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Subject: Morning Clips – Wednesday, January 6, 2016

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Gov. Nikki Haley to deliver Republican Address Following SOTU:

Associated Press: Haley's response to Obama not 1st time on national stage

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3FLAz8SI

Seanna Adcox

After a year when a church massacre and catastrophic flooding put her in the spotlight, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will get further national exposure when she gives the Republican response to the State of the Union address. But she's not new to the national stage. In 2012, she spoke at the Republican National Convention and campaigned for past GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney.

Note: Haley, who attended funerals for all of the massacre's victims, has said the event motivated by "pure hate" will "forever change the way I live my life." In calling for the flag's removal, she acknowledged the differing views that for years prevented politicians, including herself, from even broaching the subject.

Note: "My hope is that by removing a symbol that divides us, we can move our state forward in harmony," she said.

Associated Press: Gov. Haley to give Republican response to State of Union

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HpBJurzU

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will give the Republican response to a State of the Union address that is sure to include President Barack Obama's plans for tightening gun sales, seven months after both spoke at funerals for the victims of a massacre at a historic black church in Charleston.

Note: Haley, who attended funerals for all of the church shooting victims, has said the event motivated by "pure hate" will "forever change the way I live my life."

Note: "These people are forever ingrained in my soul - what they went through," she told The Associated Press amid tears in July.

The State: Gov. Nikki Haley to deliver GOP response to Obama's State of the Union

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article53133455.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley, coming off a year where she gained national attention for her handling of the Charleston church slayings, will deliver the Republican response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address on Jan. 12.

Note: "This is a time of great challenges for our country but also of great opportunities," she said in a statement. "I intend to speak about both."

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley to deliver GOP State of the Union national response

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160105/PC1603/160109680>

Schuyler Kropf

The move comes as Haley's profile has been elevated in recent months as a possible vice presidential pick, and follows the biggest summer of her political career, one that was flanked by the June 17 Emanuel AME Church shooting and the removal of the Confederate battle flag from S.C. Statehouse grounds.

Note: Haley is the state's first female governor and, as an Indian-American, its first minority chief executive. Haley issued a media statement Tuesday indicating her address would be one of optimism.

Note: "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities," Haley said. "I intend to speak about both."

Greenville News: Gov. Nikki Haley to deliver GOP response to the State of the Union

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/05/gov-nikki-haley-deliver-gop-response-state->

union/78315098/

Tim Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the GOP response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union speech to Congress next Tuesday. Republican leaders said they chose Haley, the youngest governor in the country, to deliver what is being called the "Republican Address to the Nation" because she is a "proven leader" who is "getting things done" in South Carolina.

Note: Haley, serving her second term, said she was honored to be selected to deliver the address. "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities," she said in a statement. "I intend to speak about both."

CNN: Nikki Haley to deliver GOP response to State of the Union

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/05/politics/state-of-the-union-2016-republican-response-nikki-haley/>

Theodore Schleifer, Deirdre Walsh

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the Republican Party's official response to the State of the Union on January 12, a major test for someone considered to be a potential nominee for vice president. Haley will get a prime-time national platform to offer a contrast not only with President Barack Obama's agenda for his final year in office, but also with Democrats seeking to succeed him in November's election.

Note: "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities. I intend to speak about both," Haley said Tuesday in a statement.

Washington Post: Nikki Haley to deliver GOP's rebuttal to the State of the Union address

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2016/01/05/nikki-haley-to-deliver-gops-rebuttal-to-the-state-of-the-union-address/>

Karoun Demirjian

Republicans have selected South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley to deliver the GOP's response to the State of the Union address next Tuesday. House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) made the announcement Tuesday afternoon, praising Haley's leadership in South Carolina and hat-tipping her economic record.

Washington Post: Gov. Nikki Haley just got a chance to try out for vice president

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2016/01/06/gov-nikki-haley-just-got-a-chance-to-try-out-for-vice-president/>

Amber Phillips

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R) had a very strong 2015. And next week -- just the second full one in this new year -- she'll have a chance to make 2016 quite a bit more interesting when it comes to her political future. News broke Tuesday that Republican leaders in Congress chose Haley to give her party's response to President Obama's final State of the Union address, which he's delivering to Congress on Tuesday.

