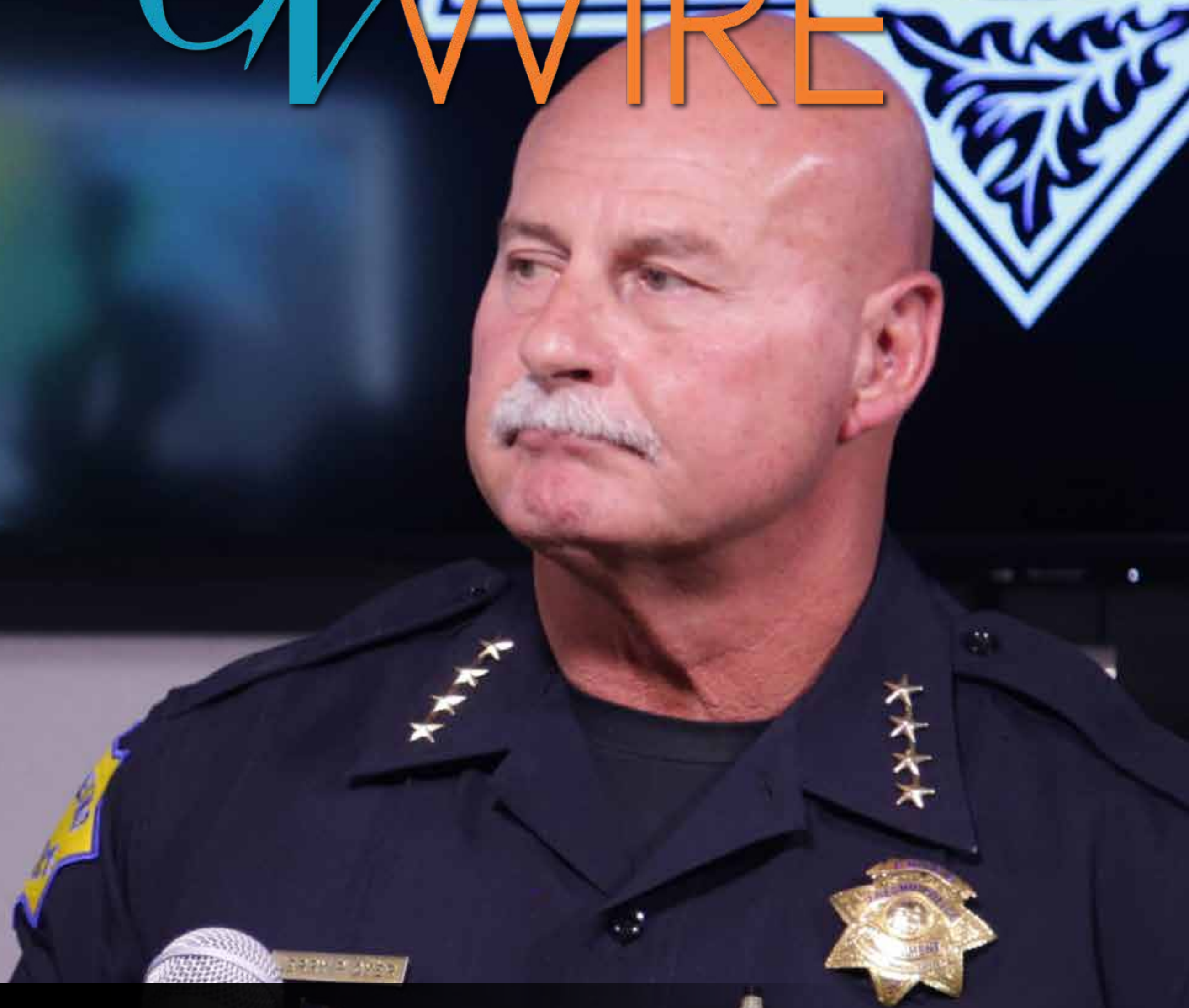


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**DYER 'CONCERNED' ABOUT
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WEEKLY DIGEST
AUGUST 23, 2019



DYER 'CONCERNED' ABOUT OFFICER'S USE OF FORCE ON JUVENILE

August 21, 2019 | David Taub

Fresno Police Chief Jerry Dyer said a January incident in which a gang-enforcement officer appeared to strike a 17-year old male repeatedly in the head "raises concerns." "It raises questions for me as a police chief," Dyer said at a news conference Wednesday afternoon. "What was seen in

"As a father, I am beyond 'disturbed' by the images depicted in this video footage. As a councilmember, I am disgusted and disappointed at how this situation has been handled."
— Fresno City Councilman Miguel Arias

this video by me was very concerning." The incident became public Tuesday after ABC 30 reported on a lawsuit filed on behalf of the juvenile. Body-worn camera footage shows an officer striking the youth multiple times and wrestling him to the ground during a gang enforcement arrest at an apartment complex. The case is under investigation by internal affairs.

