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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Index-Journal: Some public information more public than other

<http://www.indexjournal.com/opinion/editorial/Some-public-information-more-public-than-other-15699511>

State lawmakers do the public's business, only they don't do it all too publicly. That's because legislators are exempt from having to share their emails, calendars and the like, and they're apt to keep it that way under the guise of protecting the identity of constituents who might otherwise be intimidated if they knew their correspondence with lawmakers was subject to public scrutiny.

Note: Of note, however, is that Gov. Nikki Haley's office did respond and comply with the request, but that's because the same exemption afforded the General Assembly does not apply to her. Also of note is just how unspectacular the governor's emails were. Apparently she conducts no state business via email, at least not according to the 450 emails the AP was given. Instead, her emails included various correspondences with state residents, to include requests, complaints, commendations and even suggestions as to who she should or should not back in the GOP bid for the White House. No meaty correspondence with staff, no correspondence with elected officials, members of her cabinet or any other key political players.

WYFF4: NC governor focused on bond issue, not re-election or presidential race

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/nc-governor-focused-on-bond-issue-not-reelection-or-presidential-race/38510458>

Mike McCormick

During an appearance in Asheville Monday, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory said the gubernatorial and presidential races will not be the most important issues on the ballot for Tuesday's primary. McCrory joined college and military leaders for a panel at the University of North Carolina Asheville to discuss the state's bond issue, known as Connect NC. Voters will decide on the \$2 billion bond issue aimed at improving parks, safety, recreation, infrastructure and education throughout the state.

Note: "If we don't pass it, what do we do about the dilapidated facilities at our state parks, at our universities and our community colleges? It puts us behind our competition, even next door in South Carolina, and (Gov.) Nikki Haley knows I won't accept that," McCrory told WYFF News 4's Mike McCormick.

S.C. General Assembly News:

WACH: House Representative calls situation at DJJ 'toxic'

<http://wach.com/news/local/house-representative-calls-situation-at-djj-toxic>

Tara Petitt

A member of a House panel investigating the Department of Juvenile Justice is calling a situation there 'toxic'. Last week, the House Oversight Committee heard testimony from a DJJ officer and the agency Director, and Representative Kirkman Finlay says he has concerns about where the department is headed. "Clearly there are issues," said Finlay. Since WACH Fox News started investigating the Department of Juvenile Justice after an incident at the agency last month, a Deputy Director has stepped down, Governor Nikki Haley has visited the agency and put changes in place, and two groups of lawmakers have launched their own investigations.

Post and Courier: Bill could give terminally ill patients access to experimental drugs

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160315/PC1211/160319661/1002/bill-could-give-terminally-ill-patients-access-to-experimental-drugs>

Derrek Asberry

Terminally ill patients in South Carolina may gain easier access to experimental drugs if one of two bills navigating through the Statehouse makes it to Gov. Nikki Haley's desk for a signature. Known as the "Right to Try," nearly 30 states have already signed a similar bill into law, said Sen. Paul Campbell, a Republican from Berkeley County. Campbell is the primary sponsor of the Senate bill that passed unanimously on Feb. 24. The bill requires the consent of a doctor before a terminally ill patient can try experimental drugs. The patient also must promise not to hold a doctor or drug manufacturer liable for the outcome of taking the drug.

Note: The bill passed the House on its third reading last week, increasing the likelihood that one of the two bills will make it to Haley's desk. "I believe the governor will sign one," Campbell added.

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: S.C. Senate moves to refugee bill

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160315/PC1603/160319631/palmetto-sunrise-sc-senate-moves-to-refugee-bill>

Gavin Jackson

State senators are expected to begin debate today on a fast-tracked bill that would require refugees to register with the state. The debate comes after the Senate's first priority, a roads bill, was approved and sent back to the House last week. Roebuck Republican Sen. Lee Bright's bill, [S. 997](#), is aimed at Syrian refugees who could be resettled in the state. The bill requires refugees to register via a state Department of Social Services public online database; hold refugee resettlement agencies liable for any terrorist action by a refugee; and halt spending state local funds on refugees.

