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Videos: Hurricane Eta Pummels Honduras, Nicaragua With Severe Rainfall, Kills at Least 3 by [Gaby Arancibia](#)

Hurricane Eta wreaked havoc on the heart of Central America overnight Tuesday, bringing with it life-threatening winds and torrential rainfall that caused waterways to overflow and prompted several landslides in the region that killed at least three people.

Having since downgraded into a tropical storm, Eta is located roughly 125 miles from Managua, Nicaragua, with maximum sustained wind speeds of 45 mph, according to the [latest Wednesday update](#) from the US' National Hurricane Center (NHC). The agency anticipates Eta will become a tropical depression by Wednesday night.

The storm is moving west at a pace of 7 mph and is forecast to move over northern Nicaragua throughout the day before making its way to central portions of Honduras by Thursday.

However, by Thursday night, the remnants of Eta are expected to emerge over the Gulf of Honduras or Caribbean Sea.

Citing weather models, forecasters have warned that Eta may make its way to southern Florida by early next week.

Having spent hours lingering along the Nicaraguan coast, the [Category 4 storm came ashore Tuesday afternoon](#) just 15 miles south of the country's Puerto Cabezas, a vulnerable municipality that was viciously struck by Hurricane Felix in 2007 and where many of the homes are made from wood and adobe.

With many homes and businesses already destroyed in the region prior to landfall, Eta's continued wrath saw power lines knocked out, trees downed, swollen waterways and even collapsed, washed-away bridges.

The NHC had warned that Eta would create "catastrophic" conditions, as the weather system was forecast to bring up to 30 inches of rain to both Honduras and Nicaragua, and the storm delivered.

The rainfall became so severe that several landslides were reported to first responders. In fact, landslides claimed the lives of at least three individuals - a 12-year-old Honduran girl who became trapped in her home and two miners who died in Bonanza, Nicaragua. A third miner was able to escape.

Additional landslides are expected as the two countries continue to experience torrential rains. The NHC upped its forecast and noted in its advisory that both Honduras and Nicaragua may see up to 40 inches of rain.

"This rainfall will lead to catastrophic, life-threatening flash flooding and river flooding, along with landslides in areas of higher terrain of Central America," the agency's bulletin states, adding that anywhere between 15 to 30 inches of rain could fall in neighboring countries.

Alex Sosnowski, AccuWeather's senior meteorologist, [recently warned](#) that Eta may end up sticking around a little longer or even create a new storm. "It is possible we may be planning Thanksgiving dinner and still watching Eta or a spin-off from it," he said.

The official end of the 2020 Atlantic hurricane season isn't until November 30.

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That's Mine! Defensive Pug Protects Cake From Human - Video Club

For one pug, protecting a delicious piece of pastry means having to throw down and safeguard the sweetness from all potential enemies - even family members.

Video obtained by licenser ViralHog shows one protective, yet adorable pug spouting warning after warning once a silly human makes the mistake of invading their territory.

Silly human, cakes are for dogs only!

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Twilight Groan - Cartoon

Triggering a massive collective raising of eyebrows overnight on Wednesday, US President Donald Trump falsely claimed that he'd won his reelection bid before flipping the switch and insisting that voter fraud was widespread.

Trump's victory claims came early on as states continued their efforts to report ballot tallies in addition to counting millions of mail-in ballots, many of which were prevented from being counted until Election Day.

"Frankly, we did win this election," the [commander-in-chief said](#) as he spoke to supporters from the White House's East Room. But then, suddenly, Trump changed his tune, alleging voter fraud and calling for "all voting to stop."

With Democratic challenger Joe Biden leading in the contest, Trump and company have continued to run with claims of voter fraud, even [filing lawsuits in Michigan and Pennsylvania](#) to halt the election process, although, interestingly, the [president has claimed to have won both states](#).

Stay tuned for the next episode of "The Twilight Zone," folks.

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Video: Over 500 Protests Across US Rally to 'Protect the Results' of Presidential Vote
by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

With US President Donald Trump declaring a premature victory in the Tuesday election, people across the United States are taking to the streets to pressure election officials to continue counting votes and to oppose any attempted power grab.