Dyer Recaps Situation

Dyer said the MAGEC unit was performing a probation search for known gang members Jan. 23 at 250 N. Calaveras, apartment 204. Police thought there may be guns at the location. While there, they found 15-20 men at the apartment, many on probation or parole, Dyer said. The 17-year old "delayed" in exiting the residence, as requested by officers. He eventually left and was patted down by an officer on the outside landing. The minor was then directed to sit alongside a wall. The video shows Martinez striking the minor in the head numerous times. Officers then placed the minor in handcuffs. "One of the nearby MAGEC officers felt the individual had not followed the immediate directions of that officer, and also felt for whatever reason, that this individual was going to walk down that stairwell," Dyer recapped. "The officer reached out and grabbed the individual's arm and

attempted to guide him to a different location. It is not known at this time what occurred next. However, we do know that a struggle ensued which is clearly depicted in the video." Four men, including the juvenile, were arrested. The juvenile was taken to the hospital, treated and released. Dyer said charges were not pursued against the juvenile. No firearms were found.

Paboojian Represents the Juvenile

The civil rights lawsuit, which was filed by Warren Paboojian and Nolan Kane in Fresno Superior Court, alleges nine causes of action. They include two excessive force counts, two counts of infliction of emotional distress, and false imprisonment. The suit, at this point, does not seek a specific dollar amount. The court docket lists the next event as a Nov. 27 case management conference. The lawsuit says the juvenile suffered a broken nose and emotional distress.

"When a community has concerns about an officer's use of force, they want to know the police chief is going to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation. And then at the end of that investigation make a judgment. If people need to be held accountable, hold them accountable."

— Police Chief Jerry Dyer

Related Story: City Pays \$2.8 Million in Shooting Death of Dylan Noble

Arias, Janz Outraged by Video's Revelations

Fresno Councilman Miguel Arias released a scathing statement on the incident. "As a father, I am beyond 'disturbed' by the images depicted in this video footage. As a councilmember, I am disgusted and disappointed at how this situation has been handled. I have already spoken with Chief Dyer and strongly expressed the need for a prompt and thorough investigation into this incident," Arias said. Arias noted the city doubled its budget this year to \$4 million...

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DEPUTY CHIEF HALL NAMED FRESNO'S NEXT TOP COP

GV Wire/Jahz Tello

August 23, 2019 | GV Wire

Andy Hall, a deputy chief with the Fresno Police Department for the past three years, is Fresno's next police chief. Mayor Lee Brand and city manager Wilma Quan made the announcement in a morning news conference. Hall takes over as acting chief immediately.

Chief Jerry Dyer will begin utilizing leave time that will extend to his official retirement date of October 15. The following day, Hall will become the department's new Chief of Police. As deputy chief, Hall has overseen communications, information technology, and crime scene investigations.

Brand Will Begin New Police Chief Search

Hall's appointment follows a nationwide search and extensive community involvement in selecting Dyer's successor. Hall

did not apply for the job and was not among the finalists interviewed by a panel of city hall and community leaders last week.

Related Story: Police Chief Finalists: Fresno, Stockton, Out-of-State Candidates

While Hall's appointment as chief is not being described as an "interim" selection, Brand says he will begin a new police chief search next year. Quan said Hall is scheduled to retire from the Fresno Police Department in the spring of 2021. Hall said he will step aside when his successor as chief is selected and will remain with the department until his retirement.

FRESNO UNIFIED BOARD CONSIDERS NEW CENSURE, COMPLAINT RULES

August 21, 2019 | Nancy Price

The Fresno Unified School District board tabled a vote on a new bylaw detailing procedures for trustee censure at Wednesday's board meeting, just two weeks after the board took the rare step of **censuring a fellow trustee**. Board members said they wanted more time to review and provide comments on the proposed bylaw additions and revisions, including a new censure bylaw. They are scheduled to take the matter up again at the Sept. 18 school board meeting.