The State: Daughter of top SC lawmaker vies for college seat

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article66010022.html>

Andy Shain

S.C. lawmakers will decide whether the daughter of Senate President Pro Tempore Hugh Leatherman, considered the state's most powerful politician, wins a seat on a state college's board of trustees. A legislative review panel approved Karen Leatherman, the owner of a Florence fitness center, as a candidate Monday for the Francis Marion University board. Leatherman is competing for the at-large seat held by trustee Mary Finklea, a pastor at Cross and Crown Lutheran Church in Florence. Finklea was elected to the board in 2014.

The Herald: Clover students work with S.C. lawmaker to propose 'bottle bill'

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/education/article66011857.html>

Jennifer Becknell

Eighth-grader Chloe Clark said students at Clover's Oakridge Middle School realized they throw away too many aluminum cans. And that gave them an idea. Clark is one of nine students on an Oakridge robotics team who want to propose a state "bottle bill" that would create a 5-cent rebate for people who recycle the cans. "More people would recycle," she said, "and the place is going to be cleaner." The students teamed up with state Rep. Tommy Pope, R-York, who has offered to get the students' legislative proposal written and introduced in the General Assembly.

Independent Mail: Senate candidates discuss road funding at Anderson forum

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/senate-candidates-discuss-road-funding-2e0727e8-9881-0f0a-e053-0100007fab8a-372056561.html>

Kirk Brown

A discussion about road funding dominated a forum Monday night involving candidates seeking the vacant South Carolina Senate District 4 seat. The state Senate approved a plan last week that would

set aside an additional \$400 million annually for road projects without raising South Carolina's 16-cent gas tax. Williamston Town Councilman Rockey Burgess said Monday that the money in the Senate plan should be divided among the state's 46 counties instead of going to the South Carolina Department of Transportation, which he compared to a "bucket with a big hole in the bottom." He also criticized Rep. Mike Gambrell of Honea Path for supporting an effort last year to raise the state's gas tax.c

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: Editorials from across South Carolina: DJJ, tobacco tax, SC farmers

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article65979017.html>

Op-ed

The damage to DJJ staff, inmates and property during gang violence at the Broad River Road complex in Columbia are only part of distressing developments at the state agency. An analysis of the late February outbreak made it clear that the S.C. Department of Juvenile Justice administration is falling down on its critical job....

A recent survey by the South Carolina Tobacco-Free Collaborative shows broad support for another increase in the state's cigarette tax, with 73 percent of those surveyed favoring an increase. South Carolina's current cigarette tax is 57 cents. It ranks 44th in the nation....

The losses suffered by South Carolina's farmers in 2015 are well documented: Drought and then flooding, with the final result a disaster of major proportions. Debate continues on what if any help farmers will receive. But time is short....

The State: Gamble: Legislature needs to reform ethics law

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/article65978702.html>

Letter

South Carolina is graded a shameful D-, and 36th nationally, in the State Integrity Investigation's most recent assessment of state governments' accountability and transparency laws and systems. The General Assembly's refusal to strengthen the ethics law reinforces citizens' belief that legislators are watching out for themselves instead of those who elected them. Politicians don't appear to share the public's sagacious interest in integrity and accountability. Otherwise, ethics reform would have occurred long ago. In putting ethics reform on the back burner year after year, elected officials are destroying the public's trust in them. They're also losing future votes.

Post and Courier: Sunshine Week is a reminder to strengthen FOI laws

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160315/PC1002/160319654>

Editorial

It's not so much a celebration as it is an awareness campaign.

Throughout the state and all across the country, this week — March 13-19 — is designated as Sunshine Week. The week has nothing to do with weather conditions but everything to do with how the country is weathering a constant chipping away of its rights to be served by a transparent government in which public information flows readily into the hands of the people served by those they elect and appoint. Here in South Carolina we frequently hear lawmakers state their staunch support for the public's right to access public information. But let meaningful legislation hit the floor and watch how quickly the particulars are debated and kept at bay from a vote as it is batted back and forth in committee until, suddenly and quite deliberately, another session has come and gone with little or nothing accomplished.

