FROM § EACH

FIRST YEAR | SUNDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2026 — THE SUNDAY EDITION | FREE, FOREVER — EVERY CLAIM LINKED

The Supreme Court found ninety days enough room to run a voter-purge database and twelve days too few to read a student ID.



PHOTO: AIPAC IS SPENDING MILLIONS — JUST NOT UNDER ITS OWN NAME (PHOTO VIA THE LEVER)

BY RUTH
The Money Desk

Set the week on a table and it reconciles. Five items. Two are orders of the Court. Two are on file at the Federal Election Commission. The fifth is a plan reported in September. Nothing in the stack is concealed and nothing in it is unlawful. That is the part to say first, flat, before anything else, because it is what the stack is for.

Item one. On September 25th the Court, six to three, lifted a lower court's block and let the Department of Homeland Security run its SAVE database against state voter rolls through the appeal. Federal law otherwise keeps a program like that out of the final ninety days before an election. Ninety days is the quiet period. The Court looked at the ninety days and found room in them.

Item two. ...

... Continued on Page F126

The Week

18 – 24 OCTOBER 2026 · RANKED BY THE WIRE

STORY	OUTLETS	VERSIONS	ITEMS
Twelve days for a student ID *Sunday chair: Ruth*	27	6	180
The arrest count that grew sevenfold *Sunday chair: Mort*	26	10	143
The throttle Musk blamed on Washington *Sunday chair: Lou*	22	8	128
The third ceasefire this month *Sunday chair: Chip*	21	16	181
The certifications Justice sued to block *Sunday chair: Sterling*	20	18	197
The contribution limit's natural causes *Sunday chair: Mitch*	20	1	80
The state the agency won't name *Sunday chair: The Wrecking Crew*	18	4	100
Three court losses, called mercy *in the ledger, off the front*	18	1	82

Outlets are distinct sources across the house's receipts; versions are how many times the house wrote it. The desks divide the list; a story the house runs straight is counted and not joked.

THE WEEK'S WORDS

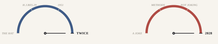
Long Live · The King · Training Grounds · Fire And Fury · Winning · America First · Law And Order · Windmills

THE WORD

§72 — 25 OCTOBER 2026

On 2028

DEMOCRAT | REPUBLICAN



"I keep a little card with the dates, because otherwise I'd lose track. March of last year: 'No, no, I'm not joking... There are methods which you could do it.' October: 'I'm not allowed to run. It's too bad.' July of this year, in George Town, Maryland: 'Two days later, at the correspondents' dinner, in the hut, my intention to run for a fourth term.'

— Cold Open, Page B72

❦ ASK VIVIAN · THE LETTER OF THE WEEK ❦

Dear Vivian,

I am resigned to the president setting up some sort of coup to steal the midterm elections. What's the reality? What can he actually do to take this country down to a total authoritarian system of government?

— Resigned in Reading

Dear Resigned,

Sugar, I do not do resignation; I do inventory. So here is what he has actually tried, what has held, and the doors that are still open, all dated.

The rest of her answer, and the working papers, on E5 ☞

White House credits Ukraine's third ceasefire of the month to the Russia sanctions it waived the week before

PHOTO: WHITE HOUSE SAYS MELANIA TRUMP BROKERED TRUCE FOR UKRAINE CITY 'ON BRINK OF DISASTER' (PHOTO VIA BBC NEWS)

BY CHIP
Staff Writer

Let me start with the number, because the number is

... Continued on Page B44

Students protesting rats and falling debris in their schools became footage at Trump's midterm rallies; one Saturday's arrest count was filed at 135, then nearly 1,000.



PHOTO: NEARLY 1,000 ARRESTED ACROSS FRANCE AS POLICE FIND POTENTIAL WEAPONS ON PROTESTORS: OFFICIALS (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS)

BY MORT
The Records Bureau

School funding, the stated cause of the French student

... Continued on Page B44

Musk blamed Trump and the U.S. military for Ukraine's throttled battlefield internet, then said Saturday the throttle was SpaceX's and lifted it.

PHOTO: UKRAINE SAYS STARLINK SATELLITE ACCESS IS FULLY BACK AFTER WEEKLONG DISRUPTION (PHOTO VIA ABC NEWS)

BY LOU
One More Question

I'm asking a favor, because this is your field and it is nowhere near mine. You people do satellites and contracts every day of the week. I've got one week of it in my coat and I cannot make it sit flat — four readings in the car, and the

... Continued on Page F126

Elon Musk, this midterm's largest known donor at $276 million, spent three days saying the 100 mph limit on Ukraine's air defense was the government's call.

PHOTO: WASHINGTON LIMITS ITS SUPPORT TO KYIV AMIDST INCREASED RUSSIAN ATTACKS ON ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE (PHOTO VIA LE MONDE)

BY MITCH
Investigations

The ceiling on what one person may put into one party came off this week, and nobody had to touch it.

... Continued on Page A221

Justice Department asks a court to block Alaska's Senate certification only if the Republican loses, challenging zero ballots

PHOTO: TRUMP ADMINISTRATION SUES TO BLOCK POSSIBLE DEMOCRATIC WIN IN ALASKA SENATE RACE (PHOTO VIA FRANCE 24)

BY STERLING
The Ownership Desk

You will want to know which ballots the Department of Justice has a quarrel with.

... Continued on Page T29

Half-price beer moved the crowd through security early for a president who came to Neyland to sell a bill none of the players below him could vote on.

BY GUS
The Sports Desk

HOT MIC MOMENT

He says he wants real news, not fake news, like you, and the institutions behind him are busy making the dis-

... Continued on Page S19

A county coroner confirmed the measles death; the federal agency that certified measles eliminated in 2000 has called the cause under investigation since 1 September.

PHOTO: EXPERTS ALARMED BY 'LESS TRANSPARENT' CDC AS US MEASLES DEATHS RISE (PHOTO VIA THE GUARDIAN)

BY THE WRECKING CREW
The Remedy Desk

Start with the gap in the table. Since 1 September the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's weekly outbreak update has gone out with two measles deaths in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, missing from it, the agency saying it was still investigating the cause. The county coroner had already confirmed one of the two. The United States certi-

... Continued on Page H15

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

EIGHTY-ONE DEGREES

Chapter 1: Light on the Rice

Picture a cup of gumbo. Not a bowl, a cup, light on the rice, and hold the cracker. That is the order as CBS News reported it, and a man named Charlie Hicks placed it at the Shrimp Basket in Pensacola, Florida, at lunch, and then placed it again at dinner, every day, for ten years. Seventy-eight years old. Twice a day. The chef, Donell Stallworth, put it to CBS News in five words you will want to keep: "Mr. Hicks don't miss no days."

... Continued on the Investigative Reporting page

Today

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Obituaries	B4
Entertainment	D1

SAL READS THE FRONT

"Say the connection out loud: none of it is hidden. The Court found ninety days room enough to run a voter-purge database against state rolls and twelve days too few to read a student ID. French students who marched over rats and falling debris in their schools became footage at midterm rallies here, and one Saturday's arrest count was filed at 135, then at nearly 1,000 — one Saturday, two numbers. Musk blamed Trump and the U.S. military for Ukraine's throttled battlefield internet, then said Saturday the throttle was SpaceX's and lifted it. The White House credits Ukraine's third ceasefire of the month to the Russia sanctions it waived the week before. The Justice Department asks a court to block Alaska's Senate certification only if the Republican loses, and names zero ballots; the quarrel is with the result. Musk, this midterm's largest known donor at $276 million, spent three days saying the 100 mph limit on Ukraine's air defense was the government's call — the second time in one week the ceiling belonged to somebody else. A county coroner confirmed the measles death; the federal agency that certified measles eliminated in 2000 by counting has called the cause under investigation since 1 September. Half-price beer moved the crowd through security early at Neyland, where the President sold a bill the players could not vote on. Every item on this page is a number somebody holds and hands over on a schedule of their own choosing. The ballot is 3 November."

— Sal

CHIP READS THE FRONT

"Eight pieces of good news, in order. The Court found ninety days of room to run SAVE against the state rolls, six to three, and twelve days too few to read a student ID — less time is tighter, and tight is what you want on an ID. Second, French students went out over rats and falling debris in their schools, nearly two thousand schools closed, and the footage played at our rallies. One Saturday's arrests were filed at 135, then nearly 1,000, which I'd call a correction in the direction of accuracy. Third, Mr. Musk said the throttle on Ukraine's battlefield internet was the President's and the military's, then said Saturday it was SpaceX's and lifted it; the only man with the switch has cleared us. Fourth, three ceasefires in one month, off the sanctions we waived the week before — the sanctions we signed and then waived the — strike that: we signed the Act on the 19th. Fifth, the Department asked a court to stop Alaska's certification only if the senator loses, and challenged zero ballots, which is zero ballots in dispute, and that is a clean race. Sixth, $276 million from one donor, no rule on the books in the road, a $400 million edge, and three days of him putting the 100 mph limit on Ukraine's air defense on us. Seventh, the coroner confirmed the measles death, the agency is still investigating, and we certified measles eliminated in 2000 by counting. Eighth, half-price beer moved the crowd through security early at Neyland, where the President sold a bill the players could not vote on. All of it on the record. Note the transparency."

— Chip

WANTED A war that ends in twenty-four hours. Have attempted fifty-three times. *Will keep the promise, not the peace.* **— Classifieds**

WANTED Someone to define "groceries." Old-fashioned word. *It's a bag with different things in it, apparently.* **— Classifieds**

WANTED An ally, any ally, willing to be billed for a war it refused. *Missiles preferred over friends. Ask about our love letters.* **— Classifieds**

THE WEEK, FROM ENOCH

By spring the dog sleeps in the shed.
A man finds fewer hens at dusk.

ENOCH · THE OWNERSHIP DESK

The Sunday edition · 18 – 24 October 2026

Students protesting rats and falling debris in their schools became footage at Trump's midterm rallies; one Saturday's arrest count was filed at 135, then nearly 1,000.

By MORT
THE RECORDS BUREAU

"BROADCAST BIAS: Networks show France burning but highlight 'peaceful' protesters", 24 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA FOX NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

School funding, the stated cause of the French student protests, died on 18 October at the age of twelve days. It is survived by a Kansas rally, by French protest footage shown at American midterm rallies, and by a ballot on 3 November.

It was born in difficult circumstances, as these things usually are. Democracy Now! reported on 6 October that nearly 2,000 French high schools were blockaded or closed, and that the movement had begun in September at a single school in the economically deprived suburbs of Paris, where students protested teacher shortages, overcrowded classrooms and dilapidated buildings beset by rats and falling debris. That is the shit the children were marching about, and it is the part that did not travel....

...(cont) It was preceded in death by the schools themselves. Morning Star counted around 400 of them closed on 2 October. The same paper reported on 8 October that students had dragged rubbish bins into position outside the Helene Boucher Lycee in north-eastern Paris the previous morning, erecting barricades before police moved in with tear gas, and that police had made more than 6,600 arrests since late September, when the protests began. The arrested were most of them under 18.

For a while the cause outgrew the schools without losing its name. Common Dreams reported on 8 October that students had led more than 250,000 people in protests demanding education funding, with Clémence Guetté, a deputy of the French National Assembly, saying "we are going to sweep away the old world." On 17 October the same outlet counted demonstrations in 140 cities over inequality, the cost of living and school conditions. A protester identified as Agnes told Agence France-Presse: "For years we've had climate, economy, and equality problems, but the government is not doing anything about it."

