



AP PHOTO SUSAN WALSH  
President Donald Trump walks down the steps of Air Force One at Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Westhampton Beach, N.Y., Friday. Trump is in the Hamptons to attend a pair of fundraisers before heading to his golf club in New Jersey for vacation.

# Trump says he wants background checks, but also reassures NRA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON  
President Donald Trump said Friday he believes he has influence to rally Republicans around stronger federal background check laws as Congress and the White House work on a response to last weekend's mass shootings in Texas and Ohio.

At the same time, Trump said he had assured the National Rifle Association that its gun-rights views would be "fully represented and respected." He said he was hopeful the NRA would not be an obstacle to strengthening the nation's gun laws.

Trump has promised to lead on tougher gun control measures before, including after the 2018 Parkland, Florida, school shooting, but little has come of it. His comments in the wake of the twin massacres marked his most optimistic and supportive words in favour of more stringent gun laws, though he left the details vague and it remained to be seen how much political capital Trump would throw behind marshalling Republicans on the issue.

He said Friday he now is looking for "very meaningful background checks" but is not considering a resurrection of an assault weapons ban. He said he also believes lawmakers will support "red flag" laws that allow guns to be removed from those who may be a danger to themselves and others.

"I see a better feeling right now toward getting something meaningful done," Trump told reporters when asked why the political environment was different now.

"I have a greater influence now over the Senate and the House," he said at the White House.

Democrats and others have been skeptical of Trump's commitment to genuine gun control, judging from

past experience. But he said he was behind it.

"The Republicans are going to be great and lead the charge along with the Democrats," he declared, saying he'd spoken with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell whom he proclaimed to be "totally onboard."

But McConnell, thus far, has only committed to a discussion of the issue. Republicans have long opposed expanding background checks - a bill passed by the Democratic-led House is stalled in McConnell's Senate - but they face new pressure after the shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, that left 31 people dead.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer tweeted in response Friday that McConnell must bring up the House-passed legislation, which Trump had previously threatened to veto. "To get anything meaningful done to address gun violence, we need his commitment to hold a Senate vote on the House-passed background checks legislation," Schumer said.

As for the NRA, which has contributed millions to help Trump and other Republicans, the gun lobby's chief executive, Wayne LaPierre, said this week that some federal gun control proposals "would make millions of law-abiding Americans less safe and less able to defend themselves and their loved ones."

But Trump said he'd spoken with LaPierre this week and "I think in the end, Wayne and the NRA will either be there or either be a little more neutral."

"Frankly, I really think they're going to get there also," he added.

On Thursday, Senate Majority Leader McConnell said he now wants background checks and other action, setting up a potentially pivotal

moment when lawmakers return in the fall.

The Republican leader won't be calling senators back to work early, as some are demanding. But he told a Kentucky radio station that Trump called him Thursday morning and they talked about several ideas. The president, he said, is "anxious to get an outcome and so am I."

"What we can't do is fail to pass something," McConnell said.

Travelling with Trump to New York, South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham said he intended to discuss the issue with the president over the weekend. He said he's in favour of a state-run list system that would prohibit certain people from buying guns.

"I just think the space to do nothing is gone," he said. "And that's a good thing."

McConnell said he and Trump discussed background checks and "red flag" laws. "Those are two items that for sure will be front and centre as we see what we can come together on and pass," McConnell told Louisville's WHAS-AM.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Schumer said Trump assured them in phone calls Thursday he will review the House-passed bill that would expand federal background checks for firearm sales.

In a joint statement, they said Trump called them individually after Pelosi sent a letter asking the president to order the Senate back to Washington to consider gun violence measures.

Schumer and Pelosi said they told Trump the best immediate step would be for the Senate to take up and pass the House bill. Trump, they said, "understood our interest in moving as quickly as possible to help save lives."

# Judge tells restaurant iguana thrower: Don't brag about it

The Associated Press

PAINESVILLE, Ohio

An Ohio judge has told a man who threw an iguana at a restaurant manager that he's not allowed to brag about the crime.

Forty-nine-year-old Arnold Teeter pleaded guilty Thursday to cruelty to animals and resisting arrest.

Painesville Municipal Judge Michael Cicconetti sentenced Teeter to two years of probation. The conditions also include that Teeter cannot live in a home with animals for five years.

In April, authorities said Teeter pulled the 2-foot-long iguana from under his sweatshirt, swung it around by its tail and threw it at a Perkins Restaurant manager but missed.