The proposed censure bylaw does not contain language allowing the board to order a trustee to undergo an anger management program or to remove a trustee's indemnification from any legal claims or actions resulting from the trustee's conduct. Both measures were included in an Aug. 7 censure of trustee Terry Slatic, the subject of a series of a complaints this year by Bullard students, a wrestling coach, and an Army recruiter that have been or are being investigated by the district. Drafts of...

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Fresno Unified

FRESNO COUNCIL APPROVES AIRPORT-STYLE SECURITY AT CITY HALL

August 21, 2019 | David Taub

UPDATE, 9:42 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 22

Without debate, the Fresno City Council approved new security measures for City Hall on a 6-1 vote, with Miguel Arias voting no. Sam Frank, president of the Fresno City Employees Association, supported council passing the measure. His union represents many city workers. "Our folks here in City Hall have always wanted better security. They will be very happy to know people are screened now so that nobody can walk in with a gun unchallenged and start doing harm to the employees here at City Hall," Frank said after the vote.

A sweeping new security plan at City Hall would install metal detectors and limit public entry to the first floor. The Fresno City Council will vote on awarding a \$345,000 contract to a Los Angeles security firm to implement the plan at its Thursday (Aug. 22) meeting. Some councilmembers are OK with...

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AP File

STATE

NEWSOM SIGNS LANDMARK POLICE USE-OF-FORCE BILL

August 19, 2019 | CALmatters

By **Dan Morain** and **Laurel Rosenhall**, CalMatters

California will soon have a tougher new legal standard for the use of deadly force by police, under legislation Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Monday that was inspired by last year's fatal shooting of a young, unarmed man in Sacramento. Newsom signed the legislation amid unusual fanfare, convening numerous legislators, family members of people who have died in police shootings and advocates including civil-rights leader Dolores Huerta in a courtyard at the Secretary of State's building used in the past for inaugurations and other formal events. The governor contends that with **Assembly Bill 392** in place, police will turn increasingly to de-escalation techniques including verbal persuasion, weapons other than guns and other crisis intervention methods. "I would hope that if AB 392 had been law last year, that our family would not have to be mourning Christopher's first anniversary today," Barbara Okamoto said in a statement. Her grandson, Christopher Okamoto, was **killed in Bakersfield** last Aug. 19, when police responded to a domestic violence call. He had a pellet gun.

Related Story: Police Chief Finalists: Fresno, Stockton, Out-of-State Candidates

Law Is a Compromise

The law **reflects a compromise** between civil-rights advocates who want to limit when police can shoot and law enforcement groups who said earlier versions of the bill would have put officers in danger. Under the new law, which takes effect Jan. 1, police may use deadly force only when "necessary in defense of human life."

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That's a steeper standard than prosecutors apply now, which says officers can shoot when doing so is "reasonable." One of the most significant changes will allow prosecutors to consider officers' actions leading up to a shooting when deciding whether deadly force is justified. "This will make a difference not only in California, but we know it will make a difference around the world," said Assemblywoman Shirley Weber, the San Diego Democrat who carried the legislation.

The law doesn't go as far as civil libertarians originally proposed and will likely leave it to courts to define what a "necessary" use of force is in future cases. The negotiations led a few early supporters, including the group Black Lives Matter, to drop their support and major statewide law-enforcement organizations to drop their opposition. After a year of contentious testimony over how to reduce police shootings, the final version of the bill **sailed through the Legislature** with bipartisan support.

Newsom's staff helped broker the compromise, and his signature was not a surprise. In March, after Sacramento's district attorney cleared the officers who killed Stephon Clark in his grandparents' backyard after mistaking the cell phone he was holding for a gun, Newsom **signaled support** for police reforms that "reinforce the sanctity of human life." And in June, he said he would sign the bill as he praised advocates for "working across their differences" to forge a compromise.

California Police Kill More Than 100 People a Year
California police kill more than 100 people a year — **a rate higher than the national average** and highest among states with populations of 8 million or more...

Under the new law, which takes effect Jan. 1, police may use deadly force only when "necessary in defense of human life."



OFF THE HOOK: CALIFORNIA KING SALMON REBOUNDS AFTER DROUGHT

AP/ Eric Risberg

August 22, 2019 | AP News

SAN FRANCISCO — Trolling off the California coast, Sarah Bates leans over the side of her boat and pulls out a long, silvery fish prized by anglers and seafood lovers: wild king salmon.

