

DEOMI NEWS LINKS 17 JUNE 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

[Biden seeks to counter state actions he sees as anti-LGBTQ](#) [Will Weissert, *The Associated Press*, 15 June 2022]

President Joe Biden is [executive orders](#) Wednesday to stymie what the White House says are discriminatory legislative attacks on the LGBTQ community by Republican-controlled states. The orders seek to discourage “conversion therapy”—a discredited practice that aims to change a person’s sexual orientation or gender identity—while also promoting gender-affirming surgery and expanding foster care protections for gay and transgender parents and children. The White House says the actions, which tap money already allocated to federal agencies, are meant to counter 300-plus anti-LGBTQ laws introduced by state lawmakers over the past year alone. The Department of Health and Human Services will draft new policies to expand care to LGBTQ families and the Education Department will devise rules to better protect LGBTQ students in public schools. The orders will bolster programs that address the issue of suicide among LGBTQ children and will make adoptions easier for LGBTQ parents and children, White House officials said.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Men, women split on equity gains since Title IX, poll shows](#) [Collin Binkley, *The Associated Press*, 15 June 2022]

Ask a man about gender equality, and you’re likely to hear the U.S. has made great strides in the 50 years since the landmark anti-discrimination law Title IX was passed. Ask a woman, and the answer probably will be quite different. According to a [new poll](#) by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and the National Women’s History Museum, most U.S. adults believe the country has made at least some progress toward equality for women since 1972. That’s the year Congress passed Title IX, a one-sentence law that forbids discrimination based on sex in education. But there are sharp differences in opinion over just how much headway has been made and in what facets of life. Some of the widest divisions are, perhaps unsurprisingly, between men and women: 61% of men say the country has made a great deal or a lot of progress toward gender equality, while 37% of women said the same, according to the poll.

[Vice president will launch new national task force on preventing online harassment and abuse](#) [Sam Fossum, *CNN*, 16 June 2022]

Vice President Kamala Harris will launch the first meeting Thursday of a new national task force aimed at helping to prevent and address online harassment and abuse, according to the White House. Ahead of the meeting, President Joe Biden will sign a [memorandum establishing the initiative](#), the White House Task Force to Address Online Harassment and Abuse. The interagency effort will particularly focus on online harassment and abuse of women and LGBTQ Americans, as one senior administration official noted how such harassment “disproportionately targets” those communities. The task force is not zeroing in on any particular technology platform but rather “on the role of platforms and social media more generally,” according to the senior official. The official added that they are focused on “illegal conduct” online.

CULTURE

[The Army's search for gender-neutral fitness standards continues](#) [Meghann Myers, *Army Times*, 15 June 2022]

Editor's note: This story has been updated to reflect a new Senate defense authorization bill amendment, passed June 15, that would require the Army to create a gender- and age-neutral fitness standard for combat military occupation specialties.

The final version of the Army Combat Fitness Test debuted in April, significantly pared down from the way it was first envisioned in 2017 and without one of its founding mandates: gender-neutral standards. The Army has told soldiers for decades that its fitness test is a measure of worthiness—awarding promotion points to high performers and forcing out those who repeatedly fail—while also making up for the tests' shortcomings by reiterating that they are a test of health, not combat readiness. The ACFT bridges a gap in some ways, incorporating more domains of fitness than its predecessor, necessitating new training that includes weight lifting and core conditioning.

[DAF launches program to issue pregnant members free maternity uniforms](#) [SECAF Public Affairs, *Air Force News Service*, 16 June 2022]

The Department of the Air Force will soon launch the Maternity Uniform Pilot Program, or “Rent the Camo,” that will temporarily issue free maternity uniform items to pregnant Airmen and Guardians at 10 bases. This program is a joint effort with the Army and details on how and where to apply are being finalized. The U.S. Congress passed the “Rent the Camo: Access to Maternity Wear Act” Bill in 2020, creating this new program. Under this bill, the Defense Logistics Agency will establish pilot programs within each military branch to issue maternity uniform items to pregnant service members. Expectant active-duty service members will be temporarily issued three sets of maternity OCP tops and bottoms, which they can wear up to six months post-partum per Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-2903. Members will then return their uniforms to the CIF to process the returned uniforms and complete a questionnaire. The returned uniforms will be shipped to a central facility where they will be inspected, repaired, cleaned, and prepared for re-issue.

[Exploring the Clotilda, the last known slave ship in the U.S., brings hope](#) [Debbie Elliott and Marisa Peñaloza, *NPR*, 15 June 2022]

Juneteenth has long had special meaning for the descendants of the last slave ship known to come to the United States, the Clotilda. People like Vernetta Henson and Darron Patterson of Mobile, Ala. They're descendants of Polee and Rose Allen, who were among the more than 100 kidnapped Africans a wealthy Alabama plantation owner smuggled into Mobile aboard the Clotilda 50 years after the Atlantic slave trade was abolished, and then sunk the ship to bury evidence of the crime. Since the shipwreck was found three years ago, there's been new focus on the Clotilda survivors and the community they founded after emancipation. Archeologists got their first complete look at it during a research excursion in May funded by a \$1 million dollar grant from the state of Alabama.