The iguana suffered a fractured leg but recovered.

The lizard had ended up with Teeter after getting away from its rightful owners while they were moving. It has since been returned to them.

# Homeowner reports handgun stolen during Florida sex party

The Associated Press

DELTONA, Fla.

A Florida homeowner says someone stole a 9 mm Glock handgun from his bedroom during a weekend sex party.

But Volusia County Sheriff's Sgt. Todd Smith tells The Daytona Beach News-Journal the homeowner couldn't give detectives the names of possible suspects because the 20 or so people attending the orgy wore masks.

Smith says the handgun was apparently on a bedroom nightstand during the party. It was taken between July 19 and July 21 and reported later.

The homeowner said they party was advertised on social media and guests were encouraged to bring friends and to use fictitious names or no name at all. He said he probably only knew about five of the guests that entered the home that weekend.

Smith says it's unlikely they'll solve the crime.

# Attendant removed from flight charged with intoxication

The Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind.

A flight attendant on a Chicago-to-South Bend flight has been charged with public intoxication.

Forty-nine-year-old Julianne March of Waukesha, Wisconsin, faces an Aug. 29 initial hearing after being charged Thursday.

Court documents say March was part of an Air Wisconsin crew working an Aug. 2 United Express flight when passengers became "scared for their lives" due to her apparent condition after departing Chicago's O'Hare International Airport.

The South Bend Tribune reports that when the plane landed in South Bend, officers removed March. Court documents say she had a blood-alcohol content of 0.20%.

Air Wisconsin Airlines said Friday that March is no longer employed by the airline. Online court records don't list an attorney who could speak on March's behalf. A message seeking comment was left Friday on March's cellphone.

# Woman who lied about spreading HIV charged with misdemeanour

The Canadian Press

AMERICUS, Ga.

Police say a Georgia woman has been charged with a misdemeanour after she lied in a viral Facebook Live rant about being HIV-positive and intentionally infecting others.

Americus police said in a news release Friday that a recent blood test showed Brandi Yakeima Lasiter did not have HIV. She was charged with a misdemeanour count of making harassing communications.

Americus police began investigating after receiving links last week to the video that showed Lasiter naming men she claimed to have infected, along with their wives and girlfriends. She later told detectives she lied about being HIV-positive because she was angry at the people named in her video.

It was not immediately known if Lasiter had an attorney. Misdemeanors in Georgia are punishable by up to a year in jail.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

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Electric Outages.....403.529.8260

Gas Emergency.....403.529.8191

Water & Sewer Emergency.....403.502.8042

After Hours Special Services.....403.526.2828

**WATER MAIN FLUSHING & FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTIONS**

Environmental Utilities performs regular, routine maintenance to uphold the water quality and system infrastructure by annually flushing water mains and inspecting fire hydrants.

During these operations, there may be some discolouration in the water which is not harmful to consume and will disappear when flushing is complete. Please note that discoloured water should not be used for laundry and that fluctuating water pressure may also be noticed.

Should discolouration persist beyond three hours, turn on your cold water tap or an outside sprinkler and let the water run for several minutes until the water runs clear.

For additional information or to confirm whether crews are working in your zone, refer to the Water Flushing Programs page on the City's website at [www.medicinehat.ca/eu](http://www.medicinehat.ca/eu) or contact Environmental Utilities at 403.529.8176.

**DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED AUGUST 1 TO AUGUST 7, 2019**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

**RESIDENTIAL**

**15 SOUTHLANDS BOULEVARD SE** ..... (Lot 61, Block 7, Plan 1610189) DP15022. Garage.

**39 STERLING GREEN SE** ..... (Lot 23, Block 14, Plan 1412603) DP15104. Single Detached House.

**COMMERCIAL**

**103 - 1751 STRACHAN ROAD SE** ..... (Lot , Block 1, Plan 1712050) DP15110. Two Fascia Signs.

**HOME OCCUPATION**

**1133 BRIDGE STREET SE** ..... (Lot 23, Block 1, Plan 796M) DP15111. Customers to Attend Site. Consultant.

**1944 1 AVENUE NE** ..... (Lot 10, Block 7, Plan 0713114) DP15112. Office Use Only. Janitorial Service.

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty one (21) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Third Floor, City Hall or on the City's website at [www.medicinehat.ca](http://www.medicinehat.ca).

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 403.529.8374).

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