Reeling in a fish “feels good every time,” but this year has been surprisingly good, said Bates, a commercial troller based in San Francisco. Bates and other California fishermen are reporting one of the best salmon fishing seasons in years, thanks to heavy rain and snow that ended the state’s historic drought. It’s a sharp reversal for chinook salmon, also known as king salmon, an iconic species that helps sustain many Pa-

cific Coast fishing communities. Commercial salmon catches have surpassed official preseason forecasts by about 50%, said Kandice Morgenstern, a marine scientist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Harvests have been particularly strong in Morro Bay, Monterey and San Francisco, but weaker along California’s northern coast.

“We’re really surprised to be seeing this many fish being landed so far this season,” Morgenstern said. The salmon rebound comes after three years of extremely low catches that resulted from poor ocean conditions and California’s five-year drought, which drained the state’s rivers and...

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A CALIFORNIA FAIR BLEW TAXPAYER MONEY ON LOBSTER, WINE

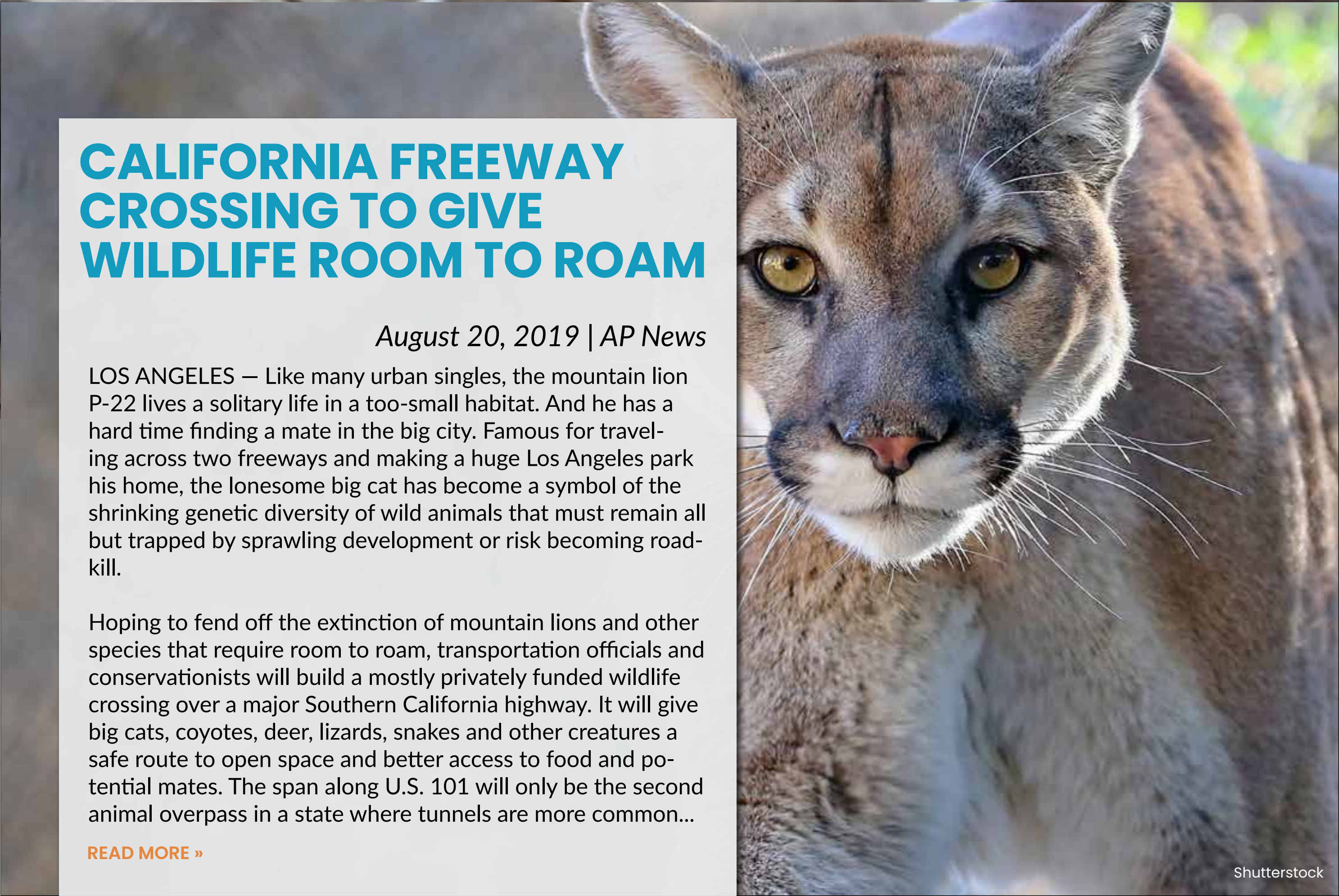
August 21, 2019 | GV Wire

A **state auditor's report** released Tuesday details “gross mismanagement” of an unidentified fair district, as well as the failure of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to perform compliance audits of the state’s district fairs.

