

Washington State Fusion Center  
**INFOCUS**

WEDNESDAY – 10 JAN 2018



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**Event Calendar**

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| Date                          | Event   | Location/Time   | Other Information   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 9-13 Apr 2018                 | LEIU/IALEIA Training Event  | Marriott Hotel, 700 West Convention Way<br>Anaheim, CA 92801 (714) 750-8000 | <a href="http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php">http://www.ialeia.org/2018_conference.php</a> |
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**Events, Opportunities**

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| HEADLINE | <b>01/09 NYPD union sues over body-cam videos</b>  |
| SOURCE   | <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/09/nyregion/new-york-police-union-body-camera-lawsuit.html">https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/09/nyregion/new-york-police-union-body-camera-lawsuit.html</a>  |
| GIST     | <p>When a New York City police officer shoots a civilian, should the public see video of the shooting captured on police body cameras? Or should that footage be shielded the same way that performance evaluations and disciplinary actions are?</p> <p>The issue is at the heart of a lawsuit filed on Tuesday in State Supreme Court in Manhattan by the city’s largest police union, the Patrolmen’s Benevolent Association. As the city moves ahead with its plan to equip all patrol officers with body cameras by the end of 2019, the union, which represents nearly two-thirds of the city’s 36,000 officers, is seeking to stop the Police Department from releasing the resulting footage without a court order.</p> <p>The Police Department considers releasing body camera video of “critical incidents,” like police shootings, on a case-by-case basis. The police commissioner makes the final decision after consulting with the district attorney in the borough where the shooting took place.</p> <p>So far, the Police Department, under Commissioner James P. O’Neill, has released edited footage of three police shootings, including two that were fatal. But in the lawsuit, union lawyers argue that the videos — raw or edited — are personnel records shielded from public disclosure by Section 50-a of the state Civil Rights law, a statute that also protects officers’ performance evaluations and disciplinary records.</p> <p>Patrick J. Lynch, the union president, said in a statement announcing the lawsuit that the releases were arbitrary and illegal.</p> <p>“This footage has serious implications not only for the safety and due process rights of police officers, but for the privacy and rights of members of the public, as well,” he said. He accused Mayor Bill de Blasio and the Police Department of showing “reckless disregard” for those concerns and for state law.</p> <p>The issue of what the public is permitted to see runs through the national debate over body cameras, as police departments, officers’ unions, lawmakers and watchdog organizations wrestle over what makes for the best policy.</p> <p>The 50-a statute was intended to protect officers from exploitation and abuse. The city’s interpretation has expanded under Mr. de Blasio, a Democrat elected on promises of police reform, and the state’s highest court has affirmed the broader interpretation.</p> <p>The Police Department has cited the 50-a statute as the reason for refusing to turn over body camera video to journalists who have requested it under the state Freedom of Information Law. But in statements confirming that the city was reviewing the lawsuit, officials stood by the decision to release some videos to the public.</p> <p>“The mayor and the police commissioner have spoken to the need for increasing transparency into the way our city is policed,” Austin Finan, a spokesman for Mr. de Blasio, said. “The release of body camera footage, when possible, is an important extension of that commitment.”</p> <p>Robert J. Freeman, the executive director of the state Committee on Open Government, who has called for the 50-a statute to be amended or repealed, said the lawsuit was an attempt by the union to further shield police officers from public accountability.</p> <p>“You have this myth that the disclosure of information relating to the performance of the duties of a public employee in some way relates to that person’s personal privacy,” he said. “Not so. Not so. The record that indicates my salary is about me, but it’s not personal. It’s about me as a public employee.”</p> <p>The police union, like others in Boston and Seattle, has resisted body cameras for its officers. Officials considered taking legal action against the city during contract negotiations last year until the city agreed to</p> |

give a raise for officers who would be required to wear them.

While the police union would rather not see the videos released at all, prosecutors prefer that decision to be made after they have completed investigations and decided if criminal charges are warranted. And police-reform advocates have pushed for a standardized process that would allow more videos to be made public.

Darius Charney, the lead lawyer in a 2008 lawsuit that challenged the Police Department’s stop-and-frisk tactics and led to a court-ordered body camera pilot, said the videos should be considered official reports, no different from what officers file each time they conduct a stop, arrest or other enforcement action.

Richard M. Aborn, the president of the Citizens Crime Commission of New York City, a criminal justice policy nonprofit, said that whether the statute applies to body camera video may depend on whether the Police Department plans to use it to evaluate officers’ performances or make disciplinary decisions.

“What is crystal clear is the right of the public to see these videos and hear reports from the government about what happened in these shootings is paramount, and the courts have got to find a way to expeditiously resolve any dispute and allow the dissemination of this information,” he said. “So to me, this is about speed.”

Getting video released quickly, or explaining why it is being withheld, is crucial to quelling public skepticism, he said.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/outpouring-of-support-on-law-enforcement-appreciation-day-in-wake-of-deputys-death">http://komonews.com/news/local/outpouring-of-support-on-law-enforcement-appreciation-day-in-wake-of-deputys-death</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>SEATTLE - Walking through Pike Place Market Tuesday, Seattle police Officers Matthew Clark and Michael Larned were saluted.</p> <p>People shook the beat officers’ hands, others thanked them. All of this just a day and a half after the slaying of a Pierce County sheriff’s deputy.</p> <p>Deputy Daniel McCartney was killed in a shootout late Sunday. His casket was honored in a procession Tuesday.</p> <p>Steven Brown, who lives in Belltown, shook the Seattle officers’ hands at Pike Place.</p> <p>“They’re putting their lives on the line to make sure everyone is safe,” Brown said.</p> <p>Clark and Larned wore thin black bands on their badges in honor of McCartney.</p> <p>“It’s nice to get the occasional thank you and that extra bit of appreciation,” Larned said about the handshakes and appreciation.</p> <p>Clark added that the gratitude is something they never expect.</p> <p>“I took the job to help people and I put myself in, we put ourselves in, compromising positions to do so,” said Clark.</p> <p>Larned, who has been with Seattle police for 12 years, said that anytime an officer is killed there is an outpouring of support from the public.</p> <p>Penny Brenton, whose son Timothy, was killed while patrolling Seattle’s Central Area in 2009, left a gift</p> |

for her local police – the Lynnwood Police Department. She wanted to honor national Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and to let the officers know she was thinking of them after the Pierce County shooting.

For Brenton McCartney’s death struck her especially hard. McCartney was the father of three young boys, her own son was the parent of two grade school-age children when he was shot to death in his own patrol car.

Law Enforcement Appreciation Day was created by the Missouri-based Concerns of Police Survivors to honor officers. The group asks people to send cards, wear blue, host a rally or share a “positive” story about an interaction with police every January 9.

Jaison Scott, who is one of Pike Place Market’s famed fish throwers, was happy to have a little fun with Officer Matthew Clark on a day that has been so somber for many members of local law enforcement.

“I have kids and a family and I really appreciate what they do, it’s sad when that happens,” Scott said about the line of duty death.

A few feet away from where Scott coached Clark how to throw fish a man who only gave the name “Sailor Bob” stood at attention. The man saluted the two Seattle officers and said McCartney was in his thoughts.

“They are serving. They serve us. They protect us. In return, I honor them,” he said.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/10 State of protest in 2018</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://flagpole.com/news/democracy-in-crisis/2018/01/10/the-state-of-protest-in-2018">http://flagpole.com/news/democracy-in-crisis/2018/01/10/the-state-of-protest-in-2018</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Donald Trump’s second year in office begins like every new Star Wars movie: with the Resistance in tatters, trying to rebuild. There is plenty of internet #Resistance, ranging from insane conspiracy theories to serious commentary and organizing—but this online profusion has resulted in IRL confusion.</p> <p>It’s certainly not anywhere near Homage to Catalonia levels, but dissension among the opposition to Trump is fierce. The divide is mirrored in the Bernie/Hillary split—but it is also something deeper and something that moves further to the fringes. It, in many ways, mirrors the new divisions within the far right, where the alt-lite litigiously differentiates itself from the more openly racist alt-right.</p> <p>Last year, there was the Disrupt J20 protest on Inauguration Day, which led to the prosecution of nearly 200 individuals, identified by the police and the prosecution as anarchists. The next day, hundreds of thousands of people filled the streets for the women’s march. There is little sympathy or support between these groups, with many anarchists and hardcore organizers mocking the feel-good liberal desire to #Resist by supporting the FBI, intelligence agencies and Robert Mueller. Liberals, on the other hand, attempt to distance themselves from anyone further to the left than they are for fear of being tainted by the the anarchist stench of hippies. As a result, liberals have been far more concerned about Putin’s abuse of reporters than they have about the prosecution of journalists who were covering the J20 protests.</p> <p>Though that case has been largely ignored by the mainstream press, it has had an immeasurable effect on the state of protest—and created fear, distrust and division on the left. Over the last couple weeks, some of these tensions have bubbled up in largely online debates about a real-life rally slated for Washington, DC on Jan. 27. The “People’s March on Washington,” also called “The Impeachment March,” has gained a lot of online support—25,000 are “interested” on Facebook and more than 2,000 say they are going—and it has gotten a lot of pushback.</p> <p>The rally was organized by a group called People Demand Action, which is headed up by a 24-year-old African-American man named Lawrence Nathaniel, a big-thinking, marketing-minded millennial leftist who says he worked on the Bernie Sanders campaign and, after he got over his disappointment following</p> |

the primary loss, for Hillary Clinton. When Trump won, he began to think about what he could do. One of the things he set about organizing—he has a long list of sometimes improbable plans and goals, including opening a free private school in Bamberg, SC—was this march calling for the impeachment of the president.

But as interest in the march grew—and organizers began trying to raise money—so did the questions surrounding it. I first heard questions about the march when Dave Troy, a technologist and writer in Baltimore, wrote me about it. Troy is deeply concerned about Russian trolls and “active measures.” When he saw some of the confusion surrounding the event, he initially thought it might be the result of some Kremlin campaign. But when he started to look into it, he attributed the perceived failings of the organizers to inexperience rather than malfeasance.

Nathaniel has set up a number of organizations to promote the march and his various other endeavors. People have been calling them “shell organizations” or “false fronts,” but that seems a little too harsh. The one organization that has filed official papers is called the Presidential House and proposes some sort of weird shadow government in Charleston, SC with Nathaniel as president. Troy called it “unhinged, fantastical nonsense.”

“When I started the Presidential House, I started volunteering for the Obama campaign,” Nathaniel said when I called him. He acknowledged that the original scheme was kind of goofy, but said it came from his enthusiasm for Obama. “I was 16 or 17 and was very excited, and so I started something called the Presidential House to get out in my community.”

But for Nathaniel, inexperience is part of the point of protest.

“Many of us, especially young people in the political realm, don’t really get our voices heard because it’s mostly a ‘who has more experience’ type thing, versus a protest where we’re able to organize it, either locally or nationally, and our voices can be heard much easier there than working with politics,” Nathaniel said. But he said he is still interested in electoral politics and local issues. “My goal was to run for United States Congress this year, but I decided not to because Annabelle Robertson, who is way more qualified than I am, decided to run [against Republican Joe “You Lie” Wilson]. So I decided to put my action behind her and get out and protest.”

Critics point to the “Rally at the Border” in San Ysidro, CA, the only other rally Nathaniel has organized. It failed amid concerns of top-down organizing that didn’t take the needs of the community into consideration and could have put a lot of people at risk.

Once news of the border rally became public, people began demanding to see the permit for the march on Washington. Nathaniel says he has a permit and has met with D.C. police, Park Police, the Secret Service and the FBI.

But for the local organizers in San Ysidro and in D.C., working with the authorities is precisely the problem. Washington’s police department threw more than 70 grenades and emptied hundreds of canisters of pepper spray against protesters at the Disrupt J20 protest during the inauguration. At a right-wing rally recently, Park Police claimed to be working with right-wing militias.

“In D.C., we do not like interfacing with police,” Brendan Orsinger, an organizer in D.C., said on the phone. “We don’t like the idea of the state giving permission for us to march. And we don’t need it... It’s actually much safer not to have police involved in the planning of the march.”

Orsinger has been vociferous in his criticism of the march. But like Troy, he doesn’t see a conspiracy. “There are good intentions here. But one of the things that I learned over the last year is that good intentions are not good enough to make change happen in this country,” he said.

This raises the larger question: What are protests for? The prosecution of the nearly 200 people charged with rioting after the inauguration may have had a chilling effect, but it has also shown the effectiveness of

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|                                      | <p>protest—if the U.S. Attorney’s office works that hard to shut them down, then they must have some power. So, the question becomes: How can a larger movement bring Russiagaters like Troy, local grassroots organizers like Orsinger and enthusiastic young people like Nathaniel together? If people really want to resist and not just #Resist, they need to answer this question while embracing a diversity of tactics and figuring out how to form coalitions.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 Potential landslide date pushed back</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/potential-rattlesnake-ridge-landslide-date-pushed-back/281-505365303">http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/potential-rattlesnake-ridge-landslide-date-pushed-back/281-505365303</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>State geologists are now saying they don't expect a landslide event at Rattlesnake Ridge in Yakima County until late January at the earliest. That's about two weeks later than first expected, which would have been this weekend.</p> <p>The old timeline was sometime between January 14 and February 28. The new timeline is between late January and early March.</p> <p>"The honest answer is no one knows for certain. There are a number of possibilities. The most likely scenario is that the landslide will continue to slowly move to the south, where the landslide mass will fall into the quarry pit and accumulate. Monitoring data suggests most of the mass will remain in the pit and on the hillside," the Washington state Department of Natural Resources said on its website.</p> <p>Some rocks are expected to fall and reach nearby Thorp Road, but not Interstate 82 or the Yakima River.</p> <p>They say "less likely scenarios" are that the landslide moves beyond the quarry and damage houses or run out beyond I-82. "A landslide that moves west and blocks I-82 and the Yakima River is extremely unlikely."</p> <p>Geologists have been watching the situation since early October when state geologist Dave Norman says a rock quarry company, Columbia Asphalt and Gravel, contacted the DNR to say they'd found a crack in the wall of the quarry, correlating to a growing crack that was threatening to bring down part of a hillside above I-82.</p> <p>Homes in the area have been evacuated and the quarry company is paying to put them up in hotels. Old steel shipping containers full of heavy concrete barricades are protecting the interstate from falling rock, but may not prevent a full-blown slide from reaching the highway.</p> <p>The slide is being monitored by laser to measure movement and by seismometers which are recording cracks and other sounds.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Yakima emergency operations to county</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://kimatv.com/news/local/yakima-turns-over-emergency-operations-to-the-county">http://kimatv.com/news/local/yakima-turns-over-emergency-operations-to-the-county</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>YAKIMA, Wash. - Almost three years after becoming its own independent emergency management division, the city of Yakima has decided to rejoin the county's team.</p> <p>As of January 1, Yakima is operating under the county's emergency operations center, meaning they will use the one in union gap and not the new one built here in Yakima just four months ago.</p> <p>Yakima City Manager Cliff Moore said after reviewing how the city deals with emergencies such as flooding or ice storms, he thought it would be best to work with the county.</p> |

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|                                      | <p>"It made sense for the city to rejoin the regional collective," Moore said. "Just to improve our overall coordination and the ability that we have to interact with our fellow jurisdictions around the region."</p> <p>However, the city said it's old center at the police station will not go to waste.</p> <p>Police said with all the technology in the space, they plan to use the space for training staff. Yakima Police Captain Gary Jones said they will also be able to use the facility as a command center for Yakima events such as parades or demonstrations.</p> <p>"So many of those events overlap all of those divisions," Jones said. "It's just much easier to bring everybody into one room and conduct those operations in support."</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 DHS: border apprehensions down 40%</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="http://thehill.com/latino/368115-dhs-border-apprehensions-down-40-percent-in-trumps-first-year">http://thehill.com/latino/368115-dhs-border-apprehensions-down-40-percent-in-trumps-first-year</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on Tuesday released its final border apprehension numbers for calendar year 2017, showing a 40 percent drop from the previous year's total.</p> <p>The Border Patrol apprehended 351,084 people attempting illegal crossings in 2017, compared to 614,739 in 2016.</p> <p>"The final border apprehension numbers of 2017, specifically at the southern border, undeniably prove the effectiveness of President Trump's commitment to securing our borders," said DHS acting press secretary Tyler Houlton in a statement. "This administration has overseen a 40 percent decrease in 2017 compared with the last year of Obama's presidency."</p> <p>DHS normally presents its numbers by fiscal year, counted from October to September, but normal migration patterns changed abruptly following President Trump's inauguration in January of 2017.</p> <p>There were 415,191 border apprehensions in fiscal year 2017, a 26 percent decrease from the 563,204 apprehensions in fiscal year 2016.</p> <p>Border apprehension numbers are used as the standard indicator for the number of illegal crossing attempts.</p> <p>Despite the decrease, the numbers showed an uptick in October, November and December of 2017.</p> <p>The Border Patrol apprehended 40,513 people attempting illegal crossings in December, the highest total since Trump's first full month in office in February. The December numbers are a 30 percent drop from the 58,412 detentions in December of 2016.</p> <p>"U.S. Border Patrol apprehensions in Fiscal Year 2017 were at the lowest level in 45 years," said Houlton. "The significant increase over the last month in the number of family units and unaccompanied children coming across the border illegally highlights the dire need for Congress to immediately adopt responsible pro-American immigration reforms."</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/10 Catalan separatists agree re-elect deal</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://apnews.com/e773efc7eddc4fc0886b5c5047fd5e0b/Catalan-separatists-agree-deal-to-re-elect-Puigdemont">https://apnews.com/e773efc7eddc4fc0886b5c5047fd5e0b/Catalan-separatists-agree-deal-to-re-elect-Puigdemont</a> |
| <b>GIST</b>     | MADRID (AP) — Catalonia's main separatist parties say they have agreed to re-elect fugitive Carles Puigdemont as president of the region later this month.  |

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|                                      | <p>Puigdemont, who has been in Brussels since he was sacked in October over an attempt to secede from Spain, faces immediate arrest if he returns home.</p> <p>A spokesman with Puigdemont’s Together for Catalonia ticket said that the separatist politician secured the backing of the left-republican ERC party Tuesday evening in Brussels.</p> <p>An ERC spokesman also confirmed the deal, adding that Puigdemont will propose to speak via video conference to the regional parliament later this month or have a fellow party lawmaker read the mandatory speech that candidates to the regional leadership need to deliver before voting.</p> <p>Both spoke anonymously because they weren’t authorized to be identified in news reports.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Wary Pentagon watches talks in Korea</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/9/pentagon-watches-talks-in-korea/">https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/9/pentagon-watches-talks-in-korea/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>The Pentagon is taking a backseat in order to give space to sensitive new military talks between ally South Korea and a North Korean regime that has threatened the U.S. with nuclear devastation.</p> <p>The restrained approach comes as some private analysts warn the North — which has already said its nuclear programs won’t be up for discussion in the bilateral talks — could use the military talks to try to drive a wedge between Seoul and Washington.</p> <p>Senior service leaders and Defense Department officials have withheld comment on a reported deal between the two Koreas to end up a long diplomatic freeze with talks on improved communication links, military issues and the upcoming Winter Olympic Games in South Korea. U.S. officials did, however, reiterate the military’s public support for the political effort being led by the State Department to address the North’s provocations and its nuclear ambitions.</p> <p>The Pentagon’s focus “continues to be a diplomatic and economic effort” to constrain the regime of Kim Jong Un, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson told reporters Tuesday.</p> <p>Adm. Richardson declined to comment on whether military to military engagements between North and South Korea could ease international pressure on Pyongyang or whether the burgeoning talks could affect U.S. military operations in the Pacific.</p> <p>But the North Korean negotiators at times appeared to be explicitly trying to separate South Korea from its ally in Washington. Chief North Korean delegate Ri Son Gwon noted Tuesday his country’s nuclear weapons are aimed at the United States, not South Korea.</p> <p>“All our state-of-the-art strategic weapons like atomic bombs, hydrogen bombs and intercontinental ballistic rockets are completely targeting the United States. They are not targeting our compatriots” in the South, Mr. Ri said at the border village of Panmunjom where the talks were held, according to the Associated Press.</p> <p>South Korea’s president said Wednesday he’s open to meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un if certain conditions are met, as he vowed to push for more talks with the North to resolve the nuclear standoff.</p> <p>South Korean President Moon Jae-in won election last year on a platform of expanded outreach to the North, a hope that was cut short as continued nuclear and missile tests by Pyongyang sent tensions soaring. But some fear Mr. Moon is now too eager to ease the standoff on the peninsula. According to wire reports, the South Korean leader said Wednesday he’s open to meeting with his North Korean counterpart if certain conditions are met. The overture came one day after the two Koreas held their first high-level</p> |



