FROM § EACH

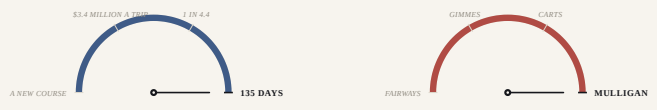
FIRST YEAR · SATURDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2026 — THE EVENING EDITION · FREE, FOREVER — EVERY CLAIM LINKED

THE WORD

§64 — 17 OCTOBER 2026

On the mulligan

DEMOCRAT | REPUBLICAN



135 DAYS | MULLIGAN

"I wrote down the promise in 2016: "I'm not going to have time to go play golf. Believe me." Then the tweet from 2014 about his predecessor, "with all of the problems and difficulties facing the U.S." Then I asked my brother-in-law, who golfs, to help me with a tracker somebody keeps online: a hundred thirty-five days in five hundred ninety-eight. He said that's a better schedule than he's got, and he's retired. Sorry, you've got a tee time, I'll be quick. The man who said he wouldn't have time — where did the time come from?" — Lou

... Continued on Page W64

THE RECORD

ICE breaks Houston worker's leg chasing a man dead for years, second time this year

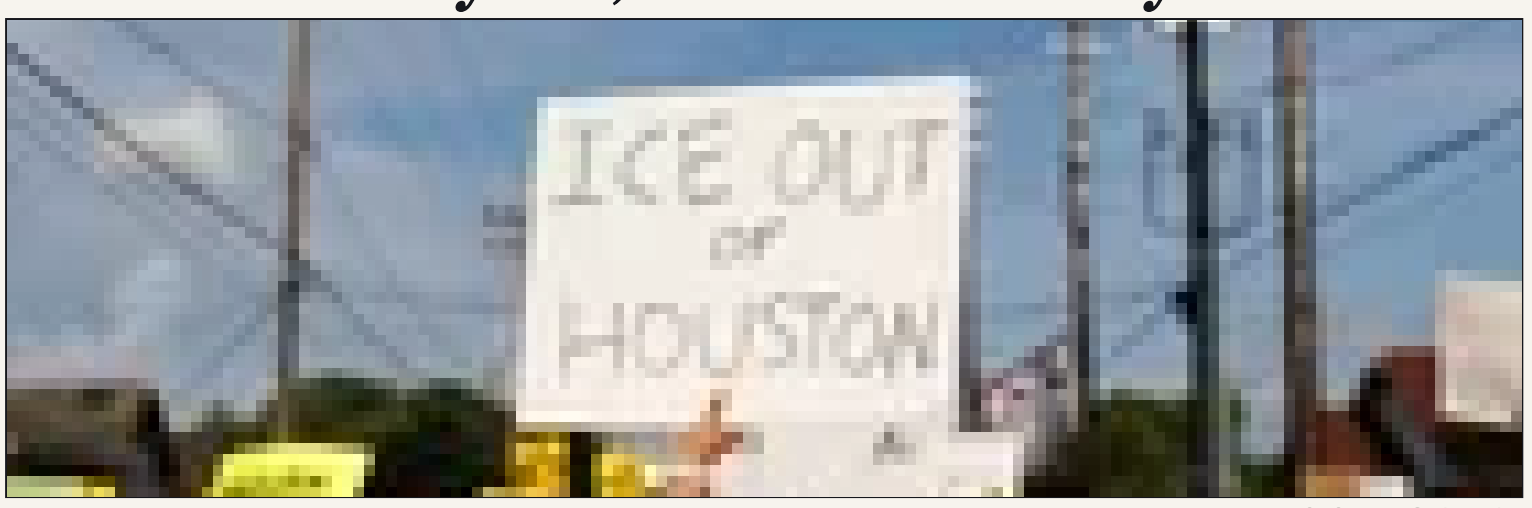


PHOTO: THE GUARDIAN

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

Miguel Parra Hernandez was on his way to a construction site in Houston Saturday morning when a federal vehicle hit him, the driver believing him to be a man who, his own family says, has been dead for almost a decade. Parra Hernandez suffered multiple leg fractures and now needs reconstructive ankle surgery. According to his representatives, he has never met the man Immigration and Customs Enforcement was chasing.

This is not malarkey, or not only malarkey — it is a filing. At a Friday news conference, the advocacy group FIEL said the dead man's family had produced documentation of his death. The agency that sent an agent after that man had access to the same category of fact and arrived somewhere else with it.

In September, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, a man died when his car crashed into a tree during an ICE pursuit, police say; agents were the first to reach the wreck. ...

... Continued on Page T28

Newsom pitches a federal stock-trading ban, then endorses the measure canceling his state's billionaire tax.



PHOTO: WASHINGTON EXAMINER

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Proposition 40 goes to California voters next month: a one-time, 5 percent tax on the state's wealthiest residents, a group a companion story puts at roughly 200 people, with proceeds ear-

... Continued on Page F120

FROM THE CORNER

DUTCH

ICE'S OWN FILES HAVE LISTED AT LEAST TWO MEN AS DEAD FOR YEARS, and agents were sent after them anyway, Houston and Grand Rapids, both this year. That isn't a clerical error, it's a chase quota that only needs a vehicle moving, not a name still breathing. Because the file doesn't have to be current to send the car, and the car doesn't have to find the right man to count as a stop, the next vehicle idling on your block at 7 a.m. is running on the same kind of paperwork, parked behind the bus stop where your kid is standing with a lunchbox.

⁂

On ICE breaks Houston worker's leg chasing a man dead for years, second time this year *— the column, by Mort*

THE WIRE
Every right or mainstream headline answered before it renders.
— this paper

SOURCED OR SILENT
Open any fold. Every claim linked, every link dated.
— this paper

■ THE SHORT VERSION

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. An ICE agent hit a Houston construction worker with a car chasing a man ICE's file lists as dead.

WHO GETS PAID. ICE's own arrest-and-pursuit count, which logs a chase as activity whether or not the man in the file is alive.

WHAT SLIPS. The check that slips is verification: nothing confirms a file is current before an agent is sent to run someone down over it.

WHAT'S NEXT. No hearing or fix has been scheduled after either chase. The only dated accountability step so far is a September 3 charge against a different Texas ICE officer, for false statements after an unrelated shooting, not for chasing a dead man.

On ICE breaks Houston worker's leg chasing a man dead for years, second time this year — the column, by Mort. The whole front, short, and the precedents, on E6

Government that defied a judge over press passes defies another over Omar's phone, calls the case 'strong.'

BY LOU
One More Question

I've got the renewal notice for my car registration in my hand. It came last week, stuck behind the storm door where the mail goes to die, and it says the sticker is good for one year, thirty-one dollars, due the ninth. I was standing on the porch reading it, half annoyed, when it got me thinking about a different word entirely — not a word on this notice, a word from somewhere else. The word is "strong." Homeland Security used it about a week ago, describing its own investigation into Congresswoman Ilhan Omar. I wrote that down because it

... Continued on Page T28

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The Business Desk	F3
The Money Pages, continued	F4
The Record	B1
Legal	B2
The Service	B3
Obituaries	B4
Entertainment	D1

Macron warns the unrest he vowed to "prosecute and punish" is now being "exploited."