The state auditor didn’t identify which of California’s 54 district agricultural associations misspent hundreds of thousands of dollars in state money. That’s because the auditor is protecting the whistleblowers’ identities. But the Big Fresno Fair says it wasn’t the fair cited in the auditor’s report.

“I want to ensure that the public knows The Big Fresno Fair is not the unidentified fair named in the State Auditor’s Office report,” said John C. Alkire, CEO of The Big Fresno Fair. “Unfortunately, reports like this cast a shadow over the positive impact of fairs throughout the State – working hard to...

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CALIFORNIA FREEWAY CROSSING TO GIVE WILDLIFE ROOM TO ROAM

August 20, 2019 | AP News

LOS ANGELES — Like many urban singles, the mountain lion P-22 lives a solitary life in a too-small habitat. And he has a hard time finding a mate in the big city. Famous for traveling across two freeways and making a huge Los Angeles park his home, the lonesome big cat has become a symbol of the shrinking genetic diversity of wild animals that must remain all but trapped by sprawling development or risk becoming road-kill.

Hoping to fend off the extinction of mountain lions and other species that require room to roam, transportation officials and conservationists will build a mostly privately funded wildlife crossing over a major Southern California highway. It will give big cats, coyotes, deer, lizards, snakes and other creatures a safe route to open space and better access to food and potential mates. The span along U.S. 101 will only be the second animal overpass in a state where tunnels are more common...

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U.S. TRUMP: ANY JEW VOTING DEMOCRATIC IS UNINFORMED OR DISLOYAL

August 21, 2019 | AP News

WASHINGTON — Showing a fresh willingness to play politics along religious lines, President Donald Trump said American Jews who vote for Democrats show “either a total lack of knowledge or great disloyalty.” Trump’s claim triggered a quick uproar from critics who said the Republican president was trading in anti-Semitic stereotypes. It came amid [Trump’s ongoing feud](#) with Democratic Reps. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, who are Muslim.

[Related Story: Israel Bars US Congresswomen – with Nudge from Trump](#)

Trump has closely aligned himself with Israel, including conservative Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, while the congresswomen are outspoken critics of Israel’s treatment of the Palestinians. Tlaib is a U.S.-born Pal-

**“I think any Jewish people that vote for a Democrat, I think it shows either a total lack of knowledge or great disloyalty.”
— President Donald Trump**

estinian American; Omar was born in Somalia. “Where has the Democratic Party gone? Where have they gone where they are defending these two people over the state of Israel?” Trump told re-

porters in the Oval Office on Tuesday. “I think any Jewish people that vote for a Democrat, I think it shows either a total lack of knowledge or great disloyalty.” A number of Jewish groups noted that accusations of disloyalty have long been made against Jews, including in Europe during the 1930s. Ann Lewis and Mark Mellman of Democratic Majority for Israel called it “one of the most dangerous, deadly accusations Jews have faced over the years. False charges of disloyalty over the centuries have led to Jews being murdered, jailed and tortured.”

Denouncing Trump’s Comments

At Trump’s urging, [Israel last week blocked Omar and](#)

[Tlaib](#) from entering the country. Israel later agreed to a humanitarian visit for Tlaib to visit her grandmother, who lives in the West Bank. [Tlaib declined](#), saying her grandmother had ultimately urged her not to come under what they considered to be humiliating circumstances. Trump called Omar a “disaster” for Jews and said he didn’t “buy” the tears that Tlaib shed Monday as she discussed the situation. Both lawmakers support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement, a global protest of Israel. Trump’s comments were denounced swiftly by Jewish American organizations.

“At a time when anti-Semitic incidents have increased — due to the president’s emboldening of white nationalism — Trump is repeating an anti-Semitic trope,” said Halie Soifer, executive director of the Jewish Democratic Council of America. Logan Bayroff of the liberal J Street pro-Israel group said it was “no surprise that the president’s racist, disingenuous attacks on progressive women of color in Congress have now transitioned into smears against Jews.” The Republican Jewish Coalition argued that Trump was speaking about people being disloyal to themselves rather than to Israel. “President Trump is right, it shows a great deal of disloyalty to oneself to defend a party that protects/emboldens people that hate you for your religion,” the group said in a tweet. American Jews don’t necessarily support everything that Israel does, nor are they the most single-issue voters.

