

Eye on the World

June 20, 2026

This compilation of material for “Eye on the World” is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of June 20, 2026.

Compiled by Dave Havir

Luke 21:34-36—“But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man” (Weymouth New Testament).



An article by Caitlin Doombos titled “The 5 Passages of the U.S.-Iran Peace Deal That Worry Critics the Most: ‘Always Tries to Get More’ ” was posted at nypost.com on June 17, 2026.

Five passages of the 14-point memorandum of understanding that was released Wednesday are giving critics particular concern because they leave so much room open for negotiation and interpretation.

The agreement, which President Trump signed on Wednesday, will serve as the basis for 60-day negotiations that will hammer out the fine details of a plan to end Iran’s nuclear ambitions and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. US officials described the framework as a pathway to ending hostilities and resuming negotiations.

But some observers pointed to vague language involving Lebanon, Iranian assets, the Strait of Hormuz and future US policy toward Iran.

“There will be differences of understanding, and this can bring a new misunderstanding, and there is a potential for clash,” said Beni Sabti, an Iranian and an Iran expert for Tel Aviv University’s Institute for National Security studies.

He added: “The Iran regime always tries to get more from what’s written.”

Here are the biggest potential stumbling blocks:

- “The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran and their allies in the current war, by signing this MOU, declare the immediate and permanent termination of military operations on all fronts, including in Lebanon, and undertake from now on not to initiate any war or any military operation against each other, and to refrain from the threat or use of force against each other, and ensuring the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon. The final deal will confirm the permanent termination of the war on all fronts, including in Lebanon, and other provisions of this paragraph.”

The language about Lebanon has raised concerns in Israel, which is not a party to the agreement and has repeatedly carried out military operations against Iranian-backed Hezbollah in the country.

“At the end of the day, if Israel wants to defend itself or attack someone or something, it will do that,” Sabti said.

“Sometimes, many times, Israel doesn’t listen to the US in these issues of security.”

The Jewish state has refused to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, which some Iranians argued should be required before Tehran inked the document, two regional sources told The Post.

It also remains unclear how such a commitment would be enforced, who would determine if violations occurred and whether future Israeli strikes against Hezbollah infrastructure would be viewed as undermining the agreement.

- “The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran undertake to respect each other’s sovereignty and territorial integrity and to refrain from interfering in each other’s internal affairs.”

The text makes no mention of protesters against the regime after Islamic Republic thugs killed roughly 30,000 civilians who took to the streets in January to protest the cost-of-living crisis.

The passage suggests it would tie the US’s hands if Tehran launches more mass murders of its people.

Because the text does not specify what activities would constitute prohibited interference, the provision prompts questions over whether Washington would limit support for Iranian opposition movements, democracy activists or anti-regime protesters in the future.

Successive US administrations — including the current White House — have publicly backed the rights of Iranian demonstrators and condemned Tehran’s crackdowns, with Trump cheering on the protesters in January in a Truth Social post.

- “The Islamic Republic of Iran will conduct dialog with the Sultanate of Oman to define the future administration and maritime services in the Strait of Hormuz in discussion with other Persian Gulf or [Gulf] states in line with the applicable international law and the sovereign rights of coastal states of the Strait of Hormuz.”

The mention of “administration and maritime services” leaves open the possibility that Iran and Oman could charge service fees to ships that want to access the strait.

Legally, the Strait of Hormuz is an international waterway, and vessels cannot be tolled under international law. They can, however, be required to pay fees for services provided.

Iran and Oman as recently as Monday were discussing how they could implement a service fee, a source familiar with mediations told The Post.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry also spoke openly about its desire to charge ships for navigational assistance, environmental protection and insurance-related services.

- “United States of America undertakes with regional partners to develop a definitive, mutually agreed plan with at least USD \$300 billion for the reconstruction and economic development of the Islamic Republic of Iran.”

The memorandum does not specify where the \$300 billion would originate, leaving unanswered whether the funding would come primarily from Gulf states, as previously mentioned by senior US officials; private investments as described by US and regional official; individuals; or international financial institutions.

Trump has repeatedly insisted American taxpayer dollars would not be used to fund Iran, but that is not enumerated in the MOU. Meanwhile, the proposed package would rank among the largest economic development initiatives ever contemplated for the region.

But Hudson Institute senior fellow Rebecca Heinrichs, who led the Pentagon’s 2024 Strategic Posture Commission on US nuclear strategy, told The Post it “doesn’t matter” where the funds come from — on principle, they shouldn’t be offered.

“It doesn’t matter that this money isn’t American taxpayer dollars. That’s about the cost of the damage the US and Israel did to Iran and this feels like reparations,” she said.

“The Iranians are responsible for billions of dollars of damage to US aircraft, to US basing and ally basing and equipment. [Treasury] Secretary [Scott] Bessent mere days ago said that frozen Iranian funds could be used to repay the damage they caused. I think for most Americans that makes a lot more sense, and from a strategy perspective, it does send a message to would-be aggressors that we would make them pay,” she added.

The text also makes clear that the details of the initiative have not yet been established, so many of the questions are unanswerable at this time.

- “The United States of America undertakes to make fully available for use the frozen or restricted funds and assets of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Upon the implementation of this MOU, the United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran will mutually agree on the procedures related to the release of these funds during the negotiations.”

The provision does not identify how much money would ultimately be released and when. While dollar figures ranging from \$6 billion to \$24 billion have been mentioned by sources in the lead-up to the MOU’s finalization, the total could be much higher thanks to the vague point.

Iran is estimated to have more than \$100 billion in total frozen or restricted funds abroad.

It also does not restrict where the unfrozen funds may be spent, which Sabti predicted will mean the regime will pocket the cash — or spend it on terrorism, which also is not banned in the text.

“The billions of dollars will go to the Iran regime — the people won’t see \$1 from that. It will all go to the regime and the terror program and missile program and other evil programs that they have,” he said.

Already, regional sources told Reuters that Tehran said it would use some of the cash to pay terror proxy Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Tehran has long sought access to the funds, and the US has previously refused to unfreeze any amount without demonstrable changes to Iran’s nuclear program. However, the MOU leaves unresolved whether the release would occur immediately, in phases tied to Iranian compliance, or only after a final agreement is reached.



“Eye on the World” comment: The following headlines involve articles that are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Iran – general news

- An article by Andrew Moran titled “Persian Gulf Oil Output May Not Recover Until Early 2027” was posted at theepochtimes.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Adam Silverstein titled “Gas Prices Fall Below \$4 for First Time in Over 5 Months after US-Iran Agreement to Reopen Strait of Hormuz” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Zoe Hussain titled “Iranian Singer Sentenced to 74 Barbaric Lashes for Belting Out Patriotic Song Without a Hijab” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.

Iran deal – general news

- An article by Caitlin Doombos, Emily Goodin and Ronny Reyes titled “Complete 14-Point US-Iran Peace Deal Finally Revealed – Kicking Off 60-Day Clock to Do the Hardest Work Yet” was posted at nypost.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Ariella Roitman titled “Iran to Invite UN, US Nuclear Inspectors to Enriched Material Sites” was posted at jpost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Tom Ozimek titled “Crude Hits New 3-Month Low as Trump, Pezeshkian Sign Deal Lifting Iran Oil Sanctions” was posted at theepochtimes.com on June 18, 2026.

Iran deal – a few criticisms reported by nypost.com

- An editorial by Staff titled “Trump’s Iran Deal Gives the Islamic Republic Big Wins Up Front – and America Nothing” was posted at nypost.com on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Mark Dubowitz and Miad Maleki titled “Iran Deal Tosses a Tremendous Cash Lifeline to Terrorist Regime” was posted at nypost.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Josh Christenson titled “Senate Armed Services Chairman Roger Wicker Calls Iran Deal ‘Out of Step’ With Trump Goals” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.

The Strait of Hormuz

- An article by Richard Polina and Anthony Blair titled “At Least 12 Tankers Pass Through Strait of Hormuz Within Hours of Trump’s Iran Deal; Data Shows” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Caitlin Doombos titled “Iran Foreign Ministry Says Strait of Hormuz Is Open After IRGC Warned It Was Closed – Sparking Confusion” was posted at nypost.com on June 19, 2026.

Russia-Ukraine war – general news

- An article by Staff titled “Ukraine Seeks Fresh \$20 Billion in Aid From Allies” was posted at newsmax.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Anthony Blair titled “NATO Nation Sharing Massive Border With Russia [Finland] Lifts Decades-Long Ban on Nukes” was posted at nypost.com on June 17, 2026.

- An article by Staff titled “Suspect Arrested After Putin Critic Shot Dead in Poland” was posted at breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Staff titled “Moscow Oil Refinery Spectacularly Explodes After Ukraine Drone Strike” was posted at breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

NATO

- An article by Oliver JJ Lane titled “Hegseth Torches ‘Paper Tiger’ NATO at Defense Summit: You Have Six Months to Shape Up or Face Consequences” was posted at breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Christian K. Caruzo titled “Poland and Germany Tighten Security Ties With Bilateral Defense Agreement” was posted at breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Kurt Zindulka titled “ ‘Send Them Back’: EU Parliament Passes Major Deportation Reforms, Including Third Country Return Hubs” was posted at breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

Remembering October 7

- An article by Yonah Jeremy Bob titled “Secret Hamas Records Given to ‘Post’ Expose Covert Deception Plan Behind October 7” was posted at jpost.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Liane Grunberg Wakabayahi titled “Silenced No More: The Israeli Women Who Documented Hamas’s October 7 Sexual Crimes” was posted at jpost.com on June 19, 2026.

