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From: Morning Consult
Sent: 2017-11-29T09:09:34-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [Objectable Content] Morning Consult Washington: Judge Sides With Trump in CFPB Standoff
Received: 2017-11-29T09:10:15-05:00

By [Eli Yokley](#)

Top Stories

- A federal judge in Washington sided with President Donald Trump by refusing to block White House budget director Mick Mulvaney, appointed by Trump to be acting director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, from taking charge of the agency. Leandra English, the CFPB's deputy director, had requested an emergency restraining order, arguing that she should be acting director since then Director Richard Cordray appointed her as his successor before he resigned last week. ([The Associated Press](#))
 - Trump said the intercontinental missile launch by North Korea will have a "huge effect" on budget talks and that he hopes it will bring Democrats back to the negotiating table. The missile launch came less than two weeks after Trump's Asia trip, when he asked other countries to help pressure North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons program. ([USA Today](#))
 - A new poll shows increased opposition to a provision in the House passed tax bill that would limit the deduction for state and local taxes. Forty four percent of registered voters oppose the provision, up from 35 percent in a nationwide survey conducted shortly after the House passed the GOP backed legislation earlier this month. ([Morning Consult](#))
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Chart Review

Voters Increasingly Oppose Proposed State and Local Tax Deduction Changes
Morning Consult

Events Calendar (All Times Local)**WEDNESDAY**

Sen. Rubio interviewed by Politico	8 a.m.
Center for American Progress event on tax legislation	9:30 a.m.
Senate HELP Committee confirmation hearing for HHS secretary nominee	9:30 a.m.
Fed's Yellen testifies before Joint Economic Committee	10 a.m.

THURSDAY

House Homeland Security Committee hearing on worldwide threats	10 a.m.
Heritage Foundation event on DOE's grid resilience proposal	12 p.m.
House Financial Services Committee hearing on the effectiveness of U.S. sanctions	2 p.m.

FRIDAY

No events scheduled

NEW: COMMUNITY IMPACT RANKINGS

Which Brands Make the Best Impact on Your Community?

Over 300,000 Americans weigh in on the companies that are doing the most for their communities.

General

North Korea's latest missile launch appears to put U.S. capital in range

Anna Fifield, The Washington Post

North Korea claimed the entire United States mainland was within reach after "successfully" testing a new kind of intercontinental ballistic missile, which it called the Hwasong 15, and said could carry a "super large heavy warhead." While Pyongyang is prone to exaggeration, its boast of having all of the United States in range is in line with experts' calculations that the missile launched Wednesday, which flew 10 times higher than the International Space Station, could theoretically reach Washington, D.C.

Voters Increasingly Oppose Proposed State and Local Tax Deduction Changes

Anna Gronewold, Morning Consult

A House passed proposal to limit deductions for state and local taxes, which drew 13 dissenting GOP votes earlier this month, is increasingly unpopular with voters, a new Morning Consult/Politico poll shows. Forty four percent of voters in the survey of 1,994 registered voters, conducted Nov. 21-25, said a potential final tax overhaul bill cleared by Congress and sent to President Donald Trump should not include the state and local tax provision.

Air Force Failed to Report Dozens of Service Members to Gun Database

Richard A. Oppel Jr., The New York Times

Dozens of Air Force service members charged with or convicted of serious crimes were never reported to the federal gun background check database as required, Air Force officials said on Tuesday. The revelation came after the Air Force disclosed that it had failed to report the domestic violence conviction of Devin P. Kelley, the gunman who opened fire at a church in Texas this month.

Supreme Court takes on major Fourth Amendment case

Ariane de Vogue, CNN

The Supreme Court will hear a major case involving privacy in the digital age on Wednesday, and will grapple with how to apply established legal rules to rapidly changing technology. The case concerns whether investigators need warrants to obtain cell tower data in order to track and reconstruct the movements of cell phone users over extended periods.

Lawmakers target 'revenge porn' in bipartisan bill
Elana Schor, Politico

A bipartisan group of lawmakers on Tuesday introduced legislation that would criminalize "revenge porn" after one of their own, Rep. Joe Barton (R Texas), had a nude image of himself shared without consent last week. The legislation offered by Sen. Kamala Harris (D Calif.) and Rep. Jackie Speier (D Calif.) would make the non consensual circulation of private, graphic imagery a federal criminal offense.

RNC on verge of escaping aging court decree on 'ballot security'
Josh Gerstein, Politico

For more than 35 years, the Republican National Committee has labored under a federal court order sharply limiting its ability to challenge voter qualifications and target alleged election fraud, effectively sidelining the national party on the racially charged issue. That era may end as soon as Friday, with the national party freed to take a more active role in pursuing a subject that President Donald Trump repeatedly highlighted before and after last year's election — attention that even spurred creation of a presidential commission to delve into his own unsubstantiated claims of millions of illegal votes.