Not the First Time Trump Has Been Criticized

Recent polling shows that a majority of Jews identify as Democrats. According to AP VoteCast, a survey of the 2018 electorate, 72% of Jewish voters supported Democratic House candidates in 2018. Similarly, 74% said they disapprove of how Trump is handling his job. A Pew Research Center poll conducted in April found that among Jewish Americans, 42% said Trump is favoring the Israelis too much, 6% said he’s favoring the...

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NEW TOOL WILL STOP ADS FROM FOLLOWING YOU ON FACEBOOK

August 20, 2019 | AP News

SAN FRANCISCO — Soon, you could get fewer familiar ads following you around the internet — or at least on Facebook. Facebook is launching a long-promised tool that lets you block the social network from gathering information about you on outside websites and apps.

The company said Tuesday that it is adding a section where you can see the activity that Facebook tracks outside its service via its “like” buttons and other means. You can choose to turn off the tracking; otherwise, tracking will continue the same way it has been. Formerly known as “clear history,” the

tool will now go by the somewhat awkward name “off-Facebook activity.” The feature will be available in South Korea, Ireland and Spain on Tuesday, consistent with Facebook’s tendency to launch features in smaller markets first. The company did not give a timeline for when it might expand it to the U.S. and other countries, only that it will be in “coming months.”

Blocking the tracking, which is on by default, could mean fewer ads that seem familiar — for example, for a pair of shoes you decided not to buy, or a nonprofit you donated...

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WEEDMAPS TO STOP ADVERTISING UNLICENSED POT BUSINESSES

August 22, 2019 | AP News

LOS ANGELES — The major online pot shop directory and cannabis marketplace Weedmaps announced Wednesday that it will no longer allow black-market businesses to advertise on its site, a decision that could boost California’s efforts to rein in its vast illegal market.

State regulators and licensed businesses had been pressuring the company to ban unlicensed businesses. Allowing untaxed, unregulated product on the site alongside the taxed marijuana of licensed and regulated stores undercut the legal market, they said.

“That is a huge win,” said Ryan Kunkel, whose Have A Heart dispensary chain operates in Washington, Oregon and California. “Our biggest competitor in every jurisdiction in California is black-market Weedmaps. It’s not the tax rates, it’s...

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MORMON WARNING: BEWARE OF THOSE FANCY COFFEE DRINKS

August 18, 2019 | AP News

SALT LAKE CITY — The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has issued a warning to members that coffee is prohibited no matter how fancy the name, that vaping is banned despite the alluring flavors and that marijuana is outlawed unless prescribed by “competent” doctors.

The new guidance in the August issue of a church youth magazine does not include fundamental changes to the religion’s strict health code, but the clarifications are significant and seem to reflect growing concern about young Latter-day Saints’ adherence to the rules.

The [article](#) says it aims to clear up issues that could be confusing for young people within the religion’s “Word of Wisdom,” a set of rules about what foods and drinks are good for members and what substances they should avoid. The rules prohibit alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs and coffee and tea...

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AP/Felipe Dana

WORLD

GREENLAND FALLOUT: TRUMP'S CANCELED TRIP BLINDSIDES DENMARK

August 21, 2019 | AP News

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen says she is “disappointed and surprised” by U.S. President Donald Trump’s decision to cancel his visit to Denmark after she called Trump’s idea of buying the semi-autonomous Arctic territory of

“Denmark is a very special country with incredible people, but based on Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen’s comments, that she would have no interest in discussing the purchase of Greenland, I will be postponing our meeting scheduled in two weeks for another time.” — President Donald Trump

Greenland from Denmark “an absurd discussion.” Trump, who was scheduled to visit Denmark on Sept. 2-3 as part of a European tour, tweeted his decision early Wednesday. The cancellation stunned Danes and blindsided the Danish royal palace, with spokeswoman Lene Balleby telling The Associated Press it came as “a surprise” to the royal household, which had formally invited Trump.

