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Mr. Lee's Commentary and Dairy



Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## Biden warns that Americans will 'not stand for' Trump refusing to leave office



ALLIANCE, Ohio (Reuters) - Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden on Wednesday said voters "will not stand for it" if President Donald Trump loses the election and refuses to leave office, raising the tension ahead of the November vote

At a debate with Biden on Tuesday night, Trump would not commit to accepting the election result, reasserting unfounded complaints that an increase in mail-in ballots due to the coronavirus pandemic would lead to widespread voting fraud.

Biden urged Americans to vote for him in large numbers to eliminate any possibility of the Republican Trump staying in the White House if he lost the election.

"The president will step down. The American people will not stand for it. No agency would stand for that happening," Biden said at a campaign stop in Alliance, Ohio, one of the battleground states in the Nov.3 election.

Trump, who won a four-year term in 2016, was asked at the debate in Cleveland whether he would accept the 2020 result and said:

"If I see tens of thousands of ballots being manipulated, I can't go along with that," he said. "This is going to be a fraud like you've never seen."

The president has now said several times that he would not necessarily accept the election result.

Biden has held a modest but steady lead in national voter surveys for months although opinion polls in the battleground states that traditionally decide elections show a closer contest.

The bad-tempered debate, marked by Trump's constant interjections and Biden's angry rejoinders, appeared unlikely to significantly alter the campaign's dynamics.

The Democrat on Wednesday also denounced a right-wing group that Trump mentioned in the debate, saying: "My message to the Proud Boys and every other white supremacist group is: cease and desist."

"The American people will decide who the next president is. Period," Biden added.

### 'STAND BACK AND STAND BY'

Trump had called on the "Proud Boys" to "stand back and stand by" when asked at the debate to repudiate white supremacists, raising concerns that he was encouraging the group to act as freelance poll monitors.

The Proud Boys describes itself as a club of "Western chauvinists" but has been categorized as a hate group by the nonprofit Southern Poverty Law Center.

White House officials played down Trump's comment about the all-male Proud Boys, which has been involved in counter-protests to demonstrations about race and policing in Portland, Oregon, in recent weeks. Its members often come armed.

"The president has condemned white supremacy countless times," Alyssa Farah, the White House communications director, told Fox News on Wednesday. "I don't think that there is anything to clarify. He told them to stand back ... He's leading. He doesn't need any sort of vigilantism."

More than 1.6 million voters in 15 states have cast early ballots ahead of Election Day, according to the U.S. Elections Project at the University of Florida.

Trump's refusal to release his tax returns and his handling of the pandemic, which has killed more than 200,000 Americans, also faced scrutiny on the debate stage.

The debate likely attracted a much smaller audience than the record set four years ago, according to preliminary ratings data released on Wednesday. An estimated 28.7 million people tuned in

on broadcast networks ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox, below the roughly 45 million viewers who watched Trump debate former first lady Hillary Clinton on those channels in 2016.

Data from additional networks was due to be released later on Wednesday.

The group that manages U.S. presidential election debates said on Wednesday it will take steps to "ensure a more orderly discussion" after the fractious first bout, in which moderator Chris Wallace often struggled to end the fierce bickering.

"Last night's debate made clear that additional structure should be added to the format of the remaining debates to ensure a more orderly discussion of the issues," the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD) said in a statement. "The CPD will be carefully considering the changes that it will adopt and will announce those measures shortly."

Biden, 77, set off on Wednesday on a train for a campaign tour through western Ohio and eastern Pennsylvania, both "Rust Belt" battleground states. The latest Reuters/Ipsos poll of Pennsylvania gave Biden a slight advantage there.

Trump, 74, will visit Minnesota - one of the few states his campaign is targeting that voted Democratic in 2016 - with a fundraiser in the afternoon before a rally in Duluth.

Money cascaded into Biden's campaign and the Democratic Party on the heels of the debate. The Biden campaign had its best single hour of fundraising, pulling in \$3.8 million, said deputy campaign manager Kate Bedingfield. ActBlue, the leading Democratic fundraising website, processed more than \$36 million in the 16 hours after the start of the debate, according to the site's live tracker.

