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

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

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



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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Under pressure: Abortion leak exposes U.S. Supreme Court's disunity

WASHINGTON, May 3 (Reuters) - The leak of a draft U.S. Supreme Court ruling overturning the landmark Roe v. Wade abortion rights decision shows a once-staid body creaking under pressure as its increasingly assertive conservative majority looks to upend the law on a range of major issues.

The court's hard-won reputation as the grown-up branch of government is now slipping away. The disclosure was the latest in a string of controversies ensnaring the court, intended to be a nonpartisan body. [read more](#)

Conservative Justice Clarence Thomas has been under fire from Democrats over the role of his wife Ginni Thomas as an outspoken supporter of Republican former President Donald Trump, including his efforts to overturn his 2020 election defeat based on false claims of widespread voting fraud. [read more](#)

Justice Neil Gorsuch, one of three Trump appointees who helped build a 6-3 conservative majority on the court, drew scrutiny in January when was the only person inside the courtroom not to wear a face mask during the surge of the Omicron coronavirus variant. The court also lagged in confirming the planned retirement of liberal Justice Stephen Breyer, taking a full day to do so after that news surfaced in January.

The unprecedented leak of a draft opinion - one that would overturn a nearly 50-year-old precedent - adds to a sense that all is not well within the court's marble hallways, said Chicago-Kent College of Law professor Carolyn Shapiro, who formerly served as a Breyer clerk.

"It certainly seems like the longstanding norms of the institution are under a severe amount of pressure," Shapiro said. "It seems as if the polarization we are experiencing in the country is similarly being experienced on the court."

Offering housing to all refugees fleeing Ukraine Airbnb.org is announcing that it is working with a number of new international and regional nonprofits active on the ground to offer free, temporary housing to up to 100,000 refugees fleeing from Ukraine. To date, nearly 11,000 people have now received temporary accommodations through...

The leaker's identity has not been disclosed. A relatively small number of people have access to such draft opinions including law clerks for the nine justices, court administrative staff and the justices themselves.



Chief Justice John Roberts on Tuesday announced an internal investigation. [read more](#)

"To the extent this betrayal of the confidences of the court was intended to undermine the integrity of our operations, it will not succeed," Roberts said.

Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh, Associate Justice Elena Kagan, Associate Justice Neil Gorsuch, Associate Justice Amy Coney Barrett, Associate Justice Samuel Alito, Associate Justice Clarence Thomas, Chief Justice John Roberts, Associate Justice Stephen Breyer and Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor pose for a group photo at the Supreme Court in Washington, U.S., April 23, 2021. Erin Schaff/Pool via REUTERS/File Photo

University of Notre Dame Law School professor Richard Garnett, formerly a clerk for the late conservative Chief Justice William Rehnquist, called it "very troubling that any employee or member of the court would violate what is a very clear rule about the confidentiality of the justices' deliberations."

Leaks are common in the White House and Congress as factions jostle to advance their goals, though the court long was immune from such actions. Over the decades, justices have repeated the

refrain that they are above politics and maintain friendships with one another despite ideological differences.

"While we may sometimes disagree about the law, we are warm colleagues and friends," Gorsuch and liberal Justice Sonia Sotomayor said in a January joint statement after media reports that Sotomayor, whose diabetes is a risk factor for COVID-19 complications, wanted him to wear a mask.

The justices by the end of June are expected to issue not only the abortion ruling but another one in a case that gives its conservatives a chance to greatly expand gun rights. They also have taken up a case that gives the conservative justices the opportunity to end policies used by universities to increase Black and Hispanic student enrollment.

The conservative majority in January blocked Democratic President Joe Biden's nationwide COVID-19 vaccine-or-test requirement for large businesses and last year let Texas enforce a law that circumvented Roe v. Wade by letting private citizens enforce the state's Republican-backed ban on abortion after about six weeks of pregnancy.

Liberals are still furious at actions taken by Republicans to ensure Trump could appoint three justices - Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett - in

his four years in office, pushing the court rightward.

Republicans, when they controlled the Senate, refused to consider a 2016 nominee by Trump's Democratic predecessor Barack Obama to fill a court vacancy, holding the seat open until 2017 to give Trump the ability to fill it. Republicans then rushed to confirm a replacement for the late liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg days before the 2020 election that Trump lost.

Some Republicans tried to blame the political left for the leak without offering evidence.

No criminal law specifically prohibits leaking draft judicial opinions but other federal laws could apply including one barring theft of property or "things of value" to the U.S. government, Columbia Law School professor David Pozen said. Government leaks are rarely prosecuted, Pozen added, and those that are typically involve classified information implicating national security. The leaker, if identified, could face other repercussions including loss of employment.