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

The filing starts, as these things do, with a school. In September, one school in a Paris suburb logged complaints that would sit at home in any budget hearing: teacher shortages, overcrowded classrooms, buildings with rats and falling debris. By October 6th the ledger had grown to nearly 2,000 schools blockaded or closed and an arrest line crossing 6,000, roughly 4,400 of them minors, arrested during a crackdown on protests over those same classrooms.

Two days later, on October 8th, the entry changes shape: not an arrest count but a turnout count, 71,500 people in the streets that Thursday, per France's Interior Ministry, as reported by Euronews. The Bastille is a monument now, not a prison; the comparison is generous to both sides, which is how you know it is doing rhetorical work rather than accounting.

By Saturday the filing runs out of adjectives and into verbs: tear gas, water cannons, buildings on fire, lux-

... Continued on Page F120

ONE DETECTIVE

CDC meets six measles deaths in Pennsylvania with one disease detective.

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

Measles elimination, certified by the United States government in the year 2000, is dead in Pennsylvania. It was twenty-six years old. The cause, by the state's own count, is six.

It was already failing by October 4, when officials in Harrisburg said it was "only a matter of time" before the disease spread past its epicenter — a county that, like most in the Commonwealth, has no health department of its own — citing a fifth death already confirmed among 943 cases across 39 counties. The next day the case count passed 1,000 outright, the

... Continued on Page H14

NFL activates its exempt list for a second arrest this season, with punishment from the first still pending.

BY GUS
The Sports Desk

HOT MIC MOMENT

Mic's still live. The commissioner's exempt list has now processed two players this season carrying a felony charge and a strangulation arrest between them, and in both cases the league produced a roster transaction before it produced a finding. That is sequencing: the paperwork that returns a man to the field is moving faster than the paperwork that would ever keep him off it. A private commissioner's office is now outpacing the court system in both cases, and outpacing its own personal conduct policy too. Somebody on the assignment desk should be asking why league security can clear a roster spot before a court clears a docket. Get them the political desk.

... Continued on Page S18

Housing nonprofit backed by LA mayoral candidate can't account for $87 million in housing money

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Eighty-seven million dollars is the size of the gap Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto wants closed. The gap sits inside a nonprofit called LAFLA, a group backed by mayoral candidate Nithya Raman. The money came from the city's "Mansion Tax" and was meant to build housing. The audit demand, reported October 16, does not say where the money went. It says the city does not know.

Start with the number itself. That qualifier is the first entry in the ledger: the city is not disputing a specific sum, it is disputing a ceiling.

... Continued on Page F120

Administration axes election-threat unit, Republican senators start receiving the threats it no longer tracks.

BY LOU
One More Question

I went to the post office to mail the renewal for my car registration — the form with the box that wants a return address — and I didn't have a label, so I stood at the counter trying to remember my own zip code like a man accused of something. I got the stamp. On the way out, the rack by the door had this morning's paper folded open to a page that had nothing to do with my car.

That page, from the New York Post, today, said a congressman from California got an envelope mailed from New York with a return address linked to something called the

... Continued on Page A215

"Get them out quick. Open those beds up for more detainees."
— BORDER CZAR TOM HOMAN, CNN STATE OF THE UNION, 30 AUGUST 2026

"Shut down Delaney Hall, free them all!"
— PROTESTORS OUTSIDE THE DELANEY HALL ICE FACILITY, NEWARK

"Don't let anybody tell you that people running Congress right now are looking out for the rich. Actually, I think we should do a little more for them"
— REP. GLENN GROTHMAN (R-WI), AUGUST 2026

"Nothing up there is a conspiracy. That's the part that should worry you — it's all on the record, filed, stamped, and in a couple of cases notarized."

— Sal

FOR SALE Chest freezer, never opened. Bought during the egg thing. *Eggs came down. My planning did not.* — **Classifieds**

PERSONALS Devoted professional, DC. Seeks nothing — the position is filled. "You are all that matters to me." *Brings her own printer. Signed, with all my heart.* — **Classifieds**

WANTED Federal officer to pursue a fugitive confirmed dead for several years. *Prior ghost-chasing experience in Michigan a plus; company vehicle provided, bystander's leg not included.* — **Classifieds**

"Nothing here is a scandal. A scandal requires surprise, and I can assure you nobody involved was surprised."

— Chip

The hens, a man counts in
spring. The fox counted in winter.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

THE FUTURES FILE *every date somebody set, and what was standing there when it arrived · swept 2026-09-16*

Newsom pitches a federal stock-trading ban, then endorses the measure canceling his state's billionaire tax.

By **RUTH**
THE MONEY DESK

"Billionaires' tax getting dry-run in California before socialists, AOC hits DC", 17 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Gov. Gavin Newsom endorsed Proposition 42, a ballot measure canceling the billionaire wealth tax on the same ballot.

WHO GETS PAID. Sergey Brin, Peter Thiel and the donors funding ads against the wealth tax get their holdings shielded from it permanently.

WHAT SLIPS. Voters' chance to actually tax the state's richest residents slips, since the governor is steering support to the measure that cancels it.

WHAT'S NEXT. If Proposition 42 passes alongside Proposition 40 next month, the tax cancels before it collects a single dollar; both measures go before California voters in November 2026.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Proposition 40 goes to California voters next month: a one-time, 5 percent tax on the state's wealthiest residents, a group a companion story puts at roughly 200 people, with proceeds earmarked for health care, education and food assistance.

In August, two campaign groups opposing the measure, Building a Better California and Californians Against Wasteful Spending and Higher Taxes, launched an advertising blitz. The money behind the ads traces to Google co-founder Sergey Brin and venture capitalist Peter Thiel....

...(cont) On October 1, a former Andreessen Horowitz partner, John O'Farrell, posted a twelve-part thread explaining, under his own name, that he would be happy to pay the tax himself. The campaign against it kept running.

On Friday, October 9, Gov. Gavin Newsom endorsed Proposition 42. Proposition 42 cancels out Proposition 40 and prohibits any future tax, retroactive or otherwise, on the ownership of financial assets or personal property. One measure taxes a defined group of people, once. The other forecloses the subject for good. SEIU-UHW, the union leading the Proposition 40 campaign, said the endorsement showed Newsom's "true colors."

Eight days later, in Exeter, New Hampshire, Newsom told the Washington Examiner he supports a federal ban on stock trading by the executive branch and the president. "100%, yeah, 100%," he said, at an event read as a tryout for a 2028 run.

Run the two columns against each other, hon. In New Hampshire, Newsom asks that executive branch officials, including the president, be barred from trading the markets they oversee while in office. In California, the same week, he is endorsing a measure that bars the state from ever taxing the people who already own the most of it. Both concern money and power sitting too close together. Only one of the two bans survives contact with his own ballot.

The donors funding resistance to Proposition 40 since August, Brin and Thiel among them, are the same donor class whose financial-asset holdings Proposition 42 would place permanently out of reach of any future tax. Newsom's name sits on both stories: the federal reform he is pitching in New Hampshire, and the state measure, dated October 9, that cancels the one reform already on his own ballot.