Post and Courier: Progressive taxes to fix roads

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160315/PC1002/160319644>

Letter

A March 12 letter addressed the issue of the much-needed increase in a user fee — the gas tax. What it failed to mention is that the Legislature's response is not a fix, but rather a patch. It will take

monies that should be used for education, health care, etc., in a one-time event. Certainly an increase in the gas tax is called for. I face that reality every time I drive down Calhoun or Cannon street, or numerous other local roads. We need a far-reaching solution — a gas tax increase, but more.

South Carolina News:

WIS: First responders across the state run mass casualty exercise

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31468541/first-responders-across-the-state-run-mass-casualty-exercise>

Allie Spillyards

First responders across the state ran mass casualty drills on Monday to prepare in case such an emergency takes place. In Saluda County, they used an earthquake. Officials worked through the extra challenge they face as the county lacks a hospital. Without a hospital nearby, EMS practiced taking the wounded to an airport hangar. During the drill, medics were able to treat 40 patients in just a couple of hours. Officials believe the day was a success, especially because they learned how to coordinate with other agencies.

Post and Courier: Spearman tells coaches S.C. high schools to adopt 10-point grading scale

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160314/PC20/160319655>

Jeff Hartsell

Since she was elected the state's superintendent of education in 2014, Molly Spearman has heard from both Clemson football coach Dabo Swinney and South Carolina coach Will Muschamp on at least one issue: the state's uniform grading policy for high school students. Spearman told the S.C. Athletic Administrators Association on Monday that the uniform grading policy is expected to shift from a 7-point grading scale to a 10-point scale beginning with the 2016-17 school year. The policy shift will help "level the playing field" for students competing for scholarships and seeking NCAA academic eligibility, Spearman told the group of coaches and athletic directors meeting in Charleston.

Island Packet: SC Ports Authority denies claims in Port Royal railroad lawsuit

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article65986072.html>

Stephen Fastenau

Port Royal property owners suing the town and state over rights to a former railroad line have no stake in the property, the S.C. Ports Authority said in a response this month. Attorneys for property owners along the railroad line south of Ribaut Road filed the lawsuit in December in Beaufort County court. The owners are asking to be paid for the value of rail property they said was intruded upon by plans for the Spanish Moss Trail. In an answer filed March 11, the Ports Authority said it retained rights to the property when the railroad was abandoned. The agency said it is further protected from claims of trespassing and inverse condemnation by state tort law and the statute of limitations.

Local News:

Post and Courier: Tecklenburg, Beaufort mayor meet with White House about offshore drilling, oil exploration

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160314/PC16/160319635>

Melissa Boughton

The mayors of Charleston and Beaufort believe a major announcement is coming after a daylong series of bipartisan meetings with White House and congressional staff members about the issue of oil exploration and drilling off the S.C. coast. At issue is whether the state and other South Atlantic states will remain on the list of states the U.S. Department of the Interior has proposed to open up to offshore drilling in its latest five-year plan, according to a Monday media release from the city of Charleston.

Note: "Everyone we spoke to today seemed to understand and appreciate our deep concerns about the dangers that offshore drilling would pose to our environment, our economy and our citizens'

quality of life here along the South Carolina coast,” said Mayor John Tecklenburg. “And while there were no specific promises made, we came away from our meetings very hopeful that we will soon see major movement in the right direction on this issue.”

Associated Press: Chief praises officer for not firing back after being shot

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=siiSwa5g

SC State Wire

A police chief in South Carolina praised a veteran officer Monday for not shooting at a suspect who had already shot him in the arm because there was a small child in the room. Darnell Dawkins was the first officer into a Woodruff home during a drug raid, Woodruff Police Chief Alan Bledsole said at a news conference. The bullet went through the fleshy part of Dawkins' upper arm. Dennis Alexander, 38, fired on the officer because he thought he was being robbed, then immediately put down his gun, authorities said. He faces attempted-murder and other charges. "It's incredible, the discipline it takes to keep from returning fire from somebody who just shot you," Bledsole said.

Herald-Journal: Two in custody following shooting of police officer in Woodruff

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160314/articles/160319869>

Daniel J. Gross

A police officer is wounded and two people are in custody after a shot rang out during a drug raid in Woodruff Monday morning.

