The Carolinian

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Young Black And Latino Men Say They Chose Trump Because Of The Economy And Jobs. Here's How & Why

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brian Leija, a 31-year-old small-business owner from Belton, Texas, was not surprised that a growing number of Latino men of his generation voted for Donald Trump for president this year. Leija had voted for the Republican in 2016 and 2020.

Leija's rationale was simple: He said he has benefited from Trump's economic policies, especially tax cuts.

"I am a blue-collar worker," Leija said. "So, tax breaks for small businesses are ideal for what I do."

For DaSean Gallishaw, a consultant in Fairfax, Virginia, a vote for Trump was rooted in what he saw as Democrats' rhetoric not matching their actions. "It's been a very long time since the Democrats ever really kept their promises to what they're going to do for the minority communities," he said.

Gallishaw, 25, who is Black, also voted for Trump twice before. This year, he said, he thought the former president's "minority community outreach really showed up."

Trump gained a larger share of Black and Latino voters than he did in 2020, when he lost to Democrat Joe Biden, and most notably among men under age 45, according to AP VoteCast, a nationwide survey of more than 120,000 voters.

Even as Democrat Kamala Harris won majorities of Black and Latino voters, it wasn't enough to give the vice president the White House, because of the gains Trump made.

Economy and jobs made men under age 45 more open to Trump

Voters overall cited the economy and jobs as the most important issue the country faced. That was true for Black and Hispanic voters as well.

About 3 in 10 Black men under age 45 went for Trump, roughly double the share he got in 2020. Young Latinos, particularly young Latino men, also were more open to Trump than in 2020. Roughly half of young Latino men voted for Harris, compared with about 6 in 10 who went for Biden.

Juan Proaño, CEO of LULAC, the nation's largest and oldest civil rights organization for Hispanic Americans, said the election results make it clear that Trump's messaging on the economy resonated with Latinos.

"I think it's important to say that Latinos have a significant impact in deciding who the next president was going to be and reelected Donald Trump," Proaño said. "(Latino) men certainly responded to the populist message of the president and focused primarily on economic issues, inflation, wages and even support of immigration reform."

The Rev. Derrick Harkins, a minister who has served Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York, has overseen outreach to Black American religious communities for more than a decade. He said that Trump's hypermasculine appeal worked to win over some younger men of color.

"I think that Trump with this bogus machismo has been effective amongst the young men, Black, white, Hispanic," Harkins said. "And I think unfortunately, even if it's a very small percentage, you know, when you're talking about an election like we just had it can be very impactful."

Black and Latino voters' priorities changed from 2020

While about 4 in 10 young voters under 45 across racial and ethnic groups identified the economy as the top issue facing the country, older white and Latino voters were likely to also cite immigration, with about one-quarter of each saying that was the top issue.

A clear majority of young Black voters described the economy as "not so good" or "poor," compared with about half of older Black voters. Majorities of Latino voters, regardless of age, said the economy is in bad shape.

That belief made it more difficult for Harris to highlight the actual numbers in the economy, which show that inflation has receded dramatically, unemployment remains low and wages have risen. These voters simply did not feel that progress.

This is the first time Alexis Uscanga, a 20-year-old college student from Brownville, Texas, voted in a presidential election. The economy and immigration are the issues that drove him to vote for Trump, he said.

"Everything just got a lot more expensive than it once was for me," Uscanga said. "Gas, grocery shopping even as a college student, everything has gone up in price and that is a big concern for me and other issues like immigration."

Having grown up selling tamales and used cars, and washing cars, Uscanga knows how hard it can be to make a living. When Trump was president, he said, it did not feel that way, he said.

"Under the Trump presidency more opportunities were abound," Uscanga said. "I was not very fond of President Trump because of his rhetoric in 2016 but I look aside from that and how we were living in 2018, 2019, I just felt that we lived a good life no matter what the media was saying and that's why I started supporting him after that."

Though the shift of votes to Trump from Black and Latino men was impactful, Trump could not have won without the support of a majority of white voters.

"Men of color are really beginning to emerge as the new swing voters," said Terrance Woodbury, co-founder of HIT Strategies, a polling and research firm that conducted studies for the Harris campaign.

Inside A 1760 Schoolhouse For Black Children Is A Complicated History

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) — A Virginia museum has nearly finished restoring the nation's oldest surviving schoolhouse for Black children, where hundreds of mostly enslaved students learned to read through a curriculum that justified slavery.

The museum, Colonial Williamsburg, also has identified more than 80 children who lined its pinewood benches in the 1760s.

They include Aberdeen, 5, who was enslaved by a saddle and harness maker. Bristol and George, 7 and 8, were owned by a doctor. Phoebe, 3, was the property of local tavern keepers.

Another student, Isaac Bee, later emancipated himself. In newspaper ads seeking his capture, his enslaver warned Bee "can read."