"He wants a law stopping some future president from day-trading the market while he's out here, this week, blessing a measure that lets about two hundred billionaires skip a one-time nickel-on-the-dollar tax that was going to pay for food assistance and health care. The same donors bankrolling the ads against that tax are the ones who get the permanent exemption. That's not reform, that's a two-step, and the kids losing the food money don't get a vote on which column he's standing in."
— *Sal*

"Governor Newsom supports fiscal responsibility at every level of government, which is exactly why he's protecting California's competitiveness by backing the measure that — okay, cancels the other tax measure, yes, I can read the headline too. The point is retroactive taxes create uncertainty for job creators, and also it's not retroactive, it's one-time, I'm told those are different arguments and I should pick one. Did I say "cancels"? Let's call it "harmonizes.""
— *Chip*

THE RECEIPTS

~~Billionaires' tax getting dry-run in California before socialists, AOC hits DC~~

Billionaires of both parties unite against a tax on billionaires

New York Post RIGHT § *14:13 EDT*

A billionaires' tax appearing on the California ballot next month is drawing furious resistance from an unusual alliance that includes lefty Gov. Gavin Newsom, GOPers, Hollywood elites and tech billionaires.

~~California Is Home to 200 Billionaires. Organizers Say It's Time to Tax Them.~~

A ballot measure would tax California's 200 billionaires to fund health care, education and food aid

Truthout § *13:09 EDT*

If passed, California's Proposition 40 would generate funding for health care, education, and food assistance programs.

Gavin Newsom backs presidential stock trading ban ahead of expected 2028 run

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *16:25 EDT*

EXETER, New Hampshire — Gov. Gavin Newsom (D-CA) threw his support behind a federal stock trading ban on Saturday, telling the Washington Examiner he believes restrictions should apply to the executive branch and the president. "100%, yeah, 100%,"

~~Newsom backs California ballot measure that cancels out billionaire tax proposal~~

Newsom backs ballot measure that lets California's billionaires skip the one-time tax.

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *23:00 EDT*

California Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) endorsed a ballot measure that, if approved by voters, would cancel out the ballot measure proposal that would impose a one-time tax on the Golden State's billionaires. On Friday, Newsom endorsed Proposition 42, which would prohibit retroactive taxes imposed by Proposition 40, known as the Billionaire Tax...

~~Newsom Endorses Ballot Measure That Would Cancel Out Billionaire Tax—and Ban Future Wealth Taxes~~

Newsom's pick to kill the billionaire tax is bankrolled by billionaire Sergey Brin

Common Dreams § *14:27 EDT*

California Gov. Gavin Newsom ramped up his opposition to a proposed tax on the state's billionaire residents on Friday by endorsing a competing ballot measure that would both cancel out the billionaire wealth tax initiative and prohibit any new taxes on the ownership of financial assets or other personal property. "He's showing...

· Billionaire-Backed Groups Launch Ad Blitz Against California Wealth Tax *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· 'I Know Where I Want to Live': Ex-Venture Capitalist Explains Why He'd Be Happy to Pay California Billionaire Tax *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Macron warns the unrest he vowed to "prosecute and punish" is now being "exploited."

By RUTH
THE MONEY DESK



"Macron says violent rioters will be 'prosecuted and punished'", 17 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Police in France arrested more than 8,000 people as protests over school funding spread to 140 cities.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The public's right to protest without mass arrest slips as thousands, including minors, get arrested at demonstrations the government now calls exploited.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the pattern holds, most of these arrests end without conviction; that is what Washington got after the 20 January 2017 inauguration march, when 234 people were charged and, eighteen months later, the last 39 cases were dismissed.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The filing starts, as these things do, with a school. In September, one school in a Paris suburb logged complaints that would sit at home in any budget hearing: teacher shortages, overcrowded classrooms, buildings with rats and falling debris. By October 6th the ledger had grown to nearly 2,000 schools blockaded or closed and an arrest line crossing 6,000, roughly 4,400 of them minors, arrested during a crackdown on protests over those same classrooms.

Two days later, on October 8th, the entry changes shape: not an arrest count but a turnout count, 71,500 people in the streets that Thursday, per France's Interior Ministry, as reported by Euronews. The Bastille is a monument now, not a prison; the comparison is generous to both sides, which is how you know it is doing rhetorical work rather than accounting....

...(cont) By Saturday the filing runs out of adjectives and into verbs: tear gas, water cannons, buildings on fire, luxury stores looted, 140 cities carrying forward a protest that started as a complaint about rat-infested schools. The arrest line, which stood at 6,000 eleven days earlier, has now passed 8,000. That is the arithmetic: roughly 180 additional arrests a day, compounding, while the underlying complaint — underfunded schools, a cost of living outpacing wages — sits exactly where it sat in September, unaddressed on its own line.

Macron's statement supplies the only entry that moves backward instead of forward. He said there is "no room for violence in our Republic," which is a policy position. He also said the unrest he vowed to "prosecute and punish" is now being "exploited" — not by whom the filing says, only that it is. That is the gap, hon: the government that spent six weeks matching a rising arrest count to a flat funding line has not, anywhere in this filing, moved money onto the school ledger it was asked about in September. It moved police instead. The receipts show which column got the increase and which one did not.

> "They promised to punish the kids for protesting rat-infested schools, then turned around and called the protest itself a plot against them — that's the tell. When the guy signing the arrest reports starts talking like the victim, somebody's about to get a budget cut instead of a classroom fixed."
> — Sal

> "Look, the President is simply noting that legitimate concerns about school funding are being hijacked by — by certain elements, we're still working out which — and 8,000 arrests is a public order statistic, not a verdict on classroom conditions. Did I say "not a verdict"? That's not — let's circle back on that one."
> — Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Macron says violent rioters will be 'prosecuted and punished'
Washington Examiner RIGHT · *17:18 EDT*

French President Emmanuel Macron released a statement on Saturday afternoon denouncing violent rioters who defaced national landmarks and attacked law enforcement officers in an escalation of protests that began last month. "No room for violence in our Republic," he said, referencing the increasingly hostile clashes between protesters...

~~French High School Students Lead Mass Protests over School Funding, Inequality, Thousands Arrested~~

French police have arrested over 5,000 protesting students, most of them minors
Democracy Now! · *08:14 EDT*

Nearly 2,000 French high schools are blockaded or closed today amid massive student-led protests over school funding and inequality. The demonstrations began in September at a single school in the economically deprived suburbs of Paris, where students protested teacher shortages, overcrowded classrooms and dilapidated school buildings...

'This Is Going Global': Anti-Austerity Protests Spread From Spain and France to Chile, Belgium, and Beyond
Common Dreams · *12:52 EDT*

"We are going to sweep away the old world," said the deputy of the French National Assembly on Thursday, highlighting a rapidly growing global protest movement, largely led by students and young people, against austerity measures. Clémence Guetté, a member of the left-wing French party La France Insoumise, or France Unbowed, added that...

~~Violence erupts at France protests as Macron warns unrest is being exploited~~

French police made over 8,000 arrests and fired tear gas and water cannons at protesters.
Fox News RIGHT · *12:03 EDT*

French President Emmanuel Macron called for calm as tear gas, water cannons and over 8,000 arrests mark weeks of violent clashes across the country.

~~'The Government is Trembling.' Protests Erupt in France, Spreading to 140 Cities~~

'The Ultra-Rich Have Taken More and More': French Protests Spread to 140 Cities
Common Dreams · *12:53 EDT*

Protests erupted throughout France on Saturday, with demonstrators citing a wide variety of grievances including inequality, the high cost of living, and poor conditions in the nation's schools. As reported by Agence France-Presse, tens of thousands of demonstrators marched in Paris and other cities to protest what they said was inaction...