Relationship – between Israel and U.S.

- An article “Trump Says Israel Taking ‘Too Long’ to Fight Hezbollah, Suggests Syria ‘Take Care of’ Iran-Backed Terrorists” was posted at nypost.com on June 16, 2026.

- An article by Caitlin Doombos titled “[JD] Vance Issues Harsh Warning to Israelis Slamming Trump’s Iran Deal” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Breccan F. Thies titled “[JD] Vance Issues Reality Check to Israel: America Is Your Only Ally, Start Acting Like It” was posted at thefederalist.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Staff titled “Treasury Imposes Sanctions on Lebanese Officials, Others for Aiding Hezbollah” was posted at newsmax.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Staff titled “U.S. Issues New Sanctions Against Lebanese Officials, Companies Aligned With Hezbollah” was posted at jpost.com on June 19, 2026.

Israel and Lebanon

- An article by Ronny Reyes titled “Defiant Netanyahu Refuses to Pull Troops Out of Lebanon Despite Iran Peace Deal” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “IDF Withdrawal From Lebanon Would Be a Failure, Must Hold Strategic Points in North; Chikli Says” was posted at jpost.com on June 19, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “Israel, Hezbollah Agree to Cease-Fire Starting on Friday – Israel to Remain in Lebanon” was posted at jpost.com on June 20, 2026.

Anti-Semitism – international

- An article by Jewish News Syndicate titled “Germany Documents Record Number of Anti-Semitic Incidents in 2025” was posted at nypost.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Mathilda Heller titled “Germany Recorded 8,725 Anti-Semitic Incidents in 2025 – Independent Watchdog Says” was posted at jpost.com on June 18, 2026.

Articles – Jerusalem Post

- An article by Seth J. Frantzman titled “ Hamas Doesn’t Call the Shots in Gaza Anymore; Source Tells ‘Post’ ” was posted at jpost.com on June 18, 2026.

World Cup

- An article by Dylan Svoboda titled “Kylian Mbappe [France’s Soccer Star] Passes Lionel Messi on All-Time World Cup Goals List in France’s Win Over Senegal” was posted at nypost.com on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Ryan Giancola titled “Lionel Messi Opens Up World Cup With Hat Trick to Answer Back Kylian Mbappe [France’s Soccer Star Who Just Hours Before Passed Messi for the Third-Most Goals Scored in World Cup History]” was posted at nypost.com on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Sean Leahy titled “FIFA Reportedly to Allow Donald Trump to Hand World Cup Trophy to Winning Team” was posted at yahoo.com on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “FIFA World Cup Breaks Broadcast Records Across the Board” was posted at insidefifa.com on June 17, 2026.
 - Opening day – more than 54 million viewers
 - U.S. versus Paraguay – 27.5 million viewers
 - World Cup final – regularly surpasses 1.5 billion viewers globally
 - Super Bowls – around 125 million viewers

- An article by Rusty Weiss titled “Scottish Fans Drink Boston Dry: Bars Run Out of Beer as Tartan Army Takes Over [Celebrating Their First World Cup in 28 Years]” was posted at sportsnaut.com on June 17, 2026.

Ebola

- An article by John Hayward titled “Africa CDC Warns Congo Ebola Outbreak Could Be Worst in History” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 17, 2026.
- A Reuters article by Staff titled “At Least 30 Deaths at Congo Camp Show Ebola Could Be Spreading Fast” was posted at Reuters.com on June 19, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “More Than 70 Medics Infected With Ebola as Democratic Republic of Congo Outbreak Spreads ‘Fast’ ” was posted at Aljazeera.com on June 19, 2026.
- A video titled “Africa CDC Director Warns Congo Ebola Outbreak Could Become Worst on Record” was posted at CBSnews.com on June 19, 2026.

Sexually transmitted infections

- Looking back to May 2026, an article by Zain Khan titled “Syphilis Spikes in California as Health Chiefs Warn Sexually Active to Urgently Get Tested” was posted at nyPost.com on May 3, 2026.
- An article by Reda Wigle titled “42 Babies Die in Australia and Cases of Devastating STI Spike in US – Doctor Warns He’s ‘Never Been More Concerned’ ” was posted at nyPost.com on June 18, 2026.

Immigration

- An article by Samuel Kimzey titled “The Mass Rape of British Girls by Pakistani Immigrants Is an Act of War” was posted at TheFederalist.com on June 19, 2026.
- An article by Betsy McCaughey titled “Switzerland Just Set a Great Example for America on Immigration – We Need to Have a National Conversation” was posted at nyPost.com on June 19, 2026.

International news – miscellaneous

- An article by Kurt Zindulka titled “France: Seven in Ten Believe Crime Is ‘Out of Control’ ” was posted at Breitbart.com on May 31, 2026.

- An article by Staff titled “Shootings Plague Mexico’s Caribbean Resort Area [Including Tulum, Playa Del Carmen and Cancun] – Bars, Hotels Targeted” was posted at breitbart.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Lucas Nolan titled “UK Competition Watchdog Orders Google to Level the Playing Field on Search Rankings” was posted at breitbart.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Dorothy Li titled “UK Sentences 2 Men to Up to 10 Years in Jail for Spying for China” was posted at theepochtimes.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Bradford Betz titled “[In October 2027] Qantas to Launch World’s Longest Nonstop Commercial Flight Between Sydney and London [Lasting 22 Hours]” was posted at foxbusiness.com on June 18, 2026.



“Eye on the World” comment: The following headlines are about articles that involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

White House UFC event

- An article by Staff titled “Wild ‘UFC Freedom 250’ Card on White House South Lawn Draws Rave Reviews: ‘Put on a Great Show’ ” was posted at nypost.com on June 14, 2026.
- An article by Rebeka Zeljko titled “Democrats’ Rival Event to Trump’s Freedom 250 UFC Bombs” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 15, 2026.
- An article by Brittany Miller titled “A Mother’s Concern, Call to Authorities May Have Prevented Potential Attack on UFC Event at the White House” was posted at foxnews.com on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Justin Boggs titled “5 Men Charged in Alleged Plot to Attack White House UFC Event” was posted at scrippsnews.com on June 16, 2026.
- A video titled “FBI Foils White House UFC Terror Plot” was posted at nypost.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by William Perdomo titled “Explosive Drones, Snipers and Attacks Against the ‘Capitalist Elites’: Details of the Alleged Plot Against UFC Freedom 250” was posted at voz.us on June 17, 2026.

- An article by Alana Masstrangelo titled “Comedian Nate Bargatze Faces Fan Backlash After Attending Trump’s UFC White House Event” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Amy Furr titled “DHS: Illegal Alien Was Alleged ‘Ringleader’ of Failed Terror Plot Targeting White House UFC Event” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 18, 2026.

Election integrity

- An article by Staff titled “[Federalist CEO Sean] Davis: California’s Election System Was Designed to ‘Engineer Results’ ” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 6, 2026.
- An article by M.D. Kittle titled “Democrats Show Just How Low They Can Go in Latest Ballot Schemes” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Skye Graham titled “California Requires Proof of Gayness to Get Utility Contracts, but Not Proof of ID to Vote” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 18, 2026.
- An article by John Nolte titled “Los Angeles City Council Prepares to Allow Non-citizens to Vote” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Ben Chapman titled “FBI Agents Descend on [Los Angeles] Skid Row in Massive Voter Fraud Probe After Stunning Claims of Election Bribery” was posted at [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) on June 18, 2026.

Voting integrity – majority of voters want SAVE Act

- Looking back to March 2026, an article by Sahil Kapur titled “Most Americans Support Requiring Photo ID to Vote – Democrats in Congress Reject It” was posted at [nbcnews.com](https://www.nbcnews.com) on March 17, 2026.
- Looking back to March 2026, an article by M.D. Kittle titled “SAVE Act Is 4 Times More Popular Than Congress” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on March 31, 2026.
- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Maisey Jefferson titled “Majority of Voters Want the SAVE America Act Passed Before the Midterms; Poll Finds” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on April 21, 2026.
- Looking back to March 2026, an article by Shawn Fleetwood titled “Passing SAVE Act Would Signal Congress Actually Answers to Voters, Which Is Why Congress Hates It” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on March 13, 2026.

No action on SAVE Act – blame the Republicans

- An article by Ashley Brasfield titled “[John] Thune Admits Some Senate Republicans Hate Trump Too Much to Support SAVE America Act” was posted at [dailycaller.com](https://www.dailycaller.com) on June 17, 2026.

Republicans want to maintain Section 702

- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Staff titled “Trump Signs Short-Term FISA Extension; Surveillance Law Will Be Maintained Through April 30” was posted at [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com) on April 18, 2026.
- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Nicole Silverio titled “Republicans Poised to Allow Continued Unfettered Government Spying on American Citizens” was posted at [dailycaller.com](https://www.dailycaller.com) on April 29, 2026.

What is Section 702 of FISA?

- Looking back to November 2025, an article by Eric Tucker and David Klepper titled “As Vice President During 9/11, [Dick] Cheney Is at the Center of an Enduring Debate Over US Spy Powers” was posted at [military.com](https://www.military.com) on Nov. 5, 2025.
- Looking back to December 2025, an article by Darius Radzius titled “Americans’ Privacy and Data: Congress Warned Over Warrantless Surveillance” was posted at [military.com](https://www.military.com) on Dec. 15, 2025.
- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Hannah James and Elizabeth Goitein titled “Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, Explained” was posted at [brennancenter.org](https://www.brennancenter.org) on April 8, 2026 (and updated on June 9, 2026).
- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Eleanor Stratton titled “FISA and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court” was posted at [usconstitution.net](https://www.usconstitution.net) on April 11, 2026.

