



If you would like to share news or information with our readers, please send the unique stories, business

news organization events, and school news to us including your name and phone number in case more information is needed.

For news and information consideration, please send to News@scdaily.com

or contact

John Robbins 832-280-5815

Jun Gai 281-498-4310

Mr. Lee's Commentary and Dairy



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Wednesday Febuary 03 2021 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

Trump lawyers challenge legitimacy of post-presidency impeachment trial



WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Former President Donald Trump's lawyers said on Tuesday the U.S. Senate lacks the authority to conduct his impeachment trial now that he has left office, while the Democratic lawmakers due to serve as prosecutors called him singularly responsible for the deadly Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol.

FILE PHOTO: impeachment managers Representatives Jamie Raskin (D-MD), Diana DeGette (D-CO), David Cicilline (D-RI), Joaquin Castro (D-TX), Eric Swalwell (D-CA), Ted Lieu (D-CA), Stacey Plaskett (D-US Virgin Islands AT-Large), Joe Neguse (D-CO) and Madeleine Dean (D-PA) deliver an article of impeachment against former President Donald Trump to the Senate for trial on accusations of inciting the January 6 attack on the Capitol, in Washington, U.S., January 25, 2021. Melina Mara/Pool via REUTERS/File Photo

Trump's legal team and the nine House of Representatives Democrats set to prosecute him filed briefs with the Senate one week before the trial is scheduled to begin.

His lawyers focused on an argument that last week won the support of 45 of the 50 Republicans in the 100-seat Senate in a failed vote to dismiss the case because Trump is a private citizen, having left office on Jan. 20.

Trump's team also denied he had fomented violence, saying in their 14-page brief that his remarks to supporters shortly before they stormed the Capitol that Democrats contend incited violence were protected under the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment right to free speech.

Challenging the case against Trump on the grounds that the Senate lacks constitutional authority to put a former

president on trial would enable his fellow Republicans to vote against conviction without directly defending his incendiary remarks.

The House Democrats, in their pretrial brief, anticipated that post-presidency argument and rejected it. The Democrats urged senators to convict Trump - which would require a two-thirds majority - and then bar him from again holding public office.

"There is no 'January Exception' to impeachment or any other provision of the Constitution," they wrote. "Presidents do not get a free pass to commit high crimes and misdemeanors near the end of their term."

The Democratic-led House impeached Trump on Jan. 13 on a single charge of inciting insurrection with his speech to supporters before the attack. He is the first U.S. president to be impeached twice and the first to face trial after leaving office.

"It would be perverse to suggest that our shared commitment to free speech requires the Senate to ignore the obvious: that President Trump is singularly responsible for the violence and destruction that unfolded in our seat of government on January 6," the Democrats wrote.

Trump's defense team argued that not only does the Senate lack the authority to put Trump on trial but that the chamber also has no jurisdiction to prevent him from holding office again.

The Constitution states that conviction can lead to "removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States."

"The 45th President of the United States performed admirably

in his role as president, at all times doing what he thought was in the best interests of the American people," Trump's defense team said.

'STOP THE STEAL'

During his Jan. 6 speech, Trump repeated false claims that the election was fraudulent and exhorted supporters to march on the Capitol, telling them to "stop the steal," "show strength" and "fight like hell." The rampage interrupted the formal congressional certification of Democratic President Joe Biden's victory, sent lawmakers into hiding for their own safety and left five people dead including a police officer.

"President Trump's conduct offends everything that the Constitution stands for," the House lawmakers, known as impeachment managers, wrote in their 80-page brief.

"He summoned a mob to Washington, exhorted them into a frenzy, and aimed them like a loaded cannon down Pennsylvania Avenue. As the Capitol was overrun, President Trump was reportedly 'delighted,'" they said.

To secure a conviction, 17 Republicans would need to join the Senate's 50 Democrats in the vote, a daunting hurdle.

Trump's first impeachment trial, on charges of abuse of power and obstructing Congress arising from his request that Ukraine investigate Biden and his son Hunter, ended last year in acquittal by the then-Republican-led Senate.

Trump's brief was filed by his new lawyers just days after he parted ways with his initial legal team amid a reported dispute over how to respond to the charge.

His legal team defended Trump's claims that the election was stolen from him with widespread voting fraud and irregularities - claims repeatedly rejected by U.S. courts.