~~The Bastille Has Been Retaken~~

Rats in the classrooms, no teacher for 6 months, French student says — 71,500 marched
The Bullet · *08:00 EDT*

High school students across France on Thursday once again took to the streets to protest against against the state of the country's schools.

~~Violent rioters flood the streets of France, burning buildings and looting luxury goods stores~~

550,000 protest the cost of living and education. Macron's answer: 'Let them come and get me.'
New York Post RIGHT · *16:06 EDT*

Protests in France have spread across the country with massive demonstrations against the cost of education and the cost of living with buildings set on fire and high-price shops vandalized.

· 'Savagery': Horrific Injuries as French Police Crack Down on Nationwide Student Protests *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Government that defied a judge over press passes defies another over Omar's phone, calls the case 'strong.'

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION



"Omar fundraising off federal investigation", 13 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA THE HILL — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ THE SHORT VERSION
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Homeland Security's lawyers are accused of violating a federal judge's order in the Ilhan Omar investigation.

WHO GETS PAID. The White House and Homeland Security gain a tool to pursue a sitting lawmaker who has criticized them.

WHAT SLIPS. The courts' power to make a federal agency actually obey a judge's order is slipping.

WHAT'S NEXT. If this holds, a court order here gets ignored too; that is what happened after 24 September 2026, when a judge ordered press credentials restored and reporters were still blocked from a state dinner that same day.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I've got the renewal notice for my car registration in my hand. It came last week, stuck behind the storm door where the mail goes to die, and it says the sticker is good for one year, thirty-one dollars, due the ninth. I was standing on the porch reading it, half annoyed, when it got me thinking about a different word entirely — not a word on this notice, a word from somewhere else. The word is "strong." Homeland Security used it about a week ago, describing its own investigation into Congresswoman Ilhan Omar. I wrote that down because it struck me as an odd word for a government to use about itself while the facts are still coming in.

Here's what else came in, in order, because I keep a little stack of these things on the workbench and I like to lay them out straight. On the twelfth, agents went into the congresswoman's home in Washington. The matter concerns an immigration form, filled out when she was a child. On the thirteenth, the President held a rally in Ohio, and the crowd there chanted "deport." The congresswoman's campaign sent out a fundraising email that same week calling the investigation "baseless" and "partisan." On the fourteenth, the inquiry reached her phone and her computer, and her relatives got subpoenas. And according to a report that ran today, agents also pulled a DNA sample out of her trash. That's a lot of paperwork to generate off one childhood form, is all I'm saying....

...(cont) Today is the part I keep circling back to, because today is when her attorneys filed something accusing the Department of Justice of violating a federal judge's order. They're asking for her property back — the phone, the computer — and they want every recording of the search preserved, audio and video both, which is the kind of request you make when you're worried about what happens to a recording nobody's watching.

And I'll tell you why that stopped me in the garage this afternoon, fan belt in one hand, because I've seen this exact shape before, and it had nothing to do with Congresswoman Omar. Back in September — the twenty-fourth, I had it on the back of an envelope — a federal judge named Timothy Kelly, appointed by this same president, ordered the White House to immediately restore press passes it had pulled from three news organizations. "Immediately" was Kelly's word, not mine. That same Thursday morning, reporters from those outlets were turned away at the gate anyway. Not next week. Not after an appeal got filed. The same morning the order came down, the gate stayed shut.

I keep a fan belt in the toolbox that I've been meaning to put on for two years, because the car still starts most mornings without it. A belt that mostly holds isn't holding. A case where the government's own lawyers get accused, in writing, of ignoring a judge — and not for the first time this year — is being described by somebody who's hoping you don't check under the hood.

❦ FROM THE CORNER ❦

DUTCH

HOMELAND SECURITY CALLS ITS CASE AGAINST A SITTING CONGRESSWOMAN "STRONG" THE SAME WEEK ITS OWN LAWYERS ARE ACCUSED, IN WRITING, OF DEFYING A FEDERAL COURT ORDER — the second such order this administration has ignored this year, after the one restoring three outlets' press passes in September. That isn't confidence, it's an agency demonstrating it can defy a judge twice and still ask the public to take its word for a third time. Because once a government proves a judge's signature doesn't stop it from a congresswoman's seized phone, that signature doesn't stop it from a subpoena either, and the one that lands in your mailbox with your name typed at the top arrives already knowing it.

"They call it "strong" the same week their own lawyers get caught ignoring a judge's order — that's not confidence, that's a plea for credit before the homework's graded. We already watched this exact move in September, when this same administration blew off a judge's order restoring press passes the very morning it landed. Omar's a sitting congresswoman; today it's her phone and her trash, and the courts just found out their signature is a suggestion."

— Sal

"Homeland Security says the case is strong, and a department is allowed to have confidence in its own work — did I say confidence, I mean the legal merits, obviously the legal merits. And this whole business about a judge's order, that was a completely separate matter, a different case file, a — okay, it's the same judge, Timothy Kelly, twice now, but these things take time to coordinate across agencies, you can't expect everybody to read an order the second it's signed."

— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Homeland Security calls the case Omar's own lawyers call unlawful 'strong.'* By Lou · the morning edition, 17 October 2026
- *DHS calls case against Omar 'strong': a childhood form, a sister's phone, trash pulled before any warrant.* By Lou · the morning edition, 17 October 2026
- *Deportation case over Omar's childhood paperwork gains a witness scared of her father in 1977.* By Lou · the afternoon edition, 16 October 2026
- *Ilhan Omar's childhood paperwork draws a federal raid and the right's own concession it changes no votes.* By Lou · the morning edition, 16 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Attorneys for Rep. Ilhan Omar accuse DOJ of violating judge's orders

CBS News | MAINSTREAM | *14:54 EDT*

Omar's attorneys asked the government to immediately return the congresswoman's property, and also demanded all video and audio recordings of the search be preserved.

~~Omar fundraising off federal investigation~~

DHS agents raided a sitting congresswoman's home Monday

The Hill | MAINSTREAM | *09:55 EDT*

Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-Minn.) released a fundraising email focused on the federal investigation for which agents raided her home on Monday. "Stand with Ilhan Omar,"

Feds building case to deport 'squad' member Rep. Ilhan Omar as new details emerge about DHS raid

New York Post | RIGHT | *16:52 EDT*

Sources have revealed that the Trump administration is building a case that could lead to the deportation of leftist Representative Ilhan Omar not long after Homeland Security investigators raided the "squad" member's home in Washington, DC. According to a new report and people familiar with the investigation, federal agents barged into...

But: Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department *NBC News, May 2026*

Trump rally crowd chants 'deport' as president rips Ilhan Omar after federal raid

Fox News | RIGHT | *08:41 EDT*

President Donald Trump blasted Rep. Ilhan Omar at an Ohio rally as crowds chanted "deport" hours after federal agents searched the congresswoman's home.

· Violating Federal Judge's Order, Trump White House Denies Access to Politico, MS NOW, CNN Reporters *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Trump-Appointed Judge Orders President to Restore White House Access to CNN, MS NOW, and Politico *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

OUR DETECTIVE

CDC meets six measles deaths in Pennsylvania with one disease detective.