Trump chose Bill Pulte – claiming it was a temporary measure

- Looking back to June 2026, an article by Josh Boak titled “Trump Taps Housing Regulator [Bill] Pulte to Be Acting Director of National Intelligence” was posted at [apnews.com](https://www.apnews.com) on June 2, 2026.
- Looking back to June 2026, an article by Josh Boak titled “Trump Says Pulte Won’t Be His Nominee for Director of National Intelligence” was posted at [federalnewsnetwork.com](https://www.federalnewsnetwork.com) on June 4, 2026.

- An article by Ben Whedon titled “Trump: Democrats Will ‘Do Anything’ to Keep Pulte Out of ODNI” was posted at justthenews.com on June 17, 2026.

Trump submitted Jay Clayton

- An article by Nicole Silverio titled “Here’s What Lawmakers Are Saying About Trump’s Nominee [Jay Clayton] to Replace Tulsi Gabbard” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 11, 2026.
 - Chuck Schumer: “I support getting rid of [Bill] Pulte.”
 - John Thune – Happy with pick, but wish it happened before FISA deadline

Section 702 has transpired

- An article by Eric McDaniel titled “A Key U.S. Spy Tool Has Lapsed – Now What?” was posted at npr.org on June 13, 2026.

Why wasn’t the GOP using FISA as leverage for SAVE Act?

- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Ashley Brasfield titled “Why Isn’t the GOP Using FISA as Leverage for SAVE America Act?” was posted at dailycaller.com on April 24, 2026.

Now, Trump delayed Clayton’s nomination – negotiating for FISA and SAVE Act

- An article by Nicole Silverio titled “Senate Moving Heaven and Earth to Confirm Trump’s DNI Pick [Jay Clayton] as Warrantless Spy Powers Sit on Ice” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 12, 2026.
- An article by Arianna Hooker titled “Trump Halts Tulsi Replacement’s [Jay Clayton] Nomination Until His Latest Demand Is Met” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Rebecca Beitsch titled “Senate Fumes as Clayton Chaos Unwinds Path to Renew FISA” was posted at thehill.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Nick Mordowanec titled “Trump Delays DNI Hearings, Demands Congress Passes FISA and SAVE Act” was posted at military.com on June 17, 2026.

Fraud – Southern Poverty Law Center funneling money to extremist groups

- An article by Robert Spencer titled “It Just Keeps Getting Worse for the Southern Poverty Law Center” was posted at frontpagemag.com on June 17, 2026.

Birthright citizenship

- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Nicole Silverio titled “Jonathan Turley Says It’s ‘Insane’ [That] U.S. Is One of the Few Countries With Birthright Citizenship” was posted at [dailycaller.com](https://www.dailycaller.com) on April 2, 2026.

Illegal immigration – general comments

- An article by Patrick Reilly titled “[Attorney General] Todd Blanche Vows Feds Will Arrest ‘Disgusting’ Protester Who Threatened to Kill ICE Agent’s Family in Insane Video” was posted at [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Bethany Blankley titled “Nearly 25,000 Immigration Arrests Made in Florida” was posted at [justthenews.com](https://www.justthenews.com) on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Neil Munro titled “New Jersey Police Arrest Antifa Rioters at ICE’s Delaney Hall” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 1, 2026.
- An article by Janice Hisle titled “15 Tied to Antifa Charged With Violently Interfering With ICE Operations in Minnesota” was posted at [theepochtimes.com](https://www.theepochtimes.com) on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “[Wisconsin] Court Upholds Conviction of Judge [Hannah Dugan] for Obstructing ICE” was posted at [thenationalpulse.com](https://www.thenationalpulse.com) on June 17, 2026.
- An article by John Binder titled “Mamdani-Backed Democrat: ‘All Deportations Are Wrong’ – Even for Convicted Murderers and Child Rapists” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Randy Clark and Bob Price titled “Trump Delivers 13 Straight Months of Zero Illegal Alien Releases at US-Mexico Border” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 18, 2026.
- An article by John Binder titled “Illegal Alien Accused of Brutal Machete Murder Was Released Into U.S. by Biden Administration” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Kevin Killough titled “Alleged Shooter [Afghan National] in DC Killing of Guard Member [in November] Faces New Charge Making Him Eligible for Death Penalty” was posted at [justthenews.com](https://www.justthenews.com) on June 18, 2025.
- An article by Sarah Anderson titled “Look What the Coast Guard Dragged In [When the Coast Guard Intercepted a Boat Near Key Biscayne, Florida on June 10 With 25 Chinese Nationals Seeking to Enter the US Illegally]” was posted at [pjmedia.com](https://www.pjmedia.com) on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Stephen Sorace titled “11 Suspected Illegal Immigrants Among 15 Arrested in \$1.4 Million Benefits Fraud Crackdown in Massachusetts; DOJ Says” was posted at foxnews.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Randy Clark titled “Guatemalan Illegal Alien Earns Six-Year Prison Term for Arms Trafficking in Maryland” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Victoria Taft titled “Feds Reveal Violent Antifa Conspirators Coordinated With a Major Labor Union to Fight ICE in Minneapolis” was posted at PJMedia.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Bob Price titled “735 Criminal Illegal Aliens Arrested by ICE-Houston Officers in May – Nearly 1,200 With Violent Convictions, Including Murderers, Child Predators” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

Miranda Devine articles

- An article by Miranda Devine titled “The Democrats Launch More Fake Rumors About Trump’s Health – but the President Is at the Top of His Game” was posted at NYPost.com on June 3, 2026.
- An article by Miranda Devine titled “Democrats Can’t Escape the Bidens and Their Drama – Even If They’re Done Covering for Them” was posted at NYPost.com on June 7, 2026.
- An article by Miranda Devine titled “Pete Hegseth’s D-Day Speech Gave Europe a Spot-On Warning – Be Smart or Be Invaded” was posted at NYPost.com on June 10, 2026.
- An article by Miranda Devine titled “Ageless President Trump Keeps on Winning at 80, and Laughs in the Face of His Naysayers” was posted at NYPost.com on June 14, 2026.
- An article by Miranda Devine titled “Trump Is Showing the World, G7 Leaders Who’s the ‘Boss’ and Deserves Respect for His Deal-Making” was posted at NYPost.com on June 17, 2026.

Comments about corporate media

- An article by Staff titled “‘60 Minutes’ Star Scott Pelley Fired From CBS News After Blasting Bari Weiss in Heated Showdown” was posted at NYPost.com on June 2, 2026.
- An article by Nick Arama titled “JD Vance Ventures Onto ‘The View,’ Serves Up an Unforgettable Schooling” was posted at RedState.com on June 16, 2026.

- An article by James Conrad titled “Jimmy Kimmel Hits Ivanka Trump With Vile Incest Joke” was posted at themix.net on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Joseph A. Wulfson titled “Tom Hanks Viciously Roasts MS NOW’s Ratings While Appearing Live On-Air With Reporter” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Breccan F. Thies titled “Corporate Media Can’t Be Bothered to Investigate Fraud and Crime – They Have an Algae Bloom to Track” was posted at thefederalist.com on June 19, 2026.

New York Times – gets Russia collusion story wrong once again

- An article by Staff titled “Years After Pulitzer Prize, New York Times Gets Russia Collusion Story Wrong Once Again” was posted at justthenews.com on June 19, 2026.

Attacking Trump – NY Times & Washington Post won Pulitzer Prizes for fake story

- Looking back to December 2021, an article by Hans A. Von Spakovsky titled “Will New York Times, Washington Post Return Pulitzer for Misleading Russia Collusion Stories?” was posted at heritage.org on Dec. 13, 2021.
- Looking back to May 2023, an article by Miles Dilworth titled “The Unraveling of the New York Times and Washington Post’s Pulitzer Prize-Winning Stories: Durham’s Damning Indictment of How the Mainstream Media Lapped Up Tales of Trump’s Links to Moscow With No Credibility” was posted at dailymail.co.uk on May 16, 2023.
- Looking back to May 2023, an article by John Nolte titled “Washington Post Won’t Return Fake Pulitzer, ‘Stands By’ Russia Reporting” was posted at Breitbart.com on May 17, 2023.

Climate agenda

- A video and an article by Staff titled “Watch: Al Gore Gets Embarrassed After Reality Shreds His Climate Boast During ABC Interview” were posted at rvmnews.com on June 18, 2026.

Covid – general comments

- An article by Katherine Pugh and Amanda Head titled “ ‘Challenge in Court’: Two Top Senators [Rand Paul and Ron Johnson] Urge Trump DOJ to Prosecute Fauci Despite Biden Pardon” was posted at justthenews.com on June 17, 2026.

- An article by Emily Kopp titled “FDA Spun Autopsy Results to Downplay Covid Vaccine Deaths in Kids; Letter Shows” was posted at [dailycaller.com](https://www.dailycaller.com) on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Aldgra Fredly titled “Gabbard Releases Documents on Fauci’s Alleged Role in Wuhan Lab Research Linked to Covid” was posted at [theepochtimes.com](https://www.theepochtimes.com) on June 19, 2026.
- An article by Shawn Fleetwood titled “New Documents: Fauci Colluded With Intel Agencies on Covid Cover-Up and Then Lied to Congress About It” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 19, 2026.

