



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com or contact

John Robbins 281-965-6390
Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Pandemic Cancels Texas African Business Summit



Inside C6

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com

Tuesday, February 23 2021

U.S. Supreme Court sets the stage for release of Trump tax returns



WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Donald Trump suffered a major setback on Monday in his long quest to conceal details of his finances as the U.S. Supreme Court paved the way for a New York City prosecutor to obtain the former president's tax returns and other records as part of an accelerating criminal investigation.

The justices without comment rebuffed Trump's request to put on hold an Oct. 7 lower court ruling directing the Republican businessman-turned-politician's longtime accounting firm, Mazars USA, to comply with a subpoena to turn over the materials to a grand jury convened by Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, a Democrat.

"The work continues," Vance said in a statement issued after the court's action. Trump issued a statement describing Vance's investigation as part of "the greatest political witch hunt in the history of our country," accusing New York Democrats of expending their energy on taking down a political opponent instead of tackling violent crimes.

"That's fascism, not justice - and that is exactly what they are trying to do with respect to me, except that the people of our Country won't stand for it," Trump added.

The Supreme Court's action does not require Trump to do anything. The records involved in the dispute were requested from a third-party, Mazars, not Trump himself. Vance previously told Trump's lawyers his office would be free to immediately enforce the subpoena if the justices rejected Trump's request.

A Mazars spokesman said the company "remains committed to fulfilling all of our professional and legal obligations."

Unlike all other recent U.S. presidents, Trump refused to make his tax returns public. The data could provide details on his wealth and the activities of his family real-estate company, the Trump Organization.

The Supreme Court's action, which followed Vance's hiring this month of a prominent lawyer with deep experience in white-collar and organized-crime cases, could boost the district attorney's investigation into the Trump Organization following a flurry of recent subpoenas.

FILE PHOTO: U.S. President Donald Trump approaches reporters as he departs on campaign travel to Minnesota from the South Lawn at the White House in Washington, U.S., September 30, 2020. REUTERS/Carlos Barria

Reuters reported on Friday that Vance's office had subpoenaed a New York City property

tax agency, suggesting prosecutors are examining Trump's efforts to reduce his commercial real-estate taxes for possible evidence of fraud.

The Supreme Court, whose 6-3 conservative majority includes three Trump appointees, had already ruled once in the subpoena dispute, last July rejecting Trump's broad argument that he was immune from criminal probes as a sitting president.

Trump, who left office on Jan. 20 after losing the Nov. 3 election to Democrat Joe Biden, continues to face an array of legal issues concerning personal and business conduct.

Vance subpoenaed Mazars in 2019 seeking Trump's corporate and personal tax returns from 2011 to 2018. Trump's lawyers sued to block the subpoena, arguing that a sitting president has absolute immunity from state criminal investigations.

The Supreme Court in July rejected those arguments but said Trump could raise other subpoena objections. Trump's lawyers then told lower courts the subpoena was overly broad and amounted to political harassment. U.S. District Judge Victor Marrero in August and the New York-based 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in October rejected those claims.

Vance's investigation initially focused on hush money paid by Trump's former lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen before the 2016 election to adult-film actress Stormy Daniels and former Playboy model Karen McDougal. The two women said they had sexual encounters with Trump, which he denied.

In recent court filings, Vance suggested the probe is now broader and could focus on potential bank, tax and insurance fraud, as well as falsification of business records.

"The Supreme Court has now proclaimed that no one is above the law. Trump will, for the first time, have to take responsibility for his own dirty deeds," Cohen said in a statement.

The court on Monday separately turned away Daniels' bid to revive her defamation lawsuit against Trump.

In separate litigation, the Democratic-led U.S. House of Representatives is seeking similar Trump records from Mazars and Deutsche Bank.

The New York Times reported last year that Trump had paid \$750 in federal income taxes in both 2016 and 2017, and no income taxes in 10 of the prior 15 years, reflecting chronic business losses that he used to avoid paying taxes. Trump has disputed the Times report.

'Mean tweets' threaten Biden budget pick Tanden as U.S. moderates balk

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Joe Biden's nomination of Neera Tanden to lead the Office of Management and Budget edged toward collapse on Monday as two moderate Republicans seen as potential "Yes" votes became "No's" because of her past harsh comments on social media.

FILE PHOTO: Neera Tanden, President Joe Biden's nominee for Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), testifies during a Senate Committee on the Budget hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., February 10, 2021. Andrew Harnik/Pool via REUTERS/ Senators Susan Collins and Mitt Romney both cited concerns that Tanden, 50, would be too divisive to lead the agency responsible for managing the \$4 trillion federal budget.