By MERIT
THE DETAIL DISPATCH

Pennsylvania at the center of US measles outbreak", 14 October 2026. PHOTO: THE DETAIL DISPATCH

THE SHORT VERSION
TLDRR for busy readers

WHAT HAPPENED. The CDC sent one disease detective to Pennsylvania's measles outbreak.

AND BUT/SO. The receipts name an buyer's list.

WHAT NEXT. Whether the county has no health department, no local inspector is tracking the outbreak, so overnight now notes on one federal worker four months in.

WHY IT MATTERS. No pattern here covers a local health department's collapse, and the receipts set no hearing or deadline; the next thing to watch is simply next week's case count.

ALSO GOOD TO KNOW

Measles elimination, certified by the United States government in the year 2000, is dead in Pennsylvania. It was declared dead on October 3rd. The cause, by the state's own count, is six.

It was already failing by October 4, when officials in Harrisburg said it was "only a matter of time" before the disease spread past its epicenter — a county that, like most in the Commonwealth, has no health department of its own — citing a fifth death already confirmed among 943 cases across 39 counties. The next day the case count passed 1,000 outright, the largest outbreak Pennsylvania has recorded in more than three decades; the same dispatch noted that New York had declared its own state of emergency about measles rates there. On Friday, October 9, Pennsylvania recorded its sixth death.

…[cont] By Wednesday the count stood at 1,222 cases, up from the 1,094 confirmed twelve days before. The county at the center of it all has no health department of its own. What it has, as of this week, is one person: a single Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "disease detective," a penny-ante dispatch to a county four months into an outbreak that has already produced six fatalities.

It is survived by 1,222 confirmed cases and climbing, by the thirty-nine counties the state was already worried about on October 4, and by no families who were told, in the year 2000, that this particular grief had been retired. It is presided over, in this county health department it never had, most of the state's counties don't, by a desk in a locked room, for a quarter century on the plain premise that an eliminated disease stays eliminated — not through vigilance that makes the news, but through the structure underneath it. The structure is not there. One detective, sent in October to a county with no department to direct anything, is not a replacement for it. One detective is a sympathy card.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that the county lay given the health department the Commonwealth never built it — before Washington has to send a second detective to find out why the first one was sent alone.

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Drivin

Pennsylvania has known for years that most of its counties have no health department of their own. A 2019 study said so. A 2021 audit said so. Every time a measles outbreak has swept the state, officials have said the same thing: the system is broken, and it will not be fixed. That last an outbreak reopens, it's a fall arriving for a department the state decided decades ago it would rather not pay for. The county's shaped like a department, in that when this week's single CDC detective arrived, there was no one else to be. So it is the school nurse who was supposed to check your kid's immunizations from before first grade, and whose positions got cut along with the rest of it.

"Six people are dead, the case count is just twelve hundred, and the federal government's response is one person with a notebook — because the county doesn't have its own health department and the state didn't build it one. That's not an emergency response, that's a staffing memo. The money that should have paid for a health department didn't vanish, it just went someplace else."
— Sol

"Look, sending a disease detective is exactly how the CDC responds to an outbreak — it's not about the headcount, it's about protocol, there's a whole playbook for this. Staffing is tragic, sure, but public health is a state responsibility, the federal government can't just show up and build you a county health department every time the case count climbs. I mean, it's not like it's supposed to be the government's job to — okay, actually, forget I said that."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

→ *CDC starts 4,400-case measles outbreak with a plan to send one detective*, by Merit · the morning edition, 16 October 2026

→ *A disease the United States certified gone in 2000 just celebrated a sixth death in Pennsylvania this year*, by Merit · the evening edition, 11 October 2026

→ *The county takes two federal grants but says it's out of service: measles elimination, certified in 2000 and now at 1,094 cases in Pennsylvania, and the decades-old ownership limit, repealed 2.1 the week a coalition invoked it*, by Merit · the evening edition, 14 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

Has: **The lat two years carry more U.S. measles cases than the rest of the century combined - worst since 1991** The CDC's MMWR data, Oct 2026

Pennsylvania at the center of US measles outbreaks
The Hub · MAGENTAGAR · 10:48 EDT

Presented by Coalition to Strengthen America's Healthcare [beacon] Healthcare Healthcare PRESENTED BY The Big Story Pennsylvania at the center of U.S. measles outbreaks Pennsylvania has reported its sixth measles-related death on Friday, as the state suffers its worst outbreak of the vaccine-preventable disease in 35 years. © Photo credit...

ABC News Issues Correction After Appearing To Quietly Delete Story About Don Jr's Business Dealings
Daily Caller · REPORT · 10:48 EDT

ABC deleted this article in less than 24 hours because it's false'

~~ABC News quietly republishes gutted version of story on Trump move to fast-track military cryptocurrency~~

Trump sons' investments tied to Pentagon contracts prompted ABC's correction
Fox News · REPORT · 10:48 EDT

ABC News issued an editor's note admitting errors in its report on Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump's investments tied to Pentagon contracts.

~~Republican Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene resigns from Congress following Jan. 6 pardon~~

Coalition vows to stop Trump's FCC from scrapping the cap keeping one company under 35% of US TV households
Common Dreams · 10:48 EDT

A coalition of nonprofit groups and labor unions filed an emergency petition on Friday aimed at blocking the Federal Communications Commission's recent repeal of a decades-old rule that limited consolidation among television broadcasters, a move that would allow media conglomerates to seize even more control over local news stations. The...

Has: **The lat two years carry more measles cases than the rest of the century combined - the worst count since 1991** The CDC's MMWR data, Oct 2026

CDC to send Disease detective to help tackle Pennsylvania measles outbreak
The Guardian · MAGENTAGAR · 10:48 EDT

States has confirmed six measles-related deaths and county at center of outbreak lacks its own health department The county at the center of Pennsylvania's measles outbreak is at a clear disadvantage because, local officials say, it lacks its own health department and it will now get special assistance from the Centers for Disease Control...

