White House. Sund’s outer perimeter on the Capitol’s west side was breached within 15 minutes. With 1,400 Capitol Police officers on duty, his forces were quickly overrun.

“If we would have had the National Guard we could have held them at bay longer, until more officers from our partner agencies could arrive,” he said.

Just before 2 p.m., the pro-Trump mob entered the Capitol, sending lawmakers and staff scrambling for safety. D.C. police had quickly dispatched hundreds of officers to the scene. But it wasn’t enough. At 2:26 p.m., Sund said, he joined a conference call to the Pentagon to plead for additional backup.

“I am making an urgent, urgent immediate request for National Guard assistance,” Sund recalled saying. “I have got to get boots on the ground.”

On the call were several officials from the D.C. government, as well as officials from the Pentagon, including Lt. Gen. Walter E. Piatt, director of the Army Staff. The D.C. contingent was flabbergasted to hear Piatt say that he could not recommend that his boss, Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, approve the request.

“I don’t like the visual of the National Guard standing a police line with the Capitol in the background,” Piatt said, according to Sund and others on the call.

Again and again, Sund said, “The situation is dire,” recalled John Falcicchio, the chief of staff for D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser. “Literally, this guy is on the phone, I mean, crying out for help. It’s burned in my memories.”

Pentagon officials have emphasized that the Capitol Police did not ask for D.C. Guard backup ahead of the event or request to put a riot contingency plan in place with guardsmen at the ready, and then made an urgent request as rioters were about to breach the building, even though the Guard isn’t set up to be a quick-reaction force like the police.

“We rely on Capitol Police and federal law enforcement to provide an assessment of the situation,” Pentagon spokesman Jonathan Hoffman said during a news conference last week. “And based on that assessment that they had, they believed they had sufficient personnel and did not make a request.”

Despite Sund’s pleas, the first National Guard personnel didn’t arrive at the Capitol until 5:40 p.m. — after four people had died and the worst was long over.
Sund, 55, offered his resignation the next day, telling friends he felt he had let his officers down. Many lawmakers, infuriated by the breach and angry that they had been unable to reach Sund at the height of the crisis, were only too happy to accept it.

Under pressure from lawmakers, Stenger and Irving also resigned.

In a wide-ranging interview, Sund sought to defend his officers, who, he said, had fought valiantly. And with threats of violence looming ahead of Biden's Jan. 20 inauguration, he said he remains worried.

“My concern is if they don’t get their act together with physical security, it’s going to happen again,” he said.

As he prepared for last week’s demonstrations, Sund drew on decades of experience. Hired as chief in 2019, two years after joining the Capitol Police, he worked for 23 years on the D.C. police force, leaving as commander of the Special Operations Division. Widely respected in the District and among leaders of U.S. Secret Service and Park Police, he had helped to run 12 national security events, including Barack Obama’s 2013 inauguration. He also served as incident commander during the 2013 Navy Yard shooting.

Last Monday, Sund said, he began to worry about the Jan. 6 demonstration.

“We knew it would be bigger,” Sund said. “We looked at the intelligence. We knew we would have large crowds, the potential for some violent altercations. I had nothing indicating we would have a large mob seize the Capitol.”

Sure, there were claims that alt-right instigators had discussed storming the building and targeting lawmakers. But Sund said such threats had surfaced in the past.

“You might see rhetoric on social media. We had seen that many times before,” he said. “People say a lot of things online.”

Still, he decided to call Irving and Stenger to ask for permission to request that the National Guard be put on emergency standby. Irving didn’t like the idea, Sund said, he said it would look bad because it would communicate that they presumed an emergency. He said he’d have to ask House leaders.

On the way home that evening, Sund did as Stenger suggested, calling Maj. Gen. William J. Walker, the head of the 1,000-member D.C. National Guard, to tell him that he might call on him for help. “If we can get you leaning forward,” Sund said, “how long do you think it would take to get us assistance?”

Walker said he thought he could send 125 personnel fairly quickly. Over the weekend, Sund had also conferred with D.C. Police Chief Robert J. Contee III, who also had offered to lend a hand if trouble arose.

On Tuesday, Sund said he briefed Irving and Stenger, who said that backup seemed sufficient.

Just before noon Wednesday, Sund was monitoring Trump’s speech to the crowd on the Ellipse when he was called away. There were reports of two pipe bombs near the Capitol grounds. So Sund didn’t hear the president call on protesters to “fight” against lawmakers preparing to confirm Biden’s victory.

Nor did he hear Trump’s personal attorney, Rudolph W. Giuliani, urging the crowd to engage in “trial by combat,” an eerie reference to battles to the death in the series, “Game of Thrones.” Sund said he now suspects that the pipe bombs were an intentional effort to draw officers away from the Capitol perimeter.

The first wave of protesters arrived at the Capitol about 12:40 p.m.

“As soon as they hit the fence line, the fight was on,” Sund said. “Violent confrontations from the start. They came with riot helmets, gas masks, shields, pepper spray, fireworks, climbing gear — climbing gear! — explosives, metal pipes, baseball bats. I have never seen anything like it in 30 years of events in Washington.”

Using video footage from the Capitol and radio transmissions from his incident commanders, Sund could see his officers trying to hold the line.
But the rioters immediately yanked the barricade fence out of the way and threw it at his officers' heads.

"I realized at 1 p.m., things aren't going well," he said. "I'm watching my people getting slammed."

Sund immediately called Contee, who sent 100 officers to the scene, with some arriving within 10 minutes. But at 1:09 p.m., Sund said he called Irving and Stenger, telling them it was time to call in the Guard. He wanted an emergency declaration. Both men said they would "run it up the chain" and get back to him, he said.

Minutes later, aides to the top congressional leaders were called to Stenger's office for an update on the situation — and were infuriated to learn that the sergeants at arms had not yet called in the National Guard or any other reinforcements, as was their responsibility to do without seeking approval from leaders.

"What do you mean that there's no National Guard, that there's no reinforcements coming?" aides demanded to know. "Why haven't you ordered them, why aren't they already here?"

Sund said he called Irving twice more and Stenger once to check on their progress. At 1:50 p.m. — nine minutes before the Capitol was breached — Sund said he was losing patience. He called Walker to tell him to get ready to bring the Guard. Irving called back with formal approval at 2:10 p.m.

By then, plainclothes Capitol Police agents were barricading the door to the Speaker's Lobby just off the House chamber to keep the marauders from charging in.

Sund finally had approval to call the National Guard. But that would prove to be just the beginning of a bureaucratic nightmare to get soldiers on the scene.

At 2:26 p.m., Sund joined a conference call organized by D.C.'s homeland security director, Chris Rodriguez. Among those on the screen were the District's police chief, mayor and Walker.

Unlike anywhere else in the country, the D.C. Guard does not report to a governor, but to the president, so Walker patched in the office of the Secretary of the Army, noting that he would need authorization from the Pentagon to order soldiers to the Capitol.

Piatt noted the Pentagon still needed authorization from Capitol Police to step foot on Capitol grounds. Sund ticked through details on the severity of the breach, but the call got noisy with crosstalk as officials asked more questions.

Contee sought to quiet the din. "Wait, wait," he said, and then directed attention to Sund. "Steve, are you requesting National Guard assistance at the Capitol?"

Sund said he replied: "I am making urgent, urgent, immediate request for National Guard assistance."

But Piatt, dialed in from across the river at the Pentagon, pushed back, according to Sund, saying he would prefer to have Guard soldiers take up posts around Washington, relieving D.C. police, so that they could respond to the Capitol instead of guardsmen. Sund's account is supported by four D.C. officials on the call, including Bowser.

Bowser told The Washington Post that Sund had "made it perfectly clear that they needed extraordinary help, including the National Guard. There was some concern from the Army of what it would look like to have armed military personnel on the grounds of the Capitol."

Faicicchio said that once Contee confirmed that Sund wanted the National Guard, D.C. officials echoed his request.

"Contee was definitely — I hate to use this term, but there's no other term for it. He was pleading," Faicicchio said. "He was pleading with them to fulfill the request that Capitol Police was making."

But the entire discussion was in vain. Only McCarthy, the secretary, could order the Guard deployed — and only with the approval of the Pentagon chief. McCarthy has since said that, at the time of the call, he was busy taking the requests to activate more Guard to acting defense secretary Christopher C. Miller.
At one point, according to a defense official, Contee said, “Let me be clear, are you denying this?” To which Piatt responded that he wasn’t denying the request; he simply didn’t have the authority to approve it.

“It was clear that it was a dire situation,” the defense official said. “He didn’t want to commit to anything without getting approval.”

At 3:45 p.m., Stenger told Sund that he would ask his boss, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), for help getting the National Guard authorized more quickly. Sund never learned the result. More of Contee’s officers had arrived and were helping remove rioters from the grounds.

Capitol Police worked with other federal authorities, including the Secret Service, the Park Police and the FBI, to secure lawmakers, eject rioters and sweep the building so lawmakers could return to finish counting the electoral college votes that would allow them to formally recognize Biden’s victory later that night.

According to a transcript the Defense Department published Friday, Miller verbally authorized the activation of the entire D.C. Guard at 3:04 p.m. It would take two more hours for most of the citizen soldiers to leave their jobs and homes, and pick up gear from the D.C. Armory.

Sund, who was officially replaced as chief Friday, said he is left feeling that America’s bastions of democracy need far more security. He said the violent crowd that mobbed the Capitol was unlike anything he has ever seen.

“They were extremely dangerous and they were extremely prepared. I have a hard time calling this a demonstration,” he said.

“I’m a firm supporter of First Amendment. This was none of that,” he added. “This was criminal riotous activity.”

Sund blamed Trump for putting his officers at risk, saying “the crowd left that rally and had been incited by some of the words the president said.”

Sund said he fears what may come next.

On Sunday, the Capitol’s rolling green lawn was ringed by high black fencing and patrolled by personnel in green camouflage keeping the public at bay.

“This is the people’s house. Congress members have always prided themselves on having an open campus,” Sund said. But now, “I’m not sure that will continue to be defensible.”

Secretary, Washington, D.C. Chapter
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To unsubscribe from this list please go to
From: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Subject: FW:
To: Laycock, Stephen C. (IB) (FBI)
Cc: 
Sent: January 11, 2021 7:35 AM (UTC-05:00)

Boss:

Please see the below reference some activity.

Also, we released basic information to the DSAC and InfraGard portals alerting our partners that we will keep them updated with any relevant information that affects the private sector.

I have two separate DSAC leadership meetings this week and will let you know if any concerns are raised during those meetings.

Just wanted you to know that we are monitoring and looking for any private sector nexus in case your leaders ask you... Mike

From:
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2021 4:06 PM
To: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Cc: Joe, Erin M. (IB) (FBI)
Subject: BIC

Good afternoon Sir,
In light of the horrible events earlier this week, I have been working closely with...

Feel free to contact me on my cell if you would like to discuss further. If you concur with these proposed actions, we will move forward accordingly.
SC Joe, I would love to brief you more fully during our call tomorrow morning.

Kind regards
POLICING & POLICY

More US Unrest Reportedly Planned For January 16-20

The Washington Post (1/9, Timberg, Hanwell, Lang) reports the planning “for Wednesday’s assault on the U.S. Capitol happened largely in plain view, with chatters in far-right forums explicitly discussing how to storm the building, handcuff lawmakers with zip ties, and disrupt the certification of Joe Biden’s election — in what they portrayed as responding to orders from President Trump,” and Twitter on Friday “said it was particularly concerned about contributing to a possible ‘secondary attack’ on the U.S. Capitol and state government facilities the weekend of Jan. 16-17.” According to the Post, “Concerns about more violent incidents appear to be well-founded.” The Post adds demonstrations “are scheduled to culminate with what organizers have dubbed a ‘Million Militia March’ on Jan. 20 as Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala D. Harris are to be sworn in on the same Capitol grounds that rioters overran on Wednesday."

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The *Edmonton Journal* (1/8, Rengo) reports, “Roughly $1.35 million worth of ‘cartel-connected’ methamphetamine has been seized from an Edmonton home by officers from Alberta’s joint police task force.” The Journal adds, “Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team’s Edmonton organized crime and gang team made the seizure of nearly 14 kilograms on Dec. 30 as part of a four-month-long drug trafficking investigation that stemmed from a public tip, said police in a Friday morning release. A total of four homes – in Summerside, Oliver, Strathcona and Resenthal – were searched, with the help of Edmonton city police. ALERT estimates the 13.77 kilograms of methamphetamine seized from one of the homes would equate to more than 45,000 doses when sold at street level. ‘This amount of meth represents a high degree of community harm. The influx of cartel-connected meth into our province has fueled violence, ancillary property crimes, and poses serious health concerns. ALERT has prioritized these types of investigations and we are committed to disrupting the meth trade,’ said the head of ALERT, Supt. Dwayne Lakusta.”

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FBI(21cv558)-2750
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Attached is the Strategic Information & Operations Center (SIOC) 10 January 2021 National Crisis Coordination Center (NC3) SITREP related to the violence associated with lawful protests. This SITREP contains relevant information from 9 and 10 January 2021.

Please note that this document is Unclassified //Law Enforcement Sensitive (U/ALES). The FBI Office of Partner Engagement (OPE) at FBI Headquarters approves further dissemination with your trusted law enforcement, intelligence, and homeland security partners in accordance with the LES handling caveat.

Sincerely,
National Counterintelligence Task Force
J. Edgar Hoover Building

FBI(21cv558)-2761
The Domestic Security Alliance Council: https://www.dasac.gov/
InfraGard: https://www.infragard.org/
FBI Resources for Business: https://www.fbi.gov/resources/businesses.

From: Cooper, Laura; Wagner, Kimberly <KWagner@mcsheriffs.com>

Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2021 8:06 PM

To: Lewis, Kwame (DI) (FBI); Talucci, Vince; Jensen, Steven J. (CTD) (FBI); Cunningham, Terry (IACP); Thompson, Jonathan; Grever, Louis; Acevedo, Art Chief; Carroll, Jeffrey W. (MPD)
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Thank you.
Good Morning
Happy Monday – Hope everyone’s weekend was awesome!

From: SIOC
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 6:03 AM
To:
Cc: SIOC
Subject: CIRG’S DAILY SITREP

The NC3 will serve in a supportive role and will be comprised of FBIHQ Divisions as well as federal, state, and local partners.
b7A -1
b7E -1,2,5,8,9

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -1,2,5,7,8

FBI(21cv558)-2779

Please see the attached pending requests.
WEATHER FOR TODAY

NCR — Cloudy, with a high/low of 44°/29°
There are no active watches, warnings or advisories.

Richmond, VA — A chance of sprinkles after 1pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high/low of 50°/31°
There are no active watches, warnings or advisories.
US Files Dozens Of Charges In Wake Of Capital Siege. USA Today (1/10, Penzenstadler, Phillips, Voyles Pulver, 12.7M) reports, “Federal authorities continued Sunday to round up people following a deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol this week — including two men accused of carrying plastic restraints and others who allegedly carried weapons or stole from the building. At least 58 people have been arrested and charged for incidents in or near the Capitol on Wednesday. Those arrested have come from 24 states and the District of Columbia.” The Justice Department “has filed more than 55 criminal cases related to the riot that left five dead.”

The New York Times (1/9, Wright, 20.6M) reports that the number of arrests “is expected to grow quickly as investigators scrutinize social media to identify the protesters, and some participants could face more serious charges.”

CNN (1/8, Scannell, 89.21M) reports, “An Alabama man allegedly parked a pickup truck packed with 11 homemade bombs, an assault rifle and a handgun two blocks from the US Capitol building on Wednesday for hours before authorities ever noticed, according to federal prosecutors. Another man allegedly showed up in the nation’s capital with an assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition and told acquaintances that he wanted to shoot or run over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, prosecutors said.” CNN adds, “The revelations are some of the most unsettling details federal prosecutors have made public this week as they detail the extent of the arsenal available to aid pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol. Other individuals have been accused of taking guns and ammunition onto Capitol grounds and more charges are expected to come as a wide-ranging investigation unfolds.”

Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), citing Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, said Sunday that “at least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened after Wednesday’s assault on the U.S. Capitol.” Reuters (1/10, Shalal) reports Crow “said McCarthy told him the Pentagon was aware of ‘further possible threats posed by would-be terrorists’ in the days up to and including the inauguration of Democratic President-elect Joe Biden on Jan. 20. ‘Long guns, Molotov cocktails, explosive devices and zip ties were recovered, which suggests a greater disaster was narrowly averted,’ Crow, a former Army Ranger, said in a summary of his call with McCarthy. McCarthy assured him the Pentagon was working with local and federal law enforcement to coordinate security preparations after what he described as ‘deficient law enforcement threat reporting’ ahead of last Wednesday.”

Reuters (1/8, Brice) reports, “Acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen announced the FBI would team up with Washington’s police department to jointly investigate the death of Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, who was injured while defending the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday. ‘Just because you’ve left the D.C. region, you can still expect a knock on the door if we find out you were part of the criminal activity at the Capitol,’ Steven D’Antuono, the FBI Washington Field Office’s assistant director in charge, told reporters in a telephone news briefing.”

The New York Times (1/8, Golman, Ismay, Fuchs, 20.6M) reports, “The sweeping investigation took shape after a security breakdown two days earlier allowed hundreds of people backing President Trump’s efforts to overturn the election results to rush into the Capitol in a deadly rampage. The debacle prompted sharp recriminations and the firings of top officials who were entrusted with protecting lawmakers. Dozens have been arrested, including 13 who face federal charges.” The Times adds, “Law enforcement officials also backed off a suggestion that Mr. Trump could face criminal charges for inciting the riot after a top prosecutor had said a day earlier that investigators were examining anyone involved, ‘not only’ the rioters. ‘Don’t expect any charges of that nature,’ Ken Kohl, a top prosecutor in the U.S. attorney’s office in Washington, told reporters in a telephone briefing on Friday.”

The Wall Street Journal (1/8, A1, Gurman, Viswanatha, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports on its front page that federal prosecutors on Friday announced charges against at least 13 “alleged members of the pro-Trump mob who stormed the halls of Congress.” The Washington Post (1/8, Hsü, 10.52M) reports the Justice Department and FBI “announced charges Friday against” Derrick Evans, “a freshman West Virginia lawmaker,” Richard Barnett, “an Arkansas man who told the media he posed for photos on a desk in” House Speaker Pelosi’s office, and Lonnie Leroy Coffman, “an Alabama man whose truck allegedly carried 11 molotov cocktails and a semiautomatic rifle to this week’s U.S. Capitol riots.” The Post adds that “also charged with unlawful entry was Hawaii Proud Boys founder and unsuccessful state house candidate Nicholas Robert Ochs, who gave media interviews saying he participated in the break-in, an FBI arrest affidavit unsealed Friday alleged.”

The Chicago Sun-Times (1/9, Seidel, 970K) reports that Barnett “has become one of the most notorious figures among those who broke into the Capitol Wednesday, after photographs surfaced of him with his feet on Pelosi’s desk. Prosecutors cited those photographs in a statement of facts filed as part of the case against him. They said they also viewed video surveillance and a video-recorded interview Barnett gave.” Prosecutors “said Barnett was asked about an envelope he was holding featuring
Pelosi’s signature. Barnett allegedly said, ‘I did not steal it. I bled on it because they were macing me and I couldn’t f—ing see so I figured I am in her office. I got blood on her office. I put a quarter on her desk even though she ain’t f—ing worth it. And I left her a note on her desk that says “Nancy, Bigo was here, you b——.”’ Barnett “is being held in the Washington County (Ark.) jail after he was charged by federal prosecutors with three counts for storming the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday.”

The AP (1/9, Callahan) reports, “A Florida man accused of making off with Pelosi’s lectern during the chaos was arrested Friday night on a federal warrant and was being held Saturday without bail in Pinellas County, Florida. Jail records do not show if Adam Johnson, 36, of Parrish, Florida, has an attorney. Johnson was charged Saturday with theft, violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.”

The Miami Herald (1/9, DeLeon, 647K) reports from Bradenton, Florida, that Johnson “was arrested by Federal Marshals and booked into the Pinellas County jail shortly after 9 p.m. Friday. He has been charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; one count of theft of government property; and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds, according to a federal complaint. A warrant was issued on Friday and Johnson was charged in federal court in D.C. on Saturday.” Pelosi’s lectern “had been stored in her suite, under a staircase to the third floor on the House side of the Capitol building, before the Capitol was breached, her staff told FBI agents. The lectern — valued at more than $1,000 according to the House curator — was found by Senate staff on Thursday in the Red corridor of the Senate wing off the Rotunda in the Capitol.”

On NBC Nightly News (1/8, story 3, 3:04, Holt, 5.57M), Tom Costello reported “some suspects have identified themselves, as well. Josiah Colt who climbed down from the Senate balcony then sat in Vice President Pence’s chair says he was ‘caught up in the moment.’ In a statement to KBOI-TV, he says, ‘My actions have brought shame upon myself, my family and friends and beautiful country. I beg for forgiveness from America and from my home state of Idaho.’ Former Midland, Texas mayoral candidate Jenny Cucid posted her own video: ‘We did break down the Nancy Pelosi’s office door. And somebody stole her gavel.’ Nationwide, hundreds of federal agents are pursuing riot suspects. Among the felony charges they could face, felony rioting, federal assault and murder charges, obstruction of Congress, destruction of congressional documents, conspiracy and insurrection.”

The AP (1/9, Hollingsworth) reports, “An Iowa man was jailed early Saturday on charges accusing him of taking part in the riot at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of President Donald Trump.” The AP adds, “Des Moines Police Sgt. Paul Parizek said officers assisted the FBI in arresting 41-year-old Doug Jensen on Friday night at his home on the south side of the city. Jensen was booked into the Polk County Jail early Saturday on five federal charges, including trespassing and disorderly conduct counts, according to news releases from the FBI’s field office in Omaha, Nebraska and the county sheriff’s office.” According to the AP, “Video posted online during the storming of the Capitol on Wednesday showed a man who appears to be Jensen, who is white, pursuing a Black officer up an interior flight of stairs. A mob of people trails several steps behind. At several points, the officer says ‘get back,’ to no avail.”

The New York Times (1/8, Goldman, 20.6M) reports prosecutors on Thursday “filed a criminal complaint accusing a man named Mark J. Leffingwell of punching a Capitol Police officer repeatedly in the head and chest, before apologizing,” and they “unsealed charges against a Maryland resident, Christopher Alberts, accusing him of illegally carrying a 9-millimeter pistol at the riot.” Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, McGrath, 3.57M) reports Cogensia, a marketing firm near Chicago, has fired CEO Brad Rukstales, a Republican donor to President Trump, who “was arrested by U.S. Capitol Police on Wednesday” after “being part of the mob that broke into the U.S. Capitol.”

On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 3, 2:05, Muir, 6.95M), Chief Justice Correspondent Pierre Thomas reported that federal authorities “are determined to leave no stone unturned, ramping up efforts to bring all the Trump supporters who desecrated the Capitol to justice.” On ABC’s Good Morning America (1/8, 3.14M), Martha Raddatz reported that on Wednesday, “despite the loss of life and the desecration of the Capitol, those rioters were allowed to just leave the building. They lingered on the plaza for hours triumphant, giving one another high-fives with no consequences. This morning the acting US attorney for the District of Columbia said the failure to arrest more people is making his job harder adding, ‘I can’t answer why the Capitol Police did not zip tie these people as they were leaving the Capitol.” CBS This Morning (1/8, 2.28M) also covered the search for protesters accused of committing crimes on Wednesday.
On the lead NBC Nightly News (1/8, lead story, 3:49, Diaz-Balart, 5.98M) segment, Tom Costello reported on the arrests, while on the CBS Weekend News (1/8, story 4, 1:52, Diaz, 577K), Adriana Diaz reported, “Roughly 100 people have been arrested for Wednesday’s attack.”