With the Senate divided 50-50 between the Republican and Democratic caucuses, Tanden will need the support of at least one Republican to win confirmation in the Senate. A moderate Democrat, Senator Joe Manchin, announced on Friday he would not vote for her.

"Neera Tanden has neither the experience nor the temperament to lead this critical agency. Her past actions have demonstrated exactly the kind of animosity that President Biden has pledged to transcend," Collins said in a statement. A Romney spokeswoman said he was also opposed. "He believes it's hard to return to comity and respect with a nominee who has issued a thousand mean tweets," she said.

Biden, a Democrat, still supports Tanden. White House spokeswoman Jen Psaki said the administration was "looking ahead to the committee votes this week and continuing to work toward her confirmation."

美南實事通

主持人：王小穎

週三 (2/10) 7PM-8PM
本期嘉賓：

收看方式

Youtube: youtube.com/itvhouston
iTalk BB: Houston 15.3
Facebook: SCdailynews
www.scdaily.com



休士頓西南管理區執行長
李純如



休士頓警察局South Gessner
分局指揮官
洗就斌 (Ban Tien)



WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

02/22/2021

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

Wealee@scdaily.com

Texans Shall Overcome Together

After a devastating week for all Texans, finally, we have some relief.

The temperature on Sunday continued to warm, reaching into the 60's and 70's --much closer to the normal temperatures at this time of the year.

In last week's brutal winter storm, millions of homes lost power forcing families to huddle together in front of fireplaces and spend the night in their cars, while others spent many cold hours searching for food on fast-emptying grocery shelves. The frigid temperatures caused pipes to burst and led to water disruptions for half of the state's population.

Winter temperatures across the state are historically low, and in Dallas, sometimes dip to as low as 5 degrees. Some people this year have died of carbon



monoxide poisoning after running their cars in their home garages.

President Biden has already declared much of Texas a major disaster area. His action makes federal funding available to communities across 77 counties, including the hard hit area of Harris County. The White House said that the president is eager to go down to Texas and show his support.

In the last ten years we as Texans have faced so many challenges including the Harvey hurricane and many other natural disasters. Especially in this coronavi-

rus pandemic time, this severe winter storm really has tested the strength of our community.

Fortunately, all Texans are working to-

gether. Our tough "get it done spirit" will overcome our tragedies. Let's continue to hold our hands together brothers and sisters.



Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Chairman of International District Houston Texas



Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



Disabled dogs in mobility aids run during a daily walk at The Man That Rescues Dogs Foundation in Chonburi, Thailand. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha



U.S. Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA) waits for an elevator prior to a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives on a Democratic-backed resolution that would punish Taylor Greene for her incendiary remarks supporting violence against Democrats, on Capitol Hill in Washington. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque



A man watches TV as he sits in an observation after receiving a dose of COVISHIELD, a COVID-19 vaccine manufactured by Serum Institute of India, at an auditorium, which has been converted into a temporary vaccination center in Ahmedabad, India. REUTERS/Amit Dave



People eat at a Taco restaurant outside in a covered enclosure in Manhattan, New York City. REUTERS/Carlo Allegri

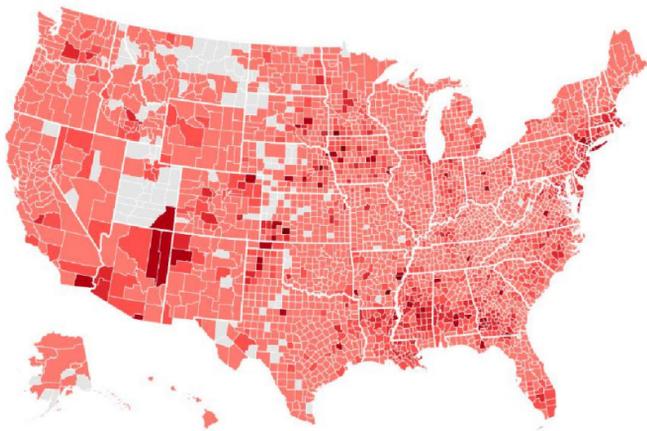


A statue of a kangaroo is seen outside a house destroyed by a bushfire on Dinsdale Road, Gidgegannup in Perth, Australia. AAP Image/Richard Wainwright



People wait to receive doses of Russia's Sputnik V vaccine against the coronavirus at the basket ball court at the River Plate stadium, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. REUTERS/Matias Baglietto

U.S. Coronavirus Updates



Axios Data: The COVID Tracking Project; Note: Does not include probable deaths from New York City; Map: Andrew Witherspoon/Axios

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The U.S. surpassed 8 million coronavirus cases last Friday, per Johns Hopkins data.

The big picture: Coronavirus infections jumped by almost 17% over the past week as the number of new cases across the country increased in 38 states and Washington, D.C., according to a seven-day average tracked by Axios.