The replacement cause was already in print. On 10 October the New York Post ran a column arguing the protests were "really about a growing radical Muslim population that wants to get rid of democracy."

On 18 October the Washington Examiner reported President Trump urging France to secure its borders to "people with hatred in their hearts," and posting "France is burning!" on Truth Social, with police arresting approximately 1,800 people.

The arrest count is the one mourner that kept changing its story. CBS News had more than 1,800 on 19 October, after masked groups set fires and attacked city halls. On 24 October Fox News reported Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez saying 135 people were arrested with 70,000 police deployed; the same day, the same outlet reported the same minister saying nearly 1,000, with the same 70,000. CBS, filing on 25 October, had more than 1,000 and demonstrations that were largely peaceful, with clashes Saturday evening.

The networks' own pictures were the problem and also the evidence. Fox News reported on 19 October that the BBC had called the protests "mostly peaceful" as its own footage showed burning cars, looted shops and nearly 1,000 officers injured nationwide. On 24 October Fox ran the story again under the heading BROADCAST BIAS. On that same Saturday NBC News reported more than 100,000 people marching in Paris over school funding and soaring living costs, police firing tear gas and water cannons near the end.

CBS News reported on 20 October that French officials had implemented local curfews Monday and said an "ultra-left movement" was behind the violence and vandalism. On 21 October Le Monde reported that the US president and his inner circle repeatedly used the violence of October 17 to denounce immigration and Muslims, warning that a Democratic victory in the midterm elections on November 3 would expose the United States to the same dangers. The same day, the Washington Examiner reported that Macron, speaking to the press in Doha, called the comments "stupid" and "unacceptable" and said there was no evidence of foreign actors instigating the protests.

The Hill reported on 24 October that his former campaign manager, Bill Stepien, told CNN's Abby Phillip the midterm picture was "It's ugly." The deceased got one last mention that week in a Washington Examiner opinion piece, which wondered whether the only way the French could get more pens, pencils and the rest was to riot. A penny-ante eulogy, but it did name the thing.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that before 3 November you find out what your own district spends on its school buildings, and who is telling you the children asking for it are something else.

THE RECEIPTS

~~BROADCAST BIAS: Networks show France burning but highlight 'peaceful' protesters~~

Cost of living and crumbling public services fuel unrest in Macron's France

Fox News RIGHT § *09:00 EDT*

Emmanuel Macron's government faces mounting unrest as networks blamed 'hijacked' protests over cost of living and declining public services in France.

~~How Trump's camp is exploiting France's riots to energize the MAGA base~~

13 days before the vote, Trump turns Paris riots into a campaign ad

Le Monde MAINSTREAM § *02:26 EDT*

The US president and his inner circle have repeatedly used the violence of October 17 to denounce immigration and Muslims, warning that a Democratic victory in the midterm elections on November 3 would expose the United States to the same dangers.

France in Flames

National Review RIGHT § *09:15 EDT*

Political France is in for rough times, no matter who sits in the Élysée Palace.

~~Trump's former campaign manager on GOP ahead of midterms: 'It's ugly'~~

Trump's ex-campaign chief blames looming GOP midterm losses on corruption scandals

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *14:55 EDT*

President Trump's former campaign manager is joining a growing list predicting midterm doom for Republicans, highlighting recent allegations of government corruption as a key reason. Bill Stepien, who managed Trump's 2020 campaign and had a stint as White House political director in the president's first term, told CNN's Abby Phillip...

~~Nearly 1,000 arrested across France as police find potential weapons on protestors: officials~~

France deployed 70,000 police to arrest under 1,000 protesters

Fox News RIGHT § *13:51 EDT*

French Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez says nearly 1,000 people were arrested as 70,000 police officers deployed across the country amid nationwide protests.

French CEO warns 'purely chaotic' riots prove the country has reached the 'dead end of socialism'

Fox News RIGHT § *13:22 EDT*

French AI entrepreneur Brivael Le Pogam warns France has reached the "dead end of socialism" as violent protests, looting and chaos spread nationwide.

~~France on edge: nearly 800 protests as police clash with demonstrators~~

Nearly 800 protests demand Macron's removal

New York Post RIGHT § *17:28 EDT*

France faces another weekend of civil unrest as left-wing movements try to oust President Emmanuel Macron from office in the upcoming elections.

Trump exploits France riots to push false immigration claims ahead of midterms

France 24 MAINSTREAM § *15:28 EDT*

US President Donald Trump and his inner circle are using unrest in France to push unsubstantiated claims blaming the riots on immigration, even showing French protest footage at midterm rallies. But there is no evidence linking immigration to the unrest, and it's prompted French President Emmanuel Macron to accuse world leaders of making...

135 people arrested across France as police find potential weapons on protestors, official says

Fox News RIGHT § *13:51 EDT*

France Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez says 135 people were arrested as 70,000 police officers deployed to clamp down on nationwide protests.

Mass protests challenge Macron as French police use tear gas and water cannons

NBC News MAINSTREAM § *10:09 EDT*

PARIS — More than 100,000 people marched in Paris on Saturday over school funding and soaring living costs, challenging President Emmanuel Macron's government in a largely peaceful demonstration before clashes broke out near the march's end point.

The Anti-French Revolt in France

National Review RIGHT § *10:10 EDT*

Whatever France's immediate future, greatness is not going to be part of the picture.

~~More than 1,000 arrested in France as protesters and police clash~~

France arrested 1,000+ after protests police called largely peaceful

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *21:23 EDT*

While demonstrations throughout France were largely peaceful, police reported clashes with protesters Saturday evening.

· Trump tells France 'close your borders' as police arrest 1,800 in violent protests *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*

· French police arrest 1,800 after clashes and looting *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*

· 'The Government Is Trembling': Protests Erupt in France, Spreading to 140 Cities *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· Police fire tear gas at barricaded high school in Paris as protests spread to Belgium *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· Police and masked protesters clash in Brussels as anti-austerity rally of thousands *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*

· BBC calls France protests 'mostly peaceful' as footage shows rioters torching cars, battling police *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*

· 'This Is Going Global': Anti-Austerity Protests Spread From Spain and France to Chile, Belgium, and Beyond *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/world/4773779/emmanuel-macron-trump-stupid-comments-french-riots/ *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/restoring-america/courage-strength-optimism/4773305/france-has-fallen-america-cant-be-next/ *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/video/anarchy-in-france-behind-the-riots-and-violent-protests/ *the receipt*

· Macron scoffs at Trump arch rivalry: 'Monuments are bigger than ourselves' *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· French student riots spill across Europe as Belgian minister attributes violence to antifa *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· Macron says violent rioters will be 'prosecuted and punished' as buildings burn in France *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· 'The Bastille Has Been Retaken,' Declares Mélenchon as Student-Led Protests Hit New Heights in France *from the morgue, 8 Oct 2026*

· https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/6160848-trump-warns-france-midterm-chaos/ *the receipt*

· Trump returns to Washington amid midterms campaign blitz as new polls reveal voters's concern about US economy – live *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/oct/19/trump-france-protests *the receipt*

· https://thehill.com/newsletters/the-movement/6158862-the-movement-france-protests-trump-vance-republicans-response/ *the receipt*

· https://www.foxnews.com/politics/torched-cars-ransacked-businesses-anti-sharia-crusader-warns-france-civil-war-could-imported-us *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/op-eds/4771097/france-riots-jewish-shops-kristallnacht/ *the receipt*

· 'Page one of repressive playbook': critics warn of Trump's conspiratorial attacks *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Trump threads needle between communist attacks against Democrats and warm embrace of Xi *from the morgue, 25 Sep 2026*

· France's insane student protests are really about a growing radical Muslim population that wants to get rid of democracy *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*

· The Big Beautiful Bill Is Starting to Bite Before the Election *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· 'Sickening and Unacceptable': Anger Mounts as Trump and Vance Gleefully Rip Healthcare From 750,000 *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Many Americans are relying on multiple forms of credit to cover expenses. When is it a warning sign? *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump gave 'the red meat,' Vance was playing for independents: Bob Cusack *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Fox News's Baier presses Vance on Trump's $5K dividend promise *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Pritzker: Vance is Trump's 'chief bootlicker' *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Bessent Defends Faltering Bond Market Intervention *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Bessent says Treasury is 'examining' ability to cut $5,000 checks without Congress *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Bessent's move to tamp down rising rates backfires as bond yields jump, stocks tumble *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· The bond market is revolting — and your mortgage is the first casualty *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· Fiscal hawks skeptical of Bessent's claim that US can 'grow our way out' of $40 trillion debt *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Bessent blasts Warren's 'sciolistic' letter about yen policy *from the morgue, 29 Aug 2026*

· Soros-funded Philadelphia district attorney insinuates Trump is a '35-time felon,' calling $5,000 dividend a bribe *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Soros-funded Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad Thursday *from the morgue, 31 Aug 2026*

· Voters have a blunt message for Trump about his idea to dole out $5,000 checks *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Why Donald Trump has a Joe Biden problem *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Does Trump have a 'Biden problem' on the economy? *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Trump's $5,000 dividend falls flat with GOP senators *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Trump sees backlash over $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump plan to raise debt limit on shaky ground *from the morgue, 26 Aug 2026*

· 5 things to know about Trump's $5K dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Vance strikes back at concern $5,000 Trump dividend will stoke debt: 'Wealth will go back to the people' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Marshall backtracks on support for $5,000 Trump dividend in Kansas Senate debate *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*

· Vance and MAGA Inc. work to defend Roger Marshall in redder Kansas *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Roger Marshall Sued 700 Patients for Debts; 81 Were Arrested. Now He's a Senator. *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Conservatives would scream 'bloody murder' if Democratic president offered dividend to maintain power: Guy Benson *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Will Trump's payout promises boost Republican appeal to white women? *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Republicans need a Reagan-style vision to win the battle over America's future *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Trump's promised $5,000 'dividend' checks: What to know *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump's Reckless $5,000 'Dividend' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Republicans bet the House on Trump *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Axelrod dismisses the idea of the proposed $5000 'Trump dividend' *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump pledges $5K 'Trump dividend' if Republicans hold onto Congress *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump says $5K dividend checks to Americans will 'happen 100 percent' *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Lawler deflects on supporting Trump's $5K dividend pledge: 'How do you pay for it?' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· GOP rep says priority 'needs to be the military,' not $5K checks *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· Susan Collins calls Trump's $5,000 dividend proposal with no cap 'extraordinarily costly' *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Bret Baier presses Paxton on Trump $5K dividend payment support *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Gavin Newsom calls Trump's $5K voter payout 'bulls—' and a 'desperate' power grab *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· Trump pitches $5,000 checks, but only if GOP wins House and Senate *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump's $5,000 payments would reignite inflation, economists say *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Why Trump's promised $5,000 payments to Americans are unlikely to happen *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Bond yields rise modestly after Trump's dividend pledge *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· GOP leaders blindsided by Trump's promise of $5K checks *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump promises Obamacare rebates to people in swing states *from the morgue, 10 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.

Musk blamed Trump and the U.S. military for Ukraine's throttled battlefield internet, then said Saturday the throttle was SpaceX's and lifted it.

By LOU
ONE MORE QUESTION

"Starlink access in Ukraine fully back after disruption: Officials", 24 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA ABC NEWS — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

I'm asking a favor, because this is your field and it is nowhere near mine. You people do satellites and contracts every day of the week. I've got one week of it in my coat and I cannot make it sit flat — four readings in the car, and the car needs a fan belt, so believe me there was time. Straighten me out and I'll get out of your way.

I wrote this down. Just a second. Ah, here it is....