[The great 16th-Century Black composer erased from history](#) [Holly Williams, *BBC Culture*, 15 June 2022]

The Western classical music canon is notoriously White and male—so you might assume that a Black Renaissance composer would be a figure of significant interest, much-performed and studied. In fact,

the story of the first known published Black composer—Vicente Lusitano—is only now being heard, alongside a revival of interest in his long-neglected choral music. Lusitano was born around 1520, in Portugal. In a 17th-Century source, he is described as “pardo”—a commonly used term in Portugal at the time meaning mixed race. It is most likely that Lusitano had a Black African mother and a White Portuguese father; Portugal had a significant population of people of African descent, due to its involvement in the slave trade. Comparatively little is known about Lusitano’s life—a fact which has certainly not helped his historical legacy—although what we do know is dotted with juicily intriguing details. “There’s a lot of things you could say about how cool he is as a person, and how exceptional he is as a figure,” promises composer, conductor and early music specialist Joseph McHardy, a recent Lusitano champion.

[History made on Broadway with plans to rename theater after Lena Horne](#) [Zachary Schermele, NBC News, 10 June 2022]

The Nederlander Organization announced on Thursday it will rename the century-old Brooks Atkinson theater after legendary performer and civil rights activist Lena Horne, who died in 2010. The historic move marks the first time a Broadway theater will be named after a Black woman, as the industry continues to grapple with a relative lack of racial diversity. Last year, a group of Black theater leaders known as Black Theater United, whose founding members include Billy Porter and Audra McDonald, reached an agreement with Nederlander and Broadway’s two other major landlords to have “at least one” of their theaters named after a Black artist, among other actions that seek to reassert their collective commitment to diversity and anti-racism.

[How “A Strange Loop” fits into Black theater legacies](#) [Nathan Pugh, NPR, 11 June 2022] [REVIEW]

When Code Switch has covered the theater industry, it’s often to call out some of the uncomfortable racial dynamics in the room—whether that’s the unease of watching Hamilton with a primarily White audience, controversies surrounding Asian representation in Miss Saigon, or the complexities of teaching The Merchant of Venice in schools. But we usually don’t sing the praises of theater, or talk about how the artform can make us think about race in exciting and unique ways. So allow me to mix things up a little when I say this: I absolutely adore A Strange Loop, a musical by Michael R. Jackson which opened on Broadway at the end of April. It broke ground as the first musical to win the [Pulitzer Prize for Drama](#) before going to Broadway. And it’s now up for 11 awards at the 75th annual Tony Awards this Sunday.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[June 12 is Loving Day—when interracial marriage finally became legal in the U.S.](#) [NPR, 12 June 2022]

When Richard and Mildred Loving awoke in the middle of the night a few weeks after their June, 1958 wedding, it wasn’t normal newlywed ardor. There were policemen with flashlights in their bedroom. They’d come to arrest the couple. “They asked Richard who was that woman he was sleeping with? I say, I’m his wife, and the sheriff said, not here you’re not. And they said, come on, let’s go,” Mildred Loving recalled that night in the [HBO documentary The Loving Story](#). Their case went all the way to the Supreme Court. And on June 12, 1967, the couple won. Now, each year on this date, “Loving Day” celebrates the historic ruling in Loving v. Virginia, which declared unconstitutional a Virginia law prohibiting mixed-race marriage—and legalized interracial marriage in every state.

[“People were very offended”: “Tone deaf” corporations facing backlash for Juneteenth themed products](#)

[Nicquel Terry Ellis, CNN, 15 June 2022] *Cherlisa Starks-Richardson was disappointed when she learned that the beloved children’s museum in her community was selling a “watermelon salad” in celebration of Juneteenth. Starks-Richardson, who often took her daughter to the Indianapolis Children’s Museum growing up, said she expected the museum would be more focused on educating the public about Juneteenth—which celebrates the emancipation of enslaved Black Americans—instead of serving themed foods. To make matters worse, she said, watermelon has historically been used as a racist trope against Black Americans. “People were very offended by it,” said Starks-Richardson, an educator in the Indianapolis area. “Everybody is trying to capitalize off Juneteenth to make money. But we don’t need the food. I want education. I want people to understand the purpose of (Juneteenth).”*

[A small Wisconsin town is honored as the state’s first Black-founded community](#) [Diane Bezucha, NPR, 14 June 2022]