By the numbers: Over 218,000 people have died from COVID-19 in the U.S. and more than 3 million have recovered, per Johns Hopkins. Hospitalizations have jumped more than 14% from a week earlier, per the COVID Tracking Project.

What's happening:

- Nearly 900,000 Americans applied for first-time unemployment benefits last week, the Labor Department announced, the highest number since mid-August and the second weekly increase in a row.

- Some colleges are creating a blueprint for how to safely remain open during the coronavirus pandemic, relying heavily on regular testing and doing

what they can to curb parties and other large gatherings.

Trends to watch:

Health: — Axios-Ipsos poll: No shared path back to normal — Where the pandemic has been deadliest.

1. **Vaccine:** Uber and Walgreens partner to offer free rides to vaccination sites— Experts say vaccine misinformation crackdown is coming too late — Most seniors aren't vaccinated yet.

2. **Politics:** CDC chief: Trump-appointed aides "politically swayed" some COVID guidelines — Both chambers pass budget resolution, paving the way for Biden's relief plan.

3. **World:** WHO team in Wuhan says it's "extremely unlikely" COVID-19 came from lab incident.

Cases:

1. **Global:** Total confirmed cases as of 11 a.m. ET Tuesday: 106,585,708 — Total deaths: 2,328,383 — Total recoveries: 59,514,849 (no longer includes U.S. recoveries as of Dec.

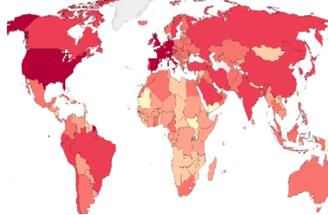
15) — 2.U.S.: Total confirmed cases as of 11 a.m. ET Tuesday: 27,100,086 — Total deaths: 465,096 — Total tests: 321,856,938 —

- New risk factors:** The CDC included more demographic groups at risk for the coronavirus such as younger people who are obese and who have underlying health problems.

- When to wear a mask:** Scientific evidence shows face masks can help control the spread of the virus, but nuances and changes in messaging about their use are complicating public health efforts.

- Schools:** Kids are heading back to school, as students, teachers, administrators and parents try to build a clear picture of how it's going to work.

World Coronavirus Updates



Axios Data: The Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins; Map: Axios Visuals

New Zealand now has active no coronavirus cases in the community — New Zealand now has active no coronavirus cases in the community after the final six people linked to the Auckland cluster recovered, the country's Health Ministry confirmed in an email Wednesday.

The big picture: The country's second outbreak won't officially be declared closed until there have been "no new cases for two incubation periods," the ministry said. Auckland will join the rest of NZ in enjoying no domestic restrictions from late Wednesday, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said, declaring that NZ had "beat the virus again."

By the numbers: Globally, more than 1 million people have died from the

novel coronavirus and over 35.7 million have tested positive, Johns Hopkins data shows.

- The U.S. has reported the highest death toll and case count from the novel coronavirus, with nearly 210,800 fatalities and almost 7.5 million infections — with President Trump among those being treated for the virus.

- Brazil has reported the second-highest number of deaths from COVID-19 — nearly 147,500. India has the second-highest number of cases (almost 6.7 million).

What's happening:

- The World Health Organization said in a statement Tuesday that Europe is experiencing "rising COVID-19 fatigue" as cases increase across the continent. "Despite the hardships, COVID-19 is urging us to move beyond biomedical science," the WHO said.

- The WHO team in Wuhan, China has reported that it is "Extremely Unlikely COVID-19 Came From A Lab Incident."

- Ireland's government has rejected health experts' advice to return the country to a "full lockdown" despite rising infection numbers, the Guardian reports.

- France's Prime Minister Jean Castex said bars in Paris will close for two weeks from Tuesday as part of new measures against the coronavirus, per the EU Observer.

Between the lines: Policy responses to the crisis have been every-country-for-itself and — in the case of the U.S. and China — tinged with geopolitical rivalry. But the scientific work to understand the virus and develop a vaccine has been globalized on an unprecedented scale.

Coronavirus symptoms include: Fever, cough, shortness of breath, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headaches, sore throat and a loss of taste or smell. (Courtes axios.com)

CONGRESSMAN AL GREEN'S WINTER STORM RECOVERY DRIVE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
10:00 AM
INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER
11110 BELLAIRE BLVD
HOUSTON, TX 77072

FOOD & WATER FOR 500 FAMILIES
FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED



Every 8 minutes, we respond to a disaster. Your donation can help impact lives.