WSJ: S.C. Gov. Haley to Give GOP Response to Obama's State of the Union

<http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2016/01/05/s-c-gov-haley-to-give-gop-response-to-obamas-state-of-the-union/>

Byron Tau

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the Republican response to President Barack Obama's final State of the Union address. Ms. Haley, occasionally mentioned as a possible vice presidential candidate, will deliver the primetime response to Mr. Obama's address on Tuesday Jan. 12 where Mr. Obama will speak in front of a joint session of Congress.

USA Today: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley to give State of the Union response

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/01/05/nikki-haley-state-of-the-union-response-obama/78316056/>

Mary Troyan

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the Republican response to President Obama's State of the Union speech next week. The appointment by Senate and House Republican leaders will only further speculation that the second-term governor of the state that holds the South's pivotal first primary on Feb. 20 is a potential vice presidential candidate in 2016.

Note: "I was honored to be asked by Speaker Ryan and Senator McConnell to deliver the Republican address to the nation," Haley said. "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities. I intend to speak about both."

CBS News: Nikki Haley to deliver the GOP response to the State of the Union

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/nikki-haley-to-deliver-the-gop-response-to-the-state-of-the-union/>

Rebecca Shabad

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the Republican response to President Obama's State of the Union address next Tuesday. Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wisconsin, and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, made the announcement Tuesday, a week before Mr. Obama delivers his final address to both chambers of Congress.

Note: "I was honored to be asked by Speaker Ryan and Senator McConnell to deliver the Republican address to the nation," Gov. Haley said in a statement provided by their offices. "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities. I intend to speak about both."

NBC News: South Carolina's Nikki Haley to Deliver State of the Union Response

<http://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/south-carolina-s-nikki-haley-deliver-state-union-response-n490791>

Carrie Dann

Since her election in 2010, Haley has built a national profile, serving as the country's youngest governor and South Carolina's first woman to hold the job. An Indian-American who was first elected at the age of 38, she made headlines in July for her successful push to remove the Confederate flag from the South Carolina statehouse grounds in Columbia.

ABC News: SC Gov. Nikki Haley to Deliver GOP State of the Union Response

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/sc-gov-nikki-haley-deliver-gop-state-union/story?id=36104891>

Benjamin Siegel

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley will deliver the Republican response to President Obama's final State of the Union address. The South Carolina Republican, a rising star in the GOP, is seen as a possible Republican vice presidential candidate in 2016.

Note: "I was honored to be asked by Speaker Ryan and Senator McConnell to deliver the Republican address to the nation," Gov. Haley said in a statement. "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities. I intend to speak about both."

Fox News: SC Gov. Nikki Haley to deliver Republican response to SOTU address

<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/01/05/sc-gov-nikki-haley-to-deliver-republican-response-to-sotu-address.html>

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has been tapped to deliver the Republican response to President Obama's final State of the Union address next week. Haley, a rising star within the GOP, grabbed headlines last year for her role in the removal of the Confederate flag from the South Carolina statehouse grounds.

Note: "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities. I intend to speak about both," Haley said in a written statement.

India West: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley to Deliver GOP Response to the State of the Union

http://www.indiawest.com/news/global_indian/south-carolina-gov-nikki-haley-to-deliver-gop-response-to/article_8849769a-b3ff-11e5-8d46-7b4398b2aa00.html

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is scheduled to provide the Republican response to President Barack Obama's upcoming State of the Union address. House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell made the announcement Jan. 5. Obama's speech on the state of the union is scheduled for Jan. 12.

Note: "This is a time of great challenges for our country, but also of great opportunities. I intend to speak about both," she said in a statement.

RedState: Gov. Nikki Haley to give Republican State of the Union Response.

<http://www.redstate.com/2016/01/05/nikki-haley-state-of-the-union/>

Moe Lane

A good choice: Governor Haley is a successful two-term governor of an important Republican primary state and on a bunch of people's short list for the Vice Presidential nod. It's also at the same time a bad choice; State of the Union responses have been a rough gig for politicians for the last couple of decades or so.

S.C. Political News:

Greenville News: Haley endorses Collins in Liberty event

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/01/05/haley-endorses-collins-liberty->

[event/78303226/](#)

Ron Barnett

When state Rep. Neal Collins first met Nikki Haley, it was during her run for her first term as governor, at a campaign appearance in Anderson attended by just four people. He came away impressed with what he heard. "We said if her messages gets across, she can win," Collins told a crowd of about 200 at a fund-raiser reception to kick off his campaign for a second term.