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|                               | meeting in about two years.<br><br>State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told reporters in Washington Tuesday that the U.S. government welcomed the talks on the Olympics, and was consulting with Seoul to ensure that any agreement does not violate U.N. sanctions imposed over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons, the AP reported. |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 Seattle bikeshares new electric bicycles</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://mynorthwest.com/863590/new-electric-bike-bikeshare-seattle/">http://mynorthwest.com/863590/new-electric-bike-bikeshare-seattle/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>Two of the three private bikeshare companies in Seattle are hyping their latest model — an electric bike. It would be a first for Seattle and make their bikes the best way to get around town.</p> <p>Both Limebike and Spin are slated to put electric-assisted bikes on the road, adding to Seattle's range of transportation options from rideshares to bikeshares. But if previous bike races through town have proved anything, an electric bike could become the swiftest way to get around town, having the advantage of electric-assistance.</p> <p>GeekWire ran a 5-mile race from Fremont to Pioneer Square in September. The top methods of transportation were Onewheel and a bikeshare ride. The bikeshare in this case was a Spin bike — it took 37 minutes to make the trip. The Onewheel is exactly what it sounds like — one wheel, powered by an electric battery and appearing like a skateboard — took 31 minutes to finish GeekWire's race. The Onewheel is essentially an electric-assisted vehicle akin to an electric bike. But an electric bike wasn't available for the race in September.</p> <p>The Stranger ran a similar race in 2014 between Capitol Hill and the University District. A personal bike made the trip in 15 minutes. A Pronto bikeshare ride, however, took 32 minutes, but that relied on a station-to-station system.</p> <p>Putting stationless, electric-powered rides in Seattle will give bikeshares the edge over cars, transit, and regular bikes. Hills won't be a problem and speed will be considerably greater. And best of all — no parking.</p> <p><b>LimeBike</b></p> <p>Limebike's "Lime-E" is one such electric bike. Starting this month, the company plans to roll them out in Seattle, Miami, Scottsdale, Southern California, and the greater San Francisco Bay Area. It is unclear exactly which day the new bikes will be available in Seattle.</p> <p>A Lime-E bike is a little more expensive to use than LimeBike's traditional rides. It will cost \$1 to unlock the bike, and then an additional \$1 every 10 minutes after that. During those 10 minutes, however, riders get an extra boost. The bikes can travel as fast as 15 mph. The company says they can easily climb 30 degree hills that are common in Seattle.</p> <p><b>Spin</b></p> <p>There is no word on when Spin's electric bike will make its Seattle debut. So far, the company has plans to first launch them in Miami, University of California San Diego, and the Rochester Institute of Technology.</p> <p>Like LimeBike, Spin's electric bike can also travel up to 15 mph. They can go up to 50 miles on a charge. According to TechCrunch, Spin's operations teams will travel around and swap out the batteries.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Vancouver cancels lease for oil terminal</b> |
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| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://mynorthwest.com/863442/vancouver-officials-cancel-lease-for-proposed-oil-terminal/">http://mynorthwest.com/863442/vancouver-officials-cancel-lease-for-proposed-oil-terminal/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP) — The port of Vancouver’s Board of Commissioners has voted unanimously to put an end date on a rolling lease that Vancouver Energy needs for an oil terminal.</p> <p>The Columbian reports Tuesday that the company must provide all necessary paperwork by March 31 or the lease will be terminated.</p> <p>A key state energy council recommended in November that Gov. Jay Inslee reject the project, so Vancouver Energy will be hard-pressed to meet the deadline.</p> <p>Inslee has until the end of February to decide the fate of the largest rail-to-marine oil terminal in the U.S.</p> <p>The joint venture of Tesoro Corporation and Savage Companies would receive about 360,000 barrels of crude oil a day by trains at the port of Vancouver.</p> <p>The lease had automatically renewed every three months until Tuesday’s action.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Procession for fallen PCSO deputy</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/crime/article193853574.html">http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/crime/article193853574.html</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>There were salutes, solemn faces and tears as the body of a fallen Pierce County sheriff’s deputy was driven to a funeral home Tuesday.</p> <p>Deputy Daniel A. McCartney, 34, lay in a flag-draped coffin as hundreds of law enforcement officers gathered at the Medical Examiner’s Office.</p> <p>More than 50 motorcycle officers idled out front of the building on Pacific Avenue while about 20 uniformed deputies stood in back, waiting for the coffin.</p> <p>A chaplain and a deputy walked McCartney’s widow to the back of the building, where they stood beside a waiting Central Pierce Fire &amp; Rescue ambulance.</p> <p>As deputies saluted, an honor guard carried McCartney’s coffin outside and carefully loaded it into the ambulance.</p> <p>A few deputies wore caps bearing the inscription, “In honor of Deputy Kent Mundell.” Mundell was shot Dec. 21, 2009, while answering a domestic violence call and died a week later.</p> <p>At 1:26 p.m. Tuesday, four motorcycle officers led the ambulance out of the parking lot and onto Pacific Avenue, kicking off the six-mile procession to Mountain View Memorial in Lakewood.</p> <p>Rachael Haskins, of Frederickson, stood on Pacific Avenue along with hundred of others. She had made a sign reading, “Thank you for keeping us safe!! Gone but not forgotten. RIP EOW Deputy McCartney.”</p> <p>It took a half-hour for the procession to wind its way down South 84th Street and onto Steilacoom Boulevard SW to the funeral home.</p> <p>Dozens of onlookers and emergency responders lined the streets along the way to pay their respects. About 100 firefighters, police officers and citizens gathered at South 84th Street and South Tacoma Way.</p> <p>“We are all family,” said West Pierce firefighter Garret Smith as he stood beside a fire truck, awaiting the procession. “So, it’s important to show solidarity.”</p> <p>Some were caught unaware by the procession. A woman walking her dog stopped in her tracks and</p> |

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|                               | <p>saluted. Another man, in a black chef's uniform, shot video on his phone.</p> <p>When the procession reached the cemetery it wound past dozens of U.S. flags and past a memorial for fallen officers.</p> <p>McCartney's casket was carried into a chapel, where it will be stood over 24 hours a day until it is taken to his funeral.</p> <p>Funeral arrangements are still being made, but officials said a service is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 18. A location has not been set.</p> <p>McCartney is the fourth law enforcement officer killed nationwide this year. He is the seventh Pierce County sheriff's deputy to die in the line of duty.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 PCSO: inaccurate suspect description</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://mynorthwest.com/863489/inaccurate-description-shooting-suspect/">http://mynorthwest.com/863489/inaccurate-description-shooting-suspect/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>After Pierce County Deputy Daniel McCartney was shot and killed on Sunday night, police spent hours searching the area for the shooting suspect. It turns out, however, that the person they were looking for was already in custody.</p> <p>Frank William Pawul, 32, was arrested just 10 blocks from the crime scene around 8:00 a.m. Monday morning, The News Tribune reported. At the time, he had three unrelated active warrants for his arrest. Pawul is being held without bail until Thursday, when formal charges of first degree murder are expected, KIRO 7 reports.</p> <p>"He had been arrested and then gave a false name to officers," KIRO Radio's Mike Lewis said on the Tom and Curley Show on Tuesday. "Officers initially had received an inaccurate description of him, so they were looking literally for someone who didn't look like this guy."</p> <p>It was the initial inaccurate description that led investigators astray throughout the day-long manhunt. Early witness details described the shooting suspect simply as "a black male."</p> <p>As police investigated Pawul, they realized his likely connection to Sunday night's shooting and called off the search. Had early details been correct, a manhunt could have been avoided.</p> <p>But the situation on Monday wasn't that unusual, Lewis said.</p> <p>"It's not always an immediate, sizable manhunt for your average crime," Lewis said. "If you talk to investigators, you'll find that they get poor descriptions all the time. Sometimes it's not intentionally poor. Sometimes people literally don't remember or they don't remember what their eyes actually saw."</p> <p>"This is why good detectives and investigators ask multiple people," he added.</p> <p>McCartney's body was escorted from the medical examiner's office in Tacoma to Mountain View Memorial Park in Lakewood.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>12/11 Trash as public property?</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.wweek.com/portland/article-1616-rubbish.html-2">http://www.wweek.com/portland/article-1616-rubbish.html-2</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <i>InFOCUS Editor: the following article was originally published 23 Dec 2002 and updated 11 Dec 2017; it is provided as a discussion point on the topic: is trash public property?</i> |

It's past midnight. Over the whump of the wipers and the screech of the fan belt, we lurch through the side streets of Southeast Portland in a battered white van, double-checking our toolkit: flashlight, binoculars, duct tape, scissors, watch caps, rawhide gloves, vinyl gloves, latex gloves, trash bags, 30-gallon can, tarpaulins, Sharpie, notebook--notebook?

Well, yes. Technically, this is a journalistic exercise--at least, that's what we keep telling ourselves. We're upholding our sacred trust as representatives of the Fourth Estate. Comforting the afflicted, afflicting the comfortable. Pushing the reportorial envelope--by liberating the trash of Portland's top brass.

We didn't dream up this idea on our own. We got our inspiration from the Portland police.

Back in March, the police swiped the trash of fellow officer Gina Hoesly. They didn't ask permission. They didn't ask for a search warrant. They just grabbed it. Their sordid haul, which included a bloody tampon, became the basis for drug charges against her (see "Gross Violation," below).

The news left a lot of Portlanders--including us--scratching our heads. Aren't there rules about this sort of thing? Aren't citizens protected from unreasonable search and seizure by the Fourth Amendment?

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office doesn't think so. Prosecutor Mark McDonnell says that once you set your garbage out on the curb, it becomes public property.

"She placed her garbage can out in the open, open to public view, in the public right of way," McDonnell told Judge Jean Kerr Maurer earlier this month. "There were no signs on the garbage, 'Do not open. Do not trespass.' There was every indication...she had relinquished her privacy, possessory interest."

Police Chief Mark Kroeker echoed this reasoning. "Most judges have the opinion that [once] trash is put out...it's trash, and abandoned in terms of privacy," he told WW.

In fact, it turns out that police officers throughout Oregon have been rummaging through people's trash for more than three decades. Portland drug cops conduct "garbage pulls" once or twice per month, says narcotics Sgt. Eric Schober.

On Dec. 10, Maurer rubbished this practice. Scrutinizing garbage, she declared, is an invasion of privacy: The police must obtain a search warrant before they swipe someone's trash.

"Personal and business correspondence, photographs, personal financial information, political mail, items related to health concerns and sexual practices are all routinely found in garbage receptacles," Maurer wrote. The fact that a person has put these items out for pick-up, she said, "does not suggest an invitation to others to examine them."

But local law enforcement officials pooh-poohed the judge's decision.

"This particular very unique and very by-herself judge took a position no in concert with the other judges who had given us instruction by their decisions across the years," said Kroeker.

The District Attorney's Office agreed and vowed to challenge the ruling.

The question of whether your trash is private might seem academic. It's not. Your garbage can is like a trap door that opens on to your most intimate secrets; what you toss away is, in many ways, just as revealing as what you keep.

And your garbage can is just one of the many places where your privacy is being pilfered. In the wake of 9/11, the U.S. government has granted itself far-reaching new powers to spy on you, from email to bank statements to video cameras (see "Big Brother's in Your Trash Can," below).

After much debate, we resolved to turn the tables on three of our esteemed public officials. We embarked on an unauthorized sightseeing tour of their garbage, to make a point about how invasive a "garbage pull" really is--and to highlight the government's ongoing erosion of people's privacy.

We chose District Attorney Mike Schrunk because his office is the most vocal defender of the proposition that your garbage is up for grabs. We chose Police Chief Mark Kroeker because he runs the bureau. And we chose Mayor Vera Katz because, as police commissioner, she gives the chief his marching orders.

Each, in his or her own way, has endorsed the notion that you abandon your privacy when you set your trash out on the curb. So we figured they wouldn't mind too much if we took a peek at theirs.

Boy, were we wrong.

Perched in his office on the 15th floor of the Justice Center, Chief Kroeker seemed perfectly comfortable with the idea of trash as public property.

"Things inside your house are to be guarded," he told WW. "Those that are in the trash are open for trash men and pickers and--and police. And so it's not a matter of privacy anymore."

Then we spread some highlights from our haul on the table in front of him.

"This is very cheap," he blurted out, frowning as we pointed out a receipt with his credit-card number, a summary of his wife's investments, an email prepping the mayor about his job application to be police chief of Los Angeles, a well-chewed cigar stub, and a handwritten note scribbled in pencil on a napkin, so personal it made us cringe. We also drew his attention to a newsletter from the conservative political advocacy group Focus on the Family, addressed to "Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kroeker."

"Are you a member of Focus on the Family?" we asked.

"No," the chief replied.

"Is your wife?"

"You know," he said, with a Clint Eastwood gaze, "it's none of your business."

As we explained our thinking, the chief, who is usually polite to a fault, cut us off in mid sentence. "OK," he said, suddenly standing up, "we're done."

Hours later, the chief issued a press release complaining that WW had gone through "my personal garbage at my home." KATU promptly took to the airwaves declaring, "Kroeker wants Willamette Week to stay out of his garbage."

If the chief got overheated, the mayor went nuclear. When we confessed that we had swiped her recycling, she summoned us to her chambers.

"She wants you to bring the trash--and bring the name of your attorney," said her press secretary, Sarah Bott.

Actually, we couldn't snatch Katz's garbage, because she keeps it right next to her house, well away from the sidewalk. To avoid trespassing, we had to settle for a bin of recycling left out front.

The day after our summons, Wednesday, Dec. 18, we trudged down to City Hall, stack of newsprint in hand. A gaggle of TV and radio reporters were waiting to greet us, tipped off by high-octane KXL motor-mouth Lars Larson.

We filed into the mayor's private conference room. The atmosphere, chilly to begin with, turned arctic

when the mayor marched in. She speared us each with a wounded glare, then hoisted the bin of newspaper and stalked out of the room--all without uttering a word.

A few moments later, her office issued a prepared statement. "I consider Willamette Week's actions in this matter to be potentially illegal and absolutely unscrupulous and reprehensible," it read. "I will consider all my legal options in response to their actions."

In contrast, DA Mike Schrunk was almost playful when we owned up to nosing through his kitchen scraps. "Do I have to pay for this week's garbage collection?" he joked.

We told Schrunk that we intended to report that his garbage contained mementos of his military service. "Don't burn me on that," he implored. "The Marine Corps will shoot me!"

It's worth emphasizing that our junkaeological dig unearthed no whiff of scandal. Based on their throwaways, the chief, the DA and the mayor are squeaky-clean, poop-scooping folks whose private lives are beyond reproach. They emerge from this escapade smelling like--well, coffee grounds.

But if three moral, upstanding, public-spirited citizens were each chewing their nails about the secrets we might have stumbled on, how the hell should the rest of us be feeling?

## HAUL OF FAME

Decked out in watch caps and rubber gloves, we are kneeling in a freezing garage and cradling our first major discovery--a five-pound bag of dog poo.

We set it down next to the rest of our haul from District Attorney Mike Schrunk's trash--the remains of Thanksgiving turkey, the mounting stack of his granddaughter's diapers, the bag of dryer lint, the tub of Skippy peanut butter, and the shredded bag of peanut M&Ms.

There is something about poking through someone else's garbage that makes you feel dirty, and it's not just the stench and the flies. Scrap by scrap, we are reverse-engineering a grimy portrait of another human being, reconstituting an identity from his discards, probing into stuff that is absolutely, positively none of our damn business.

It's one thing to revel in the hallowed tradition of muckraking. It's another to get down on your hands and knees and nose through wads of someone else's Kleenex. Is this why our parents sent us to college? So we could paw through orange peels and ice-cream tubs and half-eaten loaves of bread?

And yet, there is also something seductive, almost intoxicating, about being a Dumpster detective. For example, we spot a clothing tag marked "44/Regular." Then we find half of a torn receipt from Meier & Frank for \$262.99. Then we find the other half, which reads: "MENS SU 3BTN." String it together, and we deduce that Schrunk plunked down \$262.99 for a size-44 three-button suit at Meier & Frank on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 9:35 am.

We are getting to know Portland's top prosecutor from the inside out. Here's an empty bottle of Johnnie Walker Black Label. There's a pile of castoff duds from his days as a Marine. Is he going "soft" on terrorism!?

Chinese takeout boxes and junk-food wrappers testify to a busy lifestyle with little time to cook. A Post-it note even lays bare someone's arithmetic skills(the addition is solid, but the long division needs work).

Our haul from Mayor Vera Katz is limited to a stack of newsprint from her recycling bin--her garbage can was well out of reach--but we assemble several clues to her intellectual leanings. We find overwhelming evidence that the Mayor reads The Oregonian, The Washington Post National Weekly Edition, U.S. Mayor and the Portland Tribune.

We also stumble across a copy of TV Click in which certain programs have been circled in municipal red. If we're not mistaken, the mayor has a special fondness for dog shows, figure skating and The West Wing.

Our inspection of Chief Kroeker's refuse reveals that he is a scrupulous recycler. He is also a health nut. We find a staggering profusion of health-food containers: fat-free milk cartons, fat-free cereal boxes, cans of milk chocolate weight-loss shakes, cans of Swanson chicken broth ("99% fat free!"), water bottles, a cardboard box of protein bars, tubs of low-fat cottage cheese, a paper packet of oatmeal, and an article on "How to Live a Long Healthy Life."

At the same time, we find evidence of rust in the chief's iron self-discipline: wrappers from See's chocolate bars, an unopened bag of Doritos, a dozen perfectly edible fun-size Nestle Crunch bars, three empty Coke cans.

We unearth a crate that once contained 12 bottles of Cook's California sparkling wine, but find no trace of the bottles themselves. Is the chief building a pyramid of them on the mantelpiece? We stack the crate beside a pair of white children's socks, a broken pen, the stub of an Excalibur 1066 cigar, burnt toast, a freezer bag of date bars, orange peel, coffee grounds, a cork, an empty film canister (no weed--we checked), eggshells, Q tips, tissue paper and copious quantities of goo.

We uncrumple a holiday flier from the Hinson Memorial Baptist Church, which contains a handwritten note: "Mark. Just want you to know one Latin from Manhattan Loves You."

Invasion of privacy? This is a frontal assault, a D-Day, a Norman Conquest of privacy. We know the chief's credit-card number; we know where he buys his groceries; we know how much toilet tissue he goes through. We know whose Christmas cards he has pitched, whose wedding he skipped, whose photo he threw away. We know what newsletters he gets and how much he's socked away in the stock market. We even know he's thinking about a new car--and which models he's considering.

By the time we tag the last item (a lonesome Christmas tree angel), our noses are running and our gloves are black with gunk. We scrub our hands when we get home. But we still feel dirty. --CL

## WHAT WE FOUND

### POLICE CHIEF MARK KROEKER

\*Empty containers and wrappers: Kodiak Washington pears, Washington "extra fancy" fancy lady peaches, Oasis Floral Foam bricks ("Worth Insisting Upon") (2), KashiGo Lean! cereal, Sunshine fat-free milk, Kirkland Signature weight-loss shake, fat-free Swanson Chicken Broth, mandarin oranges, Coca-Cola, Diet Coke, Arrowhead water bottle, Cook's California sparkling-wine box, fried apples, cheese rolls, Bounty paper towels 15-roll pack, Kirkland facial tissue, 12-pack Dove soap, Quaker oatmeal, See's candy bars, lady's razors, Dentyne Ice chewing gum, Vivant zesty vegetable crackers.

\* Hershey's Cookies n Crème mini-bars, uneaten (3).

\* Several Oregonian issues, still folded.

\* Email correspondence between chief and Mayor Katz's staff in which he preps them on what to tell Los Angeles officials regarding his application to be chief there.

\* Rough draft, internal police memo.

\* Various cash-register receipts.

\* Half-full bag of fun-size Nestle Crunch bars.

\* Slice of burnt toast.

\* Photocopy of WW Nov. 13 "Murmurs" item on chief, hand-dated in blue pen, reporting scuttlebutt that Katz has "taken over the day-to-day running of the Police Bureau."

\* Half-smoked stub of an Excalibur 1066 cigar.

\* Paper cups from Starbucks and Torrefazione.

\* Pears, lettuce, grapes, bread, eggshells, goo, potato salad, wire hangers, a 75 watt light bulb, orange peels, coffee grounds, wine cork, dish rag, film canister, used Q-Tips.

\* Half-eaten protein bar, still in wrapper.

\* Newsletter from Focus on the Family, a conservative political group. Insert, addressed to "Mr. & Mrs.

Mark Kroeker." Insert asks for "one last year-end contribution."

- \* Photos of chief and a bare-chested man moving a large appliance.
- \* Creased wedding photo of a prominent Portlander.
- \* Broken pen.
- \* Three envelopes from California, hand-addressed, sent on consecutive days.
- \* Notice from mortgage company for payment.
- \* Internet printout of "How to Live a Long Healthy Life."
- \* Postcard from friend vacationing in Arizona.
- \* Post-it with notes about a new car.
- \* Extremely personal note on dinner napkin, handwritten in pencil.
- \* Account summary from Fidelity Investments for the chief's wife.

#### MAYOR VERA KATZ

- \*Trader Joe's "Happy Holidays" paper bag.
- \* Several issues of The Oregonian.
- \* Several issues of The Washington Post National Weekly Edition.
- \* A copy of U.S. Mayor (a monthly magazine devoted to mayors).
- \* A copy of TV Click. Someone has marked several programs in red, including Wargame: Iraq, Simulated National Security Council meetings, MSNBC; Everwood: Ephram tries to revive his mother's Thanksgiving traditions, KWBP; CSI Miami: A dead man is found hanging from a tree, KOIN; Life with Bonnie on KATU; The West Wing on KGW; The National Dog Show on KGW; Figure skating: ISUCup of Russia, ESPN; Biography: "Audrey Hepburn, the Fairest Lady," A&E; Figure skating: ICE WARS: USA vs. The World, KOIN.
- \* Several issues of the Portland Tribune.
- \* Daily Journal of Commerce from Dec. 3, 2002.

#### DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIKE SCHRUNK

- \* Empty containers and wrappers: Cozy Fleece Baby Blanket, Bee Cleaners, Nibbllets Corn and Butter, Johnnie Walker Black Label, Fred Meyer unflavored gelatin, Burger King beverage cup and straw, possible Chinese takeout (lots), Dreyer's Mocha Almond Fudge ice cream, Skippy peanut butter (creamy), Land's End, FredMeyer green beans, Campbell's Chunky New England Clam Chowder with 100-watt bulb inside, Meier & Frank, Jelly Belly jelly beans, Foster Farms boneless and skinless Oregon chicken thighs.
- \* Coffee grounds.
- \* Used pekoe tea bags, many.
- \* Used Christmas napkins, used Kleenex, used Q-Tips.
- \* Remains of Thanksgiving turkey carcass, drumstick intact.
- \* Remnants of roast beef.
- \* Soiled baby diapers.
- \* Plastic bags containing dog poo, very clean, with some blades of grass (2).
- \* Bag of dryer lint.
- \* Christmas wrapping paper.
- \* Orange peels, empty Millstone coffee bag, containing two very ripe but uneaten bananas, two half-eaten loaves of wheat bread.
- \* Disposable razors.
- \* Remnants of peanut M&Ms bag.
- \* Energizer AA batteries (2), wrapped in plastic bag.
- \* Shopping lists.
- \* Baseball cap with crustacean emblem: "DON'T BOTHER ME. I'm CRABBY."
- \* Baseball cap for Outward Bound.
- \* Baseball cap with embroidered green fish.
- \* Military khaki shirts with "SCHRUNK" embroidered on pocket and collar (4).
- \* Jacket, olive drab, with fading stencils of "USMC" and "Schrunk."
- \* Yellow Post-it note with sample of someone's arithmetic: The addition is successful ( $54 + 32 = 86$ ), but the long division of 32 divided by 6 comes up a little bit wide, at 5.4.



## Gross Violation

Officer Gina Hoesly has long had less privacy than the average cop, thanks to the Portland Police Bureau's rumor mill.