HELP NOW ▶
redcross.org

Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

Airline Worries Intensify With New COVID-19 Variants



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

New restrictions on international border-crossings, combined with faltering COVID-19 immunization efforts, have dashed hopes for a significant rebound in air travel in 2021. For global aviation, which suffered its worst year in history in 2020, the misery is likely to continue, holding back a broader economic recovery. Forecasts that air travel would recover to 50% of pre-pandemic levels in 2021 now seem like a stretch, industry officials caution.

"There's a recovery, but it's a much smaller recovery," Brian Pearce, chief economist of the International Air Transport Association, told reporters this week.

"What we've seen in recent weeks is governments taking a much, much tougher, more cautious approach." His worst-case scenario: air travel in 2021 is just 38% of 2019 levels.

The world is more locked down today that at any point in the past 12 months. New, potentially more contagious strains of the coronavirus have triggered renewed limits on cross-border travel and a dizzying array of quarantine restrictions. While the arrival of new vaccines is good news for air travel, the slow rollout means herd immunity is still a long way off. Bookings for future travel slowed significantly in January, IATA reported.

The rebound that began last summer stalled in the fourth quarter as coronavirus cases spiked around the world. Air travel was down 70% in October, November and December vs. year-ago levels. For all of 2020, passenger demand fell 66%. International passenger demand was down by 75%; domestic demand by nearly half. Americans who did fly were seeking sun and beaches: Travel to places like Mexico and the U.S. Virgin Islands fell the least in December, according to Airlines for America. One bright spot: air cargo fell only 10% last year, helping to keep many airlines afloat.



"Last year was a catastrophe. There is no other way to describe it," Alexandre de Juniac,

IATA's Director General and CEO, said in a statement.

"I don't think that anyone foresees a world free from COVID-19 anytime soon. Certainly not in the next months or even within this year. But our ability to manage the risk is increasing as more people get vaccinated and testing capacity expands."

Airlines say widespread testing, not border restrictions, will allow international air travel to resume safely. New smartphone apps like CommonPass and IATA's Travel Pass could help validate passengers' health status so governments can safely reopen borders.

When it comes to domestic flights, U.S. airlines are urging the Biden administration not to require pre-departure testing, saying it would limit travel access for low-income and rural communities. For airlines, the outlook for the next year or two is uncertain, and will depend on how effectively vaccines and testing can head off the spread of new variants.

The bottom line: Aviation isn't likely to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2023 or 2024. (Courtes axios.com)

Related

Negative COVID-19 Test Now Required For All International Flights To The U.S.

WASHINGTON—The United States now requires proof of a negative COVID-19 test or proof of recovery from all air travelers arriving to the country, including U.S. citizens. The travel requirement comes as the U.S. works to expand testing and vaccine availability amid rising cases of a new, more contagious coronavirus variant first detected in the U.K. A previous U.S. order issued in December required proof of a negative test from travelers arriving from Britain because of the variant.



A man receives a nasal swab COVID-19 test at Tom Bradley International Terminal at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) on Dec. 22, 2020 in Los Angeles, California. (Photo/Mario Tama/Getty Images)

Here's what you need to know about the new

testing requirement:

Who is required to show proof of a negative test or recovery to enter the U.S.?

The order, which went into effect Tuesday, applies to both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. All air travelers aged 2 and older must comply with the requirement — regardless of vaccination or antibody status, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The order also applies to those briefly entering the U.S. for a connecting flight. The CDC said the order does not apply to air passengers flying from U.S. territories, which include American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

How soon should I take a test and what COVID-19 tests qualify?

U.S. officials say those who plan to travel internationally must get tested no more than three days prior to flying to the U.S. and show the negative test result or proof of recovery to the airline before boarding.

Passengers must provide written documentation of a laboratory test result.

The CDC says an at-home test kit that is tested in a laboratory "should meet the requirements, if such methods have been approved by the country's national health authorities."



What if I recently recovered from COVID-19?

For travelers who had a positive viral test within the past three months and have met the criteria to end isolation, they can provide documentation of recovery to the airline. This includes proof of a recent positive viral test and a letter from a healthcare provider or a public health official giving clearance to travel. The CDC says the letter can be used to show an individual is cleared to travel, even if travel isn't specifically mentioned.

Who will check my documentation at the airport? The airline will confirm a COVID-19 negative test result or documentation of recovery for all passengers before boarding — and are ordered to stop passengers from boarding who fail to pro-

vide the required information, the CDC says. (Courtesy https://www.fox26houston.com/)

CONGRESSMAN AL GREEN'S WINTER STORM RECOVERY DRIVE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
10:00 AM
INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER
11110 BELLAIRE BLVD
HOUSTON, TX 77072

FOOD & WATER FOR 500 FAMILIES
FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED



Every 8 minutes, we respond to a disaster. Your donation can help impact lives.

HELP NOW ▶
redcross.org