Transgender – general

- An article by Abigail Archer titled “Idaho Judge Partially Blocks Law Penalizing Transgenders for Using Wrong Bathroom” was posted at [dailycaller.com](https://www.dailycaller.com) on June 17, 2026.

Christian players – react to pride night

- An article by Richie Greenberg titled “[San Francisco] Giants Pitchers School Pride Activists in Real Diversity [Scribbling ‘Genesis 9:12-16’ on Their Hats]” was posted at [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Paul Bois titled “San Francisco Giants Broadcaster Mike Krukow Criticizes Players Wearing Bible Verses for Pride Night” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Amy Furr titled “[York] Pennsylvania: Minor League Baseball Team Forfeits Game When Players Refuse to Wear ‘Pride Night’ Jerseys” was posted at [breitbart.com](https://www.breitbart.com) on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Brianna Lyman titled “NY Times Says Christian Major League Baseball Players Wearing Bible Verses Will Cause Mass ‘Abuse’ of Gay People” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 18, 2026.

Comments – about defunding the police

- Looking back to June 2020, an article by Paige Fernandez titled “Defunding the Police Will Actually Make Us Safer” was posted at [aclu.org](https://www.aclu.org) on June 11, 2020.

Anti-Weaponization Fund

- Looking back to May 2026, a press release titled “Justice Department Announces Anti-Weaponization Fund” was posted at [justice.gov](https://www.justice.gov) on May 18, 2026. (The Fund was designed to “provide a systematic process to hear and redress claims of others who suffered weaponization and lawfare.”)

- Looking back to May 2026, an article by Staff titled “What to Know About Trump’s \$1.8 Billion ‘Anti-Weaponization Fund’ ” was posted at wsj.com on May 29, 2026.
- Looking back to May 2026, an article by Abigail Archer titled “Federal Judge Temporarily Blocks Trump’s Anti-Weaponization Fund” was posted at dailycaller.com on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Josh Gerstein and Kyle Cheney titled “5 Lingering Questions About Trump’s ‘Anti-Weaponization Fund’ ” was posted at politico.com on June 2, 2026.
 - Can January 6 rioters still be paid?
 - Is Trump still protected?
 - Are Trump lawsuits DOA (dead-on-arrival)?
 - Are legal sanctions possible?
 - Will Congress be satisfied?
- A video titled “Trump Administration Scraps \$1.8 Billion ‘Anti-Weaponization Fund’ ” was posted at youtube.com on June 3, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “DOJ Attorney Says in Court Filing That ‘Anti-Weaponization Fund’ Is ‘Not Going Forward’ ” was posted at abcnews.com on June 5, 2026.

Great American State Fair

- Looking back to April 2026, an article by Ashley J. DiMella titled “Trump-Backed Mega Event to Bring all 50 States to DC in World’s Fair-Style Bash” was posted at foxnews.com on April 14, 2026.
- An article by Christian Toto titled “Is Music Industry’s Blacklist Worse Than Hollywood’s Version?” was posted at hollywoodintoto.com on May 28, 2026.
- An article by Janelle Ash titled “Martina McBride Called a ‘Coward’ After Dropping Out of America 250 Celebration” was posted at foxnews.com on May 29, 2026.

Obama Presidential Center – financial disparity

- Looking back to March 2026, an article by Michael Dorgan titled “Obama Presidential Center Wants 100 Unpaid Volunteers While Valerie Jarrett Makes \$740,000” was posted at foxnews.com on March 14, 2026.
- An article by James Freeman titled “He Didn’t Pay to Build That? [As Obama’s Net Worth Is Estimated at \$70 Million]” was posted at wsj.com on June 16, 2026.

- An article by Michael Dorgan titled “Subcontractors Say They’re Owed Millions, Face Financial Ruin – After Helping Build Obama Presidential Center” was posted at foxnews.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Warner Todd Huston titled “Obama’s Welcome Hollywood Elites, Famous Friends to Presidential Center Opening – as Unpaid Subcontractors Claim Millions Owed” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

Obama Presidential Center

- An article by Oliver Wainwright titled “ ‘Like a Klingon Prison’: Inside Barack Obama’s Audacious, Near-Windowless, \$850 Million Presidential Library” was posted at theguardian.com on June 2, 2026.
- An article by Sophia Tareen titled “Obama’s New Presidential Museum, by the Numbers” was posted at pbs.org on June 4, 2026.
 - Cost – ballooned from \$350 million to \$850 million
 - Height – the 225-foot-tall stone-clad tower
 - Area – on nearly 20 acres
 - Visitors – between 600,000 to 1 million
 - Books – 3,500 books in the reading room
 - Campaign buttons – 440 on display
 - Works of art – 28 works of art from 30 artists
- An article by Sophia Tareen titled “4 Things to Know About Obama’s New Presidential Museum” was posted at pbs.org on June 4, 2026.
 - President for a day – sit in the life-size replica of the Oval Office
 - Collection of Michelle’s iconic ball-gowns
 - Variety of personal touches
 - Pricey admission (\$30) with free options
- An article by Michael J. Lewis titled “The Obama Presidential Center: A Pharaonic Temple in Chicago” was posted at wsj.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “Barack Obama Has Built a Monument to Himself” was posted at economist.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Paul Bois titled “Springsteen, Bono, Stevie Wonder – Among Celebrity Singers Performing at Obama Presidential Center Grand Opening” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 17, 2026.
- A video and an article by Staff titled “Watch: Barack and Michelle Obama Open Obama Presidential Center With Springsteen, Stevie Wonder” were posted at pbs.org on June 18, 2026.

- A Reuters article by Renee Hickman and Steve Gorman titled “Obama Celebrates Opening of His Presidential Museum With Call to Citizenship” was posted at reuters.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Mariane Angela titled “Valerie Jarrett Opens Obama Center Ceremony With Land Acknowledgment [Citing Native American Tribes]” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.
- A press release titled “Visit the Center Starting June 19” was posted at obama.org. (It stated: “The Obama Presidential Center is more than a landmark – it’s a new space of possibilities. Built on the South Side where the Obamas’ journey began, this 19.3 acre campus was designed with you in mind. Find inspiration in a one-of-a-kind Museum, dive into a story at the public library, or hang with friends on the Great Lawn. From around the block to across the world, this is your home for hope and change.”)

Notice the obvious – elites in the Democrat party have chosen their candidates since 2016

- Looking back to October 2024, an article by Nick Hart titled “When Was the Last Time the Democrats Had a Primary That Was Actually Democratic?” was posted at medium.com on Oct. 5, 2024. (For at least the last 3 general elections, Democrats haven’t allowed their own base to choose their candidate.)
 - In 2016, the Democrat elites convinced Bernie Sanders to step aside.
 - In 2020, the Democrat elites convinced opponents to Joe Biden to step aside.
 - In 2024, the Democrat elites forced Joe Biden to withdraw.
 - In 2024, the Democrat elites picked Kamala Harris without a single vote.

Who will lead the Democrats?

- An article by Staff titled “Hemingway: Obama Democrats Are Letting Their Socialist Freak Flag Fly” was posted at thefederalist.com on June 19, 2026.

Gavin Newsom – is born connected

- Looking back to September 2018, an article by Seema Mehta titled “How Eight Elite San Francisco Families Funded Gavin Newsom’s Political Ascent [Newsom Wasn’t Born Rich, but He Was Born Connected]” was posted at latimes.com on Sept. 7, 2018.
- An article by Jeremy White titled “Gavin Newsom’s Race to Block a Billionaire Tax” was posted at politico.com on June 11, 2026.
- An article by Steven Richards titled “While Claiming to Fight Corruption, Newsom Solicited \$340 Million From Special Interests for Allies” was posted at justthenews.com on June 16, 2026.

- An article by Staff titled “Inside Gavin Newsom’s Luxurious Empire as DOJ Probe Looms Over His Massive \$30 Million Fortune” was posted at lifezette.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Amy Furr titled “Democrats Worried DOJ Probe of California Governor Gavin Newsom May Hurt Possible 2028 White House Bid” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Titus Wu titled “Union Boss Behind Billionaire Tax Unloads on Gavin Newsom in Rare Interview” was posted at nyPost.com on June 19, 2026.

Abigail Spanberger

- An article by Abigail Archer titled “Democrat Feud in Virginia Escalates as Governor Spanberger Reportedly Pulls Petty Move [When Spanberger Called Two Democrat Opponents Into the Hall, Which Made Them Ineligible to Vote on a Matter]” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 18, 2026.

Graham Platner in Maine

- An article by Adam Pack titled “Democrat Senate Hopeful Under Fire for Resurfaced Comments Calling Cops ‘Opportunistic Cowards’ ” was posted at foxnews.com on June 18, 2026.

Texas Senate Candidate – James Talarico

- Looking back to March 2026, an article by Staff titled “ ‘God Is Non-Binary’: Texas Democrat Nominee [James] Talarico’s Past Remarks on Abortion, Race and Gender Draw Scrutiny” was posted at foxnews.com on March 5, 2026.
- An article by Hannah Knudsen titled “Democrat James Talarico Offered Bizarre Prayer to Multiple Gods: ‘In Your Many Names We Pray’ ” was posted at Breitbart.com on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Katherine Hamilton titled “Texas Democrat Senate Candidate James Talarico Says Bible ‘Silent on Abortion’ ” was posted at Breitbart.com on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Katherine Hamilton titled “Franklin Graham Rebukes James Talarico’s Claim That the Bible Is ‘Silent on Abortion’: ‘Absolute Lie’ ” was posted at Breitbart.com on May 31, 2026.