Sgt. Darrell Dawkins, a veteran officer with the Woodruff Police Department, was first through the door during the search for suspected cocaine when he took a bullet to the upper left arm. The shooting has left Woodruff's police chief hoping the case will weigh heavily on the court system when dealing with repeat violent offenders. Dawkins is recovering from the shooting and eager to get back to work.

WSPA: Greenville Police Chief changes “use of force” policy in wake of national outcry

<http://wspa.com/2016/03/14/greenville-police-chief-changes-use-of-force-policy-in-wake-of-national-outcry/>

Addie Hampton

Greenville's Police Chief is making changes to how his officers use force in the field. A brand new policy is now on the books aiming to preserve the sanctity of life and reduce the number of incidents across the department. In the wake of national outcry over acts of police brutality, Chief Ken Miller is putting out a more tempered message. “It is not the police department's will, it's not our mission, it's not our pleasure to take life from anyone,” said Miller. “What we set out to do is make that policy much clearer and much more straightforward.”

Aiken Standard: SLED closes case of Aiken County man killed in officer-involved shooting

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160315/AIK0102/160319714>

Tripp Girardeau

Just over four months ago, an Aiken County man was killed in an officer-involved shooting at his Pine Drive home, and the case is now closed after the three deputies involved were found clear of any wrongdoing. SLED spokesman Thom Berry said Monday the case involving 57-year-old Brian Gavin was closed Feb. 23, after no criminal charges were filed against Sgt. Darryl Kostyk, Dep. Daniel Byrd and Dep. Nicholas Lott, all with the Aiken County Sheriff's Office.

Greenville News: NAACP urges Simpsonville to keep police accreditation

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/golden-strip/2016/03/14/naacp-urges-simpsonville-keep-police-accreditation/81758444/>

Scott Keeler

With the deadline for payment to fund the Simpsonville Police Department's pursuit of top accreditation through CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) coming Tuesday, the Greenville Branch of the NAACP is urging Simpsonville City Council to support

the efforts of the police. The Greenville Branch of the NAACP has been working with all of the municipalities and the Sheriff in Greenville County since September 2014 to improve the trust and community relationship as well as to encourage more training of law enforcement officers for the good of the community.

Times and Democrat: Deputy becomes Dr. Shumpert

http://thetandd.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_e5181786-f6d4-54d3-82f1-31e617e0fac3.html

A deputy has become the first at the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office to hold the titles of both "lieutenant" and "doctor." Lt. James Shumpert became Dr. Shumpert about two weeks ago when his doctorate in physiology with an emphasis in criminal justice from Capella University was confirmed. "I wanted to better understand the problems we face, the social roots of crime, which in the long run gives us a higher solvability rate," Shumpert said.

The Herald: York County Sheriff's Office drug dog retiring from law enforcement

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article66023347.html>

Teddy Kulmala

A Labrador retriever that came close to being euthanized after his rescue from a puppy mill is now enjoying his retirement after nearly a decade in law enforcement.

Justice "Kilo" Gibson, a narcotics K-9 with the York County Sheriff's Office, has officially retired from the agency and will spend the rest of his days at the home of his handler, Master Deputy Randy Gibson. The decision to retire Justice was due mainly to his age and Gibson's decision to return to road patrols.

Post and Courier: St. Johns firefighters call on chief to resign

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160314/PC16/160319636>

Prentiss Findlay

More than half of St. John's firefighters want Chief Colleen Walz to resign because they have lost confidence in her ability to lead the department, according to a statement presented Monday to the fire district commission. Hostile relations with some staffers, high employee turnover, inadequate firefighter training, poorly-maintained equipment, lack of proper incident command structure and problems with payroll-benefit deductions were among the complaints.

Associated Press: Applications open for Reverend Pinckney Scholars Program

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5vSUorqR

SC State Wire

Applications are now open for a college scholarship program named in honor of the slain pastor of Emanuel AME Church. The Post and Courier of Charleston reports (<http://bit.ly/1pqWxMn>) the Reverend Pinckney Scholars Program will award up to eight renewable scholarships, worth between \$5,000 and \$10,000 annually. Black high school seniors who live in Beaufort, Charleston or Jasper counties are eligible to apply.