“Denmark is a very special country with incredible people, but based on Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen’s comments, that she would have no interest in discussing the purchase of Greenland, I will be postponing our meeting scheduled in two weeks for another time,” Trump said. The vast island of Greenland sits between the Atlantic and Arctic oceans, has a population of 56,000 and has 80% of its land mass covered by a 660,000 square-mile ice sheet. The political brouhaha over the world’s largest island comes from its strategic location in the Arctic, which due to global warming is becoming more accessible to possible potential oil and mineral resources. Nations from Russia to China, the U.S., Canada and elsewhere are racing to stake as strong a claim as they can to Arctic lands, hoping they will yield future riches. At the same time, scientists consider Greenland the canary in the coal mine for climate change and say its massive ice sheet has seen once of its biggest melts on record this summer, contributing to

a global rise in sea levels. Frederiksen said she is standing behind the government of Greenland, a semi-autonomous Danish territory.

Others Were Not as Gracious as Prime Minister

“A discussion about a potential sale of Greenland has been put forward. It has been rejected by Greenland Premier Kim Kielsen and I fully stand behind that rejection,” she told reporters at a press conference Wednesday in Copenhagen. Frederiksen, who took office two months ago in a minority Social Democratic government, went on to say that diplomatic relations between Copenhagen and Washington “are not in any crisis in my opinion” after Trump canceled his plans to visit. “The invitation for a stronger strategic cooperation with the Americans in the Arctic is still open,” Frederiksen told reporters, adding “the United States is one of our closest allies.”

Others in Denmark were not as gracious as the prime minister. Martin Lidegaard, a former Danish foreign minister, told broadcaster TV2 that it was “a diplomatic farce” and called Trump’s behavior “grotesque.” Trump’s cancellation was “deeply insulting to the people of Greenland and Denmark,” former Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt wrote on Twitter. Claus Oxfeldt, chairman of Denmark’s main police union, told Danish media that authorities had been busy planning the third visit by a sitting U.S. president to the Scandinavian NATO member. “It has created great frustrations to have spent so much time preparing for a visit that is canceled,” Oxfeldt was quoted as saying. Ordinary Danes shook their heads at the news, with many calling Trump an immature person who was “living on...

“The invitation for a stronger strategic cooperation with the Americans in the Arctic is still open. The United States is one of our closest allies.” — Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen

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IRAN MOVES TO STRIKE 4 ZEROES FROM ITS BATTERED CURRENCY

August 21, 2019 | AP News

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran’s president sent a bill to parliament Wednesday that would cut four zeroes from the value of the Islamic Republic’s sanctions-battered currency, the rial, as tensions remain high between Tehran and Washington.

By sending the bill to lawmakers, President Hassan Rouhani’s government shows it is serious about an idea mulled for some time in Iran, where people discuss monetary transactions in both rials and —informally but more commonly — in toman. A toman is worth 10 rials. If passed by parliament and approved by lawmakers, Iran’s Central Bank would in effect devalue the rial and rename it as toman. The bank would

have two years to create the new toman currency, returning a currency name that has not been officially used since the 1930s. Authorities have given no estimate for the cost of creating the new currency.

New Parliamentary Elections in March 2020
Also, it was unlikely the parliament would take up Rouhani’s request anytime soon. The request carried a low-urgency level, meaning parliament has up to two years, or until 2021, to deliberate and possibly approve the bill. However, Iranians are to hold new parliamentary elections in March 2020, making it likely that the bill would be decided on by the...

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REBELS CLAIM DOWNING US DRONE OVER YEMEN

August 21, 2019 | AP News

CAIRO — Yemen’s Houthi rebels claimed they shot down a U.S. drone over the country’s north, as a leading rights group said Wednesday the Saudi-led coalition fighting the Houthi is killed at least 47 Yemeni fishermen in bombing attacks on fishing boats last year. Yahia Sarie, a military spokesman for the Iran-backed Houthis, said in a statement their air defenses downed a U.S. MQ-9 drone on Tuesday over the northern city of Dhamar.

“The rocket which hit it was developed locally and will be revealed soon at a press conference,” he said. The U.S. military’s Central Command said in a statement that it was investigating the Houthi claims that they attacked an unmanned U.S. drone “operating in authorized airspace” over Yemen. “We have been clear that Iran’s provocative actions and support to militants and proxies, like the Iranian-backed Houthis, poses a serious threat to stability in the region and our partners,” said U.S. Army Lt. Col. Earl Brown, a...