Peter Baker says he will never forget his first visit to Lake Ivanhoe. It was 1966. He was 9 years old and his friend brought him up from Chicago on a fishing trip. They caught dozens of fish, mostly bluegills and crappies. “We went home and I ran in the house with all these fish and I showed my mother, ‘We were up there at Lake Ivanhoe, and it was all Black!’” said Baker, now 66. “And the first thing she said is, to my father, ‘Ernest, we’re going up there next week.’” The tiny subdivision of Lake Ivanhoe is nestled beside a quiet lake, just six miles east of Lake Geneva. The Bakers bought a house on Tuskegee Drive and moved the family up from Chicago. Peter spent his days fishing, swimming and running through the woods. During the era of sundown towns, where African Americans were not welcome after dark, Baker said Lake Ivanhoe was a refuge. “We literally could sit in the middle of the roads at night time and watch the stars and talk and play,” Baker said. “The freedom was unbelievable.”

[Smithsonian unveils first Latino history exhibit, new gallery](#) [Patricia Guadalupe, NBC News, 15 June 2022]

The Smithsonian’s first gallery dedicated to Latino history and culture is opening its doors to the public this weekend at the National Museum of American History. Billed as a precursor to a national Latino museum to be incorporated to the Smithsonian Institution, the [Molina Family Latino Gallery](#) will open on June 18 in the nation’s capital with the exhibition, “¡Presente! A Latino History of the United States.” The “¡Presente!” exhibit will highlight stories of Latinos and Latinas across the generations, such as the colonial-era Indigenous freedom fighter Toypurina, Puerto Rican baseball player Roberto Clemente, labor and farmworker leader Dolores Huerta, Cuban-American singer Celia Cruz, and the first Latina Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor.

[Songs to believe in: A Juneteenth playlist](#) [Lara Downes, NPR, 16 June 2022] [COMMENTARY]

This Juneteenth, I’m finding it hard to celebrate. It’s hard to reflect on freedom in this deafening swell of discord, this crescendo of threats to our most basic human and civil rights. It’s hard to stand upright in this storm of unending violence, to find footing on ground riven by such deep and jagged divisions. It’s hard, in such darkness, to believe in the dawn of a better day. But as we observe this holiday, I have to remember that freedom has always been hard fought and hard won. All we can ever do is believe in tomorrow and work to make it better, despite all evidence and against all odds. This Juneteenth, I turn to Du Bois’ words and Bonds’ music—to all the lessons of our history. I offer you a collection of music that insists on the promise of freedom, however long in coming.

DISCRIMINATION

[Nursing home settles historic transgender discrimination complaint](#) [Benjamin Ryan, *NBC News*, 16 June 2022]

In a landmark settlement, a Maine assisted living facility has agreed to establish policies and procedures to ensure it is a welcoming place for LGBTQ seniors, after a 79-year-old transgender woman levied an accusation of discrimination. When Marie King filed her complaint with the Maine Human Rights Commission in October, alleging that the Sunrise Assisted Living facility in the town of Jonesport refused her admission as a resident because she is transgender, it was believed to be the first complaint of this kind in U.S. history. The settlement does not set a binding legal precedent. But legal experts nevertheless expect it to raise awareness that nursing homes and other assisted living facilities must abide by various state and federal laws barring them from discriminating against transgender people. The settlement also provides a roadmap for how such facilities can better serve the needs of LGBTQ seniors.

DIVERSITY

[Biden's seven new judicial nominees include first Latino for D.C. Circuit](#) [Nate Raymond, *Reuters*, 15 June 2022]

President Joe Biden on Wednesday unveiled seven new judicial nominees, including U.S. Justice Department official Bradley Garcia, who would become the first Latino to serve on the influential federal appeals court in Washington, D.C. Garcia, a veteran appellate lawyer and a former law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan now at the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, was nominated to join the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Biden also made his first nomination to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals by selecting U.S. Magistrate Judge Dana Douglas, a former partner at Liskow & Lewis, to be the first woman of color on the conservative New Orleans-based court.

[Stuart Delery to serve as first openly gay White House counsel](#) [Zachary Schermele, *NBC News*, 15 June 2022]

Stuart Delery, a longtime advocate for LGBTQ rights, will be the first openly LGBTQ person to serve as White House counsel when he assumes the position next month, President Biden announced on Wednesday. Delery current serves as White House deputy counsel. Delery was appointed acting associate attorney general, the Justice Department's No. 3 position, in 2012, becoming the highest-ranking LGBTQ official in the department's history, according to a White House official. Delery graduated from Yale Law School and clerked for Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Byron White, according to a White House official. He lives in Washington with his husband and two children.