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS HOUSTON DOWNTOWN MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2021 - 2023 CLEANING & MAINTENANCE / PUBLIC SAFETY GUIDE

The Houston Downtown Management District (the "Downtown District") will receive sealed bids for Cleaning & Maintenance / Public Safety Guide services performed in Downtown Houston, Texas. Bids will be received until 10:00 AM, local time on Friday, November 6, 2020, by the Operations Administrator of the Downtown District. Bids received after this time will not be accepted. Bids are to be delivered to 1313 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002.

Beginning September 24, 2020 documents will be available at [downtowndistrict.org/procurement](http://downtowndistrict.org/procurement). An ONLINE MANDATORY Pre-proposal Conference will be held at 10:00 AM on October 6, 2020. All bidders are invited to attend.

Due to COVID-19 and the District's safety protocol, all potential bidders who intend to participate in the pre-proposal conference and submit bids are required to register their intention by 10:00 AM on October 5, 2020 by email to Scott Finke, Operations Administrator at [scott@downtowndistrict.org](mailto:scott@downtowndistrict.org).

Potential bidders are to provide Company Name, Address, and Phone plus two (maximum) Representative Names, Titles, Email Addresses and Cell Phone Numbers. All bidders who register in advance of the pre-proposal conference will receive a calendar invitation providing access to the online meeting venue. Bids will be ruled non-responsive if received from a company who did not have a representative attend the pre-proposal conference.

Bidders shall comply with City Ordinance 95-336 (March 29, 1995) and Exec. Order No.1 2 (June 14, 1995), and City of Houston Affirmative Action and Contract Compliance Division Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Procedures (June 1995). The successful Bidder will be required to make good faith efforts to achieve an M/W/DBE participation goal of 20 percent.

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

09/30/2020

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

The Presidential Debate Was Chaotic



The Presidential debate was chaotic as President Trump and challenger Joe Biden devolved into tirades of unrelenting volleys of personal attacks and interruptions.

Trump was intent on interrupting Biden on nearly every question and Biden called the president a "clown," telling him to, "shut up."

On the issue of the coronavirus, Biden said the President has no plan, saying, "He hasn't laid out anything." Trump, however, insisted that Biden, "... could not have done the job we did." The president stated that his administration's plan was to quickly distribute a vaccine. But Biden

questioned why American people should even trust someone who lies so frequently.

When the host asked the President about the white supremacists, Trump refused to explicitly condemn them saying that the violence wasn't an issue caused by the right and telling one far-right group to "stand back and stand by."

On the health plan issue, President Trump tried to paint former Vice President Biden's health plan as one which will extinguish the private health care plans of 180 million people and will send the U.S. on the path of socialized medicine.

On the tax issue, the President refused to admit that he only paid \$750 dollars in income tax last year and stressed that he paid many millions of dollars in income tax for many years.

We very much regret that in this debate President Trump tried to bulldoze his challenger Joe Biden with constant interruptions and insults.

During the course of the 90-minute debate, the most important issue addressed was whether President Trump would question the legitimacy of the November election. The President refused to say whether he would concede the election should he lose. He said, "if it is a fair election, I am 100% onboard, but if I see that tens of thousands of ballots have been manipulated, I can't go along with that."

The chaos of the Presidential debate made it impossible for viewers to follow what the two men were talking about.

It is very sad that we as the model democratic system, while the whole world was watching this political show, that we citizens had to feel a sense of shame for this ugly display. Where are our values?