New York Knicks win NBA title

- An article by Andrew Battifarano titled “Knicks’ Thrilling NBA Finals Was Most-Watched in Nearly 30 Years” was posted at nyPost.com on June 16, 2026.

- An article by Collin Ward titled “Mark Cuban [Former NBA Owner of the Dallas Mavericks] Gives ‘Real Simple’ Reason Mavericks [in 2022] Let Jalen Brunson Leave for Knicks [Saying ‘It was really, really simple. We didn’t see JB, as what he would become’]” was posted at nypost.com on June 16, 2026.
- A video and an article by Dylan Gwinn titled “Watch: Knicks Owner James Dolan Has No Interest in Photo Op With Mamdani” were posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.

Technology

- An article by Lucas Nolan titled “Jeff Bezos Predicts A.I. Will Create Labor Shortage [Due to Increased Jobs], Not Mass Unemployment” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Thomas Barrabi titled “Anthropic Floats Proposal to Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick to End US Ban on Powerful ‘Mythos’ – ‘Fable’ A.I. Models: Sources” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Sean O’Kane titled “Waymo Recalls Nearly 4,000 Robotaxis to Stop Them Driving Into Highway Construction Zones” was posted at TechCrunch.com on June 18, 2026.

General interest – health

- A press release titled “Nestle USA Completes Removal of FD&C [Food, Drug and Cosmetic] Colors Across U.S. Portfolio” was posted at nestleusa.com on June 15, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “Popular Weight-Loss Diet [Keto Diet] Shows Surprising Impact on Serious Mental Health Condition” was posted at FoxNews.com on June 4, 2026.
- An article by Karina Petrova titled “High Brain Glutamate Levels Linked to Severe Reactions to Mistakes” was posted at PsyPost.org on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Eric W. Dolan titled “Psychologists Warn of a Sycophancy Trap as Patients Increasingly Turn to A.I. Chatbots for Therapy” was posted at PsyPost.org on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Amy Denney titled “Why Washing New Clothes Matters More Than You Think” was posted at TheEpochTimes.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Hannah Knudsen titled “RFK Jr.: Obesity Rates Have Dropped for First Time in 50 Years” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “Daytime Sleepiness May Signal High Blood Pressure” was posted at NewsMax.com on June 18, 2026.

- An article by Amber Yang titled “10-Minute Spine Routine to Ease Morning Back Stiffness” was posted at theepochtimes.com on June 18, 2026.

General interest – trying to save family

- A video and an article by Staff titled “Watch: ICE Officer Makes Historic Rescue After 6-Year-Old Girl Has Pool Emergency” were posted at foxnews.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Awr Hawkins titled “Mother Who Shot Intruder: ‘I Did What I Had to Do to Protect My Children’ ” was posted at Breitbart.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Staff titled “Teen Tourist (18-Year-Old From India) Who Was Thrown to His Death From Central Park Horse Carriage Was Desperately Trying to Save Mom’s Life” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Ronny Reyes titled “Moment ‘Superman’ Texas Grandpa Braves Flames to Save His Home, Grandkids, After Explosion” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.

General interest – news

- An article by Bobby Burack titled “[New York Giants Quarterback] Jaxson Dart Faces More Backlash for Introducing Trump [for a Speech in Suffern, New York] Than NFL Players Face for Violent Crimes” was posted at foxnews.com on May 28, 2026.
- An article by Vaughn Golden titled “AG Letitia James Accused of Misusing \$20 Million to Hire Outside Lawyers to Do Her Work” was posted at nypost.com on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Charlie McCarthy titled “FAA Chief: Air Traffic System ‘Safe’ – ‘Not Efficient’ ” was posted at newsmax.com on May 29, 2026.
- An article by Amanda Macias titled “America’s Next Economic Powerhouse May Be Rising in Red-State Territory [As 725 Companies Relocated Headquarters Between 2018 and 2025 With Dallas-Fort Worth Leading All Cities]” was posted at foxnews.com on May 31, 2026.
- An article by Betsy McCaughey titled “Don’t Laugh Off Bernie Sanders’ Communist A.I.-Heist Attempt – Young Voters Are Falling for It” was posted at nypost.com on June 6, 2026.
- An article by Eli Saslow titled “The World’s Leading Deepfake Expert No Longer Trusts His Own Eyes” was posted at nytimes.com on June 14, 2026.
- An article by Harold Hutchison titled “Some Virginia Democrats Apparently Don’t Understand Basics About Gun Ban They Rammed Through Legislature” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 15, 2026.

- An article by Andrew Atterbury titled “Florida AG Sues Tiktok in Latest Move Against Tech Giants [Exposing Children to Harmful Content]” was posted at politico.com on June 15, 2026.
- An article by Ann Rodgers titled “Denver School Board Fires Teacher After Students Reportedly Graded on Same-Sex Kissing Roleplays” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 16, 2026.
- An article by Mark Tanos titled “Jersey Mike’s [Restaurant] Overtakes Chick-Fil-A as Highest Rated Fast Food Chain” was posted at daiycaller.com on June 17, 2026.
- An article by Daniel Cody titled “Georgia Teacher Accused of Sex With 6 Students Had OnlyFans Account, Was Recorded in ‘Jesus Loves You’ Sweater: Cops” was posted at nypost.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Harold Hutchison titled “Florida Appeals Court Rules 18-Year-Olds Can’t Be Deprived of Right to Carry Guns” was posted at dailycaller.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Rebeka Zeljko titled “Supreme Court Clears Way for Habitual Marijuana Users to Own Guns” was posted at June 18, 2026.
- An article by Shawn Fleetwood titled “Rogue Judges Are Crippling the Constitution One Egregious Ruling at a Time” was posted at thefederalist.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Sujita Sinha titled “US Navy Backs 3,800 MPH-Speeding Blackbeard Hypersonic Missile With First Contract” was posted at interestingengineering.com on June 18, 2026.
- An article by Andrew Moran titled “Weekly Unemployment Claims Ease From 4-Month High” was posted at theepochtimes.com on June 18, 2026.



An article by Douglas Blair titled “Grassroots Voters Demand the SAVE America Act. Will Congress Listen?” was posted at dailysignal.com on June 17, 2026.

As Senate Republicans hem and haw over the SAVE America Act, grassroots conservatives are beginning to lose patience. During a recent GOP event in Texas, several Sentinels, members of Heritage Action’s nationwide grassroots network, voiced growing frustration with what they see as unnecessary Senate delays.

House Republicans acted months ago to pass the SAVE America Act; the legislation now sits in legislative limbo, waiting for Senate Republicans to bring the bill to a vote.

“Get your act together,” said Sylvia, a Sentinel of 10 years. “The longer you drag your feet, the more you look like dead weight to us. We’re sick of the games.”

Another Sentinel, John, put it in more serious terms. “American democracy is under threat with the way we mismanage our voting.”

Their frustration reflects a growing belief among concerned conservatives who view election integrity as a top priority and expect Republican lawmakers to act decisively. For such voters, the SAVE America Act is a baseline requirement for restoring trust in the electoral system, and anyone standing in the way of its passage is a liability.

But if Sentinels are impatient, House Republicans may be even more so.

“The SAVE America Act is a very popular bill, maybe the most popular bill in America right now,” Rep. Michael Cloud, R-Texas, told Heritage Action. “The only place this is controversial is in the United States Senate.”

Cloud argued that election security shouldn’t be political, pointing to the bill’s bipartisan bona fides. “No matter where you are on the political spectrum, you want to know that elections are secure, that they’re safe, and that your vote is counted,” he said.

Though some Senate Republicans seem to minimize the importance of the SAVE America Act, strong public support for the legislation shows the American people have a different opinion. Heritage Action polling shows 71% of Americans support the SAVE America Act, including wide swathes of Republicans, Democrats, and independents.

At its core, the SAVE America Act seeks to strengthen election integrity through a series of commonsense reforms. The bill would require proof of U.S. citizenship for voter registration and mandate photo identification to cast a ballot. It would also compel states to maintain accurate voter rolls by removing noncitizens, ensuring that only eligible voters participate in federal elections.

This would mean a more secure election system. Citizenship verification at registration ensures only eligible individuals are added to the voter rolls in the first place, while photo ID requirements provide additional protection at the ballot box, confirming that the person voting is the same individual who registered. If someone makes it through the cracks, they would be removed during routine voter roll clean-ups.

Considering several blue states have expanded access to driver’s licenses for noncitizens, these provisions take on added importance. Such policies muddy the waters on election integrity and

make it easier to cheat. By requiring both citizenship verification and voter ID, the SAVE America Act would go a long way in closing those vulnerabilities before they could be exploited.

Working alongside Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah; Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas; and other allies, Heritage Action has urged senators to co-sponsor the legislation and Senate leadership to bring it to the floor, and to enforce the talking filibuster if the vote faces obstruction. Heritage Action also issued a Key Vote on the legislation in the House, putting dissenting members in the spotlight for failing to support conservative priorities.

As a result, all but four Republican senators have now signed on as co-sponsors.

Co-sponsorship is good; now the Senate must act. The SAVE America Act is a flagship election integrity bill strongly supported by the Trump administration, and Senate Republicans must move to pass it immediately.

The grassroots demand it, and America's elections depend on it.