The museum dedicated the Williamsburg Bray School at a large ceremony on Friday, with plans to open it for public tours this spring. Colonial Williamsburg tells the story of Virginia's colonial capital through interpreters and hundreds of restored buildings.

Smithsonian Institution Secretary Lonnie Bunch told the crowd outside the refurbished school that it was one of the most important historic moments of the last decade.

"History is an amazing mirror," Bunch added. "It's a mirror that challenges us and reminds us that, despite what we've achieved, despite all our ideals, America still is a work in progress. But oh, what an amazing work it is."

The Cape Cod-style home was built in 1760 and still contains much of its original wood and brick. It will anchor a complicated story about race and education, but also resistance, before the American Revolution.

The school rationalized slavery within a religious framework and encouraged children to accept their fates as God's plan. And yet, becoming literate also gave them more agency. The students went on to share what they learned with family members and others who were enslaved.

"We don't shy away from the fact that this was a pro-slavery school," said Maureen Elgersman Lee, director of William & Mary's Bray School Lab, a partnership between the university and museum.

But she said the school takes on a different meaning in the 21st century.

"It's a story of resilience and resistance," Lee said. "And I put the resilience of the Bray School on a continuum that brings us to today."

To underscore the point, the lab has been seeking descendants of the students, with some success.

They include Janice Canaday, 67, who also is the museum's African American community engagement manager. Her lineage traces back to the students Elisha and Mary Jones.

"It grounds you," said Canaday, who grew up feeling little connection to history. "That's where your power

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Hollywood Stars Gather For Honorary Oscars Event Celebrating Quincy Jones

(AP) — Many of Hollywood's biggest stars are set to gather in Los Angeles Sunday night for the annual Governors Awards.

The event, put on by the film academy's board of governors, is honoring the late Quincy Jones, James Bond producers Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson, filmmaker Richard Curtis and casting director Juliet Taylor. It's also a de-facto campaign stop for Oscar hopefuls as awards season gets underway.

Broccoli and her brother Wilson are following in her father's footsteps receiving the rarely given Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award, celebrating the work of producers. Albert "Cubby" Broccoli accepted his own trophy (then a bust of Thalberg) at the 1982 Academy Awards as they looked on from the audience.

"It's very humbling," Broccoli told The Associated Press. "I think of so many people who have come before us, so many people I wish had been given the honor who aren't with us anymore."

Curtis, a writer and director known for his contributions to romantic comedies like "Love, Actually," "Notting Hill" and "Four Weddings and a Funeral" is being recognized for a lifetime of charitable work with the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award. Getting an Oscar was a lifetime dream for him — as a teenager he used to try to shield himself from the news so that he could watch the broadcast the next night in the U.K.

"This is particularly a special award, but it's not work for which one expects praise or needs praise," he said.

Taylor is even less accustomed to being publicly celebrated for her contributions to cinema as a casting director. In her over four decades of work, she cast classics like "Annie Hall," "Working Girl," "Sleepless in Seattle" and "Schindler's List." While she's excited about the honorary Oscar, she's even happier that her peers are soon going to be regularly recognized. Starting with films released in 2025, the film academy will give a new competitive Oscar to casting directors.

The Governors Awards are often an emotional affair. With no television cameras or band there to play you off during a speech, it's a night where friends and colleagues get to pay tribute to that year's honorary Oscar recipients, many of whom are later in life. But this 15th event took on an added sadness when Jones earlier this month. There are still plans to honor Jones on Sunday with a tribute to his life, work and legacy.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

FORMER NORTH CAROLINA LABOR COMMISSIONER BECOMES HOSPITAL GROUP'S CEO

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina's labor commissioner for nearly the past four years is the next president and CEO of the chief advocacy group for the state's hospitals.

The North Carolina Healthcare Association announced on Tuesday that it hired Josh Dobson after a nationwide search to lead the group, which represents more than 135 member hospital systems.

The trustee board for the association, a major player in health care policy in the state, chose Dobson to succeed Stephen Lawler, who is retiring after seven years in leadership.

Dobson, a former state legislator and McDowell County commissioner, said nearly two years ago that he wouldn't run in 2024 for a second term leading the Labor Department. Last Wednesday, a day after fellow Republican Luke Farley won the statewide election for commissioner, Dobson announced his resignation from the job effective later that day.

Dobson has an extensive history in healthcare policy from serving in the General Assembly. During his final state House term, Dobson was a chair of the House appropriations and health committees. He was an early supporter of Medicaid expansion to provide government health insurance to more low-income adults. A 2023 state law initiating a form of expansion that now serves 569,000 people also enhanced Medicaid reimbursement payments for hospitals.

NORTH CAROLINA'S FIRST SUN BUCKS SUMMER SERVES MORE THAN ONE MILLION CHILDREN

RALEIGH— The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services today announced more than $129 million in food assistance has been distributed to more than one million children and families during the first SUN Bucks summer in North Carolina.

"Too many children face food insecurity in North Carolina, particularly children who rely on school meals during the academic year," said Governor Roy Cooper. "This program bridged the summer gap and helped families access nutritious food they need to thrive."