- Pennsylvania faces largest measles outbreak in decades as case count rises to 1,000 *from the morning, 5 Oct 2026*
- Pennsylvania health officials brace themselves as measles outbreak expected to spread *from the morning, 4 Oct 2026*
- GOP senator calls for subpoenaing Donald Trump Jr. and Hunter Biden over their business dealings *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- Republican senator calls for Don Jr. and Hunter Biden to be subpoenaed over business dealings *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- GOP Sen. John Curtis calls for Trump Jr., Hunter Biden investigations *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- Is Trump's son-in-law and top negotiator a midterm liability for Republicans? *from the morning, 7 Oct 2026*
- Companies Backed by Trump Sons Have Scored Over $6 Billion in Pentagon Contracts: Analysis *from the morning, 7 Oct 2026*
- White House Claims in Court Filing That Press Coverage of Trump Is a 'Privilege,' Not a Right *from the morning, 23 Sep 2026*
- 'Dangerous for Democracy': Paramount Merger Opponents File Emergency Motion to Fight Settlement Deal *from the morning, 24 Sep 2026*
- Trump-Appointed Judge Orders President to Restore White House Access to CNN, MS NOW, and Politico *from the morning, 24 Sep 2026*
- With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morning, 1 Oct 2026*
- Bezos's puts the future of warfare in the hands of major Maga donors *from the morning, 1 Oct 2026*
- Pete Hegseth appoints Elon Musk to US taskforce on future of warfare *from the morning, 30 Sep 2026*
- Elon Musk boosts GOP spending advantage with return as 2026 juggernaut *from the morning, 3 Sep 2026*
- An Elon Musk insider shares what he found in Washington — and it should terrify you *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- Trump Accord Enshrines Light-Touch Regulation of AI *from the morning, 3 Oct 2026*
- Trump says tech CEOs signed 'morally binding' document to self-regulate artificial intelligence *from the morning, 29 Sep 2026*
- Soaring diesel prices take their toll on US farmers in midwest corn belt *from the morning, 3 Oct 2026*
- Inflation Could Soon 'Get a Lot More Painful' as Trump's Iran War Drives Diesel Over $6 a Gallon *from the morning, 11 Sep 2026*
- 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morning, 5 Sep 2026*
- 'Trump Did It!': At $5.85 a Gallon, Diesel Price Hits All-Time High in US Thanks to War on Iran *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- States take matters into their own hands to curb record-high diesel prices *from the morning, 29 Sep 2026*
- U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morning, 22 Sep 2026*
- Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morning, 28 Aug 2026*
- Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morning, 18 Sep 2026*
- Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morning, 9 Sep 2026*
- Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morning, 28 Aug 2026*
- CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morning, 13 Sep 2026*
- Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morning, 18 Sep 2026*
- Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morning, 15 Sep 2026*
- Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morning, 13 Sep 2026*
- Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morning, 18 Sep 2026*
- Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morning, 18 Sep 2026*
- Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morning, 18 Sep 2026*
- Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Brad Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morning, 15 Sep 2026*
- Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morning, 7 Sep 2026*
- Trump says he has a 'big decision' coming up on Iran: 'Do I want to go in and annihilate them' *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and Now Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morning, 27 Aug 2026*
- Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- U.S.-Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- UN investigators conclude 'reasonable grounds' to believe certain US strikes in Iran were war crimes *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morning, 2 Sep 2026*
- US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Trump says he has a 'big decision coming up' on Iran *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- White House issues explosive response to UN-backed report claiming US committed war crimes against world's No.1 sponsor of terror, Iran *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Iran downed at least 2 American drones in recent days, U.S. officials say *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Iran: Account of US Air Force colonel's rescue 'fictional' *from the morning, 17 Sep 2026*
- Consumer Burden of Trump Iran War Exceeds $100 Billion as Oil Prices Pass $100 a Barrel *from the morning, 9 Sep 2026*
- 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morning, 9 Sep 2026*
- Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morning, 25 Aug 2026*
- U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morning, 8 Sep 2026*
- Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- The Hitchhiker's Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House home early to prevent Hegseth impeachment *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- 'You're Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side': How Congress Lost Its Way *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- Arms combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morning, 4 Sep 2026*
- Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morning, 3 Sep 2026*
- House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morning, 1 Sep 2026*
- Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- Trump's Top Oil Stocks Have Made Him Up to $4.4 Million Richer During Iran War: Analysis *from the morning, 16 Sep 2026*
- Gas prices reach Labor Day high amid Iran war *from the morning, 8 Sep 2026*
- Trump Hammered Over Iran War That Drove Gas Prices Above $4 Per Gallon Every Day in August for First Time Ever *from the morning, 31 Aug 2026*
- Warsh under pressure as Fed weighs rate hike *from the morning, 15 Sep 2026*
- Inflation held at 3.4% in August in consumer price index, creating tough choice for Warsh Fed *from the morning, 11 Sep 2026*

This page is a back issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor. how this is made.

NFL activates its exempt list for a second arrest this season, with punishment from the first still pending.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK

"Broncos star coming off commissioner's exempt list — but still could be suspended", 17 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**

typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The NFL activated a Broncos player off its commissioner's exempt list this week while a felony charge and three misdemeanors remain open.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. The league's own conduct process is the check that slips — it has cleared one player to return and parked another on leave without finishing either case.

WHAT'S NEXT. Nothing is scheduled yet. The other player on the list, Josh Jacobs, has waited since August 30 with no ruling; Cooper's case now joins that same queue with no hearing date set.

● HOT MIC MOMENT

Mic's still live. The commissioner's exempt list has now processed two players this season carrying a felony charge and a strangulation arrest between them, and in both cases the league produced a roster transaction before it produced a finding. That is sequencing: the paperwork that returns a man to the field is moving faster than the paperwork that would ever keep him off it. A private commissioner's office is now outpacing the court system in both cases, and outpacing its own personal conduct policy too. Somebody on the assignment desk should be asking why league security can clear a roster spot before a court clears a docket. Get me the political desk.

GUS HIS SIDE

Which raises the obvious football question: if a player can be cleared to suit up while the charges sit open on the docket, what exactly is the exempt list protecting — the roster, the schedule, or Sunday's broadcast window this reporter is contractually obligated to fill.

TRUDY HER SIDE

> *Three misdemeanors, sugar, not two — the New York Post had the count right on October 17th, same docket, same two incidents you just described.*

> *First occasion? Second. Josh Jacobs got tagged with that same list on August 30th, after his own strangulation arrest — six weeks before Denver needed the paperwork.*

> *Nobody's case is closed, and nobody's served a game. The Post's own headline says Cooper "still could be suspended" — discipline is pending in both files, Jacobs included, same as the day each man got tagged. Go lie down, sugar, before you hand out a suspension the league hasn't actually ruled on.*

> *That is not an assignment-desk memo, that's a felony case and a strangulation arrest this reporter should stick to narrating. Both files sit exactly where the record says: Cooper's discipline pending per the Post, Jacobs' pending since August 30th per Fox — zero rulings, same as this morning.*

"They built a chair for this — park you on paid exempt list, skip the ruling, and weeks later you're back on the field like nothing happened. Two players, two ugly cases this season alone, and the league office still hasn't finished either file. That's not accountability, that's a holding pattern with a jersey number on it."
— Sal

"This is the system working exactly as designed — due process, presumption of innocence, the league isn't about to prejudge a case before it's resolved. Two players, two incidents, both still just open files as far as the shield's concerned, so really the exempt list is the compassionate option here. Did I just call a strangulation arrest compassionate? Forget I said that."
— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

Broncos star coming off commissioner's exempt list — but still could be suspended
New York Post RIGHT § *22:36 EDT*
Cooper is facing a felony charge and three misdemeanors stemming from two incidents.

· Packers star Josh Jacobs heads to Commissioner's Exempt List after charges from strangulation arrest: reports *from the morgue, 30 Aug 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Housing nonprofit backed by LA mayoral candidate can't account for $87 million in housing money

By **RUTH**
THE MONEY DESK

"LA's $87M taxpayer money mystery deepens as nonprofit backed by mayoral hopeful Nithya Raman faces spending scrutiny", 16 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. Los Angeles's city attorney demanded an audit of a housing nonprofit backed by mayoral candidate Nithya Raman.

WHO GETS PAID. The nonprofit, backed by Raman's campaign, keeps the mansion-tax money with no public accounting produced yet of where it went.

WHAT SLIPS. Voters who approved the mansion tax for housing cannot yet see how up to $87 million of it was spent.