EXTREMISM

[31 linked to White nationalist group arrested near Pride event in Idaho](#) [Dennis Romero and Michelle Acevedo, *NBC News*, 12 June 2022]

Thirty-one people affiliated with the White nationalist group Patriot Front were arrested near an annual LGBTQ+ event Saturday in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, police said. The suspects were booked on suspicion

of conspiracy to riot, Coeur d'Alene Police Chief Lee White said at an afternoon news conference. Among those in custody late Saturday was a man with the same name as Patriot Front's Dallas-based founder, Thomas Ryan Rousseau. White said police were made aware in recent days that a number of groups planned to disrupt Pride in the Park, an annual event highlighting the civil rights struggles of LGBTQ+ communities.

[46 University of New Hampshire fraternity members issued arrest warrants over alleged hazing](#)

[Michelle Watson and Amy Simonson, CNN, 11 June 2022]

Arrest warrants have been issued for 46 members of a fraternity at the University of New Hampshire, accusing them of student hazing at an event in April, police said this week. The university's Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) chapter was suspended over the allegations, which were reported to the school by the fraternity's national organization, the school has said. Hazing is suspected to have happened at the university's SAE chapter house on April 13, at an event involving new members, police in the university's host town of Durham said in a news release. Warrants were issued for 46 SAE members on Tuesday, and 10 of them were arrested by Friday at 2 p.m., police said. Those 10 have been charged with hazing, a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$1,200, police said.

[Confederate flag-waving man found guilty in Capitol riot case](#) [Reuters, 15 June 2022]

A Delaware man who flew the Confederate flag inside the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021 was found guilty along with his son of the felony charge of obstruction during the storming of the building, the Justice Department said on Wednesday. U.S. District Judge Trevor McFadden also found the father, Kevin Seefried, and son Hunter Seefried guilty of four misdemeanor offenses including entering and remaining in a restricted building and disorderly conduct in a Capitol building. McFadden acquitted Hunter Seefried of three other related charges. The Seefrieds had pleaded not guilty to all charges.

[Neo-Nazi Group Plasters VA Hospital with White Supremacist Propaganda](#) [Steve Beynon, Military.com, 13 June 2022]

A far-right group peppered White supremacist messaging at a Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Oklahoma, posting pictures to social media of a bathroom covered in racist slogans. White Lives Matter has more than 12,000 followers on Telegram, a platform with no active moderation efforts that has frequently been used for criminal activity such as child pornography and by terror groups including the Islamic State. It has become a favored communications tool for far-right groups since mainstream platforms like Instagram and Twitter have cracked down on White supremacist accounts. "It was brought to our attention Thursday that inappropriate and offensive stickers may have been placed at the Oklahoma City VA Health Care System," Terrence Hayes, a VA spokesperson, said in an email to Military.com. It is unclear whether the stickers were placed by a patient, a member of the hospital's staff, or a trespasser.

[U.S. files hate crimes charges against White gunman in Buffalo shooting](#) [Sarah N. Lynch, Reuters, 15 June 2022]

The U.S. Justice Department on Wednesday filed federal hate crime charges against an 18-year-old White supremacist accused of killing 10 people at a supermarket in a Black neighborhood in Buffalo, New York last month. Payton Gendron is facing 26 counts of hate crimes and a firearms offense, according to news reporters traveling with U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland on Wednesday to the site of the shooting in western New York state. Earlier this month, Gendron pleaded not guilty to a 25-

count indictment handed down by a New York state grand jury charging him with crimes including first- and second-degree murder and domestic terrorism motivated by hate. If convicted, he could face the death penalty

HUMAN RELATIONS

[GovExec Daily: Fixing Culture Clashes in the Office](#) [Adam Butler and Ross Gianfortune, *Government Executive*, 16 June 2022] [PODCAST]

Much has been written and said about the “Great Resignation” and its effects on American work culture. But, ultimately, organizations and employees need to see eye-to-eye on issues like respect, values and communication. How can organizations and employees work together to keep work culture clashes at a minimum for the best possible outcomes? Lee Frederiksen is an author, business strategist and the Managing Partner at the Hinge Research Institute. He joined the podcast to discuss the new Hinge report titled “Culture Clash: The Employee Experience Problem and How to Fix It.”

[Narcissistic Bosses Impede Flow of Knowledge](#) [Lauren Kirschman, *Futurity*, 14 June 2022]

Narcissism is a prominent trait among top executives, and most people have seen the evidence in their workplaces. These individuals believe they have superior confidence, intelligence, and judgment, and will pursue any opportunity to reinforce those inflated self-views and gain admiration. When different units in the same company share information, it boosts performance and creates a competitive advantage. Narcissists hinder this knowledge transfer due to a sense of superiority that leads them to overestimate the value of internal knowledge and underestimate the value of external knowledge. “Many big companies are what one would describe as multi-business firms, an organizational form where you have a corporate parent and subsidiary units,” says coauthor Abhinav Gupta, associate professor of management in the University of Washington Foster School of Business. But units don’t work with each other as much as companies would like, Gupta says. The [study, published in the Strategic Management Journal](#), reveals that certain personality traits of executives—specifically narcissism—impede the flow of information.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