North Carolina is one of only three states in the Food and Nutrition Services Southeast Region who took advantage of the new U.S. Department of Agriculture program this year. SUN Bucks, also referred to as Summer EBT, provided grocery-buying benefits to qualifying families with school-aged children during the summer months. Families received a one-time payment of $120 per eligible child, a critical benefit for the 1 in 5 children in North Carolina who live in households without consistent access to food.

"Healthy food is key to overall health and well-being," said NC Secretary of Health and Human Services Kody H. Kinsley. "The SUN Bucks program fed one million children in North Carolina this summer — helping their growth and development. I'm proud of our team and our partners for working quickly and creatively to make this possible."

JOSH STEIN FACES A TALL FIRST TASK AS GOVERNOR: REBUILDING WESTERN NC AFTER HELENE

When Attorney General Josh Stein is sworn in as governor in January, he'll inherit the largest disaster recovery effort in the history of North Carolina.

Efforts to rebuild communities in the mountains following Hurricane Helene are underway — and will continue in the coming months as billions of state and federal dollars flow into the west. A spokesperson for Stein's transition team said hurricane response was a "top priority" for the governor-elect.

"Our office has been in close contact with Gov. Cooper's office," spokesperson Laura Brewer said in an email to NC Newsline, adding that Stein will "continue to be in western NC throughout the transition period."

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STATE BRIEFS

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Cooper's office echoed that sentiment, pledging a "smooth transition to the new administration" and "a strong foundation for long-term recovery from Hurricane Helene."

"We are confident Gov. Stein will continue the critical work of helping Western North Carolina build back from this devastating storm," spokesperson Ben Conroy said in a statement.

Stein has already signaled how he plans to approach several major aspects of the recovery effort.

He sees infrastructure repairs — water and sewer lines, as well as schools — as a top priority. He's emphasized the need for temporary housing while permanent structures are rebuilt. And like Cooper, he is in favor of aiding small businesses through grants, in addition to loans like those approved by the General Assembly.

"There needs to be new appropriations and authorization from the federal government, which we will seek, but it can also come from the state," Stein said in a news conference with Cooper on Oct. 28. "That can be a gap filling that the state – we have a little more flexibility with how our dollars can be spent."

What those dollars are spent on, however, is up to the Republican-led legislature. By the time Stein takes office, they will have likely passed three aid packages — the latest of which will be debated next week, and likely total around $830 million.

"They're not done, and I think they recognize they're not done," Stein said in an interview in October, shortly after lawmakers passed the second round of aid. "What we want to see is a significant investment in what people need, which is housing and small businesses."

"So there's still opportunity for them to address those needs on a meaningful basis," he added. "And I look forward to working with them to do just that."

Almost immediately after his win over Republican Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson, Stein put the recovery in the west front and center. In his victory speech in Raleigh, he pledged to "show up for the people of western North Carolina, to help them rebuild safer and stronger than ever before."

And among those leading Stein's transition effort is Esther Manheimer, the mayor of Asheville. She will provide input in the coming "to help think about long term recovery," according to the transition team.

Still, Stein is all but certain to receive scrutiny, like Cooper before him, from those skeptical of the government's response out west. The state's Helene efforts will be the subject of a Monday hearing by a joint House and Senate committee, co-chaired by Republican leaders.

Black, Latino Families Displaced In CA Reach New Tentative Settlement

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Black and Latino families who were pushed out of a Palm Springs neighborhood in the 1960s reached a $5.9 million tentative settlement agreement with the city.

The deal was announced Wednesday, and the city council will vote on it Thursday. The history of displacement that took place there had been largely forgotten until recent years, said Areva Martin, a lawyer representing more than 300 former residents and hundreds of descendants.

"The fact that we got this over the finish line is remarkable given the headwinds that we faced," Martin said.

The deal is much smaller than the $2.3 billion the families previously sought as restitution for their displacement.

The $5.9 million will go toward compensating former residents and descendants. City council will also vote on allocating $10 million for a first-time homebuyer assistance program, $10 million for a community land trust and the creation of a monument to commemorate the history of the neighborhood known as Section 14.

It has not been determined how much each family or individual would receive in direct compensation, Martin said. Money for housing assistance would go toward low-income Palm Springs residents, with priority given to former Section 14 residents and descendants.

"The City Council is deeply gratified that that the former residents of Section 14 have agreed to accept what we believe is a fair and just settlement offer," Mayor Jeffrey Bernstein said in a statement.

The city council voted in 2021 to issue a formal apology to former residents for the city's role in displacing them in the 1960s from the neighborhood that many Black and Mexican American families called home.

The tentative deal comes as reparations efforts at the state level have yielded mixed results. Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law in September to formally apologize for the state's legacy of racism and discrimination against Black residents. But state lawmakers blocked a bill that would have created an agency to administer reparations programs, and Newsom vetoed a proposal that would have helped Black families reclaim property that was seized unjustly by the government through eminent domain.