An article by Nick Mordowanec titled “Trump Delays DNI Hearings, Demands Congress Passes FISA and SAVE Act” was posted at military.com on June 17, 2026.

President Donald Trump on Wednesday successfully delayed hearings on Capitol Hill for Jay Clayton, his pick to become the United States' next director of national intelligence (DNI), due to Republicans' failure to shore up legislation combining surveillance laws and election security.

Clayton, currently a U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York and ex-chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission, was tasked by the president last week to lead the agency long term and oversee 18 national intel agencies. Trump's selection came somewhat as a surprise after he initially expressed strong support for 38-year-old Bill Pulte, current director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency and chair of Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac, to take over for outgoing DNI Tulsi Gabbard.

Trump has been critical of Democrats on Capitol Hill who have pointed to the Pulte pick as impetus to not immediately renew Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), which last Thursday was not extended in both the House and Senate. The House, in a 198-218 vote, failed to pass a three-week extension of the spy program when it required a two-thirds majority. Three efforts to unanimously pass extensions in the Senate also failed.

Trump, who in the past criticized FISA, wants it included in overarching legislation known as the SAVE Act (Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act) that in part would require U.S. citizenship

proof in order to register to vote. It is viewed by Republicans as a major federal election overhaul.

“The Republicans agreed with Democrats to remove very fair, and talented, William Pulte, from serving as Acting DNI in return for getting FISA approved by the Democrats,” Trump wrote Wednesday on Truth Social.

“However, the Republicans moved so fast with the hearings of the Great Jay Clayton, current U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, that Pulte would be gone before the Democrats would vote on FISA. Now, the Democrats are saying they will vote against FISA — So, the Republicans wound up having fulfilled their commitment, but Democrats broke the Deal.”

Trump's call led to Clayton never arriving to the hearing, causing the postponement.

“It’s regrettable that the president has directed Jay Clayton not to appear at his confirmation hearing today,” Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.), the Intelligence Committee chair, said Wednesday afternoon.

“Mr. Clayton is a patriot and a highly qualified nominee, as the president has said repeatedly. While today’s hearing is now unfortunately postponed, I look forward to proceeding with his confirmation in the near future,” he added.

The president also indicated a type of package deal in terms of confirmations, mentioning that he doesn't want Clayton “in place” until the newly nominated U.S. attorney for the SDNY, James “Jamie” McDonald, is “blue slipped.”

McDonald previously served on Trump's criminal defense team and was an enforcement chief at the United States Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

“Therefore, to add a slight bit of intrigue but, for the Good of the Nation, and the People of our Country, I will not approve FISA without THE SAVE AMERICA ACT going along with it,” Trump added. “Not complicated, actually, the Republicans fell into a trap. . . In the meantime, Bill Pulte will remain as the Acting Director of National Intelligence.”

Trump in the past scrutinized FISA. In one Truth Social post from April 2024, he wrote: “KILL FISA, IT WAS ILLEGALLY USED AGAINST ME, AND MANY OTHERS. THEY SPIED ON MY CAMPAIGN!!!”

Committee Leaders Vow to Move Forward

FISA law has been supported by Trump, who has pointed to the ongoing World Cup and America 250 events as further reasoning.

Defense Secretary Hegseth has warned that allowing Section 702 of FISA to lapse would be “devastating to our national security.” That section is controversial considering that it allows the U.S. government to conduct warrantless surveillance of foreign targets located outside the country, though it often includes Americans' communications.

Although Trump indicated his intentions regarding the DNI nomination process, not all Republicans are seemingly receptive.

“Jay Clayton is a pending nominee before the Intelligence Committee,” Cotton said on X prior to the official delay. “We will proceed with his hearing as scheduled unless the president directs him not to appear or withdraws his nomination.”

A spokesperson for Cotton, when asked about his remarks in comparison to Trump's demands, deferred to the X post and provided no further comment. Military.com also reached out to the White House for comment.

Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.), the vice chair of the committee, wrote on X that Trump is “displaying an extraordinary display of dysfunction” based on his efforts “to turn America's national security into a political bargaining chip.”

“Over the past two weeks, President Trump has careened from one personnel decision and political demand to the next – first installing Bill Pulte, then nominating Jay Clayton, then demanding unrelated legislation be attached to FISA reauthorization, and now threatening to derail both the confirmation process and a bipartisan reauthorization effort,” Warner wrote.

“At every turn, the president has injected more uncertainty into a process that should be focused on one thing: keeping the American people safe. National security cannot be governed by social media post. The president's latest intervention only underscores a simple reality: the biggest obstacle to resolving these issues has not been Senate Democrats or Senate Republicans. It has been the chaos and confusion coming from the White House itself.”

Rep. Thomas Massie (R-Ky.), who recently lost his GOP primary to a Trump-endorsed opponent, called Trump's efforts to tie in both key pieces of legislation together “a trick for the weak.”

“I like the Freedom Caucus, but attaching the SAVE Act to warrantless spying is dumb,” Massie wrote on X. “Why would we let the government spy on us in exchange for anything? After we trade the Fourth Amendment for parliamentary advantage, what shall we trade the First and Second Amendments for?”



An article by Victor Davis Hanson titled “Is California Reaching Critical Mass?” was posted at amgreatness.com on June 16, 2026.

By any measure, California is a failed state—and a national embarrassment.

- Taxes? It has the highest income and gas taxes in the nation.
- Roads? A Reason Foundation survey ranks it 49th among the states.
- Mass flight? Between 250,000 and 350,000 more Californians leave the state than move in each year. Housing, gas, insurance, and electricity prices? The highest in the continental U.S.
- Illegal aliens, the poor, the homeless, the foreign-born, and welfare recipients? The largest numbers in the U.S.
- Public K–12 schools? Test scores in the bottom quartile.
- Poverty? Twenty percent live below the poverty line.

So, what happened to the nation's most richly naturally endowed—and once best governed—state?

The Left took total control—after millions of the embattled middle class fled. Millions more impoverished immigrants, legal and illegal, took their place. Left-wing Silicon Valley spawned some of the wealthiest elite liberal enclaves in the world.

The result was a neo-feudal society that was hardly democratic.

Millions of subsidized poor compose the bottom. A beleaguered middle continues to shrink. An ultra-rich apparat [bureaucratic machinery] of left-wing coastal professionals and investors rules from the top.

As upper-bracket taxpayers fled, taxes rose on those who remained to fund expanding entitlements for newly arrived poor would-be residents. In turn, even more of the middle class left.

The remaining pyramidal economic structure ensured a Democratic monopoly—further entrenched by changing balloting laws, gerrymandering voting districts, vote harvesting, fueling public employee unions, and ignoring or undermining popular referenda.

In 2014, Californians voted for Proposition 1, a \$7.5 billion water bond designed to solve the state's chronic water storage deficit.

Included was \$2.7 billion specifically designated for new reservoirs, as the last major reservoir had been built in 1980, when California had roughly half its current population.

Despite the people's vote, bureaucracies, elected officials, and green activists blocked all new reservoir construction.

Adding insult to injury, Governor Gavin Newsom instead used \$250 million from the Proposition 1 fund to blow up four dams on the Klamath River. They had once provided storage, electrical generation, recreation, and flood control.

Californians have twice voted in referenda (for Proposition 209 and against Proposition 16) to bar the use of racial preferences for contracting, admissions, and promotion in public institutions.

Most public universities simply ignored the law. They continued their "diversity" quotas under new names, relying on left-wing elected officials and judges to ignore again the will of the people.

Preferential admissions, along with racially segregated dorms and graduation ceremonies, continued under euphemisms and denials. "Theme" houses, "affinity" graduations, and "safe spaces" practice "affirmative" discrimination.

California voters in 2008 passed Proposition 11 to stop political gerrymandering by creating a supposedly nonpartisan state redistricting commission of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four Independents. Two years later, the commission took over redrawing congressional districts as well.

But Democratic lobbyists and lawyers sabotaged the goal of disinterested redistricting according to population and geography. Instead, racial preferences and the interests of the Democratic majority of incumbents prevailed to warp the intent of the voters.

Although Republicans usually achieved nearly 40 percent of the California vote in national elections, two decades later there were only seven Republicans in the 52-person congressional delegation, or a mere 13 percent of the state's representatives.

But even that tiny contingent was considered too generous by the Left. Thus, in 2026, it will likely be further redistricted down to four or five seats.

The balloting mess in the recent Los Angeles mayoral race further reminds the nation and the world just how dysfunctional and anti-democratic California has become.

Democrats warp elections without the need for the old Chicago way of outright ballot theft or destruction. Instead, they do so in a "legal" manner by passing insane laws that ensure fraud and Democratic victories.

The winners in the strange jungle primaries—usually both Democrats—were not announced until a week after the polls closed. One of the eventual winners in mayoral race, the socialist Nithya

Raman, had already given her teary concession speech after coming in well back at third on election night.

The Republican Spencer Pratt was comfortably ahead of her in second place on Election Day—only to lose, as expected, when large numbers of late ballots that broke roughly 90 percent Democratic were counted.

Remember, every registered voter is sent a mail-in ballot. If it is postmarked on election day, it can arrive at vote centers up to seven days after the election.

No one really knows whether the ballots are mailed to the dead, to former or nonexistent addresses, or to legally eligible voters—by design. In 2024, when losing presidential candidate Kamala Harris won the state by 20 points, only 0.09 percent of all ballots cast were rejected.

Anyone can register and receive a provisional ballot on the same day.