Hoesly, 34, has dated rock musicians, other cops and Portland Trail Blazers. She's had breast implants and once posed for a photo on a website selling motorcycle gear--badpig.com--showing plenty of skin. In 1996, she won a \$20,000 settlement from the bureau in a sexual-harassment claim based on behavior by her co-workers. But none of that comes close to the scrutiny she received in March, when fellow officers rifled through her garbage. The evidence they found led to her indictment on charges of possessing ecstasy, cocaine and methamphetamine.

Hoesly, a 13-year police officer who occasionally was an undercover decoy in police prostitution stings, became the subject of an investigation early this year, when she told police she'd been assaulted by her ex-boyfriend, Joshua David Rodriguez. Rodriguez has a history of drug arrests and convictions, and when officers booked him on assault charges, they found meth in his pocket.

Subsequently police began investigating Hoesly, hearing rumors from police informants that she had used drugs. On March 13 at 2:07 am, narcotics officers Jay Bates and Michael Krantz took her garbage. The order to do so came from Assistant Chief Andrew Kirkland, who dated Hoesly in the early '90s.

Searching through her trash back at Central Precinct, they found traces of cocaine and methamphetamine, as well as drug paraphernalia. They also found a bloody tampon. They sent a piece of the tampon to the state crime lab, where forensics experts tested it for drugs, DNA and, for reasons that remain unclear, semen. The results of those tests have not been released.

The police didn't seek a search warrant to take Hoesly's trash because, as the Multnomah County District Attorney's office conceded, officers didn't at the time have sufficient evidence to convince a judge to issue a warrant. But once they had drug residue from Hoesly's trash, officers were able to persuade Judge Dorothy Baker to issue a search warrant for Hoesly's house. Inside, they found more paraphernalia and a diary that described apparent drug use. An indictment was issued in June.

Hoesly, who is currently on medical leave and at the time of her arrest was in the process of medically retiring, pleaded not guilty and hired criminal-defense lawyer Stephen Houze. Like a Labrador smelling leftover turkey, Houze promptly zeroed in on the grabbing of her garbage. He argued that under Oregon's Constitution, privacy rights extend to someone's trash--at least until it's picked up by trash haulers. The used tampon "goes to the heart of just what an outrageous violation of privacy rights this police search was," Houze said. "If the police will do this to a police officer, who won't they do it to?"

Not only that, he said, but if garbage is up for grabs, "There will be identity thieves lining up out there on every garbage day, knowing they can [take trash] with impunity."

The Hoesly case is not unprecedented. In 1997, police poked in the trash of David Peters, a star prosecutor for Multnomah County, and found cocaine residue, which was used to obtain a search warrant. Unlike Hoesly, he was not indicted; instead, he was fined and allowed to enter court diversion to maintain a clean record.

In a hearing on Dec. 10, Judge Jean Kerr Maurer agreed with Houze, issuing a ruling that said the cops' taking of trash was illegal. Senior Deputy District Attorney Mark McDonnell immediately said his office would challenge the ruling.--NB

## Big Brother's in Your Trash Can

The government is essentially going through your trash every day, says Evan Hendricks, publisher of Privacy Times, a Washington, D.C., newsletter. "They just don't have to get their hands dirty."

In the past 16 months, thanks to measures contained in the Patriot Act, the Homeland Security Act and the creation of the Total Information Awareness office, our government has turned into a bad Oliver Stone movie--you know, where a cabal of conservative spooks takes over and suddenly Big Brother is in charge.

No longer do the Feds need to meet the evidentiary standard of "probable cause" to initiate an investigation or start amassing information on you. Nor do they need to show any evidence of a link to terrorism. All they need to do, in short, is say they find you suspicious. They don't need to tell a judge why.

"This administration really represents a combination of Reaganism and McCarthyism--though they're not chasing Communists, they're chasing people that they call 'terrorists,'" says Hendricks, who grew up in Portland. "They're expanding their power and intimidating people to sort of go along or be afraid of being accused of being soft on terrorism."

The October 2001 enactment of the USA Patriot Act opened the door to domestic and Internet surveillance, as well as warrantless, covert "sneak and peek" searches. Then, on Nov. 19, 2002, Congress approved the Homeland Security Act, which Sen. Pat Leahy (D-Vt.) called the "most severe weakening of the Freedom of Information Act in its 36-year history."

The HSA also created the Total Information Awareness office, whose logo, taken from the back of the dollar bill, is of a pyramid with an eye on top, looking down at the globe. Headed by Iran-Contra co-conspirator Admiral John Poindexter, the agency will "mine" commercial databases, including magazine subscriptions and book purchases, to spy on American citizens. It plans to use this information to profile likely terrorist supporters; it also wants to deploy video camera and facial-recognition surveillance systems.

"The Pentagon basically wants to knock down the walls to all private-sector records and plug into them," says Hendricks. "And trash is like a microcosm of what you get: the bills people pay, what they buy at the store, the packages they throw out. The government is proposing more systematic surveillance of databases that have the same information."

How do they define who is a likely terrorist supporter? Sorry, but that's a secret. Attorney General John Ashcroft has given federal agencies free rein to reject information requests, with the assurance that his Department of Justice would defend the agencies no matter what.

Civil-liberties advocates point to the inherent danger in granting the government such sweeping power. Declassified documents have shown myriad abuses by law-enforcement agencies involved in domestic spying in the '60s, '70s and '80s, including in Portland. In 1997, a Washington, D.C., police official used video surveillance of people coming and going from a gay bar to try to blackmail married men. And studies of camera systems in Britain found that they were used to target minorities for increased police attention, while women caught on camera were often targeted for voyeuristic reasons, with male camera operators panning over them for purposes of ogling.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Southern Calif. rains trigger slides</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/news/weather/rains-southern-california-send-rivers-mud-homes-trigger-fire-n836016">https://www.nbcnews.com/news/weather/rains-southern-california-send-rivers-mud-homes-trigger-fire-n836016</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Heavy rains hammered California's Santa Barbara County early Tuesday, triggering a "massive" runoff that sent mud and debris slamming into homes, a gas line to rupture and catch fire, and multiple reports of stranded drivers and power outages, officials said.</p> <p>Among the hardest hit places has been Montecito, a wealthy community sandwiched between the Santa Ynez Mountains to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the south. Residents were waking up to a chaotic scene: numerous structural fires reported in one neighborhood where the natural gas line broke and then at</p> |

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| <p>least three homes wiped out by mud flow, said Santa Barbara County Fire Department spokesman Mike Eliason.</p> <p>Eliason said it's unclear how many structures have burned and that fire crews have found it difficult to reach the origin because of mud and debris.</p> <p>Emergency responders scrambled to attend to calls after some residents failed to heed earlier warnings to leave. Some motorists had to be rescued as the mud reached waist high in some pockets, Eliason added. There were no immediate reports of injuries, but more than 1,600 people in Santa Barbara County lost power, reported NBC affiliate KSBY.</p> <p>A large swath of the state could see another 1 to 3 inches of rain through Tuesday. More than 5 inches of rain were collected in the Matilija Canyon rain gauge in Ventura County, according to the National Weather Service in Los Angeles, which issued a flash flood watch for Tuesday after storms rolled in Monday. Thousands of people in parts of Ventura and Los Angeles counties had been ordered to evacuate.</p> <p>The NWS added that 1-1/2 inches could fall per hour Tuesday in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties — areas already affected by the so-called Thomas Fire and other recent wildfires stoked by dry Santa Ana winds.</p> <p>Even if the rain dies down at times, forecasters said, flash flooding and debris flows will remain a threat for the next several hours.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Aim: build trust among sex workers</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/policy-aims-to-build-trust-among-sex-workers/281-506276354">http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/policy-aims-to-build-trust-among-sex-workers/281-506276354</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>The 19-year-old removed her clothes in the backseat of the black rental SUV and asked for \$100 before she would have sex with Courtney Wayne Dawson.</p> <p>But instead of cash, Dawson pulled out a kitchen knife.</p> <p>He attacked the prostitute, gashing her fingers, before he raped her in the Aurora Avenue parking spot, hidden between two large semi-trucks.</p> <p>The woman climbed out of the front seat so fast, she left a shoe and her underwear behind. Covered in her own blood, she watched the Colorado businessman drive away on that 2011 August night.</p> <p>It was the night the 19-year-old joined the ranks of thousands of sex workers who've experienced physical and sexual violence on the job. But she's among just a few who felt empowered to report the violent crime to police.</p> <p>Globally, sex workers have a 45 to 75 percent chance of experiencing violence in their lifetime, according to the American Journal of Public Health. But often, the perpetrators are never caught because their victims stay silent out of fear they'll suffer their own legal consequences for engaging in prostitution.</p> <p>It's a fear that King County prosecutors hope to squash with a recent policy change. Sex workers will no longer face prosecution for prostitution when they're seeking medical help or reporting a crime against someone else or themselves. The new policy mimics Washington's Good Samaritan law that protects people who call 911 when someone overdoses on drugs.</p> <p>Richey, who runs the sexual assault unit, maintains an unofficial list of a dozen or so cases that his office has prosecuted against people who commit violent crimes against people in the sex industry.</p> |

His list includes convicted rapists, like 43-year-old Dawson, and murderers like serial killer Gary Ridgeway. Ridgeway, known as the "Green River killer," pled guilty to murdering at least 49 Washington women before he was caught in 2001. The list also includes the case against Song Wang, who was convicted of first-degree murder for the 2015 killing of a Bellevue woman who advertised sexual services on backpage.com.

Richey's concern, he said, is that his list doesn't even scratch the surface. And he wants to get justice for the victimized sex workers who have been too afraid to speak up.

In some ways, the internal policy is just a formal step for the office that began moving away from criminalizing prostitution years ago -- in favor of pressing charges against the people who buy sex from them.

"The reality is that we weren't going to be prosecuting (prostitutes) for this, but there was a perception that they would be prosecuted," Richey said. "What we are trying to do is bridge the gap between perception and reality."

In 2009, prostitutes working in King County faced charges about two-and-a-half times as often as sex buyers. But the trend reversed over time, in part due to another department policy that forbids prosecutors from filing prostitution-related charges until a person has first been offered services to get out of the sex industry and refused.

Plus, the culture in the county began to change after police officers and prosecutors started talking to survivors of sex trafficking and prostitution, along with the victim advocates who work to protect them.

"Everything I knew about the experience in prostitution was one of pain and exploitation," said Richey, who led the county's push for a victim-centered approach. "We wouldn't go around and start arresting all the domestic violence survivors in an effort to stop domestic violence, so why were we doing it here?"

In 2016, the King County Prosecutor's Office charged sex buyers nearly five times as often as prostitutes, according to an analysis of office data. It's a move that Richey says accomplished more in the fight against sex trafficking than the historic practice of targeting prostitutes.

"If your goal is to try to end exploitation, arresting and prosecuting (prostitutes) doesn't help accomplish the goal," Richey said.

"The more that they were in the criminal justice system and had convictions and arrests, the less likely they were able to get out because they couldn't get housing, they couldn't get other jobs and they couldn't make the transition that everybody wants them to make," he added.

Not all sex industry experts and former prostitutes think the policy will have an impact on sex workers in King County will respond.

"So basically getting rewarded for being a snitch? No," Jennifer Tucker, a former prostitute, said after hearing the news about the policy. "There is like this 'code of ethics' that you don't tell."

Tucker, who said she was trapped in the sex industry for six years, left the life of paid sex work behind in February 2016.

The 39-year-old says she was repeatedly robbed, raped and beaten by both customers and pimps for years, but she never told police out of fear for her life and because of an unwritten rule in the sex industry that prostitutes shouldn't turn in their clients.

Tucker said she was also afraid that she'd get busted for the drug-related crimes she committed because of her lifestyle in the sex industry.

“Every time you go on a 'date' (with a customer), you are putting your life on the line, and you know that,” she said, adding that the King County policy is a good first step but that more changes need to happen to gain the trust of prostitutes and sex trafficking victims.

Marin Stewart, a former prostitute turned victim advocate, agreed that the policy sends a positive message from the prosecutor's office. But she said it's not the “final ingredient” because it doesn't address the real reason victims don't always come forward.

“Honestly, a girl or boy (in prostitution) is not afraid to notify law enforcement because they are afraid of what's going to happen to them legally. They are afraid of what their pimp is going to do to them,” Stewart said.

But April Seekins, a 45-year-old former prostitute, is convinced that sex workers who don't have a pimp will take advantage of the King County policy.

“If I knew I wasn't going to get in trouble, I would do it in a heartbeat,” said Seekins, who said she worked without a pimp for five years before leaving the industry in 2012.

Richey, the prosecutor, said he believes the policy can work once the county's sex workers learn of it through social service providers and advocates.

But he said he is aware of the “code” the former prostitutes describe, and it's a problem.

“That is a very concerning state of affairs because it really highlights the cohesive nature of the relationship between the client and the person in prostitution,” he said. “I mean, what are we saying then? That people in prostitution can be raped and that they can't come forward because they might lose their clients? That is not a good situation.”

It's why the prosecutor is so impressed with the bravery of the 19-year-old prostitute who called the police after Dawson attacked and raped her in that Aurora Avenue parking spot.

And it's the reason why the woman's rapist is now serving a 16-year sentence behind bars.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Seattle teachers walk out w/bus drivers?</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/seattle/seattle-teachers-may-walk-out-in-support-of-bus-drivers/281-506681737">http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/seattle/seattle-teachers-may-walk-out-in-support-of-bus-drivers/281-506681737</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>The Seattle Education Association (SEA) may hold a walkout in solidarity of bus drivers looking for a new contract.</p> <p>The SEA, which is comprised of Seattle teachers, will hold a vote to decide whether to walk out. Votes will be tabulated Saturday with a simple majority needed to pass.</p> <p>SEA President Phyllis Campano says the walkout would be on a Wednesday and during the planning period so that it will not impact students.</p> <p>It would be SEA's way of showing support for the 400 drivers who already went on a one-day strike in November. Teamsters Local 174, which has been leading formal talks with busing company First Student, says talks are focused on health care and retirement benefits. The union membership voted 85% to reject the latest proposal from First Student and has hinted that a strike could be imminent.</p> <p>The Teamsters' Jamie Fleming said the group is still talking with a mediator and is surprised at the lack of movement over several months.</p> |

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|                               | <p>“To them, you know, they're driving other people's children back and forth to school every day. And not only do they not have health insurance, but their children don't have health insurance either,” Fleming said.</p> <p>Fleming says bus drivers would likely be given 18 hours notice of a work stoppage, but if it gets to that point, it would also likely mean an extended strike.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 Gov. makes pitch for state carbon tax</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://q13fox.com/2018/01/09/gov-inslee-unveils-carbon-tax-plan/">http://q13fox.com/2018/01/09/gov-inslee-unveils-carbon-tax-plan/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>OLYMPIA, Wash. -- Gov. Jay Inslee made a forceful push Tuesday for a carbon tax in his annual state of the state address and urged lawmakers to quickly implement court-ordered increases in education funding.</p> <p>Inslee said President Donald Trump is abandoning the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions but Washington state "will walk forward and join this battle for our world's health future."</p> <p>The Democratic governor has previously said he wants to use state reserves to help pay for education improvements ordered by the state Supreme Court. He would backfill that reserve withdrawal with about \$1 billion in carbon tax revenues.</p> <p>In his speech Inslee said business, tribal, environmental and labor interests will be part of the conversation and that urban and rural areas would benefit from such a tax. Republicans, who this year are in the minority in the House and Senate, have been cool to the idea of a carbon tax. Some Democrats are skeptical as well.</p> <p>Under bills introduced in the House and Senate, a proposed tax of \$20 per metric ton of carbon emissions would start on July 1, 2019 and increase annually by 3.5 percent over inflation.</p> <p>The tax would raise about \$1.5 billion over the first two years and an estimated \$3.3 billion over the next four years. Half of the money from the tax — which would be paid by power plants and fuel importers but would ultimately affect consumers — would go into efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as programs to expand opportunities for renewable energy at both homes and utilities, and research of clean energy technology. An additional 35 percent would go into flood management and storm water infrastructure, and would also be used to reduce risks of wildfires.</p> <p>Policy staff for Inslee said that the impact on consumers from the tax would range from a 4 to 5 percent increase in electricity, a 9 to 11 percent increase in natural gas, and a 6 to 9 percent increase in gasoline.</p> <p>Senate Republican Leader Mark Schoesler said after the speech that the proposal "is about new and higher taxes, it's not about fixing the problem."</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Study: kayakers disturbing orcas</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/kayakers-are-disturbing-our-orcas-and-getting-away-with-it-study-finds/">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/kayakers-are-disturbing-our-orcas-and-getting-away-with-it-study-finds/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Kayakers are encroaching on orca whales, new research shows, and they are not being ticketed like other boaters.</p> <p>A paper published recently in the scientific Journal PlosOne finds kayakers are a fast-growing segment of the \$50 million whale-watch industry, which brings at least 500,000 people out every year to the trans boundary waters of the Salish Sea, according to estimates by the Whale Museum in Friday Harbor.</p> <p>But while incidents of getting too close to the charismatic orca whales are down among commercial</p> |

whale-watch vessels, some types of violations by kayakers, with or without guides, are growing, and those are met with the least amount of action by law enforcement, according to analysis in the paper of data compiled by the Soundwatch Boater Education Program, run by the Whale Museum since 1993.

The goal of the volunteer-run program is to reduce vessel disturbance of southern- resident killer whales and other marine wildlife with public education about federal and state laws that require boaters to keep their distance — at least 200 yards away.

“What we have seen is kayak incidents are increasing because they are a lower priority, from an enforcement standpoint, because there are so many other things going on the water that need to be addressed,” said Elizabeth Seely, lead author on the paper, former program coordinator for Soundwatch, and a consultant to the museum. “Some kayakers are not abiding by the laws, paddling out to the killer whales to get closer to them; it is really upsetting to see. And they don’t have any consequences for it.”

It’s no small factor. Big, multipassenger, motorized boats are just part of the whale-watching action in the Salish Sea.

Small rented commercial vessels such as kayaks, canoes and paddleboards in 2015 were the touring choice for 12,230 people from San Jan County Park alone.

And business is booming: between 2012 and 2015, the number of kayakers booked with commercial whale-watching companies increased by 30 percent, according to the paper.

The Whale Museum has worked with NOAA Fisheries and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for years to distribute information about the regulations, which guides must also acknowledge they are familiar with as a condition of their permit. Yet the encroachments continue, Seely said.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b>           | <b>01/09 US: missile defense sale to Japan</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>             | <a href="http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/01/09/us-oks-selling-japan-missiles-to-shoot-down-north-korean-missiles.html">http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/01/09/us-oks-selling-japan-missiles-to-shoot-down-north-korean-missiles.html</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>               | <p>The Trump administration has approved a \$133.3 million missile defense sale to Japan to meet the escalating threat from North Korea — by shooting down the rogue nation's own ballistic missiles.</p> <p>The State Department says Congress was notified Tuesday of the proposed sale of four missiles for the SM-3 Block IIA interceptor.</p> <p>A State Department official told Fox News that, “Also included are four Mk 29 missile canisters, and other technical, engineering and logistics support services.”</p> <p>The department said the sale would support the U.S. defense industry and underscore Trump’s commitment to improve the defense of allies threatened by North Korea.</p> <p>The system was jointly developed by Japan and the U.S.</p> <p>The missiles could be used at sea with Japan’s current Aegis-equipped destroyers and with the land-based Aegis system its Cabinet approved for purchase last month.</p> <p>That’s intended to bolster Japan’s current missile defense and perhaps curry favor with President Donald Trump who is eager for U.S. allies to buy more American military hardware.</p> |
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| HEADLINE | <b>01/09 Ecuador: Assange in embassy 'untenable'</b>  |
| SOURCE   | <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/media/2018/jan/09/julian-assange-stay-in-london-embassy-untenable-says-ecuador">https://www.theguardian.com/media/2018/jan/09/julian-assange-stay-in-london-embassy-untenable-says-ecuador</a>   |
| GIST     | <p>Ecuador's foreign minister has said Julian Assange's five-and-a-half-year stay in her country's London embassy is "untenable" and should be ended through international mediation.</p> <p>The WikiLeaks founder has been holed up in Knightsbridge since the summer of 2012, when he faced the prospect of extradition to Sweden over claims that he sexually assaulted two women. He denies the accusations.</p> <p>Swedish prosecutors last year unexpectedly dropped their investigation into the allegations, which included a claim of rape. But Assange still faces arrest for breaching bail conditions if he steps outside the embassy and WikiLeaks has voiced fears that the US will seek his extradition and that there is a sealed indictment ordering his arrest.</p> <p>WikiLeaks' publications have included hundreds of thousands of US army war logs and state department diplomatic cables and more recently emails from the Democratic National Committee during the run-up to the 2016 US presidential election. The US attorney general, Jeff Sessions, said last May that Assange's arrest was now a "priority".</p> <p>Ecuador's foreign minister, María Fernanda Espinosa, said her country was now seeking a "third country or a personality" to mediate a final settlement with the UK to resolve the impasse and said it was "considering and exploring the possibility of mediation".</p> <p>"No solution will be achieved without international cooperation and the cooperation of the United Kingdom, which has also shown interest in seeking a way out," she told foreign correspondents in Quito, according to Agence France-Presse.</p> <p>Assange, who has received numerous visitors to his modest quarters in the embassy, ranging from Nigel Farage to Lady Gaga, has described the period since his initial arrest as a "terrible injustice". Not being able to see his children grow up was "not something I can forgive", he said.</p> <p>For several years, Metropolitan police officers maintained a constant watch of the embassy, which is situated behind Harrods in central London, at a cost of at least £11.1m, according to figures released by Scotland Yard in June 2015. Four months later, police lifted the round-the-clock guard on the basis it was no longer proportionate.</p> <p>A United Nations panel concluded in 2016 that Assange was under arbitrary detention.</p> <p>On Tuesday evening, a lawyer for Assange appeared to welcome Ecuador's proposal. He said his client had a right to asylum and argued that the risk of him being persecuted in the US had "escalated further in recent months under the Trump administration's war on WikiLeaks" and that the investigation in Sweden had twice been discontinued.</p> <p>"If the UK wishes to show that it is a nation that respects its human rights obligations and commitments to the United Nations, it is time for Mr Assange to be allowed to enjoy his right to liberty, and fundamental right to protection against persecution in the United States," she said.</p> <p>A spokesperson for the UK government said: "The government of Ecuador knows that the way to resolve this issue is for Julian Assange to leave the embassy to face justice."</p> |
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| HEADLINE | <b>01/10 Plague of million-dollar homes</b>   |
| SOURCE   | <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/million-dollar-homes-haunt-real-estate-market/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/million-dollar-homes-haunt-real-estate-market/</a> |



Owning a million-dollar home isn't the rarity it used to be.