The Washington Post (1/8, Weiner, Hsu, 10.52M) reports 16 people “have been charged in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia with crimes related to the storming of the Capitol, including a man who admitted to stealing a document from Pelosi’s office. Forty others face charges in D.C. Superior Court.” The Post calls these federal cases “the low-hanging fruit of the investigation” since they are “people who either identified themselves in online postings or were quickly identified by others who saw the images and recognized the individuals.” The Wall Street Journal (1/8, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), AP (1/8, Callahan), Reuters (1/9, McKay), Politico (1/9, Semones, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/9, Lonas, 5.69M) among other outlets, provide similar coverage of the new arrests.

President Could Be Investigated For “Inciting” Riot. On ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 2, 2:31, Karl, 6.95M), Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl reported that DC Attorney General Karl Racine (D) has “said he’ll investigate whether the President is legally responsible for inciting the riot,” and he also “mentioned Rudy Giuliani who said this at the rally: ‘Let’s have trial by combat!’ And the President’s son, Don Jr, who posted a since-removed video taken backstage at the rally before the riot. The President and his children watching the crowds gather. Don Jr’s girlfriend Kimberly dancing as the Trumps celebrated. This was Don Jr’s message to Trump supporters before they stormed the capital: ‘If you’re going to be the zero and not the hero, we’re coming for you.’”

Pierre Thomas said on ABC World News Tonight (1/8, story 4, 0:35, Muir, 6.95M) that the DOJ’s current focus “is on the people who broke into the Capitol, but the investigation is in the early stages and questions about [Trump’s role in the] incitement will likely be for the incoming attorney general Merrick Garland.” On CBS This Morning (1/8, 2:37M), Ben Tracy said that Trump’s comments “before the assault on the Capitol may be investigated by US attorneys for leading to the violence.”

However, on ABC World News Tonight (1/9, story 4, 2:31, Llamas, 839K), on Saturday night, Tom Llamas reported, “There is now a nationwide manhunt under way for every rioter breaching the Capitol building.” Kenneth Moton added a senior Justice Department official on Saturday said “no incitement charges are expected against any...speakers” at the rally prior to the unrest, including Trump.

DOJ Investigating Shooting Death Of Protester. Meanwhile, the New York Times (1/8, Benner, Schmitt, 20.6M) reports interim US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Saturday announced that his office “is leading investigations into the deaths of a woman who entered the Capitol building with a crowd of rioters on Jan. 6 and an officer who was killed while trying to police the violent mob.” The Times says prosecutors in the office’s Civil Rights division “opened a formal, federal excessive force case into the shooting death of Ashli Babbitt, who was shot by a Capitol Police officer as she and a group of President Trump’s supporters swarmed the building,” though “the investigation into Ms. Babbitt’s shooting is routine, standard procedure whenever an officer deploys lethal force,” a Justice Department spokeswoman said. The Times adds the office “also opened a federal homicide investigation into the death of Brian D. Sicknick, a Capitol Hill police officer who died after pro-Trump rioters struck him with a fire extinguisher.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports it has obtained two video clips that “shed new light on the fatal shooting by police of Trump supporter and Air Force veteran Ashli Babbitt as she and other rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol.” The Post says Babbitt “and others were attempting to breach a barricaded door inside the Capitol building on Wednesday afternoon, angrily demanding that three U.S. Capitol Police officers who were guarding the door step aside, one of the clips shows.” The Post adds the officers “moved away as colleagues in tactical gear arrived behind the rioters, according to the clip and other video posted online. Roughly 35 seconds after the officers moved away, as she climbed up toward a broken section of the unguarded door, Babbitt was shot by an officer on the other side,” as she was “trying to get into the Speaker’s Lobby, a hallway that would have given them access to the House of Representatives chamber.” According to the Wall Street Journal (1/8, Saficar, Allworth, Seetharaman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M), five people have died in connection to the “Capitol riot.”

Laptop Stolen From Pelosi’s Office, Aide Says. Reuters (1/8, Satter) reports a laptop was stolen from Pelosi’s office “during the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, one of her aides said said on Friday.” Reuters adds Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) “said on Twitter that a laptop was taken from his office,” and Acting US Attorney Michael Sherwin on Thursday “said that some of the thefts might have potentially jeopardized what he described as ‘national security equities.’” According to Reuters, “The theft of electronic devices from congressional offices has been a persistent worry following the invasion by pro-Trump rioters.”

NBC News (1/8, 4:91M) reports, “At least three Democrats in Congress said that the pro-Trump rioters who stormed the Capitol on Wednesday stole computers from their offices, raising cybersecurity concerns.” Speaker Pelosi “had a laptop stolen, as did Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., who tweeted about the theft. It wasn’t immediately clear what protections were on those devices, though Congress generally lags behind the federal government in implementing cybersecurity measures. Not all Senate
computers automatically encrypt their hard drives or require a password to log in if they’re unused for a few minutes. Emails were visible on a desktop computer left running in Pelosi’s office.

Prosecutors Seek To Revoke Bail For Vets for Trump Co-Founder. The Washington Post (1/9, Jackman, 10.52M) reports Joshua Macias, 42, a co-founder of Vets for Trump who was “free on bail after appearing outside a Philadelphia election center with a concealed handgun, outside the Capitol during the siege by Trump supporters Wednesday and posted video of himself, leading Philadelphia prosecutors to request his bail be revoked.” The Post says Macias and Antonio LaMotta, arrested in Philadelphia on Nov. 5 near the Philadelphia Convention Center, where the presidential election vote was being counted,” because they were carrying firearms without permits.

West Virginia Lawmaker Who Participated In Storming Capitol Resigns. The New York Times (1/9, 20.6M) reports West Virginia state Del. Derrick Evans (R) “resigned on Saturday after participating in the storming of the United States Capitol.” The Times says the resignation, effective immediately, comes as he “faces two federal charges: one for knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one for violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.” The Washington Post (1/9, Kornfeld, 10.52M) reports Evans “chronicled the riot Wednesday on Facebook Live, capturing the moment the crowd cracked open the Capitol’s doors and he crossed the threshold.”

Pennsylvania Man Charged in Siege. A number of local news outlets covered the arrests of those from their areas. For example, the Harrisburg (PA) Patriot-News (1/8, Benscoter, 567K) reports, “A Pennsylvania man who was charged by Capitol Police for taking part in the attack on the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday also was charged with federal offenses, officials at the U.S. Department of Justice announced Friday.” Terry Brown, of Myerstown, Pennsylvania, “was one of 13 people charged federally.” Brown “was charged with knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority or, knowingly, with intent to impede government business or official functions, engaging in disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.” The New York Times (1/9, Eddy, 20.6 M) reports on how the image from the day of a bearded man wearing a black hoodie emblazoned with “Camp Auschwitz” has had “particular resonance as anti-Semitism and far-right nationalism are on the rise worldwide. And for people who survived the Nazi death camp...there was added pain with the realization that later generations may not have learned the lessons of the Holocaust.”

Man In “Camp Auschwitz” Sweatshirt Identified. CNN (1/10, 89.21 M) reports on its website, “A rioter who stormed the US Capitol Wednesday wearing a sweatshirt emblazoned with the phrase ‘Camp Auschwitz’ has been identified as Robert Keith Packer of Virginia, according to three sources. ... One Virginia resident, who spoke to CNN on the condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter, described Packer as a long-time extremist who has had run-ins with the law.”

FBI Seeks Information On Capital Rioters. The Hill (1/9, 5.69M) reports, “The FBI has put up what appear to be electronic posters in Washington, D.C., seeking information on anyone who participated in the Capitol breach on Wednesday.” The Hill adds, “Photos of bus stops shared by journalists on social media say ‘Seeking Information’ and include pictures of some of rioters inside the U.S. Capitol. The posters also share a phone number to contact the FBI’s Washington, D.C., office. FBI agents now feature signs posted by the FBI seeking information about participants in the Capitol insurrection,” CNN reporter Jim Acosta tweeted along with a photo of a poster taken at night.”
BuzzFeed News (1/8, Onibada) reports, "As part of the ongoing investigation to identify key perpetrators, the FBI shared a message online appealing for information on individuals who participated and instigated the violence. 'We are accepting tips and digital media depicting rioting or violence in and around the U.S. Capitol on January 6,' said the official Twitter account for the FBI." BuzzFeed News adds, "The callout for support was met with collective indignation, which quickly turned to trolling. Several people online pointed to the numerous social media posts, interviews, and open planning that had gone toward Wednesday's attack. It was suggested that there were more qualified figures who were up to the task."

FedScoop (1/8, Barnett) reports, "As a riotous mob of Trump supporters filled the U.S. Capitol building Wednesday, many left plum digital footprints federal law enforcement agencies can easily use to track them down and charge them." The FBI "has some of the most powerful facial recognition systems in the country, according to outside experts," and "because few arrests were made during the deadly unrest, law enforcement officials will now have to depend on that technology to speed up the process of tracking apparent criminals through the many videos, images and other digital "fingerprints" they left behind. Paired with the reams of open source information, the FBI has the technology to easily identify possible criminals, rather than having to manually connect the dots, a former FBI official told FedScoop. "For most people [that were] there, it is not going to be very hard to ID them," the official said."

FBI: No Evidence Of Antifa Participation In Siege. The AP (1/10, Biesecker, Kunzelman, Flaccus, Mustian) reports, "The insurrectionist mob that showed up at the president's behest and stormed the U.S. Capitol was overwhelmingly made up of longtime Trump supporters, including Republican Party officials, GOP political donors, far-right militants, white supremacists, and adherents of the QAnon myth that the government is secretly controlled by a cabal of Satan-worshipping pedophile cannibals." The AP "reviewed social media posts, voter registrations, court files and other public records for more than 120 people either facing criminal charges related to the Jan. 6 unrest or who, going maskless amid the pandemic, were later identified through photographs and videos taken during the melee." Steven D'Antuono, "the assistant director in charge of the FBI's Washington field office, told reporters that investigators had seen "no indication" antifa activists were disguised as Trump supporters in Wednesday's riot."

ESC News (1/8, 4.91M) reports, "Despite suggestions from conservative pundits and some Republican members of Congress, there is no evidence that anti-fascist activists were involved in the pro-Trump Capitol riots." D'Antuono "said on a call with reporters Friday. 'We have no indication of that, at this time,' D'Antuono said when asked whether antifa activists had disguised themselves as Trump supporters in an effort to frame them for the violent riots in which five people died, including Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick."

The Washington Post (1/8, Usero, 10.52M) reports, "To date, no evidence supports the claim that individuals with antifa connections formed part of the riots that took place on Capitol grounds. The FBI has said it does not believe antifa or any of its associates are responsible for the violence unleashed. Wednesday's events were widely documented, via videos, tweets and live-streams from reporters already covering the day's events. Video and photos confirm that many of the rioters were supporters, and individuals with right-wing and extremist beliefs. The usual antifa tactics such as wearing masks and face coverings to avoid detection were uncommon among rioters, making identification process an easier task."

The Washington Times (1/8, Mordock, 626K) reports that the FBI's announcement "debunks claims pushed forward by some right-wing pundits and politicians that the anarchist movement's supporters were part of the angry mob that stormed the Capitol." D'Antuono's statement "supports comments made Thursday by Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Michael Sherwin. Mr. Sherwin said he also saw no evidence Antifa was involved in the riot."

The New York Times (1/8, Alba, 20.6M) reports, "Since Wednesday, far-right activists and allies of the president have made the claim, often while presenting easily disproved evidence, that the rioters were made up of antifa supporters, not backers of President Trump. Among those pushing the falsehood were Representative Matt Gaetz, a Florida Republican, who said while objecting to the electoral votes for Mr. Biden that people in the mob were 'in fact members of the violent terrorist group antifa.' Ken Paxton, the attorney general of Texas, also said antifa was involved." The Times adds, "an analysis by the media insights company Zignal Labs found that the unfounded rumor had been mentioned 411,099 times across cable television, social media, and in print and online news outlets on Wednesday and Thursday. It was by far the most widely shared false or misleading claim about the Capitol Hill mob, Zignal said."

BuzzFeed News (1/8, Silverman) reports, "Speaking in the House Wednesday night after the attempted coup, Gaetz cited a Washington Times article that claimed a facial recognition company had identified two antifa members among the crowd at the Capitol. That story was removed by the outlet after BuzzFeed News reported that the facial recognition company said it was 'outright false.' The paper later published a corrected version that acknowledged the firm had identified 'neo-Nazis and other extremists' - not antifa members."

Some Extremist Groups Pleased By Chaotic Siege. Reuters (1/8, Hesson, Parker, Cooke, Harte) reports, "As the nation recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, some right-wing and anti-government..."
extremists saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda. Among the inspired was Mike Dunn, a 20-year-old follower of the ‘boogaloo’ anti-government movement, whose adherents anticipate a revolution toppling the federal government or a second U.S. civil war. Dunn, who lives in Virginia, said three or four groups of loyalists under his command helped storm the Capitol this week amid a motley mix of rioters who supported President Donald Trump’s attempts to overturn the results of the November presidential election. While most ‘boogaloo’ are libertarians who largely oppose Trump, Dunn said the group embraced the moment to strike against the government.

The Washington Times (1/8, Blake, 626K) says Proud Boys Chairman Henry “Enrique” Tarrio on Thursday promised to raise money and secure legal representation for “supporters of...Trump facing charges for storming the Capitol building during the deadly insurrection the day before.” In addition, Reuters (1/8, Hesson, Parker, Cooke, Harte) reports Tarrio “would not broadly denounce people who entered the Capitol building during riots a day earlier, calling it ‘a form of protest.’” Reuters says that even as “most Americans recoiled in horror at scenes of rioting and chaos in the U.S. Capitol,” some right-wing and anti-government extremists “saw the violence as the fulfillment of a patriotic duty or opportunity to advance their agenda.”

On NBC’s Today (1/8, 2.2M), Gabe Gutierrez said, “Wednesday’s storming of the Capitol by Trump supporters included many followers of conspiracy theory groups like QAnon. Now there are growing concerns about the President’s connections to these groups and their plans to continue inciting chaos in the wake of his election defeat.” According to Gutierrez, “QAnon is a far-right extremist group that among other outlandish things believed Democrats are running a satanic pedophile ring out of a DC pizza parlor.”

“Internet Sleuths” Identifying “Pro-Trump Rioters.” The Washington Post (1/8, Peiser, 10.5M) reports that since “pro-Trump rioters” stormed the Capitol on Wednesday without masks, “Internet sleuths” have “had a unique opportunity to easily identify them. And many made it even easier — they live-streamed their participation and later bragged about their escapades.” According to the Post, an “untold” number of Twitter users and Instagram accounts are “feverishly working...to ID and name the participants who stormed down the halls of the Capitol, ransacking lawmakers’ offices and occupying the House Chamber.”

The Washington Post (1/8, Timberg, Harwell, Hsu, 10.5M) also reports federal officials “looking to prosecute the mob of Trump supporters who overran the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday stand to get powerful help from cellphone records, facial recognition tools and other technologies to assist in the identification of anyone who was there that day.” The Post highlights that the Capitol “has a vast cellular and wireless data infrastructure of its own to make communications efficient in a building made largely of stone and that extends deep underground and has pockets of shielded areas,” and as such “phone records make determining the owners of these devices trivially easy.”

The Washington Post (1/10, Klemko, 10.5M) reports, “Before a mob of Trump supporters staged a riot in the U.S. Capitol and thousands of Americans became amateur detectives working to identify the culprits, a loosely connected group of seasoned online sleuths were ringing alarm bells and picking off extremists online, one by one.” The Post adds, “For a nationwide network of left-wing activists who seek out and publish the identities of those they believe to be violent ‘fascists,’ some investigations can take months, years even. Or it can take 10 minutes,” and “that’s how much time Molly Conger spent on her laptop last month searching for the man who used the right-wing social media site Parler to share that he was a police officer and pledge support to a member of the Proud Boys extremist group, advocating violence against Supreme Court Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. Turns out the man was a Prince William County sheriff’s deputy.”

More Coverage. The Washington Post (1/10, 10.5M) runs a feature titled “The Capitol Mob: A Raging Collection Of Grievances And Disillusionment” about some of those involved in the riot and their motivations.

FBI Offers $50K Reward For Information On DC Pipe Bombs. Reuters (1/8) reported, “The FBI is offering a reward of up to $50,000 for information on the individuals responsible for placing pipe bombs in the committee headquarters of the key U.S. political parties in the capital, the agency said.” CBS News (1/8, Siese, 5.3M) reports the FBI released photos via social media of what appears to be someone in a gray hooded jacket, black gloves, and black pants, clutching an object in one hand. The McClatchy (1/8, Kenney, 29K) reports, “Authorities didn’t say how the person in the photo is connected to the pipe bomb incidents.”

Also reporting are CNN (1/8, Walton, 89.2M) and the Daily Caller (1/8, Nieto, 375K).

Pipe Bombs At RNC, DNC Headquarters Had Timers, Official Says. The New York Times (1/8, Ismay, 20.6M) reports the pipe bombs “found on Wednesday afternoon outside the Democratic and Republican party headquarters, blocks from the Capitol, contained crude mechanical timing devices, according to an official familiar with their initial examination, suggesting they were intended to be detonated.” However, the Times adds it “was not clear when they were meant to explode, but thousands of people were in the area that afternoon as a mob encouraged by...Trump stormed the Capitol, where lawmakers had convened to certify...Joseph R. Biden Jr.’s election, leaving five people dead. It was also not clear whether the bombs were connected to the siege.”
The Washington Examiner (1/8, Giartelli, 888K) reported, "The bombs were each about 12 inches long by an inch and a half wide." The devices were "made with a battery, steel wool, and an unknown explosive powder. One of them was found with a cellphone that may have been meant to detonate it."

Schumer Urges FBI To Be Vigilant Of Further Threats Of Violence. Newsday (NY) (1/10, Coburn, Hernandez, 776K) reports, "Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) on Sunday expressed concern more political violence could follow the mob attack Wednesday on the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., by supporters of President Donald Trump." Schumer "said he pressed" FBI Director Wray "in a conversation Saturday to track down those involved in Wednesday's siege on Congress, in which five people died, and to be on the alert for further violence. 'The threat of violent extremist groups remains high and the next few weeks are critical in our democratic process,' Schumer said in a statement, noting President-elect Joe Biden will be inaugurated Jan. 20. "Given that the same incendiary, dangerous rhetoric online that occurred before January 6, which proved to be a warning of the insurrectionist attack, has only escalated since, I impressed upon Director Wray the vitalness of the FBI to work with other federal and state agencies to remain highly proactive and extremely vigilant to defend our democracy." Reuters (1/10, Staff) reports, "In a statement, Schumer said he had spoken on Saturday with FBI Director Christopher Wray to urge him to 'relentlessly pursue' the attackers."

Trump Supporters Reportedly Planning More Unrest For Jan. 16-20. The Washington Post (1/9, Timberg, Harwell, Lang, 10.52M) reports the planning "for Wednesday's assault on the U.S. Capitol happened largely in plain view, with chatter in far-right forums explicitly discussing how to storm the building, handcuff lawmakers with zip ties and disrupt the certification of Joe Biden's election - in what they portrayed as responding to orders from President Trump," and Twitter on Friday "said it was particularly concerned about contributing to a possible 'secondary attack' on the U.S. Capitol and state government facilities the weekend of Jan. 16-17." According to the Post, "Concerns about more violent incidents appear to be well-founded." The Post adds demonstrations "are scheduled to culminate with what organizers have dubbed a 'Million Militia March' on Jan. 20 as Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala D. Harris are to be sworn in on the same Capitol grounds that rioters overran on Wednesday.

In a more than 2,200-word front-page article, the Washington Post (1/9, A1, Miller, Jaffe, Nakhlawi, 10.52M) says "the temporary seizure of a global seat of power was, at its core, an outgrowth of delusional and destructive forces cultivated online and unleashed by the president." In a nearly 3,100-word front-page article, the New York Times (1/8, A1, Barry, McIntire, Rosenberg, 20.6M) casts the unsuccessful "insurrection" as "the culmination of a sustained assault by the president and his enablers on fact-based reality, one that began long before the November election but took on a fevered urgency as the certainty of Mr. Trump's defeat solidified." A Wall Street Journal (1/8, Ballhaus, Palazzolo, Restuccia, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) article headlined "Trump And His Allies Set The Stage For Riot Well Before January 6" provides similar coverage, while an AP (1/9, Woodward, Riechmann) analysis states that the occupation of the Capitol came as "no surprise" as Trump "left many clues he wouldn't go quietly."

In his Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) column, David Von Drehle also asserted that "a collection of distortions, delusions and outright lies galvanized a mob of thousands to storm the Capitol in a brief but deadly insurrection." Von Drehle added, "This unprecedented event was fomented inside a digitally networked community in which extraordinary claims are widely accepted on the basis of the wisest nonsense."

DC Mayor Calls For Immediate Increase In Pre-Inaugural Security. The New York Times (1/10, Feuer, 20.6M) reports that in the wake of Wednesday's violence, District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser (D) "issued an urgent appeal to start preparing immediately for more potential violence before, during and after next week's presidential inauguration. Bowser called on DHS "to move up to Monday the implementation of heightened security measures that are otherwise set to begin on Jan. 19." Bowser told CBS' Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), "Given the events of last week, that this inauguration preparation has to be different than any other inauguration with only 10 days to go."

Kenneth Moton said on ABC World News Tonight (1/10, story 2, 3:00, Llamas, 4.78M) that "a senior official tell[ls] ABC News there's a very serious national security concern for more domestic terrorism for the inauguration, possibly bringing extensive violence." The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Levy, Kendall, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports law enforcement agencies are preparing for more marches by Trump supporters in Washington and elsewhere. The Seattle Times (1/10, 1.19M) reports Trump supporters rallied in Olympia, Washington, on Sunday under heavy security.

Experts Caution Rioters To Assume More Hostile Position On Police. The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) reports that in a "crowd where some carried flags bearing a thin blue line — a pro-police symbol that critics claim also stands for white supremacy and opposition to the Black Lives Matter movement — and shirts adorned with 'Blue Lives Matter,' a tide of anger and frustration rose as officers pushed them back" from the Capitol, and "nearly three hours after the building was breached, police cleared the grounds and used batons and chemical munitions to confront the mob." The Post adds "some promised to return with
weapons, ready to fight if necessary," while one man "repeatedly announced he would be back with his rifle for the inauguration of...Biden." According to the Post, "Police experts worry this souring sentiment may lead to more violence in the months ahead."

**Pelosi Says Trump’s Supporters Who Stormed Capitol Chose Their ‘Whiteness’ Over Democracy.** The Hill (1/9, Williams, 5.69M) reports House Speaker Pelosi "said Saturday that the rioters who took part in the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday chose their ‘whiteness’ over democracy." The Hill adds her remark "came after Pelosi acknowledged the number of people who died of COVID-19 on Wednesday and Thursday, both of which were records for single-day coronavirus deaths in the United States."