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Photograph of Wea H. Lee with text: Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

Coronavirus Dashboard 10/01/20

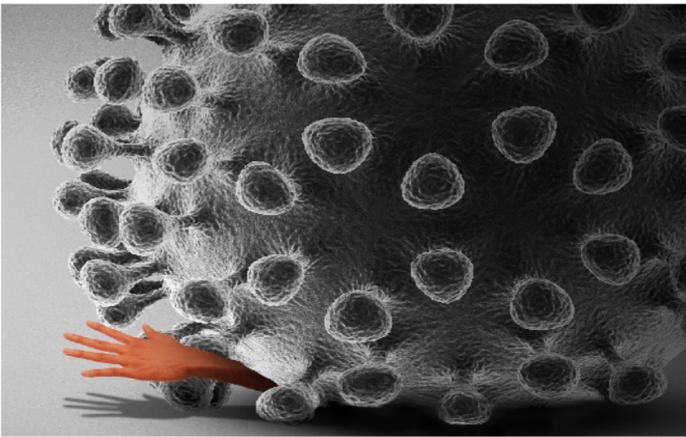


Illustration: Aida Amer/Axios

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

- 1. Global: Total confirmed cases as of 10:30 a.m. ET: 33,417,386 — Total deaths: 1,002,864 — Total recoveries: 23,193,238 .
2. U.S.: Total confirmed cases as of 10:30 a.m. ET: 7,150,824 — Total deaths: 205,107 — Total recoveries: 2,794,608 — Total tests: 102,342,416.
3. Health: Americans won't take Trump's word on the vaccine, Axios-Ipsos poll finds.
4. Media: Fauci: Some of what Fox News reports about COVID-19 is "outlandish"
5. States: Cuomo extends New York moratorium on evictions until 2021.
6. World: More than 1 million people have now died from coronavirus — India the second country after U.S. to hit 6 million cases.

Related Trump announces plan to distribute 150 million rapid coronavirus tests



President Trump announced on Monday

that the federal government will distribute 150 million rapid, point-of-care coronavirus tests to states over the next few weeks, including to K-12 schools and vulnerable communities like nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Why it matters: The Trump administration has stressed the importance of reopening schools in allowing parents to return to work and jumpstarting the economy. What's happening: Who gets tested is ultimately at the discretion of the governors, but the administration is encouraging schools to use the rapid tests to help restart and maintain in-person teaching.
• The rapid tests, which deliver results in 15 minutes, will come from a previously announced supply of 150 million tests ordered from Abbott Laboratories. Teachers and parents would be able to test their children on a weekly basis.
• 6.5 million tests will go out this week and a total of 100 million tests will be distributed to governors based on state population over the next several weeks, Trump announced.
The rapid tests are less accurate and could need confirmation from more sensitive PCR swab tests, which take days for results.
• Health officials also fear many of the

tests will go unreported, as states could authorize tests outside of a health care setting — leading to underreported state and nationwide case counts.

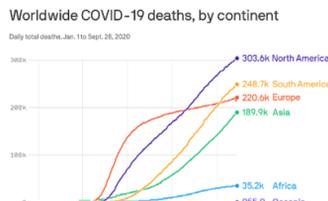


The federal government will distribute 150 million rapid, point-of-care coronavirus tests to states over the next few weeks.

The big picture: Experts have warned the U.S. could experience a surge in COVID-19 infections this fall and winter.

What they're saying: "As of today, the nation has performed over 111 million tests for the virus causing COVID. On 13 separate days, we have achieved tests of over 1 million per day, and our average test numbers are now approximately 920,000 per day," the administration's testing coordinator Adm. Brett Giroir said Monday before demonstrating how to use a rapid test. "We are now at an inflection point for testing. We now have available on average 3 million tests per day, not counting pool testing which could multiply that number several-fold. Nearly half of our current tests are rapid point-of-care."

Global Coronavirus Death Toll Crosses One Million



Dave Lawler, author of World Data: Our World in Data; Chart: Sara Wise/Axios The global toll of confirmed deaths from COVID-19 crossed 1 million on Monday, according to data from Johns Hop-

kins. By the numbers: More than half of those deaths have come in four countries: the U.S. (204,762), Brazil (141,741), India (95,542) and Mexico (76,430). The true global death toll is likely far higher. Adjusted for population, Peru, Belgium, Bolivia, Spain and Brazil have had the world's deadliest outbreaks to date. The U.S. is eighth and Mexico is 10th.

How we got to 1 million: The first known death from COVID-19 was announced on Jan. 11 in Wuhan, China, where the pandemic began.