The share of homes valued at more than \$1 million has surged more than fourfold since 2002, according to new data from real estate site Trulia, which analyzed the luxury real estate market in the top 100 U.S. metropolitan areas. Across those regions, about 4.3 percent of homes are now worth at least \$1 million, compared with about 1 percent in 2002, said Trulia senior economist Cheryl Young.

Rising real estate values since the housing crisis have bolstered the price tags of many homes. Trulia found that \$1 million doesn't necessarily denote a "luxury" home these days. In some cities -- think San Francisco -- they're the norm, rather than a marker of top quality. That puts pressure on lower-income buyers who can't afford to keep up with rising property prices, while cutting the amount of inventory available at prices below \$1 million.

The share of homes valued below \$1 million is "decreasing at a rate we're surprised by," Young said. "It was 98.9 percent in 2002, and now it's 95.7 percent. That is pretty shocking."

Rising real estate values, tight inventory and a lack of new construction are contributors the surge in million-dollar homes. Yet another factor may be at play: rising income inequality, which has benefited the bank accounts of America's richest families.

The top 0.1 percent of American earners, or those with \$6 million in average income, have seen their incomes surge by 320 percent between 1980 to 2014, compared with just 42 percent for middle-income workers, according to research published last year by Gabriel Zucman and fellow economists. That has created a huge gulf in spending power between the richest Americans and the middle class, giving those at the top the buying power to spring for homes worth \$1 million or more.

It may explain why the share of homes worth \$5 million or more is growing even faster. This segment is what Trulia describes as "the most luxurious homes available." To be sure, it remains a tiny part of the real estate market, accounting for just 0.28 percent of overall sales. Still, that figure is five times higher than in 2002, Trulia said.

"It was interesting to think about whether \$5 million is becoming the new \$1 million," Young said.

Young's analysis found that homes worth \$5 million or higher tend to share a few traits, such as fabulous locations or views and "estate" or "park-like" grounds. They also tend to be larger than the median home and feature designs by well-known architects and designers.

A few listings included unusual features like bulletproof glass and swim-up bars. And they have one other quirk: more bathrooms than bedrooms.

The market with the largest share of million-dollar homes is San Francisco, where two out of three homes have crossed the \$1 million threshold, Trulia found. Five years ago, only 22 percent of San Francisco homes were valued at that amount.

"The crunch is obviously happening at the starter segment. That's where affordability hits the hardest," Young said. "As that share grows, the people it impacts is the people at the bottom."

Here are the five metropolitan areas with the largest share of homes worth \$1 million in 2017.

- San Francisco: 66 percent
- San Jose, California: 56.4 percent
- Los Angeles: 23.8 percent
- Fairfield County, Connecticut: 17.7 percent
- Long Island, New York: 17.4 percent

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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/10 India: 400 traffic fatalities daily</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-01-09/400-deaths-a-day-are-forcing-india-to-take-car-safety-seriously">https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-01-09/400-deaths-a-day-are-forcing-india-to-take-car-safety-seriously</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>In India, more than 150,000 people are killed each year in traffic accidents. That's about 400 fatalities a day and far higher than developed auto markets like the U.S., which in 2016 logged about 40,000.</p> <p>Now, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is attempting to curb the carnage on Indian roads caused by everything from speeding two-wheelers to cars not equipped with air bags. A bill introduced in August 2016 -- proposing harsher penalties for traffic offenses and requiring that automakers add safety features -- has passed the lower house of parliament and is expected to go through the upper house in 2018.</p> <p>The wide-ranging changes are likely to boost manufacturing costs for domestic and foreign carmakers in India. The South Asian country will be the world's third-largest car market after China and the U.S. by 2020, according to researcher IHS Automotive. The World Health Organization estimates that traffic crashes cost most countries about 3 percent of their gross domestic product.</p> <p>The U.K.-based non-profit Global NCAP, which studies the quality of vehicles, has over the years assigned a zero star rating to many small vehicles sold in India -- an assessment that there could be life threatening injuries in a crash at 40 miles per hour. Past efforts in India to boost road safety haven't taken off, and the success of this one will depend on how strictly it is implemented.</p> <p>India "has delayed 20 years in making safety features mandatory," said Dinesh Mohan, a professor at Noida-based Shiv Nadar University. Globally, manufacturers haven't usually added such safety elements "until and unless they were forced to do so by mandatory government regulations," he said.</p> <p>A spokeswoman at India's Ministry of Road Transport and Highways declined to give a timing for the new law.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Flu taking substantial toll</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/01/09/deaths-and-hospitalizations-rise-flu-season-hits-full-swing/1017898001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/01/09/deaths-and-hospitalizations-rise-flu-season-hits-full-swing/1017898001/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>With flu season now in full swing — causing widespread illness in 46 states — health officials across the country are reporting waves of misery, rising hospitalizations and some deaths.</p> <p>It is still too soon to say just how bad this flu season will be, but there are troubling signs in some places. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ohio Department of Health on Friday reported 2,104 flu-associated hospitalizations so far, up from 369 by the same time a year ago.</li> <li>• California Department of Public Health officials said that flu contributed to the deaths of 27 people younger than age 65 across the state by the end of December, up from four deaths a year ago.</li> <li>• In California's Santa Barbara County, six people over age 65 died of flu in just the last two weeks; that's double the number that died in last year's entire flu season, officials said. "What we are seeing is unprecedented compared to the last 10 years of flu seasons," said Charity Dean, Santa Barbara County public health officer.</li> <li>• A pregnant woman died from the flu in Tennessee, becoming the fourth person in that state reported to die of flu this year, officials said. The three other reported deaths were in children.</li> </ul> <p>The federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC), in an update posted Friday, said 13 children nationwide</p> |

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|                               | <p>had died of flu so far this season. About 100 children have died in each of the past several flu seasons.</p> <p>The season got off to an early start and the number of states reporting widespread activity jumped from 36 to 46 in the last week of December, CDC said.</p> <p>The overall impact can vary greatly year to year, but flu always takes a substantial toll. CDC estimates that influenza has caused 9 million to 35 million illnesses, 140,000 to 710,000 hospitalizations and 12,000 to 56,000 deaths in the United States each year since 2010. In many cases, hospitalizations and deaths do not show up in official reports, for a variety of reasons — including the fact that most people with flu are never tested for it and that states are not required to report adult flu deaths.</p> <p>One reason this could be a bad season: A majority of patients tested so far carried a type of influenza virus, called H3N2, that is linked to increased hospitalizations and deaths in young children and people over age 65, according to CDC. Vaccines often are less effective against these viruses than other flu viruses.</p> <p>Still, CDC officials and other experts continue to say vaccination is the best bet, and not too late.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 NKorea: nukes are 'only aimed at US'</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="https://www.newsmax.com/newsfront/nuclear-weapons-winter-olympics-south-korea-china/2018/01/09/id/836159/">https://www.newsmax.com/newsfront/nuclear-weapons-winter-olympics-south-korea-china/2018/01/09/id/836159/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>North Korea's nuclear arsenal and other weapons "are only aimed at the United States," the country's head of the delegation to talks with South Korea said Tuesday.</p> <p>"Regarding nuclear issues, our strategic weapons, atomic bombs, hydrogen bombs on intercontinental missiles are only aimed at the United States, not our brethren, China or Russia," said Ri Son Gwon, head of North Korea's delegation at the first talks with Seoul in more than two years.</p> <p>The comments came up after Pyongyang announced it would send athletes and a high-level delegation to the Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, next month.</p> <p>The discussions were the first officially between the nations in more than two years amid high tensions over the North's nuclear weapons program.</p> <p>South Korea had raised the issue of the North's nuclear weapons, which was quickly beaten back by Ri's statement.</p> <p>At the White House, press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Pyongyang's participation in the Olympics provided "an opportunity for the regime to see the value of ending international isolation by denuclearizing.</p> <p>"We hope that we can continue to move forward on that front," she told reporters at the daily briefing, "but it certainly doesn't affect our participation."</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Judge blocks ending DACA program</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/judge-blocks-trump-decision-end-young-immigrant-program-52250931?cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/judge-blocks-trump-decision-end-young-immigrant-program-52250931?cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a> |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>A federal judge has temporarily blocked the Trump administration's decision to end a program protecting young immigrants from deportation.</p> <p>U.S. District Judge William Alsup on Tuesday granted a request by California and other plaintiffs to</p>   |

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|                               | <p>prevent President Donald Trump from ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program while their lawsuits play out in court.</p> <p>DACA has protected about 800,000 people who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families who overstayed visas. It includes hundreds of thousands of college-age students.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/10 Israel clamps down on West Bank</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/israel-clamps-west-bank-israeli-man-killed-52254047?cid=clicksource_76_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/israel-clamps-west-bank-israeli-man-killed-52254047?cid=clicksource_76_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>The Israeli military set up roadblocks, cordoned off Palestinian villages and deployed reinforcements to the West Bank on Wednesday, a day after an Israeli settler was killed in a drive-by shooting by suspected Palestinian gunmen.</p> <p>Israeli troops have combed villages around the city of Nablus searching for the suspects in Tuesday's attack near the Havat Gilad settlement, a military statements aid.</p> <p>In the attack, Raziel Shevah, 35, was shot multiple times from a passing vehicle and was hospitalized in critical condition. He later died of his wounds.</p> <p>Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued a statement vowing Israel's security services "would do everything possible in order to apprehend the despicable murderer and the state of Israel will carry out justice against him."</p> <p>The attack took place near Havat Gilad, an unauthorized Israeli settlement outpost near Nablus. The isolated community of a few hundred Israelis is located deep inside the West Bank.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/10 SKorea president credits Trump's role</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/south-koreas-moon-credits-trump-big-role-north/story?id=52252753">http://abcnews.go.com/International/south-koreas-moon-credits-trump-big-role-north/story?id=52252753</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>South Korean President Moon Jae In credited President Donald Trump for playing a "big" role in facilitating Tuesday's groundbreaking talks between South and North Korea in a press conference Wednesday.</p> <p>"I extend my gratitude to President Trump," said Moon, speaking to reporters at his New Year's address.</p> <p>High-level officials from North and South Korea agreed in an almost 12-hour set of talks on Tuesday to send a North Korean delegation of officials, athletes and cheerleaders to the Winter Olympics starting Feb. 9.</p> <p>The countries also struck a deal to hold future military talks to ease tensions on the Korean Peninsula while agreeing to "resolve national matters" through dialogue between the two Koreas.</p> <p>When asked by ABC News what would happen if he had to takes sides between his country's strongest ally, the United States, and the South's "brother country" North Korea, Moon said there is "no disagreement whatsoever between the U.S. and South Korea."</p> <p>"The ultimate goal is to find a diplomatic solution together and lure them [North Korea] out to talks through strong international sanctions and pressure," Moon said.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Official: classified satellite fell in ocean</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/classified-satellite-fell-ocean-spacex-launch-official-confirms/story?id=52246100&amp;cid=clicksource_81_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/classified-satellite-fell-ocean-spacex-launch-official-confirms/story?id=52246100&amp;cid=clicksource_81_2_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>A highly classified satellite launched by SpaceX this weekend ended up plummeting into the Indian Ocean, a U.S. official confirmed to ABC News.</p> <p>Following its launch from Florida's Cape Canaveral Sunday night, the satellite, codenamed Zuma, failed to remain in orbit, the official said.</p> <p>Northrop Grumman, the defense contractor that manufactured the payload -- reportedly a billion-dollar spy satellite -- told ABC News its mission is classified and declined to comment on the loss of the satellite.</p> <p>But SpaceX suggested that it was not at fault, telling ABC News its rocket, named Falcon 9, "did everything correctly."</p> <p>"The data reviewed so far indicates that no design, operational, or other changes are needed," SpaceX president Gwynne Shotwell said in a statement.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Strong 7.6mag earthquake hits Caribbean</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/magnitude-76-quake-hits-caribbean-north-honduras-52250086?cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/magnitude-76-quake-hits-caribbean-north-honduras-52250086?cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_headlines_hed</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>One of the strongest earthquakes to hit the Caribbean in modern times struck off the coast of Honduras on Tuesday night, shaking the mainland and setting off tsunami warnings that were canceled about an hour later.</p> <p>There were no early reports of serious damage or casualties on land after the quake struck shortly before 10 p.m. EST. Officials in Honduras said shaking was registered across much of the nation and there were some reports of cracks in homes in Colon and Atlantida provinces along the northern coast and Olancho in eastern Honduras.</p> <p>Tsunami centers issued advisories and warnings for Puerto Rico, the Cayman Islands, Cuba, Jamaica and other Caribbean islands as well as on the coasts of Mexico and Central America, cautioning that sea levels could rise from a foot to 3 feet (0.3 to 1 meter) above normal, but no tsunami materialized.</p> <p>The U.S. Geological Survey measured the quake at a preliminary magnitude of 7.6. The tremor struck in the sea about 125 miles (202 kilometers) north-northeast of Barra Patuca, Honduras, and 188 miles (303 kilometers) southwest of George Town, Cayman Islands. The tremor occurred about 6 miles (10 kilometers) below the surface.</p> <p>The northern coast of Honduras closest to the quake's epicenter is sparsely populated, with much of it covered by nature reserves. The tremor was about 25 miles (44 kilometers) east of Honduras' Swan Islands, which are unpopulated except for a small navy post.</p> <p>Tuesday's quake was one of the largest to hit the Caribbean in recorded history. The 2010 quake that devastated Haiti was magnitude 7.0.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Seattle settles w/former library guards</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-settles-with-2-former-library-guards-who-sued-">https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/seattle-settles-with-2-former-library-guards-who-sued-</a> |

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|      | <a href="#">over-kisses-spanking/</a>   |
| GIST | <p>Seattle will pay \$220,000 to two former library security guards who said a manager kissed them both and didn't investigate a co-worker who held one of them on his lap and spanked her.</p> <p>The two women, as a settlement condition, had to leave their jobs at the Central Library downtown and never work for Seattle again.</p> <p>The manager still works for the city in a different department and wasn't disciplined.</p> <p>The co-worker was charged with fourth-degree assault and the city fired him.</p> <p>Yolanda Cooper and Michelle Chun Fook said the city failed to support them, adding to the pain of the harassment.</p> <p>"Their attitudes toward us was we (were) negligent and we had to handle the trauma on our own," said Cooper, of Puyallup.</p> <p>Cooper and Chun Fook filed suit in August 2016 in U.S. District Court of Western Washington, alleging they were sexually and racially harassed and worked in a hostile environment.</p> <p>The settlement comes in the wake of headlines across the country naming male politicians, actors, film directors, business leaders and media members who have been fired or quit after sexual harassment and assault claims.</p> <p>The #MeToo social-media movement took off in October when actresses reported Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein had harassed them. At the Golden Globes Sunday, attendees wore black and sported pins stating "Time's up," in reference to a new gender-equality movement in Hollywood.</p> <p>Seattle City Attorney's Office spokeswoman Kimberly Mills defended the city, saying there are no pending harassment lawsuits. "There is no Harvey Weinstein on the loose in the city," Mills wrote in an email Friday. The city admitted no wrongdoing in the settlement.</p> |
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| HEADLINE | <b>01/09 TSA: guns, ammo in SEA carry-on</b>   |
| SOURCE   | <a href="http://komonews.com/news/local/2-guns-ammo-found-in-carry-on-luggage-at-sea-tac-in-24-hours">http://komonews.com/news/local/2-guns-ammo-found-in-carry-on-luggage-at-sea-tac-in-24-hours</a>  |
| GIST     | <p>SEATTLE - Two guns and dozens of rounds of ammunition were found in passengers' carry-on luggage in less than 24 hours during the earliest days of the new year at Sea-Tac Airport, the Transportation Security Administration reports.</p> <p>TSA agents discovered the weapons Sunday and Monday during routine screening of carry-on baggage, said agency spokeswoman Lorie Dankers.</p> <p>A TSA officer found the first firearm - an unloaded .380 caliber Bersa Thunder pistol - around 8:15 a.m. Sunday in the bag of a passenger ticketed for travel to Portland, Ore. In addition to the gun, the passenger also had 50 rounds of ammunition and two empty magazines in his carry-on bag.</p> <p>The second gun - a .380 caliber Taurus TCP semi-automatic pistol loaded with six rounds of ammunition - was discovered Monday around 6 a.m. It was found in the carry-on of a passenger traveling to Nashville, Tenn.</p> <p>In both instances, when the TSA officer saw the image of the firearm on the X-ray screen, Port of Seattle police were notified and responded to the security checkpoint. Both passengers were arrested and later released after being cited, Dankers said.</p> |

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|                               | The two guns are the first firearms of 2018 discovered at Sea-Tac Airport. In 2017, TSA officers at Sea-Tac Airport discovered 78 guns in carry-on baggage. |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 UK bans damaging 'microbeads'</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2018/01/09/u-k-follows-u-s-banning-microbeads-cosmetics-shower-gels/1016120001/">https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2018/01/09/u-k-follows-u-s-banning-microbeads-cosmetics-shower-gels/1016120001/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>LONDON — A ban on environmentally damaging microbeads found in toothpastes, face scrubs and shower gels came into effect Tuesday in the United Kingdom.</p> <p>The moves prevents manufacturers of cosmetics and personal-care items from adding the small pieces of plastic to their products. They often end up in the ocean after being washed down the drain, damaging marine plant and animal life.</p> <p>Former President Barack Obama signed a U.S. ban on microbeads into law in late 2015.</p> <p>Microbeads are also a potential hazard to human health: Scientists believe some fish in lakes may soak up the toxins they release, which can then be passed back to people who consume the fish. These toxins can disrupt hormone levels and cause cancer.</p> <p>"The world's seas and oceans are some of our most valuable natural assets and I am determined we act now to tackle the plastic that devastates our precious marine life," the U.K.'s Environment Minister Therese Coffey said in a statement.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 Palestinian leader: peace talks rejected</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2018/01/09/Palestinian-leader-says-US-out-of-peace-talks-until-Jerusalem-policy-reversed/2641515522853/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts tn int&amp;utm_medium=4">https://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2018/01/09/Palestinian-leader-says-US-out-of-peace-talks-until-Jerusalem-policy-reversed/2641515522853/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts tn int&amp;utm_medium=4</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>Jan. 9 (UPI) -- U.S. involvement with resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is off the table until President Donald Trump revokes his decision to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, a top Palestinian negotiator said Tuesday.</p> <p>Saeb Erekat told official Palestinian Authority radio that resuming negotiations with the United States is "unacceptable" and that Palestinians would reject all peace talks until Trump reverses his stance on Jerusalem.</p> <p>Trump announced on Dec. 6 the United States would move its embassy from Tel Aviv as part of the change, which the president said was in the interest of peace between Israelis and Palestinians.</p> <p>After the announcement, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas said the United States had surrendered its role as a mediator of the peace talks, and refused to meet with U.S. officials about the peace process.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Iran ayatollah: insurgency thwarted</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-protests-khamenei/iran-has-foiled-plot-to-use-protests-to-overthrow-system-leader-says-idUSKBN1EY0Z8">https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-protests-khamenei/iran-has-foiled-plot-to-use-protests-to-overthrow-system-leader-says-idUSKBN1EY0Z8</a> |
| <b>GIST</b>     | BEIRUT (Reuters) - Iran has foiled attempts by its foreign enemies to turn legitimate protests into an insurgency to overthrow the Islamic Republic, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Tuesday.   |

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|                                      | <p>Comments on his Twitter feed and in Iranian media underscored the establishment’s confidence that it has extinguished the unrest that spread to more than 80 cities in which at least 22 people died since late December.</p> <p>“Once again, the nation tells the US, Britain, and those who seek to overthrow the Islamic Republic of Iran from abroad that ‘you’ve failed, and you will fail in the future, too.’” Khamenei tweeted.</p> <p>The Revolutionary Guards, the military force loyal to Khamenei, said on Sunday security forces had put an end to the unrest that it too said had been whipped up by foreign enemies.</p> <p>At least 1,000 people have been arrested in the biggest anti-government protests for nearly a decade, with the judiciary saying ringleaders could face the death penalty.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 Organ donations record year 2017</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/more-10-000-organs-donated-2017-making-record-n836126">https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/more-10-000-organs-donated-2017-making-record-n836126</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>Victoria Arias wanted to save lives.</p> <p>The 18-year-old Arizona honor student was preparing to head to St. Mary’s University of Minnesota with the hope of becoming a doctor.</p> <p>She played the violin and volleyball, and was a devout Catholic who had saved up for a pilgrimage to Rome to see the pope. Victoria had plans for the future.</p> <p>“She wanted to be a trauma surgeon,” her mother, Lorena Arias, said. “She had big dreams. She was going to do it.”</p> <p>Victoria did end up saving lives, but not in the way anyone expected. Last July, Lorena found Victoria unconscious in the backyard pool. She never recovered.</p> <p>But Victoria’s kidneys, liver, lungs and heart went to four people who’d been waiting for lifesaving organ transplants.</p> <p>She was among the 10,000 people whose organs were donated in 2017 — the first year more than 10,000 people have donated organs to others after they died, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).</p> <p>"We are grateful that more lives are being saved, year after year, thanks to the boundless generosity of organ donors," said Dr. Yolanda Becker, president of the national Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network/UNOS Board of Directors.</p> <p>Nearly 35,000 organ transplants were done in 2017, a 3.4 percent increase over 2016. About 18 percent of these were from living donors — people who gave one kidney or a part of their liver to someone else. But 115,000 Americans remain on waiting lists for organ transplants, UNOS says.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 PCSO deputy slain; 3<sup>rd</sup> suspect arrested</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.king5.com/article/news/crime/3rd-suspect-arrested-after-pierce-county-deputy-slain/281-506087718">http://www.king5.com/article/news/crime/3rd-suspect-arrested-after-pierce-county-deputy-slain/281-506087718</a> |
| <b>GIST</b>     | A third suspect was arrested Tuesday morning after a Pierce County sheriff’s deputy was shot responding   |



to a robbery call Sunday near Spanaway. One suspect is expected in court Tuesday and another was killed at the scene.

A 52-year-old woman was arrested about 2:30 a.m. in East Pierce County on Tuesday for rendering criminal assistance.