The Democratic brief made no mention of any witnesses the managers planned to call during the trial. It did cite a phone call Trump placed to Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger urging him to "find" just enough votes to undo Biden's victory in that state.

Trump's lawyers denied that his use of the word "find" was inappropriate.

"President Trump was expressing his opinion that if the evidence was carefully examined one would 'find' that you have many that aren't even signed and you have many that are forgeries," they wrote.

美南實事通

主持人：盖军

週五 (2/5) 7PM-8PM
本期嘉賓：

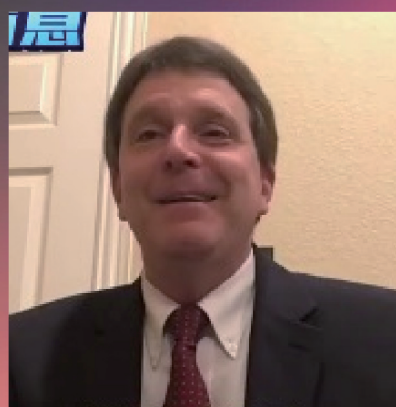
收看方式

Youtube: youtube.com/itvhouston

ITalk BB: Houston 15.3

Facebook: SCdailynews

www.scdaily.com



德州資深律師
包杰生



KC UNITED董事長
陳珂

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

02/02/2021

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

Wealee@scdaily.com

President Biden's letter

The Biden administration announced Monday that the U.S. federal government is working with the Australian company Ellume to provide more of its fully at-home COVID-19 tests to the United States.

The White House COVID-19 senior advisor Andy Slavitt said, "Ellume has been ramping up manufacturing and will ship 100,000 test kits per month to the U.S." The award announced Monday provides \$231.8 million to Ellume USA for onshore production capacity of the at-home tests for the United States. This will scale up to 19 million test kits per month by the end of the year.

This rapid antigen test sold over the counter can be done at home using a nasal swab, a dropper and processing fluid. The test uses an analyzer that connects with an app on your smartphone and can interpret your results all from the convenience of your home.

Despite the challenges posed by the vaccine rollout, Dr. Anthony Fauci has predicted that the U.S. can vaccinate 60-85 % of all adults by the end of summer which could bring normalcy to the country by the fall.

We are so happy and very much appreciate the new Biden administration making the dramatic effort to try and save



lives. We are also hoping that more companies will produce more vaccine to let more people get vaccinated.

Dr. Fauci is leading the U.S delegation back to the World Health Organization

(WHO) now. As he said, this pandemic is a worldwide issue, not just for any individual nation. It is only right that we as America, the richest country in the world, should help the whole world to defeat such a horrible pandemic.



Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Chairman of International District Houston Texas

Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

Negative Trend: A Longer, Deadlier Pandemic?



Illustration: Eniola Odetunde/Axios

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

Mutated versions of the coronavirus threaten to prolong the pandemic, perhaps for years — killing more people and deepening the global economic crisis in the process.

The big picture: The U.S. and the world are in a race to control the virus before these variants can gain a bigger foothold. But many experts say they already expect things to get worse before they get better. And that also means an end to the pandemic may be getting further away.

• **"It may take four to five years** before we finally see the end of the pandemic and the start of a post-COVID normal," Singapore's education minister said last week, according to *the Wall Street Journal*.

Where it stands: "There are essentially two separate COVID-19 epidemics," Dutch officials said recently, referring to the original strain of COVID-19 and the burgeoning threat from mutated versions of the virus.

• **There's light at the end of the tunnel for the first epidemic.** Although the virus is still spreading uncontrolled across the U.S. and much of the world, cases and hospitalizations are down from their peak, and vaccinations are steadily increasing.

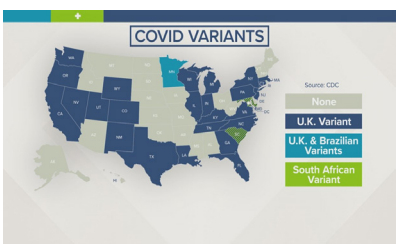
• But the next iteration, **fueled by variants of the virus**, is already taking hold.

What's next: A British variant of the coronavirus

will likely become the dominant strain within the U.S. pretty soon, experts say. It's significantly more contagious than the virus we've been dealing with so far, and some researchers believe it may also be about 30% more deadly.

• **"That hurricane's coming,"** Michael Osterholm, an infectious disease expert at the University of Minnesota and Biden transition adviser, said Sunday on "Meet the Press."