- By the end of February, several countries — South Korea, Iran, Italy — had outbreaks, but just 104 deaths had been recorded outside of China.
• Europe become a new epicenter by early March. Italy instituted the first nationwide lockdown on March 9, and much of Europe and the world soon followed.
• The highest daily global death tolls came in mid-April, when the pandemic was near its peak in western Europe and in parts of the U.S., including New York City.
• By early May, the situation was improving in Europe but the U.S. continued to record upwards of 1,000 deaths each day. Latin America, meanwhile, was becoming a new global epicenter.
• Since the spring, more than half of all deaths recorded globally have come in the Americas, though India has joined the U.S., Brazil and Mexico among the countries recording the highest death tolls.



The state of play: India is approaching 100,000 deaths. It's currently tallying the world's highest daily totals, followed by the U.S. and Brazil. European countries including Spain and France are dealing with second waves that have seen new cases, but not deaths, match the totals

seen in the spring. Deaths are now beginning to tick upward. The pandemic continues to be far less deadly in Africa, though testing is limited in many countries. One oft-cited reason is the continent's very young population.

The true death toll from COVID-19 will never be known with any precision, but "excess mortality" figures indicate that the U.S. is probably undercounting deaths by about 30% — and many other countries by more than that, per the Economist. Mike Ryan, emergencies director at the WHO, recently warned that the official death toll could double to two million before a vaccine is widely available. The trend: Every day, approximately 5,300 coronavirus deaths are being recorded around the world — a number that has held relatively steady since July (based on 7-day rolling averages). At that rate, we should expect 500,000 more deaths by the end of 2020. The rate could still shift significantly in either direction. (Courtesy axios.org)



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# Editor's Choice



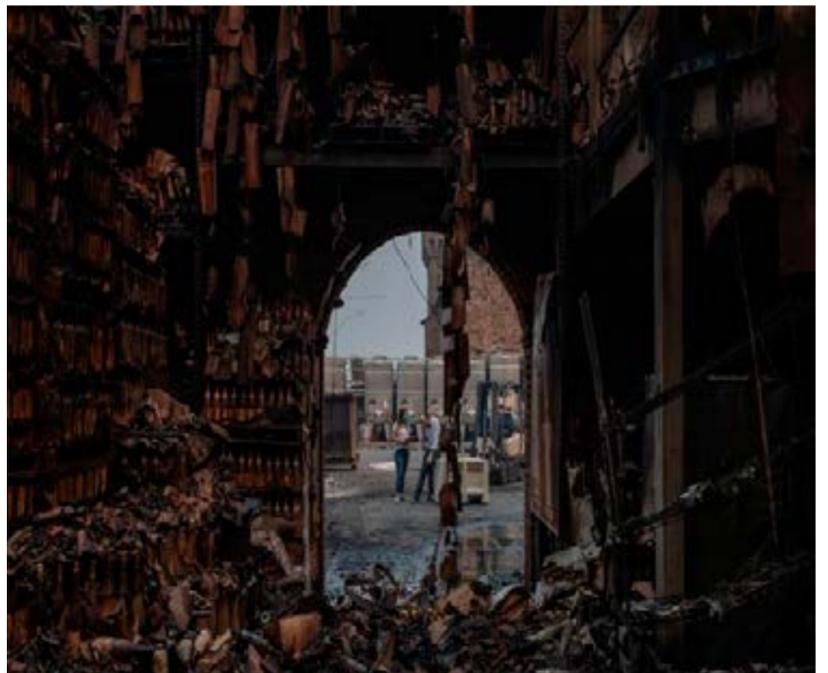
The Villarrica volcano is seen at night from Pucon town, Chile. REUTERS/Cristobal Saavedra Escobar



President Trump and Joe Biden participate in their first 2020 presidential campaign debate held on the campus of the Cleveland Clinic at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Olivier Douliery/Pool via REUTERS



President Trump speaks during a campaign rally at Cecil Airport in Jacksonville, Florida. REUTERS/Tom Brenner



Georg Salzner, president of Castello di Amorosa winery, buries his face in his hand while speaking to Madeleine Reid, the director of hospitality, as they are framed by a warehouse containing thousands of wine bottles destroyed by the Glass Fire in...MORE