However, Brent Staples, a member of the New York Times editorial board, writes at the New York Times (1/9, 20.6M) that US history "is ripe with episodes of political violence far bloodier and more destructive than the one...Trump incited at the Capitol," and remarks by public officials and commentators to "tell the country again and again that the carnage was an aberration and ‘not who we are’ as a people," are "dangerous on a variety of counts. For starters, it allowed many Americans to view the president’s insistence that he had won an election in which he was actually trounced, and his simultaneous embrace of right-wing extremism, as political theater that will pass uneventfully from the stage when...Biden is inaugurated." He concludes, "The mob assault on the Capitol was an outgrowth of what came before."

**FBI Probing Whether Some Rioters Intended Harm To Legislators.** The Washington Post (1/8, Barrett, Hsu, Zapotosky, 10.52M) reports, "FBI agents are trying to determine whether some who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday intended to do more than cause havoc and disrupt the certification of President-elect Joe Biden’s victory, and are sifting through evidence to see whether anyone wanted to kill or capture lawmakers or their staffs, according to people familiar with the investigation."

The Post adds that "investigators also are working to determine the motivations and larger goals, if any, of those who had weapons or other gear suggesting they planned to do physical harm. Some rioters, for instance, were photographed carrying zip ties, a plastic version of handcuffs, and one man was arrested allegedly carrying a pistol on the Capitol grounds. ‘We’re not looking at this as a grand conspiracy, but we are interested in learning what people would do with things like zip ties,’ said a law enforcement official, who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation.”

The New York Times (1/8, Levenson, 20.6M) reports, "A man who had an assault rifle was charged with threatening Nancy Pelosi, the House speaker, after he traveled to Washington for the pro-Trump rally on Wednesday and sent a text message saying he would put ‘a bullet in her noggin on Live TV,’ the federal authorities said." The Times adds, "Federal agents said the man, Cleveland Grover Meredith Jr., had been staying at a Holiday Inn in Washington and had weapons in his camper-style trailer, including a Glock handgun, a pistol, a Tavor X95 assault rifle and hundreds of rounds of ammunition. Meredith was charged with transmitting a threat in interstate commerce, possession of an unregistered firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition, according to court records.”

NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 2, 2:25, Snow, 3.78M) reported that "at least two more allegedly involved in the attack on the Capitol were arrested" on Sunday. NBC’s Ron Allen said Larry Rundell Brock of Texas and Eric Gavelek Munchel of Tennessee are "both charged with violently entering the Capitol and disorderly conduct."

The Washington Post (1/10, Hsu, 10.52M) reports that Brock, "a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, was arrested in Texas and charged with one count of knowingly entering a restricted building and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct, prosecutors said. Brock identified himself to the New Yorker last week as the man photographed in the well of the Senate chamber wearing a green combat helmet, tactical vest, and black and camo jacket. The photo shows the man holding a white flex cuff, used by police to restrain subjects, prosecutors said."

USA Today (1/10, Connolly, Macaree, Stephenson, Dorman, Wegner, 12.7M) reports, "Munchel, 30, was being held in a Nashville jail Sunday on a federal warrant, online records show. An FBI spokesperson, Samantha Shero, confirmed the arrest. The federal prosecutor’s office in Washington is handling the case. ‘Photos depicting his presence show a person who appears to be Munchel carrying plastic restraints, an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day,’ the office said in a news release."

The New York Times (1/10, Goldman, Benner, 20.6M) reports the Justice Department "said that photographs of a person who appeared to be Mr. Munchel showed him carrying plastic restraints, an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day." DOJ said images of a person who appeared to be Brock showed him "clad in a green helmet, green tactical vest with patches, black and camo jacket, and beige pants holding a white flex cuff, which is used by law enforcement to restrain and/or detain subjects." The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports Brock, "a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, confirmed to The New Yorker magazine that he was involved in Wednesday’s breach of the Capitol." The CRS Weekly News (1/10, story 2, 1.45, Duncan, 13.72M) also covers the arrests.

HuffPost (1/10, 363K) reports, "Officials also arrested Brock, ‘who lives in Texas, saying he appeared to be holding a white flex cuff, which is used by law enforcement to restrain and/or detain subjects.’ The FBI "also said the photos of him..."
appeared to show 'an item in a holster on his right hip, and a cell phone mounted on his chest with the camera facing outward, ostensibly to record events that day.' Both men are charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds."

**ABC News** (1/6, Meek, 2.44M) reports, "Federal agents and detectives from the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department have launched a broad and multipronged investigation into the mayhem and death Wednesday at the United States Capitol, that sources tell ABC News includes an effort to determine the motives of a paramilitary faction of the mob that invaded the heart of American government. 'We're talking about a very complex investigation,' said Robert Boyce, a 35-year veteran and former chief of detectives of the New York Police Department. That effort involves scanning volumes of social media posts, reviewing hours of security camera footage, and combing through mountains of cellphone data to determine exactly what occurred, investigators told ABC News."

**Daily Beast: Lengthy Process To Determine if Booby Traps Were Left Behind.** The Daily Beast (1/8, Shannon, 933K) reports that "there are innumerable potential hiding places" in the Capitol "for lethal devices that can be activated later, by a remote trigger such as a cell phone, or by a vibration-sensitive device like the one that sets off a car alarm when a vehicle rumbles by or honks. Or somebody could have stuck a handgun inside a vase or hollow lamp or behind a toilet, à la Michael Corleone's first hit. Intending to return later as a tourist, reclaim the gun and assassinate some lawmaker. To clear a 15-by-15 foot office, would take four bomb techs all day,' Dave Williams, a former FBI bomb tech who investigated the Oklahoma City bombing, the World Trade Center bombing and other attacks, told SpyTalk. 'They'd have to look under carpets, at all the fire alarms, light switches, lamps, even light bulbs. A light bulb can be modified so when you turn it on, it explodes. If you have a five-drawer file cabinet, each drawer should be opened remotely.'"

**FBI Warned Capitol Police Of Possibility Of Violence Before Riot.** NBC News (1/10, Diarian, 4.91M) reports, "The FBI and the New York City Police Department passed information to U.S. Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during the protests Wednesday against the counting of the Electoral College vote, and the FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington, senior law enforcement officials said." NBC News adds, "The previously unreported details undercut the assertion by a top FBI official that officials had no indication that violence was a possibility, and they add to questions about what intelligence authorities had reviewed before the Capitol riot, which led to the death of an officer and four other people, including a rioter who was shot and killed by police. 'Social media is just part of a full intelligence picture, and while there was First Amendment-protected activity on social media to include some people making threats, to this point, investigators have not found that there was an organized plot to access the Capitol,' a senior FBI official said."

According to the AP, "The revelations shed new light on why Capitol Police were so quickly overrun by rioters. The department had the same number of officers in place as on a routine day. While some of those officers were outfitted with equipment for a protest, they were not staffed or equipped for a riot. 'They were left naked,' Rep. Maxine Waters, D-California. said of the police in an interview with AP. She had raised security concerns in a Dec. 28 meeting of House Democrats and grilled Steven Sund, the Capitol Police chief, during an hourlong private call on New Year's Eve. 'It turns out it was the worst kind of non-security anybody could ever imagine.'"

The Los Angeles Times (1/8, Zou, 3.37M) reports, "Officers at a U.S. Capitol perimeter fence tried to hold their line but failed as intruders overturned the barrier. Officers at another gate, seemingly overwhelmed, appeared to walk off as the intruders passed by. Another lone officer tried to hold back an advancing group before fleeing through the halls of Congress. In many cases, the officers were in normal uniform. Nowhere were there the skirmish lines of officers in riot gear seen during other recent events, including Black Lives Matter protests." The Times adds, "The stunning collapse of national security left many of the nation's leaders cowering behind benches and fearing for their lives," but "by Thursday, much of their shock had been supplanted by anger — with leading lawmakers demanding resignations from the Capitol's top security officials and calling for broad investigations into the array of tactical failures under their watch."

The Wall Street Journal (1/9, Calvert, Youssef, Gurman, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports that uneven communications between local and federal agencies hindered a forceful response to the riot.

Pete Williams reported on NBC Nightly News (1/10, story 3, 1:10, Snow, 3.76M) that the New York Police Department "notified the US Capitol Police about the possibility of violence during last week's electoral vote count. Law enforcement officials say the NYPD’s intelligence unit sent a packet of information to police agencies nationwide describing the violent rhetoric and the threats of social media, with a separate report sent directly to Capitol Police. And a senior FBI official says agents contacted..."
more than a dozen suspected extremists. These are people who were already under FBI surveillance, and who indicated a desire to come to Washington last week. These disclosures do add to the questions about why the Capitol Police were not better prepared when the rioters stormed in, and why there wasn't a greater sense of urgency throughout the federal government about the possibility that the Capitol was a target. The Washington Post (1/10, Tan, 10.52M) reports “embattled” Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund “stepped down from his post on Friday, days earlier than he said he would.” On Thursday, Sund said his resignation would be effective January 16.

USA Today (1/10, Bohan, Fritze, Brook, 12.7M) reports Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) “said Sunday it took nearly two hours for the Pentagon to give authorization for his state to send its National Guard into Washington to help protect the U.S. Capitol as it came under attack.” Hogan said on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), “Our Guard mobilized and was ready, but we couldn’t actually cross over the border into DC without the okay. And that was quite some time. ... I can’t speak as to what was going on the other end of the line back at the Pentagon or in the White House. ... All I know is that we were trying to get answers and we weren’t getting answers.”

Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) on MSNBC’s Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, “One thing that I think is particularly striking is the low number of arrests. Here you have videos of folks engaged in criminal behavior, and the number of arrests is very small. That’s unacceptable.” Peters added, “We have to send a strong signal to those folks who were engaged in this action, that they will be sought out, they will be punished, and anyone else who tries to do this in the future is going to certainly face a very different result than what we saw this last week.”

Rep. Hank Johnson (D-GA) on MSNBC’s Politics Nation (1/10, 825K) said, “Had it not been for the gunshot of the one shot fired by that plainclothes officer in the Speaker’s Lobby right behind the House gallery, right there, if those people had been able to get through, they would have had us who were in the gallery up on the third floor trapped...and I have no doubt some of us who look like me would have been hanging from the railings of the third floor onto the House floor swinging like fruit.”

Lawmakers Investigating Police Preparation Ahead Of Capitol Occupation. Reuters (1/8, Cornell, So, Berens, Januta, Tanfani) reports that following “the historic security breach of the iconic domed building that houses the U.S. House and Senate, lawmakers told harrowing tales of their escapes from grave danger in the deadly mob assault that many saw was incited by Trump,” and “several told Reuters that top Capitol security officials had assured them they would be safe ahead of the planned protests and that everything was under control.” In interviews with Reuters “and in public statements, lawmakers fumed over the failure of the Capitol Police — a 2,000-member force dedicated to guarding the Capitol Grounds — and other agencies.”

The Hill (1/8, Marcos, 5.69M) reports Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), the chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that oversees Capitol Police funding, “said Friday he’s asked the police chief to provide all communications during the pro-Trump riots that unfolded this week and will investigate whether any officers assisted rioters.”

Meanwhile, Bloomberg (1/8, A1, Holder, Flatow, 3.57M) interviewed several current and former police leaders about “the logistics of how preparation for a major rally or protest typically works — and why Wednesday’s preparation was such a dismaying contrast to typical practice.” In a nearly 2,000-word article, Politico (1/8, 6.73M) says “the successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters...represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history.” According to Politico, “Minute by minute, individual officers sometimes acted bravely, but hour by hour, Wednesday’s events demonstrated a top-to-bottom failure by a key federal law-enforcement agency. The crisis can’t even be called a failure of imagination, as 9/11 is sometimes seen, because in many ways the idea that the pro-Trump mob might march on the Capitol to disrupt the proceedings inside seemed all but obvious. Nor was this an incident that just slipped under the radar. The joint session inside was the single biggest news event in the United States that day, and the rioters had been planning disruptive protest for weeks, in the open.”

The Washington Post (1/8, 10.52M) says in an editorial, “Top law enforcement officials and key members of Congress have said plainly what Americans could see — that the events Wednesday were enabled by a failure of law enforcement and a collapse of security.” The Post adds, “To prevent another such failure, on Inauguration Day and subsequently, there must be a robust investigation of the causes for evident shortcomings in leadership, planning, intelligence, coordination and tactics.” The Post calls for the implementation of long-term security measures, concluding the Capitol building “must remain the people’s house — but one that is secure from insurrection.”

McCarthy Says National Guard Could Be Permitted To Carry Guns In DC Ahead Of Inauguration. Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy on Friday told the AP (1/8, Baldor) that Defense Department officials “are reviewing restrictions on the use of force by National Guard members and could allow troops to carry batons or guns in Washington, D.C., as they brace for more protests and possible violence around the Jan. 20 inaugural.” In particular, McCarthy “told The AP...that any changes will be determined by the intelligence gathered in the coming days about potential threats. But he said they are looking at allowing troops to carry their M-4 rifles or 9 mm Berettas, and he will know more in a day or two.”

Pentagon Officials: Quick-Action Force Was Not Deployed When Capitol Was Stormed Due To Lack Of Planning. The Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) reports, “A small quick-action force assembled by the Defense Department to
assistant if needed during protests in Washington on Wednesday did not immediately respond when a pro-Trump mob stormed the Capitol because of a lack of a prior planning with Capitol Police over how it might be deployed, Pentagon officials said. A timeline of events that the Pentagon released Friday night indicates that the force was at “Joint Base Andrews in Maryland and authorized for use by acting defense secretary Christopher C. Miller if additional support is requested by civil authorities.” The Post adds, “But a senior defense official, speaking on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue, said the Defense Department and Capitol Police hadn’t reached an agreement or settled on a concept of operation ahead of time.”

Meanwhile, a nearly 3,700-word front-page Washington Post (1/9, A1, Demirjian, Leonnig, Kane, Davis, 10.52M) article chronicles how Capitol police “lost control” of the situation even though Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund had previously “assured members of Congress that his force of 2,000 officers could handle the large expected crowds, according to multiple people who spoke with Sund in the days leading up to the siege.”

However, the Los Angeles Times (1/9, 3.37M) reports the attack on the US Capitol “has spurred congressional leaders to demand a ‘robust’ inquiry into the ‘mind-boggling’ failure of national security, but they don’t have to ‘look far for accountability. Congress itself is both client and overseer of the U.S. Capitol Police — a secretive agency whose procedures and actions have been kept under wraps for decades by lawmakers themselves.” Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs Executive Director Jonathan Smith said, “The Capitol Police is uniquely opaque, even among federal law enforcement.” The Times adds that not much is known regarding “how the Capitol Police operate.” Congress “has exempted the agency from the Freedom of Information Act, preventing the public from requesting records — unlike with other agencies, such as the FBI.”

House Democrats Bring Up Possibility Capitol Rioters Received Internal Aid. Politico (1/8, Cheney, Ferris, Barron-Lopez, 6.73M) reports more House Democrats “say they’re concerned that tactical decisions by some Capitol Police officers worsened Wednesday’s riots and have raised the possibility that the pro-Trump mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol might have had outside help.” Videos have come to light “showing a small number of officers pulling down barricades for the rioters and, in another instance, stopping for a photo with one of them.” Politico adds, “Some of those incidents were raised on a 3.5-hour caucus call by House Democrats on Friday, demanding an investigation not only into the decisions by the Capitol Police leadership but by some rank-and-file officers caught on camera.” However, the legislators additionally brought up “general concerns that the rioters had some sort of outside help not necessarily attributable to the Capitol’s police corps.” Rep. Steve Horsford (D-SC) “told his colleagues he thought the riots were ‘an inside job,’ according to two lawmakers on the call.”

Statehouses Nationwide Heighten Security After US Capital “Overrun.” According to the AP (1/8, Lieb), “The insurrection by supporters of...Trump at the U.S. Capitol this week has prompted governors and lawmakers in several states to heighten security at their own capital buildings as they gather amid a pandemic for legislative sessions and inaugural ceremonies.” The AP reports that state legislatures are concerned that if “the U.S. Capitol — a shining symbol of democracy with a dedicated police force — can be overrun by a violent mob, could state capitols be next?”

Armed Protestors Used Michigan State Capitol Siege Like A Dry Run For Wednesday Attack. The New York Times (1/9, Gray, 20.6M) says protestors with guns rushed Michigan’s State Capitol in April and “demanded entry into the House of Representatives’ chamber, chanting ‘Let Us In.’” Some of the protestors, “wearing camouflage fatigues with semiautomatic rifles slung over their shoulders, watched ominously from the gallery above the Senate chamber as the elected officials did their work.” On Wednesday, as the US Capitol was breached, Michigan State Sen. Sylvia Santana (D) said, “Michigan was the precursor for what happened.” A Washington Post (1/9, 10.52M) article headlined “After Trial Runs At Statehouses Last Year, The Far-right’s Violent Tactics Erupted At The Capitol” provides similar coverage.

More Commentary. In a piece for MSNBC (1/9, 8.1M), Frank Figliuzzi, who was the assistant director for counterintelligence at the FBI, writes, “In the aftermath of the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 7, there will be resignations, hearings and inquiries at the Capitol Police department, the respective House and Senate sergeant-at-arms offices, and other law enforcement or military entities. The warning signs and intelligence were there — they were just ignored. But let’s be clear — what happened to our democracy that day was not an intelligence failure; it was a failure to act upon available intelligence.” Figliuzzi adds, “The lights are blinking red, and they will continue to signal our vulnerability for the final two weeks of this leaderless administration. Our adversaries are watching. Whether or not they act on the available intelligence depends on our capacity to see what they see: a soft target that needs to secure far more than the building on Capitol Hill.”

In a piece for USA Today (1/8, 12.7M) , Todd Gitlin writes, “For months, supporters of President Donald Trump have mounted acts and threats of violent insurrection against federal and state governments. In September, FBI and Homeland Security officials warned a Senate committee of the "high lethality" of white supremacist groups.” Gitlin adds, “Insurrectionary activity has taken place nationwide. Congress must quickly convene an investigative commission to get answers to questions including...which officials in the FBI, Homeland Security, and other agencies were aware of violent preparations in the run-up to the congressional vote yesterday to count and affirm the states’ election results,” and “which white supremacist groups were under surveillance after the FBI and Homeland Security warned of ‘high lethality.’"
In a piece for *Politico* (1/8, 6.73M), Garrett M. Graff writes, “The successful storming of the U.S. Capitol by pro-Trump rioters on Wednesday represents perhaps the greatest policing failure in American history, a catastrophic collapse that may well end up costing one Capitol Police officer his life and the entire security leadership of the Capitol their jobs.” Graff adds, “With both houses of Congress in a crucial joint session, the crowds that first approached the Capitol’s outer fence were no larger than the department deals with routinely. Yet within minutes, the outer fence lines had collapsed and officers were in full-blown retreat.” Graff adds, “Through the afternoon Wednesday and through Thursday, current and former major city police chiefs traded puzzled and worried calls, all amazed at the assault on – and stunningly easy fall of – one of the world’s supposedly most secure buildings.”

**US Officials Reportedly Open Murder Probe Into Death Of Capitol Police Officer.** The *AP* (1/8, Mascaro, Daly) reports Capitol Police Officer Brian D. Sicknick “has died from injuries suffered as President Donald Trump’s supporters stormed the Capitol.” The US Capitol Police “said in a statement that...Sicknick was injured ‘while physically engaging with protesters’ during the Wednesday riot,” making him “the fifth person to die because of the Capitol protest and violence.” Sicknick’s family released a statement reading: “Many details regarding Wednesday’s events and the direct causes of Brian’s injuries remain unknown, and our family asks the public and the press to respect our wishes in not making Brian’s passing a political issue.” On *CBS This Morning* (1/8, 2.37M), Jeff Pegues said Sicknick, was “a 12-year veteran who served in the first responders unit.”

*Reuters* (1/8, Singh, Heavey, Holland) reports a law enforcement official told CNN that federal prosecutors “are opening a murder investigation” into Sicknick’s death. On the *CBS Evening News* (1/8, story 4, 2:11, O’Donnell, 4.06M), Jeff Pegues said investigators are “still at the beginning of this investigation, but, obviously, they’re going to use cell phone data and video from inside the Capitol to try to get the person or persons...responsible.” On *ABC’s Good Morning America* (1/8, 3.14M), Pierre Thomas said police “want to know if he was assaulted and if that mob played a role in his death. Was it murder?”

The *New York Times* (1/8, Santora, Specia, 20.6M) reports that “it was unclear where Mr. Sicknick’s encounter with the rioters took place, but photos and a video posted by a local reporter during the night of chaos showed a man spraying a fire extinguisher outside the Senate chamber, with a small number of police officers overlooking the area on a nearby stairway.” *Reuters* (1/8, Lynch, Brice) has more on the investigation into Sicknick’s death.

A front-page *Washington Post* (1/8, A1, Herrold, Weiner, Heim, Jackman, 10.52M) article reports a White House spokesman “said Trump and his administration ‘extend our prayers to Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick’s family as we all grieve the loss of this American hero,’ while House Speaker Pelosi: ‘ordered flags at the U.S. Capitol to be flown at half-staff,’ and ‘Thursday night, officers lined up in front of the Capitol in silence to honor their fallen colleague.’ On the lead *ABC World News Tonight* (1/8, lead story, 4:22, Muir, 6.95M) segment, Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl said Vice President Pence “offered his condolences, and the White House put out a statement from a deputy press secretary, but nothing from the President himself. Trump, more isolated than ever, remained behind closed doors at the White House today, amid growing calls for him to resign.” Meanwhile, *Reuters* (1/8, Hunniccutt) reports Joe Biden on Friday “expressed sympathy to the family of the U.S. Capitol Police officer killed in Wednesday’s invasion of Congress by pro-Trump supporters, and said those responsible would be held accountable.” Biden said, “The people responsible should be held accountable, and they will be.”

*Bloomberg* (1/9, Natter, Laing, 3.57M) reports that aside from Sicknick and Babbitt, three others “died Wednesday when thousands of pro-Trump supporters forced their way into the U.S. Capitol in Washington, smashing windows and ransacking offices.” Meanwhile, a front-page *Washington Post* (1/9, A1, Jamison, Natanson, Woodrow Cox, Horton, 10.52M) article chronicles “Babbitt’s journey from capital ‘guardian’ to invader.”

**Officer Held Back Rioters For Nearly One Minute.** *Reuters* (1/10, Hale) reports Capitol Police officer Eugene Goodman “is being hailed for his role steering an angry mob away from the Senate chambers in Wednesday’s deadly storming of the Capitol.” Goodman can be seen in a video “get[ting] rioters to move away from the Senate as police raced to secure the chamber.” The *New York Post* (1/10, Brown, 7.45M) reports analysis of the video “shows that he held them back for almost a minute – at the exact time as a half-dozen armed officers were inside the chamber desperately trying to secure it.”

**Officer Who Was On Duty Wednesday Dies In Apparent Suicide.** The *New York Daily News* (1/10, Splendorio, 2.51M) reports Howard Liebengood, “a longtime officer with U.S. Capitol Police,” died Saturday while off duty “in what’s being described as an apparent suicide. Capitol Police did not reveal a cause of death for Liebengood in its announcement Sunday,” but two sources said it was suicide, and “a colleague with Capitol Police also referred to Liebengood’s death as a suicide in a Facebook post Sunday.”