...(cont) The Guardian, Wednesday the fourteenth: Ukrainian soldiers in combat "have suddenly had their access to Starlink satellite internet terminals restricted." Tuesday evening, the paper says. Serhii Beskrestnov, an adviser to President Zelensky, wrote on Telegram that the limits came without warning, and the Washington Examiner printed his account: the restrictions applied to Starshield, and to terminals moving above 100 mph. The Examiner also reported some drone operations were cancelled.

Here's my first snag. Same day — Wednesday, I've got it circled twice — the Examiner carries the owner of SpaceX on who did it. "Starshield systems are owned and controlled by the US government." The Hill, the same Wednesday: decisions to restrict the speed or usage of Starshield are made by the U.S. military and, ultimately, the president. France 24 ran it. The Post said he pointed to Trump. So on Wednesday the switch is Washington's. Am I reading that the way you'd read it?

Thursday, the BBC: "Musk says US government may be behind slowdown of Ukraine drone speeds." May be. The BBC reports Ukraine says access has improved but it is still facing speed limits which are disrupting its battlefield "missions." The Times that Thursday called it a Pentagon-funded satellite internet program that "appeared to be curbed without warning," and the attack it was reporting cut power to 600,000 people in Kyiv. CBS had Ukrainian officials saying the usual warning never came. That's four desks reading off one page — the Guardian, Common Dreams, CBS, the Times — and Common Dreams had already asked on the Wednesday what a country pays for running its war on a network it doesn't own.

Now, my qualifications. There's a light in my garage on a switch by the side door and a breaker in the panel behind the water heater. Two weeks this fall I hit that switch and got nothing, and I told my wife the power company was doing something to the street. The power company did not know I was alive. I'd thrown the breaker myself with the end of a ladder. Two weeks of blaming the utility for my own elbow — and the whole two weeks, I was the only man in the county who could walk back there and push it up. Is that the same shape as this, or does it change when it's satellites?

Because on the third, the Times reported the founder of SpaceX joining a Pentagon advisory board, billions of dollars in military contracts to his name; this month a report put his midterm spending at $276 million, the largest of the cycle. Senator Tillis asked him that Wednesday to explain the overnight disruptions, and said he hoped it was an error and not a deliberate decision. Zelensky said, "It's a pity that we are losing a strong partner," and by the seventeenth said Starshield was still restricted and called it a "planned operation" to target Kyiv.

The Times reported the president asked him to reverse the limits. Friday, the BBC had the soldiers still restricted. The president was in Sioux City that week with $150 million for gas and diesel, and he'd blamed Ukraine's strikes on Russian refineries for the price — but that's not my page. The twentieth: the Wall Street Journal reported, and The Hill confirmed, that he had ordered the slowdown himself.

Excuse me — before you go. I'm sorry. There was one more page and I've been hunting it since I sat down. Glovebox, probably. No — here. Saturday: he said SpaceX throttled the speeds itself, over the drone strikes, and the cap came off that same day. So Wednesday's page says the U.S. military and, ultimately, the president. Saturday's page says SpaceX. You do this every day: which of the two took the limit off on a Saturday, and whose hand was that on the switch?

THE RECEIPTS

Starlink access in Ukraine fully back after disruption: Officials
ABC News MAINSTREAM § *19:53 EDT*
Ukrainian officials said speed restrictions on Starlink and Starshield that hampered military operations have been lifted.

Elon Musk says SpaceX throttled Ukraine Starlink speeds over drone strikes
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *17:23 EDT*
SpaceX's military-grade version of the Starlink internet service has become the backbone of Ukraine's drone operations.

Ukraine says Starlink is back to normal after disruptions
NPR MAINSTREAM § *13:54 EDT*
Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that normal Starlink operating speeds were restored after more than a week of disruptions.

Ukraine blows up Russian missile-parts plant as drones ground flights in Moscow
New York Post RIGHT § *11:22 EDT*
Ukraine hit a key Russian plant that makes components for Moscow's missiles as a drone swarm disrupted air travel across the Russian capital, grounding flights and forcing an evacuation at a skyscraper housing several government ministries.

~~Starshield systems unlocked in Ukraine after uproar about military restrictions~~
Ukraine's wartime satellites answer to a private company, not Kyiv
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *09:40 EDT*
Ukraine announced Saturday that it has regained full use of its Starshield system, more than a week after the military system appeared to be mysteriously restricted for use in the country. Starshield is the military version of Starlink, the communications satellite system developed by Elon Musk's SpaceX, that Ukraine relies on to boost...

~~Ukraine's Starlink, Starshield back at full power after Elon Musk and White House blame game~~
SpaceX throttled Ukraine's war communications for days
New York Post RIGHT § *13:33 EDT*
SpaceX's Starlink and Starshield are fully operational in Ukraine after days of throttling that capped communications at speeds over 100 mph.

Ukraine reports Starlink operating again after slowdown
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *08:07 EDT*
Ukraine's Starlink satellite links have been restored after the country experienced limitations with accessing this critical technology, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky announced Saturday. SpaceX's military-grade version of Starlink, called Starshield, supports Ukraine's drone operations and communication. Zelensky confirmed the...

· Ukrainian military's access to Starlink satellite internet suddenly restricted *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Throttling of Ukraine's Starlink Access Heightens Concerns Over Government Reliance on Elon Musk *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine Blames Elon Musk for Internet Outage Amid Russian Strike *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· US gave us no warning of Russian strikes on Kyiv power plants, Zelenskyy says *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine launches 650 drones toward Moscow in large-scale aerial attack *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine carries out 'largest ever' drone attack on Moscow *from the morgue, 20 Sep 2026*

· Musk ordered Starlink slowdown in Ukraine: WSJ *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*

· Zelensky says Starshield still restricted in Ukraine as Musk and White House refuse to take responsibility *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine's Exposure Grows as Satellite Use Is Restricted and Russia Escalates *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· Musk says US government may be behind slowdown of Ukraine drone speeds *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine faces loss of key satellite support amid tensions between Trump and Zelenskyy *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· U.S. may have withheld warnings to Ukraine on deadly Kyiv strikes *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukrainian officials accuse U.S. of withholding intelligence, leading to Russian missile attack *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine reports Starlink missile tracker shut down as Russia launched new air strikes *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· U.S. Continues to Provide Intelligence to Ukraine, Officials Say *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Elon Musk points to Trump for Starshield throttling in Ukraine that Zelensky warns will cost lives *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Musk says US govt responsible for any Starshield restrictions affecting Ukraine *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Washington limits its support to Kyiv amidst increased Russian attacks on energy infrastructure *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· Facebook and Instagram starts to allow users in Eastern Europe, the Baltics, and the Caucasus to promote violence against Russians and Russian soldiers in the context of the war in Ukraine, which is n *from the morgue, 10 Mar 2022*

· A missile strike kills two people in the village of Przewodów in eastern Poland. President of the United States Joe Biden says that the missile blast in Poland was caused by a Ukrainian air defense mi *from the morgue, 15 Nov 2022*

· Russia launches dozens of ballistic missiles at Ukrainian cities for a second consecutive day with reports of power outages in Kharkiv after critical infrastructure was damaged. At least eight missile *from the morgue, 22 Mar 2024*

· Zelenskyy vows to retaliate if Russian strikes on Ukraine's power grid continue *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Musk blames Trump and US military for Ukraine's Starshield restrictions *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Amid Ukraine uproar, Musk says decisions to restrict Starshield up to president *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Zelensky laments Ukraine is 'losing America' as Congress cries foul over intel and Starlink reports *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· GOP Sen. Tillis asks Musk to explain Ukraine losing access to Starlink *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine accuses Elon Musk of allowing Russian forces to attack Ukrainian cities after it was revealed that Starlink satellite communications interfered with a drone operation by disabling a communicat *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2023*

· What Is Starshield, SpaceX's Military-Grade Satellite Internet Service Ukraine Relies On? *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine slams SpaceX for cutting Starlink internet access while Russians launch brutal attacks *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine says SpaceX limiting Starlink operations, impacting air defense *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine says SpaceX's Starshield throttling hampers defense against Russian strikes on energy sites *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Ukraine says new Starlink restrictions disrupt military as it reels from intel gaps and Trump clash *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· The Security Service of Ukraine says that it detained two Ukrainian government protection unit colonels recruited by Russia's Federal Security Service who were planning an assassination of President V *from the morgue, 7 May 2024*

· Twelve Ukrainian servicemembers are killed and 60 more are injured in a Russian missile strike on a training camp in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. The commander of the Ground Forces of Ukraine, Mykhailo Drap *from the morgue, 1 Jun 2025*

· With Elon Musk's Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Hegseth puts the future of warfare in the hands of major Maga donors *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Pete Hegseth appoints Elon Musk to US taskforce on future of warfare *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Elon Musk boosts GOP spending advantage with return as 2026 juggernaut *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· An Elon Musk insider shares what he found in Washington — and it should terrify you *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Accord Enshrines Light-Touch Regulation of AI *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump says tech CEOs signed 'morally binding' document to self-regulate artificial intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· READ IN FULL: Trump and tech leaders' White House Accord on Super Intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Soaring diesel prices take their toll on US farmers in midwest corn belt *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Inflation Could Soon 'Get a Lot More Painful' as Trump's Iran War Drives Diesel Over $6 a Gallon *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morgue, 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 morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· States take matters into their own hands to curb record-high diesel prices *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie names Epstein 'coconspirators,' discusses new Epstein files legislation *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Read Thomas Massie's eight impeachment charges against Pete Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Fake Republican midterm convention site still redirects to Epstein files *from the morgue, 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 morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

· Live updates: Energy secretary downplays rising gas prices as US, Iran trade strikes *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· U.S. Strike on Iranian School May Have Been War Crime, U.N. Report Says *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· UN Inquiry Finds US Strike on Minab, Iran That Killed 123 Children Was War Crime *from the morgue, 17 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.

White House credits Ukraine's third ceasefire of the month to the Russia sanctions it waived the week before

By CHIP
STAFF WRITER

"Russia frees retired US schoolteacher Stephen Hubbard", 21 October 2026 (PHOTO VIA RTÉ — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Let me start with the number, because the number is the part the critics keep walking past. In one month this White House has produced three ceasefires in the war between Russia and Ukraine. Three. Three is more ceasefires than two. Two is more than one. I am not going to stand here and apologize for a surplus.

The record starts in September. On September 5, AAA priced a gallon of diesel at $5.88, a record, and Axios reported that Republican incumbents' own polling put the blame on the President. On September 14, the President posted that Ukraine had agreed not to hit Russian energy targets and that Russia had agreed to do likewise. On September 19, he signed the Lindsey O. Graham Sanctioning Russia and Iran Act, named for the South Carolina senator who championed it before he died in July, authorizing tariffs of up to 100 percent....

...(cont) Was that September agreement honored? It was honored in the relevant sense — the sense in which it existed, and we said it existed, and the strikes that kept landing afterward were outside the scope of the — all right. The strikes were the scope. The strikes were the thing it covered. What I am telling you is that the framework was already in place, which is how we were able to replace it so quickly.

On October 11 the President posted: "Effective immediately, there is an ENERGY CEASEFIRE in the War between Russia and Ukraine." Zelensky learned of it from that post and called it "news to me." The Guardian reported the announcement went up as Russian drones hit Kyiv. That same day the President said Ukraine needed a new president and blamed Zelensky for diesel prices; the criticism came after Russian strikes that killed at least 20 people, three of them children.