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DOZENS DEAD OR HURT IN WEDDING PARTY BLAST IN AFGHAN CAPITAL

August 19, 2019 | AP News

KABUL, Afghanistan — A suicide-bomb blast ripped through a wedding party on a busy Saturday night in Afghanistan’s capital and dozens of people were killed or wounded, a government official said. More than 1,000 people had been invited, one witness said, as fears grew that it could be the deadliest attack in Kabul this year.

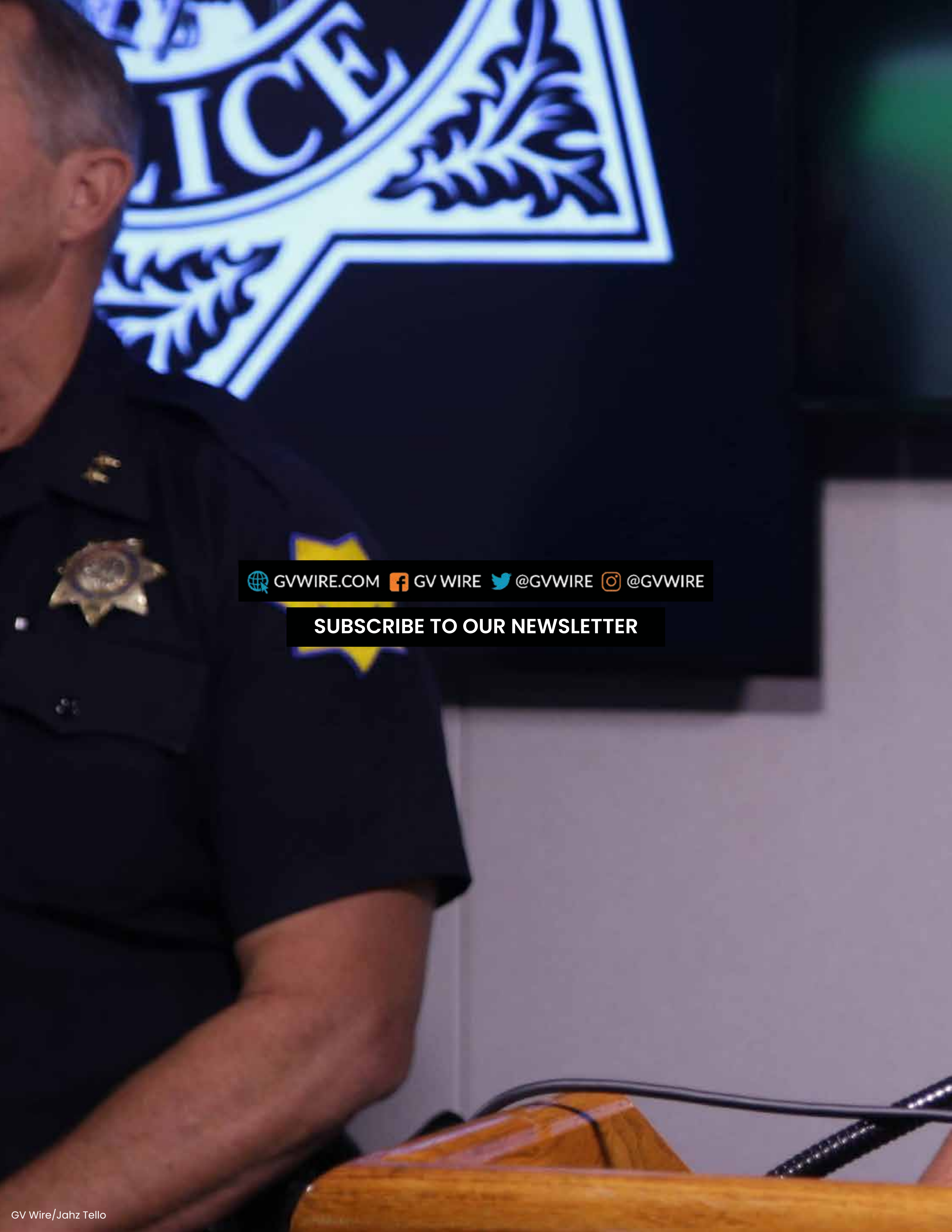
Interior Ministry spokesman Nusrat Rahimi told The Associated Press the attacker set off explosives among the wedding participants. Both the Taliban and a local affiliate of the Islamic State group carry out bloody attacks in the capital.

The blast occurred near the stage where musicians were and “all the youths, children and all the people who were there were killed,” witness Gul Mohammad said. One of the wounded, Mohammad Toofan, said that “a lot of guests were martyred.” Officials were not expected to release a toll until...

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