*CNN* (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that President Trump “ordered that the flag flying above the White House be lowered to half-staff on Sunday to honor US Capitol Police officers Brian Sicknick and [Liebengood], who were both on duty when a mob of Trump’s supporters stormed the US Capitol on Wednesday.”
Pro-Trump Police Unions “Angry” With President Over Call For Supporters To March On Capitol. In an exclusive, the *Washington Times* (1/8, Mordock, 526K) reports police unions nationwide “mobilized like never before to support Mr. Trump ahead of the presidential election,” but “police unions that once blasted Mr. Biden for his tepid denunciation of rioters, say they are angry that Mr. Trump urged his supporters to march to the Capitol.”

Police Departments Nationwide Investigating If Their Officers Stormed Capitol. The *New York Times* (1/9, MacFarquhar, 20.6M) reports police departments nationwide have “suspended officers or referred them to internal reviews for attending the events on Jan. 6 in Washington that devolved into an assault on the U.S. Capitol.” According to the Times, “The commanding officers or officials involved in the cases in New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington State stressed that while the officers attended as private citizens, the question of whether they broke the law would be investigated.”

Reuters (1/10, Caspani) reports that “police departments in Virginia and Washington state have placed officers on leave as authorities examine whether they took part in unlawful acts while off-duty.” Reuters adds, “Fire departments in Florida and New York City have also said they reported to federal authorities allegations that some of their members may have been present when the mob broke into the Capitol as Congress met to certify the results of the Nov. 3 presidential election. The police department in the small town of Rocky Mount, Virginia, said on Sunday it had placed two officers on administrative leave after it learned they attended an ‘event’ in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday while off-duty.”

The *New York Post* (1/9, Edelman, 7.45M) reports, “The FBI is investigating whether active or retired FDNY firefighters took part in the siege at the US Capitol, The Post has learned. The department issued a statement Saturday in response to questions about a photo posted to Twitter of a man wearing a jacket marked ‘FDNY Squad 252’ on the back, standing near the entrance to the Capitol and carrying an American flag. ‘The department received anonymous allegations that active or retired members were present at the events at the United States Capitol on January 6 and, as required, has provided that information to the FBI,’ the statement said.”

Experts: Foreign Intelligence Officials Likely Entered Capitol Building. Government Matters (DC) (1/10, Haddon) reports that former ODNI National Security Policy Analyst Katrina Mulligan “said the possibility that a bad actor could have gotten into the Capitol building” during its assault last week “is ‘more than plausible’ and ‘has almost certainly occurred.’” Mulligan estimates there to be “over 100,000 foreign intelligence officials believed to be living in the Washington, D.C. area.” Mulligan said last week’s events are “exactly the kind of situation that a foreign intelligence official would be seeking to exploit for these sorts of purposes.” Former Deputy Assistant DHS Secretary for Counterterrorism Policy Tom Warrick said foreign adversaries “don’t have to go after the most classified secrets — they can go after cell phones, laptops, papers left on desks as people are evacuated.”

Three Sri Lankan Nationals Charged In Federal Court With Aiding 2019 Bombings. The *Los Angeles Times* (1/8, Ormseth, 3.37M) reports, “Three Sri Lankan nationals were charged Friday in federal court in Los Angeles with supporting an ISIS cell that killed hundreds of people in a string of coordinated suicide bombings that shook Sri Lanka in 2019.” Mohamed Naufar, Mohamed Anwar Mohamed Riskan and Ahamed Milhan Hayathu Moahmed are “accused of conspiring to provide material support to ISIS.” Naufar and Milhan are “also charged with aiding and abetting the receipt of military training from ISIS.”

The AP (1/8) reports, “The men have no California connection but the FBI-led Joint Terrorism Task Force that headed the investigation is based in Los Angeles, according to the U.S. attorney’s office. They were ‘being held in Sri Lanka and it wasn’t immediately clear whether they had attorneys who could speak for them.’” Nick Hanna, U.S. attorney for the Central District of California, said in a statement, “This case clearly demonstrates that the United States will take decisive action to ensure terrorists face justice when they target Americans anywhere in the world. This complaint makes clear that we stand ready with these charges in the event the defendants attempt to evade justice.”

Dominion Voting Systems Sues Ex- Trump Lawyer Sidney Powell For $1.3B. USA Today (1/8, Cummings, 12.7M) reports, “Dominion Voting Systems filed a defamation lawsuit against attorney Sidney Powell over” claims relating to the 2020 election. Powell has “variously implicated Dominion, deceased Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez, the CIA and Chinese communists in a plot to rig the election against Trump.” The lawsuit says, “Dominion was founded in Toronto for the purpose of creating a fully auditable paper-based vote system that would empower people with disabilities to vote independently on verifiable paper ballots.” The company “says her claims are not rooted in any factual basis but instead rely on ‘declarations from a motley crew of conspiracy theorists, con artists, armchair ‘experts,’ and anonymous sources who were judicially determined to be ‘wholly unreliable.’” The *Wall Street Journal* (1/8, Corse, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) provides similar coverage.
Trump Faces Calls To Pardon WikiLeaks' Assange. The New York Times (1/40, Vogel, 20.6M) reports WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's allies “have ramped up a push for a last-minute pardon from President Trump, enlisting a lobbyist with connections to the administration, trying to rally supporters across the political spectrum and filing a clemency petition with the White House.” However, the Times says the initiative “comes at a delicate moment for Mr. Assange and during a period of tension between the United States and Britain over a case that his supporters say has substantial implications for press freedoms.”

FBI Raids Homes, Offices Of Tennessee State Lawmakers. NBC News (1/8, 4.91M) reported, “Federal authorities raided homes and offices of several Tennessee lawmakers on Friday, including the property of former state House Speaker Glen Casada, officials said.” FBI agents searched properties with “addresses associated with Casada, fellow GOP state Reps. Robin Smith and Todd Warner and Casada’s former chief of staff, Cade Cothren, said David Boling, a spokesman for the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Nashville.” Casada resigned from “his leadership role in summer 2019, after he admitted to sending a series of sexually inappropriate and racist text messages.”

The Associated Press (1/8, Krueger, Mattise) reports U.S. Attorney’s Office for Middle Tennessee spokesman David Boling “said FBI agents searched the homes and offices of state lawmakers” on Friday. The searches “included the homes of former GOP House Speaker Glen Casada and state Rep. Robin Smith,” but Boling “declined to provide any further information regarding the nature of the searches and how many lawmakers were involved.”

WSMV-TV Nashville, TN (1/8, Sulek, Wenzel, 230K) reports Tennessee House Speaker Cameron Sexton said in a statement, “I have been, and I will continue to be in full cooperation with the authorities as their investigation continues. On the advice of both Ethics and Legal Counsel, I am placing everyone that was subject to the execution of today’s search warrants on administrative leave until further notice.” CBS News (1/8, 5.39M) reports Republican Governor Bill Lee “told reporters Friday that he had spoken to current House Speaker Cameron Sexton about the searches, describing them as ‘FBI raids.’”

The Chattanooga Times Free Press (1/10, 168K) reports that Tennessee legislators believe that the raids focus “could be on the controversial 2019 passage of Gov. Bill Lee’s school voucher bill.” Critics “charged at the time that various promises to fund pet projects and take other actions were extended by GOP lawmakers to pass fellow Republican Lee’s voucher bill.”

WSMV-TV Nashville, TN (1/8, Finley, 230K) reports former Speaker of the House Glenn Casada has also “been embroiled in controversy over racist and sexist text messages as well as additional allegations of misconduct is stepping down as House Speaker.”

Also reporting are Tennessean (1/10, 645K), Tennessean (1/10, 645K), Tennessean (1/8, 645K), and WSMV-TV Nashville, TN (1/8, Sulek, Wenzel, 230K).

SolarWinds Taps Krebs, Stamos To Look Into Company's Practices Following Hack. Bloomberg (1/8, Sebenius, 3.57M) reports SolarWinds has tapped prominent security experts Chris Krebs and Alex Stamos to review its practices after suspected Russian hackers compromised the company’s software and conducted a sprawling hack across the U.S. government and private sector. Krebs previously headed the US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency “and was known for instilling confidence in the integrity of the 2020 elections until he was fired by President Donald Trump in November.” Bloomberg adds that Stamos “served as chief security officer at Facebook until 2018 and is currently director of the Stanford Internet Observatory.”

The Washington Times (1/8, Blake, 626K) reports that Stamos said, “We have already engaged in helping understand and recover from what looks to be one of the most serious foreign intrusion campaigns in history, and we will be helping others learn from this attack.” Meanwhile, Krebs “worked as Microsoft’s director for cybersecurity policy before joining CISA, a part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as the agency’s first director beginning in late 2018.” The agency was “charged of securing the nation’s election infrastructure when millions of Americans voted in the recent White House race decisively won by President-elect Joseph R. Biden.”

Reporting similarly are Law360 (1/8, Subscription Publication, 9K) and TechCrunch (1/8, Whitaker, 502K).

DHS Advisory Explains How Attackers Hid In Plain Sight. CNN (1/8, Fung, 89.21M) reports that on Friday a DHS bulletin found the Russian-linked hackers behind the SolarWinds breach “gave themselves top administrative privileges, allowing them to spy on their targets with impunity.” The DHS advisory “represents the agency’s most detailed explanation yet of how the attackers were able to monitor high-value intelligence targets undetected for months,” revealing “that investigators are increasingly focused on the attackers’ use of Microsoft products to hide in plain sight.” Experts and officials “have said for weeks that the attackers likely abused credentials and impersonated legitimate users to conduct their spying campaign.” Now CISA “has confirmed that happened, describing step-by-step how the attackers hid their tracks.”
Federal Cyber Group Announces SolarWinds Hack Affected Fewer Than 10 Agencies. The Washington Examiner (1/7, Gross, 888K) reports that the US Cyber Unified Coordination Group (UCG) "announced on Jan. 5 that it had identified fewer than 10 agencies affected by the [SolarWinds] cyberattack," though "investigators are still working to determine the scope of the damage." The group "did not list the affected agencies, but news reports have suggested the U.S. departments of Treasury, Commerce, State, Energy, and Homeland Security were victims of the attack." It "said the attack originated from an advanced attacker, likely Russian in origin." UCG includes agencies such as the FBI and CISA.

Federal Courts' Filing System Likely Breached By SolarWinds Hack. The Washington Examiner (1/8, Dunleavy, 888K) reports, "The online filing system used by the federal court system was likely breached in the SolarWinds hack, suspected to be orchestrated by Russia." The Administrative Office of the US Courts "revealed an 'apparent compromise of the confidentiality' of its case management and electronic case files system 'due to these discovered vulnerabilities' and said this week that it was 'under investigation.'" The agency is working with DHO on a 'security audit' related to the cyberattacks that 'greatly risk compromising highly sensitive non-public documents ... particularly sealed filings' stored on the online system, acid that 'due to the nature of the attacks, the review of this matter and its impact is ongoing.'"

FBI Alert Wams Of Growing Egregor Ransomware Threat. Gov Info Security (1/9, Ferguson) reports, "The FBI issued a private industry warning this week over the growing threat from the operators behind the Egregor ransomware variant and other cybercriminal gangs affiliated with the group." Since September, the group and its affiliates "claim to have compromised approximately 150 corporate networks both in the U.S. and other countries." They have demanded as much as $4 million, according to a Group-IB report. The group "operates in a service model, which includes the operators of the actual ransomware as well as affiliated cybercriminals that carry out their own attacks and receive a percentage of the ransom if the money is paid by the victim," according to the FBI. The FBI alert says, "Egregor ransomware utilizes multiple mechanisms to compromise business networks, including targeting business network and employee personal accounts that share access with business networks or devices."

Barrett: FBI Continues To Set The Standard For Government Transparency. In a piece for the Washington Post (1/7, Barrett, 10.52M), Devin Barrett argues that while recent books authored by former FBI officials "have tended to be about hard men in dark suits, whispering worriedly about Russians, President Trump and existential threats to democracy," the FBI "still sets a gold standard for excellence and ethics that should be followed more widely." Barrett examines Frank Figliuzzi's new book, "The FBI Way: Inside the Bureau's Code of Excellence," which "is in the spirit of earlier tomes that combine federal-agent tradecraft with a dash of self-improvement advice."

Democrats Move Toward Second Trump Impeachment. Tom Llamas said in the lead story on ABC World News Tonight (1/10, lead story, 4:30, 4.76M) that in "fallout from the deadly siege on the Capitol," House Democrats are "on the path to impeach President Trump for a second time though he has just 10 days left in office. Democrats say he must be held accountable for his words. The charge: incitement of insurrection. ... As Congress heads towards impeachment, a growing number of Republicans are calling for the President to resign." ABC's Rachel Scott reported House Speaker Pelosi is "telling her party to get ready to come back to Washington, the single [impeachment] article charging Trump with incitement of insurrection. He predicted the day would 'be wild,' pressuring his loyal Vice President to undo the will of the people." Trump: "Mike Pence is going to have to come through for us." Scott: "But when he didn't, rioters were later heard chanting, 'Hang Mike Pence.' ... With his inner circle now shrinking, the President is hunkered down inside the White House, trying to assemble a defense team...as a growing number of Republicans and former allies condemn him." Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R): "What we had was an incitement to riot at the United States Capitol." ABC's George Stephanopoulos: "So you think it was an impeachable offense?" Christie: "Oh, sure. Yeah. I think if inciting to insurrection isn't, then I don't know what is."

Jericka Duncan said in opening the CBS Weekend News (1/10, lead story, 3:05, 13.72M), "Tonight, President Trump faces a hard reckoning with history. In the wake of the assault on the US Capitol that he incited, Mr. Trump faces a second impeachment, perhaps even criminal charges." CBS' Nicole Killion: "As he enters his final full week in office, President Trump will try to shore up his legacy. Senior advisors tell CBS News he is expected to deliver remarks Monday and make a trip to the border Tuesday. But calls for the President to resign now are growing from within his own party." Sen. Pat Toomey (R-PA): "The best way for our country to heal is for the President to resign and go away, as soon as possible."

Kate Snow opened NBC Nightly News (1/10, lead story, 3:10, 3.76M) with the "growing calls for the President of the United States to either resign or be impeached by Congress – and not just from Democrats, but some Republicans now calling on him to step aside. The President [is] not even speaking to his own Vice President at this point. We're also seeing new video tonight of just what happened on Wednesday at the Capitol. And we're learning security warnings ahead of that day were ignored." NBC's
Kelly O’Donnell: “With Joe Biden soon to take office, senior Democrats suggest Speaker Pelosi could complete House impeachment but delay sending the article to the Senate for trial, giving the new Administration breathing room.” House Majority Whip Clyburn: “One hundred days he needs to get his agenda off and running, and maybe we’ll send the articles some time after that.” Clyburn said on Fox News Sunday (1/10, 1.08M), “The Senate determines guilt or innocence and that has to do with the Senate schedule. Now, the House has to do its business. We call ourselves the people’s house, the vast majority of the American people – I saw the poll results this morning – say this man should be removed from office.”

Toomey, on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.21M), said, “I think the President did commit impeachable offenses. There is little doubt in my mind about that. I don’t know as a practical matter it is actually possible to do an impeachment in the handful of days that are left. ... I am also not at all clear that it is constitutionally permissible to impeach someone after they have left office. So there may not be a viable impeachment route at this point. But certainly, he could resign and that would be a very good outcome.” On NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), Toomey said, “The President has disqualified himself. I don’t think he’s a viable candidate for office ever again because of the outrageous behavior in the post election period.” The Philadelphia Inquirer (1/10, Madej) reports Toomey “remarked that he doesn’t think the ‘unbelievable behavior of Wednesday...could’ve been reasonably expected,’ and that Trump’s actions are ‘wildly different from the offensive tweets that were common during his presidency.’”

On CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) said, “I understand the concerns that just as President Biden takes over responsibility for leading our nation through this tragic pandemic, that we might be distracted by weeks in the Senate by a Senate trial. That’s why I’ve called for President Trump to do the right thing finally and resign or for Vice President Pence to secure the next 10 days through the 25th Amendment.”

Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), on CNN’s State Of The Union (1/10, 1.23M), said, “There is no doubt about it: He should be impeached. But you have to be practical about what we are doing. We have two paths to go. We are ready to install a new government. If I was Joe Biden, I’d want to put my government together and put confidence back into the American people that we can govern ourselves and be the beacon of light for the whole country and the whole world.”

Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), on NBC’s Meet The Press (1/10, 2.9M), said, “The assault on the capitol was a violent insurrection that was incited and encouraged by Donald Trump. It was an attack on the Congress, an attack on the country, and an attack on the Constitution. ... That’s why House Democrats are united in demanding and seeking his immediate removal.” On CNN’s Inside Politics (1/10, 812K), Rep. Mondaire Jones (D-NY) said, “This President must be impeached and removed, and anything less than that is an abdication of Congress’ constitutional responsibility to be a check on the executive branch and to protect the American people from a very dangerous, unhinged, lawless chief executive.” Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), on ABC’s This Week (1/10, 2.99M), said, “Our main priority is to ensure the removal of Donald Trump as President of the United States. Every minute and every hour that he’s in office represents a clear and present danger, not just to the United States Congress, but frankly to the country.”

However, some Republicans expressed skepticism. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO), on CBS’ Face The Nation (1/10, 2.91M), said, “To remove him from office clearly is not going to happen between now and the last day he’s in office.” Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL), on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (1/10), said, “It’s unfortunate that instead of unifying us right now, Biden, the Democrats, have chosen to use this to talk about ridiculous things about impeaching a President who isn’t going to be in office in about nine days.” Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), on Fox News’ Sunday Morning Futures (1/10, 1.38M), said, “The Democrats are going to try to remove the President from office just seven days before he is set to leave anyway. I do not see how that unifies the country.”

The AP (1/10, Supervile, Fram, Johnson) reports Pelosi said Sunday that the House will proceed with impeachment “as she pushes the vice president and Cabinet to invoke constitutional authority to force him out, warning that Trump is a threat to democracy after the deadly assault on the Capitol.” CBS’ 60 Minutes (1/10, 9.8M) showed Pelosi saying, “I like the 25th Amendment because it gets rid of him. He’s out of office. But there is strong suit in the Congress for impeaching the President a second time. This President is guilty of inciting insurrection.” The Wall Street Journal (1/10, Restuccia, Kendall, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 8.41M) reports Vice President Pence “isn’t expected to move forward with a 25th Amendment process, people familiar with his thinking said.”

The New York Times (1/10, Levin, 20.6M) reports, “Momentum for impeaching [Trump] a second time was growing rapidly over the weekend among rank-and-file Democrats and some Republicans, setting the stage for a final showdown that would test the boundaries of politics, accountability and the Constitution.” In addition to Toomey, Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) has expressed openness to impeachment and Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has called on Trump to resign.

USA Today (1/10, Fritze, 12.7M) reports Trump “begins one of the most perilous weeks of his presidency Monday as momentum for a second impeachment soared over the weekend and a growing number of Republicans broke ranks to openly call for his removal.” Trump “has only days remaining in his term – a point supporters noted – but the debate over how Congress should respond is focused largely on his legacy and his ability to control the GOP” after leaving office.
The Washington Post (1/10, 19.52M) reports, "Tensions are breaking out among Democrats over how aggressively to push" for impeachment, "aware that many voters hope Congress will prevent Trump from provoking further violence, but also wanting Biden to be free to take immediate action on the coronavirus pandemic and a faltering economy. Some Democrats said privately that they are wary of impeachment but unsure how to slow its momentum given the intensifying passions against Trump."

Fox News (1/10, Blitzer, 23.99M) reports on its website that Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) said Sunday that the article of impeachment has 196 cosponsors. The Los Angeles Times (1/10, 3.37M) says being impeached twice would make Trump "the first U.S. president to hold that unwelcome distinction." Reuters (1/10, Cornwell, Chiacu, Psaledakis), Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M), Politico (1/10, McCaskill, 6.73M), and The Hill (1/10, 5.69M) also cover the moves toward impeachment.

Polls Show Majority Support For Trump’s Removal Or Early Exit. CNN (1/10, 89.21M) reports on its website that the potential second impeachment "starts out more popular than any other removal process of a president in recent American history. Removing Trump from office remains quite unpopular among Republicans, however. A look across polls conducted since riots at the Capitol on Wednesday shows that a clear plurality of Americans overall want Trump out of office... An average across polls since Wednesday (in which no pollster is counted more than once) shows that 50% of Americans want Trump to either be impeached, for the 25th Amendment to be invoked or for Trump to resign from office."

The Hill (1/10, Mastangelo, 5.69M) reports that an ABC News/Ipsos poll of 570 adults (1/8-1/9) found that 57% want Trump removed from office, with 67% saying Trump "deserves a ‘good amount’ of the blame for the riots in Washington, D.C. last week."

Trump Plans “Defiant” Final Week. The AP (1/10, Colvin) reports Trump "enters the last days of his presidency isolated and shunned by former allies and members of his own party as he faces a second impeachment and growing calls for his resignation." But Trump, "cut off from the social media channels that have been the lifeblood of his presidency," will "nonetheless try to go on offense in his last 10 days, with no plans of resigning." Bloomberg (1/10, 3.57M) reports Trump "and a dwindling circle of advisers plan a defiant final week in office, according to people familiar with the matter." The President is "preparing at least one more round of pardons, and will try a final time to advance his administration’s effort to bring Big Tech to heel, the people said, though it isn’t clear what he may do.”

The New York Times (1/10, Haberman, 20.6M) writes that "even without Twitter, and even under a new threat of impeachment, Mr. Trump remains until Jan. 20 the most powerful man in the world, with access to the White House briefing room, the East Room and the Oval Office to communicate his thoughts. He has a press office devoted to issuing his statements and a cadre of reporters assigned to cover what he says and does." Still, the Washington Post (1/10, Rucker, 10.52M) writes, Trump "is now destined to sink out of the White House considerably diminished from the strapping, fearsome force he and his advisers imagined he would be in his post-presidency."

The Dallas Morning News (1/10, 772K) reports, “Eight days before reluctantly leaving office, [Trump] will visit the border in South Texas on Tuesday to tout partial construction of the massive wall he promised to deliver – far more than critics wanted, far less than he wanted, and none it funded by Mexico.” Meanwhile, Reuters (1/10, Mason) reports, “his White House is in ‘meltdown’ as it lurches through his final days, current and former officials said,” and many White House staffers “are upset and embarrassed by the turn of events, and are eager to move on.”

CBS’ Schieffer: Trump’s “Reign Mirrored His Own Chaotic Life.” Bob Schieffer said on the CBS Weekend News (1/10, story 11, 1:50, Duncan, 13.72M), "It is ending as it began: in chaos, controversy, and confusion. ... His reign mirrored his own chaotic life. He lurched from one crisis to another, from financial windfalls to bankruptcies, from tabloid scandals to audacious lies. He introduced us to a bizarre cast of characters, from porn stars to the crackpots and clowns who inhabit the dark fringes of American politics. ... As we saw in those awful scenes unfolding in the Capitol, we came to understand that the man who had a manic desire for power had no real understanding of the power he possessed or what happens when it is misused. He will be gone soon. But he showed us America was not broken. He was.”