On October 16 the President called Ukraine's refinery strikes a disgrace. On Friday evening he signed an executive order waiving the sanctions and tariffs in the Graham Act, calling it "in the national interests of the United States" and, afterward, "a very good decision." Senator Thom Tillis called it "Beyond irresponsible." Darline Graham, appointed to her late brother's seat, gently disagreed. Senator Chuck Schumer said, "Trump just gave Putin the best birthday gift he'll get this year." Zelensky said the Act "could have helped enormously," and reported over 320 drones, missiles and munitions aimed at his energy sector.

Here is the mechanism, and I want to be precise about it. The sanctions produced the talks. They produced them because they were signed and then held — an unfired tool is still a tool, Moscow could see the tool, and Moscow came to the table knowing that at any moment we might — knowing we had already put it down, indefinitely, in writing, and told Congress so. Let me restate that. The leverage is the restraint.

On the American's release, the President said enforcing those sanctions would have stopped it, and praised the Russian president as a humanitarian. I know how that plays in Brussels, where Zelensky on Friday called the decision a betrayal and asked allies for another €70 billion for 2027. CBS reported the President is tapping Russian energy to ease prices. The Times reported the waiver came amid fears that high energy prices would cost Republicans in next month's elections, and that the administration is floating more Russian gas sales to Europe. That is responsiveness, priced by the gallon.

Talks resumed Thursday. The Czech president said the diesel deal was "so close." Hours later, missiles landed on Kyiv. Earlier this month a Russian missile hit a housing complex in Pryluky, a Ukrainian city of no strategic value: thirty apartments destroyed, twenty-two people killed, five of them children. A city there is eating weeds to survive.

So: one signed law, in reserve. Three ceasefires inside thirteen days, each one announced on time. We have more.

THE RECEIPTS

Russia frees retired US schoolteacher Stephen Hubbard
RTÉ MAINSTREAM § *09:34 EDT*
Stephen Hubbard, a 74-year-old retired US schoolteacher in Russian custody since 2022, was freed from prison today and taken to St Petersburg's Pulkovo airport, President of Russia Vladimir Putin said.

Melania Trump secures "temporary ceasefire" in Ukrainian city
CBS News MAINSTREAM § *22:12 EDT*
First lady Melania Trump's office says she secured a localized ceasefire for the Russian-occupied Ukrainian city of Oleshky.

But: Trump promised to personally settle the Russia-Ukraine war within 24 hours - on 53 separate occasions *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
Melania Trump brokers localized Russia-Ukraine ceasefire, White House says
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *11:02 EDT*
First lady Melania Trump has secured a localized ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine in the front-line city of Oleshky, the White House said in a press release Friday morning. The ceasefire will begin Thursday with both nations agreeing to temporarily stop all military action in the city "to allow for humanitarian aid to enter and...

But: "I'll meet with Putin. I'll meet with Zelensky... And within 24 hours, that war will be settled" - Trump, 10 May 2023; CNN counted 53 such promises *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
Witkoff lauds 'humanitarian' Putin as Russia releases detained American
ABC News MAINSTREAM § *07:39 EDT*
President Donald Trump's special envoy Steve Witkoff landed in the Russian city of St. Petersburg on Wednesday morning, a Kremlin aide confirmed.

~~Trump waiving sanctions 'rewards' Putin, says Zelensky~~
Trump waived the Russia sanctions he signed into law last month
RTÉ MAINSTREAM § *23:20 EDT*
Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky has said that US President Donald Trump's decision to waive Russian sanctions only "rewards" Vladimir Putin.

Russia bombards Kyiv with missiles hours after agreeing to resume talks with Ukraine
The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *11:46 EDT*
Experts say Russia is trying to destroy energy infrastructure before winter and US 'appeasement and flattery' will not achieve peace Russia has carried out a massive "demonstrative" attack on Ukraine, bombarding Kyiv with ballistic missiles just hours after Vladimir Putin said he had agreed to resume trilateral negotiations after talks...

But: Trump promised to settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours of meeting Putin and Zelensky - CNN counted 53 separate times he made that promise *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
Peter Zalmayev: 'Ukraine was showing all sorts of cards that Trump took away and gave to Putin'
France 24 MAINSTREAM § *10:44 EDT*
Angela Diffley is pleased to welcome Peter Zalmayev, Founder and Director of the Eurasia Democracy Initiative, LIVE from Kyiv. And he warns, "I'm seeing, I'm smelling a Yalta II. I'm smelling another Munich (1938), where we're seeing appeasement of the aggressor." Ukraine faces the possibility that its sovereignty and security could...

~~Melania Trump valiantly secures cease-fire in Ukrainian city on brink of humanitarian catastrophe~~
Melania Trump's cease-fire lets 2,000 evacuate Russian-occupied Oleshky
New York Post RIGHT § *09:47 EDT*
Melania Trump negotiated a localized cease-fire in Oleshky starting Oct. 29, 2026, to help evacuate up to 2,000 residents and deliver aid.

'We're done': Ukraine resumes strikes on Russian oil refineries as 'only leverage' for peace talks
France 24 MAINSTREAM § *12:14 EDT*
Delano D'Souza is pleased to welcome Peter Zalmayev, Founder and Director of the Eurasia Democracy Initiative, LIVE from Kyiv. As Zelensky declares Ukraine "done" with Trump's self-declared energy ceasefire and resumes strikes on Russian oil refineries, Zalmayev warns: "When you talk about the energy ceasefire, it presupposes two to be...

But: "I'll meet with Putin. I'll meet with Zelensky... And within 24 hours, that war will be settled" - Trump, CNN town hall, 10 May 2023. CNN counted 53 separate occasions he promised it. *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
War in Ukraine: Europe stands united behind Kyiv but must revisit how to finance its support
Le Monde MAINSTREAM § *19:25 EDT*
Invited to the European leaders' summit in Brussels on Friday, Volodymyr Zelensky, weakened by what he called the 'betrayal' of Donald Trump, asked his allies for an additional €70 billion in aid for the year 2027.

But: Trump promised to settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours - CNN counted 53 separate occasions he said it *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
White House says Melania Trump brokered truce for Ukraine city 'on brink of disaster'
BBC News MAINSTREAM § *03:17 EDT*
Ukraine and Russia confirm the truce in Russian-occupied Oleshky, where residents have had to eat garden weeds to survive.

Russia and Ukraine ready to resume trilateral talks with the US
Le Monde MAINSTREAM § *23:48 EDT*
Kremlin aide Yuri Ushakov told reporters on Wednesday that Russia was 'in principle, ready to resume' the talks in mid-November, following a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and US envoy Steve Witkoff in Saint Petersburg. Ukraine quickly backed the proposal.

But: "I'll meet with Putin. I'll meet with Zelensky... within 24 hours, that war will be settled" - Trump promised this 53 separate times, CNN counted *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
Melania Trump says she's secured ceasefire between Russia and Ukraine in Oleshky
Washington Examiner RIGHT § *10:36 EDT*
First lady Melania Trump said Friday that she helped broker a temporary ceasefire on one front of the war between Russia and Ukraine. The limited break in fighting will begin Thursday, according to the White House, and will be limited to the region of Olenshky in southern Ukraine. Both Ukraine and Russia have agreed to [...]

But: Trump promised 53 separate times he'd settle the Ukraine war within 24 hours *CNN fact check, 25 April 2025 (all 53 instances)*
Trump's diesel deal derailed Ukraine-Russia peace progress, says Czech president
The Hill MAINSTREAM § *16:46 EDT*
Czech President Petr Pavel on Tuesday said President Trump's diesel deal with Russia derailed peace talks between the Kremlin and Ukraine, saying both sides were "so close" to a ceasefire. "It will be much harder now," Pavel told the Axel Springer Global Reporters Network, which includes Politico. "Russia uses this momentum to get out...

- Trump announces immediate 'energy ceasefire' between Russia and Ukraine *from the morgue, 11 Oct 2026*
- Zelenskyy blindsided after Trump announces 'energy ceasefire' in Ukraine war *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*
- Russia still hitting Ukrainian energy sites despite Trump claim of ceasefire, Zelensky says *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*
- Trump calls Ukraine's renewed strikes on Russian oil refineries a 'disgrace' *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*
- Zelenskyy vows to retaliate if Russian strikes on Ukraine's power grid continue *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky unleashes on Trump as Russia diesel deal rallies Ukraine's supporters *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky unleashes on Trump over Russia diesel deal *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky shrugs off Trump's call for him to be replaced *from the morgue, 11 Oct 2026*
- US gave us no warning of Russian strikes on Kyiv power plants, Zelenskyy says *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*
- https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/oct/21/putin-witkoff-russia-ukraine-trump-stephen-hubbard-release *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/former-us-ambassador-to-ukraine-says-putin-is-a-war-criminal/ *the receipt*
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c6m24l9v3745o *the receipt*
- The Guardian view on Trump and Putin: Ukraine's future is not theirs to bargain away *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*
- Putin proposing summit with Trump, Xi in push to end Ukraine war: WSJ *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/russia-ukraine-war-witkoff-putin-trump-zelenskyy/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/policy/international/6162186-zelensky-open-freezing-frontline-russia-war/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/6162514-democrats-musk-congress-testify/ *the receipt*
- https://www.foxnews.com/world/ukraines-zelenskyy-open-freezing-front-lines-ceasefire-russia *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/10/21/us-news/putin-agrees-to-trilateral-talks-with-ukraine-us-to-end-war/ *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/10/21/world-news/ukraines-volodymyr-zelensky-would-accept-russian-peace-deal-that-freezes-front-lines/ *the receipt*
- Trump says Ukraine and Russia have agreed to energy target ceasefire *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*
- Rep. Turner calls for congressional probe into Starlink slowdown that disrupted Ukraine drones *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Throttling of Ukraine's Starlink Access Heightens Concerns Over Government Reliance on Elon Musk *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/10/21/us/politics/russia-american-prisoner-release-stephen-hubbard-trump.html *the receipt*
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- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/witkoff-calling-putin-a-humanitarian-is-cringeworthy-former-amb-taylor-says/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/6162316-steve-witkoff-vladimir-putin-humanitarian-backlash/ *the receipt*
- https://nypost.com/2026/10/21/us-news/trump-envoy-steve-witkoff-praises-putin-as-humanitarian-as-ukraine-peace-talks-hang-in-the-balance/ *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/video/stephen-hubbard-released-by-russia-after-years-in-prison/ *the receipt*
- https://dailycaller.com/2026/10/21/steve-witkoff-vladimir-putin-russia-releases-american-prisoner-no-swap *the receipt*
- https://www.nytimes.com/2026/10/21/world/europe/who-stephen-hubbard-american-russia-prisoner-release.html *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/6161584-trump-midterm-tour-clemson/ *the receipt*
- https://www.cbsnews.com/news/russia-stephen-hubbard-freed-american-ukraine-war-witkoff-putin/ *the receipt*
- https://thehill.com/homenews/administration/6161902-donald-trump-stephen-hubbard-russia-sanctions-waiver/ *the receipt*
- Pence calls on Trump to restore sanctions, scrap Russia diesel deal *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Sen. Graham on Trump waiving Russia sanctions: 'I look forward to talking to him' *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Trump and Putin held call over Witkoff-Kushner meeting and state of Ukraine war, Russia says *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*
- Trump Offers Putin Economic Relief in Hopes That Russia Will Return the Favor *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Graham Breaks With Trump Over Russia Sanctions Law Her Brother Championed *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Easing sanctions on Russia only helps fund Putin's killing machine *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Massie offers rare praise for Trump on waiving Lindsey Graham's Russia sanctions *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- U.S. Floats Lifeline to Russia: Allowing More Gas Sales to Europe *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Schumer: 'Trump just gave Putin the best birthday gift he'll get this year' *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Trump signs Russia sanctions bill named after Lindsey Graham *from the morgue, 19 Sep 2026*
- Tillis says Trump's Russia deal 'is tarnishing Lindsey Graham's efforts' at sanctions *from the morgue, 11 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky says US-Russia diesel deal is a 'birthday gift' to Putin to 'kill us, kill our children' *from the morgue, 11 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky on Trump waiving Russia sanctions: 'This Act could have helped enormously' *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky blasts 'unfortunate' decision to pause Russia sanctions as Moscow hits power plants *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- GOP lawmakers bash Trump's decision to waive Russia sanctions: 'Beyond irresponsible' *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Trump waives several Russia sanctions as row with Zelensky intensifies *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Lawmakers in bipartisan statement push back on Trump over Russian oil *from the morgue, 11 Oct 2026*
- Zelensky bashes Trump over diesel deal with Russia *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- Trump rips Zelensky amid Russia diesel deal feud: 'I suggest they get a new leader' *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- Europe blasts Russian finance minister's attendance at Asheville G20 *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*
- Trump Signs Order Exempting Russia From Sanctions Legislation *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Trump waives tariffs on largest buyers of Russian oil *from the morgue, 18 Oct 2026*
- Trump waives Russia sanctions ordered by law named for Lindsey Graham *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Trump puts new Russia sanctions passed by Congress on hold amid deepening row with Ukraine *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Trump doubles down after waiving new Russia sanctions, calling it a 'very good decision' *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*
- Trump says Russia will export diesel, lifts sanctions *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*
- Trump rips into Volodymyr Zelensky — insisting it's time for Ukraine to 'get a new president' *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- Ukraine hit by deadly Russian strikes as 'thanks' for Trump diesel deal, Zelenskyy says *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- Trump calls for Ukraine to replace Zelenskyy after clash over Russia diesel deal: 'Get a new president' *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- Rebuking Ukraine Over Oil Strikes, Trump Says It Should 'Get a New President' *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*
- 'Time for Ukraine to get new president,' says Trump after Zelensky condemns diesel deal *from the morgue, 11 Oct 2026*
- Trump says Ukraine needs new president, blames Zelenskyy for diesel prices *from the morgue, 11 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.