Palestinians run away from tear gas fired by Israeli forces during a protest against Jewish settlements, in Asira al-Qibliya in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. REUTERS/Mohamad Torokman



Firefighters work as smoke rises in San Antonio de Arredondo, in Cordoba province, Argentina. REUTERS/Charly Soto



Mourners pay their respects as Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg lies in repose under the Portico at the top of the front steps of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington. Andrew Harnik/Pool via REUTERS



A woman celebrates after she was released from jail a day after a grand jury decided not to bring homicide charges against police officers involved in the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor in her apartment, in Louisville, Kentucky. REUTERS/Lawrence...

**What the CDC Eviction Ban Means For Tenants And Landlords**



The CDC order may offer some tenants breathing room. Angela Weiss/AFP via Getty Images

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

- From the Centers For Disease Control- A Notice by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on 09/04/2020

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services

Order Under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) and 42 CFR 70.2. Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions To Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19

NOTE: This is an overview of the CDC's "No Eviction" Action

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nina Witkofsky, Acting Chief of Staff, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS H21-10, Atlanta, GA 30329; Telephone: 404-639-7000; Email: cdcregulations@cdc.gov. AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Agency Order.

SUMMARY: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), located within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announces the issuance of an Order under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act to temporarily halt residential evictions to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.

DATES: This Order is effective September 4, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Background** There is currently a pandemic of a respiratory disease ("COVID-19") caused by a novel coronavirus (SARS-COV-2) that has now spread globally, including cases reported in all fifty states within the United States plus the District of Columbia and U.S. territories (excepting American Samoa). As of August 24, 2020, there were over 23,000,000 cases of COVID-19 globally resulting in over 800,000 deaths; over 5,500,000 cases have been identified in the United States, with new cases being reported daily and over 174,000 deaths due to the disease. COVID-19 presents a historic threat to public health. According to one recent study, the mortality associated with COVID-19 during the early phase of the outbreak in New York City was comparable to the peak mortality observed during the 1918 H1N1 influenza pandemic. During the 1918 H1N1 influenza pandemic, there were approximately 50 million influenza-related deaths worldwide, including 675,000 in the United States. To respond to this public health threat, the Federal, State, and local governments have taken unprecedented or exceedingly rare actions, including border closures, restrictions on travel, stay-at-home orders, mask requirements, and eviction moratoria. In the context of a pandemic, eviction moratoria—like quarantine, isolation, and social distancing—can be an effective public health measure utilized to prevent the spread of communicable disease. Eviction moratoria facilitate self-isolation by people who become ill or who are at risk for severe illness from COVID-19 due to an underlying medical

condition. They also allow State and local authorities to more easily implement stay-at-home and social distancing directives to mitigate the community spread of COVID-19. Furthermore, housing stability helps protect public health because homelessness increases the likelihood of individuals moving into congregate settings, such as homeless shelters, which then puts individuals at higher risk to COVID-19. The ability of these settings to adhere to best practices, such as social distancing and other infection control measures, decreases as populations increase. Unsheltered homelessness also increases the risk that individuals will experience severe illness from COVID-19.



**Applicability** Under this Order, a landlord, owner of a residential property, or other person [3] with a legal right to pursue eviction or possessory action, shall not evict any covered person from any residential property in any jurisdiction to which this Order applies during the effective period of the Order. This Order does not apply in any State, local, territorial, or tribal area with a moratorium on residential evictions that provides the same or greater level of public-health protection than the requirements listed in this Order. Nor does this order apply to American Samoa, which has reported no cases of COVID-19, until such time as cases are reported. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. 264(e), this Order does not preclude State, local, territorial, and tribal authorities from imposing additional requirements that provide greater public-health protection and are more restrictive than the requirements in this Order. This Order is a temporary eviction moratorium to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. This Order does not relieve any individual of any obligation to pay rent, make a housing payment, or comply with any other obligation that the individual may have under a tenancy, lease, or similar contract. Nothing in this Order precludes the charging or collecting of fees, penalties, or interest as a result of the failure to pay rent or other housing payment on a timely basis, under the terms of any applicable contract.