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WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

05/03/2022

Hard Days Under Inflation



Wea H. Lee
Wealee@scdaily.com

Chairman of International District Houston Texas
Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee
 Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
 Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
 Republic of Guiana Honorary consul at Houston Texas



Since President Biden took office last year he first faced major changes with the Covid-19 epidemic and the economic downturn. After many stimulus bills in Congress and the recent slowdown of the pandemic, the nation's business has basically returned to normal. But in recent months, inflation has been sweeping across the nation. The most obvious sign of inflation is the sharp rise in the prices of food and gasoline.

Recently I was in a restaurant in the International District. The owner told me that all his meat, vegetables and raw materials are going up, even when he can't find workers to work in the restaurant. Last Saturday we were in a Mexican restaurant and they also have the same complaint.

In the last presidential election President Biden got more than 70% of the Latino votes. That was the major reason he got elected. Lately,

according to the polls, many Latino voters might change their minds and support the Republicans. A lot of them are considering to let the other party have a chance to do the job.

When we look back at history and all the major elections, the economy has been the

most important issue. No president just can't make it if the people's livelihoods are in a bad condition.

We advise President Biden to change his direction and immediately try to end the war in Ukraine, improve the tensions with China and solve the virus problem with

the whole world. The inflation and oil price problems can be solved over a period of time.

On the contrary, if the war in Ukraine drags on, and more and more refugees continue to leave their homeland, it will be the civilian people who will suffer.



Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



Kim Kardashian and Pete Davidson arrive at the In America: An Anthology of Fashion themed Met Gala at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. REUTERS/Andrew Kelly



A destroyed Russian tank's turret is seen stuck in the ground in Zalissia, Kyiv region, Ukraine. REUTERS/Zohra Bensemra



A serviceman patrols near anti-tank constructions as blooming tulips are seen, amid Russia's invasion of Ukraine, in central Kyiv, Ukraine. REUTERS/Gleb Garanich



Muslims offer Eid al-Fitr prayers at Jama Masjid to mark the end of the holy fasting month of Ramadan, in the old quarters of Delhi, India. REUTERS/Anushree Fadnavis



Pro-abortion rights protesters react outside the U.S. Supreme Court after the leak of a draft majority opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito preparing for a majority of the court to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade abortion rights decision



Children run holding flags during a candlelight vigil on Canada's first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation at Chiefswood Park in Ohsweken, Ontario, Canada. REUTERS/Carlos Osorio

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

BUSINESS

Biden's Sunday Midnight Deadline Shut-Down Informal Route From Mexico

1,000's Of Ukrainian Refugees Make Last Minute Dash To Cross The Border Into U.S.

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



Ukrainians who are seeking asylum in the U.S. walk on their way to attempt to cross the U.S.-Mexico border at the San Ysidro Port of Entry, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, on April 5, 2022 in Tijuana, Mexico, U.S. authorities are allowing Ukrainian refugees to enter the U.S. at the Southern border in Tijuana with permission to remain in the country on humanitarian parole for one year. (PHOTO/MARIO TAMA, GETTY IMAGES)

Ukrainians fleeing the war have been arriving at Mexico's northern border cities by the thousands. There, they are presenting themselves to U.S. border agents and asking for temporary admission to the United States on humanitarian grounds. Thousands of Ukrainians have been let in — availing themselves of the avenues that the Biden administration has opened to ease their admission into the U.S. faster than people who have come from other countries. But so many Ukrainians have arrived that a backlog has formed.



Ukrainians board a shuttle from the shelter to Tijuana's border crossing with San Diego. The United States is allowing Ukrainians fleeing the war temporary admission on humanitarian grounds. (Carlos A. Moreno for NPR)

In Tijuana, Mexico, across from San Diego, the swelling numbers spurred into action a massive volunteer effort organized by Ukrainian-Americans and others with ties to the region. They established a sprawling makeshift shelter, brought trays of Ukrainian food from Los Angeles and San Diego, and coordinated with immigration agents to shuttle large groups to the border for processing. Despite their quick mobilization to ensure a measure of comfort for thousands of refugees nearing the end of their journey to safety, their efforts have been overwhelmed by the unending flow of new arrivals.

On Sunday, thousands of Ukrainians made desperate efforts to enter the US as a White House ban on border crossings came into place. There were chaotic scenes around the San Ysidro pedestrian crossing in Tijuana, Mexico last night as migrants rushed to cross the border before it closed at 9pm local time.

Up to 6,000 foreign nationals amassed as the deadline neared, the Department for Homeland Security (DHS) said.