Section 14 was a square-mile neighborhood on a Native American reservation that many Black and Mexican American families once called home. Families recalled houses being burned and torn down in the area before residents were told to vacate their homes.

They filed a tort claim with the city in 2022 that argued the tragedy was akin to the violence that decimated a vibrant community known as Black Wall Street more than a century ago in Tulsa, Oklahoma, leaving as many as 300 people dead. There were no reported deaths in connection with the displacement of families from Section 14.

Pearl Devers, a Palmdale resident who lived in Section 14 with her family until age 12, said the agreement was a long-overdue acknowledgement of how families' lives were forever changed by the displacement.

"While no amount of money can fully restore what we lost, this agreement helps pave the way for us all to finally move forward," she said in a statement.

GIFT TO N.C. A&T ESTABLISHES $1M ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP IN BIOENGINEERING

EAST GREENSBORO, N.C. (Nov. 15, 2024) – North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University has received a gift of $250,000 to establish the Dr. Leonard C. Uitenham and Dr. Daniel T. Weidenthal Endowed Professorship in Bioengineering in the Department of Chemical, Biological and Bioengineering in the College of Engineering (COE).

Daniel Tilles Weidenthal, M.D., an ophthalmologist in Beachwood, Ohio, committed the gift to honor and celebrate the work of his lifelong friend and mentee, Leonard Curtis Uitenham, Ph.D., ATP, CFI, a retired professor of chemical engineering at A&T.

"We are deeply honored by and grateful for Dr. Weidenthal's tremendous investment in the College of Engineering and its faculty," said COE Dean Stephanie Luster-Teasley Pass, Ph.D. "Dr. Uitenham has been a transformative leader and professor whose impact on the college and A&T will be felt and seen for generations to come. We are proud to pay tribute to his service and cement his legacy through this professorship."

The gift qualifies for a one-to-one match from the state's Distinguished Professors Endowment Trust Fund (DPETF) which will double its value to $500,000. Further, the university anticipates an additional match of $500,000 from the Title III federal grant program established under the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, which supports minority serving institutions (MSIs) in developing and enhancing their academic offerings. This match would bring the total endowment value to $1 million to help the university attract, retain and reward exceptional professors whose work exemplifies continued excellence in their field and advances the university's mission.

Weidenthal is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. He was a resident in ophthalmology at the Kresge Eye Institute in Detroit, then studied ophthalmic pathology at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C.

Weidenthal completed a fellowship in diseases and surgery of the retina at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear lnfirmary and the Schepens Retina Research Foundation in Boston. He is a pioneer in the field of retinal surgery, developing new techniques for repair of retinal detachment and contributing to the ophthalmic literature. He served as chair of the Division of Ophthalmology at St. Luke's Hospital in Cleveland. He is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and a charter member of the Retina Society and the Macula Society.

Weidenthal, 92, has more than 65 years of experience in the medical field and still lives and practices in Cleveland, Ohio.

"It is an honor to have our names linked in such a meaningful way through this professorship," Weidenthal said. "I have known Leonard Uitenham for most of his life and he is a great source of inspiration and pride for me. He has certainly realized his immense potential and I am proud to be a part of that evolution."

Schoolhouse For Black—*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

is. And those are the things that give you strength — to know what your family has come through."

The Bray School was established in Williamsburg and other colonial cities at the recommendation of founding father Benjamin Franklin. He was a member of a London-based Anglican charity that was named after Thomas Bray, an English clergyman and philanthropist.

The Bray School was exceptional for its time. Although Virginia waited until the 1800s to impose anti-literacy laws, white leaders across much of Colonial America forbid educating enslaved people, fearing literacy would encourage them to seek freedom.

The white teacher at the Williamsburg school, a widow named Ann Wager, taught an estimated 300 to 400 students, whose ages ranged from 3 to 10. The school closed with her death in 1774.

The schoolhouse became a private home before it was incorporated into William & Mary's growing campus. The building was moved and expanded for various purposes, including student housing.

Historians identified the structure in 2020 through a scientific method that examines tree rings in lumber. Last year, it was transported to Colonial Williamsburg, which includes parts of the original city.

The museum and university have focused on restoring the schoolhouse, researching its curriculum and finding descendants of former students.

The lab has been able to link some people to the Jones and Ashby families, two free Black households that had students in the school, said Elizabeth Drembus, the lab's genealogist.

But the effort has faced steep challenges: Most enslaved people were stripped of their identities and separated from their families, so there are limited records. And only three years of school rosters have survived.

Drembus is talking to people in the region about their family histories and working backward. She also is sifting through 18th-century property records, tax documents and enslavers' diaries.

"When you're talking about researching formerly enslaved people, records were kept very differently because they weren't considered people," Drembus said.

Researching the curriculum has been easier. The English charity catalogued the books it sent to the schools, said Katie McKinney, an associate curator of maps and prints at the museum.