• A more contagious and more lethal strain of the virus could easily send cases, hospitalizations and deaths soaring right back to record levels, even as vaccinations continue to ramp up.



"We are going to see something like we have not seen yet in this country," Osterholm said.

• It's already happening in the U.K., where skyrocketing hospitalizations prompted another round of lockdown

measures — and pushback against those restrictions.

Vaccines work against the British variant, and they will help control its spread, just as they'll help control the pandemic overall.

• But vaccinations can only ramp up so quickly. The Biden administration is trying to push doses out the door as fast as it can, but there's a very good chance the more contagious virus is moving faster.

• The existing vaccines don't appear to work as well against some other variants, including a particularly troubling one first identified in South Africa. They do work, and they appear to prevent serious illness and death, which are the most important things — but they may not prevent as many infections overall.

• Vaccine makers can rework their recipes and come up with booster shots to help address more resistant strains, but that will take time.

How it works: All of these problems stem from the same underlying problem — **the unchecked spread of the virus.**

• More cases mean more hospitalizations and more death. Bigger outbreaks also provide more opportunities for mutations to arise, and to spread.

• A more transmissible virus means that a greater share of the population — maybe as much as 85% — **would have to get vaccinated in order to reach herd immunity.** That'll be a stretch, given the widespread vaccine hesitancy across the country.



Because vaccine production is still scaling up, getting things under control well enough to head off a second phase of the pandemic would have to rely heavily on social distancing and mask-wearing.

• That's not a very promising position to be in, **especially for a country like the**

U.S.

The bottom line: Vaccines work, and they are still the key to ending this pandemic. But leaning on them almost exclusively only makes the job harder and will likely prolong this pandemic for years. (Courtesy Axios.com)

Related

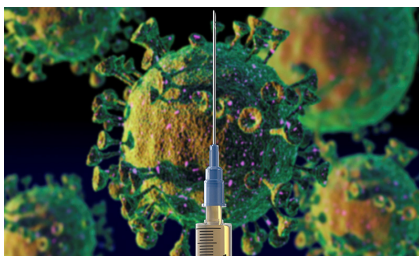
Shots generated an 'inferior' immune system response in comparison with natural infection

Merck Scraps COVID Vaccines; Says It's More Effective To Get

The Virus And Recover

Vaccine manufacturer Merck has abandoned development of two coronavirus vaccines, saying that after extensive research it was concluded that the shots offered less protection than just contracting the virus itself and developing antibodies.

The company announced that the shots V590 and V591 were 'well tolerated' by test patients, however they generated an 'inferior' immune system response in comparison with natural infection. The company stated that instead it will focus on research into therapeutic drugs labeled as MK-7110 and MK-4482. The drugs aim to protect patients from the damage of an overactive immune response to the virus.



(Photo/Chris Clor / Getty Images)

"Interim results from a Phase 3 study showed a greater than 50 percent reduction in the risk of death or respiratory failure in patients hospitalized with moderate to severe COVID-19," the company's statement noted of the MK-7110 drug.

Merck is to receive around \$356 million from the U.S. government to fast-track production of the potential treatments under Operation Warp Speed. Chief Marketing Officer Michael Nally recently told Bloomberg that Merck is aiming to produce some 20 million courses of the MK-4482 drug, an oral antiviral which patients will

take twice a day for five days.

Meanwhile, in related news, German scientists have claimed that the UK Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine is less than 8% effective in over 65s, prompting the vaccine developers to hit back, rubbing the claims.



The German media published the claims, alleging it had been 'confirmed' by 'multiple' unnamed senior German government sources. UK government ministers have suggested that the claim could be related to the ongoing dispute over delivery of the vaccine between the European Union and AstraZeneca. The EU, which is yet to approve the vaccine, has threatened to block exports of shots to Britain, in a move that has been branded 'spiteful' by British government sources.

