

News for October 2, 2020

President Trump and Melania announced that they've tested positive for covid-19. The President said he is felling a little fatigued and has a slight fever but reported no other symptoms.



New York Post 
@nypost



JUST IN: Trump going to Walter Reed hospital for 'few days' after COVID-19 diagnosis trib.al/6p259hv



2:32 PM · Oct 2, 2020 · SocialFlow



ABC News 
@ABC



LATEST: Pres. Trump has been treated with a single 8-gram dose of Regeneron's polyclonal antibody cocktail, and "completed the infusion without incident," according to a statement from his physician.

abcn.ws/2Sn45Qk



PHYSICIAN TO THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

October 02, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: KAYLEIGH MCENANY
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

FROM: SEAN P. CONLEY, DO, FACEP
PHYSICIAN TO THE PRESIDENT
COMMANDER, U.S. NAVY 

SUBJECT: Health Update on President Donald J. Trump

I release the following information with the permission of President Donald J. Trump.

Following PCR-confirmation of the President's diagnosis, as a precautionary measure he received a single 8 gram dose of Regeneron's polyclonal antibody cocktail. He completed the infusion without incident. In addition to the polyclonal antibodies, the President has been taking zinc, vitamin D, famotidine, melatonin and a daily aspirin.

As of this afternoon the President remains fatigued but in good spirits. He's being evaluated by a team of experts, and together we'll be making recommendations to the President and First Lady in regards to next best steps.

First Lady Melania Trump remains well with only a mild cough and headache, and the remainder of the First Family are well and tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 today.



Musadiq Bidar ✓
@Bidar411

NEW: Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien says "all previously announced campaign events" involving [@realDonaldTrump](#) are going to be to virtual or postponed.

VP [@Mike_Pence](#) who tested negative this morning "plans on resuming his scheduled campaign events."

- October 2, 2020 -

Statement from the Trump campaign

"All previously announced campaign events involving the President's participation are in the process of being moved to virtual events or are being temporarily postponed. In addition, previously announced events involving members of the First Family are also being temporarily postponed. All other campaign events will be considered on a case-by-case basis and we will make any relevant announcements in the days ahead. Vice President Mike Pence, who has tested negative for COVID-19, plans on resuming his scheduled campaign events. Any further information about the President will come from the White House."

The DoD said the flight of a pair of E-6B's off the coast was pre-planned and the timing was "purely coincidental."

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trumps-positive-coronavirus-test-prompts-pentagon-to->

DONALD TRUMP · Published 4 hours ago · Last Update 1 hour ago

Flight of Boeing E-6B Mercurys amid Trump's coronavirus announcement 'purely coincidental': Strategic Command

Two Boeing E-6B Mercury planes were detected flying along both coasts of the U.S. mainland early Friday, around the time President Trump announced he and first lady Melania Trump [were diagnosed with coronavirus](#) -- but the flights were "pre-planned" and the timing was "purely coincidental," a U.S. Strategic Command spokesman told Fox News.

A senior defense official also told Fox News there has been "no change to the posture of the U.S. military," adding, "The president remains the commander-in-chief."

Trackers on social media noted that one Boeing E-6B Mercury was flying along the East Coast and another was spotted in the air above Oregon.

The E-6B is used by the government to convey instructions to the fleet of ballistic submarines the U.S. has in waters around the world. The vessels can deploy nuclear-tipped Trident submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs).

A lawsuit has been filed in Texas to halt the elimination of vote-by-mail drop-off locations.

<https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/519395-lawsuit-seeks-to-halt-texas-governors-changes-to-mail-ballot-drop>

Lawsuit seeks to halt Texas governor's changes to mail ballot drop-offs

BY TAL AXELROD - 10/02/20 04:30 PM EDT

Civil rights and voter advocacy groups joined together to file a lawsuit against Gov. Greg Abbott (R-Texas) and other Texas officials over a state policy cutting down the number of ballot drop-off locations.

The lawsuit, filed late Thursday in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas, takes aim at a [policy announced by Abbott on Thursday](#) that will allow only one mail ballot drop-off location in each of Texas's 254 counties, effectively shuttering dozens of sites across the Lone Star State.