Materials include a small spelling primer, a copy of which was located in Germany, that begins with the alphabet and moves on to syllables, such as "Beg leg meg peg."

Students also received a more sophisticated speller, bound in sheepskin, as well as the Book of Common Prayer and other Christian texts.

Meanwhile, the schoolhouse has been mostly restored. About 75% of the original floor has survived, allowing visitors to walk where the children and teacher placed their feet.

Canaday, whose familial roots include two Bray School students, wondered on a recent visit if any of the children "felt safe in here, whether they felt loved."

Canaday noted that the teacher, Wager, was the mother of at least two kids.

"Did some of her mothering bleed over into what she showed those children?" Canaday said. "There are moments when we forget to go by the rules and humanity takes over. I wonder how many times that happened in these spaces."

Democrat Janelle Bynum Flips Oregon's 5th District, Will Be State's First Black

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Democrat Janelle Bynum has flipped Oregon's 5th Congressional District and will become the state's first Black member of Congress.

Bynum, a state representative who was backed and funded by national Democrats, ousted freshman GOP U.S. Rep. Lori Chavez-DeRemer. Republicans lost a seat that they flipped red for the first time in roughly 25 years during the 2022 midterms.

"It's not lost on me that I am one generation removed from segregation. It's not lost on me that we're making history. And I am proud to be the first, but not the last, Black member of Congress in Oregon," Bynum said at a press conference last Friday. "But it took all of us working together to flip this seat, and we delivered a win for Oregon. We believed in a vision and we didn't take our feet off the gas until we accomplished our goals."

Chavez-DeRemer conceded the race Thursday, the day that The Associated Press declared Bynum the winner.

"I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity I had to serve as Oregonians' voice in Congress," Chavez-DeRemer said in a statement posted on her social media. "Although this isn't the outcome we had hoped for, I'm proud of what we accomplished together."

The contest was seen as a GOP toss up by the Cook Political Report, meaning either party had a good chance of winning.

Bynum had previously defeated Chavez-DeRemer when they faced off in state legislative elections.

Chavez-DeRemer narrowly won the seat in 2022, which was the first election held in the district after its boundaries were significantly redrawn following the 2020 census.

The district now encompasses disparate regions spanning metro Portland and its wealthy and working-class suburbs, as well as rural agricultural and mountain communities and the fast-growing central Oregon city of Bend on the other side of the Cascade Range. Registered Democratic voters outnumber Republicans by about 25,000 in the district, but unaffiliated voters represent the largest constituency.

A small part of the district is in Multnomah County, where a ballot box just outside the county elections office in Portland was set on fire by an incendiary device about a week before the election, damaging three ballots. Authorities said that enough material from the incendiary device was recovered to show that the Portland fire was also connected to two other ballot drop box fires in neighboring Vancouver, Washington, one of which occurred on the same day as the Portland fire and damaged hundreds of ballots.

'Dastardly Deeds': Family Of Malcolm X Sues US Agencies Over Assassination

Three daughters of Malcolm X, a Black empowerment and civil rights icon in the United States, have accused the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the New York Police Department (NYPD) of being in part responsible for their father's 1965 assassination.

On Friday, the family filed a $100m wrongful-death lawsuit against the three agencies.

The legal action is the latest turn in the decades-long fallout from Malcolm X's killing, which has prompted many questions but few answers.

He was shot dead in February 1965, when gunmen opened fire on the 39-year-old shortly after he began speaking at an event in the Harlem neighbourhood of New York.

Friday's lawsuit charges that a "corrupt, unlawful, and unconstitutional" relationship between law enforcement and the "ruthless killers" allowed for the assassination.

The ties between the government agencies and the killers "went unchecked for many years and was actively concealed, condoned, protected, and facilitated by government agents", the lawsuit alleges.

The suit further claims that the government agencies took several missteps that allowed for the killing to unfold.

The NYPD, coordinating with federal law enforcement, had arrested Malcolm X's security detail just days before the assassination. The police force also intentionally removed officers from inside the ballroom, according to the suit.

Plus, the court filing says, the federal agencies had undercover personnel in the ballroom at the time of the attack, but the officers failed to intervene.

Speaking at a news conference on Friday, civil rights attorney Ben Crump summed up the family's claim.

"We believe that they all conspired to assassinate Malcolm X, one of the greatest thought leaders of the 20th century," Crump said.

He added he hoped law enforcement officials would read the lawsuit "and learn all the dastardly deeds that were done by their predecessors and try to right these historic wrongs".

The CIA and FBI have not commented on the lawsuit. The NYPD, meanwhile, has previously said it does not comment on pending litigation.

Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska. He initially gained prominence as the national spokesperson of the Nation of Islam, changing his name to el-Hajj Malik el-Shabazz later in life.

His Black revolutionary messaging drew attention from federal intelligence agencies, and he was closely monitored throughout his career as an activist and public figure.