Justice Department asks a court to block Alaska's Senate certification only if the Republican loses, challenging zero ballots

By STERLING
THE OWNERSHIP DESK

"DOJ files lawsuit to block results in Alaska Senate race after two Dan Sullivans land on November ballot", 23 October 2026
(PHOTO VIA WASHINGTON EXAMINER — THE ORIGINAL REPORT)

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

You will want to know which ballots the Department of Justice has a quarrel with. It is a fair question, and the filing that came out of Washington on Friday declines to answer it. The number of Alaska ballots challenged is zero. Zero — no precinct named in the complaint, and no stack of absentee envelopes in it either. What is pleaded instead is confusion: two men named Dan Sullivan, one sitting above the other on the Senate line, one of them the sitting senator and the other a retired schoolteacher, and a voter at a booth with a pen and two identical names under it.

And the relief sought? That a court stop Alaska from certifying its Senate race if Senator Dan Sullivan loses. If he loses. The drafting puts a condition precedent on the remedy — the event that must occur before the obligation arises — and the event is a defeat. Should the senator finish ahead, the two names trouble nobody and the certificate goes out on time. The quarrel is not with a ballot, you see. It is with a result....

...(cont) This did not arrive on Friday out of nothing. On September 2nd the Department of Homeland Security opened what it calls, internally, the Unlawful Voter Initiative: hundreds of agents going through state voter rolls for names that should not be there. That same day the president stood at the White House microphones and went at the retired schoolteacher whose name the senator shares. Do note the order of those two.

By October 13th, a Tuesday, the Department had sent Los Angeles County a thumb drive with a handwritten password on it, and had asked a federal court to set aside twenty thousand ballots in that county before anyone finished counting them. Twenty thousand — uncounted and contested at once, which is quite a trick of sequencing. Then came this week's letter to counties across California, vowing that the Department will not "improperly" block any election. Improperly. Attorney General Blanche chose the adverb, and it is a handsome one, because it concedes the category while reserving the judgment: there are proper ways to block an election, and the Department will say which ones they are.

There is supposed to be a custom about the timing. The New York Times observed on the 13th that the search of Representative Ilhan Omar's home fell inside the sixty-day window before a midterm, in which the Department has historically avoided investigative steps related to political candidates. Historically. A custom is not a statute; it binds whoever elects to be bound by it, and this October nobody elected to be.

So what has been traded, and for what? Alaska's certificate is the instrument that makes a count final — final being the whole point of a count, the moment after which the thing stops being an argument. In the Department's pleading, that finality now hangs on which man is ahead when the counting stops ... and what it buys is one Senate seat. One. The election is ten days away.

THE RECEIPTS

Intel Democrats on how they'll react if Trump alleges election meddling

CBS News MAINSTREAM § *17:26 EDT*

The top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee says lawmakers have prepared for a range of situations ahead of the midterms, including that President Trump "is not going to accept the results."

DOJ files lawsuit to block results in Alaska Senate race after two Dan Sullivans land on November ballot

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *14:17 EDT*

The Justice Department on Friday filed a lawsuit to block the results of Alaska's highly competitive Senate race in November should it be impacted by "voter confusion." Republicans have said they are worried about the race, which features Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK) and Democrat Mary Peltola as the primary contenders, because of the...

> *But:* **The DOJ disbanded its crypto enforcement team in April 2025 and ordered inconsistent investigations closed — while the president's family runs a crypto business.** *CNBC, 8 April 2025 (Blanche memo)*
>
> Justice Dept. Demands That California Counties Help Identify Noncitizen Voters
>
> *The New York Times* MAINSTREAM § *02:21 EDT*
>
> Election officials across the state received letters from the agency saying if they fail to comply, they "risk significant federal scrutiny."

Trump on Alaska election lawsuit: 'I'm the one who said do it'

The Hill MAINSTREAM § *15:23 EDT*

President Trump said Friday he directed the Department of Justice (DOJ) to file a lawsuit to block certification of the Senate election in Alaska if Republican Sen. Dan Sullivan loses in November. DOJ filed the suit Thursday, claiming the existence of a candidate with a similar name to Sullivan's would make a win by Democrat...

Trump says he personally ordered DOJ lawsuit intervening in Alaska Senate election

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *16:57 EDT*

President Donald Trump told reporters on Friday that he directed the Department of Justice to file a lawsuit challenging the results of Alaska's Senate race if it's impacted by "voter confusion." Incumbent Sen. Dan S.

> *But:* **In special elections, Democrats have retained 10 points more of their previous turnout than Republicans** *Ballotpedia, 26 February 2026*
>
> Donald Trump challenges Alaska Senate trace
>
> *France 24* MAINSTREAM § *07:42 EDT*
>
> With the US midterm elections less than two weeks away, concerns are growing over whether President Donald Trump would accept a major Republican defeat. Trump has called for legal action to block the certification of Alaska's Senate race if Republican incumbent Dan Sullivan loses to his Democratic challenger, Mary Peltola, arguing that...
>
> *But:* **Democrats are running an average of 11.5 points ahead of their 2024 baseline across 2026 special elections** *MultiState Elections, 2026 special-election tracking*
>
> Trump administration sues to block possible Democratic win in Alaska Senate race
>
> *France 24* MAINSTREAM § *07:40 EDT*
>
> US President Donald Trump said Friday that he had instructed his administration to file a lawsuit to block the certification of the US Senate race in Alaska if Republican Senator Dan Sullivan loses, arguing that voters would be confused because two Republicans on the ballot have similar names. The legal battle is ramping up questions...
>
> ~~Corey Lewandowski Always Found His Way Back to Trump. Until Now.~~
>
> ***DOJ opens inquiry into a longtime Trump ally. Trump won't defend him.***
>
> *The New York Times* MAINSTREAM § *18:26 EDT*
>
> The Justice Department has opened an inquiry into Mr. Lewandowski. President Trump has not jumped to his defense.
>
> ~~Trump administration sues to block certification of upcoming Alaska election~~
>
> ***Trump's DOJ sues to block Alaska's election because two candidates are both named Dan Sullivan***
>
> *BBC News* MAINSTREAM § *14:49 EDT*
>
> The justice department has filed a lawsuit arguing that the inclusion of two candidates named Dan Sullivan could confuse voters.
>
> *But:* **Republicans' reconciliation package puts $70 billion into ICE's department** *NBC News, May 2026*
>
> Courts Reject Trump's Attempt at Deploying ICE to Intimidate Voters
>
> *Truthout* § *09:18 EDT*
>
> A judge ordered Homeland Security to stop sending agents door to door in nine key states to hunt for "voter fraud."
>
> ~~The controversy surrounding convicted former election official Tina Peters~~
>
> ***Trump went to extraordinary lengths for an election official convicted of breaching the vote she swore to protect***
>
> *CBS News* MAINSTREAM § *17:23 EDT*
>
> President Trump has gone to extraordinary lengths for Tina Peters, a former Colorado election official convicted for helping to breach the very voting system she swore to protect. Peters served less than two years in prison for crimes related to breaching voting system security. She maintains she was trying to show flaws in the system.

Alaska Senate race featuring two Dan Sullivans is 'blatantly corrupt': Joe Concha

Washington Examiner RIGHT § *10:49 EDT*

Washington Examiner columnist Joe Concha slammed Democrats in Alaska over voter corruption, saying they "put up a guy named Dan Sullivan" with a different middle name to "confuse" voters.

California officials ordered by DoJ to set aside 'likely' noncitizen ballots

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *22:00 EDT*

Letters from federal prosecutors represent latest escalation as Trump continues to make claims of voter fraud Federal prosecutors sent letters to county registrars across California on Friday demanding that local officials set aside and verify ballots that the Department of Justice said may belong to noncitizens, according to the Los...

Trump says he ordered DoJ to file lawsuit to block Alaska Senate results certification

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *15:46 EDT*

Trump justice department claims there could be 'confusion' about two Republicans on the ballot named Dan Sullivan Donald Trump said he ordered the justice department to file a lawsuit to block the certification of Alaska's US Senate results if the Republican incumbent loses, a move that voting rights experts called an "unprecedented...

DOJ demands California counties help identify noncitizen voters

NBC News MAINSTREAM § *01:13 EDT*

The Department of Justice is warning local election officials in California to cooperate with the administration to identify noncitizens on a list of registered voters or face potential legal action, according to a letter obtained by NBC News.

LA feds move to halt ballot counting over 20K suspected noncitizen voters

New York Post RIGHT § *19:26 EDT*

"Every minute that goes by, American citizen votes are being diluted in the state of California," Essayli said Thursday.