The woman is accused of driving a getaway car to the house where Deputy Daniel McCartney of Yelm responded to a burglary call just after 11:30 p.m. She waited in a nearby parking lot, and when the woman heard police sirens, she left the scene, according to Pierce County Sheriff's spokesman Ed Troyer.

McCartney responded to a 911 call for an intruder reported in a house on 200th Street East in the Frederickson area, the sheriff's department said. McCartney was the first person to arrive on scene. He began to chase a suspect on foot and shots were fired at McCartney, striking him.

McCartney was transported to St. Joseph Medical Center in Tacoma where he died.

A second suspect was taken into custody later Monday morning.

"This morning an alert trooper found the subject out in the area. He didn't match our original description, and he gave us a fake name," said sheriff's department spokesman Detective Ed Troyer. "After we started talking to him, he was booked on felony warrants out of Shelton."

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Native American tribes sue opioid firms</b> |
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| <b>SOURCE</b> | <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/native-american-tribes-sue-opioid-manufacturers-distributors/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/native-american-tribes-sue-opioid-manufacturers-distributors/</a> |
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| <b>GIST</b> | <p>SIOUX FALLS, S.D. -- Three Native American tribes in the Dakotas are suing opioid manufacturers and distributors, alleging they concealed and minimized the addiction risk of prescription drugs. The Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe and the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate sued 24 opioid industry groups in federal court on Monday.</p> |
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Defendants include drug manufacturers Purdue Pharma, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries and Allergan, and distributors McKesson Corp., Cardinal Health Inc. and AmerisourceBergen Corp.

The lawsuit follows more than 70 cases filed across the country, including in Mississippi, Washington, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Ohio. It is one of the first to tie claims to the drugs' impact on Native Americans.

The Cherokee Nation launched a similar suit in April. The tribes are being represented by former North Dakota U.S. Attorney Tim Purdon and former South Dakota U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson.

"The prescription opioid crisis has hit Indian Country hard," said Purdon. He added he is "hopeful" that other North Dakota tribes will also file suit.

The complaint noted that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that one in 10 Native Americans used prescription opioids for non-medical purposes in 2012, which is double the rate of whites.

In October, the CDC said 64,070 people died from drug overdoses in 2016 -- a 21 percent increase over the year before. Approximately three-fourths of all drug overdose deaths are now caused by opioids.

Between 2015 and 2016, Native Americans represented almost 18 percent of opioid-related deaths and 28 percent of patients treated for opioid use in South Dakota. At the time, Native Americans made up 9 percent of the state's population.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 Flu season strains IV bags shortage</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/flu-season-straining-resources-iv-bag-shortage-hurricane-maria-puerto-rico/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/flu-season-straining-resources-iv-bag-shortage-hurricane-maria-puerto-rico/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>The flu season is straining resources at hospitals nationwide with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reporting the flu is widespread in 46 states. Some hospitals are setting up emergency tents to handle the high volume of patients while others are dealing with a shortage of IV bags after Hurricane Maria cut power to manufacturing plants in Puerto Rico.</p> <p>IV bags hold the medicines and fluids administered by IV and now nurses and doctors are being forced to find other ways to care for their patients, reports CBS News' Michelle Miller.</p> <p>In the intensive care unit at Massachusetts General Hospital, nurse Hannah Owens-Pike uses Gatorade to combat dehydration. It now takes her four times as long to administer treatment that would normally be delivered intravenously. Hospital staffers are forced to conserve supplies.</p> <p>"As the nurse, we look at our patients and see if there is any possible way to give a fluid, electrolyte a medication in any way other than an IV fluid," Owens-Pike said.</p> <p>The shortage is widespread. Three thousand miles away near San Diego, Ben Boyer's wife Xenia Trejo is undergoing chemotherapy for a brain tumor.</p> <p>"These nurses work so hard," Boyer said. "It worries me that they don't have everything they could possible need at their disposal."</p> <p>When Hurricane Maria slammed into Puerto Rico last September, it forced the temporary shutdown of Baxter's manufacturing plants. Baxter makes up more than 43 percent of the United States' IV solution market. The company told CBS News they produce "tens of millions of sterile IV solutions" every year.</p> <p>Owens-Pike traveled to Puerto Rico to help with Maria's relief effort but was dumbfounded by the storm's impact back home.</p> <p>"Not until this happened did we realize how many things are actually being produced there and how it is significantly affecting the whole country's medical system," Owens-Pike said.</p> <p>Puerto Rico is a hub for medical pharmaceuticals – the island produces \$40 billion in pharmaceuticals for the U.S. per year.</p> <p>"This is a nationwide problem which is part of what makes it so hard is that we can't borrow from any other hospital," said Dr. Paul Biddinger.</p> <p>Biddinger is chief of emergency preparedness at Mass General. He worries about the low supply of IV bags during the peak flu season.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Toyota adds vehicles to airbag recalls</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/toyota-adds-more-vehicles-to-takata-air-bag-recalls/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/toyota-adds-more-vehicles-to-takata-air-bag-recalls/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>DETROIT -- Toyota is recalling 601,000 more vehicles in the U.S. to replace defective and potentially deadly Takata air bag inflators. The recalls come after Takata revealed on Saturday that another 3.3 million inflators are defective. Its inflators can explode with too much force and hurl shrapnel. At least 20 people have died worldwide and more than 280 have been hurt.</p> |

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|                               | <p>The company said the new recall covers the Toyota Corolla and Matrix, Scion xB, Lexus IS250 and 350, and the Lexus IS-F from 2009, 2010 and 2013. Also covered are the 2010 and 2013 Toyota 4-Runner, Lexus IS250C and 350C and Lexus GX460, as well as the 2009 and 2010 Toyota Yaris and Lexus ES350, and the 2013 Toyota Sienna.</p> <p>Owners will be notified by March and dealers will replace front passenger inflators or air bag assemblies.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 Greece limits sharia law border region</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/greece-limit-sharia-law-european-court-challenge-52230284?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/greece-limit-sharia-law-european-court-challenge-52230284?</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>Lawmakers in Greece voted Tuesday to limit the powers of Islamic courts operating in a border region that is home to a 100,000-strong Muslim minority, scrapping procedures dating back more than 90 years.</p> <p>The proposed law passed easily, with backing from parliament's largest political parties. It eliminates rules that referred many civil cases involving members of the Muslim community to Sharia law courts. Greek courts now will have priority in all cases.</p> <p>The changes — considered long overdue by many Greek legal experts — follow a complaint a Muslim woman who lives in the northeastern Greek city of Komotini made to the Council of Europe's Court of Human Rights over an inheritance dispute.</p> <p>Legislation concerning minority rights was based on international treaties following wars in the aftermath of the Ottoman empire's collapse. The Muslim minority in Greece is largely Turkish-speaking. Minority areas were visited last month by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.</p> <p>Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said in a statement that the new law respects the "special characteristics" of Greece's Muslim minority, while redressing past injustices against community members "who were excluded from the legal guarantees and freedoms that all Greek citizens must enjoy."</p> <p>Greek governments in the past have been reluctant to amend minority rights, as many disputes between Greece and Turkey remain unresolved.</p> <p>Currently, Islamic court hearings are presided over by a single official, a state-appointed Muslim cleric.</p> <p>In parliament Tuesday, Constantine Gavroglou, minister of education and religious affairs, praised opposition party support for the bill. He said the current rules stemmed "from policies that were hostile toward the minority and sought to create second-class citizens."</p> <p>"This is not just a technical adjustment, it's a very important day for parliament ... because of the broad support that is key when addressing issues of democracy and people's rights," Gavroglou told lawmakers.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/10 Mudslides, flooding claim 13 in Calif.</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/dead-flooding-mudslides-force-thousands-flee-california/story?id=52229415&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_bsq_hed">http://abcnews.go.com/US/dead-flooding-mudslides-force-thousands-flee-california/story?id=52229415&amp;cid=clicksource_4380645_1_hero_headlines_bsq_hed</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>At least 13 people are dead and more than 20 are injured in California from weather-related incidents, the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office said Tuesday. The southern part of the state has been drenched with severe rain just weeks after several fires tore through the area.</p> <p>Flash flooding, debris flow and mudslides are punishing the communities hit hard by the Thomas and La Tuna fires, prompting "dozens and dozens" of rescues on the ground, a spokesperson from the Santa</p> |

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|                                      | <p>Barbara County Fire Department told ABC News.</p> <p>Many more are feared to be dead and buried beneath the mud, a California fire crew who has conducted up to 70 rescues alone told ABC News Tuesday afternoon.</p> <p>Montecito alone saw heavy rainfall in a short amount of time. About a third of the rain that has fallen in the last 24 hours in Montecito fell in just 5 minutes, according to the National Weather Service.</p> <p>Because hundreds of thousands of acres were charred in the fires, the influx of water has nowhere to go.</p> <p>Some homes in Montecito's affluent community have been ripped from their foundations as a result of the torrential conditions. Several dozen homes have been destroyed or damaged, officials said.</p> <p>The Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management said Tuesday night the city of Montecito would be without potable water, electricity and sanitation "for an extended period of time."</p> |
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## Cyber Awareness

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Cloud helps FEMA disaster response</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://fedtechmagazine.com/article/2018/01/how-cloud-helps-fema-scale-and-improve-disaster-response">https://fedtechmagazine.com/article/2018/01/how-cloud-helps-fema-scale-and-improve-disaster-response</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>The frequency and intensity of natural disasters made for a massively complex 2017 at the Federal Emergency Management Agency.</p> <p>Extreme weather events — most notably Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, but also tornadoes and wildfires — caused a total of \$306 billion in damage in the United States in 2017, making it the most expensive year on record for natural disasters in the country, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.</p> <p>FEMA is tasked with responding to those disasters and helping citizens recover. Increasingly, the agency is turning to the cloud to help it scale its response, so that it can access data faster and deliver services more efficiently.</p> <p>Technology is key to helping FEMA fulfill its mission, according to FEMA CTO Ted Okada. “In our mission statement, we are to support citizens and first responders, state and local government, but first and foremost, survivors of disasters. When I think customers, I think of those survivors who are in the disaster zone and how do I meet their needs best?” Okada told FedScoop last month.</p> <p>“We work as a team — the back office is the front office — from solution design or early problem identification or pain points, all the way through how that translates into a solution and long-term infrastructure,” he added.</p> <p>The 2017 disasters forced FEMA to ramp up its response across the board. That, in turn, required a concurrent increase in technology infrastructure. “The challenge about this year in particular is scalability,” Okada told FedScoop. “We’ve had to take our entire infrastructure and scale it to literally millions of people to register for assistance.”</p> <p>FEMA has had to disperse billions of dollars in assistance and target populations to provide them with housing very quickly, Okada said, and then repeat that process over several major disasters.</p> <p>“We are having to scale this beyond what we’ve ever scaled before,” he said. “Now we’re going to have to sustain it for many, many years ahead. So, when we say we need processes that are measurable and manageable, it’s also about them being repeatable, sustainable, scalable.”</p> |

Shifting resources to the cloud has allowed FEMA to scale its operations and response, Okada said. "I'd say the hidden benefit is actually what we've done in raw engineering inside our IT shops ... with internal databases," he added.

The biggest challenge for FEMA has been scaling its internal financial systems. "Cloud computing can be a catchall phrase, but really, it's about how you get databases to perform faster and deliver that content faster via the web," he said. "We are in a situation where we now can begin to modernize a lot of those databases to perform much more effectively than in the past."

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**HEADLINE** **01/09 FCC revisits emergency cellphone alerts**

**SOURCE** <https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/texas/article/Hurricane-Harvey-other-disasters-prompt-FCC-to-12485318.php>

**GIST** Emergency alerts warning of flooding, tornadoes or other looming disasters could be targeted to specific neighborhoods under proposed upgrades to the nation's emergency alerts system, filling a gap exposed during Hurricane Harvey.

The proposed changes, announced Tuesday by Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai, would allow officials to use "device-based geo-targeting" to send alerts to all the cellphones in areas as small as one-tenth of a mile in radius. The current Wireless Emergency Alerts system only allows officials to target all cellphones in a county.

"If adopted, it will be the single most important improvement to the nation's alerts and warnings infrastructure in years," said Francisco Sanchez, Harris County's deputy emergency management coordinator.

He said that the current system's lack of precision was particularly problematic during Hurricane Harvey, which battered all 1,700 square miles of Harris County for days on end, overwhelming 911 systems and forcing officials to use mobile applications like Nextdoor to communicate with residents in dangerous areas.

The FCC in 2016 quadrupled the maximum length of a wireless alert to 360 characters and pushed for more alerts in Spanish. But wireless carriers do not currently have to assist with narrowing alert targeting to specific neighborhoods, and have lobbied heavily against any such requirements.

But emergency management officials say those concerns should be secondary to the safety of Americans.

In a Friday letter to the FCC, leaders from five of the nation's largest public safety groups said the technology for implementing more precise alerts is already in place.

"Phones are capable of precise geo-targeting today and WEA must have access to these capabilities," the group wrote. "Without the ability to geo-target our alert originators will continue to use WEA sparingly or not at all."

"This is a shame," the letter continued. "An effective WEA can literally mean the difference between life and death."

That sentiment has been shared by a bipartisan group of representatives from disaster-prone areas around the country. After officials from Sonoma County, California cited lack of precision as one of their reasons not to deploy WEAs during historic wildfires last year, California Democratic Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris wrote a joint letter to the FCC stressing the need for upgrades.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 New Zealand police radio station hacked</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://www.newsweek.com/new-zealand-police-protest-forced-listen-nw-fuck-da-police-775808">http://www.newsweek.com/new-zealand-police-protest-forced-listen-nw-fuck-da-police-775808</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>An official law enforcement radio station in a New Zealand city was hijacked over the weekend and made to broadcast multiple versions of a notoriously anti-police rap song.</p> <p>The song, "Fuck Tha Police" by 1990s Los Angeles group N.W.A., was illegally played several times through the official Dunedin police frequency on Monday and over the weekend, according to local newspapers.</p> <p>Police told the Otago Daily Times that multiple versions of the song had been broadcast through the channel, including the 1998 Rage Against The Machine cover, which was played by hackers last Friday.</p> <p>The region's acting commander Inspector Kelvin Lloyd told local media that there were no police radios missing so police believed that the broadcasts were being made by an outside party who had not yet been found.</p> <p>Lloyd said that the explicit music did not offend him or his colleagues but said that whoever was hacking the station was more than just a nuisance.</p> <p>He did condemn the hacker for putting lives at risk by hijacking a radio station used by police to communicate and coordinate law enforcement.</p> <p>"Any interference with a police radio constitutes a risk to public safety, and anyone caught doing this can face a penalty of criminal nuisance and up to one year imprisonment," Lloyd said.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 FBI disrupting fewer cybercrime rings</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2018/01/fbi-disrupting-10x-fewer-cyber-crime-rings-2015/145082/">http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2018/01/fbi-disrupting-10x-fewer-cyber-crime-rings-2015/145082/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>FBI agents took down or disrupted only about one-tenth as many cyber criminal operations during the 2017 fiscal year as they did three years earlier, according to annual reports.</p> <p>The number of cyber crime operations that FBI agents dismantled or disrupted fell from nearly 2,500 in fiscal year 2014, the first year reliable records were kept, to just 262 in fiscal year 2017, according to annual audits.</p> <p>Agents disrupted or dismantled 510 cyber crime operations in fiscal year 2015 and 259 operations in fiscal year 2016, according to the audits.</p> <p>The FBI missed its own target of 500 disruptions or dismantlements in fiscal years 2016 and 2017, according to the report.</p> <p>Despite missing that goal, the FBI's cyber division "made noteworthy progress towards neutralizing global cyber threats," according to the 2017 report. The bureau also continues to list cyber operations as one of its major priorities and officials frequently highlight cyber operations during public events.</p> <p>Dismantlement means that the organization's financial base and supply networks have all been rendered inoperable, according to the audit documents, while disruptions mark major milestones on the road to dismantlement.</p> <p>It's not clear if the ten-fold reduction in disruptions and dismantlements reflects a shift in FBI priorities, a change in tactics or some other cause.</p> |

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|                                      | <p>An FBI spokesman declined to comment on the figures or to provide additional context.</p> <p>The audit documents don't describe any change in definitions or methodology that might account for the massive reduction.</p> <p>FBI budget documents don't break out year-on-year cyber operations funding, which might give another clue to the reduction.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 Reddit breached; users lose bitcoin</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/reddit-users-lose-bitcoin/">https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/reddit-users-lose-bitcoin/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>Reddit has confirmed that one of its email providers, Mailgun, has been breached, resulting in the hacks of user profiles and their linked cryptocurrency accounts.</p> <p>Attackers infiltrated Reddit accounts using password reset emails sent via the third-party vendor. Several Redditors also reported that their Bitcoin Cash tip accounts had been emptied out.</p> <p>Despite the alarming details, Reddit urged the public to maintain perspective, noting that the attackers “did not have access to either Reddit’s systems or to a Redditor’s email account,” adding that the number of confirmed impacted users is less than 20 so far.</p> <p>“On 12/31, Reddit received several reports regarding password reset emails that were initiated and completed without the account owners’ requests,” Reddit explained in a post. “We have been working to investigate the issue and coordinating with Mailgun, a third-party vendor we’ve been using to send some of our account emails including password reset emails,” it continued. “A malicious actor targeted Mailgun and gained access to Reddit’s password reset emails.... We know this is frustrating as a user, and we have put additional controls in place to help make sure it doesn’t happen again.”</p> <p>Mailgun, for its part, said that it has identified the attack vector—an employee’s compromised email account—and has patched the issue.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Fake utility app: Swift Cleaner</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.scmagazine.com/researchers-believe-malicious-android-app-written-in-kotlin-code-may-be-a-first/article/735952/">https://www.scmagazine.com/researchers-believe-malicious-android-app-written-in-kotlin-code-may-be-a-first/article/735952/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Researchers have discovered a fake utility app called Swift Cleaner that they believe may be the first Android mobile malware developed using the open-source Kotlin programming language.</p> <p>Found on Google Play, the malware was disguised as a tool called Swift Cleaner that has been installed between 1,000 and 5,000 times, according to a Jan. 9 blog post from Trend Micro. The fake app purports to perform such helpful tasks as system and cache cleaning and memory optimization, but in truth it is capable of malicious remote command execution, information theft, unauthorized SMS sending and URL forwarding, and click/ad fraud. It also signs up unwitting users for premium SMS subscription services, without permission.</p> <p>Lorin Wu, a mobile threats analyst with Trend Micro, reports in the blog post that Google was notified of the threat, and responded by verifying that Google Play Protect has safeguards in place to protect users from the malware family in question. Wu did not indicate, however, if the app itself was removed from the store. SC Media has reached out to both Trend Micro and Google for further elaboration.</p> <p>In May 2017, Google essentially endorsed Kotlin for Android development purposes by announcing first-class support for the programming language. The official Kotlin website describes Kotlin as a statically</p> |

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|                               | <p>typed programming language that is fully compatible with Java and Android and can be used to build apps for across multiple platforms. Its advantages, according to the site, include the reduction of boilerplate code, minimization of errors, interoperability across existing libraries, and its tool-friendly nature. However, Wu says it is unclear how these features might benefit a bad actor when developing new malware.</p> <p>When launched, the Swift Cleaner malware sends the infected device's information to a remote command-and-control server. The C&amp;C server sends back various tasks requests, as well as a specific number to which the malware sends an unauthorized SMS message. At this point URL forwarding and click/ad fraud is enabled.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/09 Microsoft: patches slow performance</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://www.darkreading.com/endpoint/microsoft-confirms-windows-performance-hits-with-meltdown-spectre-patches/d/d-id/1330778">http://www.darkreading.com/endpoint/microsoft-confirms-windows-performance-hits-with-meltdown-spectre-patches/d/d-id/1330778</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>It's official: Microsoft Windows patches for recently revealed critical microprocessor flaws will cause noticeable performance slowdowns on Windows machines, the company said today.</p> <p>Performance degradation has been a key concern after Microsoft and Linux operating system kernels were retooled to mitigate attacks on Intel, AMD, and ARM processors via the so-called Meltdown and Spectre hardware vulnerabilities. Security experts had estimated up to 30% degradation for Linux and Windows, so performance is a big part of the equation when it comes to risk assessment and in some cases, whether to patch at all.</p> <p>Microsoft in a blog post today confirmed that Windows servers will experience noticeable performance slowdowns, as will Windows 7 and 8 client machines running older processors (2015-timeframe PCs with Haswell or older CPUs). While newer Windows 10 platforms won't experience perceptible performance drops, those on older hardware will.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 APT group new dangerous threat tactic</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/turla-cyberespionage-gang-employs-adobe-flash-installer/d/d-id/1330788">http://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/turla-cyberespionage-gang-employs-adobe-flash-installer/d/d-id/1330788</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>The Russian-speaking Turla advanced persistent threat group, among whose many victims include the US Department of State, appears to have developed a dangerous new tactic for installing its data-stealing malware on targeted systems.</p> <p>Security vendor ESET says it has recently observed Turla packaging one of its backdoors with a real Adobe Flash installer and downloading the malware on victim systems from legitimate Adobe URLs and IP addresses.</p> <p>To targeted endpoint systems, the remote IP address from which the malware is being downloaded belongs to Akamai, the Content Delivery Network that Adobe officially uses to distribute its Flash installer, ESET said in a technical whitepaper Tuesday. That makes it much harder to spot the subterfuge,</p> <p>Turla has been then getting infected computers to send back sensitive system information to legitimate URLs at Adobe.com. All of the download attempts that ESET observed were made through HTTP and not via HTTPS, the vendor added. "We can state with confidence that Adobe was not compromised," ESET said in its paper. "These attackers merely use the Adobe brand to trick users into downloading the malware."</p> <p>The Turla group has long used social engineering tricks to get victims to install its malware on their</p> |



systems. Often this has involved the use of fake Adobe Flash installers. The new campaign, which appears to have started sometime in July 2016, marks the first time that Turla or likely any other known threat actor has downloaded malware over HTTP from legitimate Adobe URLs and IP addresses, ESET said.

Most of the victims are located in countries belonging to the former USSR. Targets include embassies and consulates belonging to several Eastern European nations.

"The most likely scenario involves SIGINT capabilities and not a lot of threat actors are known to have this capacity," says Jean-Ian Boutin, senior malware researcher at ESET.

According to ESET, it has still not been able to determine how exactly Turla actors are distributing their malware through Adobe.com.