NYTimes Analysis: Trump Used Violent Imagery In Speech To Followers Before Capitol Violence. The New York Times (1/10, Savage, 20.6M) reports, “The speech that President Trump delivered to his supporters just before they attacked the Capitol last week is a central focus as House Democrats prepare an article of impeachment against him for inciting the deadly riot.” In the speech, the Times says, Trump “repeated many of his falsehoods about how the election was stolen, then dispatched the marchers to the Capitol.” The Times also says it was “riddled with violent imagery and calls to fight harder than before,” while he made only a passing suggestion that the protest should be nonviolent.”
From: [REDACTED]

Subject: Fw [U/AGE] [for your awareness]

To: Haertel, Paul H. (SU) (FBI); Gray, Edward J. (CIRG) (FBI); Delbagno, William J. (CIRG) (FBI); Downey, Jeffrey R. (CIRG) (FBI); Walker, David (CIRG) (FBI); Ronnow, Kurtis (CIRG) (FBI); Fuller, Robert (CIRG) (FBI)

Sent: January 11, 2021 9:22 AM (UTC-05:00)

Attached: docx

FYSA, the attached is the final version FBI sent to

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2021 7:59 PM

To: Alcoke, Matthew R. (WF) (FBI); Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI); D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WE) (FBI); Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI); Jensen, Steven J. (CTD) (FBI); Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI); Young, Ryan T. (DI) (FBI); Gray, Edward J. (CIRG) (FBI); Downey, Jeffrey R. (CIRG) (FBI); Haertel, Paul H. (SU) (FBI); Tyson, Jill C. (OCA) (FBI); Jones, Jason A. (OGC) (FBI); Hale, Brian Patrick (OPA) (FBI); Meador, Stanley M. (DO) (FBI); Cohen, Jodi (NSB) (FBI); Deleon, Michael D. (CJISD) (FBI)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: [U/AGE] [for your awareness]

Good evening,

Thank you to all for your assistance getting this document finalized. Please find attached the final, which was sent to earlier after the EADs and DD cleared it. Please note it remains in draft form because we anticipate questions from the and we may incorporate the answers into later versions.

Thank you,

Confidentiality Statement: This message is transmitted to you by the Office of the General Counsel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The message, along with any attachments, may be confidential and legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, please destroy it promptly without further retention or dissemination (unless otherwise required by law). Please notify the sender of the error by a separate e-mail or by calling [REDACTED]
From: [redacted]
Subject: [redacted] - January 11, 2021
To: [redacted]
Sent: January 11, 2021 9:29 AM (UTC-05:00)

All information and inquiries should be directed to [redacted] FBI prostitution case (21cv558)-2811
From: The Wall Street Journal
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - [MARKETING] Dad Calvin, Here's Your Daily Discover
To: Shivers, Calvin A. (CID) (FBI)
Sent: January 11, 2021 9:33 AM (UTC-05:00)

To view this email as a web page, click here.

Membership ID: 

FBI(21cv558)-2819
Thank you for participating in our Daily Discover newsletter test. We would like to hear how you have been enjoying this new member benefit. Please share your feedback in this short survey to help make this the best possible daily resource it can be for you.

If you no longer want to receive Daily Discover, you can still give us a thumbs down at the bottom of the email and we'll remove you from the list.
Indonesia Plane Crash Search Finds Human Remains, Debris

Authorities believe they have identified the location of the two black boxes of the Boeing 737-500 Sriwijaya Air jet that crashed into the Java Sea carrying 62 people.
Israel's Covid-19 Vaccinations Hold Lessons for U.S.

The small country has inoculated 20% of its population in three weeks, in the world's fastest vaccine rollout.
Nationalist Leader Set to Solidify Power in Kyrgyzstan Election

Voters in the Central Asian country were on track to elect Sadyr Japarov, who was sprung from jail amid unrest last year and has made past calls for nationalizing some of the most valuable assets in the country.

Read Now
Agency Communications Hampered Riot Response

Calls for some reinforcements took hours to approve as police and federal agents tried to squelch the storming of the U.S. Capitol by supporters of President Trump.

Read Now
One Trump Fan's Descent Into the U.S. Capitol Mob

Doug Sweet says he answered the president's call to show up in Washington. He joined rioters who breached the Capitol, where he was eventually arrested.

Read Now
Click the thumbs down and follow the prompt to opt out of Daily Discover. Click thumbs up if you think it's great.
From: Laycock, Stephen C. (IB) (FBI)
Subject: RE:
To: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Sent: January 11, 2021 9:58 AM (UTC-05:00)

FYI! I am having a hard copy piece from [ft should get in tomorrow am

From: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 7:35 AM
To: Laycock, Stephen C. (IB) (FBI)
Cc:
Subject: FW:

Boss:

Please see the below reference some activity

Also, we released basic information to the DSAC and InfraGard portals alerting our partners that we will keep them updated with any relevant information that affects the private sector

I have two separate DSAC leadership meetings this week and will let you know if any concerns are raised during those meetings.

Just wanted you to know that we are monitoring and looking for any private sector nexus in case your leaders ask you......Mike

From: 
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2021 4:06 PM
To: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Cc: Joe, Erin M. (IB) (FBI)
Subject: 

Good afternoon Sir,
In light of the horrible events earlier this week, I have been working closely with
Feel free to contact me on my cell [redacted] if you would like to discuss further. If you concur with these proposed actions, we will move forward accordingly.

SC Joe, I would love to brief you more fully during our [redacted] call tomorrow morning.

Kind regards,
FYSA, I know y'all are tracking but wanted to share #1 below.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: [Redacted]
Date: Jan 11, 2021 7:29 AM
Subject: [Redacted]
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]

All information and inquiries should be directed to [Redacted]

FBI(ZIV556)-2831
Excellent! Thanks. I look forward to seeing it....Mike

FYI I am having a hard copy piece from
I should get in tomorrow am

Boss:

Please see the below reference some activity

Also, we released basic information to the DSAC and InfraGard portals alerting our partners that we will keep them updated with any relevant information that affects the private sector.

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Feel free to contact me on my cell if you would like to discuss further. If you concur with these proposed actions, we will move forward accordingly.

SC Joe, I would love to brief you more fully during our call tomorrow morning.

Kind regards,
Developing a Layered Defense to Harden Facility Security

Hardening is an offensive security measure; it stops the fight before it starts.
Security professionals have been thrust to the forefront of return-to-work planning as the crisis continues to create a complex set of security and safety challenges. Preparing the physical workplace means adapting to new requirements, implementing new procedures, and leveraging technology that alleviates anxiety for staff. Learn how physical access control plays a leading role in the strategies to reduce surface touches and person-to-person contact.
4 ways to improve your emotional intelligence in the new year

Every year, like clockwork, most of us begin to plan our new year resolutions and write out our goals. Even after a truly unexpected year like 2020, I believe many of us are still quietly contemplating what we want out of our 2021. Some of us may have grand plans, while others may be hesitant to do so...
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Chicago Is Reopening Schools Against Fierce Resistance From Teachers

Five vaccination centers are opening in New York City. Ambulance crews are struggling to keep up with rising cases. Catch up on the latest on the pandemic.
US surpasses 4,000 deaths in a single day from coronavirus for the 1st time

The U.S. topped 4,000 coronavirus deaths in a single day for the first time, breaking a record set just one day earlier, with several Sun Belt states driving the surge.
A Year After Wuhan, China Tells a Tale of Triumph (and No Mistakes)

The Chinese Communist Party's efforts to hide its missteps have taken on new urgency as the anniversary of the world's first Covid-19 lockdown nears.
Hong Kong protest-related website says users' access blocked

A Hong Kong website that publishes material mainly related to anti-government protests in 2019 said its users' access had been blocked by the city's internet service providers (ISPs).
Black boxes found in Java Sea after plane crash with 62 aboard in Indonesia

Authorities said they determined the location of the crash site and black boxes of a Boeing 737-500 on Sunday, a day after the aircraft crashed into the Java Sea with 62 people on board.
Before Mob Stormed the Capitol, Days of Security Planning Involved Cabinet Officials and President Trump

President Donald Trump met with top military officials and gave his approval to activate the D.C. National Guard three days before he encouraged a mob of angry protesters to take their grievances to the U.S. Capitol. A Pentagon memo released Friday offers these insights, as well as the first detailed...
Restarting an Economic Engine

Even as the coronavirus pandemic continues its latest wave in the United States, the Las Vegas casino and gaming industry works to reopen responsibly, keeping in mind its duties to guests and...
From: The Washington Post
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - [MARKETING] The Post Most: The House could vote later this week on impeaching Trump an unprecedented second time
To: Shivers, Calvin A. (CID) (FBI)
Sent: January 11, 2021 11:47 AM (UTC-05:00)
House Democrats introduce article of impeachment charging Trump with ‘incitement of insurrection’

House Republicans on Monday blocked a measure calling on Vice President Pence and Trump’s Cabinet to remove him under the 25th Amendment.

Live updates • By John Wagner and Paulina Firozi • Read more »
Outgoing Capitol Police chief: House, Senate security officials hamstrung efforts to call in National Guard

By Carol D. Leonnig, Aaron C. Davis, Peter Hermann and Karoun Demirjian • Read more »

PGA of America pulls PGA Championship from Trump’s N.J. golf course

By David A. Fahrenthold, Jonathan O’Connell and Barry Svrluga • Read more »
Talk-radio owner orders conservative hosts to temper election fraud rhetoric
By Paul Farhi • Read more »

Trump should be impeached. But that alone won’t remove white supremacy from America.
Opinion • By Hillary Rodham Clinton • Read more »

The Capitol mob: A raging collection of grievances and disillusionment
By Amy Brittain, Julie Zauzmer, Jenn Abeison, David Willman and Nicole Dungca • Read more »
Video shows Capitol mob dragging a police officer down stairs. One rioter beat the officer with an American flag pole

By Katie Shepherd • Read more »

MyPillow founder Mike Lindell is now one of Fox’s loudest right-wing critics. He’s still one of its biggest advertisers.

By Jeremy Barr • Read more »
Vogue got too familiar, too fast

Perspective • By Robin Givhan • Read more »

Vitamin D sales are up. But experts still don’t know whether it can prevent or treat covid.

By Allyson Chiu • Read more »
CES goes full pandemic with smart masks, stickers to detect covid and the biggest WiFi update in years

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What to know from NFL playoffs first round: Lamar Jackson wins and Tom Brady finds a way

Analysis • By Adam Kilgore • Read more »
A small group of sleuths had been identifying right-wing extremists long before the attack on the Capitol

By Robert Klemko • Read more »

Fox News overhauls daily schedule, moving news anchor Martha MacCallum to make way for opinion expansion

By Jeremy Barr • Read more »
It's still Donald Trump's party

Opinion • By James Downie • Read more »

Pope Francis changes church law to give women slightly larger role — but says they still can’t be priests

By Chico Harlan • Read more »
Biden vows to heal the nation’s racial wounds, but doing so will take more than words

Scholars warn that the president-elect faces a tough road as he tries to address police reform and racism in an increasingly divided nation.

By Tim Craig, Mark Berman and Amy B Wang • Read more »
Biden, a longtime ally of police, will enter White House pushing for reform
By Mark Berman and Tom Jackman • Read more »

Trump’s recognition of white nationalists will loom as Biden confronts surge in hate crime
By Matt Zapotosky • Read more »

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Check out Must Reads for a curated selection of our best journalism in your inbox every Saturday, plus a peek behind the scenes into how one story came together. Sign up a
From: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact
To: [Redacted]
Sent: January 11, 2021 12:02 PM (UTC-05:00)

Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.

On the other side,

Please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss.......Mike

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FW: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Mike,

Pre my VM message,. I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.
From:  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM  
To: DSAC <dsac@fbi.gov>  
Cc:  
Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,
From: The Washington Post
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - [MARKETING] The Daily 202: GOP looks to win back Senate in 2022, as new NRSC chairman defends vote to reject Pa. results
To: Wray, Christopher (DO) (FBI)
Sent: January 11, 2021 12:29 PM (UTC-05:00)
Intelligence for leaders.

By James Hohmann
with Mariana Alfaro

Email
GOP looks to win back Senate in 2022, as new NRSC chairman defends vote to reject Pa. results

Democrats taking control of the Senate after winning upsets in both Georgia runoffs would have been the biggest political story of any ordinary week, but the seismic news was quickly overshadowed when a pro-Trump mob took over the Capitol.

House Democrats formally introduced an article of impeachment this morning against President Trump, charging him with “incitement of insurrection.” The House could vote as early as Wednesday. In a brief session, House Republicans blocked a measure calling on Vice President Pence and the Cabinet to remove Trump under the 25th Amendment, ensuring a vote in the full House on Tuesday.

On the other side of the Capitol, as Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) is poised to realize his dream of becoming majority leader after 40 years in Congress, Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) takes command today of the National Republican Senatorial Committee. More than anyone else, Scott will be responsible for trying to take that title back for Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.).
Scott, 68, takes the helm of the powerful party committee amid Republican divisions over the post-Trump future and, more pressingly, intense blowback from the business community and other elites over his vote last week to reject President-elect Joe Biden's victory in Pennsylvania. Scott was one of eight GOP senators, and 139 House members, to support at least one objection to counting Biden's certified votes. Many people blame lawmakers in this group for reinforcing the false belief among a
wide swath of Republicans voters that the November election was stolen from Trump.

Despite the tempers of the moment, history favors Republicans in 2022. Historically, with a few exceptions like the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the opposition party fares well during any president’s first midterm. With Vice President-elect Kamala Harris poised to break the 50-50 tie, the GOP needs to pick up just one seat.

But next year’s map favors Democrats. The GOP must defend 20 seats, compared to 14 for Democrats, including Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Pennsylvania. The Republicans incumbents in those last two, Richard Burr and Pat Toomey, have already announced that they will retire, and open seats are more difficult to defend.

In a half-hour telephone interview on Sunday afternoon, Scott said Republicans will put a heavy focus on defeating Sen.-elect Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.), who will be on the ballot again in 2022 to secure a full six-year term, and Sen. Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), who just won a special election to complete the last two years of the late John McCain’s term.

“I’ve got my work cut out for me, but I’m excited,” Scott said from Florida. “We’ll be able to get back the seat that Kelly Loeffler was in if we get our message out. We should be able to win back Arizona. I think we just have to, but there’s plenty of other states where there were close races in 2016 that we have a chance to get back.”
Asked about the lessons from Georgia for next year, he said: “What we have to do is, number one, we have to have the right candidate. That's the biggest thing. And then you have to have a message that resonates.”

Scott sought to reject Pennsylvania's 20 electors but opposed the effort to reject Arizona's 11 votes. His argument is that the Keystone State loosened its rules for mail-in voting because of the coronavirus in ways that didn't comply with state law. The state's Supreme Court dismissed a legal challenge on these grounds, and the U.S. Supreme Court, despite a 6-to-3 conservative majority, also declined to weigh in.

The senator demurred when I asked whether he reconsidered his vote to reject Pennsylvania's votes after the carnage in the Capitol. “If we just sit here and say, ‘Oh, we don't ever care about this,’ it's not going to get better, and it's bad for everybody that's voting,” he said. “I'm sure everybody has different reasons for why they voted the way they did, but I want to get these election laws fixed.”

Asked whether Trump bears responsibility for inciting the riot, Scott said the president “could have responded faster” once the mob made it inside the Capitol. “First off, we're all responsible for our own actions,” the senator said. “We're not robots. We all have to take this seriously. It is despicable what happened. I don't think it's fair to say that he told people to go break into the Capitol. But I think it is also fair to say he could have responded quicker to asking these thugs to stop. ... "Everybody could have done a better job that day,” he added. “It's a bad day. There's no winners. There's all losers. Whether it's a law enforcement officer or anybody else..."
that lost their lives, it's somebody's family. You hate this stuff.”

Scott called on Trump to reconsider his announcement that he will not attend Biden's inauguration, but he criticized efforts to punish or remove the president nine days before he will leave office anyway. This puts him at odds with some of his GOP colleagues. Toomey said on the Sunday shows that Trump should resign and go away as soon as possible. “I acknowledge that may not be likely, but that would be best,” he said on NBC’s “Meet the Press.” Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), who is up for reelection in 2022, also told the Anchorage Daily News that she wants Trump “out.”

Scott said “oh, yeah” when I asked whether it was a hard call to formally object to Pennsylvania’s results. “You’re trying to always figure out ways to do the right thing,
and then, also, this stuff was so emotional for people,” he said. “I can’t think of anything, maybe other than after the Parkland shooting, that people contacted me more about, passionately, and they still are.”

Several editorial boards in Florida’s biggest newspapers have blasted Scott, noting that Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) voted to uphold the results. The Tampa Bay Times said: “Scott disgraces himself and embarrasses Florida.” Some House Democrats are calling for the expulsion of any member who did not accept the election results.

Lawmakers who voted to reject electors also face a growing backlash from corporate America. Marriott, the world’s largest hotel chain, said Sunday that the chaos at the Capitol has prompted a halt to all campaign donations to any lawmaker who voted against certifying the electoral college results. “The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association said it would do the same. The provider of health insurance to more than 100 million people said in a statement that its political action committee was suspending contributions “to those lawmakers who voted to undermine our democracy,” Todd Frankel and Jeff Stein report. “Commerce Bank also said in a statement that its PAC has ‘suspended all support for officials who have impeded the peaceful transfer of power.’”

Financial institutions are also suspending donations. “Goldman is still formulating its measures that will probably curtail future political giving to the elected leaders who fought to overturn the 2020 result,” Bloomberg News reports. “JPMorgan, the largest U.S. bank by assets, said it’s planning a six-month suspension to both Republicans and Democrats. Citigroup said it intends to temporarily stop all political contributions in the current quarter. ... Morgan Stanley also joined its competitors, with pointed scrutiny on all members of Congress who didn’t vote to certify Biden’s win by pausing its contributions to them. ...

“Stopping short of vowing to suspend donations, Bank of America Corp., Ford Motor Co. and AT&T Inc. said they will take recent events into consideration before any future donations. CVS Health Corp., Exxon Mobil Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and some other donors said they are reviewing their policies on political giving.”
All of this is significant because fundraising is the most important part of the job for an NRSC chair. It is unclear whether new corporate policies like Marriott’s will apply to the party committees. Rep. Tom Emmer (R-Minn.), the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, opposed the electoral college challenges, though House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) and Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) joined the objectors.

Scott’s predecessor as NRSC chairman, Sen. Todd Young (R-Ind.), also opposed the election challenge. He was swarmed by Trump supporters as he arrived at work a few hours before the mob breached the Capitol. "Opinions don't matter. The law matters," Young told the crowd in a heated back-and-forth.

Scott told me he will put a heavy emphasis on cultivating small-dollar, grass-roots donors to compete with the green tsunami of cash that Democratic candidates have raised during the past two cycles. “Here’s my definition of success: Ultimately, do we get a majority back? That’s where I’ve got to get us to, but the path there is that we need to be able to be competitive with ActBlue,” he said. “To do that, we have to work on clearly defining the differences.”

The former hospital company chief executive is one of the richest members of the Senate. In an introductory video that will go out to NRSC donors later today, Scott says he will never ask for any money unless he’s already given more.

While Burr and Toomey announced last year that they are retiring, Scott said right he is trying to convince all the GOP incumbents who are up for reelection in 2022 to run again. That includes Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, 87, and Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson, who said in 2016 he would not seek a third term but, more recently, has kept the door open to changing his mind.

Scott said he is calling the state party chair and the two Republican National Committee members in each state with a Senate race next year to get their read on the lay of the land. “I’ve talked to Toomey about Pennsylvania, and he’s got ideas, and Burr clearly has ideas on North Carolina,” said Scott. “We’ll find good people.”

The NRSC has always supported incumbents. But the committee has also become
much more aggressive about getting involved in primaries ever since flawed Republican candidates like Todd Akin, Christine O'Donnell and Richard Mourdock blew winnable general elections. Scott told me he is uneasy with wading into primaries.

"Do I want to? No! I've not done that because, as you remember, I had a really tough primary for governor back in 2010, and everybody endorsed my opponent," Scott said. "But I know there's other people in Senate leadership that want to make sure I do. So we'll see. This will an interesting experience because you want to make sure that you let the voters' voices be heard. For me personally, that will be a pretty big challenge."

Scott hopes to unify different factions of the party by keeping the focus on their Castading fallout for Trump. "Castading fallout for Trump is going to give us a big opening," he said. "Nancy Pelosi is going to tell you what you're going to be able to get paid, and Kamala Harris will tell you how much you get to keep."

Scott will be up for a second term in 2024, but he is also keeping the door open to running for president instead. "I'm planning to run for reelection," he said. "A lot of people ask me about running for president. What I tell them is that I'm not - right now."
More evidence emerges that Trump exerted improper influence on Georgia officials.

Four significant stories came out over the weekend.

1) White House officials pushed Atlanta’s top federal prosecutor to resign the day before Georgia’s Senate runoffs because Trump was upset he wasn’t doing enough to “investigate” the president’s unproven claims of election fraud. “A senior Justice Department official, at the behest of the White House, called the Trump-appointed U.S. Attorney Byung J. Pak late on the night of Jan. 3,” the Wall Street Journal reports.

2) A federal prosecutor in Savannah, Ga. — whom Trump himself tapped
to take over the U.S. attorney’s office in Atlanta — brought to his new assignment two assistants previously tasked with monitoring possible election fraud. By default, leadership of the Atlanta office was supposed to pass to Kurt Erskine, a longtime federal prosecutor who had been Pak’s top deputy. But, according to the Justice Department, Bobby Christine was appointed instead “by written order” of the president. “The move, legal observers say, is unusual on multiple levels,” Matt Zapotosky and Amy Gardner report. “Atlanta already has more prosecutors than Savannah, including those with experience in election cases, so it is unclear why Christine would want additional personnel there. It would be atypical for an acting U.S. attorney to initiate an investigation or special assignment so close to the end of a presidential administration. …

"Trump’s attorneys, meanwhile, seemed to stand down in their efforts to challenge election results in Georgia, voluntarily dropping five lawsuits pending against [Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (R)]. But they may have exposed themselves to court sanctions by falsely claiming in their filings that the request for dismissal was the result of a settlement agreement with Raffensperger — which Raffensperger’s attorneys said was not the case.”

3) Trump urged Georgia’s lead elections investigator to “find the fraud” in a lengthy Dec. 23 phone call that had not previously been reported, saying the official would be a “national hero,” Gardner scooped on Saturday night. “Trump placed the call ... while the individual was leading an inquiry into allegations of ballot fraud in Cobb County ... The president’s attempts to intervene in an ongoing investigation could amount to obstruction of justice or other criminal violations, legal experts said.”

4) Trump told Loeffler before he landed in Georgia for his final rally last Monday night that he would “do a number on her” from the stage if she didn’t announce support for his electoral college challenges, Washington Free Beacon editor-in-chief Eliana Johnson reported Sunday in Politico. Loeffler agreed to announce her support for the challenges onstage. Ultimately, after she lost and the mob stormed the Capitol, the appointed senator announced that she would not vote to reject the results from her own state.
PGA pulls 2022 championship from Trump’s Bedminster, N.J., course.

“Jim Richerson, PGA of America’s president, said the group’s board voted Sunday night to ‘exercise the right to terminate the agreement’ with Trump’s course,” David Fahrenthold, Jonathan O’Connell and Barry Svrluga report. “The PGA Championship is one of the four majors in men’s golf, and therefore it was scheduled to be the most prestigious event ever held at a Trump property. ... The group made no announcement about a replacement venue. ...