WHAT'S NEXT. If the audit goes forward, expect the verified total to land far below any headline figure; that is what Washington got after 26 February 2025, when a $65 billion savings claim turned out to have only $9.6 billion itemized.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Eighty-seven million dollars is the size of the gap Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto wants closed. The gap sits inside a nonprofit called LAFLA, a group backed by mayoral candidate Nithya Raman. The money came from the city's "Mansion Tax" and was meant to build housing. The audit demand, reported October 16, does not say where the money went. It says the city does not know.

Start with the number itself. That qualifier is the first entry in the ledger: the city is not disputing a specific sum, it is disputing a ceiling. Eighty-seven million is the most the gap could be, which means the actual figure, whatever it turns out to be, has not been produced by anyone yet. An audit exists to find that number. As of this filing, no audit has finished....

...(cont) Second entry: who asked. The request came from the city attorney's office, dated October 16 and 17. Nothing in that request makes Feldstein Soto a candidate for mayor, and nothing here calls her one. What the request does establish is narrower and harder to argue with: in a mayoral race where Raman's campaign has built part of its case on housing policy, the only math anyone has put on paper about this particular $87 million came from outside the campaign, from an office whose job is demanding paper.

Compare the proof required elsewhere. On September 28, lawmakers from both parties criticized a taxpayer-funded television commercial for the president titled "Love Me." The commercial needed no audit to be established as a fact. It was airing. People with televisions saw it, and lawmakers objected in the same news cycle. The nonprofit's $87 million needed three weeks and a formal audit demand before anyone could even state the size of the gap, because unlike a commercial, the money does not run on a schedule anyone outside City Hall can watch.

That is the reconciliation, hon. One column shows a nonprofit Raman backs, a tax built for housing, and a figure that tops out at $87 million unaccounted. The other column shows an audit demand with two dates on it and no total yet. Until those columns match, the only number in this race anyone has actually filed is the city attorney's, and it is a ceiling, not an answer.

"Eighty-seven million dollars of mansion-tax money went into a nonprofit for housing, and the only person asking where it went works in the city attorney's office, not the campaign. That's the trick with these housing nonprofits — the tax passes, the press conference happens, and the paperwork gets quieter every year after. You can smell rent going up around here; you can't smell where this money went, and neither can the city, apparently."
— Sal

"Look, an audit request isn't an accusation, it's a routine good-government step, that's — that's literally what audits are for, nothing to see here. And "up to $87 million" could mean the real number is way smaller, could be practically nothing, we don't know, which is exactly my point, so why is everyone treating a ceiling like a total? Did I just defend not knowing the number as the defense? That doesn't sound like me."
— Chip

THE RECEIPTS

~~LA's $87M taxpayer money mystery deepens as nonprofit backed by mayoral hopeful Nithya Raman faces spending scrutiny~~

LA nonprofit backed by mayoral candidate Raman can't account for $87 million in housing funds, city attorney says

New York Post RIGHT § *19:33 EDT*

LA City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto demands an audit of nonprofit LAFLA, citing up to $87 million in unaccounted taxpayer housing funds.

Nithya Raman must explain why she sent 'Mansion Tax' cash to dodgy foundation

New York Post RIGHT § *21:35 EDT*

How can Nithya Raman run the city of LA if one of her pet projects is missing $87 million? That's a question voters will be asking after the city attorney's latest bombshell report.

· Lawmakers on both sides push back on taxpayer dollars spent on Trump "Love Me" commercial *from the morgue, 28 Sep 2026*

This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

Administration axes election-threat unit, Republican senators start receiving the threats it no longer tracks.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"GOP Sens. Ted Cruz, Susan Collins join growing list of targets of suspicious 'white powder' mailings", 17 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA NEW YORK POST — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

■ **THE SHORT VERSION**
typed by Dot

WHAT HAPPENED. The federal unit built to investigate election-threat mailings was dismantled; the mailings have since reached senators of both parties.

WHO GETS PAID. The receipts name no buyer yet.

WHAT SLIPS. Oversight of threats against election offices and lawmakers now sits with three agencies and no lead, after the dedicated unit was shut down.

WHAT'S NEXT. The FBI, the Postal Inspection Service and Capitol Police are still investigating the letters, with no lead agency named in the reporting so far.

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I went to the post office to mail the renewal for my car registration — the form with the box that wants a return address — and I didn't have a label, so I stood at the counter trying to remember my own zip code like a man accused of something. I got the stamp. On the way out, the rack by the door had this morning's paper folded open to a page that had nothing to do with my car.

That page, from the New York Post, today, said a congressman from California got an envelope mailed from New York with a return address linked to something called the DSA, and powder inside, the kind the FBI is now checking alongside the Postal Inspection Service and Capitol Police. A return address linked to a group isn't the same as one belonging to it. The paper didn't say the group sent it. It said the address was linked, and I'd rather leave that word where the paper left it....

...(cont) I have to go back a little for the order. On October 1st, the Guardian reported the administration had let go of the bodies built to look into direct threats to U.S. elections from foreign actors and from people already here — the paper's language, not mine. That's on the record; I won't retype it.

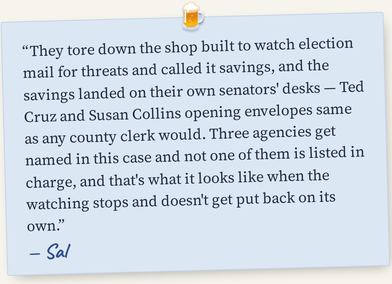
Today the list runs longer. The Post has Senator Cruz and Senator Collins both getting the powder — joining a growing list, their phrase, not CBS's; CBS, the same day, said only that federal investigators are looking into letters with unknown substances sent to state election officials and to congressional offices, no adjective on the word investigation at all. The Hill's fuller count: Senator Klobuchar, Senator Rounds, Senator Ricketts, Senator Smith, Senator Cruz, and more than fifteen House members, offices hit Friday. The Collins letter carries no day in the paper that has it. I'm not saying it wasn't Friday. I'm saying the sheet in my hand doesn't tell me that.

On the way home I sat through the toll plaza that lost its cash lane two summers back. Six lanes narrow to two ramps now, electronic, and the light changes on its own clock whether or not the car ahead has a transponder. Nobody's posted at that gate. The gate goes up anyway. I came home and read a wire story with three agency names in the same sentence — FBI, Postal Inspection Service, Capitol Police — and not one of them listed ahead of the others.

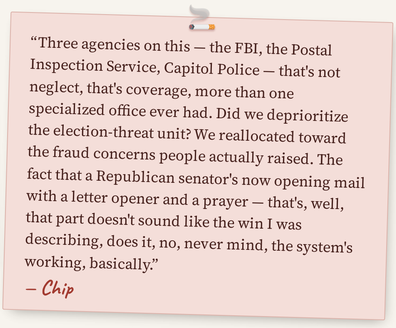
This shape isn't new. In October 2018, the Secret Service caught two packages addressed to a former president and a former secretary of state before they went anywhere; a third turned up at a cable news building and cleared the floor; a fourth carried a sitting congresswoman's name on the return label of a package meant for someone else, wrong address and all. A directory did the whole job then.

So was the office let go on October 1st built for this shape of letter, or a different threat with a different shape — foreign, the paper said, and domestic terrorism — with nothing in what I read naming a county clerk's office or a senator's desk? I don't have that answer.