Ukrainians board a train from the shelter to Tijuana's border crossing with San Diego. The United States is allowing Ukrainians fleeing the war temporary admission on humanitarian grounds. (Carlos A. Moreno for NPR)

One group of fifty refugees unable to make the crossing before midnight were taken to shelter in a local church used as an emergency shelter. With the 'Uniting for Ukraine' policy announced on Thursday, many who had already made travel plans are now stranded in Mexico.

Uniting for Ukraine At midnight DC time Sunday, the Biden administration reintroduced the Title 42 health order for Ukrainian refugees, halting entries to the US without prior application.

The final buses carrying refugees arrived at the border just after 8pm, driven by volunteers and with the cooperation of local border officials. One hour later, Biden's 'Uniting for Ukraine' policy came into effect and the foot crossing was closed.

On April 21, 2022, President Biden announced Uniting for Ukraine, a new streamlined process to provide Ukrainian citizens who have fled Russia's unprovoked war of aggression opportunities to come to the United States. This represents a key step toward fulfilling the President's commitment to welcome Ukrainians fleeing Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Uniting for Ukraine builds on the robust humanitarian assistance the U.S. government is providing as we complement the generosity of countries throughout Europe that are hosting millions of Ukrainian citizens and others who have been displaced.

For more information on how to apply, eligibility requirements, and what to expect after the Form I-134 is filed, visit USCIS online.



The new initiative plans to sanction 100,000 Ukrainian arrivals over the coming months. But crucially, it ends Ukrainian refugees' exemption from Title 42, President Trump's controversial border policy banning all entries to the United States by foot.

First introduced as a public health measure, Title 42 was intended to contain the spread of Covid by restricting arrivals from outside the US.

Around 15,000 undocumented Ukrainians have so far entered the US since the start of the Russian invasion two months ago, the DHS added.

Most have entered the US via border crossings at Tijuana, near San Diego, and Reynosa, near Hidalgo, Texas.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has already forced more than 2 million people, including hundreds of thousands of children, to flee, and the United Nations refugee agency projects that number will double. The majority of refugees have crossed into Poland and other neighboring countries like Hungary, which have track records of brutally turning away migrants and leaving them trapped at the border in inhumane conditions.

The world has been watching in horror the bombing of a maternity hospital, the loss of civilian lives, and the stories of fathers remaining to fight in Ukraine, while mothers and children flee. And, rightfully so, Ukrainians have been met with unparalleled expressions of individual and international solidarity.



Anna Kuts, 3, sleeps on a suitcase after arriving with her family at the Tijuana airport where they are met by volunteers to help them on their journey to the US after fleeing the war in Ukraine, in Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico, April 8, 2022. (Photo/ Patrick T. Fallon, AFP Via Getty Images)

Strangers have left strollers, clothing, and toys at train stations and have volunteered from all over Europe to help the arriving refugees find housing and other support. Last week, for the first time ever, the European Union invoked a 2001 directive offering temporary protection and access to housing and other benefits to fleeing Ukrainians and foreigners with refugee or permanent residence status in Ukraine. "The response by Europe has been remarkable," the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said.

"We need more help"

Olya Krasnykh is a Russian-American real estate executive in Silicon Valley. But when she learned of the Ukrainians arriving at the border, she set her job aside and came down to help. A tent city had formed within steps of the border crossing. Krasnykh and other volunteers worked with Tijuana city officials to move everyone into a municipal sports complex a short drive away.



Olya Krasnykh, a volunteer from Silicon Valley coordinating Ukrainians' arrival to a temporary shelter in Tijuana.

It became a sprawling operation. Ukrainian-American volunteers began greeting entire planes full of Ukrainians at the airport and shuttling them to the shelter, registering them and placing them into a queue. When it's their turn, they and their luggage are loaded onto another shuttle to the border. In recent days, people were waiting from two to three days at the shelter for their turn to come up. But the wait was getting longer, because Ukrainians are arriving in Tijuana faster than border agents can process them.

As of a few days ago, Krasnykh estimated that the shelter had registered about 10,000 people.

"It's an operation that has been managed well by a band of grassroots volunteers," Krasnykh said. But she added that it had grown so quickly that it now needed support from a professional nonprofit. "We're at a breaking point where we need more help."

"We bought like six air mattresses"

Phil Metzger had not planned for his church in San Diego to become a major stopover for Ukrainian refugees. Metzger is the lead pastor of Calvary San Diego, about a 15-minute drive north of the Mexican border. When the Ukrainians started arriving there, he thought he could lend a helping hand.

"Two weeks ago we bought like six air mattresses, thinking, let's help a few people out," he said. "We just had no idea. The next night, it was a hundred people."

Phil Metzger, lead pastor of Calvary San Diego Church.