*Editor's note: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued an order on Sept. 1 banning evictions of people who lost work as a result of the pandemic. To benefit, renters must sign a declaration that they don't make more than US\$99,000 a year or \$198,000 for those filing a joint return and that they essentially have no options other than homelessness.*

But the order, which takes effect on Sept. 4, leaves some questions unanswered. We asked Katy Ramsey Mason, an assistant professor of law and director of the University of Memphis Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic, to answer some of them.



WEAR A MASK. PROTECT OTHERS

**1. What does the order do?**

The order prohibits property owners from evicting covered tenants from any residential property because of nonpayment of rent before Dec. 31, 2020. It does not apply to any evictions that might be brought on grounds other than nonpayment, such as nuisance or alleged criminal activity.

It requires tenants to sign and submit a declaration to the landlord certifying under penalty that they qualify for protection under the moratorium. It does not relieve tenants from the obligation to pay rent – all of it comes due on Jan. 1, 2021 – and it allows landlords to continue to charge late fees and other penalties as permitted by law.

**2. Who qualifies?**

The CDC's order applies to as many as 40 million renters across the country who could be at risk of eviction for nonpayment of rent.

It is more comprehensive than the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act eviction moratorium, which expired on July 24 and only applied to an estimated 12.3 million renters, or about 28% of rental properties nationwide. The new order applies to tenants who live in any rental property in any place in the U.S. and its territories that does not already have an eviction moratorium with the same or greater protections than the CDC order. There are still 20 states with some form of a moratorium in place, about half of which are more comprehensive than the CDC's moratorium. All of those moratoriums are unaffected.

Other than the financial requirements, to qualify for relief under the CDC order a tenant must certify that he or she is not able to pay full rent due to substantial income loss and has attempted to obtain government assistance with rent, and must commit to making partial rent payments to the extent of his or her ability.

**3. What authority does the CDC have to do this?**

The CDC is invoking its powers under federal law to take action to prevent the spread of communicable disease if it finds that state or local prevention measures are insufficient. The order emphasizes the link between homelessness and the spread of COVID-19 and states that the high levels of homelessness that would result from widespread evictions would increase the risk of interstate transmission of the virus.



**4. What does it mean for landlords?** The CDC's order is certain to be unwelcome news for many landlords, who have already been struggling through the pandemic.

Many tenants have been unable to pay rent, and nonpayment evictions have been limited by state moratoriums and the coronavirus relief bill. According to the 2015 American Housing Survey, slightly less than half of rental properties are owned by "mom and pop" landlords, while the rest are owned by business entities. If landlords are not able to pay their mortgages and other costs, it could result in a loss of affordable housing units across the country.

Under the CDC's order, landlords can continue to collect rent and charge late fees and other penalties, but they cannot evict tenants who don't pay. The order also does not allocate any additional funding to assist tenants or landlords with unpaid rent, but encourages local governments to use coronavirus relief funds that have already been distributed towards rental assistance programs.

**5. How will it be enforced?** Unlike the CARES Act moratorium, which had no enforcement mechanism, the CDC eviction moratorium imposes significant criminal penalties on violators. An individual who violates the order can be fined up to \$100,000 and/or one year in jail. If a death results from the violation, the fine increases to up to \$250,000.

If an organization or company violates the order, the monetary fines increase to a maximum of \$200,000 if there is no death and \$500,000 if there is a death. The order authorizes the Department of Justice to "initiate court proceedings" to seek those penalties.

**6. What happens when the order expires?** When the order expires on Dec. 31, landlords will again be able to initiate eviction proceedings in accordance with state law – unless the moratorium is extended. If tenants have been unable to pay their full rent up to that point, they will be responsible for all of the arrears that have accrued – putting them at risk of losing their homes in the middle of winter. Some members of Congress have been pushing for additional funding to assist tenants – and landlords – with unpaid rent, but negotiations over another relief bill remain stalled. (Courtesy <https://theconversation.com/> and <https://www.federalregister.gov/>)

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