The winner in most US states was apparent by late Tuesday evening, but in several key battleground states, the race between Trump and Democratic candidate Joe Biden is very close. Ballot-counting is continuing in many states for up to 10 days after the election as mail-in ballots, absentee ballots and reports from far-flung districts continue to trickle in.

"We are up BIG, but they are trying to STEAL the Election. We will never let them do it. Votes cannot be cast after the Polls are closed!" [Trump tweeted shortly after midnight](#) on Wednesday, [adding later in the morning](#), "They are finding Biden votes all over the place - in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan. So bad for our Country!"

Fears Trump would refuse to accept the results and concede to a peaceful transfer of power should he lose the election have swirled in the weeks prior to the vote. "We're going to have to see what happens," he told a reporter at the White House in September.

Across the United States, more than 130 advocacy groups, labor unions and political organizations across the country have prepared a "Protect the Results" coalition to demand the vote-counting continue and the final results be respected. They have called for [protests at more than 500 locations](#).

"We expected Trump and Republicans to try every trick in the book to cling to power," [Indivisible, a progressive group formed in 2016](#) in response to Trump's ascension to the presidency, tweeted on Wednesday. "That's why we're ready to mobilize. Join the movement to stop a constitutional crisis."

One of the first protests to pop up, in Washington, DC, gathered at Columbus Circle near the US Capitol Building on Wednesday morning. The local Democratic Socialists of America chapter carried banners reading "Demand Democracy" and "Count Every Vote." They were joined by other groups, such as climate justice advocacy group Extinction Rebellion.

In Philadelphia, where vote-counting continues and no state winner has been declared, protesters brought massive banners reading "vote him out."

However, [many other protests](#) are scheduled [for later in the day](#).

For months, Trump has postured against accepting states' vote counts after Tuesday, saying that counting ballots for days after the election is a situation ripe for corruption and vote-rigging. "The whole world, and our nation, is going to be waiting, and waiting, and waiting to hear who won? You're going to be waiting for weeks?" [Trump asked a crowd in Pennsylvania on Saturday](#). "We're going to be waiting, November 3 is going to come and go, and we're not going to know ... We have to know who won."

[According to the US Elections Project](#), more than 100 million Americans voted early, whether through mail-in ballots or by going to the polls on one of several early-voting days prior to Election Day, while another 60 million voted in-person on Election Day, [according to CNBC](#). The total far exceeds the 2016 record of 136.6 million participants.

The country's Electoral College, an institution created by the US Constitution to give extra power to the southern slaveholding states, awards a set of electoral votes based on a

winner-take-all basis, with each state's total votes being decided based on population. So far, neither candidate has attained the necessary 270 electoral votes to be declared winner.

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Photo: US Army Museums to Purge Collections, Give Away Duplicate Weapons, Uniforms by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

The US Army's network of museums is simplifying its collections by giving away duplicate artifacts, including weapons, uniforms, unit patches and other equipment.

The US Army is set to begin purging its massive collection of historical artifacts in early 2021, getting rid of the duplicates in its 580,000-item inventory.

"The Army has never performed a comprehensive review of the Army Artifact Collection before," Stefan Rohal, head of the US Army Museum Enterprise (AME), said in an October 23 [news release by the US Defense Logistics Agency \(DLA\)](#).

"For years, Army museums collected artifacts without coordination, which led to duplicative assets across the AME. The current right-sizing effort will ensure that the Army only retains those artifacts that need to be cared for in perpetuity," he added, explaining the AME was formed in 2016 and had unified all Army museums under a single command by 2019.

However, the work has now turned to taking inventory of each museum's collection, determining which assets are "over-represented" or lack "unique characteristics," and turning them over to the DLA to distribute.

Historical items maintained by the Army Museum Enterprise's 46 distinct Army museums will be inventoried during the next five years. DLA Disposition Services will process and make available those items deemed duplicate or surplus that are authorized for reuse, transfer and donation.

"The Army Museum Enterprise is reviewing everything from tanks and howitzers to uniforms and canteens over the next five years," Rohal explained. "Once we turn the material over to DLA, they will ensure that only qualified customers have access to the material, depending on how tightly it is controlled by law and regulation."

In other words, you probably won't be able to get your hands on that Revolutionary War-era musket. Instead, they will likely be given to other Defense Department museums, the National Park Service or the Smithsonian Institution, all of which will get the first pick of duplicates, then other museums, veterans associations and other institutions.