"For Texas' absentee voters—including those who had already requested or received their absentee ballot with the expectation that they would be able to use one of many drop-off locations offered by their county—the effect of the October 1 order is to unreasonably burden their ability to vote," the groups argued in the suit. "They will have to travel further distances, face longer waits, and risk exposure to COVID-19, in order to use the single ballot return location in their county.

A grand jury has voted to indict Rochester New York Mayor Lovely Warren and two former campaign officials on two felony counts related to violation of campaign laws during the 2017 mayoral election.

<https://13wham.com/news/local/lovely-warren-campaign-finance-investigation-grand-jury-press-conference>

Grand jury votes to indict Rochester mayor, 2 others in campaign finance investigation

by WHAM Staff | Friday, October 2nd 2020

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FILE- In this Sept. 3, 2020 file photo, Rochester, N.Y. Mayor Lovely Warren addresses the media during a news conference in Rochester, N.Y. (AP Photo/Adrian Kraus, File)



(WHAM) - A Monroe County grand jury has voted to indict Mayor Lovely Warren and two former campaign officials on two felony counts related to allegations of campaign finances being mishandled during the 2017 mayoral election in Rochester.

Monroe County District Attorney Sandra Doorley announced the decision at a news conference Friday afternoon in Rochester. The indictment comes nearly four years after an investigation was brought to the attention of the New York State Board of Elections.

Warren, along with Albert Jones Jr. and Rosiland Brooks Harris, were each charged with first-degree scheme to defraud and violation of Election Law 14-126(6). Both counts are Class E felonies. If convicted, each person could face 1 1/3 to 4 years in state prison, or a range of sentencing options from probation to restitution.

The National Guard has designated military police units in two states to serve as rapid reaction forces that will respond to civil unrest anywhere in the nation. About 600 troops — 300 in both Alabama and Arizona — will be ready to deploy within 24 hours if requested by a governor in another state.

<https://apnews.com/article/election-2020-elections-racial-injustice-1bf55880ceae5f3d8fa1d731003ec88e>

National Guard taps units for rapid response to civil unrest

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Guard has designated military police units in two states to serve as rapid reaction forces so they can respond quickly to any potential civil unrest around the country, following violent protests that rocked the nation's capital and several states this summer.

Military leaders don't explicitly tie the changes to concerns about possible election-related violence, but the nation is bracing for unrest surrounding the tumultuous presidential campaign, particularly if voting results are not known for days or weeks because of the increase in mail-in ballots.

According to the Guard, about 600 troops — 300 in both Alabama and Arizona — will be ready to deploy within 24 hours if requested by a governor in another state. And Guard leaders have also bought more than \$200,000 in new protective equipment, and have increased troop training on proper procedures in dealing with protests.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear a challenge to Arizona's election laws that are designed to prevent ballot harvesting. Under the current law, ballots are rejected if they are cast in the wrong precinct and only family members or caregivers are allowed to turn in another's mail-in ballots. Democrats are challenging the law claiming it hurts minority voters. The case will not be heard before November. The current laws will remain in effect for this year's general election.

https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/supreme-court/supreme-court-takes-dispute-over-arizona-election-rules-n1241836?cid=sm_npd_nn_tw_ma

Supreme Court takes up dispute over Arizona election rules

The laws forbid anyone but family members or caregivers to turn in another's mail ballots and reject those cast in the wrong precinct.

Oct. 2, 2020, 8:35 AM MST

By Pete Williams

The U.S. [Supreme Court](#) agreed Friday to take up a challenge to Arizona's election laws that reject ballots cast in the wrong precinct and forbid anyone but family members or caregivers to turn in another's [mail ballots](#).

The court did not put the case on a fast track, so it will not be heard before November, and the laws will apply to this year's [general election](#).

The state has defended the measures as necessary to prevent fraud. Democrats challenged them in court, arguing that they discriminate against minority voters.