> ~~Trump-Ordered DOJ Lawsuit in Alaska Seen as First Salvo in GOP Effort to Undermine Midterm Elections~~
>
> ***DOJ said it wouldn't block election certifications. Same day, it sued to block one in Alaska.***
>
> *Common Dreams* § *15:32 EDT*
>
> On the same day that Attorney General Todd Blanche declared the US Department of Justice would not "improperly" try to block states from certifying their elections, the DOJ appears to have taken its boldest step yet to do just that—at the apparent direction of President Donald Trump. The DOJ on Thursday filed an unprecedented complaint...
>
> ~~DOJ sues to block Alaska Senate certification if Sullivan loses~~
>
> ***Justice Department will only accept Alaska's Senate result if Sullivan wins***
>
> *CBS News* MAINSTREAM § *16:15 EDT*
>
> The Trump administration is suing to prevent the Alaska Senate election from being certified if GOP Sen. Daniel Sullivan loses to Democrat Mary Peltola because of the other Dan Sullivan who is on the ballot.
>
> *But:* **The DOJ disbanded its crypto enforcement team in April 2025 and ordered inconsistent investigations closed, while the president's family runs a crypto business** *CNBC, 8 April 2025 (Blanche memo)*
>
> Alaska Election Gambit Shows Justice Dept. Has Bowed to Trump's Demands
>
> *The New York Times* MAINSTREAM § *15:21 EDT*
>
> With moves in Alaska and California, the department has stepped up interventions in the midterm elections as the president's instrument of unmediated executive power.
>
> *But:* **The DOJ disbanded its crypto enforcement team in April 2025 and ordered inconsistent investigations closed — while the president's family runs a crypto business.** *CNBC, 8 April 2025 (Blanche memo)*
>
> DOJ demands that some California counties set aside alleged noncitizen ballots
>
> *CBS News* MAINSTREAM § *21:09 EDT*
>
> Federal prosecutors sent letters to county registrars across California demanding that local officials set aside and verify ballots that the Justice Department said may belong to noncitizens.
>
> ~~Trump told DOJ to sue to block Alaska Senate results if Republican narrowly loses~~
>
> ***DOJ's justification for blocking a vote Republicans might lose: two candidates share a name***
>
> *ABC News* MAINSTREAM § *22:13 EDT*
>
> President Trump says he directed the DOJ to preemptively file a lawsuit to block the certification of the Alaska Senate race if the Republican incumbent narrowly loses.
>
> ~~Facing an electoral wipeout, Trump goes after the system~~
>
> ***DOJ would block Alaska's Senate count only if the Republican loses.***
>
> *Politico* MAINSTREAM § *07:00 EDT*
>
> The move by the Justice Department to try and preemptively block Alaska's Senate results if Republican Sen. Dan Sullivan loses stunned officials in both parties.

Ramaswamy accuses Acton of 'lying' about attack ad, but court records contradict mother's claim – as it happened

The Guardian MAINSTREAM § *22:01 EDT*

This live blog is now closed. Sign up for the Breaking News US email With less than two weeks until the midterms, my colleague Jonathan Freedland and Guardian US columnist Moira Donegan are answering your questions in this week's episode of Politics Weekly America. They break down the final stretch ahead of these hugely consequential...

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

· Tina Peters turns down job with California county's registrar of voters *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Election deniers stoke Trump-driven ballot security fears before midterms *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Sabato's Crystal Ball shifts Alaska and South Carolina Senate races in favor of Democrats *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Appeals Court Rejects 'Likely Unlawful' Trump Push to Undermine Mail-In Voting as Supreme Court Looms *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· US justice department sues California over alleged noncitizen voting *from the morgue, 15 Oct 2026*

· Trump knocks Alaska voting system: 'How stupid are we to do this?' *from the morgue, 9 Oct 2026*

· Trump announces $6.6bn defense shipyard owned by top Republican donor's firm *from the morgue, 6 Oct 2026*

· Companies Backed by Trump Sons Have Scored Over $6 Billion in Pentagon Contracts: Analysis *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· Trump 'Laying the Groundwork for Election Meddling' With DHS Hunt for Noncitizen Voters *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· California has no real safeguards for voting and voter registration *from the morgue, 21 Oct 2026*

· Federal efforts over alleged noncitizen voting escalate with California arrests *from the morgue, 20 Oct 2026*

· Federal voter fraud arrests intensify in California days after DOJ warning *from the morgue, 19 Oct 2026*

· Trump DOJ issues stark warning to California ballot counters after suing state over 20K suspected noncitizen voters *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· Trump previews trip to Alaska to campaign for Dan Sullivan, ripping into the other Dan Sullivan *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Trump urges Alaskans to vote for the 'real' Dan Sullivan in tight midterms battle *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Sullivan trails Peltola in Alaska Senate contest: AARP poll *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Trump vows to probe other Dan Sullivan in alleged Dem plot to sabotage 'real' Alaska GOP senator *from the morgue, 14 Oct 2026*

· Trump administration sued over plans to send election monitors to voting sites *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· AGs v. Trump: How an AWOL Congress made hundreds of lawsuits possible *from the morgue, 16 Oct 2026*

· The Electoral College meets in the state capitals to officially elect the next President. Joe Biden, the presumptive president-elect, is officially elected president after securing California's 55 ele *from the morgue, 14 Dec 2020*

· US federal agents raid home of Democratic congresswoman and Trump critic Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Ilhan Omar's Home Raided by DHS Following Trump-GOP Deportation Threats *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Federal Agents Search Home of Rep. Ilhan Omar *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's residence searched as part of ongoing criminal investigation: DOJ *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's D.C. home searched by Homeland Security investigators *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Rep. Ilhan Omar's DC home raided by DHS as part of probe into Dem's immigration paperwork *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation involving Ilhan Omar, says he knows 'things are going on' *from the morgue, 13 Sep 2026*

· WATCH: Ilhan Omar denies feds have contacted her after border czar Homan confirms 'criminal' investigation *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Could Trump revoke Ilhan Omar's citizenship for alleged brother marriage? Ex federal prosecutor breaks it down *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Did Ilhan Omar marry her own brother? The claims explained *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Russia's Lavrov blasts US, Western allies as "warmongers' in fiery UN tirade *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Russia and China unite against US over Iran and Cuba in UN speeches *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· U.S. military lays groundwork for potential action around Cuba *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· The United Nations Security Council has resoundingly rejected a United States bid to extend a global arms embargo on Iran. In a Security Council vote, United States only got support from the Dominican *from the morgue, 14 Aug 2020*

· U.S. Threatens New Economic War on Iran by Targeting China & Tehran's Other Top Trading Partners *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· In Defiant UN Speech, Iranian President Says US and Israel Are the Real Terrorists *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump slams reporting on removal of his endorsements from GOP candidate's website *from the morgue, 27 Sep 2026*

· Donalds removes several Trump mentions from campaign website *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Where Trump's 2026 endorsement record stands after primary season *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Iran War Trump Said Would Be Quick Has Now Lasted 6 Months With 'No End In Sight' *from the morgue, 28 Aug 2026*

· CBO Finds Trump's Iran War Has Already Cost Nearly $40 Billion—And That's a 'Conservative' Estimate *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis supports Hegseth impeachment resolution: 'He needs to go' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie Files Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth for Illegal Iran War, Boat Murders *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Massie launches effort to impeach Hegseth *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Tillis urges Trump to fire Hegseth over 'inept management' of military *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Tillis renews calls for Hegseth's firing after Driscoll's departure: 'I have never witnessed more inept management' *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says farmers are "all just in survival mode" *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Farmer who voted for Trump says "I can't stay in business" amid rising costs *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Massie says he's convinced enough Republicans to pass Epstein Files II discharge petition *from the morgue, 18 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.

Elon Musk, this midterm's largest known donor at $276 million, spent three days saying the 100 mph limit on Ukraine's air defense was the government's call.

By MITCH
INVESTIGATIONS

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

The ceiling on what one person may put into one party came off this week, and nobody had to touch it.

On Monday the Times reported that Elon Musk is the largest known midterm donor in American political history, at $276 million. On September 22 the reported plan had been at least one hundred million; three weeks on the figure was nearly triple that, and not one rule on the books stood in the road. The money moves through America PAC, an outside group that disclosed its first spending of the cycle on September 3 — mail advertising. The party it funds goes into November with a $400 million edge....

...(cont) That is the first half of the week. The second half ran on a much smaller number.

On Monday in Warsaw, Zelensky said he had been surprised by Trump's "energy ceasefire" announcement, which went up as Russian drones hit Kyiv, and vowed to retaliate if strikes on Ukraine's power grid continued. ABC News put the arrangement plainly on Thursday: Trump declared a ceasefire, but both sides are still shooting.

Tuesday evening, Ukraine's access to Starlink was throttled without warning. Serhii Beskrestnov, an adviser to Zelensky on defense technology, wrote on Telegram that the restrictions apply to Starshield, SpaceX's military service, and limit terminals moving at speeds above 100 mph. Military missions were disrupted. Some drone operations were cancelled. Ukrainian officials told CBS News that the Starlink missile tracker failed that night, during a new wave of Russian strikes.

All together now, the operative clause: the limit applies to terminals moving at speeds above 100 mph. Not terminals in the wrong country. Not terminals put to the wrong use. Terminals above a posted speed. That is not weather and it is not a fault; it is a setting, and a setting is something a person enters. The remainder of the week was spent on which person.

On Wednesday Musk answered in public: "Starshield systems are owned and controlled by the US government." Limits on speed or usage, he said, are decided by the US military and, ultimately, the president. Senator Thom Tillis of North Carolina had asked Musk to explain the overnight disruptions, expressing hope that the restriction was an error and not a deliberate decision. So a senator asked the contractor, and the contractor named the Pentagon, which funds the program. By Thursday the BBC had it in the same posture: Musk says the US government may be behind the slowdown of Ukraine's drone speeds. Three days, one direction, no name.

The question had a second half, and CBS News reported it that Wednesday: the administration may have withheld intelligence warnings to Ukraine about Russian strikes that killed 6 and cut power to 600,000 people. The Times reported the same Wednesday that officials say the United States continues to provide intelligence to Ukraine, while Ukrainian officials suspected the orders restricting their access "had come from Washington." Zelensky, on Wednesday: "It's a pity that we are losing a strong partner." By Thursday he said he felt "betrayed."

There is a stated reason for the pressure. Trump blames Ukraine's strikes on Russian energy targets for driving up diesel prices, and has pressed Kyiv to stop them ahead of the midterms. The diesel is real: on October 3 the Guardian found Joe Hamilton, who farms 2,500 acres of corn and soybeans in Indiana's Delaware county, facing a record bill for about 9,000 gallons as his soybean harvest began, with the Iran war stoking record prices. That is the sum of the arithmetic on offer — an Indiana fuel bill on one side, a speed threshold over Kyiv on the other, and $276 million moving through the mail in between.

Also on October 3, the administration's AI accord was described as establishing "Real Oversight – Without Creating A Regulatory Capture Regime."

Two ceilings were in the news this week. The one on money came off without a vote. The one that held was 100 mph.