Eventually, he broke from the Nation of Islam and became more closely aligned with the more mainstream civil rights movement. After his assassination, three men were arrested and found guilty of his murder.

In 2020, then-Manhattan District Attorney Cy Vance announced a review of the initial investigation into Malcolm's X killing, which had long attracted the interest of historians and amateur sleuths.

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Business & Finance

Will The Antitrust Showdown Launched Under Biden Turn Into 'Let's Make A Deal' Under Trump's Administration?

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The U.S. antitrust watchdogs that pounced on Big Tech and deterred corporate deal making throughout President Joe Biden's administration may be kept on a shorter leash by Donald Trump after he returns to the White House next year.

Although regulators began cracking down on tech powerhouses such as Google and Facebook during Trump's first term as president, most experts expect his second administration to ease up on antitrust enforcement and be more receptive to mergers and deal-making after years of hypervigilance under Biden's watch.

One of the biggest reasons underlying the anticipated pivot stems from the widespread belief that the chief architects of the Biden administration's get-tougher stance — Lina Khan of the U.S. Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department's Jonathan Kanter — won't be part of the Trump regime.

Both the Justice Department and FTC didn't respond to request for comment.

Trump's announcement of billionaire Elon Musk, who once anointed himself as "Technoking," to oversee an advisory effort focused on slashing government spending could end up reducing the staffs and regulators trying to rein in deep-pocketed companies.

And Trump's nomination of combative supporter Matt Gaetz to be U.S. Attorney General has thrown even more uncertainty into the

game. Gaetz has previously lashed out at social media platforms' policies he claims suppress conservative views, and has, at times, joined in on calls to break up Big Tech. He also has a track record of supporting causes trumpeted by Trump.

"There are going to be some profound changes" in antitrust policies, predicts John Kwoka, an economics professor at Northeastern University that has periodically worked on antitrust issues with the FTC and Justice Department. "Elon Musk could end up having a larger-than-life influence on policy, and that isn't something we have seen before, where a single person whispers in the ear of the President."

Other experts interviewed by The Associated Press mostly agree with Kwoka's sentiments. But they also believe it's highly unlikely the anticipated shift will result in regulators abandoning existing antitrust cases against Big Tech firms, partly because those legal showdowns coalesce with populist worries about the industry's increasing power and influence on people's lives.

"We are in uncharted territory, but the idea of going up against Big Tech still has legs to it," said Rebecca Allensworth, a Vanderbilt University law professor who tracks antitrust issues.

But the changing of the guard may open a door for Google, Apple, Amazon and Facebook to avert prolonged court battles and negotiate settlements under a president that relishes in deal making.

"Maybe Big Tech should buy a copy of 'The Art of The Deal' to figure out how to best negotiate with this administration," suggested Paul Swanson, an antitrust attorney for the law firm Holland & Hart. "I won't be surprised if they find ways to reach some accommodations and we end up seeing more negotiated resolutions and consent decrees."

While the fate of existing antitrust cases remains in a realm of pure speculation, almost everyone is betting the Trump administration will be more receptive to mergers that typically come with a promise of lower costs and other benefits for consumers.

The stage is set for "a golden era for deal flow among public and private tech players over the next 12 to 18 months," Wedbush Securities analyst Dan Ives wrote in a research note after Trump's reelection.

It's a belief widely shared by most investors, which helped fuel a run up in the overall stock market since Election Day and boosted shares in companies trying to close deals announced during the Biden administration. One such example involves Capital One Financial and Discover, who aim to consummate their merger in a stock swap next year. Capital One's market value has increased by 11% while Discover's market value has climbed 16%.

The change in administration could also sway a proposed merger between the country's two biggest supermarket chains, Kroger and Albertsons, which forged a $24.6 billion deal to combine in 2022. But the FTC filed a lawsuit in federal court earlier this year to block the merger, claiming the deal would eliminate competition, leading to higher prices and lower wages for workers. But the two companies say a merger would help them lower prices and compete against bigger rivals like Walmart.

Given grocery prices remain a hot-button issue among consumers still feeling shell shocked from post-pandemic inflationary spikes, Allensworth believes the Trump administration is less likely to "abandon or soft pedal" the FTC's challenge to the Kroger-Albertsons merger.

In another case that has been cheered by hordes of consumers, the Justice Department is seeking to break up Ticketmaster and its corporate parent Live Nation in a lawsuit claiming their practices are driving up the cost of concerts and other entertainment.

Despite the grassroots support for that case, Live Nation executives are signaling they think they can preserve the current system under a Trump presidency.

"We are hopeful that we'll see a return to the more traditional antitrust approach, where the agencies have generally tried to find ways to solve problems they see with targeted remedies that minimize government intervention in the marketplace," Live Nation President Joe Berchtold said during a conference call with investors shortly after the election.