INTERNATIONAL

[Buzz Lightyear film banned from cinemas by UAE](#) [BBC News, 13 May 2022]

Disney and Pixar’s latest animated movie Lightyear has been banned from cinemas in the United Arab Emirates, officials said on Monday. The film contains a same-sex kiss, but the UAE’s Media Regulatory Office did not give a specific reason for its decision. The department just said the film was banned for its “violation of the country’s media content standards”. The BBC has contacted both the UAE government and Disney for comment. The Lightyear ban comes just six months after the UAE said it would stop censoring cinematic releases and announced a 21-plus age rating for films it classifies for older audiences. The United Arab Emirates, a Sunni Muslim-ruled country, criminalises consensual same-sex sexual activity between adults.

[The Lady of Heaven film: Morocco bans “blasphemous” British film](#) [BBC News, 12 June 2022]

Moroccan cinema authorities have banned the controversial British film Lady of Heaven, after it was condemned by the country’s religious council. The film claims to tell the story of Lady Fatima, the

daughter of Prophet Muhammad. The Supreme Ulema Council said the movie was a “flagrant falsification of the established facts” of Islam. There have been protests against the film in the UK. Egypt, Pakistan, Iran and Iraq have also denounced it. The council accused the film of “loathsome partiality” and accused the filmmakers of seeking “fame and sensationalism” and “hurting the feelings of Muslims and stirring up religious sensitivities”, according to Moroccan state media.

[Norwich blind photographer discovered hobby after losing sight](#) [Kate Scottert, BBC News, 12 June 2022]

Rachael Andrews, 49, from Norwich [UK], said she started to experience sight-loss in her 20s when she had the pet rodents. She said she could no longer see them with the naked eye so she acquired a digital camera to help her. She developed a love of photography and joined the Vision Norfolk group which helped her feel “not so alone”. Mrs Andrews said she progressed from the basic digital camera she started with to a digital SLR and now uses a mirrorless camera. After taking her photos, she blows them up big on the computer screen so she can see what she has taken. “I take great pleasure in putting them on the computer and will put them on Facebook and hope people like them,” she said. “I think sometimes people think I’ve got more eyesight than I do because of my photos, but that’s quite a compliment. “People think if you are visually impaired you can’t be artistic, but you can.”

[Qatar World Cup 2022: German ex-football star says host’s treatment of gay people is unacceptable](#) [BBC News, 11 June 2022]

The treatment of gay people in World Cup host Qatar has been described as “absolutely unacceptable” by German football official Oliver Bierhoff. Mr Bierhoff told German newspapers he was unhappy that homosexuality was still illegal in the Gulf state. The former German football star also questioned the criteria used in selecting Qatar to host the tournament. Fifa has said all LGBTQ+ symbols will be allowed in stadiums during the event, which begins in November. But Qatari authorities have appealed for outsiders to respect their “conservative” culture. Homosexuality is illegal in Qatar and human rights organisation Amnesty International has said women and LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, queer or questioning) people “continue to face discrimination in law and practice.”

[Saudi authorities seize rainbow toys for “promoting homosexuality”](#) [David Gritten, BBC News, 15 June 2022]

Authorities in Saudi Arabia have been seizing rainbow-coloured toys and children’s clothing, which they claim encourage homosexuality, state TV says. An Al-Ekhbariya report showed commerce ministry officials removing a range of items from shops in the capital Riyadh. They included hair clips, pop-its, t-shirts, hats and pencil cases. One official said the items “contradict the Islamic faith and public morals, and promote homosexual colours targeting the younger generation”. The commerce ministry tweeted separately that its teams were confiscating “products that contain symbols and signs calling for deviation and contradicting common sense”. Shops found to be selling them would face legal penalties, it added. Although Sunni Muslim-ruled Saudi Arabia has no laws regarding sexual orientation or gender identity, sexual relations outside marriage, including homosexual sex, are strictly prohibited.

MISCELLANEOUS

[For Mental Crises, Send a Pro Not the Police?](#) [Krysten Crawford, Futurity, 9 June 2022]

*New research uncovers the strongest evidence yet that dispatching mental health professionals instead of police officers in response to some 911 calls can have significant benefits. The study of a pilot 911 response program in Denver, in which mental health specialists responded to calls involving trespassing and other nonviolent events, finds a 34% drop in reported crimes during the six-month trial. The [study](#) by Stanford University scholars Thomas Dee and Jaymes Pyne also shows that the direct costs of the alternative 911 approach were four times lower than police-only responses. The analysis, which appears in *Science Advances*, comes at a pivotal time in broader national discussions around the performance of police officers who often serve as first responders.*

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[Hub for military vets coming to Virginia Tech's new Alexandria campus](#) [Teo Armus, *The Washington Post*, 13 June 2022]