In an effort to make sure its member states get their 'fair share' of vaccines, the EU has also threatened to block the delivery of Pfizer vaccines to the UK, demanding that drug companies provide detailed information on when they plan to export Covid jabs to countries outside the bloc. (Courtesy summitnews.com)



Editor's Choice



Anti-Thai government protester throws a liquid during a clash with riot police after protesters showed up at a rally for Myanmar’s democracy outside the embassy, in Bangkok, Thailand. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha



Punxsutawney Phil’s handler A.J. Dereume holds the famous groundhog on the 135th Groundhog Day at Gobblers Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Phil predicted six more weeks of winter. REUTERS/Alan Freed



Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, accused of flouting the terms of a suspended sentence for embezzlement, attends a court hearing in Moscow, Russia. Press service of Moscow City Court/via REUTERS



Members of the World Health Organization (WHO) team, tasked with investigating the origins of the coronavirus, don personal protection suits during a visit at the Hubei Animal Epidemic Disease Prevention and Control Center in Wuhan, Hubei province,



Migrants from Central America after crossing the Rio Bravo river to turn themselves in to request for asylum in El Paso, Texas, U.S., as seen from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. REUTERS/Jose Luis Gonzalez



A pedestrian walks past snow-covered taxis during a snow storm, amid the coronavirus pandemic, in the Brooklyn borough of New York City. REUTERS/Brendan McDermid



Argentina’s Diego Schwartzman in action as fans watch during his group stage match against Russia’s Daniil Medvedev at the ATP Cup in Melbourne, Australia. Crowd capacity for the event has been capped at 25%. REUTERS/Jaimi Joy



A man pulls a bin with Usman Khan, 29, dressed up as Charlie Chaplin during a street performance in Peshawar, Pakistan. REUTERS/Fayaz Aziz

As U.S. Hospitalizations Are Falling, COVID-19 Variants Concern Experts

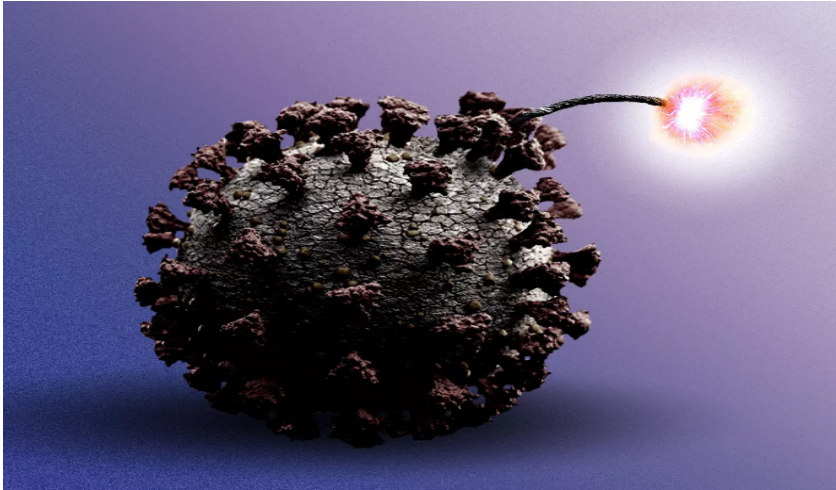


Illustration: Aida Amer/Axios

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

COVID-19 hospitalizations in the U.S. this past week dropped below 100,000 for the first time since December, with sharp declines happening in almost all states, according to the COVID Tracking Project. **Why it matters:** CNN reports that while the decrease in hospitalizations is promising, experts are concerned that new variants of the virus will increase case rates to record heights if the national vaccine rollout faces challenges. **By the numbers:** 97,000 Americans remain hospitalized with the virus, which is significantly less than the 132,400 on January 6, according to CNN.

- While the current rate of infection is about the same as it was December 1, the last time hospitalizations were this low, the daily death rate is twice as high.
- The average daily death rate over the past week remains above 3,000, yet there were 1,000 deaths per day in September and October.
- The death rate could increase significantly if there is an outbreak of coronavirus variants discovered in U.K., Brazil or South Africa, which appear to be more transmissible.

Driving the news: Infectious disease expert Michael Osterholm said Sunday the U.S. needed to speed up vaccines or the

next COVID-19 surge from variants could become a “category five” hurricane.



Where it stands: 29.5 million vaccine doses have been administered in the US so far, according to CDC data.

1. **Vaccine:** Infectious-disease expert urges more vaccinations ahead of potential COVID “hurricane.”
2. **Politics:** 10 Senate Republicans propose compromise with Biden on COVID relief package.
3. **Economy:** COVID-19 prompts food stamp spending increase — The state of the U.S. economy after one year of the coronavirus.
4. **World:** Science helps New Zealand avoid another coronavirus lockdown — Canada curbs travel due to new COVID-19 variants.