Boeing Issues Layoff Notices To 400-Plus Workers As It Begins Drastic Cuts

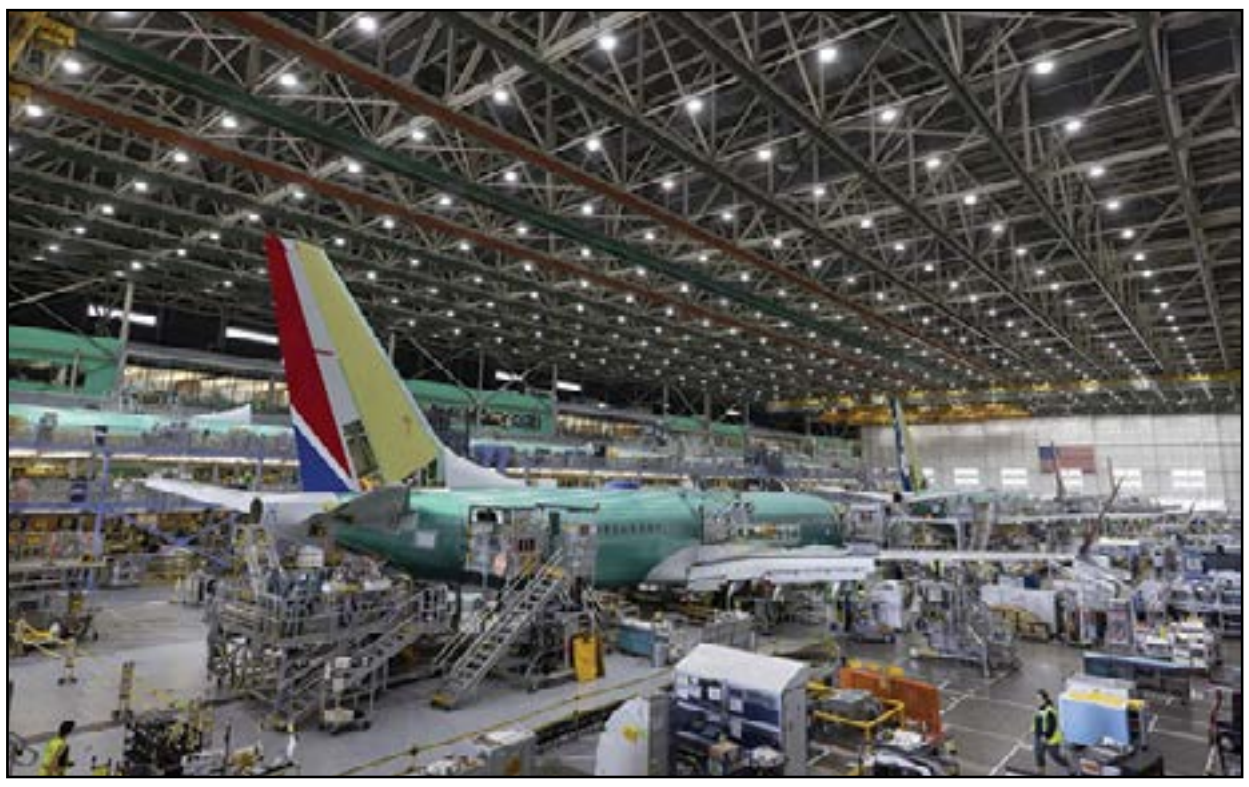
SEATTLE (AP) — Boeing has delivered layoff notices to more than 400 members of its professional aerospace labor union, part of thousands of cuts planned as the company struggles to recover from financial and regulatory trouble as well as an eight-week strike by its machinists' union.

The pink slips went out last week to members of the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace, or SPEEA, The Seattle Times reported. The workers will remain on the payroll through mid-January.

Boeing announced in October that it planned to cut 10% of its workforce, about 17,000 jobs, in the coming months. CEO Kelly Ortberg told employees the company must "reset its workforce levels to align with our financial reality."

The Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace, or SPEEA, union said the cuts had affected 438 members. The union's local chapter has 17,000 Boeing employees who are largely based in Washington, with some in Oregon, California and Utah.

Of those 438 workers, 218 are members of SPEEA's professional unit, which includes engineers and scientists. The rest are members of the technical unit, which includes analysts, planners, technicians and skilled tradespeople.



Eligible employees will receive career transition services and subsidized health care benefits for up to three months. Workers will also receive severance, typically about one week of pay for every year of service.

Boeing's unionized Machinists began returning to work earlier this month following the strike.

The strike strained Boeing's finances. But Ortberg said on an October call with analysts that it did not cause the layoffs, which he described as a result of overstaffing.

Boeing, based in Arlington, Virginia, has been in financial and regulatory trouble since a panel blew off the fuselage of an Alaska Airlines plane in January. Production rates slowed to a crawl, and the Federal Aviation Administration capped production of the 737 MAX at 38 planes per month, a threshold Boeing has yet to reach.

Don't Store Your Money In Payment Apps

NEW YORK (AP) — Connor Tomasko grew up wary of credit cards. As she taught herself more about managing money, she realized that many people also have bad habits when it comes to payment apps.