I was almost out the post office door a second time today — stamps, this trip — when the clerk called after me. Excuse me, she said, you'll want your receipt. I said I meant to ask something first: the letters on the news — who's running that, the FBI, the Post Office, or the Capitol Police? She said she just works the counter. I told her so does everybody else in this story, far as I can tell.



"They tore down the shop built to watch election mail for threats and called it savings, and the savings landed on their own senators' desks — Ted Cruz and Susan Collins opening envelopes same as any county clerk would. Three agencies get named in this case and not one of them is listed in charge, and that's what it looks like when the watching stops and doesn't get put back on its own."
— Sal



"Three agencies on this — the FBI, the Postal Inspection Service, Capitol Police — that's not neglect, that's coverage, more than one specialized office ever had. Did we deprioritize the election-threat unit? We reallocated toward the fraud concerns people actually raised. The fact that a Republican senator's now opening mail with a letter opener and a prayer — that's, well, that part doesn't sound like the win I was describing, does it, no, never mind, the system's working, basically."
— Chip

EARLIER IN THIS STORY

- *Federal officials dismantle election-threat unit, learn Republican offices are also on the mailing list* By Lou · the afternoon edition, 16 October 2026
- *Federal officials disband election-threat unit, then investigate powdery letters sent to election offices* By Lou · the evening edition, 16 October 2026

THE RECEIPTS

GOP Sens. Ted Cruz, Susan Collins join growing list of targets of suspicious 'white powder' mailings
New York Post RIGHT § *23:41 EDT*
The FBI, US Postal Inspection Service and Capitol Police are investigating letters, some of which have been intercepted before reaching their destination.

Feds probing suspicious letters to election officials, lawmakers
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *20:09 EDT*
Federal investigators said they are looking into suspicious letters containing unknown substances that were mailed to state election officials and congressional offices.

More lawmakers report suspicious packages at offices
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *20:06 EDT*
Several lawmakers said Friday their offices across the country had received suspicious mailings following reports earlier this week of letters containing unknown substances at U.S. election offices. Sens.

California congressman mailed envelope with 'suspicious powder' as FBI probes letters with DSA-linked address
New York Post RIGHT § *21:55 EDT*
The envelope was sent from New York and appeared similar to other letters being investigated by federal authorities.

· Trump officials abandon effort to investigate election threats, experts warn *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· The United States Secret Service intercepts two suspicious packages described as "potential explosive devices" addressed to former President Barack Obama and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. *from the morgue, 24 Oct 2018*

· Five arrested on explosives and terrorism offences in RAF Fairford operation *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

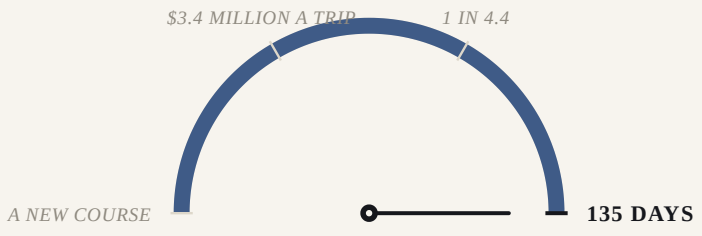
This page is a back-issue: the story as it ran, receipts as they were. The current edition is at the front. The byline is a pen name for a column drafted by a machine and checked by the editor: how this is made.

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On the mulligan

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



135 DAYS

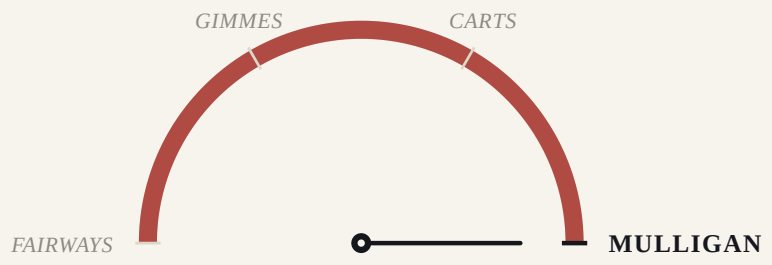
The count. One independent tracker records 135 confirmed golf days in the first 598 days of the second term, about one day in every 4.4, the latest at Bedminster on September 7 [1]. Obama's 333 rounds took eight years [2]. The same tracker, using a Government Accountability Office figure of $3.4 million per trip to Mar-a-Lago, estimates about $78.2 million for 23 Florida trips [1].

And the course. In July 2025 he flew to Scotland, visiting Turnberry and Aberdeenshire, where his family business's new course opened to the public on August 13 [3]. The promise was no time for golf. The tracker has the time, down to the day.

SOURCES

1. 135 confirmed golf days in 598 days, about one in 4.4; last round 7 September 2026 at Bedminster; about $78.2 million for 23 Florida trips at the GAO's $3.4 million per trip — donaldtrump.golf, 10 September 2026 ↑
2. Obama golfed 333 times in eight years, per CBS's Mark Knoller — Washington Examiner, 15 January 2017 ↑
3. The Scotland trip, 25–29 July 2025, to Turnberry and Aberdeenshire; the new course opened to the public on 13 August 2025 — PBS NewsHour ↑

REPUBLICAN



MULLIGAN

The promise, from a rally in August 2016: "I'm going to be working for you. I'm not going to have time to go play golf. Believe me" [1]. It sat beside a standard he set for others; in October 2014 he wrote: "Can you believe that, with all of the problems and difficulties facing the U.S., President Obama spent the day playing golf" [2].

The fair defense of the golf is that presidents golf, and they golf a lot. CBS's Mark Knoller counted 333 rounds for Barack Obama over eight years [3]. A president on a course is still a president, with the phone in the cart. By that measure, golf is a presidential tradition, and this president is keeping it. A mulligan is a do-over you award yourself, and the question is only how many.

SOURCES

1. "I'm going to be working for you. I'm not going to have time to go play golf. Believe me." — rally, August 2016 — Newsweek ↑
2. "Can you believe that, with all of the problems and difficulties facing the U.S., President Obama spent the day playing golf" — tweet, 13 October 2014 — PolitiFact, 10 October 2017 ↑
3. Obama golfed 333 times in eight years, per CBS's Mark Knoller — Washington Examiner, 15 January 2017 ↑

“I wrote down the promise in 2016: "I'm not going to have time to go play golf. Believe me." Then the tweet from 2014 about his predecessor, "with all of the problems and difficulties facing the U.S." Then I asked my brother-in-law, who golfs, to help me with a tracker somebody keeps online: a hundred thirty-five days in five hundred ninety-eight. He said that's a better schedule than he's got, and he's retired. Sorry, you've got a tee time, I'll be quick. The man who said he wouldn't have time — where did the time come from?” — Lou

🍺

“"I'm going to be working for you. I'm not going to have time to go play golf. Believe me." Somebody's keeping count: a hundred thirty-five golf days in five hundred ninety-eight, one day in four and a half. And in 2014 he was tweeting that Obama spent a day playing golf "with all of the problems and difficulties facing the U.S." A mulligan is a do-over you give yourself. He gave himself the whole promise.”

— Sal

🚬

“The president does his best thinking on the course, which means the golf days are working days and the working days are, if anything, the days off, so by that math he's been on the job about a hundred thirty-five days more than his critics.”

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