After the COVID-19 pandemic began earlier this year, many museums [began to move significant parts of their exhibits online](#), enabling history buffs to peruse their collections from the safety of their home.

On Veterans Day later this month, the Army's newest museum, a \$400 million National Museum of the United States Army, will [open its doors at Virginia's Fort Belvoir](#). Its opening has been delayed by five months, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic. The facility will house [some 1,500 artifacts, documents and images](#) dating back to 1775, when the colonial uprising against the United Kingdom that led to the United States' foundation began.

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Biden Says 'It's Clear' He's 'Winning' Enough States to Reach 270 Electoral Votes
by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

In a news conference Wednesday afternoon, Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden said his campaign was winning in enough states to potentially reach the 270 electoral votes necessary to win the presidential election, but that the vote counting was not over yet.

"Yesterday once again proved democracy is the heartbeat of this nation," [Biden said in his home state of Delaware](#) as his running mate, Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), stood near the edge of the stage.

"If we had any doubts, we shouldn't have any longer about a government of, by and for the people is very much alive in America," Biden said. "Here, the people rule. Power can't be taken or asserted, it flows from the people, and it's their will that determines who will be the president of the United States and their will alone."

"And now, after a long night of counting, it's clear we're winning enough states to reach 270 electoral votes needed to win the presidency. I'm not here to declare that we've won, but I am here to report that when the count is finished, we believe we will be the winners," Biden said. He noted that in several key battleground states, such as Wisconsin and Michigan, he led the vote counts by larger margins that Trump had won them in the 2016 race. Wisconsin was called for Biden earlier on Wednesday, and soon after Biden spoke, [CNN began saying Biden had won Michigan as well](#).

"We've won with a majority of the American people," Biden said, noting he leads the popular vote by more than 3 million votes.

"I will work as hard for those who didn't vote for me as those who did vote for me," Biden said, urging that under a Biden presidency, he would not differentiate between Republican-dominated and Democrat-dominated states, something Trump has done. "We are not enemies ... I will govern as an American president."

"We the people will not be silenced. We the people will not be bullied. We the people will not surrender. My friends, I'm confident we'll emerge victorious. But this will not be my victory alone or our victory alone. It'll be a victory for democracy, for America," Biden said.

Even before vote totals began rolling in on Tuesday evening, Trump had already postured as if losing the election would mean it had been stolen from him by the Democrats.

"We are up BIG, but they are trying to STEAL the Election. We will never let them do it. Votes cannot be cast after the Polls are closed!" [Trump tweeted early Wednesday](#) morning. "They are finding Biden votes all over the place - in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Michigan. So bad for our Country!" he added later that morning.

Trump's campaign [said Wednesday afternoon it was filing court motions](#) to halt the counting of votes in Pennsylvania and Michigan. In a call with reporters, Trump campaign manager [Bill Stepien reportedly said the president was](#) "declaring victory in Pennsylvania."

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Rudy Giuliani Hints Trump Camp May Bring 'National Lawsuit' Amid Unsubstantiated Voter Fraud Claims
by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

Rudy Giuliani, the former New York mayor who became US President Donald Trump's lawyer and adviser, told members of the press in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday the campaign would be filing several lawsuits, possibly even at the national level, to shut down the vote counting in the Keystone State.

As the counting of ballots in several US states continues into Wednesday, Giuliani went to Pennsylvania, where the Trump campaign has declared victory even though the state election authorities haven't announced a result yet. He denounced the ongoing counting process as wrought with fraud, claiming Trump election observers weren't being allowed to monitor it. "Not a single Republican has been able to look at these ballots," [Giuliani told reporters, remarking they](#) "could be from Mars" and claiming that Philadelphia ostensibly has a history of voter fraud.

"This is beyond anything I've seen before," he added, noting the campaign had already filed one lawsuit and would soon be filing a second, aiming to block counting until the GOP was granted better access, which might in turn be followed by more at the federal level.

[Other lawsuits announced by the Trump campaign Wednesday](#) afternoon included one to initiate a recount in Wisconsin, which was recently declared a victory for Democratic rival Joe Biden, and to intervene in pending litigation before the US Supreme Court concerning Pennsylvania's extended deadline for mail-in ballots.