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**HEADLINE** 01/10 Cryptocurrency market crypto strange

**SOURCE** <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cryptocurrency-porn-site-kodak-shares-double/>

**GIST** At first, Fantasy Market seemed like a dream come true for cryptocurrency investors. Now, the digital money that consumers could use to pay to stream pornography has turned into a nightmare.

According to the New York Post, Fantasy Market CEO Jonathan Lucas has "disappeared" with the investors' money and ignored their repeated requests for refunds. Lucas planned to raise as much as \$25 million through an "initial coin offering" (ICO) that had been planned for December but was scrapped after the Post raised questions about the deal, the paper said.

Fantasy Market's website has been shuttered and currently contains a message directing investors seeking refunds to contact the company via email by an April 1 deadline. A company spokesman denied the Post's allegations and said Lucas is "working to finish issuing the refunds" within the next 72 hours. The spokesperson declined to make Lucas available for an interview, saying he was "busy with the refund process."

"We planned to issue refunds since we canceled the presale and have been doing so for some time," a Fantasy Market spokesperson said in an email. "We canceled [the ICO] because we simply did not raise enough, and it was not economical to continue spending money on marketing."

Fantasy Market had planned to sell what it called Fantasy Market Tokens, nicknamed "porn tokens," using a cryptocurrency called ethereum. According to the news site Altcoinss.com, the company raised \$2 million from investors last year offering users the chance to control what performers -- known as camgirls -- said and did during their performances.

"If you have ever played a video game where you can control your character's decisions, then you are already familiar with the Fantasy Market experience," Altcoinss quoted a Fantasy Market promotional website as saying.

The crypto strangeness doesn't stop there.

Shares of Kodak (KODK) more than doubled to \$6.78 on Tuesday after the iconic photography company formed a partnership with Wenn Digital to enter the cryptocurrency and digital licensing markets. Shares of another company called, Long Island Iced Tea Corp. (LTEA) similarly surged when it recently announced plans to change its name to Long Blockchain Corp., referring to the underlying technology used in bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies.

Skeptics such as MIT's Jonathan Parker have long argued that the market for bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies is a bubble that's bound to burst, although the underlying blockchain technology might have a future as does the idea of making money transferrable over distances.

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|                                      | <p>"There are now private currencies that have the potential to decimate bitcoin, those sponsored and supported by banks, like ripple," said Parker, a professor of finance at the Sloan School of Management. "Even these may go under in the face of government competition."</p> <p>Other cryptocurrency deals are also raising eyebrows among investors.</p> <p>The government of Venezuela, for instance, plans to offer a token backed by sales of oil, with a coin it has dubbed the petro. President Nicholas Maduro has said the petro is designed to help the cash-strapped country evade sanctions levied on it by the international community.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 FBI: encryption 'public safety issue'</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2018/01/09/Wray-says-encrypted-devices-a-major-public-safety-issue/1141515528597/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts tn us&amp;utm_medium=3">https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2018/01/09/Wray-says-encrypted-devices-a-major-public-safety-issue/1141515528597/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts tn us&amp;utm_medium=3</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>Jan. 9 (UPI) -- FBI Director Christopher Wray said law enforcement agents are increasingly unable to gain access to encrypted cellphones for investigatory purposes, something he called a "major public safety issue" Tuesday.</p> <p>He said that during the fiscal year ending in September 2017, the FBI was not able to access 7,775 mobile devices -- the largest share of devices it couldn't open since agents began accessing them for evidence.</p> <p>"Each one was tied to a specific subject, a specific defendant, a specific victim, a specific threat," Wray said during a cybersecurity conference at Fordham University in New York City. "We're increasingly unable to access that evidence, despite lawful authority to do so."</p> <p>He called for tech companies to assist law enforcement gain access to encrypted devices and apps.</p> <p>"Being unable to access nearly 7,800 devices in a single year is a major public safety issue," Wray added.</p> <p>"We're not interested in the millions of devices of everyday citizens. We're interested in those devices that have been used to plan or execute terrorist or criminal activities."</p> <p>He said the agency wasn't looking for a "back door" that would allow them to access devices secretly. The information should only be accessed with a court order.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Kodak launches own cryptocurrency</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kodak-creating-its-own-cryptocurrency-kodakcoin/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kodak-creating-its-own-cryptocurrency-kodakcoin/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>NEW YORK - Eastman Kodak's (KODK) stock price more than doubled on Tuesday after the venerable imaging company said it's entering the digital currency business.</p> <p>Kodak said it will team with blockchain developer WENN Digital, to launch a cryptocurrency and image licensing tool that the companies say will help photographers and agencies manage image rights.</p> <p>Blockchain is online ledger technology where transactions of digital currencies, like bitcoin, are recorded.</p> <p>The KodakOne platform will let photographers register and license their work using an encrypted, digital ledger. Users will also be able to accept payment for their work using a new cryptocurrency called KodakCoin.</p> <p>"For many in the tech industry, 'blockchain' and 'cryptocurrency' are hot buzzwords, but for photographers</p> |

who've long struggled to assert control over their work and how it's used, these buzzwords are the keys to solving what felt like an unsolvable problem," Kodak CEO Jeff Clarke said in a statement. "Kodak has always sought to democratize photography and make licensing fair to artists. These technologies give the photography community an innovative and easy way to do just that."

Rochester, New York-based Kodak was founded in 1880 and traces its roots to the early days of film-based photography. The new services will be launched via an initial coin offering (ICO), which many cryptocurrency startups are using to raise funds, on Jan. 31.

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## Terror Conditions

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| HEADLINE                  | <b>01/09 Report: spike homegrown terror cases</b>   |
| SOURCE                    | <a href="http://freebeacon.com/national-security/u-s-sees-spike-homegrown-terrorist-cases/">http://freebeacon.com/national-security/u-s-sees-spike-homegrown-terrorist-cases/</a>   |
| GIST                      | <p>Cases of homegrown terrorism in the United States spiked in December, marking the first rise in such incidents over a two-month span, according to a new House Homeland Security Committee report.</p> <p>U.S. authorities arrested four individuals last month on charges of providing material support to the Islamic States, bringing to 150 the total number of cases related to homegrown terrorism since 2013, the committee found in its monthly Terror Threat Snapshot, citing data from the Majority Staff of the Homeland Security Committee.</p> <p>Rep. Michael McCaul (R., Texas), who chairs the Homeland Security Committee, said despite the collapse of ISIS's self-proclaimed "caliphate" in Iraq and Syria, the group maintains the capability to conduct external operations and remains a "severe threat" to the United States and its western allies.</p> <p>"Given the loss of its safe havens, ISIS has shifted its attention toward cyberspace to recruit, radicalize, and provide guidance and instructions for carrying out attacks," McCaul said in a statement. "In this new year, we must continue to work with our allies across the globe to crush ISIS fighters wherever they may be and defeat ISIS in cyberspace."</p> <p>December marked the first attempted suicide bombing in the United States inspired by ISIS, when a Bangladeshi national living in New York City detonated a pipe bomb at a bus terminal near Times Square, wounding four including himself. Akayed Ullah, 27, told investigators he carried out the Dec. 12 attack on behalf of ISIS to avenge the deaths of Muslims across the world.</p> <p>One day earlier, a Texas resident was arrested in Houston for attempting to provide material support to ISIS. The FBI arrested Kaan Sercan Damlarkaya, 18, after he offered bomb-making instructions to an undercover federal agent who was posing as a member of ISIS.</p> <p>Violent extremists hoping to attack the United States from within remain a top concern for the FBI in 2018.</p> <p>FBI Director Christopher Wray has said homegrown extremists and lone wolf attackers who don't have direct ties to radical Islamist groups pose the greatest domestic terrorism threat to the United States. Wray reiterated to lawmakers in December that the bureau has roughly 1,000 pending domestic terrorism cases at any given time.</p> |
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| HEADLINE | <b>01/09 Egypt extends state of emergency</b>   |
| SOURCE   | <a href="http://www.arabnews.com/node/1221996/middle-east">http://www.arabnews.com/node/1221996/middle-east</a> |
| GIST     | CAIRO: Egyptian lawmakers on Tuesday extended for three months a state of emergency first declared              |

following deadly April church bombings, state TV reported.

Egypt had extended the state of emergency for a second time in October.

The latest extension is set to come into effect on Saturday, according to the official gazette.

The emergency law expands police powers of arrest, surveillance and seizure, and can limit freedom of movement.

Under Egypt's constitution, the three-month state of emergency can only be renewed once, but the president can subsequently reinstate it.

Parliament approved the current state of emergency in April last year, after two suicide bombings at churches on Palm Sunday, claimed by Daesh, killed at least 45 people in the cities of Tanta and Alexandria.

The local affiliate of Daesh, based in North Sinai, claimed the attacks and threatened further violence against Egypt's Coptic Christian minority.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/10 AQ branch Syria breaks w/Nusra Front</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1139031/qaeda-branch-syria-breaks-nusra-front">https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/1139031/qaeda-branch-syria-breaks-nusra-front</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>The al-Qaeda organization officially declared that it has a branch operating in Syria.</p> <p>It called on its followers in Syria to cooperate with the “real mujahideen,” it said in a statement.</p> <p>The Syrian branch of the group was announced weeks after major disputes erupted between former al-Nusra Front and Hayat Tahrir al-Sham leaders.</p> <p>Experts said that the announcement of the al-Qaeda branch was not a remarkable development with Dr. Hassan Abou Hanieh noting that al-Nusra had cut off ties with the group back in July 2016.</p> <p>At the time, there were members who were opposed to this break, he said.</p> <p>The break off only seemed superficial and with the approval of al-Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri and other leaders.</p> <p>Abou Hanieh told Asharq Al-Awsat that Abou Mohamed al-Joulani slowly began to distance himself from al-Qaeda to eventually form Hayat Tahrir al-Sham in January 2017. After that, some leaders in the group started to abandon it and lean towards re-forming the al-Qaeda branch in Syria.</p> <p>“Joulani was aware of that, which prompted him to take preemptive measures and eliminate some leaders under the excuse that they were ISIS members even though they were affiliated to al-Qaeda,” he revealed.</p> <p>In November, Zawahiri released a recording condemning Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, saying that breaking off from al-Qaeda was “unacceptable.”</p> <p>He then sent messages to al-Qaeda leaders, accusing Joulani of treason. This was eventually followed by the official announcement of the formation of the Syrian branch of al-Qaeda.</p> <p>The branch did not reveal an official name for itself or any other details about it.</p> <p>It is likely that it is being led by Abou Hammam al-Soury or Jordan's Sami al-Aridi or Abou Juleibeb, said Syrian opposition media sources.</p> |

The media spoke of the emergence of the “Jaish al-Muslimeen in al-Sham” that did not issue an official statement on its formation. The group declared that it is dedicated to confronting the Syrian regime, Iranians, Russians and Kurdish People’s Protection Units. It did not indicate whether it was affiliated to al-Qaeda.

The Syrian branch of al-Qaeda has since started to restructure its branch and regroup its fighters, comprised of members who initially refused to break off from it. They include Sami al-Aridi, Abou Hammam al-Soury and others who managed to garner several extremist followers.

A proposal was made by Seif al-Adel al-Masry, who is present in Iran, to have Hamza bin Laden lead the Syrian al-Qaeda branch. Masry is an al-Qaeda military leader, who rose to prominence before the September 11, 2001 attacks. He is described as one of the most effective al-Qaeda operatives and a possible successor to Zawahiri.

Syrian opposition sources do not hide the fact that influential al-Qaeda operatives are active among their factions, including Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and Faylaq al-Sham.

Experts ruled out the possibility of a conflict erupting between al-Qaeda and Hayat Tahrir al-Sham.

Abou Hanieh said that the conflict is likely to remain restricted to a proxy war and minor skirmishes, amid Russian and international coalition strikes against these groups.

He added: “Everyone now is under pressure and no one knows his fate because that it bound by international agreements.”

“With a lack of an international agreement and the plethora of possible scenarios, Idlib will likely be the focus of all sides in 2018,” he predicted.

“Al-Qaeda is counting on time playing in its favor in order to determine whether current standing agreements can be violated,” he said.

Abou Hanieh stressed that al-Qaeda realized the futility of a traditional war and is now looking into guerrilla warfare, similar to what it did in Iraq between 2006 and 2008.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 National Action: 6 face terror charge</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-42625287">http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-42625287</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Five men and a woman have appeared in court charged with belonging to banned British Neo-Nazi group National Action.</p> <p>Westminster Magistrates' Court heard the defendants had allegedly persisted with the organisation despite the ban.</p> <p>One defendant, Daniel Boguvonic, said he intended "to fight these charges from start to finish".</p> <p>All six have indicated not-guilty pleas to being members of the group, following an inquiry led by West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit.</p> <p>The defendants, who were charged on Monday, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nathan Pryke, 26, of Dartford Road, March, Cambridge</li><li>• Adam Thomas, 21, of Waltham Gardens, Banbury, Oxfordshire</li><li>• Claudia Patatas, 38, of Waltham Gardens, Banbury, Oxfordshire</li></ul> |

- Darren Fletcher, 28, of Kitchen Lane, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton
- Daniel Bogunovic, 26, of Crown Hills Rise, Leicester
- Joel Wilmore, 24, of Bramhall Moor Lane, Hazel Grove, Stockport

The charges brought against the six relate to belonging to National Action between December 2016 and September last year.

The five men all gave their identities as British, but Ms Patatas, a wedding photographer who lives with Mr Thomas, told the court she is Portuguese.

Mr Thomas denied an additional charge of possessing the Anarchist Cookbook 2000, which contains information likely to be useful for preparing acts of terrorism.

Mr Bogunovic also faces charges of intending to incite racial hatred by posting material which is threatening, abusive or insulting at Aston University campus in Birmingham in 2016, which he denies.

Mr Fletcher faces five additional counts of breaching an anti-social behaviour order.

Mr Wilmore is a former army reservist, having served in the Royal Logistic Corps between 2011 and 2013.

The group will next appear at the Old Bailey on 19 January.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 China recognizes Pakistan sacrifices</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://expressnewsline.com/2018/01/09/china-acknowledges-pakistans-sacrifices-in-war-on-terror.html">http://expressnewsline.com/2018/01/09/china-acknowledges-pakistans-sacrifices-in-war-on-terror.html</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>China has been vocal in extending support to Pakistan since US President Donald Trump stepped up criticism against Islamabad for providing safe havens for terrorists.</p> <p>He also added that it could be a backup plan in response to the Indo-Pacific strategy of the United States and its allies and that if the United States and its allies push their Indo-Pacific strategy to the extreme, China will surely carry out a plan with Pakistan to ensure the security of sea routes.</p> <p>The media in China and overseas said that Pakistan offered the key location to China as a retaliation to US President Donald Trumps New Year Day criticism of Islamabad for not cracking down on terrorist safe havens in the country. "It has made a prominent contribution to global anti-terror efforts, and the worldwide community should fully recognize this", said spokesperson Geng Shuang at a regular press briefing.</p> <p>China has again acknowledged Pakistan's sacrifices and contributions in war on terror.</p> <p>Responding to a question regarding a White House official's statement that China could play a role in convincing Pakistan for dismantling terrorist safe-havens, he said Washington is seeking to work with Beijing and other regional players to weigh on Islamabad to act on whatever President Trump has said recently. "This is not conducive to the global terrorism efforts", he said.</p> <p>China is also reportedly building a military base in Pakistan's Jiwani peninsula, which is near Gwadar and close to the border with Iran.</p> <p>China plans to push for greater maritime capabilities along strategic sea routes and if the deal to acquire Pakistani military base goes through, the new facility will come up at Jiwani close to Iran border in the Gulf of Oman only 85km from China's Gwadar port in Pakistan.</p> |

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|                                      | <p>The tensions between Pakistan and the USA escalated after President Donald Trump, in new year message, said the country has only given "lies and deceit" in exchange of \$ 33 billion aid in last 15 years.</p> <p>"Chinese investment in Pakistan is expected to reach over \$46 billion by 2030 with the creation of a [China-Pakistan Economic Corridor] connecting Balochistan's Gwadar Port on the Arabian Sea with Kashgar, in Western China", Harrison Akins, a researcher at the Howard Baker Center who focuses on Pakistan and China, told Newsweek. "Cracking down of terrorism calls for the joint efforts from the global community", he said.</p> <p>"As you know the building of CPEC is an important part of the Belt and Road initiative, and China and Pakistan are also making efforts to build the CPEC, which is in the common interest of the countries along the route", Mr. Lu observed.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/10 Israel: foiled major terror strikes in EU</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="https://clarionproject.org/israel-we-foiled-major-terror-strikes-on-european-cities/">https://clarionproject.org/israel-we-foiled-major-terror-strikes-on-european-cities/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>Israeli intelligence foiled major terrorist attacks planned against European countries, said Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The statements was made during a speech to ambassadors from member countries of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), at a meeting in Jerusalem, reported The Times of Israel.</p> <p>“We have, through our intelligence services, provided information that has stopped several dozen major terrorist attacks, many of them in European countries,” Netanyahu said. “Some of these could have been mass attacks, of the worst kind that you have experienced on the soil of Europe and even worse, because they involve civil aviation. Israel has prevented that, and thereby helped save many European lives.”</p> <p>Netanyahu also said Israel was fighting Sunni and Shiite radical Islamic terrorism coming from both ISIS and the Islamic Republic of Iran.</p> <p>“ISIS is being destroyed in Iraq and Syria, but it is trying to establish an alternative territorial base in the Sinai. Israel is contributing to preventing that in myriad ways. In general, I would say that Israel is the most powerful indigenous force in the Middle East that fights radical Islam,” Netanyahu added.</p> <p>Regarding Iran, he said Israel’s efforts have prevented the transfer of 100,000 Iranian Shiite fighters to Syria to wage brutal sectarian war.</p> <p>“Where will the spillover [of a Sunni-Shiite clash in Syria] happen? In Europe. Where will the human flow go? To Europe. Who’s preventing that right now? Israel? Right now, Israel alone. But I maintain that it’s a common interest that we have.”</p> <p>Although Israel is not a member of NATO, it has close ties with many NATO countries and opened an office in the NATO headquarters in Brussels last year.</p> <p>As radical Islamic terrorism continues the world, many countries are looking for its terrorism expertise. For example, in September 2017, Japan signed a memorandum of understanding with Israel for assistance with counter-terrorism as Japan looks to bolster security for the 2020 Summer Olympics to be held in Tokyo.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Israel: PA paid terrorists, families</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Palestinian-Authority-paid-terrorists-nearly-350-million-in-2017-533227">http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/Palestinian-Authority-paid-terrorists-nearly-350-million-in-2017-533227</a> |

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| <p><b>GIST</b></p>                   | <p>The Palestinian Authority paid terrorists and their families over \$347 million last year, according to its own records, the Defense Ministry reported to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday.</p> <p>The average income of a Palestinian is \$580 per month, which is what the PA pays terrorists who are sentenced to three to five years in prison.</p> <p>The PA pays terrorists who are sentenced to 20 years or more in prison – in other words, those who committed more severe crimes, and likely were involved in killing Israelis – five times that each month for the rest of their lives.</p> <p>Terrorists who are Israeli citizens receive a \$145 bonus, which, when added to the amount PA pays for the most severe crimes, comes to over \$2,900 a month, more than the average Israeli income of around \$2,700. There are also increases in pay for being married and for each child a terrorist has.</p> <p>Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman said, “The PA pays over a billion shekels a year to terrorists and their families, thus encouraging and perpetuating terrorism.</p> <p>“The minute the amount of the payment is decided according to the severity of the crime and the length of the sentence – in other words, whoever murders and is sentenced to life in prison gets much more – that is funding terrorist attacks against Israeli citizens. There is nothing that better illustrates the PA’s support for terrorism. We must stop this,” he said.</p> <p>Liberman presented the data to the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Tuesday, along with his bill to deduct the equivalent amount to what the PA pays terrorists and their families, from taxes and tariffs Israel collects for the PA.</p> |
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| <p><b>HEADLINE</b></p> | <p><b>01/09 IG: Pentagon Afghan reconstruction failed</b></p>   |
| <p><b>SOURCE</b></p>   | <p><a href="https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/9/pentagon-task-force-afghan-reconstruction-wasted-m/">https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/9/pentagon-task-force-afghan-reconstruction-wasted-m/</a></p>  |
| <p><b>GIST</b></p>     | <p>The Pentagon task force overseeing millions in U.S.-funded reconstruction dollars for Afghanistan was plagued by organizational shortfalls, inadequate or non-existent records of ongoing projects and an overall lack of strategy that led to the waste of millions in American taxpayer funds on failed projects, a key government watchdog group claims.</p> <p>In its new review of the task force released Tuesday, officials from the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR), the Pentagon-sponsored organization suffered from the “lack of a clear mission and strategy, as well as a poor coordination, planning, contracting, and oversight led to waste and conflicts with other U.S. agencies operating in Afghanistan.”</p> <p>With a congressionally-appropriated budget of \$823 million, over \$300 million was spent “on indirect and support costs, not directly on projects in Afghanistan,” SIGAR investigators found. The organization was plagued from the start, with the task force’s “goals were at odds with its capabilities, and its role within the U.S. reconstruction effort was unclear,” the report states. The problems compounded from there.</p> <p>Yet Pentagon officials were unable “to provide reliable data showing the extent to which [task force] projects created jobs, facilitated foreign direct investments, increased exports, or increased Afghan government revenues,” investigators found.</p> <p>The task force had set aside \$316.3 million on “obligated contracts” in direct support of ongoing reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan. Of those dollars only \$70 million fully met the terms of the contracts. The remaining funds “either partially met or failed to meet their deliverables,” the report states.</p> |



The task force’s ability to execute reconstruction contracts was not the only shortfall, investigators found. In their report, SIGAR found that 43 of 89 contracted reviewed by the office “used limited competition and sole-source contracting, increasing the government’s risk of waste.” In one case, investigators found the task force awarded seven separate contracts — worth a total of \$35.1 million — to reconstruction firms whose senior staff were also task force members.

Such oversights were further facilitated by the task force’s lackluster records keeping process. Task force leaders “did not document organizational priorities, such as its objectives, mission, and strategy until more than 2.5 years after it began operating in Afghanistan,” the report states. As a result, task force leaders were “often unable to hold contractors accountable for poor performance, resulting in money being wasted on contracts that had no positive outcomes,” investigators found.

