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To:
Date: 6/19/2015 3:44:58 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, June 19, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley calls for death penalty in church shooting

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150619/PC16/150619332/1177/gov-nikki-haley-calls-for-death-penalty-in-church-shooting>

Andrew Knapp, Prentiss Findlay

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said Friday morning that the gunman who killed nine people at the downtown Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church should get the death penalty. Dylann Storm Roof, 21, of Eastover is accused of going to the Calhoun Street church on Wednesday night and opening fire, killing nine people who were attending a Bible study.

Note: “We will seek the death penalty,” Haley said outside the church Friday morning. “You will absolutely pay the price. This is pure hate.”

Washington Post: S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley: Charleston gunman should face the death penalty

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2015/06/19/south-carolina-governor-charleston-gunman-should-face-the-death-penalty/>

Mark Berman

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley called the shooting spree inside a Charleston church a hate crime and said Friday that the accused gunman should face the death penalty.

Note: “This is an absolute hate crime,” Haley, a Republican, said in an interview Friday with the “Today” show. “And when I’ve been talking with investigators as we’ve been going through the interviews, they said they looked pure evil in the eye yesterday. Without question this is hate.”

Politico: Nikki Haley: Charleston shooter deserves death penalty

<http://www.politico.com/story/2015/06/dylann-roof-deserves-death-penalty-nikki-haley-119200.html>

Nick Gass

A little more than a day after the shooting at a historic black church in Charleston, South Carolina, the state’s political figures are still coming to grips with an attack that killed nine people. Accused Charleston shooter Dylann Roof should get the death penalty, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said Friday.

Note: “We will absolutely want him to have the death penalty,” Haley told NBC News’ Savannah Guthrie on “Today,” adding that there is only one person to blame for the shooting at Emanuel AME Church on Wednesday night. “A person filled with hate,” she added.

New York Times: Charleston Shooting Reignites Debate About Confederate Flag

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/06/20/us/charleston-shooting-reignites-debate-about-confederate-flag.html>

Katie Rogers

On Thursday, hours after a white gunman killed nine people in a black church in Charleston, S.C., a Confederate flag continued to fly over the grounds of the state’s Capitol. The Supreme Court ruled the same day that Texas did not violate the First Amendment by refusing to allow the flag on its license plates.

Note: Representative Mark Sanford of South Carolina, a Republican, and the state’s Republican governor, Nikki R. Haley, are both drawing criticism for their views on the flag. On MSNBC’s “Morning Joe,” Mr. Sanford called the idea of removing the flag a “Pandora’s box” and a “complex issue within our state.”

USA Today: Dylann Roof subdued as victims' kin call for forgiveness over church attack

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/nation/2015/06/19/dylann-roof-charleston-police-charged--murder-black-church/28975573/>

Yamiche Alcindor, Doug Stanglin

Dylann Roof, who is charged with nine counts of murder in the attack on a historic black church, appeared wan and subdued Friday at a brief court hearing as relatives of some of the victims said they forgive him so

that "hate doesn't win."

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, speaking on NBC's Today show on Friday, said that "we will absolutely will want him to have the death penalty" for the fatal shooting of nine members of a Bible study group at the Emanuel AME Church on Wednesday evening.

Note: "I think that conversation will probably come back up again and what we hope is that we do things the way South Carolinians do, which is have the conversation, allow some thoughtful words to be exchanged, be kind about it on what we're trying to achieve, and trying to do it, and I think this state will talk about that again and you know, we'll see where it goes," Haley said.

LA Times: 'I forgive you,' relatives of those slain in Charleston church shooting tell suspect

<http://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-charleston-church-shooting-roof-20150619-story.html#page=1>

Richard A. Serrano, Timothy M. Phelps

Dylann Roof was ordered held without bail on murder charges in connection with an attack on a black church in Charleston, S.C., that left nine African Americans dead and reopened a national debate about racial violence.

Note: "This is a state that is hurt by the fact that nine people innocently were killed," Haley said on Friday, adding that the state "absolutely will want him to have the death penalty." Haley spoke on NBC's "Today" show and called the shooting "an absolute hate crime."