Pennsylvania holds a valuable 20 electoral votes, and if Trump hopes to triumph over Democratic rival Joe Biden, he will have to win the state and every other remaining undeclared state as well. With 85% of votes counted, the incumbent president leads in the state by roughly 300,000 votes.

At a separate press conference moments before, [Biden addressed the issue of Pennsylvania](#), saying that nearly all of the remaining ballots are mail-ins, which have been going very heavily Democratic in the Keystone State.

However, several TV networks, including Fox News and CNN, [have begun declaring Biden has won Michigan](#) and its 16 electoral votes. If so, Trump's path to the presidency has become almost impossible. The other states not yet called for any candidate are North Carolina, with 15 votes; Georgia, with 16 votes; Nevada, with 6 votes; Alaska, with 3 votes; and Pennsylvania. [Moments after Giuliani's presser, Trump tweeted](#) that he had won not only Pennsylvania, but also North Carolina and Georgia. "Additionally, we hereby claim the State of Michigan if, in fact there was a large number of secretly dumped ballots as has been widely reported!" he added. Twitter immediately flagged both tweets as containing misleading information about the election.

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Trump Campaign Files Lawsuits to 'Ensure Election Integrity' in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Georgia

US President Donald Trump's campaign announced on Wednesday that it has filed lawsuits to halt ballot counting in Michigan and Georgia and has also taken legal action to change the ballot receipt deadline in Pennsylvania.

"As votes in Michigan continue to be counted, the presidential race in the state remains extremely tight as we always knew it would be," Bill Stepien, Trump's 2020 campaign manager, said in a statement.

The statement notes that the Trump campaign has not been provided access to counting locations to observe the counting process, which is guaranteed by Michigan law.

"We have filed suit today in the Michigan Court of Claims to halt counting until meaningful access has been granted," the statement adds.

"We also demand to review those ballots which were opened and counted while we did not have meaningful access. President Trump is committed to ensuring that all legal votes are counted in Michigan and everywhere else," the statement continues.

The latest data by the Associated Press shows that Michigan is currently leaning blue, with 99% of votes counted.

Pennsylvania Lawsuit

In a separate statement, Trump's campaign team said it has taken legal action over what it describes as the "Pennsylvania Supreme Court's unlawful extension of the mail-in ballot receipt deadline," claims of "hiding ballot counting and processing" and making allegations that Pennsylvania Democrats allegedly attempted to violate the Help America Vote Act.

In a call with reporters, Stepien also [reportedly claimed that](#) "we are declaring a victory in Pennsylvania."

Georgia Lawsuit

Later on Wednesday, the Trump campaign announced its third lawsuit, this time for Georgia. Unlike the Michigan and Pennsylvania lawsuits, the Georgia gambit aimed to "require all Georgia counties to separate any and all late-arriving ballots", without demanding a halt to the ballot counting.

The elections director for Fulton County, the largest county in Georgia, said that vote counting would be completed Wednesday night, according to Reuters.

The fate of the US presidency appears to be in the hands of the remaining battleground states of Pennsylvania and Nevada. Currently, Biden is leading in the hotly-contested presidential race, with 264 electoral votes, according to AP. Trump is trailing behind with 214 electoral votes.

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'Small Chance' Oxford COVID-19 Vaccine May Be Ready by Christmas, Raising Hope for 2021 Rollout

The University of Oxford plans to reveal its late-stage trial results on its COVID-19 vaccine candidate in late December, which means Britain could release a successful vaccine this year or in early 2021.

"I'm optimistic that we could reach that point before the end of this year," Oxford Vaccine Trial Chief Investigator Andrew Pollard recently told British lawmakers, [Reuters reported](#).

"We are getting closer to [a vaccine], but we are not there yet," Pollard added, also noting that once the trial results come out, the data will have to be reviewed by regulators so that a political decision can be made on who would receive the vaccine first.

When asked if the vaccine, which is being developed in conjunction with British pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca, could be ready before Christmas, Pollard responded: "There is a small chance of that being possible, but I just don't know."

Researchers began working on the Oxford vaccine, called AZD1222 or ChAdOx1 nCoV-19, in January.

The viral vector vaccine candidate is made from a weakened version of a common cold virus that causes infections in chimpanzees. The virus was genetically altered so that it's impossible to grow in humans, [according to Precision Vaccinations](#). The virus was also modified to include the genetic sequence of the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2, the virus which causes COVID-19. The coronavirus uses the protein to enter human cells.