Boeing and Virginia Tech will establish a workforce development center in Alexandria to help military veterans transition to civilian life and build careers in the technology and defense industries, the two entities announced Monday. The center, which will be housed at Virginia Tech's new graduate engineering campus in the Potomac Yard neighborhood, marks yet another example of how local officials are hoping to grow and diversify Northern Virginia's pipeline of engineering talent as the region shapes up into a major tech hub. Tim Sands, president of Virginia Tech, said the hub is a continuation of his institution's long history with the military. The university is one of six in the United States that is designated as a "senior military college," with its 1,200-person cadet program at its Blacksburg campus that has existed since the school's founding more than a century ago.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[NYC Fire Department Calls for Help to Prevent Doxing](#) [Susan Miller, *Route Fifty*, 14 June 2022]

The New York City Fire Department is looking for consultants to help it prevent doxing of its 16,000 firefighters, emergency medical technicians and administrative support personnel across the five boroughs. Doxing—or the weaponizing of an individual's personal information to punish, harass or encourage threats—is a growing problem, potentially affecting anyone on the wrong end of a grudge, including police, poll workers and school officials. The FDNY also wants the consultant to provide employee education and training focusing on preventive and mitigation measures that address the targeting of and misuse of PII. Recommendations include basic cyber hygiene, such as avoiding posting affiliations with responder organizations on social media, using encryption and strong passwords and shredding unnecessary documents. It also advises responders to be aware that illicit actors can post videos of responder activities for nefarious purposes.

RACISM

[Detroit honors Vincent Chin, Asian American killed in 1982](#) [Corey Williams, *The Associated Press*, 16 June 2022]

Decades before Chinese immigrant Yao Pan Ma was attacked while collecting cans in New York and Thai American Vicha Ratanapakdee was fatally assaulted in San Francisco, Vincent Chin was beaten to death with a baseball bat in Detroit by two White men who never served jail time. Forty years later—and amid a rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans—Detroit has partnered with The Vincent Chin 40th Remembrance & Rededication Coalition on a four-day commemoration to honor civil rights efforts that began with Chin's death and declare the city's commitment against such violence. "Although hate

crimes existed, Vincent Chin did bring out a flash point for Asian Americans,” Stanley Mark, senior staff attorney at the New York-based Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, said, calling Chin’s death “a seminal moment among Asian Americans.”

[How a Race Riot Involving an Army Unit Led to the Largest Murder Trial in U.S. History](#) [Stephen Ruiz, *Military.com*, 14 June 2022]

*In July 1917, the all-Black 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, traveled by train from Columbus, New Mexico—near the Mexican border—to Houston. They were tasked with guarding the construction of an auxiliary National Guard training facility. The soldiers could not have fully imagined what awaited them. Their assignment to guard Camp Logan was scheduled to last seven weeks. It barely lasted a month, cut short by a race riot that resulted in 20 deaths and three courts-martial. Nineteen soldiers were executed, and 63 were given life sentences. Those verdicts stemming from the Houston Race Riot of 1917 might not be final, though. As of June 2022, the Army is reviewing a clemency petition for all 110 soldiers convicted after the three military proceedings resulting from the riot, a spokesman for the service confirmed to *Military.com*.*

[How structural racism led to the biggest mutiny in U.S. Navy history](#) [William Jung, *Task & Purpose*, 14 June 2022]

*The generational impact of slavery led to one of the United States’ most tragic incidents: the largest mutiny in U.S. Naval history and the deadliest incident on the homefront during World War II. In the segregated military, Black sailors were not allowed to serve in combat roles and instead were limited to support roles such as that of stevedore—someone who loads and unloads cargo. To many Black sailors who voluntarily enlisted to fight the Germans and Japanese, such forced assignments led them to perform dangerous jobs like handling explosive munitions. While most sailors handling and loading dangerous explosives were Black, their supervisors were White officers, who raced their crews against each other to boost their load rate and win bets. This practice often violated safety measures such as loading two ships at the same pier in an attempt to improve their rate. On July 17, 1944, two ships, S.S. *Quinault Victory* and S.S. *E.A. Bryan* were docked on the same pier when an explosion obliterated them both, along with 4,600 tons of ammunition, instantly killing 320 men and wounding hundreds more.*

[Native children’s remains to be moved from Army cemetery](#) [Michael Rubinkam, *Army Times*, 14 June 2022]

For more than a century they were buried far from home, in a small cemetery on the grounds of the Army War College. Now they’re heading home. The Army began disinterring the remains of eight Native American children who died at a government-run boarding school at the Carlisle Barracks, with the children’s closest living relatives poised to take custody. The children had lived at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, where thousands of Native children were taken from their families and forced to assimilate to White society as a matter of U.S. policy—their hair cut and their clothing, language and culture stripped. More than 10,000 children from more than 140 tribes passed through the school between 1879 and 1918, including famous Olympian Jim Thorpe.

