

# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

## CORONAVIRUS DIARY

05/05/2021

### Horrible Enslavement Story



per week. Edwards was taking advantage of Smith's intellectual disability and keeping him isolated from his family and threatened to have him arrested and routinely verbally abused him.

Local NAACP charter president Abdullah Mustafa said, "We are talking about enslavement here."

This is really a big joke that this should happen in our modern society. It is really unbelievable. This is America. This is also very shameful. Local politicians did not speak out.

When we are talking about the civil rights around the world, where are the rights for the people at the bottom of our society?



A restaurant manager named Bobby Edwards forced a black man, John Smith, to work for over 100 hours every week for years without pay. The South Carolina court ruled that the man should receive more than \$546,000 in restitution after his former manager pleaded guilty.

in failing to include liquidated damages that this falls under the Fair Labor Standards Act and that the amount owed and to be paid to Smith needs to be doubled.

Smith started working at the cafeteria as a part-time dishwasher. For his first nineteen years, he was paid for his work. But when Edwards took over the restaurant in 2009, Smith was moved into an apartment next to the restaurant and forced to work more than 100 hours

A U.S. District Court Judge in 2019 ordered Edwards who is white to pay Smith around \$273,000 in restitution which represented Smith's unpaid wages and overtime. But the court said



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## Editor's Choice



Su-25 jet fighters release smoke in the colours of the Russian state flag over Red Square during a flypast rehearsal ahead of a parade on Victory Day, which marks the anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany in World War Two, in Moscow, Russia. REUTERS/Shamil Zhumatov



Family members wearing protective suits stand next to the body of their relative, who died from the coronavirus, before her cremation at a crematorium ground in New Delhi, India. REUTERS/Danish Siddiqui



A general view of the damage caused after a railway overpass and train collapsed onto a road in Mexico City. REUTERS/Carlos Jasso



Relatives sit next to the body of a man, who died due to the coronavirus, as they wait for a grave to be prepared for his burial at a graveyard on the outskirts of Srinagar. REUTERS/Danish Ismail



Asylum-seeking migrants' families disembark from an inflatable raft after crossing the Rio Grande river into the United States from Mexico in Roma, Texas. REUTERS/Go Nakamura



The family of New York Police Department (NYPD) officer Anastasios Tsakos, who was killed in the line of duty on April 27, by an impaired driver while responding to a high-way crash, reacts as his casket is carried from his funeral service in Greenlawn, New York. REUTERS/Shannon Stapleton









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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

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## U.S. judge throws out pandemic-related moratorium on evicting renters



A "For Rent" sign is posted outside a residential home in Carlsbad, California, U.S. on January 18, 2017. REUTERS/Mike Blake

A federal judge on Wednesday threw out the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's nationwide moratorium on evictions, a setback for the millions of Americans who have fallen behind on rent payments during the coronavirus pandemic.

U.S. District Judge Dabney Friedrich said that while there was "no doubt" Congress intended to empower the CDC to combat COVID-19 through a range of measures such as quarantines, a moratorium on residential evictions was not among them.

Friedrich cited the "plain language" of a law called the Public Health Service Act, which governs the federal response to the spread of communicable diseases, even while acknowledging the pandemic as "a serious public health crisis that has presented unprecedented challenges for public health officials and the nation."

The government is appealing the decision. The White House has estimated that one in five renters were delinquent on payments by January, while the CDC has said more than 4 million adults who were behind feared imminent eviction. Don't let pests ruin family game night, pizza night, or mom's night alone with a bubble bath. Contact us at Orkin.com. See more

Friedrich's decision provides temporary relief for landlords, many of whom face growing struggles to pay their own bills because they are unable to

collect rent from tenants.

The CDC moratorium began last September and was scheduled to lapse on June 30.

Other courts have been divided over the legality of the moratorium, with some also finding the CDC exceeded its authority.

Friedrich, an appointee of former President Donald Trump, was the first to formally block the eviction ban.

At least 43 states and Washington, D.C., have imposed their own temporary halts on residential or business evictions, though the protections are far from uniform.

A separate eviction and foreclosure moratorium for federally financed housing from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development expires on June 30.

The CDC moratorium was begun during Trump's presidency and was extended three times, most recently in March under his successor Joe Biden. read more

It covered renters who expected to earn less than \$99,000 a year, or \$198,000 for joint filers, or who reported no income, or received stimulus checks. Renters also had to swear they were doing their best to make partial rent payments, and that evictions would likely leave them homeless or force them into "shared" living quarters.

Full-service business banking solutions to help businesses grow.

From managing cash flow to planning for growth, our full-service solutions address your business's challenges and can help you accomplish your goals. Diane Yentel, president of the National Low Income Housing Coalition advocacy group, urged the government to defend the moratorium, at least until emergency help from Congress "reaches the renters who need it."

Landlords and real estate groups that challenged the moratorium in court said the CDC lacked the power to impose it, and unlawfully took away their right to deal with delinquent tenants.

The National Association of Realtors welcomed the judge's decision, saying programs to help tenants pay rent, taxes and utility bills are preferable to banning evictions.

"With rental assistance secured, the economy strengthening and unemployment rates falling, there is no need to continue a blanket, nationwide eviction ban," the group said.

The group has estimated that 40 million Americans were behind on rent in January, with \$70 billion of missed payments by the end of 2020.

Congress approved \$25 billion of emergency rental assistance in December and another \$21.5 billion in March.



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