Tomasko, 31, a freelance software consultant in Chicago, understands why people appreciate the ease of the apps, which typically only require you to know someone's username in order to send money. But she realized that keeping money in the apps could be risky and means losing out on the interest from a high yield savings account. She now immediately transfers any payments out of the apps and encourages friends to do the same.

"I'm definitely the one that is always harping about high yield savings accounts," Tomasko said. "But if you're in an industry dealing with a lot of cash — bartending, say — sometimes you're just worried about finding a place to deposit it. It's not always a fun thing to talk about."

As use of payment apps has grown in recent years, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has issued guidance on best practices to avoid pitfalls. For example, funds stored on Venmo or Cash App typically lack the deposit insurance you'd get from a bank, except in certain cases.

"Popular digital payment apps are

increasingly used as substitutes for a traditional bank or credit union account, but lack the same protections to ensure that funds are safe," CFPB Director Rohit Chopra said in a bulletin last year.

In 2022, transaction volume on these apps was an estimated $893 billion, according to the CFPB, and that's projected to reach $1.6 trillion by 2027. More than three-quarters of US adults say they have ever used one of four popular payment apps, according to a 2022 survey from the Pew Research Center. Of consumers ages 18 to 29, 85% said they've used a service such as PayPal, Venmo, Apple Cash, Google Pay, or Zelle, according to a March 2022 study by Consumer Reports.

"The apps are popular because you don't have to give your personal information, like a phone number, if you just got drinks with someone once but you're never going to see them again — a date that didn't go well," Tomasko said. "I get the benefits in that sense — to be able to send money that way."

Here's what you should know:

Funds stored on apps often lack insurance

"It may be tempting to leave money sitting in peer-to-peer lending accounts so that you're ready to pay your friends when they request money to cover your portion of a dinner bill... (but) there are a few reasons why we wouldn't suggest doing that," said Courtney Alev, consumer advocate at Credit Karma.

Funds stored in payment apps often lack deposit insurance, the CFPB has found. FDIC-insured banks protect depositors against the loss of their insured deposits up to at least $250,000 if a bank fails, and a similar framework protects credit unions. While funds stored on payment apps resemble funds stored on deposit accounts, those funds are not typically covered until they have been transferred back to an FDIC-insured bank or insured credit union.

The Financial Technology Association, an industry group that includes many payment apps as members, noted that Cash App and PayPal both offer separate high-yield, FDIC-insured savings products.

Do apps always lack deposit insurance?

In select circumstances, deposit insurance does cover payment apps. With Cash App, funds are eligible for insurance if consumers link their account to a Cash App debit card. And with Venmo, funds added to an account via direct deposit or check cashing are covered.

Still, the CFPB has found that funds stored in a payment app "may be at significantly higher risk of loss for a consumer than if it is deposited in an insured bank or credit union account."

Classifieds

NC Department of Adult Correction

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The North Carolina Department of Adult Correction has the following contract in Buncombe County out for bid: C- C11754 Tiantian Ma . The bid opening is scheduled for: Thursday, 12/19/2024 . To obtain the Notice to Bidders, any Pre-Bid Requirements, and any Addenda visit: https://evp.nc.gov/solicitations/details/?id=59feb147-6585-ef11-ac20-001dd806f97d

2026-2030 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FY 2025-2026 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN PUBLIC HEARING #1 ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

The Raleigh City Council will conduct a public hearing related to the FY 2026-2030 Consolidated Plan and FY 2025-2026 Annual Action Plan on Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024, (pending Council authorization), during its evening meeting after 7:00 PM in the Raleigh Municipal Building, 222 W. Hargett St, 27601. The hearing provides an opportunity for the public to give input on housing and community development needs facing low- and moderate-income households. Input received at the hearing will inform the development of the draft Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

The plans guide City expenditures of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, as well as related local funds. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides funds to the City to help address the needs of low- and moderate-income persons.

To speak at a public hearing, you must sign up by 5:00 PM on the Monday before the hearing. Please visit the City of Raleigh Public Hearings web page for more information. You may also call the Clerk's office at 919-996-3040 to sign up. Written comments may be submitted by email to **cd.info@raleighnc.gov.** A public survey is also available from November 1st to December 15th at **www.raleighnc.gov/ConsolidatedPlan.**

Accommodations for non-English speaking or residents with disabilities will be made available upon advance request. The City offers interpreter services in other languages, including American Sign Language, at no cost to the speaker. Requests for interpreter services may be submitted on the City's Public Hearings web page or by contacting the Clerk's office. Please allow at least 5 business days for the City to secure an interpreter; if less than that, services cannot be guaranteed. Deaf and hearing-impaired individuals needing interpreter services should provide advance notice by calling 919-996-3100 (voice) or 919-996-3107 (TDD).

For additional information, please email **cd.info@raleighnc.gov** or call 919-996-4330. More information about the draft Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan is available on the city website at **www.raleighnc.gov/ConsolidatedPlan.**