THE RECEIPTS

· https://www.nytimes.com/2026/10/14/world/europe/ukraine-starlink-energy.html *the receipt*

· https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c8wy9veedgygo *the receipt*

· https://abcnews.com/Politics/ukraine-faces-loss-key-us-affiliated-satellite-support/story?id=137260473 *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/news/us-ukraine-intelligence-russia-war-missile-strikes-kyiv-power-outages/ *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/ukrainian-officials-accuse-us-withholding-intelligence-russian-missile-attack/ *the receipt*

· https://www.cbsnews.com/video/ukraine-reports-starlink-missile-tracker-shut-down-as-russia-launches-new-air-strikes/ *the receipt*

· https://www.nytimes.com/2026/10/14/us/politics/us-intelligence-sharing-ukraine.html *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/10/14/world-news/elon-musk-blames-trump-for-starshield-throttling-in-ukraine-that-zelenksy-warns-will-cost-lives/ *the receipt*

· https://www.france24.com/en/americas/20261014-musk-says-us-govt-responsible-for-any-starshield-restrictions-affecting-ukraine *the receipt*

· https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2026/10/15/washington-limits-its-support-to-kyiv-amidst-increased-russian-attacks-on-energy-infrastructure_6758629_4.html *the receipt*

· Facebook and Instagram starts to allow users in Eastern Europe, the Baltics, and the Caucasus to promote violence against Russians and Russian soldiers in the context of the war in Ukraine, which is n *from the morgue, 10 Mar 2022*

· A missile strike kills two people in the village of Przewodów in eastern Poland. President of the United States Joe Biden says that the missile blast in Poland was caused by a Ukrainian air defense mi *from the morgue, 15 Nov 2022*

· Russia launches dozens of ballistic missiles at Ukrainian cities for a second consecutive day with reports of power outages in Kharkiv after critical infrastructure was damaged. At least eight missile *from the morgue, 22 Mar 2024*

· Zelenskyy vows to retaliate if Russian strikes on Ukraine’s power grid continue *from the morgue, 12 Oct 2026*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/technology/4766151/musk-trump-us-military-ukraine-starshield/ *the receipt*

· https://thehill.com/policy/technology/6148910-musk-clarifies-starshield-restrictions/ *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/world/4765843/zelensky-ukraine-losing-america-intel-starlink-congress/ *the receipt*

· https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/6148831-tillis-presses-musk-starlink/ *the receipt*

· Ukraine accuses Elon Musk of allowing Russian forces to attack Ukrainian cities after it was revealed that Starlink satellite communications interfered with a drone operation by disabling a communicat *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2023*

· https://www.nytimes.com/2026/10/14/business/starshield-spacex-ukraine-starlink-satellites-musk.html *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/10/14/world-news/ukraine-slams-spacex-for-cutting-starlink-internet-access-while-russians-launch-brutal-attacks/ *the receipt*

· https://www.commondreams.org/news/elon-musk-starlink-ukraine *the receipt*

· https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/oct/14/ukraine-soldiers-combat-access-starlink-satellite-internet-restricted *the receipt*

· https://thehill.com/policy/international/6147587-ukraine-space-x-starlink-limitations-russia-war/ *the receipt*

· https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/world/4765294/ukraine-starlink-throttle-defense-russia-strike-energy/ *the receipt*

· https://www.nbcnews.com/world/ukraine/ukraine-starlink-restrictions-military-intel-trump-zelenskyy-russia-rcna603412 *the receipt*

· The Security Service of Ukraine says that it detained two Ukrainian government protection unit colonels recruited by Russia's Federal Security Service who were planning an assassination of President V *from the morgue, 7 May 2024*

· Twelve Ukrainian servicemembers are killed and 60 more are injured in a Russian missile strike on a training camp in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast. The commander of the Ground Forces of Ukraine, Mykhailo Drap *from the morgue, 1 Jun 2025*

· With Elon Musk’s Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Hegseth puts the future of warfare in the hands of major Maga donors *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Pete Hegseth appoints Elon Musk to US taskforce on future of warfare *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Elon Musk boosts GOP spending advantage with return as 2026 juggernaut *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· An Elon Musk insider shares what he found in Washington — and it should terrify you *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Accord Enshrines Light-Touch Regulation of AI *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump says tech CEOs signed ‘morally binding’ document to self-regulate artificial intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· READ IN FULL: Trump and tech leaders’ White House Accord on Super Intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Soaring diesel prices take their toll on US farmers in midwest corn belt *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Inflation Could Soon ‘Get a Lot More Painful’ as Trump’s Iran War Drives Diesel Over $6 a Gallon *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morgue, 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 morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· States take matters into their own hands to curb record-high diesel prices *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

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· Fox News Poll: 71% think Trump administration lacks plan to end Iran war *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Iran recently downed at least 2 American drones, officials say *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Big Oil Stocks Surged Due to Iran War—and New Filings Show How President Trump Cashed In *from the morgue, 27 Aug 2026*

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· UN Suspects US War Crimes in Iran *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Condemned for 'War Crimes' After Bombing of Wedding Party in Iran *from the morgue, 2 Sep 2026*

· US investigating if missile hit Iranian wedding ceremony, killing 4 *from the morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

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· Human rights experts: 'Reasonable grounds' to believe US committed war crimes with Iran strikes *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· US Energy Consumers Have Spent $121 Billion Extra Since Trump Launched Iran War: Moody's *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

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· 'A Serious and Alarming Threat': US Bombing, Blockade Deepen Iran Medical Crisis *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

· Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

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A county coroner confirmed the measles death; the federal agency that certified measles eliminated in 2000 has called the cause under investigation since 1 September.

By THE WRECKING CREW
THE REMEDY DESK

AS IT RAN ON THE FRONT

Start with the gap in the table. Since 1 September the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's weekly outbreak update has gone out with two measles deaths in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, missing from it, the agency saying it was still investigating the cause. The county coroner had already confirmed one of the two. The United States certified measles eliminated in 2000 by counting — a year with sustained transmission stopped — so the certificate and the blank line are the same instrument, one of them filled in.

That is the assignment, and it is a small one: a public count with a line withheld. The parts are sitting in other people's dockets....

...(cont) The planner's part is the emergency filing, and it was fitted twice. On 24 September, opponents of Paramount's purchase of Warner Bros. Discovery asked Judge Araceli Martínez-Olguín for "an opportunity to be heard" before she ruled on a settlement Paramount had reached with a coalition of state attorneys general. Common Dreams reported on 10 October that a coalition of nonprofit groups and labor unions had filed, on Friday, an emergency petition against the Federal Communications Commission's repeal of the rule limiting consolidation among television broadcasters, stating that the 2-1 party-line decision was "plainly contrary to law and violates core administrative law principles." Administrative law principles are the hinge. A weekly surveillance report is an agency product too.

The muscle takes down the frame first. On 24 September Judge Timothy Kelly, appointed by President Trump, ordered the president to immediately restore access for CNN, MS NOW and Politico, finding the outlets had shown "a likelihood of success" on their due process claim. One day between the privilege theory and an order against it. Whatever a pending death count is, that week's record says a court can be asked to call it something other than a favor.

The tinkerer's part is a letter. On 22 September Senator John Curtis of Utah wrote the leaders of the Senate Judiciary Committee asking them to investigate business dealings and to subpoena two witnesses. The letter is the entire mechanism: one member, one standing committee, one compulsion power that exists whether or not it is used. That power does not run out when the subject is a county death certificate instead of a contract.

Why the agency's own line matters shows up in the same stretch of October. On 7 October ABC News estimated that companies backed financially by Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump had taken more than $6 billion in Pentagon contracts. By 10 October the story had been deleted and republished in a gutted version with an editor's note admitting errors; the Daily Caller's item carried the line "ABC deleted this article in less than 24 hours because it's false." A count kept by a news organization can come down inside a day. A count kept by the government is the one the public owns.

The pilot's part is delivery on a schedule, and the speed is available. The Washington Examiner reported on 29 September that Texas and Georgia had announced emergency measures on Monday against record diesel prices — the prices that had an Indiana corn and soybean farmer looking at a record bill for about 9,000 gallons the following week, when his harvest started. On 20 October preliminary results in Alberta showed more than two-thirds of voters choosing to remain in Canada, and the next day Prime Minister Mark Carney called it a "Great result for Canada." The number was published the day it existed and was answered the day after.

Assembled: an emergency petition into the right docket, the 24 September due-process ruling behind it, a standing committee's subpoena power available on one letter, and a count published the week it is known. A coroner in Lancaster County has done the county's share of the paperwork.

THE RECEIPTS

· https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/oct/22/cdc-measles-pennsylvania-state-deaths *the receipt*

· CDC to send ‘disease detective’ to help tackle Pennsylvania measles outbreak *from the morgue, 17 Oct 2026*

· CDC omits Pennsylvania measles deaths from weekly update pending review *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Pennsylvania announces sixth death in measles outbreak as case numbers rise *from the morgue, 13 Oct 2026*

· "Secretary of Measlesland": Dr. Paul Offit Slams RFK Jr.'s Handling of Deadly Measles Outbreak *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· ABC News Issues Correction After Appearing To Quietly Delete Story About Don Jr’s Business Dealings *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*

· ABC News quietly republishes gutted version of story on Trump sons it had deleted without explanation *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*

· GOP senator calls for subpoenaing Donald Trump Jr. and Hunter Biden over their business dealings *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Republican senator calls for Don Jr. and Hunter Biden to be subpoenaed over business dealings *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· GOP Sen. John Curtis calls for Trump Jr., Hunter Biden investigations *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Is Trump’s son-in-law and top negotiator a midterm liability for Republicans? *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· Companies Backed by Trump Sons Have Scored Over $6 Billion in Pentagon Contracts: Analysis *from the morgue, 7 Oct 2026*

· Coalition Files Emergency Motion to Stop Trump FCC From Unleashing Media Consolidation Spree *from the morgue, 10 Oct 2026*

· White House Claims in Court Filing That Press Coverage of Trump Is a 'Privilege,' Not a Right *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· 'Dangerous for Democracy': Paramount Merger Opponents File Emergency Motion to Fight Settlement Deal *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*

· With Elon Musk’s Return to Washington, Possible Conflicts of Interest Resurface *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Hegseth puts the future of warfare in the hands of major Maga donors *from the morgue, 1 Oct 2026*

· Pete Hegseth appoints Elon Musk to US taskforce on future of warfare *from the morgue, 30 Sep 2026*

· Elon Musk boosts GOP spending advantage with return as 2026 juggernaut *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· An Elon Musk insider shares what he found in Washington — and it should terrify you *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Accord Enshrines Light-Touch Regulation of AI *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump says tech CEOs signed ‘morally binding’ document to self-regulate artificial intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· READ IN FULL: Trump and tech leaders’ White House Accord on Super Intelligence *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· Soaring diesel prices take their toll on US farmers in midwest corn belt *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Inflation Could Soon ‘Get a Lot More Painful’ as Trump’s Iran War Drives Diesel Over $6 a Gallon *from the morgue, 11 Sep 2026*

· 'Can't Message That Away': GOP Frets as Trump Administration Desperately Spins Record-High Diesel Prices *from the morgue, 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 morgue, 4 Sep 2026*

· States take matters into their own hands to curb record-high diesel prices *from the morgue, 29 Sep 2026*

· U.N. experts say U.S. may have committed war crimes with 2 Iran strikes *from the morgue, 22 Sep 2026*

· Trump Says 'Big Decision' Coming on Whether to 'Annihilate' Iran *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· Pentagon No. 3 frustrates senators in closed-door briefing on Iran war, Trump defense strategy *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Senate Democrats, minus Fetterman, urge Hegseth to provide receipt for Iran war costs *from the morgue, 17 Sep 2026*

· Hegseth on "devastation" to Iran's capabilities *from the morgue, 10 Sep 2026*

· Trump admits Iran war will not end before midterms *from the morgue, 9 Sep 2026*

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· Consumer Confidence Hits Lowest Level in Months as US Faces 'Trump's Reckless Tariffs and War With Iran' *from the morgue, 25 Aug 2026*

· U.S. Air Force officer rescued from Iran speaks for the first time to 60 Minutes *from the morgue, 8 Sep 2026*

· Rep. Thomas Massie forcing vote on Pete Hegseth's impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Did Johnson Just Adjourn Congress for 7 Weeks to Avoid Massie's Impeachment Articles Against Hegseth? *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· The Hitchhiker’s Guide to Massie saying Johnson is sending the House home early to prevent Hegseth impeachment *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· ‘You’re Elected to Fight and Kill the Other Side’: How Congress Lost Its Way *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Army combat veteran challenging Mike Lawler calls Hegseth national security 'hazard,' backs impeachment *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary says he 'couldn't serve' in Trump administration *from the morgue, 6 Sep 2026*

· Former Air Force secretary: Hegseth's Pentagon 'dysfunctional' *from the morgue, 3 Sep 2026*

· House Republicans split over leaving Washington early for campaign trail *from the morgue, 1 Sep 2026*

· Since 2025, Trump Made More Stock Trades Than All 535 Congress Members Combined *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· Fossil Fuel Advertising Contracts Hit Record High as Big Oil Pockets Billions From Iran War *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

· 'How are we gonna get through this?' Many Americans are struggling as prices rise *from the morgue, 16 Sep 2026*

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Half-price beer moved the crowd through security early for a president who came to Neyland to sell a bill none of the players below him could vote on.