[New York fund apologizes for role in Tuskegee syphilis study](#) [Jay Reeves, *The Associated Press*, 11 June 2022]

For almost 40 years starting in the 1930s, as government researchers purposely let hundreds of Black men die of syphilis in Alabama so they could study the disease, a foundation in New York covered

funeral expenses for the deceased. The payments were vital to survivors of the victims in a time and place ravaged by poverty and racism. Altruistic as they might sound, the checks—\$100 at most—were no simple act of charity: They were part of an almost unimaginable scheme. To get the money, widows or other loved ones had to consent to letting doctors slice open the bodies of the dead men for autopsies that would detail the ravages of a disease the victims were told was “bad blood.” Fifty years after the infamous Tuskegee syphilis study was revealed to the public and halted, the organization that made those funeral payments, the Milbank Memorial Fund, publicly apologized Saturday to descendants of the study’s victims.

[A Noose Was Found at a Federal Facility in Tennessee](#) [Courtney Bublè, *Government Executive*, 13 June 2022]

*A noose was found recently at an Energy Department facility in Tennessee and the situation is now under investigation. The discovery was at the Y-12 National Security Complex, which is one of six production facilities in the nuclear security enterprise of the National Nuclear Security Administration, a semi-autonomous agency of the Energy Department. “An employee recently discovered a noose in a lightly trafficked area of a building under construction. It was removed immediately,” Jason Bohne, spokesperson for the company and the site, told *Government Executive*. “We are committed to providing employees with a work environment that is free of harassment, intimidation, retaliation, and discrimination. A noose blatantly violates our policies and work rules and will not be tolerated.”*

[Why The Racial Wealth Gap Is So Hard To Close](#) [Greg Rosalsky, *NPR*, 14 June 2022]

It’s been almost 160 years since Union General William T. Sherman led 60,000 soldiers on his “March to the Sea,” a scorched-earth campaign through Georgia aimed at bringing the American Civil War to a quicker end. Shortly after, Sherman met with a group of Black ministers in Savannah to discuss the future. Four days after the meeting, on January 16, 1865, Sherman issued Special Field Order No. 15, which confiscated from Confederate landowners about 400,000 acres along the coast, stretching from Charleston, South Carolina, down to St. John’s River in Florida. But, a few months after approving Special Field Order No. 15, Lincoln was assassinated. And his successor, Andrew Johnson, was a turncoat. He quickly began reversing pro-Black policies of the Lincoln Administration, including the policy of redistributing 400,000 acres of Confederate land to freed slaves. Despite all the ostensible progress Black Americans made in politics, business, and culture in the mid-to-late 20th and early 21st centuries, the economists find there’s been very little progress in closing the average racial wealth gap since 1950.

RELIGION

[Southern Baptists vote to fight sexual abuse and elect a leader eager for change](#) [Blake Farmer, *NPR*, 15 June 2022]

*The annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention put dissonance on display. The mass gathering Tuesday and Wednesday in Anaheim, Calif., entailed two days of bickering over hot-button religious topics—ordaining women, denouncing the LGBT movement, applauding abortion bans—interspersed with 15-minute blocks of worship, prayer and preaching. Repentance was the dominant theme of the spiritual interludes. There is much to repent for after the bombshell third-party investigation by *Guidepost Solutions*, authorized at last year’s meeting. The report, made public May 22, revealed widespread silencing of abuse victims. The denomination even kept tabs on hundreds of credibly*

accused ministers but allowed them to move to other churches without sharing that information, the report noted.

SEXISM

[Google paying \\$118M to settle pay bias case](#) [Rebecca Klar, *The Hill*, 13 June 2022]

Google will pay \$118 million to settle a case alleging the tech giant paid female employees less than men for similar work. A third party will also analyze Google's pay practices as part of Friday's settlement agreement ending a case first brought by former employees in 2017. The settlement covers about 15,500 female employees across 236 job titles in California since Sept. 14, 2013. The lawsuit accused Google of discriminating against female employees by "systematically paying" them lower compensation than male employees, as well as by assigning and keeping women in job levels with lower compensation ceilings and advancement opportunities than they do for men with similar skills and experience.

[North Carolina charter school's skirt requirement for girls unconstitutional, court rules](#) [Nate Raymond, *Reuters*, 14 June 2022]

A North Carolina charter school's requirement that girls wear skirts based on the view that they are "fragile vessels" deserving of "gentle" treatment by boys is unconstitutional, a federal appeals court ruled on Tuesday. The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 10-6 that Charter Day School violated three female students' equal protection rights by adopting the skirts policy based on gender stereotypes about the "proper place" for girls in society. The school implemented a dress code that its founder, businessman Baker Mitchell, in an email and testimony said would "preserve chivalry" and ensure girls are treated "courteously and more gently than boys." The Richmond, Virginia-based court also allowed the students to pursue a claim under Title IX, a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in federally-funded education.

