



DOJ's ire at U-Va. mounted for weeks

Letters reveal growing scrutiny before president resigned during DEI fight

BY DAN ROSENZWEIG-ZIFF AND LAURA VOZZELLA

Over two months this spring, Justice Department officials sent seven letters to the University of Virginia, alleging possible racial discrimination in admissions and hiring, inaction to address anti-semitism on campus, and a failure to remove diversity, equity and inclusion efforts at the institution.

The letters, obtained by The Washington Post through a records request, revealed the agency's increasing frustration at U-Va. They warned that a failure by the university to take "immediate corrective action" could lead to punitive steps, including possible termination of federal funding.

"Time is running short, and the Department's patience is wearing thin," read a June 17 letter from top Justice officials Harmeet K. Dhillon and Gregory W. Brown, both U-Va. alumni. "Dramatic, wholesale changes are required, now, to repair what appears to be a history of clear abuses and breaches of our nation's laws and our Constitution by the University of Virginia under its current administration."

The letters from the Justice
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Schools: Education Dept. pauses \$7 billion in scheduled funding. **A9**

In Trump's media war, another white flag

\$16 million settlement by CBS parent firm came amid merger worries

BY SARAH ELLISON AND JEREMY BARR

The breaking point came on a Saturday night in the middle of May. CBS President George Cheeks called news division chief Wendy McMahon with a suggestion: "It's probably time."

Two days later, McMahon announced her departure.

The forced resignation marked a turning point: The network of Edward R. Murrow, which stood against McCarthyism and once defined American broadcast journalism, was capitulating to White House pressure as its corporate owner sought approval for a lucrative merger.

The cascading effects of President Donald Trump's decade-long war on the media had helped topple McMahon, as her corporate bosses struggled to navigate how to respond to a lawsuit from a president who had fundamentally reshaped the relationship between the press and power in America.

"It's become clear that the company and I do not agree on the path forward," McMahon wrote to
SEE CBS ON A15



ARISTIDE ECONOMOPOULOS/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Partial acquittal is a win for Combs

Mogul found not guilty of sex-trafficking, racketeering charges

BY ANNE BRANIGIN, JANAY KINGSBERRY AND SHAYNA JACOBS

NEW YORK — Sean "Diddy" Combs was acquitted of three counts of sex trafficking and racketeering conspiracy Wednesday but found guilty of two lesser prostitution-related charges. While the verdict marks a major legal victory for the music mogul, Combs will remain in jail as he awaits sentencing in a case that upended his public standing and reputation as a business-savvy and influential music industry figure.

As the verdict was announced in Manhattan federal court, Combs held his hands in prayer



JANE ROSENBERG/REUTERS

TOP: Sean Combs's son Christian "King" Combs, shaking hands with a supporter, leaves a New York courthouse with family members Wednesday. **ABOVE:** A courtroom sketch shows Sean Combs's reaction as the jury's verdict was read.

Charges: Experts question the use of racketeering count. **A10**

Music: Combs's career probably won't recover, observers say. **B1**

and locked eyes with jurors, nodding and mouthing the words "thank you" multiple times. Judge Arun Subramanian later denied Combs's \$1 million bail request to be released from a Brooklyn detention center where he has been held since his arrest in September.

In denying Combs's petition, Subramanian repeated back the defense team's admission that Combs had a history of domestic violence. "Domestic violence is violence," the judge said.

"Mr. Combs has been given his life back by this jury," lead defense attorney Marc Agnifilo told the judge earlier in his plea to get his client released from custody. He noted that Combs had been acquitted of all the charges that could have sent him to prison for the rest of his life. "He would be nothing short of a fool, which he is not, to violate any conditions the court set," Agnifilo said.

After the verdict, Combs knelt and faced the chair on which he
SEE COMBS ON A10

As ICE arrests workers, employers escape charges

The administration focuses its immigration raids on small businesses as it pursues mass deportations

BY MARIANNE LEVINE, LAUREN KAORI GURLEY AND AARON SCHAFER

Trump administration officials have vowed to hold companies accountable for employing people who are in the country illegally — no matter which industry they are in or how big or small they might be.