Post and Courier: Making school choice easier

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160315/PC1002/160319650>

Editorial

When the smoke clears, the Charleston County School District's new online Choice Schools Application should be seen as a welcome advancement for school choice. Yes, the rollout was a problem. The application process was delayed due to computer glitches, and some parents received erroneous information about the status of their children as regards admission to various choice schools. They were understandably upset. But because parents were able to fill out one online application for as many choice schools as they wanted — and deliver them all with a key stroke — the number of applications doubled to around 8,000 over last year.

Herald-Journal: Hail pounds Upstate, cancels Tuesday classes at Duncan Elementary School

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160314/articles/160319847>

Zach Fox

A hailstorm that swept across the Upstate Monday evening caused so much damage at Duncan Elementary School that the school will be closed Tuesday. Hail, high winds and heavy rain pounded portions of the area after a supercell thunderstorm swept across several counties. Spartanburg School District 5 Superintendent Scott Turner said hail punctured several areas of Duncan Elementary's roof, causing leaks.

Greenville News: Pickens School Board votes to close two schools

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/03/14/pickens-school-board-votes-close-two-schools/81774106/>

Ron Barnett

Dozens of parents were left standing outside in the rain at fire marshal's orders as the Pickens County School Board voted to close two schools in a raucous meeting Monday night that climaxed weeks of turmoil over how to solve the district's facilities problems. "The two communities here have been ripped apart and they cannot be repaired," retired Pickens Elementary teacher Vickie Gibson said after the vote.

The State: Council set to cast 1st vote on financing of BullStreet neighborhood

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article66066907.html>

Clif Leblanc

Columbia City Council is scheduled to cast its first vote Tuesday on issuing \$11 million in bonds to help pay for roads, water and sewer lines and other infrastructure at the BullStreet development and to raze the Gonzales Gardens housing complex. That new taxpayer debt spread out over 30 years would be in addition to \$29 million in a meal-tax bond paying for the construction of the year-round stadium set to open in a month.

Aiken Standard: Aiken County Council to take up final vote on Autoneum fee in lieu agreement

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160314/AIK0101/160319722>

Christina Cleveland

Aiken County Council will vote Tuesday on a third and final reading of a fee in lieu of tax incentive agreement for Autoneum North America, a Delaware automotive company that is looking to expand its Powderhouse Road facility in Aiken. Autoneum, previously identified as Project Full Court Press in council documents, is a producer and developer of automotive components and systems for noise and heat protection. Officials said its expansion could bring as many as 41 new jobs and invest approximately \$35.5 million into the county's economy.

Herald-Journal: Salary increase proposed for department employees

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160314/articles/160319846>

Chris Lavender

Lyman Town Council will consider salary increases for department employees for next fiscal year. The council met Monday night to discuss proposed fiscal 2016-17 budgets for the town's streets department and for municipal court. Mayor Pro-tem Tony Wyatt said a proposed salary increase for department employees would be evaluated as the budget development process moves forward. The council agreed to consider a 2 percent salary increase for department employees.

Morning News: Racial tensions dominate Florence City Council meeting

http://www.scnow.com/news/local/article_0fae7cae-ea4f-11e5-8016-e7d9f0ec5b36.html

Joshua Lloyd

At the March Florence City Council meeting on Monday, tensions ran high after Councilman Ed Robinson again made multiple claims of racism by the city – including accusations against two black council members. The contention started after Robinson said his plans often are shut down because

the city has a vendetta against the black community and his voice. He referred to an amendment he tried to add to last month's agenda that was shot down by "the two other people on this council who look like me."

Independent Mail: Clemson Islamic community to open up mosque to community forums
<http://www.independentmail.com/news/clemson-islamic-community-to-open-up-mosque-to-community-forums-2e0af2a9-173c-4b44-e053-0100007f86d8-372040221.html>

Charmaine Smith-Miles

Islamic Society of Clemson members want to dispel some misinformation about their faith, their culture and their religion's holy writings by presenting a series of community meetings. Imam Mohammad Mustafa, the leader of the Clemson group, will present eight weekly meetings at which he and members of the society will answer questions about the Quran and the Islamic faith. The meetings will be free and open to the public.