In the end, the reconstruction task force “did not have the time, resident expertise, or outside support it needed to do everything it set out to do ... [while] failing to account for realities in operating in Afghanistan including politics, culture, weather, and security- resulting in waste,” SIGAR investigators concluded.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Detainees: groin searches sex harassment</b> |
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| <b>SOURCE</b> | <a href="http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/01/10/me-too-groin-searches-at-gitmo-are-sexual-harassment-911-plotters-say.html">http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/01/10/me-too-groin-searches-at-gitmo-are-sexual-harassment-911-plotters-say.html</a> |
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| <b>GIST</b> | <p>Guantanamo detainees linked to the 9/11 attacks have accused the prison's guard force of sexual harassment for conducting so-called “groin searches.”</p> <p>“We be under sexual harassment today for search in being here,” Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, alleged mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, said in broken English on Monday, before a war court session, the Miami Herald reported.</p> <p>Four other alleged co-conspirators parroted Mohammed’s accusations of sexual harassment, with Ramzi bin al Shibh, an alleged deputy of the attacks, calling the search procedure a “sexual harassment search.”</p> <p>The men are currently being held in Guantanamo’s Camp 7, a secretive site for high-value detainees. But despite the secrecy, the captives are given limited access to satellite news networks, possibly making them aware of the shifting attitudes toward sexual harassment in the U.S.</p> <p>They voluntarily attended the first session of a seven-day set of pretrial hearings and were reminded by the judge, Army Col. James Pohl, that they can waive their attendance at any time. Alleged co-conspirator Mustafa al Hawsawi used the privilege and asked the judge to remove him from the proceedings.</p> <p>According to the Herald, all five detainees are accused of helping the 19 hijackers who crashed planes in New York, at the Pentagon and in a Pennsylvania field on Sept. 11, 2001, killing 2,976 people.</p> <p>Ever since the charges in 2012, the court has been holding pretrial hearings.</p> <p>Prosecutor Bob Swann told the court that the prison had chosen Monday to implement procedures that allow physical groin searches. In the past, the military used scanners and other devices to see if prisoners from Camp 7 had something hidden in their groin area.</p> <p>The judge ordered the prison to bring someone to court to explain the recent change in the search practices, possibly this week. Such searches were banned in 2013, but a higher court allowed physical groin searches to resume -- although most commanders use wands and other devices to search the groin area.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 US expects Pakistan 'decisive action'</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2018/01/09/US-wants-decisive-action-against-terrorism-Pentagon-says-of-Pakistan/9621515522426/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts_dfn&amp;utm_medium=19">https://www.upi.com/Defense-News/2018/01/09/US-wants-decisive-action-against-terrorism-Pentagon-says-of-Pakistan/9621515522426/?utm_source=fp&amp;utm_campaign=ts_dfn&amp;utm_medium=19</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Jan. 9 (UPI) -- The Pentagon has clarified what the United States expects of Pakistan after suspending the delivery of security funds and military equipment, and what needs to happen for delivery of both to start back up.</p> <p>The Pentagon's top press officer told reporters Monday that the United States wants Pakistan to take "decisive action" against terrorism within the region following the suspension of security funds and military equipment to the Pakistani government -- a decision that drew harsh backlash last week from the U.S. ally.</p> <p>"Our expectations are straightforward: Taliban and Haqqani leadership and attack planners should no longer be able to find safe haven or conduct operations from Pakistani soil," said Army Col. Robert Manning, who is the director of defense press operations at the Pentagon.</p> <p>"This suspension is not a permanent cutoff at this time," Manning said. "Security funding and pending deliveries will be frozen, but not cancelled or reprogrammed at this time."</p> <p>Manning said that the U.S. stands ready to "work together" with Pakistan, and that, "the U.S has conveyed to Pakistan specific and concrete steps that it could take toward these ends," adding, "We stand ready to work together with Pakistan to combat terrorist groups without distinction."</p> <p>Military and security funds being cut off to Pakistan for their alleged harboring of terrorists from the Haqqani network -- one of the most dangerous insurgent groups in Afghanistan -- comes after months of President Donald Trump accusing Islamabad of maintaining close relationships with the Afghan Taliban.</p> <p>Historically, Pakistan has faced the same type of criticism before regarding its counterterrorism efforts and providing of "safe havens" to terrorists from the past two White House administrations, with the Pakistani government staunchly refusing to ramp up their operational tempo when accused of aiding the Taliban's efforts.</p> <p>Pakistan's response last week, however, was more tempered than previous official statements to past accusations.</p> <p>Pakistan issued a statement on Friday that said, "We are engaged with the US Administration on the issue of security cooperation and await further details."</p> <p>"[It] needs to be appreciated that Pakistan has fought the war against terrorism largely from its own resources, which has cost over \$120 billion in 15 years," Pakistan said in a statement on Friday, which noted that counter terrorism efforts between the two countries has "decimated al-Qaeda" and other groups, directly serving the national security interests of the U.S. and the international community.</p> <p>"Arbitrary deadlines, unilateral pronouncements and shifting goalposts are counterproductive in addressing common threats," the Pakistani leaders added.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Russia: sufficient troops in Syria</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-troops-left-syria-repel-attacks-52229362?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/russia-troops-left-syria-repel-attacks-52229362?</a>         |
| <b>GIST</b>     | Russia said Tuesday that a recent series of drone attacks on its military bases in Syria would have required assistance from a country possessing satellite navigation technology — a statement that appeared to be |

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|                                      | <p>aimed at the United States.</p> <p>Russia's Defense Ministry said its forces repelled a series of drone attacks Saturday on the Hemeimeem air base and a naval facility in Tartus, adding that out of the 13 drones involved, seven were shot down and six were forced to land without inflicting any damage.</p> <p>Without blaming any specific country, the ministry said data for the attacks could only have been obtained "from one of the countries that possesses know-how in satellite navigation."</p> <p>In Tuesday's statement, it noted a "strange coincidence" of a U.S. military intelligence plane flying over the Mediterranean near the two Russian bases at the moment of the attack.</p> <p>The Pentagon denied any involvement.</p> |
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## Suspicious, Unusual

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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 India submarine suffered major damage</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/9/indias-29b-submarine-suffered-major-damage-after-h/">https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/9/indias-29b-submarine-suffered-major-damage-after-h/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>One of the crown jewels of the Indian Navy, a \$2.9 billion ballistic-missile submarine, was sidelined for over 10 months because someone left a hatch open.</p> <p>The INS Arihant suffered “major damage” shortly after it was commissioned in 2016 due to something out of a submariner’s worst nightmares: Someone forgot to close a hatch. The incident happened in Visakhapatnam harbor shortly after the vessel was commissioned.</p> <p>“Arihant’s propulsion compartment was damaged after water entered it,” The Hindu reported Monday. “A naval source said water rushed in as a hatch on the rear side was left open by mistake while it was at harbor.”</p> <p>Western media outlets were stunned at the “human error” attributed to the ordeal.</p> <p>“As the star of the Indian Navy, Arihant should have attracted the best submariners India had to offer, which makes this accident all the more baffling,” Popular Mechanics reported Monday.</p> <p>“It’s hard to articulate how major a f– up this is,” the defense website Task and Purpose said Tuesday morning.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Bellingham police: suspicious death</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://mynorthwest.com/863630/suspicious-death-reported-at-shuttered-bellingham-motel/">http://mynorthwest.com/863630/suspicious-death-reported-at-shuttered-bellingham-motel/</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP) — Authorities say police are investigating the death of a woman found Saturday night in an abandoned Bellingham motel.</p> <p>The Bellingham Herald reports the 32-year-old woman was found dead at the former Mac’s Motel, according to Whatcom County Medical Examiner Dr. Gary Goldfogel.</p> <p>Goldfogel called it a suspicious death.</p> <p>Bellingham Police Lt. Danette Beckley said the woman’s body was found at about 5:30 p.m. Saturday.</p> |

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|                               | Beckley said she couldn't comment on an active investigation. |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Sports have mended political rifts</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.cnn.com/2018/01/09/world/sports-diplomacy-history/index.html">http://www.cnn.com/2018/01/09/world/sports-diplomacy-history/index.html</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>(CNN)Never mind high-pressure peace talks that fail amid the looming threat of warfare. Try wrestling or ping-pong diplomacy instead.</p> <p>For the first time in years, North Korean and South Korean officials sat down for high-level talks Tuesday. The main topic: to discuss the North's participation in the upcoming Winter Olympic Games in South Korea.</p> <p>If North Korean athletes go to Pyeongchang, it would be the first time in post-war Olympic history that a country has hosted a team from a nation with which it is officially at war.</p> <p>Will it lead to better political relations? Analysts are cautiously optimistic. But here are several examples of sports diplomacy success stories:</p> <p><b>Ping-pong diplomacy</b><br/> In the 1970s, the Cold War was even icier than the Winter Olympics. But a Chinese ping-pong player's chance meeting with an American player on a bus got the ball rolling for formal Chinese-US diplomatic ties.</p> <p>It started at a 1971 tournament in Japan. American teenager Glenn Cowan missed his team's bus and hopped on the Chinese team's bus instead.</p> <p>After much hesitation, Chinese player Zhuang struck up a conversation through a translator -- a brave act, given the constraints of China's Cultural Revolution-era politics.</p> <p>"We were all tense," Zhuang told CNN in 2008. "Our team had been advised not to speak to Americans, not to shake their hands, and not to exchange gifts with them.</p> <p>"I looked at him, thinking, 'he is not the one who makes national policies, he is just an athlete, an ordinary American.'"</p> <p>Zhuang gave the long-haired American a silk brocade as a gift. The next day, Cowan gave him a T-shirt with a peace sign and the words "LET IT BE."</p> <p>Photos of their encounter were widely publicized. And before long, Chinese leader Mao Zedong invited the US team to visit and play friendly matches in China.</p> <p>The next year, US President Richard Nixon visited China -- ultimately leading to the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries in 1979.</p> <p><b>Pin-down diplomacy</b><br/> Similar to ping-pong diplomacy, "pin-down diplomacy" between US and Iranian wrestlers "has been instrumental in changing perceptions about Iranian and American society, and building bridges between sports communities and ordinary citizens," the think-tank Atlantic Council said.</p> <p>But wrestlers had to grapple with political upheaval last February, after the Trump administration announced a travel ban against people from seven Muslim-majority countries -- including Iran.</p> <p>Iran, in retaliation, denied visas for the American wrestlers planning compete in the freestyle wrestling World Cup in Iran. But after US courts halted the ban, the visas were finally granted.</p> |

"[The Iranian] Wrestling Federation lobbied on our behalf, and I think their government as well looked at it as an opportunity to show their graciousness and their respect for the sport of wrestling," US head coach Bill Zadick said.

"A World Cup without the Americans would not have been a real World Cup," Rasoul Khadem, head of the Iran Wrestling Federation, told CNN.

The respect between the US and Iranian wrestlers was obvious.

"I have been wrestling overseas for three years now, and every Iranian I have ever come in contact with has been extremely respectful, extremely polite," US Olympic gold medalist Kyle Snyder said during a training session.

"(While) there's a little bit of turmoil politically, you definitely don't see that within the sport. We respect each other as competitors and as people," Snyder told CNN.

#### Rugby diplomacy

In 1994, black South Africans -- reeling from decades of apartheid -- largely hated rugby. It was a sport played by white men -- the race of their longtime oppressors.

So newly elected President Nelson Mandela decided to employ rugby star Francois Pienaar to help mend deep racial divides.

John Carlin, author of "Playing the Enemy," said Mandela used the Rugby World Cup final to win over parts of the population who had largely supported his 27-year imprisonment -- and who had threatened to push South Africa into a civil war under the country's first black leader.

Mandela called Pienaar for a meeting before the 1995 World Cup in South Africa.

"I can't tell you how nervous I was," Pienaar said. "I didn't know what he was going to ask me. I wondered: 'Why does he want to see me? What am I going to say?'"

At the World Cup final, Pienaar delivered an eloquent tribute to Mandela. And Mandela walked onto the stadium field to shake the hands of players, wearing the green cap and uniform of the South African national team. Pienaar's number was on his jersey.

When the crowd first saw Mandela, said they seemed "to go dead still," Carlin said. Then they started chanting something unexpected: "Nelson! Nelson!"

If this plotline sounds like it would make a great Hollywood movie, it did. Clint Eastwood directed the 2009 movie "Invictus," starring Morgan Freeman as Nelson Mandela and Matt Damon as Francois Pienaar.

#### Skating diplomacy?

They qualified based on their performance at September's Nebelhorn Trophy in Germany -- where they skated to Beatles music. But the North Korean National Olympic Committee failed to meet an October 30 deadline to accept their Olympic spot.

Luckily for North Korea, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has said it would keep open its invitation for a North Korean delegation at the Pyeongchang Olympics next month.

North Korea hasn't sent a delegation the Winter Olympics since 1992 -- the last year that the winter and summer Olympics were held the same year.

It's not crazy to think members of the two Koreas could march in the Olympic opening ceremony together. They did exactly that at the 2000 Sydney Summer Olympics.

A hallmark of the opening ceremonies, of course, is the Olympic flame. The flame is part of the symbol of the Olympic Truce, the ancient Greek tradition of a temporary peace between warring states competing at the Games.

How appropriate.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Russian baby boom in Florida</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/birth-tourism-brings-russian-baby-boom-miami-n836121">https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/birth-tourism-brings-russian-baby-boom-miami-n836121</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>MIAMI — Lured by the charm of little Havana or the glamour of South Beach, some 15 million tourists visit Miami every year.</p> <p>But for a growing number of Russian women, the draw isn't sunny beaches or pulsing nightclubs. It's U.S. citizenship for their newborn children.</p> <p>In Moscow, it's a status symbol to have a Miami-born baby, and social media is full of Russian women boasting of their little americantsy.</p> <p>"It's really common," said Ekaterina Kuznetsova, 29. "When I was taking the plane to come here, it was not only me. It was four or five women flying here."</p> <p>Ekaterina was one of dozens of Russian birth tourists NBC News spoke to over the past four months about a round-trip journey that costs tens of thousands of dollars and takes them away from home for weeks or months.</p> <p>Why do they come?</p> <p>"American passport is a big plus for the baby. Why not?" Olesia Reshetova, 31, told NBC News.</p> <p>"And the doctors, the level of education," Kuznetsova added.</p> <p>The weather doesn't hurt, either.</p> <p>"It's a very comfortable place for staying in wintertime," Oleysa Suhareva said.</p> <p>It's not just the Russians who are coming. Chinese moms-to-be have been flocking to Southern California to give birth for years.</p> <p>What they are doing is completely legal, as long as they don't lie on any immigration or insurance paperwork. In fact, it's protected by the 14th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which says anyone born on American soil is automatically a citizen.</p> <p>The child gets a lifelong right to live and work and collect benefits in the U.S. And when they turn 21 they can sponsor their parents' application for an American green card.</p> <p>Roman Bokeria, the state director of the Florida Association of Realtors told NBC News that Trump-branded buildings in the Sunny Isles Beach area north of Miami are particularly popular with the Russian birth tourists and Russian immigrants.</p> <p>"Sunny Isles beach has a nickname — Little Russia — because people who are moving from Russian-speaking countries to America, they want ... a familiar environment."</p> <p>"They go across the street, they have Russian market, Russian doctor, Russian lawyer," he added. "It's very</p> |

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|                               | <p>comfortable for them."</p> <p>There is no official data on birth tourism in the United States. The Center for Immigration Studies, which wants stricter limits on immigration, estimates there are 36,000 babies born in the U.S. to foreign nationals a year, though the numbers could be substantially lower. Florida says births in the state by all foreign nationals who live outside the United States have jumped 200 percent since 2000.</p> <p>Customs and Border Protection says there are no laws governing whether pregnant foreign nationals can enter the country or give birth here.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>               | <b>01/10 Australia: 3<sup>rd</sup> hottest year on record</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                 | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/australia-experiences-3rd-hottest-year-record-2017-52249984?">http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/australia-experiences-3rd-hottest-year-record-2017-52249984?</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                   | <p>Australia experienced its third hottest year on record in 2017, when surrounding high sea temperatures delivered a second consecutive summer of devastating coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef, officials said on Wednesday.</p> <p>Much of the World heritage-listed Great Barrier Reef off Australia's northeast coast has been left a white graveyard due to unusually high ocean temperatures causing mass bleaching of coral expanses in 1998, 2002, 2016 and 2017.</p> <p>The Australian Bureau of Meteorology said in its annual climate statement on Wednesday the unprecedented bleaching episodes in consecutive summers came as sea surface temperatures around Australia in 2017 were the eighth highest since records began in 1900.</p> <p>The bureau found 2017 was Australia's third hottest year since records began in 1910. The mean temperature of 22.76 degrees Celsius (72.97 degrees Fahrenheit) was 0.95 of a degree Celsius (1.71 degrees Fahrenheit) hotter than the 1961-to-1990 average.</p> <p>But the northeast states of Queensland and New South Wales had their hottest year on record in 2017.</p> <p>Seven of Australia's 10 hottest years have been experienced since 2005, the bureau said.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Calif. prison guards' high suicide rate</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/study-california-prison-guards-suicide-rate-52235182?">http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/study-california-prison-guards-suicide-rate-52235182?</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>Correctional Officer Scott Jones kissed his wife goodbye on July 8, 2011, and headed off to a maximum-security prison in the remote high desert of northeastern California. He never came home.</p> <p>Jones' body was found a day later, along with a note explaining why the 36-year-old took his own life: "The job made me do it."</p> <p>Suicide is distressingly common among current and former California prison employees. The guards' union counts 96 confirmed or suspected suicides among current and retired members between 1999 and 2015.</p> <p>The annual suicide rate among union members exceeded California's overall suicide rate of 10.3 per 100,000 people in 13 of those 17 years, according to an Associated Press analysis of union data. The number peaked at 13 in 2012, a rate more than four times that of the state's general population.</p> <p>Now, a first-in-the-nation study coordinated among the union, California's corrections agency and</p> |

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|                                      | <p>University of California, Berkeley researchers is trying to figure out why and what to do about it.</p> <p>Inmate suicides have been intensively studied, but until now there has been limited research on how the job affects correctional employees, Berkeley researcher Amy Lerman said — and virtually none on programs that might help officers cope.</p> <p>"I think it reflects a growing recognition across the country that correctional staff and law enforcement are experiencing these types of issues and it needs to be taken seriously," Lerman said.</p> <p>About 10 percent of prison guards say they have considered or attempted suicide, a rate nearly three times that of the general U.S. population, according to data provided to the AP from a survey completed by 8,300 of California's 30,000 correctional and parole officers.</p> <p>It's even higher among retired guards — about 14 percent, similar to the suicide risk among military veterans.</p> <p>Half of correctional officers expressed at least one symptom of post-traumatic stress disorder.</p> <p>Researchers cited officers' frequent exposure to violence and injury, their perception of constant danger, and their reluctance to share traumatic experiences with family members or counselors.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/10 Japan astronaut grew 3in. in space?</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/japanese-astronaut-scare-initially-measuring-inches-taller-space/story?id=52242124">http://abcnews.go.com/International/japanese-astronaut-scare-initially-measuring-inches-taller-space/story?id=52242124</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>After Norishige Kanai, a Japanese astronaut, initially measured over 3 inches taller since arriving in space, he worried he wouldn't be able to return home.</p> <p>Kanai, who arrived at the ISS on Dec. 19, according to a press release, first posted on Twitter that he thought he'd grown more than 3.5 inches in the three weeks since his arrival at the International Space Station.</p> <p>In his tweet, Kanai said the crew had their bodies measured after reaching space and initial measurements put him at over 3.5 inches taller than on Earth, making the astronaut fearful because the Soyuz spacecraft he needs to use to come home has a height limit of 6-foot-4.</p> <p>However, Kanai re-measured himself and, in a follow-up tweet, said he came in at a much more normal 0.79 inches. (Astronauts grow anywhere from .79 inches to 1.97 inches in space on average.)</p> <p>In a later tweet, Kanai clarified the initial measurement was an error and apologized for sending out "fake news" after some news reports said he'd grown more than 3 inches.</p> <p>Clayton Anderson, a former NASA astronaut, told ABC News that getting taller in space is normal. During his last trip in April 2010, he said he grew 2 inches.</p> <p>"On Earth, gravity pulls on you, and so your spine is compressed," Anderson said. "When you go into space, gravity is lessened and so your body begins to stretch."</p> <p>Seats in the space capsule are molded for a custom fit, so any growth in size can make for a tough squeeze.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Hanford: radioactivity contamination</b> |
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| SOURCE        | <a href="http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/hanford/hanford-8-vehicles-contaminated-with-radioactivity-2-driven-home/281-500829882">http://www.king5.com/article/news/local/hanford/hanford-8-vehicles-contaminated-with-radioactivity-2-driven-home/281-500829882</a>   |
| GIST          | <p>Work on a massive and dangerous demolition project at Hanford remains on hold Tuesday after radioactive contamination was found to have spread outside the project area, onto a parking lot.</p> <p>The KING 5 Investigators have found that out of 100 cars surveyed, eight had plutonium particles on them – four personal cars and four government vehicles. Two of the personal cars with contamination were driven home by the unknowing employees over the weekend.</p> <p>KING 5 has learned those two employees have agreed to have their homes checked for contamination.</p> <p>Many workers are taking tests to see if they have inhaled or ingested radioactive isotopes.</p> <p>This is the latest set back at the demolition of the plutonium finishing plant complex at Hanford, where plutonium buttons for nuclear warheads were produced throughout the Cold War.</p> <p>In June, a spread of contamination caused 31 workers to be internally contaminated with plutonium particles. Plutonium is known to cause cancer and can stay in the system for years.</p> |
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| HEADLINE | <b>01/09 State Dept, FBI differ on 'sonic attack'</b>  |
| SOURCE   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/International/state-department-fbi-differ-source-mysterious-alleged-attacks/story?">http://abcnews.go.com/International/state-department-fbi-differ-source-mysterious-alleged-attacks/story?</a>  |
| GIST     | <p>State Department officials told Congress Tuesday they would not rule out "an acoustic element" in what the U.S. says were attacks on two dozen American diplomats in Cuba, despite a new FBI report that doubts a "sonic attack" is responsible.</p> <p>On Monday, the Associated Press reported that an interim FBI report from the bureau's Operational Technology Division said its probe "has uncovered no evidence that sound waves could have damaged Americans' health."</p> <p>Todd Brown, Diplomatic Security Assistant Director for International Programs at the State Department, would not comment on the FBI report Tuesday in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, but said he "wouldn't rule out an acoustic element entirely."</p> <p>"I'm not claiming that it's acoustic. I just know there's been an acoustic element associated with the sensations and the feelings," Brown told the committee. "Whether if the FBI has determined that is not the case -- which I have not seen this report, and I don't think it's been released publicly -- that doesn't mean an acoustic element couldn't be part of another type of style of attack here."</p> <p>Brown said technical experts are looking at a "range of things" that could be associated with the alleged attacks, including "viral" and "ultrasound."</p> <p>The Cuban government has denied any involvement in the Americans' symptoms and even rejected the idea that there have been attacks.</p> <p>A State Department official told ABC News on Monday that they "do not have definitive answers on the source or cause of the attacks," as the investigation is ongoing. Separately, a government official familiar with the investigation told ABC News that the FBI has not been able to determine what caused the injuries to U.S. personnel.</p> <p>The FBI has made four trips to Havana, Cuba and is preparing for a fifth, after interviewing 37 people and examining more than 80 employees and family members from the U.S. mission.</p> |

All 24 Americans have been medically confirmed to have symptoms consistent with what looks like a mild traumatic brain injury, according to Dr. Charles Rosenfarb, Medical Director for the Bureau of Medical Services at the State Department.