On a recent day, shuttles were arriving at his church loaded with people freshly admitted into the United States. Many needed some time to contact family and friends who they'd be joining in other parts of the country. They booked airplane tickets and church volunteers drove them to San Diego's airport for the final leg of their trip. Other new arrivals needed somewhere to stay for a few nights, because not everyone was sure of their next steps.

It's all been a little stressful, Metzger admitted. "But I'm thankful these people are not back in Ukraine right now, because it's dangerous," he said. "I'm glad that they're here."

- OVERVIEW
*Refugees try to reach US before Biden administration forces fleeing Ukrainians to apply online with a sponsor
*Tijuana border crossing was the site of up to 6,000 foreign nationals hoping to reach America Sunday night
*But at midnight DC time - 9pm in Tijuana - foot crossings were stopped and 'Uniting for Ukraine' rules came in
*That means 'streamlined' applications for many - but hundreds stranded and forced to sleep at local church
*Ukrainian refugees had been exempt from Trump's Title 42 border restriction against Covid, but no longer
*Nearly 15,000 undocumented Ukrainians have entered the US since the Russian invasion, mostly via Mexico
*Title 42 will be raised on May 23, but 21 states including Florida are suing the Biden administration to extend it

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

COMMUNITY

~Photo Essay Of A Human Tragedy~ Refugees Of War Are Now Our Neighbors Ukraine Refugees Wait In Tijuana For Permission To Enter The U.S.

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



The Ukrainian flag hung on the side of a building offers solace to some.



Volunteers with signs welcome Ukrainian refugees as they arrive at the Tijuana airport to help them on their journey to the United States after fleeing the war in Ukraine, in Tijuana, Baja California state, Mexico on April 8, 2022. (PHOTO/PATRICK T. FALLON, AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES)



Ukrainians who are seeking asylum in the United States gather in a city government shelter for Ukrainians, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, on April 6, 2022 in Tijuana, Mexico. Authorities opened the nearby El Chaparral port of entry today solely for the processing of Ukrainian asylum-seekers. U.S. authorities are allowing Ukrainian refugees to enter the U.S. at the Southern border in Tijuana with permission to remain in the country on humanitarian parole for one year. (MARIO TAMA, GETTY IMAGES)



Two Ukrainian women sit and wait for U.S. Customs

and Border Protection to allow them to enter the U.S. at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS, EL PASO TIMES/USA TODAY NETWORK)



Ukrainian refugees wait to be allowed to enter the U.S. by Customs and Border Protection at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS, EL PASO TIMES/USA TODAY NETWORK)



U.S. Customs and Border Protection allow Ukrainian refugees to enter the U.S. at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS, EL PASO TIMES/USA TODAY NETWORK)



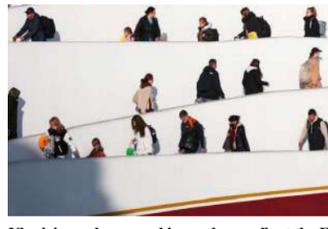
U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers take photos of Ukrainian refugees as they await to be allowed to enter the U.S. by Customs and Border Protection at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS, EL PASO TIMES/USA TODAY NETWORK)



U.S. Customs and Border Protection stop a Russian citizen from entering the U.S. at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS, EL PASO TIMES/USA TODAY NETWORK)



A volunteer (L) bids farewell to Ukrainians who are seeking asylum as they gather on a bus on their way to the El Chaparral port of entry, before entering the United States amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, on April 6, 2022 in Tijuana, Mexico. (MARIO TAMA, GETTY IMAGES)



Ukrainians who are seeking asylum walk at the El Chaparral port of entry on their way to enter the United States, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, on April 6, 2022 in Tijuana, Mexico. (MARIO TAMA, GETTY IMAGES)



Ukrainians who are seeking asylum in the United States gather in a city government shelter for Ukrainians, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, on April 6, 2022 in Tijuana, Mexico. (MARIO TAMA, GETTY IMAGES)



Ukrainian refugees wait for Customs and Border Protection authorities to allow them to enter the USA at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California, on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS/USA TODAY NETWORK)



U.S. Customs and Border Protection allow Ukrainian refugees to enter the U.S. at the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Baja California as two Russian citizens watch on April 5, 2022. (OMAR ORNELAS, EL PASO TIMES/USA TODAY NETWORK)



Elderly woman being transported by a relative.



Ukrainians families gather their belongings hoping to cross the border into the U.S.



Ukrainians wait for processing by US authorities at the Texas-Mexico border.



Family members offer each other comfort in the uncertain time.



A Ukrainian family contemplates the future in a new country.



A father holds his son up to see the massive group of his fellow countrymen scattered together in a foreign land.