But the Department of Homeland Security's enforcement operations have overwhelmingly focused on arresting workers rather than punishing employers.

Since the start of the year, Immigration and Customs Enforcement has posted news releases regarding approximately two dozen raids on the "Worksite Enforcement" section of its website. Local news outlets have documented dozens more. The Washington Post was able to identify only one employer charged after the raids ICE has publicized. The Post reviewed court filings and searched for records involving individuals named in corporate records of
SEE RAIDS ON A20

Federal ruling: Judge says Trump cannot expel asylum seekers. **A16**



MARIO TAMAYO/GETTY IMAGES

Marchers protest ongoing Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids in Los Angeles on Tuesday. Immigration experts say small companies with limited resources are easier targets than corporations.

Fate of GOP bill in the air

AT RISK OF FAILING PROCEDURAL VOTE

Leaders press holdouts in frenzy of negotiations

BY MARIANNA SOTOMAYOR, JACOB BOGAGE AND MARIANA ALFARO

President Donald Trump's tax and immigration bill was at risk of failing a key procedural hurdle Wednesday night, leaving its future uncertain.

Four Republicans voted against the rule, a procedural hurdle that would have paved the way for a final vote to send the bill to Trump's desk. With a July 4 deadline looming, Speaker Mike Johnson (R-Louisiana) worked late into the night to win over lawmakers who remained concerned about the cost of the package and other issues.

Lawmakers with objections to the GOP's One Big Beautiful Bill on Wednesday shuffled among talks with party leaders, Trump administration lieutenants and the president himself at the White House. The \$3.4 trillion legislation would extend tax cuts from Trump's first term, imple-
SEE BILL ON A8

Midterms: Democrats hope focus on cuts leads to wins in 2026. **A8**

Seniors: Who would benefit from a proposed \$6,000 deduction? **A14**

Kyiv taken aback as U.S. slows its support

Russia welcomes halt to shipments of some air defense munitions

BY DAVID L. STERN, SERHIY MORGUNOV AND ALEX HORTON

KYIV — Ukrainian officials scrambled to clarify Washington's intentions Wednesday after the United States announced it was halting deliveries of air defense munitions to Ukraine — weapons the country desperately needs as Russia pummels it with unprecedented waves of aerial attacks.

The U.S. Defense Department decided to halt some shipments to Ukraine after a review found American military stockpiles to be low, White House spokeswoman Anna Kelly said in a statement emailed to U.S. media outlets.

"This decision was made to put America's interests first following a review of our nation's military support and assistance to other countries across the globe," she said.

The decision was signed by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, a senior White House official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity to talk about an
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IN THE NEWS

Logging protest toppled Activists who had spent 40 days on an 80-foot-high treetop platform, in a bid to protect older forests, ended their effort after a confrontation. **A11**

A brief show of unity Amid internal squabbling, Virginia's GOP candidates for statewide offices appeared together. **B13**

THE NATION
A man pleaded guilty to murdering four University of Idaho students in 2022. **A2**
Abortions in Wisconsin can continue after the state's high court blocked an 1849 law. **A3**

THE WORLD
The Dalai Lama rebuffed efforts by Beijing to control the search for his successor. **A12**
A heat wave in Europe closed the Eiffel Tower's summit and baked Wimbledon. **A13**

THE ECONOMY
Wikipedia and other sites are responding to AI crawlers that raise costs while often offering little in return. **A14**
Tesla reported a 13.5 percent drop in global sales, a trend that is hastening ahead of the federal EV tax credit's possible demise. **A16**

STYLE
Entertainment venues are increasingly turning to reusable cups to cut down on waste. **B1**

SPORTS
The U.S. men's soccer team got two early goals from Diego Luna for a 2-1 victory over Guatemala and a spot in the Gold Cup final. **B7**

THE REGION
The District is raising Capital Bikeshare prices, but the cost will remain lower than those of services elsewhere. **B13**

LOCAL LIVING
In a country where 95 percent of teens have cellphone access, summer camp is one of life's unplugged treasures.

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