Ballot harvesting and ballot curing are legal.

Campaign operatives can round up voters, gather their ballots, and deliver them en masse to a voting center.

They can register anyone to vote, provide a ballot, and then deposit it immediately afterwards.

There is no requirement to provide proof of U.S. citizenship to get a driver's license. Yet a license is not even needed to register. Any credit card without a picture suffices.

And it gets worse still.

If the potential voter has no license, no Social Security number, no proof of U.S. citizenship, and no credit cards, he still will be registered—once harvesters provide him with a “unique identifier” number.

He can then vote that very day without any ID at all.

If, in California, you claim you are illiterate and cannot write your name—no problem.

You simply make a mark—anything from an X to a happy face. No one asks whether an illiterate can read the names on the ballot.

Then your handler serves as a “witness” and signs his name. Such witnesses are almost always vote harvesters, and they can sign as many ballots as they wish. If all that doesn't work, ballot “curers” can be called in help remedy rejected partisan ballots post facto.

Democrats now rely on the system to ensure super-majorities in both houses of the state legislature, no statewide Republican officeholders, a tiny vestigial Republican congressional contingent, and almost exclusively Democratic-appointed liberal judges.

The more Democrats control the state, the more socialist, anti-democratic—and autocratic—California becomes.

Their gift to the nation is a third-world failed state, now in danger of societal collapse.

- Fires rage—given ideologically driven prohibitions on brush and forest management, cuts in fire departments, and sheer bureaucratic incompetence.
- Multibillion-dollar boondoggle rail projects rust.
- Billions of welfare dollars are stolen with impunity. Illegal aliens who cannot speak or read English are given passes to obtain commercial trucking licenses—as if California’s critical road signs are written in some language other than English.
- A quarter of residents can’t pay their sky-high power bills on time—and correctly assume that the state and the utility companies will mostly foot their delinquent bills.
- Since 2020, over 100,000 criminals have been released early from state prisons—and most have little fear that their present and future crimes will earn them another prison sentence.
- Half the state’s births are paid for through state-supplied welfare coverage.
- And now the homeless without addresses or IDs can determine elections.

In summary.

- Import poverty
- Romanticize illegal immigration
- Demonize the middle class
- Drive out private-sector capital
- Exempt elites from the consequences of their own ideology
- And you are left with a state where democracy dies, along with everything else.



An article by Eli Saslow titled “The World’s Leading Deepfake Expert No Longer Trusts His Own Eyes” was posted at nytimes.com on June 14, 2026. (Visuals for the newspaper edition were provided by Erin Schaff.)

The emails began to arrive on a Sunday morning, as the worst ones often did. Hany Farid opened the first message at his home in the hills above Berkeley and found a link to a viral video purporting to show a U.S.-made missile hitting an elementary school in Iran, where more than 150 people had been killed, most of them children. “Is this an internet hoax or an international war crime?” one note read. “We’re trying to verify what’s real.”

Farid grabbed a pencil and a notepad, leaned into his computer and watched. He saw blue sky, telephone wires and a few palm trees swaying in the wind. Then a missile streaked across the screen, clear and unmistakable even at 500 miles per hour. It looked like a scene from a video game. In the last few days, Farid had reviewed dozens of convincing A.I.-generated videos of fake bombings, fake plane crashes, fake fires and fake executions. His instinct was to be skeptical. He was nearly certain the video was another fake.

He chewed on his pencil and watched it again, slowing down the video, breaking it apart frame by frame. The camera shook in a way that seemed plausible for an amateur filming with a cellphone. The shadows were geometrically accurate. He watched the missile strike a building and noticed a short delay before he heard an explosion and high-pitched screams, which seemed consistent with the speed of sound. Maybe the video was real. It had already been viewed at least 1.1 million times on social media. With each passing second, it was becoming reality, whether it was real or not.

“Anyone can create a video of anything or anybody, doing or saying anything,” Farid wrote back. “This will take a little time.”

For more than two decades, Farid, 60, had been the world’s leading expert in the field of digital forensics, but in the last six months he’d stopped trusting his own eyes. He’d made a career of differentiating visual reality from deepfakes as he fielded requests each day from governments, human rights organizations, journalists, law enforcement and thousands of others who were increasingly confused and deceived by the online world.

Farid’s own research had proven that most people could no longer distinguish a real photograph from a digital creation, a real voice from an A.I. clone, a real video clip from a wholesale fabrication. Lately, he was failing his own tests.

“I feel like I’m going blind,” Farid said, and he worried that A.I. was obscuring the truth, distorting reality, fracturing democracies and slowly breaking him, too. He and his wife had begun making plans to leave California and trade the tech culture of Silicon Valley for a farm in rural Vermont.

He restarted the video and played the clip again. Sky. Bomb. Smoke. Screams. In the last hour, at least a dozen media organizations had emailed him to ask about the video. It had been published and shared by an official Iranian news agency, but that didn’t mean much to Farid, because recently he had seen deepfakes created and shared by foreign governments and by staffers at the

White House. He geolocated the video using a database of millions of images from around the globe, and it pointed to a street in Minab, Iran, several hundred feet from an elementary school.

Maybe the video itself was real, Farid thought, except that someone had inserted a Tomahawk missile into the frame. He stabilized the video to get rid of the shaking and then charted the missile through a series of still frames, hunting for inconsistencies. The missile's path was straight, its speed consistent. He zoomed in to measure pixels and calculated that the missile looked to be about 18 feet long, exactly the right size.

Sky, bomb, smoke, screams. He watched at least 100 more times, doubting his instincts and rechecking his math. For most of his career, he had been charged with identifying the rare fake in a world of shared truths. But now fakes were the norm and truth was elusive. Even after a full day of analysis and consultation with other visual experts — all of which confirmed the video's authenticity — he couldn't quite bring himself to declare it real.

“Overall, we find no compelling evidence that the video is fake or has been manipulated,” Farid wrote.

He turned off the computer and went outside. He rode his mountain bike through the Berkeley Hills, pushing his speed and leaning into the wind. He smoked a cigar and went to bed, and later that night he returned to the video in his sleep. This time he wasn't counting pixels or measuring shadows. He was inside the school, sitting down in a classroom of 10-year-olds, watching the warhead detonate, absorbing the concussive blast, coughing up dust and listening to the children's screams. He woke up and went back to the computer, scanning the internet for news about the bombing.

“You can't kill 100 schoolgirls and just say ‘whoopsie,’” he wrote to a colleague, as he read through social media posts. Some people were citing Farid's analysis to confirm the video was real. Others dismissed Farid as somehow biased and said the video looked fake. Several new A.I.-generated videos about the bombing had already begun to appear online, showing fake generals giving orders or fake parents mourning fake schoolgirls. The internet was already moving on from what would turn out to be one of the deadliest bombings of the war, and now Farid saw a new request arrive in his inbox. It was a different video, showing another explosion in a separate part of the world.

“Can you please help us understand what the hell is really going on here?”

It was the question that arrived in his inbox a dozen times each day: What in the world was happening?

- Was that really President Joe Biden calling thousands of Democratic voters the day before the New Hampshire primary and telling them not to vote?

- Was that really President Trump tossing bags of garbage out of a window at the White House?
- Were those real nude photos of ninth graders circulating around a high school in Pennsylvania, or images that a classmate had generated with a free app?
- Was that really Tom Hanks advertising an obscure dental plan to his fans?
- Was that the C.E.O. on the Zoom call asking for a wire transfer of \$25 million, or a North Korean impersonator?
- Was that a real gun in Alex Pretti's hand, or just a shadow?
- Was that really a 12-year-old daughter on the phone, screaming for help, saying that she'd been kidnaped?

"I miss the days when it was a grainy video of a shark swimming up the street," Farid said one night, as he sat on the back deck of his house with his wife, Emily Cooper. He put down his phone and poured a whiskey. "The technology is getting so good. It takes me to a dark place."

"Because you can't tell just by looking anymore?" Cooper asked.

"Because nobody can," Farid said. "I don't trust anything. Every image I see, I'm drawing lines for shadows and doing geometry in my head, trying to figure out what I'm looking at. It's over. Within a year or two, our whole visual system will be utterly useless."

"And then what? You give up? You retire?"

"I don't know," he said.

They had met 15 years earlier when Farid came to lecture at the University of California, Berkeley, still confident he had the solutions. His father had worked for 50 years as a chemist at Eastman Kodak, and Farid had grown up visiting the darkroom, watching photographs develop in chemical baths and harden into evidence. He went on to help design a digital fingerprint that found child pornography hiding on the internet — a technology that led to more than 30 million abuse reports each year, hundreds of arrests and several rescues. As deepfakes began spreading online, he built software to catch the moment a speaker's mouth moved out of sync with the audio. He co-founded a company, GetReal Security, and helped invent tools to measure lighting, shadows and vanishing points, checking online visuals against the physics of the real world.

Cooper was a leading vision scientist at Berkeley. She researched how humans perceive reality, while her husband investigated how that reality could be faked. They'd collaborated on studies about deepfakes, but in the last months that research had begun to follow them home. Instead of

dealing with one case every few weeks, Farid was working as an adviser and an expert witness, juggling up to a dozen cases each day. For the first time in his career, he'd become not just an analyst but also a victim, when someone spoofed his cellphone number and used A.I. to clone his voice. The hacker made calls to one of Farid's colleagues on a sensitive case, impersonating Farid and pressing for confidential information. Now Farid and Cooper had decided never to take their identity for granted. They invented a safe word to confirm they were real at the start of any sensitive phone call.