Note: Haley acknowledged the protesters in her remarks, saying, "I want to thank those protesters out there, because my husband and my brother fought for the right for them to protest."

Post and Courier: Obama's gun plan will play into the South Carolina primaries

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160105/PC1603/160109660>

Lauren Sausser, Schuyler Kropf

Guns just became a bigger part of South Carolina's 2016 presidential primary battle. After President Barack Obama unveiled his unilateral package of executive reforms Tuesday, the blowback from Republicans on the campaign trail was loud and immediate.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Mount Holly deal prompts S.C. lawmakers to take closer look at Santee Cooper

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160105/PC05/160109659>

David Wren

A stalemate with Century Aluminum over an electricity contract for the company's Mount Holly smelter has put Santee Cooper under the legislative microscope, with a committee of state lawmakers looking at ways to make the utility more responsive to its customers' needs.

Florence Morning News: Florence representatives preview 2016 session at breakfast forum

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_5ae514e0-b411-11e5-9099-eb476ad40513.html?_dc=455410222988.5757

Joshua Lloyd

Reps. Phillip Lowe, a Republican from District 60; Roger Kirby, a Democrat from District 61; and Jay Jordan, a Republican from District 63, answered a slew of questions about infrastructure funding, flood-related problems, education reform, gun control and bipartisan efforts.

Associated Press: SC Chamber unveiling legislative agenda for 2016

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=mWF2BOSd

South Carolina Chamber President Ted Pitts and Board Chairman John Uprichard are holding a news conference Wednesday at the Statehouse. Organizers say they and other leaders from the state's business community will be delivering the Chamber's 2016 Competitiveness Agenda to state legislators, who reconvene next week.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Post and Courier: Obama's worthy aim on guns

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160106/PC1002/160109651>

Editorial

President Barack Obama announced Tuesday that he is taking executive action to tighten gun regulations in a practical manner that can save lives. Those modest policy revisions include better background checks on firearms purchases, more effective enforcement of gun laws already on the books, and enhanced safeguards against the mentally ill obtaining those deadly weapons.

South Carolina News:

Greenville News: State Sen. Malloy, Pinckneys attend Obama gun announcement

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/01/05/state-sen-malloy-pinckneys-attend-obama-gun-announcement/78319174/>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

South Carolina state Sen. Gerald Malloy had a front-row seat at the White House on Tuesday when President Obama announced his executive actions to curb gun violence, but the honor came with a certain sense of regret.

Post and Courier: Amid other police killings and murder cases, bail for Michael Slager not unusual
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160105/PC16/160109689>

Andrew Knapp, Christina Elmore

Michael Slager spent 38 more weeks behind bars than the seven officers charged in high-profile police-involved deaths in Chicago and Baltimore combined. The bail he posted earlier this week, \$500,000, was higher than most amounts set in pending Charleston-area murder cases.

Florence Morning News: Obama's gun action draws support, skepticism in Pee Dee
http://www.scnw.com/news/local/article_9b18c3fa-b410-11e5-b104-2f9a7fc71d44.html?_dc=250252326019.1083

Jessica Imbimbo

President Obama's executive orders on guns are drawing some support and some skepticism among people involved in the firearms industry in the Pee Dee. Obama's executive action requires anyone who is selling a firearm to have a license and conduct background checks.

The State: Midlands residents rip, praise Obama's gun rules
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article53013085.html>

President Barack Obama's much-anticipated new gun-control rules drew ire and praise from Midlands residents Monday. "He wants to take my guns," said Kim Nettles, a 66-year-old West Columbia resident who said Obama's plan — to issue executive orders Tuesday enacting new gun rules — is "illegal."

Local News:

Post and Courier: Charleston Mayor Joe Riley thanks Holy City for "extended opportunity" to serve
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160105/PC16/160109633>

Diane Knich

Charleston Mayor Joe Riley shared three final thoughts Tuesday night as he winds down after 40 years as the Holy City's leader. He called on residents to continue to strive for and demand excellence; fight for racial justice; and protect the planet, which is in danger from global warming and sea-level rise.

The State: Penny tax fallout: Ex-Columbia city councilman Newman pays back taxes and is serving six-month probation

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article53075395.html#storylink=cpy>

John Monk

State Judge Cordell Maddox gave Newman two years' probation but said it would be shortened to six months' probation once Newman had paid \$10,843 in back taxes for 2012 and 2013. That sum includes \$1,000 in court costs.

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