Times and Democrat: Jobless rates up in region
http://thetandd.com/news/local/article_d4253f2b-8896-5200-b79e-4f4f89e54b89.html

Jobless rates rose across The T&D Region in January, but remained flat across South Carolina as a whole, according to figures released Monday by the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce. Orangeburg County's unemployment rate increased to 9.2 percent in January, up from 8.6 percent in December. The county ranked fifth in the state for unemployment. Last year at this time, the county's unemployment rate was 11.9 percent.

Times and Democrat: FHC grant focuses on opioid abusers
http://thetandd.com/news/local/article_7723ae33-2972-528c-82e8-cb65f72f9056.html

Family Health Centers Inc. is receiving a grant to improve substance abuse services, with a specific focus on the treatment of opioid use disorders. Family Health Centers Inc. in Orangeburg will receive \$325,000, Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell announced. South Carolina centers in Florence and Little River are also receiving grants. Burwell said the awards put health centers at the forefront of the fight against substance abuse.

National News:

Associated Press: Rubio, Kasich fighting to keep White House hopes alive
<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:e4fd27cd376d4a50a3007323002e06f4>

Julie Pace and Thomas Beaumont

Republicans Marco Rubio and John Kasich are fighting for their political futures Tuesday, desperate for wins in their home states of Florida and Ohio to keep their White House hopes alive and complicate Donald Trump's path to the nomination. Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton is hoping to keep rival Bernie Sanders from building new momentum in the Midwest. With more delegates up for grabs than almost any other day in the primary calendar, Tuesday's contests afford Trump and Clinton the chance to put their parties' nominations out of sight for their competitors. While Florida and Ohio are the biggest prizes, Missouri, Illinois and North Carolina are also awarding a cache of delegates.

Associated Press: Forget favorite candidates, some people voting strategically
<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:26b3d0a178e14c44b835eb4f1ff159fc>

Nancy Benac

Are these voters confused? No, they're voting strategically in the year of Donald Trump in hopes of altering the outcome of the presidential race by voting for someone other than their favorite candidate in the primaries. Democrat Croft, for example, figured Clinton didn't need her help to win Virginia. So she decided to vote instead against Trump in the Republican primary because some of her GOP friends were worried he would win the state. In other cases, Democrats are crossing over to do just the opposite: voting for Trump, on the thinking he'd be the weakest candidate to face the eventual

Democratic nominee. Strategic voting happens every election, of course, but political scientists say there's far more intrigue than usual about what's going on in this very atypical political year.

Miami Herald: Marco Rubio reflects on candidacy ahead of Florida primary

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics-government/election/article66059857.html>

Patricia Mazzei

Marco Rubio began the Republican presidential race as a pesky upstart unafraid to show up his political friend, Jeb Bush, for a shot at the White House. He enters Florida's primary Tuesday as a short-lived GOP establishment favorite overwhelmed by the popular force of Donald Trump. Which means Rubio's candidacy could come to an end in his home state after a wild election cycle that even Rubio, for all his smooth eloquence and political shrewdness, struggles to explain.

Associated Press: Brothers accused in recording attack that left officer dead

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:1b02d56e16154df6a829f6ea507706a7>

Jessica Gresko

An undercover narcotics officer was mortally wounded by one of his colleagues as he responded to an attack on his police station by a gunman with a death wish, their police chief angrily explained on Monday. And while Officer Jacai Colson lay dying, the gunman's two brothers coldly recorded Sunday's firefight on their cellphones, Prince George's County Police Chief Hank Stawinski said, tapping a podium and trying to contain his emotions.

Associated Press: IS leader al-Shishani dies of wounds from US strike in Syria

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:9c98465b002b4302a789b57cca51d91a>

Qassim Abdul-Zahra and Bassem Mroue

A top Islamic State commander and feared ethnic Chechen jihadi fighter Omar al-Shishani has died of wounds suffered in a U.S. airstrike in Syria, a senior Iraqi intelligence official and the head of a Syrian activist group said Tuesday. Al-Shishani, who was wounded in a U.S. airstrike earlier this month, died on Monday outside the Islamic State group's main stronghold of Raqqa in Syria, the two told The Associated Press. There was no immediate confirmation of his death from IS or IS-linked media postings but a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition battling the Islamic State group in Iraq said the alliance was also confirming that the militant commander had died.

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