Under one provision, voters who go to the wrong precinct will be directed to the correct place to vote but allowed to cast a provisional ballot. It will not be counted unless the voter lived in that precinct. The other provides that only the voter, family members or caregivers can collect a person's mail ballot.

"Prohibiting unlimited third-party ballot harvesting is a commonsense means of protecting the secret ballot," the state told the justices in court filings. The state said the out-of-precinct rule is intended to prevent multiple voting.

But in their challenge to the laws, Arizona Democrats said state officials change polling places more often in minority neighborhoods and locate them in places intended to cause mistakes. Minorities are less likely to own homes and likely to move more often, resulting in the need to change polling places.

Andy Biggs wrote a letter to AG Barr asking him to appoint a special prosecutor to look into allegations of abuse of prosecutorial power by New York Attorney General Letitia James.

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/exclusive-republican-lawmaker-urges-barr-to-appoint-special-counsel-to-investigate-new-york-attorney-general>

Exclusive: GOP lawmaker urges Barr to appoint special counsel to investigate New York attorney general

by Anthony Leonardi, Breaking News Reporter | October 02, 2020 04:39 PM

Arizona Rep. Andy Biggs sent a letter to Attorney General William Barr on Friday requesting he appoint a special prosecutor to see if recent lawsuits filed by James are an abuse of prosecutorial powers for political purposes. James made headlines by making public a civil investigation into the Trump organization over its finances and suing to dissolve the National Rifle Association.

"James ran on a platform of threatening President Donald J. Trump, his family, and his private businesses with investigations and lawsuits. She promised to 'definitely sue him.' On multiple occasions before and after her election she accused the President of money laundering, with zero evidence at her disposal. James essentially sought to gain power by promising to abuse power. She even campaigned on passing a bill to change New York's double jeopardy laws just in case she wanted to sue nonspecific people whom the Administration might one day pardon," Biggs wrote. "This is an outrageous abuse of prosecutorial power!"

The House approved a measure condemning Qanon. 17 Republicans voted against it.

<https://thehill.com/homenews/house/519357-house-approves-measure-condemning-qanon-but-18-republicans-vote-against-it#.X3dt2bauRwM.twitter>

House approves measure condemning QAnon, but 17 Republicans vote against it

BY JULIEGRACE BRUFKE AND CHRIS MILLS RODRIGO - 10/02/20 12:57 PM EDT

The House passed a bipartisan resolution condemning the sprawling QAnon conspiracy theory, though 17 Republican lawmakers voted against the measure in the 371-18 vote.

The GOP lawmakers voting "no" were Reps. [Jodey Arrington](#) (Texas), [Brian Babin](#) (Texas), [Rob Bishop](#) (Utah), [Mo Brooks](#) (Ala.), [Michael Burgess](#) (Texas), [Buddy Carter](#) (Ga.), [Warren Davidson](#) (Ohio), [Jeff Duncan](#) (S.C.), [Drew Ferguson](#) (Ga.), [Bill Flores](#) (Texas), [Paul Gosar](#) (Ariz.), [Steve King](#) (Iowa), [Mike Kelly](#) (Pa.), [Ralph Norman](#) (S.C.), [Scott Perry](#) (Pa.), [Thomas Tiffany](#) (Wis.) and [Daniel Webster](#) (Fla.).

Rep. [Justin Amash](#) (L-Mich.), who used to be a Republican, also voted against the resolution.

Another GOP lawmaker, Rep. [Andy Harris](#) (Md.), voted present.

[President Trump](#) has not condemned the QAnon conspiracy, which revolves around the baseless theory that Trump and his allies are working to expose a cabal of Democrats, media figures and celebrities who are running an international child trafficking ring.

As unhinged as the conspiracy is, it has gained steam in conservative circles and several Republicans running for the House this year have backed the theory, including [Marjorie Taylor Greene](#) of Georgia, who is expected to win her general election race this November.

Greene has been praised effusively by Trump and backed by Republican leadership despite her supportive comments about QAnon and a history of racist and anti-Semitic comments.

The measure condemning QAnon was sponsored by Reps. [Denver Riggleman](#) (R-Va.) and [Tom Malinowski](#) (D-N.J.).