“Last week’s events have caused other business partners to cut ties. The e-commerce firm Shopify said it would no longer host the Trump Organization’s online retail store, which sold T-shirts, hats, scented candles and bath bombs with the Trump name. That retail site, trumpstore.com, generated about $900,000 in revenue for the president’s company in 2019 ... On Friday, real estate brokerage firm JLL said it would no longer represent Trump’s company in its efforts to sell the Trump hotel in downtown Washington.” The president did not speak publicly on Sunday, and he has been barred from Twitter, his preferred communication channel.

- Cumulus Media, one of America’s largest talk-radio companies, which employs some of the most popular right-leaning talk radio hosts, told its on-air personalities to stop suggesting that the election was stolen from Trump – or else face termination. (Paul Farhi)
- Stripe announced it will no longer process payments for Trump’s campaign website. (WSJ)
- Parler CEO John Matze said his company has been dropped by virtually all of its business partners after Amazon, Apple and Google cut off the alternative to Twitter. (Deadline)
As Pelosi vows to forge ahead with impeachment, the debate divides and consumes Democrats.

Most House members remain mad and insist Trump must face consequences for inciting last week's deadly assault, but Biden has signaled he does not want the effort to interfere with his agenda and some key Democrats are quietly looking for a way to put the brakes on this. "The train has left the station," one Democrat said of impeachment. "It's on a track that, while people have reservations, nobody knows
The earliest action on impeachment could come Tuesday in the House Rules Committee, which would meet to prepare legislation for the House floor; actual votes on impeachment or other items can occur no sooner than Wednesday — a week before Biden’s inauguration. As of Sunday afternoon, a draft impeachment resolution had garnered 210 co-sponsors in the House, according to Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-R.I.), one of its authors. ...

"Others said Congress should censure Trump instead of impeaching him, an action that could be taken quickly and possibly attract broader support. Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D), the District of Columbia’s nonvoting representative in the House, said she plans to introduce such a measure Monday, describing it as ‘the only way to send a bipartisan, bicameral message without delay to the country and the world that the United States is a nation of laws.’ Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-III.), a frequent Trump critic, also suggested he would back a censure motion. ...

"White House spokesman Judd Deere said Trump is expected to travel to Alamo, Tex., on Tuesday to mark progress on his border wall. ...Speaking on ‘Fox News Sunday,’ Trump’s former chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, said that of all of the things Trump has done, ‘I could probably defend almost all of them’ until this point. But in the riot’s aftermath, he added, he would ‘seriously’ consider voting to impeach Trump if he were still a House member. On ABC’s ‘This Week,’ [Chris] Christie, a former Trump backer, said he would also vote to impeach if he were in Congress. ‘If inciting to insurrection isn’t [an impeachable offense], then I don’t
really know what is,’ Christie said. Other Republicans, however, remained wary or opposed to impeachment, including most of those currently in office. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) suggested it was not necessary because there was little chance Trump would repeat his dangerous actions.”

- An ABC News-Ipsos poll published Sunday found that 56 percent of Americans think Trump should be removed from office before Jan. 20. Among those who say Trump should not be removed immediately, 45 percent nevertheless say his actions last week were wrong. Only 13 percent of Republicans support removing Trump from office early. Overall, 67 percent of Americans lay blame squarely at Trump’s feet for the riot and the Capitol breach.

- In a statement this morning, First Lady Melania Trump offered condolences to the families of all six people whose deaths have been connected to the riots but then she complained about criticism that she’s been quiet for five days. “I find it shameful that surrounding these tragic events there has been salacious gossip, unwarranted personal attacks, and false misleading accusations on me – from people who are looking to be relevant and have an agenda,” she wrote.

- In a highly unusual move, American diplomats have drafted two cables condemning Trump’s incitement of the assault on the Capitol and calling for administration officials to consider invoking the 25th Amendment. (AP)

- Relations between Trump and Pence have collapsed, and Reuters reports the two men are no longer on speaking terms. “Pence gave a goodbye pep talk to his staff in an emotional meeting on Friday before many of them leave this week,” Reuters reports. “He cited a Bible verse that his chief of staff, Marc Short, texted him on Thursday morning after Pence formally certified Biden’s victory. ‘We have fought the good fight, we have kept the faith and we finished the race,’ Short said.”

- “Pence has not ruled out an effort to invoke the 25th Amendment and wants to preserve the option in case Trump becomes more unstable, a source close to the vice president says,” per CNN.

- Frank Luntz, a veteran GOP pollster, conducted a focus group the night after the Capitol attack with 12 Trump voters from 11 different states. Luntz said that when he asked the group of 12 to name their preferred candidate for president in 2024, only two said Trump. None said Pence. (Phil Rucker)

- The day before the riots, an arm of the Republican Attorneys General Association sent out robocalls urging supporters to come to D.C. to “fight”
Congress on behalf of Trump’s baseless election claims. Now, several GOP attorneys general are distancing themselves from the calls, claiming they did not know what was done in their names. (Andrea Salcedo)

- Rep. Peter Meijer (R-Mich.) said some House Republicans who voted to reject Biden’s win knew they were lying about election irregularities but did so anyway because they are worried about the safety of their own families. (Reason)

- Three siblings of Rep. Paul Gosar’s (R-Ariz.) reached out to Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) asking for his help to get their brother expelled from Congress. The siblings – who recorded a commercial for Gosar’s challenger in 2018 – blame their brother for inciting the riots. (Arizona Republic)

- More than 5,000 law school alumni and students have signed a petition calling for Sens. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) and Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) to be disbarred. (Valerie Strauss)

Quote of the day

“If there’s ever any silver lining in an awful, awful, awful day, I think it’s that this has accelerated the march away from Trumpism,” said former senator Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.). (Matt Viser)

Law enforcement fallout
Outgoing Capitol Police chief says House and Senate security officials blocked efforts to call in National Guard.

"Two days before Congress was set to formalize Biden's victory, Capitol Police Chief

Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund testifies before House lawmakers in July 2019. (Congressional Quarterly/CQ Roll Call/AP)
Steven Sund was growing increasingly worried about the size of the pro-Trump crowds expected to stream into Washington in protest. To be on the safe side, Sund asked House and Senate security officials for permission to request that the D.C. National Guard be placed on standby in case he needed quick backup. But, Sund said Sunday, they turned him down,” Carol Leonnig, Aaron Davis, Peter Hermann and Karoun Demirjian report. “Sund, who has since resigned his post, said his supervisors were reluctant to take formal steps to put the Guard on call even as police intelligence suggested that the crowd Trump had invited to Washington to protest his defeat probably would be much larger than earlier demonstrations. House Sergeant at Arms Paul Irving said he wasn’t comfortable with the ‘optics’ of formally declaring an emergency ahead of the demonstration, Sund said. Meanwhile, Senate Sergeant at Arms Michael Stenger suggested that Sund should informally seek out his Guard contacts, asking them to ‘lean forward’ and be on alert in case Capitol Police needed their help. ... It was the first of six times Sund’s request for help was rejected or delayed, he said.

“Two days later on Wednesday afternoon, his forces already in the midst of crisis, Sund said he pleaded for help five more times as a scene far more dire than he had ever imagined unfolded on the historic Capitol grounds. ... At 2:26 p.m., Sund said, he joined a conference call to the Pentagon to plead for additional backup. ... On the call were several officials from the D.C. government, as well as officials from the Pentagon, including Lt. Gen. Walter E. Piatt, director of the Army Staff. The D.C. contingent was flabbergasted to hear Piatt say that he could not recommend that his boss, Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, approve the request. ‘I don’t like the visual of the National Guard standing a police line with the Capitol in the background,’ Piatt said ... Again and again, Sund said, ‘The situation is dire,’ recalled John Falcicchio, the chief of staff for D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser. ‘Literally, this guy is on the phone, I mean, crying out for help. It’s burned in my memories.’

- U.S. Capitol Police on Sunday announced the death of off-duty officer Howard Liebengood, 51, who had been on the scene Wednesday. "Its statement did not list a cause of death, but two law enforcement officials told The Post that he had died by suicide,” Allison Klein and Rebecca Tan report.
- Pelosi said several of her staffers ran into a conference room, barricaded the
door, switched off the lights and cowered under a conference table for hours as rioters vandalized the speaker’s office. Pelosi showed “60 Minutes” where the rioters broke down her office door and shattered an antique mirror, scattering glass. (Jaclyn Peiser)

- The FBI and NYPD told Capitol Police about the possibility of violence before the riot. “The FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington,” NBC News reports.
- Two Black Capitol Police officers said their leaders left them unprepared for the attack. “Management’s inaction left Black police officers especially vulnerable,” BuzzFeed News reports. “The [officers] said they were wrong-footed, fighting off an invading force that their managers had downplayed and not prepared them for. They had all been issued gas masks, for example, but management didn’t tell them to bring them in on the day.”

The Post has identified over 100 members of the Capitol mob. Almost all are White. Most are men.

“Those who made their way to the grounds of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday hail from at least 36 states, along with the District of Columbia and Canada, according to a Post list of over 100 people identified as being on the scene of the Capitol. Their professions touch nearly every facet of American society: lawyers, local lawmakers, real estate agents, law enforcement officers, military veterans, construction workers, hair stylists and nurses. Among the crowd were devout Christians who highlighted Bible verses, adherents of the QAnon conspiracy theory and members of documented hate groups, including white nationalist organizations and militant right-wing organizations, such as the Proud Boys,” Amy Brittain, Julie Zauzmer, Jenn Abelson, David Willman and Nicole Dungca report.

“The list is just a limited cross section of the thousands of people who descended upon the area, yet some striking commonalities are hard to ignore. ... About one in six were women — also almost all White. Many left extensive social media documentation of their passions, ideologies and, in some cases, disillusionment and vendettas. ... A handful of the most notorious rioters, including a man who carried a Confederate flag over his shoulder though the Capitol, have not yet had their identities publicly confirmed by law enforcement. Dozens of people have been arrested — some for minor offenses like breaking curfew or unlawful entry, while
others face more serious federal charges, including firearm possession, violent entry and disorderly conduct at the Capitol building. The count is expected to grow rapidly in the coming days. ... Michael Sherwin, the acting U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia told NPR that his staff is working around-the-clock to sort through ‘potentially thousands of people that may have information about crimes ... meaning there could be hundreds of people charged.’”

- Two men who allegedly carried zip ties around the Capitol during the riot are being investigated by counterterrorism prosecutors. Larry Rendell Brock, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, was arrested in Texas and charged with one count of knowingly entering a restricted building and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct. Eric Gavelek Munchel, arrested in Tennessee, was charged with the same counts, prosecutors said, after being allegedly photographed climbing over a railing in the Senate gallery carrying plastic restraints. (Spencer Hsu, Meryl Kornfield, Paulina Villegas and Dan Lamothe)
- The U.S. Army is investigating a psychological operations officer who led a group of North Carolinians to the D.C. rally. Fort Bragg commanders are reviewing Capt. Emily Rainey’s involvement in the events, but she said she acted within military regulations and that no one in her group broke the law. (AP)
- Two police officers with the Rocky Mount, Va., police department were placed on administrative leave after the town discovered they attended the riot. (Leah Shapira)
- At least two Seattle police officers who were in D.C. during the riot have been placed on administrative leave. (Seattle Times)
- A Philadelphia police detective from the unit that investigates the backgrounds of potential recruits was temporarily reassigned based on a tip that she attended Trump’s D.C. rally. (Philadelphia Inquirer)
- Video shows the mob dragging a police officer down the stairs. A rioter beat the officer with an American flag pole. The outnumbered officer has not been identified. (Katie Shepherd)
- A small group of sleuths has been identifying right-wing extremists long before the attack. (Robert Klemko)
- An Idaho man who posted a video of himself on Instagram in the chair Pence had sat in moments earlier — after apparently jumping down from the balcony to the Senate floor — told the Boise CBS affiliate that he “got caught up in the
The coronavirus
Doctors intubate a coronavirus patient at Providence Mission Hospital in Mission Viejo, Calif. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)
Congress's physician warns lawmakers that they may have been exposed to covid.

"Many members of the House community were in protective isolation in a room located in a large committee hearing space," Brian Monahan, the attending physician to Congress, wrote in an email that was sent to members of Congress on Sunday morning. "The time in this room was several hours for some and briefer for others," Paulina Firosi, Amy Wang and DeBonis report. "Monahan did not specify how large the group of lawmakers in the room was. Two House aides confirmed to The Post that Monahan was referring to a room where scores of House members were taken to during the riot. ... [Video] showed maskless Republicans — including Reps. Andy Biggs (Ariz.), Michael Cloud (Tex.), Markwayne Mullin (Okla.) and Scott Perry (Pa.) — refusing masks offered by Democratic Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (Del.) while in the room. Monahan’s email advised lawmakers who may have been exposed to continue monitoring for symptoms, wearing masks and social distancing.” He also recommended that they get tested this week.

- The U.S. reported 1,949 new coronavirus deaths on Sunday, for a total of more than 373,000 covid deaths in the United States. More than 228,991 new cases were reported as covid-related hospitalizations rose 2.9 percent, per The Post’s tracker.
- Hospitals are throwing out doses of Pfizer’s vaccine because the federal government is supplying some facilities with syringes that can only extract five doses from vials that often contain more. (Politico)
- Medical providers across New York State were forced to throw out precious vaccine doses because of difficulties finding patients who precisely matched the state’s strict vaccination guidelines. Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) is finally loosening the rules, allowing employees who interact with the public, such as a pharmacy’s cashiers and delivery staff, to receive the shot. (NYT)
- As schools in Chicago prepare to reopen, 147 nurses with the city’s public school system are warning that reopening the buildings is still unsafe. (Valerie Strauss)
- The vaccine rollout in Florida has turned into a free-for-all, as the state experiences an alarming surge in new cases. Adding to the complications, the state announced Sunday that its large testing and vaccination site at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens — the recent scene of long lines of people
awaiting vaccination — would shut down for much of today to make way for the College Football Playoff national championship game. (NYT)

- The NBA canceled a game between the Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat as its covid woes mount. The cancellation came after a Miami player returned an inconclusive result for a covid test. (Ben Golliver and Des Bieler)

- Vitamin D sales are up, but experts still don’t know whether it prevents or treats covid. (Allyson Chiu)

As spending climbs and revenue falls, the virus threatens even stable, middle-income countries.

“Costa Rica built Latin America’s model society, enacting universal health care and spending its way to one of the Western Hemisphere’s highest literacy rates. Now, it’s reeling from the financially crushing side effects of the coronavirus, as cratering revenue and crisis spending force a reckoning over a massive pile of government debt,” Alexander Villegas, Anthony Faiola and Lesley Wroughton report. “Around the globe, the pandemic is racking up a mind-blowing bill: trillions of dollars in lost tax revenue, ramped-up spending and new borrowing set to burden the next generation with record levels of debt. In the direst cases — low- and middle-income countries, mostly in Africa and Latin America, that are already saddled with backbreaking debt — covering the rising costs is transforming into a high-stakes test of national solvency. Analysts call it a ‘debt tsunami’: National accounts are sinking into the red at a record pace. ‘I consider the risk to be very high of an emerging-market debt crisis where a lot of countries run into problems at once,’ said Harvard economist Kenneth Rogoff, former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund.”

- Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip were vaccinated. (Karla Adam)

- Pope Francis said he’ll get the vaccine soon, perhaps as early as next week, and added that inoculation is a duty for everyone. “I believe that ethically everyone needs to receive the vaccine,” Francis told Italy’s TG5. (Chico Harlan and Stefano Pitrelli)

- Support for holding the Olympics in Japan this summer has plummeted. A Kyodo News Agency poll shows that roughly 80 percent of people in the country want to cancel or reschedule the Games. (Antonia Farzan)

The Chinese Communist Party is telling a tale of triumph — and...
no mistakes — a year after Wuhan.

"At a museum in Wuhan, China, a sprawling exhibition paints a stirring tale of how the city's sacrifices in a brutal 76-day lockdown led to triumph over the coronavirus and, ultimately, rebirth. No costs appear to have been spared for the show, which features a hologram of medical staff members moving around a hospital room, Other news that should be on your radar

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William Burns, then deputy secretary of state, talks with a South Korean official in Seoul in 2014. (Kim Hong-Ji/Reuters)

- Biden plans to nominate career diplomat Bill Burns to run the CIA. (David Ignatius)
- As Trump's presidency winds down, allies of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange have ramped up a push for a last-minute pardon from the president, enlisting a
lobbyist with connections to the White House and trying to rally supporters across the political spectrum. (NYT)

- Following an internal battle, the Trump administration will declare Yemen's Houthi rebels a foreign terrorist organization, a decision that aid groups and several senior U.S. officials worry could worsen a humanitarian crisis. (John Hudson and Missy Ryan)

- Investigators located the black box from the Indonesian passenger jet that crashed into the Java Sea on Saturday with 62 people on board. No one survived. (Ruby Mellen)

- Pope Francis changed church law to give women the right to act as readers and altar servers, but he says they still cannot be priests. (Chico Harlan)

- Nancy Bush, the sister of one Republican president and aunt of another who devoted herself to Democratic causes, died at an assisted living facility in Massachusetts. She was 94. (NYT)

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Social media speed read

A mourning cloth draped the entrance of the Capitol Police headquarters:
A North Carolina House candidate, who was endorsed by White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, touted her attendance at Trump’s D.C. rally in a fundraising email:
Meanwhile, Jared Kushner had a party:

Videos of the day
Former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (R), an immigrant from Austria, compared the Capitol violence to the Kristallnacht destruction by the Nazis:
"The Daily Show" compared what Fox News hosts said about Democrats complaining about the 2016 election to what they are saying now:

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Intelligence for leaders.

By James Hohmann
with Mariana Alfaro

Email
GOP looks to win back Senate in 2022, as new NRSC chairman defends vote to reject Pa. results

Democrats taking control of the Senate after winning upsets in both Georgia runoffs would have been the biggest political story of any ordinary week, but the seismic news was quickly overshadowed when a pro-Trump mob took over the Capitol.

House Democrats formally introduced an article of impeachment this morning against President Trump, charging him with “incitement of insurrection.” The House could vote as early as Wednesday. In a brief session, House Republicans blocked a measure calling on Vice President Pence and the Cabinet to remove Trump under the 25th Amendment, ensuring a vote in the full House on Tuesday.

On the other side of the Capitol, as Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) is poised to realize his dream of becoming majority leader after 40 years in Congress, Sen. Rick Scott (R-Fla.) takes command today of the National Republican Senatorial Committee. More than anyone else, Scott will be responsible for trying to take that title back for Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.).
Scott, 68, takes the helm of the powerful party committee amid Republican divisions over the post-Trump future and, more pressingly, intense blowback from the business community and other elites over his vote last week to reject President-elect Joe Biden's victory in Pennsylvania. Scott was one of eight GOP senators, and 139 House members, to support at least one objection to counting Biden's certified votes. Many people blame lawmakers in this group for reinforcing the false belief among a
wide swath of Republicans voters that the November election was stolen from Trump.

Despite the tempers of the moment, history favors Republicans in 2022. Historically, with a few exceptions like the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, the opposition party fares well during any president’s first midterm. With Vice President-elect Kamala Harris poised to break the 50-50 tie, the GOP needs to pick up just one seat.

But next year’s map favors Democrats. The GOP must defend 20 seats, compared to 14 for Democrats, including Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Pennsylvania. The Republicans incumbents in those last two, Richard Burr and Pat Toomey, have already announced that they will retire, and open seats are more difficult to defend.

In a half-hour telephone interview on Sunday afternoon, Scott said Republicans will put a heavy focus on defeating Sen.-elect Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.), who will be on the ballot again in 2022 to secure a full six-year term, and Sen. Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), who just won a special election to complete the last two years of the late John McCain’s term.

“I’ve got my work cut out for me, but I’m excited,” Scott said from Florida. “We’ll be able to get back the seat that Kelly Loeffler was in if we get our message out. We should be able to win back Arizona. I think we just have to, but there’s plenty of other states where there were close races in 2016 that we have a chance to get back.”
Asked about the lessons from Georgia for next year, he said: “What we have to do is, number one, we have to have the right candidate. That's the biggest thing. And then you have to have a message that resonates.”

Scott sought to reject Pennsylvania’s 20 electors but opposed the effort to reject Arizona’s 11 votes. His argument is that the Keystone State loosened its rules for mail-in voting because of the coronavirus in ways that didn’t comply with state law. The state’s Supreme Court dismissed a legal challenge on these grounds, and the U.S. Supreme Court, despite a 6-to-3 conservative majority, also declined to weigh in.

The senator demurred when I asked whether he reconsidered his vote to reject Pennsylvania’s votes after the carnage in the Capitol. “If we just sit here and say, ‘Oh, we don’t ever care about this,’ it's not going to get better, and it’s bad for everybody that's voting,” he said. “I'm sure everybody has different reasons for why they voted the way they did, but I want to get these election laws fixed.”

Asked whether Trump bears responsibility for inciting the riot, Scott said the president “could have responded faster” once the mob made it inside the Capitol. “First off, we're all responsible for our own actions,” the senator said. “We're not robots. We all have to take this seriously. It is despicable what happened. I don't think it’s fair to say that he told people to go break into the Capitol. But I think it is also fair to say he could have responded quicker to asking these thugs to stop. ...”

“Everybody could have done a better job that day,” he added. “It's a bad day. There's no winners. There's all losers. Whether it's a law enforcement officer or anybody else
that lost their lives, it’s somebody’s family. You hate this stuff.”

Scott called on Trump to reconsider his announcement that he will not attend Biden’s inauguration, but he criticized efforts to punish or remove the president nine days before he will leave office anyway. This puts him at odds with some of his GOP colleagues. Toomey said on the Sunday shows that Trump should resign and go away as soon as possible. “I acknowledge that may not be likely, but that would be best,” he said on NBC’s “Meet the Press.” Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), who is up for reelection in 2022, also told the Anchorage Daily News that she wants Trump “out.”

Scott said “oh, yeah” when I asked whether it was a hard call to formally object to Pennsylvania’s results. “You’re trying to always figure out ways to do the right thing,
and then, also, this stuff was so emotional for people," he said. "I can't think of anything, maybe other than after the Parkland shooting, that people contacted me more about, passionately, and they still are."

Several editorial boards in Florida's biggest newspapers have blasted Scott, noting that Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) voted to uphold the results. The Tampa Bay Times said: "Scott disgraces himself and embarrasses Florida." Some House Democrats are calling for the expulsion of any member who did not accept the election results.

Lawmakers who voted to reject electors also face a growing backlash from corporate America. Marriott, the world's largest hotel chain, said Sunday that the chaos at the Capitol has prompted a halt to all campaign donations to any lawmaker who voted against certifying the electoral college results. "The Blue Cross Blue Shield Association said it would do the same. The provider of health insurance to more than 100 million people said in a statement that its political action committee was suspending contributions to those lawmakers who voted to undermine our democracy," Todd Frankel and Jeff Stein report. "Commerce Bank also said in a statement that its PAC has 'suspended all support for officials who have impeded the peaceful transfer of power.'"

Financial institutions are also suspending donations. "Goldman is still formulating its measures that will probably curtail future political giving to the elected leaders who fought to overturn the 2020 result," Bloomberg News reports. "JPMorgan, the largest U.S. bank by assets, said it's planning a six-month suspension to both Republicans and Democrats. Citigroup said it intends to temporarily stop all political contributions in the current quarter. ... Morgan Stanley also joined its competitors, with pointed scrutiny on all members of Congress who didn't vote to certify Biden's win by pausing its contributions to them. ..."