Farid glanced at his phone and saw a new email: "I'm fact-checking this viral video of a mother and child approaching a flag-draped coffin that we suspect is A.I. generated," it read. He set the phone back down and looked out from the porch at the Berkeley Hills, the San Francisco Bay, and the sun setting over the Golden Gate Bridge.

"I can't stand this place anymore," he said. "These major tech giants will burn everything to the ground as long as they're making a profit. They're not interested in anything that's going to slow them down."

"It makes me anxious for our students," Cooper said. "It's starting to scare me."

She didn't believe in hyperbole. Her husband could be brash and combustible — an optimist by nature who had turned increasingly pessimistic by evidence. She stuck to precision and facts, but even those had become undeniable. Her own research focused on 3-D perception and display designs, but the broader crisis unfolding in her field was impossible to ignore. People were spending more time indoors staring at screens and less time looking at the horizon, which sometimes caused the eyeball to permanently elongate. The result was often blurred vision, skyrocketing rates of myopia, an increasing risk of eye disease and an impending epidemic of preventable blindness that many of her colleagues had begun calling a public health crisis.

The potential cure was natural light and distant views, and over the last months they had searched for properties in rural Vermont. They eventually bought a 1920s cabin about a half-hour from Dartmouth College, where they could work as tenured faculty and while Farid continued to analyze images for his company. The property had 100 acres of wooded hiking trails with no other homes within sight.

"I need to reset," Farid said. "Air, space. I'm so ready to feel far away."

His phone lit up on the table.

"Do you think it's even possible to escape?" Cooper asked.

"Probably not," Farid said. "At least not entirely. But we need to find out."

He rode down from the hills on his motorcycle to give his last public lecture of the spring semester at Berkeley, passing the A.I. billboards that had become ubiquitous across the Bay Area. They were for start-ups promising to reinvent medicine, disrupt education and transform the future of business. “Stop Hiring Humans,” one billboard read. Farid parked on campus and walked into the lecture hall, where 75 students looked back at him.

He was one of Berkeley’s most popular professors — kinetic, unfiltered and genuinely thrilled by the advancements in A.I. technology at the heart of his courses. He had A.I. agents that wrote code for him. He had a car that could drive itself on the highway. He had apps on his phone that could tighten the phrasing in his emails or turn a photo of his spice drawer into a recipe for weeknight chili. But the computer science majors in his classes were struggling to find jobs as companies waited to see what machines could do first. For the first time in his career, Farid sometimes stood in front of students and found himself at a loss for what to tell them.

He thought about a painting that had haunted him ever since he was a young professor at Dartmouth, where the library featured a mural by the Mexican artist Jose Clemente Orozco. It showed a group of academics rendered as skeletons in their graduation robes, clutching books, their backs turned to a burning world, as one of them delivered a baby skeleton holding a new diploma. “A lot of academia is content just twiddling around on esoteric problems and coddling each other from the truth,” Farid said. He had spent his career trying not to be that skeleton. He believed it was his responsibility to turn and face the fire.

“This technology is being weaponized against us,” he told the students. “The train has left the station. It’s accelerating at a speed that’s unbelievable.”

He paced at the front of the room and started to show slides of A.I. videos from the last several years. A fake image of the Pentagon exploding had briefly rattled the stock market in 2023, erasing more than \$500 billion in a few minutes. Deepfakes from the war in Ukraine were still fairly easy to identify, with discolored explosions and misshaped buildings. Gaza fakes were much better. By the start of the Iran war, short A.I. footage was essentially indistinguishable from real video. Now thousands of North Korean government operatives were applying for remote jobs at U.S. companies, using A.I. to impersonate Americans in real time on Zoom calls and then funding a nuclear weapons program with their salaries. A nontechnical criminal, Farid said, could now use a still photograph and a 10-second audio clip to shape shift into anyone online.

“You might think you can look and tell the difference while you’re sitting there doom scrolling,” he said. “Believe me, you can’t. That’s where our methods come in.”

He had helped invent algorithmic tools to verify a person’s mannerisms, vocal inflections and blood flow. When a real person spoke, the eyes dilated and the heart pumped blood in and out of the face. Farid could sometimes measure subtle differences in skin color to see a person’s heart beating in real time, whereas an A.I. avatar was flatlined.

Farid said he was still confident that he could solve almost any A.I. mystery, but the problem was that each investigation took time. The half-life of an average social media post was less than 90 seconds. “Within 20 minutes, the whole ballgame’s basically over,” Farid said. Many times, he finished his analysis, looked up from his computer and realized the damage was already done. A fake had hardened into a fact. A fact had blurred into doubt.

A hand went up in the audience, and Farid pointed to a student in the front row.

“So, the creation of deepfakes is easy, cheap, fast and reliable,” the student said. “Detection is costly and difficult.”

“Yes,” Farid said.

“Is there a solution in the near future, or are we just screwed?”

He paused and took a breath. He thought about the Orozco mural, the school in Iran, the deepfakes piling up in his inbox and the farm waiting in Vermont. He still believed there were solutions. But first, he wanted people to understand what they were up against.

“We’re pretty screwed,” he said.

The chain saw roared to life on a Tuesday morning in late spring, and Farid put on eye protection and felt the vibrations moving from his hands into his chest. He cut open a fallen maple tree and watched the wood splinter into clean logs, which Cooper then fed through the splitter and stacked into a neat pile. Cut, split, stack. They had been in Vermont for less than two weeks, and they’d already lost themselves in the work.

Their cabin sat at the end of a dirt road, on a steep hill with views of river valleys and the Green Mountains. There was no garbage service, no mail delivery, no other houses within view. To get through the winter, they would need to plow their own road and heat the house. Farid estimated they needed about 10 tons of firewood. They worked for an hour and stepped back to look at the pile.

“We’re doing great,” Farid said. “It’s so satisfying to watch it grow.”

“Are you tired?” Cooper said.

“I feel good,” he said. “Let’s keep going. We need more.”

They changed into boots and walked into the forest to search for dry wood. They’d been discovering their property one hike at a time, teaching themselves to slow down again, to look closely: a meadow blooming with trillium and wild violet, a spring creek cascading over mossy granite, a red-winged blackbird diving over a small pond, an abandoned cabin decaying down to

its foundation. Now they came into a clearing at the top of the hill, and Cooper stopped to look at the surrounding mountains while Farid walked the perimeter. He found a fallen birch tree, grabbed a branch and called out to Cooper over the wind.

“What do you think?” he asked.

“It’s beautiful,” she said.

She watched him carry the birch back through the meadow, holding it over his head like a trophy. Ever since they’d arrived in Vermont, she could almost see a weight lifting off his shoulders, and she was experiencing it, too. She drank her tea in the morning, savoring the quiet and letting her eyes take in the view. She was experimenting with writing fiction. In the fall, Cooper and Farid would start working and researching again at Dartmouth, but that wasn’t for a few months. The last time they’d lived in Vermont, they’d relied on spotty dial-up internet without the bandwidth for Zoom meetings or streaming videos or bottomless social media feeds. Maybe that level of disconnection was possible again.

They hauled the birch back to the shed, and Farid fired up his chain saw. Cut, split, stack. They worked until the meadow faded into shadow, his shoulders burned and sawdust covered his arms. He stepped back and saw that the woodpile was almost four feet high and nearly covering one wall of the shed.

“Look at what we got done today,” he said. “This is the most concrete progress I’ve made on any work in the last six months.”

“Tired yet?” Cooper said.

“Exhausted,” he said. He’d been going to bed in Vermont with the chain saw still humming in his ears and sleeping until morning.

The first email came before dawn.

The internet had been flooded overnight with another wave of fake images, including hundreds of Cole Tomas Allen, who had broken into the White House correspondents’ dinner with a shotgun in an attempt to assassinate President Trump. Now there was an A.I.-enhanced security video on Facebook that showed Allen walking by guards who didn’t in fact exist. There were doctored photographs on X of Allen posing alongside Tom Hanks and Barack Obama. He had been a running back for the Dallas Cowboys. He had been an astronaut on Artemis II. He had been the private driver for Taylor Swift and Pope Leo XIV.

“Every time there’s a big news event, we are just drowning in this slop,” Farid said.

He pocketed his phone and went outside. He chopped wood and walked around the trails with Cooper, but the emails kept coming as they always did.

“We are looking at this new video of the incident involving United Flight 179,” one read.

“I’m verifying a video claiming to show a mosque being struck in southern Lebanon.”

“I’ve been incarcerated since 2019 on false video evidence.”

He wandered off the trail and deeper into the woods, searching for the edge of the property. He walked up a hill and found an old stone wall, chest high and at least 100 feet long, running through the middle of the forest. Farid stood there for a while, tracing his hand over the moss and the faded gray stones before he turned back toward the trail and checked his phone.

“I’d like to ask for your help investigating live-streamed sexual abuse material.”

“Is this a real explosion at the Dubai Airport? Could you offer your expertise?”

He circled back toward the front of their property. He walked past the woodpile and into the house.

“I’m going to catch up on a little work,” he told Cooper.

“OK,” she said. “Good. Me, too.”

He settled into his office and turned on his computer. Outside the window, birch trees swayed in the wind and the sun dipped toward the Green Mountains. He turned up the volume, opened a video and heard a series of explosions. He leaned into the blue glow of the monitor and watched the fire burn.



Isaiah 55:6-11—“Seek you the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word by that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”