As ABC News previously reported, those symptoms included sharp, localized ear pain, dull unilateral headache, ringing in one ear, vertigo, visual focusing issues, disorientation, nausea, and extreme fatigue, according to Rosenfarb.

While some symptoms went away in days or weeks, other individuals reported persistent problems, including difficulty concentrating, recurring headaches, hearing loss, sleep disturbance, and imbalance while walking, Rosenfarb said.

A senior State Department official confirmed that point, telling ABC News that as of now, most of the 24 Americans are better, but some have “permanent” damage. Overall, U.S. officials remain stumped on a definitive cause of the illnesses.

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## Crime, Criminals

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Florida prisoners to strike MLK Day?</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/florida-prison-strike-planned-for-martin-luther-king-day-2018-9974175">http://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/florida-prison-strike-planned-for-martin-luther-king-day-2018-9974175</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>When the summer sun in Florida pushes temperatures past 100 degrees, state prisoners — the vast majority of whom are stuck in jail without air-conditioning on drug charges — feel it. When those inmates work (they were forced, for example, to clean up after Hurricane Irma), they typically don't get a dime in return. When their mostly poor families send them money for food and necessities, a \$4 case of soup costs \$17.</p> <p>So next Monday — the holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday — a large number of prisoners say they will lay down their tools, sit, and refuse to work for 30 days to demand, in the short term, better living conditions, actual wages, an end to the death penalty and prison-guard brutality, increased access to parole, and restored voting rights for former felons. In the long term, the strikers are demanding an end to a criminal justice system that virtually enslaves poor, mostly black people.</p> <p>"It's time we reverse the psychology and STAND together," the prisoners wrote in an online statement. "The way to strike back is not with violence as this is what they want! If we show them violence they will have a legitimate excuse to use brute force against us and explain to the public that they had to use brute force in order to contain the situation. However, their weakness is their wallet."</p> <p>The strikers, calling their rally "Operation PUSH" (perhaps for Jesse Jackson's group that transformed American politics in the 1970s), hope to persuade every worker in the Florida Department of Corrections to lay down on the job for a full month. They're asking nonprisoners to help by donating to the cause and attending solidarity rallies across the state from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday, January 15. Miami's demonstration will be held outside the state office building at 401 NW 2nd Ave.</p> <p>Since the prisoners announced their plans, they've received organizing help from numerous left-leaning and labor organizations in Florida, including the Miami-Dade and Broward County Chapters of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), the Campaign to Fight Toxic Prisons, Supporting Prisoners and Real Change (SPARC), and the national Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee (IWOC), which is run by the International Workers of the World, informally known as the "Wobblies."</p> <p>Bean Blackett, a Miami DSA member, told New Times yesterday that prisoners and volunteers hope the size of this year's protest eclipses that of 2016's massive, IWOC-organized strike September 9, 2016, which commemorated the anniversary of the infamous 1971 Attica Prison riots in New York.</p> |

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|                                      | <p>"We expect it to be even bigger this year," Blackett said.</p> <p>According to the prisoners, many people living in the Florida corrections system say Americans have become numb to the concerns of the nation's prison population and aren't aware the state is forcing inmates to work for no money, overcharging them (and the families that fill their prison accounts with donated money) for basic items, and subjecting them to regular rape and abuse at the hands of prison guards.</p> <p>In a separate statement provided to labor activists, a group of Haitian prisoners in the Florida correctional system accused the prison-industrial complex of profiting unfairly from prison labor and said they want to hit prison owners and managers in their wallets to force change...</p> <p>In their statement and in an interview with the anarchist news website It's Going Down, Operation PUSH organizers have demanded that prisoners in Florida reject violence and rioting for the 30-day stretch. Instead, the inmates say they'll be more effective if they can hit prison profiteers in their checkbooks.</p> <p>"Our goal is to make the Governor realize that it will cost the state of Florida millions of dollars daily to contract outside companies to come and cook, clean, and handle the maintenance," the organizers write. "This will cause a total BREAK DOWN."</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b>                      | <b>01/09 'Shrimp boy' associates get jail time</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>                        | <a href="http://www.sfexaminer.com/shrimp-boy-associates-sentenced-prison-organized-crime-activities/">http://www.sfexaminer.com/shrimp-boy-associates-sentenced-prison-organized-crime-activities/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>                          | <p>Eight associates of former Chinatown tong leader Raymond "Shrimp Boy" Chow have been sentenced in federal court in San Francisco to terms of one to seven years in prison for their roles in organized-crime activities.</p> <p>The sentences were meted out by U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer on Monday for crimes including money laundering, gun trafficking and marijuana cultivation, to which the associates had pleaded guilty.</p> <p>The three women and five men were among 29 people, including Chow, who were indicted by a federal grand jury in 2014 on multiple charges after a several-year undercover FBI investigation. Most of the other defendants were previously sentenced after entering guilty pleas.</p> <p>Chow, 57, the former dragonhead of the Chee Kung Tong, was the only one to go to trial.</p> <p>He was convicted by a jury in Breyer's court in 2016 of 162 counts, including organized-crime racketeering conspiracy, the murder of his predecessor as tong chief, conspiracy to murder another rival, money laundering and conspiracy to transport stolen goods. Breyer sentenced him to two life terms.</p> <p>The investigation also led to unrelated political corruption charges in the same indictment against former state Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco/San Mateo, and fundraising consultant Keith Jackson.</p> <p>Yee and Jackson pleaded guilty to a separate bribery-solicitation racketeering conspiracy charge and were sentenced by Breyer to five and nine years in prison, respectively.</p> <p>The eight people sentenced on Monday pleaded guilty to some but not all of the charges against them. The other charges remain pending. For six of the defendants, the remaining charges include participating in a racketeering conspiracy to operate a criminal faction of the Chee Kung Tong as an organized-crime enterprise. That charge carries a sentence of up to 20 years in prison upon conviction.</p> |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Bulgaria missing bitcoin mystery</b> |
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| SOURCE        | <a href="https://btcmanager.com/second-biggest-theft-bitcoin-ever-bulgarias-bitcoin-mystery/">https://btcmanager.com/second-biggest-theft-bitcoin-ever-bulgarias-bitcoin-mystery/</a>   |
| GIST          | <p>Virtual wallets with a total of 213,519 bitcoin have gone missing while in the reported possession of Bulgarian authorities. The digital currency was seized as part of a criminal investigation called PRATKA/VIRUS that the South East European Law Enforcement Centre (SELEC) carried out in partnership with Bulgaria. The international cybercrime bust, arrests of 23 suspects and seizures of property including bitcoin were reported by the SELEC in May 2017.</p> <p>Yet on December 8, 2017, the head of Bulgaria’s Special Prosecutor’s Office, Ivan Geshev, stated at a news conference that “no bitcoins had been seized.” So, the official location of the cryptocurrency taken in by the government during the arrests is now a mystery.</p> <p>An organized crime syndicate comprised of Bulgarian nationals connected to partners in Macedonia, Romania, Greece, and Serbia were the focus of the investigation. The criminals had reportedly been working with corrupt customs officials throughout these countries to install viruses into the various customs’ computing networks. Once this was achieved, illegal transports across borders were easy for them to carry out because the customs systems were manipulated to show their illicit cargo had already been checked and approved.</p> <p>The SELEC statement says Bulgarian authorities seized more than “100 addresses, suspects, and vehicles... money... equipment, devices for communication, computers, tablets, bank documents, etc.... Bitcoin wallets of the main suspects with a total value of 213,519 bitcoins were also found... The offenders chose bitcoin as a way of investing/saving the money because it is rather difficult to be tracked and followed.” Five of the 23 people arrested were serving as Bulgarian customs officers. According to the SELEC, judicial procedures are underway, and eight of the offenders have already been “permanently detained.”</p> <p>As of January 9, 2018, the 213,519 digital coins would be worth more than \$3 billion. But in November 2017, the Bulgarian government declined to discuss the status of the cryptocurrency, stating, it would not comment on “specific information from an ongoing investigation into criminal proceedings.” In December, the Special Prosecutor’s Office followed up with the surprising announcement that no cryptocurrency had been seized at all. The missing digital currency would currently account for about six percent of Bulgaria’s GDP of about \$52.4 billion. During December, and in the same week as Geshev’s announcement, Bulgarian banks terminated the accounts of several cryptocurrency exchanges.</p> <p>The largest theft ever of bitcoin remains the 2014 cyber-attack on Tokyo-based bitcoin exchange Mt. Gox when hackers stole 850,000 units of the cryptocurrency as well as \$28 million in cash. The amount stolen would now equal more than \$12.5 billion.</p> |
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| HEADLINE | <b>01/09 West Olympia shooting; 2 injured</b>  |
| SOURCE   | <a href="http://www.theolympian.com/news/local/article193702469.html">http://www.theolympian.com/news/local/article193702469.html</a>  |
| GIST     | <p>Two men were shot on a sidewalk outside of a west Olympia home late Monday, and Olympia Police are looking for a suspect in the case.</p> <p>Officials are asking the public for help finding Curtis Rudolph, 32, of Olympia, for investigation of first-degree assault.</p> <p>“His whereabouts are unknown, but he should be considered armed at this time,” Olympia Police Lt. Sam Costello wrote in a news release issued Tuesday. “There is no reason to believe that this incident was random.”</p> <p>Police were dispatched to the 900 block of Fern Street Southwest at 10:42 p.m Monday for a report of shots fired, according to a Thurston County dispatcher.</p> |

Olympia Fire medics discovered two men who had been shot and they were transported to Providence St. Peter Hospital in Olympia, deputy fire chief Greg Wright told The Olympian. Both men are expected to survive, Costello said.

According to police, two men had gone to the home for a reason that is not yet known. During the visit, Rudolph, who lives at the home, produced a handgun and allegedly shot one of the men in the leg, Costello said. Then the man who was shot used his own handgun to shoot at Rudolph. Another man at the scene, Rudolph's brother, was struck by that gunfire multiple times.

Rudolph fled the scene, and Costello said police don't believe Rudolph was hit by the gunfire.

Costello said Rudolph has a criminal history, and was most recently arrested and booked into jail on suspicion of second-degree arson following an RV fire last Thursday on Cooper Point Road Southwest. The RV was linked to a 20-year-old woman who was arrested a day earlier on suspicion of theft of a car that had belonged to Rudolph. The woman told police that she and Rudolph were friends and that the fire was set "in retaliation for stealing (his) vehicle."

Rudolph is out on bail, and his arraignment in the arson case is set for Jan. 16.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/10 More jails set aside veterans cellblocks</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://apnews.com/49b2b1d3ef534cd3b5ef00da01936349/US-jails-increasingly-setting-aside-cellblocks-for-veterans">https://apnews.com/49b2b1d3ef534cd3b5ef00da01936349/US-jails-increasingly-setting-aside-cellblocks-for-veterans</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The military veterans playing cards in the Albany County jail wear the same orange uniforms as everyone else, with "INMATE" printed down the legs. But their service offers one distinct privilege: a special cellblock where they can work through issues they often share, such as substance abuse and post-traumatic stress disorder.</p> <p>"It's not just us and our thoughts all day," says 31-year-old Navy veteran James Gibson, who was serving a 60-day criminal contempt sentence. "Everybody who's been in here has been in the service. So we can all relate to at least that."</p> <p>Such "veteran pods" are becoming an increasingly common part of state and county lockups as the criminal justice system focuses more on helping troubled former service members. Veteran inmates are more likely to have reported mental health issues, particularly PTSD, according to a snapshot of the prison population by the Bureau of Justice Statistics.</p> <p>Nationwide, veterans accounted for 8 percent of all inmates, and there are at least 86 prisons and jails with designated veterans' housing, according to federal government statistics. Many of the programs were started in the last five years.</p> <p>Some of the half-dozen veterans' dorms in Florida prisons feature daily flag raisings or monthly formations. Others, like Albany, tend to avoid military trappings. The San Francisco Sheriff's Department offers yoga and meditation and works with a local veterans treatment court. But their common aim is to create an esprit de corps and a "safe space" to help veterans deal with their issues and reintegrate into society.</p> <p>Sixty-two-year-old Army veteran Roberto James Davis said a two-month stay in veterans housing at San Bruno in the San Francisco Bay area in 2016 helped him change his mindset after decades of arrests and substance abuse. He now has steady work as a truck driver.</p> <p>"I really started listening this time around," Davis said. "I was determined that if I got another shot I was going to make the most of it. And I have."</p> |

Albany’s pod, a Spartan common area flanked by two stories of single-bunk cells, recently housed about a dozen men who served in different branches and in different decades stretching back to the Vietnam War.

But for the military branch emblems on a far wall, it looks like any jail block. The difference here is that the veterans receive intensive counseling and help from the nonprofit group Soldier On.

On a recent morning, 10 men gathered around the pod’s bolted-down tables and drew pictures representing what they were doing in past years. The exercise helped them reflect on the choices they made that eventually landed them in jail.

“I’ve held a lot of conversation — good conversations — with some of you guys,” Wesley Merriwether, 23, said during a recent morning group session. “Like I said, I’m young I can’t give you much advice, but the advice I can give you: Just keep your heads up.”

Inmates and officials say the Albany pod is cleaner and less troublesome than other tiers. When a guard was attacked here in 2016 by an inmate from another unit, the pod inmates ran from across the common area to the guard’s aid.

“We send all these young men and women overseas and when they come back, a lot of them with PTSD, domestic violence, drug issues,” said Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple, who started the veterans pod more than three years ago. “And I just felt we could have treated them better or done something for them.”

Apple said 6 percent of the roughly 331 participating veterans in Albany over the years have returned to jail, far better than the typical jail recidivism rates of more than 40 percent.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/10 Kirkland police bust counterfeiting ring</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/kirkland-police-bust-counterfeiting-crime-ring/680802213">http://www.kiro7.com/news/local/kirkland-police-bust-counterfeiting-crime-ring/680802213</a>   |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>KIRKLAND, Wash. - Kirkland police arrested five men late last month who they say are responsible for the recent spike in crime in Kingsgate.</p> <p>According to investigators the thieves were stealing packages, mail and cars. They were also making their own cash.</p> <p>Police started getting reports of counterfeit cash circulating in the Kingsgate neighborhood in Kirkland in the last few months.</p> <p>The McDonald’s restaurant contacted police after getting counterfeit \$20 bills.</p> <p>"The money looked and felt real. But when you begin to look at them you notice the serial numbers are the same," said Corporal Cody Mann, Kirkland Police Department.</p> <p>Investigators say the crime ring was linked to drugs and they recovered meth and black tar heroin in the apartment.</p> <p>Kirkland Police say they've seen a drop in car theft, mail theft, car theft and ID theft since the arrests last month. They also have not had any more reports of counterfeit cash.</p> <p>Detectives are still looking for four more suspects.</p> <p>Police have a warning for criminals targeting residents in Kirkland.</p> <p>"We'll find you. You may pull a few over on us until we figure out who you are. We will eventually catch up with you and if you hear a knock aon the door at 7am in the morning, like these folks did on the 28th of</p> |

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|                               | December, it's us and we're putting a stop to it," said Corporal Mann. |
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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 Fla. Nat'l Guardsman, neo-Nazi leader</b>   |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="https://www.cbsnews.com/news/neo-nazi-leader-brandon-russell-gets-5-years-lethal-bomb-making-materials-tampa/">https://www.cbsnews.com/news/neo-nazi-leader-brandon-russell-gets-5-years-lethal-bomb-making-materials-tampa/</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>TAMPA, Fla. -- Federal prosecutors said Brandon Russell is a dangerous Neo-Nazi leader who had lethal bomb-making materials in his Florida apartment. His mother and grandmother called him a follower who liked to please his friends.</p> <p>At the end of a four-hour court hearing Tuesday, a federal judge in Tampa sentenced Russell to five years in prison, saying she has to protect the public while hoping Russell doesn't fall in with the wrong group of people while in prison.</p> <p>"It's a difficult case," said U.S. District Judge Susan Bucklew to the defendant, who wore orange jail clothes and appeared to have a bloom of acne on his neck. "You seem like a very smart young man."</p> <p>Russell, 22, is a member of the Florida National Guard and a dual citizen of both the U.S. and The Bahamas. He pleaded guilty in September to possession of an unregistered destructive device and improper storage of explosive materials. This was his first arrest, something the judge took into account during sentencing.</p> <p>The case came to light in May of 2017, when Tampa police were called to an apartment north of downtown. There, they found two dead men. A roommate of one of the men sat outside in fatigues, crying. That turned out to be Russell.</p> <p>A fourth roommate, Devon Arthurs, was arrested soon after and charged with shooting and killing Andrew Oneschuk and Jeremy Himmelman.</p> <p>Russell wasn't charged in the killings, and Arthurs said Russell had nothing to do with the deaths. But while detectives investigated, they discovered a stash of highly explosive materials in the apartment, and a cache of Neo-Nazi signs, posters, books and flags.</p> <p>Investigators later found that Arthurs and Russell, who had attended the University of South Florida, were co-founders of Atomwaffen Division, a Neo-Nazi group. Atomwaffen is German for "atomic weapon." On Tuesday, prosecutors showed a photo of Russell's car, which had flyers that said, "Don't prepare for exams, prepare for a race war." Russell also kept a framed photo of Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh in his room and read books like Mein Kampf and The Turner Diaries. An FBI agent testified that both are reading staples of white supremacist extremists.</p> <p>But the case got stranger as investigators probed.</p> <p>Arthurs allegedly told detectives he killed his roommates for teasing him about his recent conversion to Islam. He also said he killed his roommates to thwart a terrorist attack by Atomwaffen. He claimed Russell had materials in the house "to kill civilians and target locations like power lines, nuclear reactors, and synagogues," prosecutors said.</p> <p>"I prevented the deaths of a lot of people," Arthurs said in a rambling statement. Asked why his roommates would plan such an attack, he responded, "Because they want to build a Fourth Reich."</p> <p>While stressing that Russell had nothing to do with the deaths, defense attorney Ian Goldstein said his client has accepted responsibility and that he wants to move forward with his life. He called Russell's mother, who said the young man was diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum and for having attention deficit disorder since he was young.</p> |

"He was always looking for something to belong to," said a tearful Brigiite Chantalle Russell-Hilts.

Prosecutors asked the judge to sentence Russell to 11 years in prison, significantly more than the federal guidelines called for. They said Russell's behavior between the time his roommates were found dead and when he was arrested -- he went to another Atomwaffen member's house, then bought guns and drove to South Florida -- indicated his propensity for violence.

Prosecutor Josephine Thomas noted that "there have been other violent incidents in this country where people are claiming allegiance to Atomwaffen." When asked about this later, she declined to give specifics.

Goldstein maintained his client was traumatized by the deaths of his roommates and already suffered from mental issues. Prosecutors, he said, wanted to lock Russell up longer "solely because of the things he believes." Although he admitted to having the bomb-making materials, there was no evidence he intended to use them against anyone, Goldstein asserted.

"Put him in jail for 11 years and he's going to get out and be a young, angry, untreated man," he said, suggesting that the judge sentence him to 2 1/2 years in prison. "The longer sentence you impose, the worse outcome you'll have. He'll be in prison with other people who believe the same things."

In a court filing Sunday, prosecutors said Russell drew a diagram of how to make an explosive in a letter he apparently intended to deliver to another "Atomwaffen Division" member outside jail. The FBI obtained copies of other letters in which Russell drew plans for an "Airborne Leaflet Dropping Device" showing Nazi propaganda falling from the sky, prosecutors said.

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| <b>HEADLINE</b> | <b>01/09 'Swatting' suspect also wanted in Canada</b>  |
| <b>SOURCE</b>   | <a href="http://abcnews.go.com/US/california-man-accused-kansas-swatting-death-wanted-canada/story?id=52246011">http://abcnews.go.com/US/california-man-accused-kansas-swatting-death-wanted-canada/story?id=52246011</a>  |
| <b>GIST</b>     | <p>A Southern California man accused of making a hoax 911 call that led to the killing of an unarmed man in Kansas is now also wanted by authorities in Canada.</p> <p>The Calgary Police Service has issued an arrest warrant for 25-year-old Los Angeles resident Tyler Barriss, who they allege made a "swatting" call on the evening of Dec. 22 to Calgary Police, in which the caller said he had shot his father and were holding his mother and younger brother hostage.</p> <p>The information provided by the caller led police officers to a home on 17b Street S.W. in Calgary, and the police department's tactical unit "quickly attended the residence, contained the scene, and began evacuating nearby units," according to a police press release.</p> <p>While the officers were on the scene, 911 dispatchers received another call from a woman who lived at the home, stating that she believed she was the victim of a swatting call, according to police. After she exited the home, officers confirmed that the intial report of a shooting and hostage scenario were false.</p> <p>Calgary police believe the woman may have been targeted due to her online persona, adding that a "substantial amount" of resources were required to contain the scene and protect the safety of citizens.</p> <p>After the incident, investigators from the police department's cyber forensics unit "quickly" identified Barriss, who allegedly had made contact with the victim earlier in the day.</p> <p>The arrest warrant charges Barriss with public mischief, fraud and mischief, police said.</p> <p>"We take swatting events extremely seriously and will investigate each incident thoroughly," Calgary</p> |



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|                               | police said. "Swatting calls have the potential to create significant risks for both public and officer safety and can require an extensive amount of resources to respond and investigate." |
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