ABC News: Confederate Flag Flies in South Carolina: An Explainer on the Ongoing Debate

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/confederate-flags-flies-south-carolina-debate-continues-symbol/story?id=31892710>

Evan Simon

The shooting of nine black parishioners at a historically black church in Charleston, South Carolina, on Wednesday night has reopened the controversy surrounding the state's continued display of the confederate flag on capitol grounds.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley, who was in tears during a news conference Thursday morning, had previously rejected the notion of removing the flag at a debate last year, saying it was a "sensitive issue." Haley's press secretary told ABC News: "In South Carolina, the governor does not have legal authority to alter the flag. Only the General Assembly can do that."

Washington Post: 'I forgive you.' Relatives of Charleston church shooting victims address Dylann Roof

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2015/06/19/i-forgive-you-relatives-of-charleston-church-victims-address-dylann-roof/>

Mark Berman

The relatives of people slain inside the historic African American church in Charleston, S.C., earlier this week were able to confront the accused gunman Friday at his first court appearance. One by one, those who chose to speak at a bond hearing did not turn to anger. Instead, while he remained impassive, they offered him forgiveness and said they were praying for his soul.

Note: Roof was arrested Thursday morning in North Carolina after a florist saw him in his car and called police. On Friday morning, South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley called the shooting spree "an absolute hate crime" and called on prosecutors to seek the death penalty.

Post and Courier: NAACP president calls church shooting a hate crime, pledges support for investigation

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150619/PC16/150619320/naacp-president-calls-church-shooting-a-hate-crime-pledges-support-for-investigation>

Adam Parker

NAACP President Cornell William Brooks on Friday imagined the scene in the basement of Emanuel AME Church, where "a hand of welcome" likely was extended to the mass shooting suspect, where the doors of the church remain open to strangers. The dozen who had gathered to study Scripture could not have known what was about to transpire, that an angry young man would "lay down his Bible and take up a gun."

Associated Press: Shooting puts spotlight on Confederate flag at SC Statehouse

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=K104cGQ9

Tensions over the Confederate flag flying in the shadow of South Carolina's Capitol rose this week in the wake of the killings of nine people at a black church in Charleston. The symbolism was rendered more raw because the suspected gunman briefly escaped in a car bearing Confederate insignia.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley says renewed discussions about the flag should wait.

Bloomberg: Nikki Haley Calls for Death Penalty in Charleston Shooting

<http://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2015-06-19/nikki-haley-calls-for-death-penalty-in-charleston-shooting>

Ben Brody

South Carolina's governor wants the person accused of killing nine people at a historic black church in Charleston to receive the death penalty.

Note: "Without question," Governor Nikki Haley said Friday on NBC's Today show. "We... absolutely will want him to have the death penalty. This is the worst hate that I've seen and that the country has seen in a long time."

Emanuel AME Church News:

WCIV: Sources say suspect confessed to church shooting, in cell beside Michael Slager

<http://www.abcnews4.com/story/29360378/sources-say-suspect-confessed-to-church-shooting>

Sources with ABC News confirmed Friday morning that Dylann Roof confessed to authorities that he shot and killed nine people at a downtown church. "We are getting cooperation at this point," the official told ABC News. Roof is currently in custody at the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley says Roof should get the death penalty. "I have absolutely no problem with the death penalty," she said. "Here in South Carolina, you do something like this to nine families you will absolutely pay the price. We will fight this as hard as we possibly can."

Note: "You want to see hate crime, watch how we handle him," Haley said. "That will show you how we deal with hate crimes in South Carolina."

WBTB: Charleston shooting suspect denied bond on murder charges

<http://www.wbtv.com/story/29352552/charleston-church-shooting-suspect-to-appear-in-court>

Chris Dyches

The South Carolina man accused in a deadly church shooting, that left nine people dead, appeared in court in Charleston County at 2 p.m. Friday via monitor. He was denied bond on nine charges of murder. Dylann Roof, 21, was arrested in Shelby, North Carolina just before 11 a.m. Thursday after he was spotted driving a car in Kings Mountain.

Note: "You know, we woke up today and the heart and soul of South Carolina was broken," South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley said.

Note: "These 9 families need us, the Emmanuel AME Church needs us, the AME church family needs us and the people of South Carolina need us to come together and be strong for what has happened," Haley said.