"Stopping short of vowing to suspend donations, Bank of America Corp., Ford Motor Co. and AT&T Inc. said they will take recent events into consideration before any future donations. CVS Health Corp., Exxon Mobil Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and some other donors said they are reviewing their policies on political giving."
All of this is significant because fundraising is the most important part of the job for an NRSC chair. It is unclear whether new corporate policies like Marriott's will apply to the party committees. Rep. Tom Emmer (R-Minn.), the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, opposed the electoral college challenges, though House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) and Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) joined the objectors.

Scott’s predecessor as NRSC chairman, Sen. Todd Young (R-Ind.), also opposed the election challenge. He was swarmed by Trump supporters as he arrived at work a few hours before the mob breached the Capitol. "Opinions don't matter. The law matters," Young told the crowd in a heated back-and-forth.

Scott told me he will put a heavy emphasis on cultivating small-dollar, grass-roots donors to compete with the green tsunami of cash that Democratic candidates have raised during the past two cycles. “Here’s my definition of success: Ultimately, do we get a majority back? That’s where I’ve got to get us to, but the path there is that we need to be able to be competitive with ActBlue,” he said. “To do that, we have to work on clearly defining the differences.”

The former hospital company chief executive is one of the richest members of the Senate. In an introductory video that will go out to NRSC donors later today, Scott says he will never ask for any money unless he’s already given more.

While Burr and Toomey announced last year that they are retiring, Scott said right he is trying to convince all the GOP incumbents who are up for reelection in 2022 to run again. That includes Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, 87, and Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson, who said in 2016 he would not seek a third term but, more recently, has kept the door open to changing his mind.

Scott said he is calling the state party chair and the two Republican National Committee members in each state with a Senate race next year to get their read on the lay of the land. “I’ve talked to Toomey about Pennsylvania, and he’s got ideas, and Burr clearly has ideas on North Carolina,” said Scott. “We’ll find good people.”

The NRSC has always supported incumbents. But the committee has also become
much more aggressive about getting involved in primaries ever since flawed Republican candidates like Todd Akin, Christine O’Donnell and Richard Mourdock blew winnable general elections. Scott told me he is uneasy with wading into primaries.

“Do I want to? No! I've not done that because, as you remember, I had a really tough primary for governor back in 2010, and everybody endorsed my opponent,” Scott said. “But I know there's other people in Senate leadership that want to make sure I do. So we'll see. This will an interesting experience because you want to make sure that you let the voters' voices be heard. For me personally, that will be a pretty big challenge.”

Scott hopes to unify different factions of the party by keeping the focus on their Castading fallout for Trump said. “Nancy Pelosi is going to tell you what you're going to be able to get paid, and Kamala Harris will tell you how much you get to keep.”

Scott will be up for a second term in 2024, but he is also keeping the door open to running for president instead. “I'm planning to run for reelection,” he said. “A lot of people ask me about running for president. What I tell them is that I'm not — right now.”
More evidence emerges that Trump exerted improper influence on Georgia officials.

Four significant stories came out over the weekend.

1) White House officials pushed Atlanta’s top federal prosecutor to resign the day before Georgia’s Senate runoffs because Trump was upset he wasn’t doing enough to “investigate” the president’s unproven claims of election fraud. “A senior Justice Department official, at the behest of the White House, called the Trump-appointed U.S. Attorney Byung J. Pak late on the night of Jan. 3,” the Wall Street Journal reports.

2) A federal prosecutor in Savannah, Ga. — whom Trump himself tapped
to take over the U.S. attorney’s office in Atlanta — brought to his new assignment two assistants previously tasked with monitoring possible election fraud. By default, leadership of the Atlanta office was supposed to pass to Kurt Erskine, a longtime federal prosecutor who had been Pak’s top deputy. But, according to the Justice Department, Bobby Christine was appointed instead “by written order” of the president. “The move, legal observers say, is unusual on multiple levels,” Matt Zapotosky and Amy Gardner report. “Atlanta already has more prosecutors than Savannah, including those with experience in election cases, so it is unclear why Christine would want additional personnel there. It would be atypical for an acting U.S. attorney to initiate an investigation or special assignment so close to the end of a presidential administration. ... “Trump’s attorneys, meanwhile, seemed to stand down in their efforts to challenge election results in Georgia, voluntarily dropping five lawsuits pending against [Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger (R)]. But they may have exposed themselves to court sanctions by falsely claiming in their filings that the request for dismissal was the result of a settlement agreement with Raffensperger — which Raffensperger’s attorneys said was not the case.”

3) Trump urged Georgia’s lead elections investigator to “find the fraud” in a lengthy Dec. 23 phone call that had not previously been reported, saying the official would be a “national hero,” Gardner scooped on Saturday night. “Trump placed the call ... while the individual was leading an inquiry into allegations of ballot fraud in Cobb County ... The president’s attempts to intervene in an ongoing investigation could amount to obstruction of justice or other criminal violations, legal experts said.”

4) Trump told Loeffler before he landed in Georgia for his final rally last Monday night that he would “do a number on her” from the stage if she didn’t announce support for his electoral college challenges, Washington Free Beacon editor-in-chief Eliana Johnson reported Sunday in Politico. Loeffler agreed to announce her support for the challenges onstage. Ultimately, after she lost and the mob stormed the Capitol, the appointed senator announced that she would not vote to reject the results from her own state.
PGA pulls 2022 championship from Trump's Bedminster, N.J., course.

"Jim Richerson, PGA of America's president, said the group's board voted Sunday night to 'exercise the right to terminate the agreement' with Trump's course," David Fahrenthold, Jonathan O'Connell and Barry Svrluga report. "The PGA Championship is one of the four majors in men's golf, and therefore it was scheduled to be the most prestigious event ever held at a Trump property. ... The group made no announcement about a replacement venue. ...

"Last week's events have caused other business partners to cut ties. The e-commerce firm Shopify said it would no longer host the Trump Organization's online retail store, which sold T-shirts, hats, scented candles and bath bombs with the Trump name. That retail site, trumpstore.com, generated about $900,000 in revenue for the president's company in 2019 ... On Friday, real estate brokerage firm JLL said it would no longer represent Trump's company in its efforts to sell the Trump hotel in downtown Washington." The president did not speak publicly on Sunday, and he has been barred from Twitter, his preferred communication channel.

- Cumulus Media, one of America's largest talk-radio companies, which employs some of the most popular right-leaning talk radio hosts, told its on-air personalities to stop suggesting that the election was stolen from Trump — or else face termination. (Paul Farhi)
- Stripe announced it will no longer process payments for Trump's campaign website. (WSJ)
- Parler CEO John Matze said his company has been dropped by virtually all of its business partners after Amazon, Apple and Google cut off the alternative to Twitter. (Deadline)
As Pelosi vows to forge ahead with impeachment, the debate divides and consumes Democrats.

Most House members remain mad and insist Trump must face consequences for inciting last week's deadly assault, but Biden has signaled he does not want the effort to interfere with his agenda and some key Democrats are quietly looking for a way to put the brakes on this. “The train has left the station,” one Democrat said of impeachment. “It’s on a track that, while people have reservations, nobody knows
"The conflict confronts Biden with his first test on what could be an early, incendiary dilemma facing his presidency: how hard to pursue accountability for Trump and those in his orbit," Felicia Sonmez, Mike DeBonis and Juliet Eilperin report. "Rep. James E. Clyburn (D-S.C.), a Biden ally and House leader, proposed Sunday that the House vote this week to impeach but wait a few months to submit the articles of impeachment to the Senate for a trial. Those comments provoked widespread frustration among Democrats, according to multiple aides and lawmakers. ...

"The earliest action on impeachment could come Tuesday in the House Rules Committee, which would meet to prepare legislation for the House floor; actual votes on impeachment or other items can occur no sooner than Wednesday — a week before Biden’s inauguration. As of Sunday afternoon, a draft impeachment resolution had garnered 210 co-sponsors in the House, according to Rep. David N. Cicilline (D-R.I.), one of its authors. ...

"Others said Congress should censure Trump instead of impeaching him, an action that could be taken quickly and possibly attract broader support. Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D), the District of Columbia’s nonvoting representative in the House, said she plans to introduce such a measure Monday, describing it as ‘the only way to send a bipartisan, bicameral message without delay to the country and the world that the United States is a nation of laws.’ Rep. Adam Kinzinger (R-Ill.), a frequent Trump critic, also suggested he would back a censure motion. ...

"White House spokesman Judd Deere said Trump is expected to travel to Alamo, Tex., on Tuesday to mark progress on his border wall. ...Speaking on ‘Fox News Sunday,’ Trump’s former chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, said that of all of the things Trump has done, ‘I could probably defend almost all of them’ until this point. But in the riot’s aftermath, he added, he would ‘seriously’ consider voting to impeach Trump if he were still a House member. On ABC’s ‘This Week,’ [Chris] Christie, a former Trump backer, said he would also vote to impeach if he were in Congress. ‘If inciting to insurrection isn’t [an impeachable offense], then I don’t
really know what is,’ Christie said. Other Republicans, however, remained wary or opposed to impeachment, including most of those currently in office. Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) suggested it was not necessary because there was little chance Trump would repeat his dangerous actions.”

- An ABC News-Ipsos poll published Sunday found that 56 percent of Americans think Trump should be removed from office before Jan. 20. Among those who say Trump should not be removed immediately, 45 percent nevertheless say his actions last week were wrong. Only 13 percent of Republicans support removing Trump from office early. Overall, 67 percent of Americans lay blame squarely at Trump’s feet for the riot and the Capitol breach.

- In a statement this morning, First Lady Melania Trump offered condolences to the families of all six people whose deaths have been connected to the riots but then she complained about criticism that she’s been quiet for five days. “I find it shameful that surrounding these tragic events there has been salacious gossip, unwarranted personal attacks, and false misleading accusations on me – from people who are looking to be relevant and have an agenda,” she wrote.

- In a highly unusual move, American diplomats have drafted two cables condemning Trump’s incitement of the assault on the Capitol and calling for administration officials to consider invoking the 25th Amendment. (AP)

- Relations between Trump and Pence have collapsed, and Reuters reports the two men are no longer on speaking terms. “Pence gave a goodbye pep talk to his staff in an emotional meeting on Friday before many of them leave this week,” Reuters reports. “He cited a Bible verse that his chief of staff, Marc Short, texted him on Thursday morning after Pence formally certified Biden’s victory. ‘We have fought the good fight, we have kept the faith and we finished the race,’ Short said.”

- “Pence has not ruled out an effort to invoke the 25th Amendment and wants to preserve the option in case Trump becomes more unstable, a source close to the vice president says,” per CNN.

- Frank Luntz, a veteran GOP pollster, conducted a focus group the night after the Capitol attack with 12 Trump voters from 11 different states. Luntz said that when he asked the group of 12 to name their preferred candidate for president in 2024, only two said Trump. None said Pence. (Phil Rucker)

- The day before the riots, an arm of the Republican Attorneys General Association sent out robocalls urging supporters to come to D.C. to “fight”
Congress on behalf of Trump’s baseless election claims. Now, several GOP attorneys general are distancing themselves from the calls, claiming they did not know what was done in their names. (Andrea Salcedo)

- Rep. Peter Meijer (R-Mich.) said some House Republicans who voted to reject Biden’s win knew they were lying about election irregularities but did so anyway because they are worried about the safety of their own families. (Reason)

- Three siblings of Rep. Paul Gosar’s (R-Ariz.) reached out to Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.) asking for his help to get their brother expelled from Congress. The siblings – who recorded a commercial for Gosar’s challenger in 2018 – blame their brother for inciting the riots. (Arizona Republic)

- More than 5,000 law school alumni and students have signed a petition calling for Sens. Josh Hawley (R-Mo.) and Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) to be disbarred. (Valerie Strauss)

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**Quote of the day**

“If there’s ever any silver lining in an awful, awful, awful day, I think it’s that this has accelerated the march away from Trumpism,” said former senator Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.). (Matt Viser)

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**Law enforcement fallout**
Outgoing Capitol Police chief says House and Senate security officials blocked efforts to call in National Guard.

"Two days before Congress was set to formalize Biden’s victory, Capitol Police Chief
Steven Sund was growing increasingly worried about the size of the pro-Trump crowds expected to stream into Washington in protest. To be on the safe side, Sund asked House and Senate security officials for permission to request that the D.C. National Guard be placed on standby in case he needed quick backup. But, Sund said Sunday, they turned him down,” Carol Leonnig, Aaron Davis, Peter Hermann and Karoun Demirjian report. “Sund, who has since resigned his post, said his supervisors were reluctant to take formal steps to put the Guard on call even as police intelligence suggested that the crowd Trump had invited to Washington to protest his defeat probably would be much larger than earlier demonstrations.

House Sergeant at Arms Paul Irving said he wasn’t comfortable with the ‘optics’ of formally declaring an emergency ahead of the demonstration, Sund said.

Meanwhile, Senate Sergeant at Arms Michael Stenger suggested that Sund should informally seek out his Guard contacts, asking them to ‘lean forward’ and be on alert in case Capitol Police needed their help. ... It was the first of six times Sund’s request for help was rejected or delayed, he said.

“Two days later on Wednesday afternoon, his forces already in the midst of crisis, Sund said he pleaded for help five more times as a scene far more dire than he had ever imagined unfolded on the historic Capitol grounds. ... At 2:26 p.m., Sund said, he joined a conference call to the Pentagon to plead for additional backup. ... On the call were several officials from the D.C. government, as well as officials from the Pentagon, including Lt. Gen. Walter E. Piatt, director of the Army Staff. The D.C. contingent was flabbergasted to hear Piatt say that he could not recommend that his boss, Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, approve the request. ‘I don’t like the visual of the National Guard standing a police line with the Capitol in the background,’ Piatt said ... Again and again, Sund said, ‘The situation is dire,’ recalled John Falcicchio, the chief of staff for D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser. ‘Literally, this guy is on the phone, I mean, crying out for help. It’s burned in my memories.”

- U.S. Capitol Police on Sunday announced the death of off-duty officer Howard Liebengood, 51, who had been on the scene Wednesday. "Its statement did not list a cause of death, but two law enforcement officials told The Post that he had died by suicide,” Allison Klein and Rebecca Tan report.
- Pelosi said several of her staffers ran into a conference room, barricaded the
door, switched off the lights and cowered under a conference table for hours as rioters vandalized the speaker's office. Pelosi showed “60 Minutes” where the rioters broke down her office door and shattered an antique mirror, scattering glass. (Jaclyn Peiser)

- The FBI and NYPD told Capitol Police about the possibility of violence before the riot. “The FBI even visited more than a dozen extremists already under investigation to urge them not to travel to Washington,” NBC News reports.

- Two Black Capitol Police officers said their leaders left them unprepared for the attack. “Management’s inaction left Black police officers especially vulnerable,” BuzzFeed News reports. “The officers said they were wrong-footed, fighting off an invading force that their managers had downplayed and not prepared them for. They had all been issued gas masks, for example, but management didn’t tell them to bring them in on the day.”

The Post has identified over 100 members of the Capitol mob. Almost all are White. Most are men.

“Those who made their way to the grounds of the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday hail from at least 36 states, along with the District of Columbia and Canada, according to a Post list of over 100 people identified as being on the scene of the Capitol. Their professions touch nearly every facet of American society: lawyers, local lawmakers, real estate agents, law enforcement officers, military veterans, construction workers, hair stylists and nurses. Among the crowd were devout Christians who highlighted Bible verses, adherents of the QAnon conspiracy theory and members of documented hate groups, including white nationalist organizations and militant right-wing organizations, such as the Proud Boys,” Amy Brittain, Julie Zauzmer, Jenn Abelson, David Willman and Nicole Dungca report.

“The list is just a limited cross section of the thousands of people who descended upon the area, yet some striking commonalities are hard to ignore. ... About one in six were women — also almost all White. Many left extensive social media documentation of their passions, ideologies and, in some cases, disillusionment and vendettas. ... A handful of the most notorious rioters, including a man who carried a Confederate flag over his shoulder though the Capitol, have not yet had their identities publicly confirmed by law enforcement. Dozens of people have been arrested — some for minor offenses like breaking curfew or unlawful entry, while
others face more serious federal charges, including firearm possession, violent entry and disorderly conduct at the Capitol building. The count is expected to grow rapidly in the coming days. ... Michael Sherwin, the acting U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia told NPR that his staff is working around-the-clock to sort through ‘potentially thousands of people that may have information about crimes ... meaning there could be hundreds of people charged.’”

- Two men who allegedly carried zip ties around the Capitol during the riot are being investigated by counterterrorism prosecutors. Larry Rendell Brock, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, was arrested in Texas and charged with one count of knowingly entering a restricted building and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct. Eric Gavelek Munchel, arrested in Tennessee, was charged with the same counts, prosecutors said, after being allegedly photographed climbing over a railing in the Senate gallery carrying plastic restraints. (Spencer Hsu, Meryl Kornfield, Paulina Villegas and Dan Lamothe)

- The U.S. Army is investigating a psychological operations officer who led a group of North Carolinians to the D.C. rally. Fort Bragg commanders are reviewing Capt. Emily Rainey’s involvement in the events, but she said she acted within military regulations and that no one in her group broke the law. (AP)

- Two police officers with the Rocky Mount, Va., police department were placed on administrative leave after the town discovered they attended the riot. (Iah Shapira)

- At least two Seattle police officers who were in D.C. during the riot have been placed on administrative leave. (Seattle Times)

- A Philadelphia police detective from the unit that investigates the backgrounds of potential recruits was temporarily reassigned based on a tip that she attended Trump’s D.C. rally. (Philadelphia Inquirer)

- Video shows the mob dragging a police officer down the stairs. A rioter beat the officer with an American flag pole. The outnumbered officer has not been identified. (Katie Shepherd)

- A small group of sleuths has been identifying right-wing extremists long before the attack. (Robert Klemko)

- An Idaho man who posted a video of himself on Instagram in the chair Pence had sat in moments earlier — after apparently jumping down from the balcony to the Senate floor — told the Boise CBS affiliate that he “got caught up in the...
The coronavirus
Doctors intubate a coronavirus patient at Providence Mission Hospital in Mission Viejo, Calif. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)
Congress's physician warns lawmakers that they may have been exposed to covid.

“Many members of the House community were in protective isolation in a room located in a large committee hearing space,’ Brian Monahan, the attending physician to Congress, wrote in an email that was sent to members of Congress on Sunday morning. ‘The time in this room was several hours for some and briefer for others,” Paulina Firozi, Amy Wang and DeBonis report. “Monahan did not specify how large the group of lawmakers in the room was. Two House aides confirmed to The Post that Monahan was referring to a room where scores of House members were taken to during the riot. ... [Video] showed maskless Republicans — including Reps. Andy Biggs (Ariz.), Michael Cloud (Tex.), Markwayne Mullin (Okla.) and Scott Perry (Pa.) — refusing masks offered by Democratic Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (Del.) while in the room. Monahan’s email advised lawmakers who may have been exposed to continue monitoring for symptoms, wearing masks and social distancing.” He also recommended that they get tested this week.

- The U.S. reported 1,949 new coronavirus deaths on Sunday, for a total of more than 373,000 covid deaths in the United States. More than 228,991 new cases were reported as covid-related hospitalizations rose 2.9 percent, per The Post’s tracker.
- Hospitals are throwing out doses of Pfizer’s vaccine because the federal government is supplying some facilities with syringes that can only extract five doses from vials that often contain more. (Politico)
- Medical providers across New York State were forced to throw out precious vaccine doses because of difficulties finding patients who precisely matched the state’s strict vaccination guidelines. Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) is finally loosening the rules, allowing employees who interact with the public, such as a pharmacy’s cashiers and delivery staff, to receive the shot. (NYT)
- As schools in Chicago prepare to reopen, 147 nurses with the city’s public school system are warning that reopening the buildings is still unsafe. (Valerie Strauss)
- The vaccine rollout in Florida has turned into a free-for-all, as the state experiences an alarming surge in new cases. Adding to the complications, the state announced Sunday that its large testing and vaccination site at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens — the recent scene of long lines of people
awaiting vaccination — would shut down for much of today to make way for the College Football Playoff national championship game. (NYT)

- The NBA canceled a game between the Boston Celtics and the Miami Heat as its covid woes mount. The cancellation came after a Miami player returned an inconclusive result for a covid test. (Ben Golliver and Des Bieler)
- Vitamin D sales are up, but experts still don’t know whether it prevents or treats covid. (Allyson Chiu)

As spending climbs and revenue falls, the virus threatens even stable, middle-income countries.

“Costa Rica built Latin America’s model society, enacting universal health care and spending its way to one of the Western Hemisphere’s highest literacy rates. Now, it’s reeling from the financially crushing side effects of the coronavirus, as cratering revenue and crisis spending force a reckoning over a massive pile of government debt,” Alexander Villegas, Anthony Faiola and Lesley Wroughton report. “Around the globe, the pandemic is racking up a mind-blowing bill: trillions of dollars in lost tax revenue, ramped-up spending and new borrowing set to burden the next generation with record levels of debt. In the direst cases — low- and middle-income countries, mostly in Africa and Latin America, that are already saddled with backbreaking debt — covering the rising costs is transforming into a high-stakes test of national solvency. Analysts call it a ‘debt tsunami’: National accounts are sinking into the red at a record pace. ‘I consider the risk to be very high of an emerging-market debt crisis where a lot of countries run into problems at once,’ said Harvard economist Kenneth Rogoff, former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund.”

- Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip were vaccinated. (Karla Adam)
- Pope Francis said he’ll get the vaccine soon, perhaps as early as next week, and added that inoculation is a duty for everyone. “I believe that ethically everyone needs to receive the vaccine,” Francis told Italy’s TG5. (Chico Harlan and Stefano Pitrelli)
- Support for holding the Olympics in Japan this summer has plummeted. A Kyodo News Agency poll shows that roughly 80 percent of people in the country want to cancel or reschedule the Games. (Antonia Farzan)

The Chinese Communist Party is telling a tale of triumph — and
no mistakes — a year after Wuhan.

"At a museum in Wuhan, China, a sprawling exhibition paints a stirring tale of how the city’s sacrifices in a brutal 76-day lockdown led to triumph over the coronavirus and, ultimately, rebirth. No costs appear to have been spared for the show, which features a hologram of medical staff members moving around a hospital room, Other news that should be on your radar

William Burns, then deputy secretary of state, talks with a South Korean official in Seoul in 2014. (Kim Hong-Ji/Reuters)

- Biden plans to nominate career diplomat Bill Burns to run the CIA. (David Ignatius)
- As Trump’s presidency winds down, allies of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange have ramped up a push for a last-minute pardon from the president, enlisting a
lobbyist with connections to the White House and trying to rally supporters across the political spectrum. (NYT)

• Following an internal battle, the Trump administration will declare Yemen’s Houthi rebels a foreign terrorist organization, a decision that aid groups and several senior U.S. officials worry could worsen a humanitarian crisis. (John Hudson and Missy Ryan)

• Investigators located the black box from the Indonesian passenger jet that crashed into the Java Sea on Saturday with 62 people on board. No one survived. (Ruby Mellen)

• Pope Francis changed church law to give women the right to act as readers and altar servers, but he says they still cannot be priests. (Chico Harlan)

• Nancy Bush, the sister of one Republican president and aunt of another who devoted herself to Democratic causes, died at an assisted living facility in Massachusetts. She was 94. (NYT)

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**Social media speed read**

A mourning cloth draped the entrance of the Capitol Police headquarters:
A North Carolina House candidate, who was endorsed by White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, touted her attendance at Trump's D.C. rally in a fundraising email:
Meanwhile, Jared Kushner had a party:

Videos of the day
Former California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (R), an immigrant from Austria, compared the Capitol violence to the Kristallnacht destruction by the Nazis:
"The Daily Show" compared what Fox News hosts said about Democrats complaining about the 2016 election to what they are saying now:

We think you’ll like this newsletter

Check out **Must Reads** for a curated selection of our best journalism in your inbox every Saturday, plus a peek behind the scenes into how one story came together. **Sign up now.**
FYI, here's a working draft of what WFO is kicking around. Not approved by their EM yet, but I wanted to make sure you have eyes on.