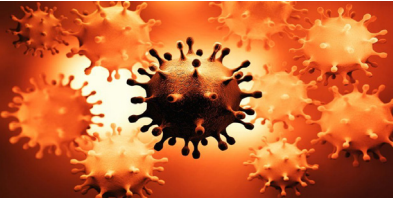
Cases:

1. **Global:** Total confirmed cases as of

1 p.m. ET Sunday: 102,757,569 — Total deaths: 2,223,969 — Total recoveries: 56,926,779 (*no longer includes U.S. recoveries as of Dec. 15*)
2. **U.S.:** Total confirmed cases as of 1 p.m. ET Sunday: 26,098,585 — Total deaths: 440,094 — Total tests: 302,791,552 — (Courtesy axios.com)

Coronavirus Variant First Found In South Africa Has Now Arrived In Maryland

The new variant of the coronavirus first found in South Africa has emerged in a Maryland resident, Gov. Larry Hogan (R) said Saturday, confirming the arrival of a highly transmissible mutation as the region struggles to meet demand for the vaccine. The case of the new variant, which was identified by state health officials in consultation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, involves an adult in the Baltimore area who has not traveled outside of the country, “making community transmission likely,” the governor’s statement read. Officials are working to quickly identify the man’s potential contacts and ensure they are quarantined and tested, Hogan said.



“State health officials are closely monitoring the B.1.351 variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the state,” Hogan said. “We strongly encourage Marylanders to practice extra caution to limit the additional risk of transmission associated with this variant. Please continue to practice standard public health and safety measures, including mask wearing, regular hand washing, and physical distancing.” The B.1.351 variant, originally discovered in South Africa and later in two dozen countries, was first identified in the United States on Thursday, in two cases in South Carolina. Maryland is the second state to report a confirmed case of the variant. The mutation appears to

spread more easily than other variants, but there is no evidence that it is more lethal or causes more severe illness.

The Baltimore-area man who contracted the new variant did not require hospitalization and is recovering at home in self-isolation, Maryland Health Department spokesman Charles Gischlar told The Post. He added the variant was discovered on Friday by “public health officials who routinely sequence specimens to identify variants.” Scott Gottlieb, former director of the Food and Drug Administration, has suggested that this variant might be more resistant to antibody therapies. While additional research is still required, vaccines will likely still be effective against the mutation, top infectious-diseases expert Anthony S. Fauci said in January. The diagnostic coronavirus tests currently available are expected to be able to detect the B.1.351 variant, Hogan’s statement said.



Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) receives the Moderna vaccine at the State House on Jan. 18 in Annapolis. (Michael Robinson Chavez/The Washington Post) This is the second mutation of the novel coronavirus to be identified in Maryland. The Maryland Department of Health announced that it identified the mutation first found in the United Kingdom on Jan. 12. Health officials in the state have since identified seven cases of that variant, known as B.1.1.7. More than 430 cases of the three variants, including the one initially found in Brazil, have been identified in at least 31 states, according to federal data, an alarming spread that Fauci described as a “wake-up call.”

“It is an incentive to do what we’ve been saying all along: to vaccinate as many people as we can, as quickly as we possibly can,” Fauci said Friday. The arrival of the South Africa variant comes as Maryland has struggled to robustly roll out the vaccine, and daily new coronavirus cases remain high even as they continue to decline from a mid-January peak. The state health department has confirmed 352,726 cases of the novel coronavirus in Maryland as of Saturday and a statewide positivity rate of 5.79 percent. Maryland has administered more than 512,000 initial doses of the vaccine, but its vaccination rate ranks in the bottom quartile of all states and territories tracked by the CDC. The CDC data shows Maryland has only administered about half of the vaccine doses it has been distributed, compared to neighboring West Virginia, which has administered 86 percent of its allotted doses in one of the country’s most successful rollouts.



The CDC data, however, does not offer a complete picture of current conditions because its data lags behind data from states. Beginning Feb. 1, severely immune-compromised people, such as those receiving chemotherapy, will be eligible for the vaccine. Maryland is now providing vaccines for seniors 65 and older, as well as teachers, firefighters, law enforcement officers, day-care providers and other essential workers. Across D.C., Maryland and Virginia, more than 14,000 people have died of the coronavirus and more than 891,000 cases have been reported. (Courtesy washingtonpost.com)



Why
is my MRI normal and I still hurt?

Go to www.thepaindiagnostest.com to find out why