Post and Courier: Suspect Roof housed in cell next to Slager; report says bomb threat came from county jail

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150619/PC16/150619328/suspect-roof-housed-in-cell-next-to-slager-report-says-bomb-threat-came-from-county-jail>

Andrew Knapp

Charleston police said Friday morning that Dylann Storm Roof will face nine murder charges in the shooting deaths Wednesday night at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in downtown Charleston. The Charleston County jail is housing Roof in a cell adjacent to North Charleston police officer Michael Slager, who shot 50-year-old Walter Scott in the back on April 4, according to sheriff's Maj. Eric Watson, spokesman.

Greenville News: Shootings raise questions about flying Confederate flag

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2015/06/19/shootings-raise-questions-flying-confederate-flag/28983691/>

Tim Smith

When the state and United States flags were lowered at the Statehouse Thursday to pay respects to the nine people shot to death in a historic black church in Charleston, one flag that was not adjusted was the Confederate battle flag. Now some lawmakers are calling for its removal and a petition has gathered 83,000 signatures on MoveOn.org calling for the flag to come down from "all government places."

Reuters: White suspect in massacre at black U.S. church appears in court

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2015/06/19/usa-shooting-south-carolina-idINKBN0OZ1EW20150619>

Edward McAllister, Harriet McLeod

A 21-year-old white man accused of murdering nine people in a historic black South Carolina church appeared in court on Friday by closed-circuit television from the jail where he was brought after his arrest at the end of a 14-hour manhunt.

ABC News: Dylann Roof: NAACP Leader Condemns Shooting as 'Act of Racial Terrorism'

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/dylann-roof-naacp-leader-condemns-shooting-act-racial/story?id=31886619>

Emily Shapiro

NAACP President Cornell William Brooks today condemned the South Carolina church shooting as "an act of racial terrorism," adding that it "must be treated as such." "People of all faiths, of all traditions, every hue, every heritage, are quite simply shocked by this crime," Brooks said at a passionate news conference in downtown Charleston.

Politico: NRA board member blames pastor for Charleston deaths

<http://www.politico.com/story/2015/06/nra-board-member-blames-clementa-pinckney-charleston-shooting-119202.html#ixzz3dWzt4uyD>

Nick Gass

A board member for the National Rifle Association blamed the gun-control position of South Carolina state Sen. Clementa Pinckney, a pastor who was killed in Wednesday night's shooting at a historic black church in Charleston, for the deaths of his congregation.

CBS News: S.C. Confederate flag not lowered after Charleston massacre

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/south-carolina-confederate-flag-not-lowered-after-charleston-massacre/>

After nine people were fatally shot in a historic black church in Charleston, flags at the top of the South Carolina State Capitol were flown at half-staff to honor the victims. However, while the American flag and state flag were lowered, a nearby Confederate flag flew at normal height.

Note: The discrepancy has to do with state law. South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley can order state flags to be flown at half staff but according to the Washington Post, it is the State's General Assembly that dictates the manner in which the Confederate Flag is flown.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Associated Press: Legislators resume negotiations on state budget for 2015-16

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Yr8Qh8Cs

Seanna Adcox

South Carolina legislators are resuming budget negotiations in hopes of having a spending plan in place before the fiscal year starts July 1. A six-member committee of House and Senate members meets Friday morning to try to work out a compromise for allocating more than \$7 billion in state taxes.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Fed: S.C.'s labor force numbers 'overestimated;' calls rising jobless rate 'headscratcher'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20150619/PC05/150619329/fed-sc-x2019-s-labor-force-numbers-x2018-overestimated-x2019-calls-rising-jobless-rate-x2018-headscratcher-x2019>

Warren L. Wise

A Federal Reserve Bank economist believes the labor force numbers are "overestimated" and not an accurate reflection of the unemployment rate in South Carolina. "I think we are getting a false reading on the labor force," said Rick Kaglic, senior regional economist at the Charlotte branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

The State: S.C. unemployment rate ticks up to 6.8 percent in May

<http://www.thestate.com/news/business/article24965770.html#storylink=cpy>

South Carolina's unemployment rate inched up slightly again in May to 6.8 percent from 6.7 percent in April, the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce said Friday, as the number of unemployed individuals in the state also rose again last month, now totaling more than 153,000 people.

Associated Press: South Carolina's jobless rate rises slightly

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

South Carolina's unemployment rate increased slightly last month. The Department of Employment and Workforce said Friday that May's unemployment rate rose from 6.7 percent in April to 6.8 percent in May.

The agency also said that the number of people working in the state last month reached a record of more than 2.1 million.

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