By GUS
THE SPORTS DESK

HOT MIC MOMENT

He says he wants real news, not fake news, like you, and the institutions behind him are busy making the distinction official.

GUS HIS SIDE

GUS: Ladies and gentlemen, the week began in a television studio rather than on a field. On the eighteenth of September, Kirk Herbstreit defended his network's decision to seat Senator Ted Cruz of Texas on College GameDay. "We had him on because they were going to be voting this week," Herbstreit told reporters. This reporter notes the candor.

GUS: Two days later The Hill placed the legislative spotlight squarely on the Senate, the House having gone out for the final two weeks of September, with final passage pending on a measure creating national rules for compensating college athletes and limiting transfers. Introduced in March, it had already traveled farther than any collegiate sports bill in the history of the Congress.

GUS: On Wednesday the twenty-third the White House confirmed the president's attendance, his first college football game since January's championship, in which Notre Dame defeated Miami. By Thursday the Examiner had it confirmed as well, the news broken by OutKick founder Clay Travis. In Knoxville the gates would open early with fifty percent off the beer, the gals in their orange arriving at an hour the ushers do not ordinarily work.

GUS: Saturday the twenty-sixth delivered pageantry of a kind this sport has rarely assembled — the new-look Air Force One low over Neyland, a roaring house, No. 1 Texas against the No. 14 Volunteers at noon. From that house the president vouched for the bill and credited Speaker Mike Johnson of Mississippi: "Mike Johnson's fantastic. And we actually had 78 votes, if you can believe it." Bipartisanship, he said, for the first time in a while.

GUS: ABC's audio dissolved into static, the Post having warned of possible disruptions; before boarding, the president told a reporter, "I want real news, not fake news, like you." Texas escaped, Colin Simmons recording five sacks and Raleek Brown scoring twice. Monday was final passage, the Senate's last chance before recessing into the lame-duck period, and the men in the helmets were the only people in that stadium whose pay the guest of honor had come to settle.

GUS: Nor did the schedule relent. At a Mobile rally on the third of October the president announced his return for No. 7 Alabama against No. 2 Georgia at Bryant-Denny on the tenth, one stop among several states ahead of the midterms. By the seventh, Fox reported Hurricane Isaias threatening that game and the Secret Service preparing; the Post called it a nightmare scenario.

TRUDY HER SIDE

Candor is one word for it. The Hill has that quote exactly as you ran it, and that same Friday The Nation's Elie Mystal argued the Texas senator's college-sports bill threatens athletes' labor rights. The pregame show booked the author. Nobody booked a player.

May, sugar. The Examiner says May, and the Examiner is also where 'the furthest a collegiate sports bill has ever gotten in Congress' comes from. March is where you file the things you cannot locate.

Indiana defeated Miami, per The Hill, and the ladies in orange can read a kickoff time as fast as you can read a program. The Post filed the discount as a tactic: get them in early, because his presence typically means heightened security. Half price is a crowd-control line item.

Louisiana. Johnson is R-LA, and you have moved a man one state east and handed him a chamber The Hill says was out of session for the final two weeks of September. The seventy-eight you have right. The Speaker was not in the building, and neither was his chamber.

Every word of that sits on a receipt, which must be a strange feeling. Hold the frame: the beer was half off, the speech was about their compensation, and nobody on that field had a vote on Monday. Drink some water before Tuscaloosa.

Gus, the mic was live, the hot dog was in your hand, and you were four sentences from a manifesto. Go lie down. Now the receipt: Judge Timothy Kelly ordered those credentials restored immediately on the twenty-fourth of September 2026, and that same day CNN and MS NOW reporters were still kept out of the Xi fitnping arrival while other networks' reporters were let in.

THE RECEIPTS

· https://www.foxnews.com/outkick-sports/hurricane-isaias-threatens-georgia-vs-alabama-sec-showdown-trump-plans-tuscaloosa-visit *the receipt*

· https://nypost.com/2026/10/06/sports/possible-hurricane-threatens-alabama-georgia-game-trump-slated-to-attend/ *the receipt*

· Trump reveals he will return to Alabama in a week to watch Crimson Tide face Georgia *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump says he will attend Georgia-Alabama football game in Tuscaloosa *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump says he will attend Alabama vs Georgia college football game at Bryant-Denny Stadium *from the morgue, 3 Oct 2026*

· Trump set to attend Tennessee-Texas football game in Knoxville *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Trump stumps for Protect College Sports Act at Texas-Tennessee game: 'Bipartisanship for the first time in a while' *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· No. 1 Texas escapes Tennessee with thrilling SEC victory as President Trump watches on from Neyland Stadium *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Audio problems plague ABC for Texas-Tennessee after warning of possible disruptions with Trump at game *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Trump met with roaring cheers at University of Tennessee-Texas Longhorns college football game *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Air Force One does majestic flyover before Trump attends highly anticipated Texas-Tennessee game *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Trump trolls reporter: I don't want fake news 'like you' *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· SEC crowd greets Trump with massive cheers ahead of Tennessee-Texas showdown *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Trump to attend major Texas vs. Tennessee college football game — and coaches are worried about disruptions *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Tennessee fans excited for Trump's attendance at game vs Texas: 'I hope he stays the whole game' *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Trump to attend Texas-Tennessee football game as he pushes college sports bill *from the morgue, 24 Sep 2026*

· Cruz: Trump should sign college sports bill live on ESPN's 'College GameDay' once passed *from the morgue, 14 Sep 2026*

· Cruz faces rowdy crowd at College GameDay while promoting the Protect College Sports Act *from the morgue, 12 Sep 2026*

· GOP hopeful removes 'Pro-Trump' mention from campaign slogan in deep-red seat *from the morgue, 23 Sep 2026*

· Tennessee uses unusual alcohol tactic to get fans there early with President Trump attending Texas showdown *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Live updates: Trump attends Texas-Tennessee football game in Knoxville; US, China to cut tariffs on $30 billion worth of goods *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· Trump wants the Protect College Sports Act passed. What to know about the legislation. *from the morgue, 26 Sep 2026*

· We Need to Protect College Sports from Ted Cruz *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

· This week on the Hill: Senate eyes final passage on college sports bill *from the morgue, 20 Sep 2026*

· College football pressure index: Four coaches, two QBs and one coordinator under the gun in Week 4 *from the morgue, 20 Sep 2026*

· Senate votes to move forward with Protect College Sports Act *from the morgue, 15 Sep 2026*

· Kirk Herbstreit defends having Ted Cruz on 'College GameDay' *from the morgue, 18 Sep 2026*

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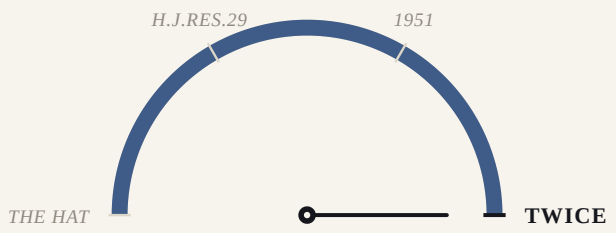
§72 — 25 OCTOBER 2026

On 2028

BY LOU
The Word

DEMOCRAT



TWICE

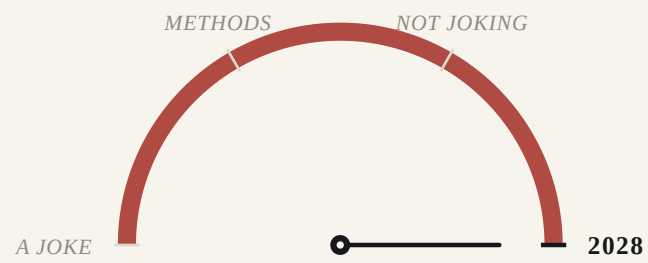
The law. The 22nd Amendment, ratified February 27, 1951: "No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice" [1]. In January 2025 a House member introduced a joint resolution to amend it; it was referred to the Judiciary Committee, and there has been no action since [2].

So the record stands like this. Not joking, in March. Not allowed, in October. Only kidding, in July. A fourth term, two days later. Very strong, in August. Five positions in seventeen months, one hat, and one amendment that has not changed a word since 1951. The hat costs $50. The amendment's word is twice.

SOURCES

1. "No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice" — 22nd Amendment, ratified 27 February 1951 — National Archives ↑
2. H.J.Res.29 (119th Congress), introduced 23 January 2025, referred to the House Judiciary Committee; no further action — BillTrack50 ↑

REPUBLICAN



2028

The hat went on sale at the Trump Store in April 2025, "Trump 2028," at $50 [1]. The words around it have come in a sequence. To NBC in March 2025: "No, no, I'm not joking ... There are methods which you could do it" [2]. In July of this year, "I'm only kidding"; two days later, wearing the hat at the White House Correspondents' dinner, "my intention to run for a fourth term" [3].

And the answer on his side, in his own voice. On Air Force One in October 2025: "If you read it, it's pretty clear. I'm not allowed to run. It's too bad" [4]. In August: "I'd love to run, but the law is very strong" [3]. That is the defense: a man who says the law is clear and strong has said he will obey it, and a hat is a hat. What the law actually says is on the other side.

SOURCES

1. The Trump Store listed a "Trump 2028" hat at $50 — ABC News, 24 April 2025 ↑
2. "No, no, I'm not joking ... There are methods which you could do it" — phone interview — NBC News, 30 March 2025 ↑
3. "I'm only kidding" (22 July 2026); "my intention to run for a fourth term" (24 July 2026); "I'd love to run, but the law is very strong" (11 August 2026) — Roll Call, 19 August 2026 ↑
4. "If you read it, it's pretty clear. I'm not allowed to run. It's too bad." — Air Force One, 29 October 2025 — PBS NewsHour ↑

"I keep a little card with the dates, because otherwise I'd lose track. March of last year: "No, no, I'm not joking... There are methods which you could do it." October: "I'm not allowed to run. It's too bad." July of this year, in Georgia: "I'm only kidding." Two days later, at the correspondents' dinner, in the hat: "my intention to run for a fourth term." August: "the law is very strong." I'm sorry, you've been very patient. Which of those five is the one the hat is selling?" — Lou

"He said he's not joking. Then he said he's only kidding. Then he wore the hat to a dinner and announced a fourth term. Then he said the law is very strong. The hat is fifty dollars at his own store. The Constitution's free, and the word it uses is "twice." You can buy the hat. You can't buy the amendment. Not for fifty dollars, anyway."

— Sal

"The hat is merchandise, the fourth term was a joke, the methods were hypothetical, and the law is very strong, which is exactly what you'd say about a law you've read very carefully to see how strong it is."

— Chip

The Word today — 👍 👎