Presidential

Judge sides with Trump's pick to take over consumer agency
Jessica Gresko and Ken Sweet, The Associated Press

President Donald Trump scored a victory Tuesday when a federal judge refused to block the president's choice to temporarily run the nation's top consumer financial watchdog and, for the moment, ended a two way battle for leadership of the agency. Judge Timothy Kelly declined to stop the Republican president from putting Mick Mulvaney in place as the acting director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Trump: North Korea missile launch will bring Democrats to negotiating table on spending bill
David Jackson, USA Today

While berating Democratic leaders for skipping talks about a new spending plan, President Trump said Tuesday he hopes the latest missile launch by North Korea will bring his political critics back to the table. "They should be

calling immediately and saying we want to see you," Trump told reporters at the White House, saying the latest missile launch by North Korea "will have a huge effect" on budget talks.

Trump weighs 11th-hour boost for Roy Moore
Alex Isenstadt, Politico

President Donald Trump isn't planning to go to Alabama, but he still might use the weight of his office to help elect scandal tarred Republican Senate candidate Roy Moore. The White House is considering flooding the state with robo calls, emails, and text messages in an offensive designed to activate the president's supporters on Moore's behalf, three people familiar with the discussions said.

Trump Once Said the 'Access Hollywood' Tape Was Real. Now He's Not Sure.

Maggie Haberman and Jonathan Martin, The New York Times

Shortly after his victory last year, Donald J. Trump began revisiting one of his deepest public humiliations: the infamous "Access Hollywood" tape of him making vulgar comments about women. Despite his public acknowledgment of the recording's authenticity in the final days of the presidential campaign and his hasty videotaped apology under pressure from his advisers Mr. Trump as president elect began raising the prospect with allies that it may not have been him on the tape after all.

Trump will shrink Bears Ears during Utah visit Monday and five tribes promise to sue him that same day

Thomas Burr, The Salt Lake Tribune

President Donald Trump will fly into Utah on Monday to announce that he'll shrink the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante national monuments, sources familiar with the trip confirmed to The Salt Lake Tribune. Trump will travel to Salt Lake City for the announcement to change the boundaries of the two monuments but will not visit them, the sources said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the trip.

Senate

Roy Moore campaign touts support from dubious Indiana group
Vaughn Hillyard et al., NBC News

Largely abandoned by the national Republican Party but eager to reinforce President Donald Trump's tacit support for his candidacy, Alabama Senate hopeful Roy Moore on Tuesday touted the endorsement of a super PAC his campaign described as having been founded by "seasoned campaign veterans" who helped power Trump's victory in 2016. But the organization now backing the controversial candidate ahead of the Dec. 12 special election

was founded just weeks ago by a 24 year old aspiring political operative who acknowledged to NBC News Tuesday that he's trying to disassociate himself from white nationalist organizations he appeared to have affiliated with in the past.

Accuser to Roy Moore, 'Where does your immorality end?'
Paul Gattis, AL.com

In an impassioned letter released exclusively today to AL.com, Leigh Corfman, who accused Roy Moore of undressing her when she was 14 and he was 32, demanded the Republican Senate candidate stop calling her a liar, and attacking her character and end his "smears and false denials." AL.com received a copy of the letter in person from Corfman.

Louisiana GOP Sen. Kennedy opposes controversial Trump judicial nominee
Seung Min Kim, Politico

Sen. John Kennedy (R La.) said Tuesday that he would vote "in a heartbeat" against Brett Talley one of President Donald Trump's most controversial judicial nominees as he leveled a harsh criticism of the administration about the caliber of their candidates for the federal bench. The freshman senator has become a surprising obstacle on judicial nominees for the Trump White House, which has seen remarkable success in filling a historic level of vacancies in the federal judiciary.

Senate gives Trump another victory on judges
Kevin Freking, The Associated Press

The Senate on Tuesday confirmed one of President Donald Trump's legal advisers to serve on what is often described as America's second highest court. The vote to confirm Gregory Katsas, 53, of Virginia, was 50-48.

Trump Tax Taunts Don't Trouble Red-State Democrats
Niels Lesniewski and Bridget Bowman, Roll Call

Moderate Senate Democrats many of them on the ballot in 2018 came together with a unified message Tuesday morning, just before President Donald Trump arrived at the Capitol to meet with the Republican Conference. Sen. Tim Kaine was perhaps the most direct.