As we discussed, here are the questions we're wondering if has drafted any answers to.

Thank you!

As per your earlier conversation with attached is a list of known pending questions and copies of full letters addressed to FBI Director Wray. Also, for your awareness we have been in communication with multiple committees on this matter. At this time, it is likely that at least SSCI and SJC are confirmed pending a few last minute details we are working to sort out.

Should you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,
Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.

On the other side

Please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss......Mike

Mike,

Pre my VM message,. I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.
From: bic -1,7
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM
To: DSAC <sesy@fbi.gov>
Cc: 
Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,
Hi Mike,

On Jan 11, 2021, at 10:31 AM, Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI) wrote:

Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.

On the other side,
Please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss......Mike

From: 
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Sullivan, Michael (1B) {FBI}
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FW: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Mike,

Pre my VM message, I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.

<image001.png>

From: 
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM 
To: DSAC <dsac@fbi.gov>:
Cc:
Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,

Hi Mike,

I honestly don’t know how to respond to your e-mail.

...Mike
On Jan 11, 2021, at 10:31 AM, Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI) wrote:

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Please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss......Mike

From: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FW: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Mike,

Pre my VM message, I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.

<image001.png>
From: [Name]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM
To: DSAC <dsac@fbi.gov>
Cc:
Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,

FBI(21cv558)-2958
From: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 12:32 PM
To: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - RE: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact
Subject: RE: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.
Pre my VM message, I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.
Thanks,
Hi Mike,

I honestly don’t know how to respond to your e-mail.

Regarding what the FBI wanted,

.....Mike
On Jan 11, 2021, at 10:31 AM, Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI) wrote:

Jim:

Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.

On the other side, please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss. Mike
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM
To: DSAC <[Redacted]>
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,
From: Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI)  
Subject: RE: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact  
To: b7E -1  
Sent: January 11, 2021 2:33 PM (UTC-05:00)  

Mike,  

Thanks. Mike.  

Please let me know if (and how) I can help.
From: Sullivan, Michael (1B) (FBI) 
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 12:32 PM 
To: [Redacted] 
Subject: RE: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.

On the other side

Please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss......Mike

From: Sullivan, Michael (1B) (FBI) 
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 11:46 AM 
To: Sullivan, Michael (1B) (FBI) 
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FW: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Mike,

Pre my VM message, I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.
From: b6 -7
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM
To: DSAC <dsac@fbi.gov>
Cc:
Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,
Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week’s CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.
Sir,

Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week's CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

//
Sir,

Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week's CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

//
Received. Thank you very much!

On Jan 11, 2021 2:55 PM, "Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)" wrote:

Sir,

Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week’s CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.
Hi Mike,

I'm not sure I know how to respond to your email. :)) I know we're both trying to do the right thing to accomplish the same goals. I hope you don't mind if I throw out a few ideas.

On Jan 11, 2021, at 11:27 AM, Sullivan, Michael (IB) (FBI) wrote:

Hi

I honestly don't know how to respond to your e-mail.
Hi Mike,

Regarding what the FBI wanted
On Jan 11, 2021, at 10:31 AM, Sullivan, Michael (1B) {FBI} wrote:

Jim:

Thanks. The DSAC team shared it with me.

On the other side

Please call with any questions. Always happy to discuss.......Mike

From: Sullivan, Michael (1B) {FBI}
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 11:46 AM
To: Sullivan, Michael (1B) {FBI}
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] - FW: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Mike,

Pre my VM message, I wanted you to be aware of this email, which is probably representative of fairly widespread anxiety in corporate C-suites.

I am happy to support in way that I can.

<image001.png>
From: [Email Address]
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:30 AM
To: DSAC <dsac@fbi.gov>
Cc: 

Subject: DSAC on Capitol violence and possible follow-up corp impact

Thanks,
From: Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)  
Subject: RE: CICC Talking Points  
To: Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)  
Sent: January 11, 2021 4:09 PM (JT-05:00)  

Thanks George.

Sherri E. Onks  
Office of the Director  
Office  
Cell  
Email

From: Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 2:56 PM  
To:  
Cc: Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)  
Subject: RE: CICC Talking Points

Thanks

From:  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 2:44 PM  
To: Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)  
Cc: Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)  
Subject: CICC Talking Points

Sir,

Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week’s CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.
is working on this now and will get it back to you ASAP.

On Jan 11, 2021 4:09 PM, "Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)" wrote:
Thanks George.

Sir,

Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week’s CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

//
From:  
Subject:  House Committee  
Leadership Briefing on  
Capitol Riot  
To:  Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI);  
D’Antuono, Steven  
Michael (WF) (FBI);  
Cc:  
Dunham,  
Christopher G. (OCA)  
(FBI)  
Sent:  January 11, 2021 4:44  
PM (UTC-05:00)  
PRESENTER DIAL IN:  

Presenters are asked to connect a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the conference start time.  
When the speakers are connected, the conference specialist will do a brief sound check for your line.  
You will also be asked to review the following items: verify conference title, the first speaker’s name and pronunciations of other speakers’ names, Q&A restrictions or priority questioners, who will read the safe harbor language, any questions regarding special services or requests.  

Both calls utilize same call-in information. Should folks staff our execs, that number is  
Participants should ask to be connected to the call.
Subject: House Committee Leadership Briefing on Capitol Riot
Location: Telcal
Start: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 11:30 AM
End: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 12:30 PM
Show Time As: Tentatively accepted
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Not yet responded
Organizer: 
Required Attendees: Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI); D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WF) (FBI);
Optional Attendees: 
| Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) |

**PRESENTER DIAL IN:**

Presenters are asked to connect a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the conference start time. When the speakers are connected, the conference specialist will do a brief sound check for your line. You will also be asked to review the following items: verify conference title, the first speaker's name and pronunciations of other speakers' names, Q&A restrictions or priority questioners, who will read the safe harbor language, any questions regarding special services or requests.

Both calls utilize same call-in information. Should folks staff our execs, that number is 

Participants should ask to be connected to the call.
CAPITOL ATTACK

"THE NATIONAL SECURITY APPARATUS IS A BLACK HOLE RIGHT NOW": AS LAW ENFORCEMENT CLAMS UP, JOURNALISTS ARE FILLING THE CAPITOL-SIEGE INFO VACUUM

News outlets are providing harrowing details from inside the January 6 attack while engaged in a digital manhunt, fielding reader tips and mining social media to ID pro-Trump rioters. Meanwhile, says one reporter, "there’s almost silence" from government agencies.

BY JOE POMPEO

JANUARY 11, 2021
Image may contain Human Person Crowd Clothing Apparel and Helmet
BY VICTOR J. BLUE/BLOOMBERG/GETTY IMAGES.

Five days after a mob of pro-Trump extremists invaded the United States Capitol building, federal law enforcement agencies tasked with investigating the historic security breach have failed to adequately brief the press. "The national security apparatus is a black hole right now," said Spencer Ackerman, who covers national security for the Daily Beast. "We’ve yet to get much in the way of substance out of the FBI or DHS, and a lot of opacity remains about what exactly happened with the D.C. National Guard."

Journalists have helped fill the information vacuum. Deeply reported accounts of the siege have been published in major news outlets, providing a flurry of revelations that the situation was even more dire and horrifying than initially thought. Reporters and lawmakers have shared stories of hunkering down in offices and secure locations while the mob ran wild around them. Harrowing footage of Capitol police under attack has been broadcast on cable news and social media.

But as New York Times national security correspondent Adam Goldman noted Sunday night on Twitter: Neither "FBI Director [Christopher] Wray nor David Bowdich, the deputy director in charge of operations at the bureau, has held a news conference where reporters could ask questions. Neither has Jeffrey A. Rosen, the acting attorney general. Neither has John Demers of DOJ National Security Division.... Two prosecutors from DC, including Ken Kohl (of the Flynn case), spoke with reporters on Friday along with the top agent in the FBI Washington Field Office. They answered a few questions for about 30 minutes from select reporters. I was not one of them.... At the moment, the face/voice of this crisis appears to be Michael Sherwin, acting U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia."
I asked Goldman if the lack of official information was as stunning as it seems. “This is an extraordinary moment in American history and a terrifying one,” he said. “The U.S. Capitol was overrun. They were more than happy over the summer to come out and talk about rioting” during the Black Lives Matter protests, “but here we have an attack on the nation’s capital and there’s almost silence. How is the face of this investigation, and I say this with no disrespect to him, an acting U.S. attorney in Washington?”

Legal experts have also called out the dearth of details from law enforcement. “The silence - the sense that there is not even information accountability to the public - gives this moment a true sense of authoritarian control,” Sherrilyn Ifill, president and director-counsel of the NAACP’s Legal Defense and Educational Fund, tweeted Sunday, adding Monday that “we haven’t even had a briefing from federal law enforcement explaining what the hell is going on and how they’re going to protect this country from the planned armed marches against state capitols and D.C. between the 17th & 20th.”

The FBI, to be fair, has been keeping the public abreast as it arrests and charges people who were involved in the ragtag putsch, as well as crowdsourcing Twitter to help make identifications. (The FBI also issued a bulletin notifying law enforcement agencies about possible armed protests at all 50 state Capitols in the coming days.) But news organizations have been doing a huge amount of investigative work as well. The AP, for instance, “reviewed social media posts, voter registrations, court files, and other public records for more than 120 people either facing criminal charges related to the January 6 unrest or who, going maskless amid the pandemic, were later identified through photographs and videos taken during the melee.”

Local news outlets all over the country have likewise been pounding the digital pavement, as it were. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution tracked down and exposed McCall Calhoun, a Georgia lawyer and self-described “Anti-Communist Counter-Revolutionary” who was among the first to get through the doors. “It probably wasn’t the best idea,” he told the paper of the mob that left five people dead, including a Capitol police officer, “but it was what this group of people did; they did it for the love of America.” In Boise, Idaho, a CBS affiliate found Josiah Colt, the man who was photographed jumping down onto the floor of the Senate chamber. “I recognize my actions that have brought shame upon myself, my family, my friends, and my beautiful country,” Colt pleaded to CBS2 News. “In the moment I thought I was doing the right thing. I realize now that my actions were inappropriate, and I beg for forgiveness from America and my home state of Idaho.”

At the Times, Goldman has spent most of the past several days going down digital rabbit holes, as his secure email address has been flooded with tips from enterprising readers. In one such exercise Goldman spent five hours trying to connect the dots of the man who was photographed traipsing around the Capitol with an enormous Confederate flag. When he finally called the individual his reporting had led him to, it turned out to be the wrong guy. “He was shocked,” said Goldman.

But these efforts do bear fruit. In another case Goldman and his colleagues pinpointed Robert Keith Packer, the man who was seen wearing a “Camp Auschwitz” T-shirt. (Packer also was identified by CNN.) They had a stringer knocking on doors in Packer’s Virginia neighborhood in no time. “What’s amazing about this,” said Malachy Browne, who oversees visual investigations for the Times, “was that the media were hunted away from the area around the Capitol, and yet the protesters documented it from every different angle, incriminating themselves.”
In some cases the rioters have maybe made it a little too easy for reporters and law enforcement officials. Richard Barnett, the Arkansas man who was photographed with his feet kicked up on Nancy Pelosi’s desk, gave an interview to Times reporter Matthew Rosenberg right after he emerged from the Capitol building. Still pulsing with adrenaline, his face puffy from pepper spray, the front of his flannel shirt ripped open to expose a hairy bare chest, Barnett held up a piece of mail he had pilfered from the Speaker’s office and allowed Rosenberg to take his picture, which the Times then published. “I wrote her a nasty note,” Barnett bragged. He was arrested two days later.

Brian P. Hale
Assistant Director
Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
FBI
Thanks!

Sherri E. Onks
Office of the Director

From: Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 4:43 PM
To: Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: CICC Talking Points

...is working on this now and will get it back to you ASAP.

On Jan 11, 2021 4:09 PM, "Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)" wrote:

Thanks George.

Sherri E. Onks
Office of the Director

From: Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 2:56 PM
To: 
Cc: Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: CICC Talking Points

Thanks

From: 
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 2:44 PM
To: Beach, George P. (OPE) (FBI)
Cc: Onks, Sherri E. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: CICC Talking Points

Sir,
Below are the talking points that the Director used for last week's CICC call. Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

Thank you.
Sirs,

Please find attached the 10 January 2021 external SITREP.

Thank you.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
STRATEGIC INFORMATION & OPERATIONS CENTER

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS NOTIFICATION

On behalf of the National Crisis Coordination Center (NC3) and the WFO command post supporting ongoing investigative activity associated with the violence and criminal activity that occurred on 6 January 2021 at the US Capitol and as appropriate, we are sending the following guidance regarding. To ensure that the FBI has the most complete picture, nationwide, of our collective efforts, all field offices are asked to as appropriate.
As a reminder, if you respond to this message, please do not "Reply All."

This message and any attachments are for situational awareness and may be confidential/legally privileged. If you received this in error, please delete, do not disseminate further, and notify SIOC immediately.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
From: SIOC
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2021 4:29 PM
To: Vorndran, Kevin {CTD} {FBI} [mailto:kevin.vorndran@fbi.gov] (FBI)
Cc: Kelly, Kristyn E. {CTD} (FBI); Gilhooly, Brian T. (CTD) (FBI); Brown, Paul W. (WMDD) (FBI); Dunham, Timothy M. (CID) (FBI); Carlisle, Travis D. (DI) (FBI); Yager, Howard P. (DI) (FBI); Jensen, Steven J. (CTD) (FBI); Byrd, Rachel A. (WMDD) (FBI); Williams, Justin W. (WMDD) (FBI); Hart, Megan L. (DI) (FBI); Formby, Jermicha L. (CID) (FBI); Moore, Jennifer L. (WF) (FBI); Dawson, James A. (WF) (FBI); Alcoke, Matthew R. (WF) (FBI); Downey, Jeffrey R. (CIRG) (FBI); Lewis, Kwame (DI) (FBI); Hardiman, Kellie M. (DI) (FBI); Cohen, Brian M. (CID) (FBI)

Subject: NC3 NOTIFICATION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
STRATEGIC INFORMATION & OPERATIONS CENTER

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS NOTIFICATION

On behalf of the National Crisis Coordination Center (NC3) and the WFO command post supporting ongoing investigative activity associated with the violence and criminal activity that occurred on 6 January 2021 at the US Capitol and we are sending the following guidance regarding as appropriate.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO
This message and any attachments are for situational awareness and may be confidential/legally privileged. If you received this in error, please delete, do not disseminate further, and notify SIOC immediately.

UNCLASSIFIED/LES-
NATIONAL ISSUES

Protests Bulletin: OPA — Multiple outlets asked about an ABC report saying the FBI issued a bulletin of some type about expected protests in all 50 states. OPA provided the following statement: "While our standard practice is to not comment on specific intelligence products, the FBI is supporting our state, local, and federal law enforcement partners with maintaining public safety in the communities we serve. Our efforts are focused on identifying, investigating, and disrupting individuals that are inciting violence and engaging in criminal activity. As we do in the normal course of business, we are gathering information to identify any potential threats and are sharing that information with our partners. The FBI respects the rights of individuals to peacefully exercise their First Amendment rights. Our focus is not on peaceful protesters, but on those threatening their safety and the safety of other citizens with violence and destruction of property."

Congressional Briefings: OPA — CNN asked if the FBI is briefing members of Congress about events at the Capitol on Jan. 6. OPA declined comment.

No-Fly List: OPA — The New York Times asked if the FBI or other agencies have placed anyone involved with the U.S. Capitol riots on the No-Fly List, what penalties are in place regarding those involved, and if social media clips of people being arrested at airports relates to their behavior at the U.S. Capitol. OPA declined comment.

Proud Boys Designation: OPA — Business Insider asked if the U.S. is considering designating the Proud Boys as a terrorist organization after remarks made by the Canadian Public Safety Minister announcing it is considering doing so. OPA advised that the FBI does not and cannot designate domestic terrorist groups and provided relevant background information.


U.S. CAPITOL VIOLENCE

Baltimore — Received several inquiries from local media about any possible arrests from the Capitol violence. PAS declined to comment and advised we are encouraging the public to provide tips and information to fbi.gov/USCapitol and 1-800-CALL-FBI.

Cleveland — Received numerous inquiries about a search conducted at the residence of a woman identified in the photos from inside the Capitol last Wednesday. PAS confirmed law enforcement activity at the location with no one being taken into custody at the time.

Dallas — Continue to receive inquiries about the arrest of Larry Brock Jr., who was arrested on Sunday in
Grapevine for taking part in the U.S. Capitol attack. In coordination with Washington Field and NPO, the arrest was confirmed and a DOJ press release was sent to the media. Dallas declined to comment on potential suspects residing in North Texas and instead reminded the public to submit tips via 1-800-CALL-FBI and fbi.gov/uscapitol.

El Paso — Multiple local and national outlets asked about FBI El Paso’s role in investigating tips from the events at the U.S. Capitol. PAO referred inquiries to Washington Field.

Indianapolis — The CW affiliate asked if Indianapolis was investigating or arresting Hoosiers who may have participated in the violence at the Capitol on Jan. 6. PAO provided the following statement: “Like FBI field offices across the country, FBI Indianapolis is receiving tips regarding Hoosiers who may have been at the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., Jan. 6. Any subjects that are arrested/indicted will be prosecuted by the United States Attorney’s Office in Washington, D.C.”

Louisville – Received numerous inquiries from local reporters about the violence at the U.S. Capitol, and if Louisville has been involved in any arrests in our area. Louisville declined to comment.

Miami — Sun Sentinel reporter Austen Erblat wanted to know if South Florida registered nurse Moises K. Romero was under investigation for his alleged involvement in the U.S. Capitol unrest based on videos posted to his Twitter account. Additionally, WPTV reporter Meghan McRoberts wanted to know if former Fort Pierce police officer Nicholes Lentz was being investigated for his alleged involvement as well. Miami referred both reporters to WFO without comment.

Omaha — Received multiple local media requests for information on Douglas Jensen’s first court appearance. He faces five federal charges stemming from the Capitol building violence. PAO referred media to the USAO-District of Columbia.

Sacramento — A Bakersfield newspaper asked us to confirm the identity of the woman in photo #21. We declined.

Salt Lake City — Montana media outlets asked about Montanans who attended the protests at the U.S. Capitol last week turning themselves into local authorities and the FBI. PAO referred reporters to NPO and WFO.

OTHER LOCAL STORIES

Multiple field offices – The following field offices reported media requests to confirm reports that the FBI issued a bulletin of some type about expected protests in all 50 states: Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Louisville, Miami, Omaha, Philadelphia, Sacramento, Salt Lake City, and St. Louis. Field offices either forwarded the request to NPO or provided the statement NPO released late in the afternoon.

Albuquerque — Continued local media interest into whether the FBI is investigating Couy Griffin, the founder of Cowboys 4 Trump. The Otero County commissioner was at the president’s rally before the Capitol incident and has made controversial comments on social media. CBS affiliate and Alamogordo Daily News asked if the FBI was investigating Griffin. PAO advised the FBI does not confirm or deny investigations, but reminds members of the public to immediately contact law enforcement should they receive threats of any kind.

Baltimore — Local media inquiries regarding an alleged FBI Bulletin circulating on Twitter warning of an “armed group” traveling to Washington, D.C., and a “huge uprising” if Congress attempts to remove POTUS from office. PAS declined to comment.
Baltimore — After a press conference by the Maryland governor, a Baltimore Sun reporter asked if FBI Baltimore is assisting with the inauguration as well as protection of the Maryland State House. PAST [advised FBI Baltimore will assist our federal, state, and local partners as needed.]

Birmingham — SAC Sharp participated in a press conference hosted by the Alabama attorney general announcing a multi-agency alliance to combat human trafficking in Alabama. Sharp provided the following quote for the press release: “The most effective way to investigate human trafficking is through a collaborative, multi-agency approach with our federal, state, local and tribal partners. The FBI remains committed to working with our partners in combating this heinous crime that exploits the most vulnerable in society.”

Cleveland — WEWS interviewed ASAC Todd Krajeck about the newly formed safe streets gang task force in Cleveland. Krajeck discussed the rising violent crime rates in Cleveland and the need for additional resources for collaborative efforts. Several drive-by shootings into homes resulting in the death of innocent bystanders, including minors, have been attributable to gang retaliation. Krajeck emphasized the need for the public’s assistance with confidential tips to keep their neighborhoods safe.

Cleveland — Received numerous calls were received today about social media posts from people in Cleveland’s AOR espousing different viewpoints. PAO emphasized the right to freedom of speech and that citizens are allowed to express their beliefs. They are not permitted to engage in criminal activity; law enforcement will get involved if people engage in criminal activity or threaten to engage in criminal activity. Law enforcement does not police beliefs or opinions that do not involve engaging in or threatening to engage in illegal acts.

Los Angeles — In a case heavily publicized locally last week, the FBI’s Fugitive Task Force developed information over the weekend that led to the location of Herbert Nixon Flores, a suspect wanted for the murder of his ex-girlfriend last Wednesday. Nixon Flores died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound before police could apprehend him. FBI Los Angeles and police in Irving, Texas, fielded press inquiries. Irving police issued a press release with details. A “deceased” banner was placed on the Nixon Flores wanted poster on fbi.gov.

Seattle — The Fox affiliate asked Friday about 14 passengers on Alaska Airlines flight 1085 from Dulles to SEATAC on Thursday. Fox asked about reports of the passengers verbally attacking flight attendants, being unwilling to wear masks, and traveling from the protest in Washington, D.C. FBI Seattle acknowledged we were aware of the incident, do not confirm nor deny investigations per DOJ policy, and encouraged the public to provide tips related to Capitol violence at fbi.gov/USCapitol, 1-800-CALL-FBI, or online at tips.fbi.gov.

* * *

Please send all Horizon submissions to [ ] with “Horizon” in the Subject line, and press releases to [ ]

All correspondence contained in this email, to include all names and associated contact information, may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO

FBI(21cv558)-3008
Sirs,

Here is a draft of the SPEAR running tomorrow in the Director’s Briefing Book. We are one of the co-authors.

I do not have the final version yet.
Folks,

As promised, I am attaching a rough draft write-up of the Director's meeting with the Gang of Four tonight. Hope it helps as you prepare for tomorrow's briefings.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Stanley,

I know this was on the Deputy’s radar this morning.
Thanks,

Mike C
If helpful for tomorrow

Jill Sanborn
Federal Bureau of Investigation

-------- Forwarded message --------
From:                  
Date: Jan 11, 2021 7:10 PM
Subject: Gang of 4 Notes
To: "D'Antuono, Steven Michael (WE) (FBI)" | "Sanborn, Jill (CTD) (FBI)"
Cc: "Dunham, Christopher G. (OCA) (FBI)"
Folks,

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