SEXUAL ASSAULT/HARASSMENT

[Campus sex assault rules fall short, prompting overhaul call](#) [Heather Hollingsworth, *The Associated Press*, 16 June 2022]

What Karla Arango says started as a dorm-room sexual assault got even worse as word spread around campus. Her attacker's fraternity brothers snubbed her, she says, whispering about her in the cafeteria, blocking her phone number and unfriending her on social media. Soon her grades were slipping. Arango's experience in her first year at Northern Kentucky University highlights what experts see as deep-seated problems with Title IX, the 1972 federal civil rights law that prohibits sexual discrimination in education. It turns 50 this month. Heralded as a gamechanger for female college athletes, the law also is supposed to protect sexual assault and harassment accusers like Arango, giving them options like moving dormitories or even getting their attackers removed from the school. In practice, the law's protections fall short, accusers and advocates say.

["I have f*ing had it"—Airman goes public with allegations of assault and criminal justice failure](#) [Haley Britzky, *Task & Purpose*, 14 June 2022]

An airman in Florida made a TikTok video over the weekend in which she described her assault by another service member last year, and said that she is being failed by the civilian and military justice

systems. “My name is Staff Sgt. Kacie Suchanek, and today marks eight months since I’ve been raped,” the airman says in the video, looking directly at the camera as she sits in her uniform. “I’ve absolutely had it and I’m at my breaking point.” Suchanek, an airman with the 125th Fighter Wing in the Florida Air National Guard, said she was raped by another service member on Oct. 11, 2021. Because of her and her attacker’s duty status, and because the assault happened off-base, Suchanek told Task & Purpose on Monday that it did not fall within the military’s jurisdiction to prosecute and was instead being handled by civilian authorities. She did say, however, that her request for an expedited transfer to another unit was recently rejected, though she isn’t sure by whom.

[Two students sue shipping giant Maersk, alleging sexual assault and harassment](#) [Blake Ellis and Melanie Hicken, CNN, 15 June 2022]

An 18-year-old US Merchant Marine Academy student who was repeatedly harassed and groped by older, male crew members during a training program aboard a commercial ship was so terrified of being sexually assaulted that she slept in a locked bathroom, clutching a knife for protection, a lawsuit filed Wednesday alleges. Using the moniker Midshipman-Y, the young woman’s account represents the latest blow to the federal academy, which has struggled to protect students from sexual abuse both on campus and at sea, and hold offenders accountable. Last year, the academy briefly shut down its mandatory “Sea Year” training program following the published report of another student who said she was raped by a senior crew member at sea in the summer of 2019, when she was 19 years old.

VETERANS

[At 94, this vet preserves the history of World War II linguists secretly trained in Minnesota](#) [Laura Yuen, *The Star Tribune* (Minneapolis, Minn.), 14 June 2022]

They were considered America’s secret weapon in the war against Japan. But decades later, their secrets—and the stories of their sacrifice—need to be shouted from our rooftops. Eighty years ago this month, the first of 6,000 soldiers came to the Twin Cities during World War II to be trained at a covert military intelligence language school. Most were Nisei, born in the United States to Japanese immigrant parents. They would later be shipped to the Pacific theater to intercept radio signal communications, translate captured battle plans, interrogate prisoners of war, and even crawl toward enemy lines to spy on Japanese commanders. Major Gen. Charles Willoughby, chief of military intelligence for Gen. Douglas MacArthur, estimated the Nisei shortened the Pacific war by two years and saved a million American lives. The irony is that many of these men and women, or their families, were incarcerated because the U.S. government deemed them a national security threat due to their Japanese ancestry.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

[“Everyone Can Rally Around Bicycles”: Vets to Honor All-Black Corps with Ride](#) [Daniel Langhorne, *Military.com*, 14 June 2022]

Bobby McDonald’s infectious smile beams as he tells the unusual history of the 20 Black soldiers and their White lieutenant who pioneered the U.S. Army’s use of bicycles. Military planners’ interest in bicycles likely stemmed from a desire to ditch slow-moving logistics wagons that would stretch for 50-60 miles behind a Civil War-era army. Soldiers had to transport feed for horses, and bicycles could move much more quietly without requiring trips to water troughs. But the history of bicycles in the service is more than just a technological oddity. It also coincides with a shift in how Black soldiers would serve their country. For more than a year, the event, called Iron Riders 2022, has been planned by a

committee that includes Black military veterans. McDonald is the son of a soldier who served with the segregated 1321st Engineer General Service Regiment in Europe and Okinawa during World War I, and is a veteran himself, having volunteered for the Navy on Aug. 11, 1965, the day the Watts Riots started.