House

Second ex-staffer accuses Conyers of sexual harassment
George Hunter, The Detroit News

A former staffer of U.S. Rep. John Conyers said the veteran lawmaker made unwanted sexual advances toward her, including inappropriate touching,

adding to allegations by other unnamed former employees that have prompted a congressional investigation. Deanna Maher, who worked for him from 1997 to 2005, told The Detroit News that the Detroit Democrat made unwanted advances toward her three times.

**An Anguished Congressional Black Caucus Is Trying To Figure Out
What To Do About John Conyers**
Darren Sands, BuzzFeed News

The allegations against Michigan Rep. John Conyers have shaken the Congressional Black Caucus, leaving the group's members and staff in anguish over what to do about a man who is both a legend of the Civil Rights movement and accused of sexual harassment. Some privately hope he'll resign.

**Constituents more polarized over Paul Ryan than ever, reflecting
Trump effect in Wisconsin**
Craig Gilbert, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Two of the most commonly heard opinions about Paul Ryan in his home district are: He's a nice guy. He's got an awful job.

States

Charlie Baker announces re-election campaign
Matt Stout, Boston Herald

Gov. Charlie Baker said today he will seek re election in 2018, confirming the long held belief he'd seek a second term with an early morning, no frills announcement. Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito won't make a formal campaign launch until next year, according to Jim Conroy, Baker's top political aide and the manager of his 2014 campaign.

Lamont testing the waters for governor
Neil Vigdor, Connecticut Post

Had Democrats chosen differently at the start of the decade, he would have been the party's nominee for governor. Now, after seven years of biding his time as a pundit and professor, Democrat Ned Lamont is gauging interest in a comeback bid for the state's top office.

Democrats in New York State Senate Agree to Reunite
Mike Vilensky, The Wall Street Journal

The New York state Senate's long warring Democratic factions on Tuesday agreed to reunite, bringing the party a step closer to wresting back full control of the state legislature. Republicans have had control of New York's Senate despite a numerical minority, thanks to an alliance with nine rogue

Democrats.

Brownback heads to D.C. to meet with McConnell amid uncertainty about confirmation

Lindsay Wise and Bryan Lowry, The Kansas City Star

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback will meet with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell in Washington on Wednesday as the Kansas Republican inches toward leaving his state office for a federal post. McConnell's spokesman, David Popp, confirmed Tuesday that the meeting would take place but offered no other details.

Advocacy

Europeans descend on DC to defend Iran deal

Michelle Kosinski and Nicole Gaouette, CNN

Some of the US's closest allies, the UK, Germany and France, who have been growing increasingly frustrated after months of lobbying to keep the Iran nuclear deal intact, have formed a united front. Without being invited, they've organized a joint team to travel to Washington this week, setting up their own meetings to ramp up the pressure on the US, according to a senior diplomatic source from one of the participating countries.

Foreign lobbying law open to exploitation

Megan R. Wilson, The Hill

Washington's foreign agents are able to operate in a legal gray zone thanks to ambiguities in the law and less than stringent enforcement. Foreign lobbying has come to the forefront due to special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Russia and the Trump campaign.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Senate Considers Making a Terrible Tax Bill Even Worse

The Editorial Board, The New York Times

This is how Senate Republicans compromise these days: They could make their enormously unpopular tax bill, which lavishes benefits on corporations and wealthy families, more generous to real estate tycoons and hedge fund billionaires to win over a couple of lawmakers who say the legislation doesn't do enough for small businesses. Even by the collapsing standards of Congress this is astounding.

Fourth Amendment Showdown

The Editorial Board, The Wall Street Journal

How difficult should it be for law enforcement to get cellphone records showing a suspect's past location? That's the question before the Supreme

Court on Wednesday in *Carpenter v. U.S.*, which challenges decades of Fourth Amendment law.

Why Are Conservative Donors Funding James O'Keefe in the First Place?

Matt Lewis, The Daily Beast

By now, you've seen reports about the botched sting operation that James O'Keefe's "Project Veritas" attempted. The goal was ostensibly to make The Washington Post look bad by tricking it into reporting the story of a woman who was falsely claiming to have been impregnated by U.S. Senate candidate Roy Moore.

Research Reports and Polling

An Evaluation of CBO's Past Outlay Projections
Congressional Budget Office

Since its inception, CBO has regularly published baseline projections of federal revenues and outlays. Those projections, which reflect the assumption that current laws will generally remain unchanged, typically underlie the budget resolutions prepared by the House and Senate Budget Committees as well as CBO's cost estimates for proposed legislation.

AEI Political Report - 2017: Hot topics in a frigid political climate
Karlyn Bowman and Eleanor O'Neil, American Enterprise Institute

In this year end issue of AEI's Political Report, we look at some of the hot topics that absorbed the public and pollsters this year. We begin with a look at some broad trends from 2017 that measure how people feel about the way things are going in the country.

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