When asked about the efficacy of the vaccine, Pollard responded: "I think good is having vaccines that have significant efficacy - so whether, I mean, that is 50, 60, 70, 80% , whatever the figure is - is an enormous achievement."

"It means from a health system point of view, there are fewer people with COVID going into hospital, that people who develop cancer can have their operations of chemotherapy - it's a complete game-changer and a success if we meet those efficacy end points," Pollard added. Despite the news, the world may not immediately return to normal once the vaccine becomes available, Pollard warned.

"It takes time to roll out vaccines. Not everyone will take them," he said. "We will still have people getting this virus, because it is just too good at transmitting."

There are several other vaccine candidates, [according to the World Health Organization](#), including drugs developed by Johnson & Johnson, Moderna and Pfizer that are undergoing Phase 3 clinical testing in the US.

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South Korea Approves New Test to Simultaneously Detect COVID-19, Flu

Health officials in South Korea have approved a new test that can detect both COVID-19 and seasonal influenza at the same time.

The new test targets genes specific to both SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, and the flu virus, and is a version of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test, a molecular diagnostic testing technique used to identify viral genetic material and confirm infections.

The two viruses cause similar symptoms, and so being able to get diagnoses for both diseases in three to six hours "would be convenient for patients and also reduce the burden of medical workers," senior South Korean Health Ministry official Yoon Taeho said during a virus briefing this week, [AP reported](#).

South Korea has been unable to completely curb the spread of COVID-19, with the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency on Wednesday reporting 118 new cases of the virus in the Seoul metropolitan area.

The country's number of cases has reached 26,925, with 474 COVID-19-related deaths, AP reported.

"Despite efforts by health authorities to trace contacts and suppress transmissions, such efforts have been outpaced by the speed of viral spread," Yoon said.

In the US, health officials have been reporting that some patients have become infected with COVID-19 and the seasonal flu [at the same time](#). Officials have been urging people to get their flu vaccinations as soon as possible.

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Democrats Make 'Critical Mistake' Grouping Diverse Latinos into 'Amorphous' Voting Bloc - Activist

Rosa Clemente, American community organizer and independent journalist, joined Radio Sputnik's Political Misfits Wednesday to discuss the role of Latino voters in the US elections and how it's time to retire the notion that one can slot an enormous and diverse group of people into one category for pollsters' demographic breakdowns.

"In all of my years organizing and a lot of my academic work - or most of it - is around racialization that Latinos have in the US," Clemente, the vice-presidential running mate of 2008 Green Party US presidential candidate Cynthia McKinney, told show hosts [Michelle Witte and Bob Schlehuber](#).

"Simply put, there's 60 to 62 million of us, mostly Mexican, then Central Americans and then the Spanish-speaking Caribbeans including Puerto Rico, and you can really see it play out right now. Nobody ever addresses Puerto Ricans. ... We can't vote in Puerto Rico, but we can vote once we're here as migrants from Puerto Rico," Clemente explained.

"Puerto Ricans essentially are the swing vote in Florida, and they are the swing vote as well in Pennsylvania," she pointed out. "There's more than 1.5 million Puerto Ricans in Florida - more than Cubans, Venezuelans - but the only campaign that went to talk to many of the Puerto Ricans was [US President Donald] Trump and his team."

"I think the other false narrative is that Latinos are not politically diverse," Clemente added, also noting that the US Democratic Party has to engage with Latino voters, especially in swing states.

"Politically, just for wanting to win, they [the Democrats] made a critical mistake. We have the highest turnout rate ... The Puerto Rican electorate on the island itself, which also voted yesterday - we have the highest turnout rate. We vote at an 85% rate in all the elections in Puerto Rico," she pointed out.

"A lot of us have been sounding the alarm," she added, noting that it doesn't make sense to consider an "amorphous group of 60 million people" as one category.

Clemente also noted that it's time for the US to evolve beyond the current two-party system.

"Hopefully, this might be the only thing you can glean out of this [election]: that young people will not only be part of getting rid of the Electoral College but will also no longer be dependent on the Democratic Party," she added.

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FBI Looking Into Reports of US Voter Suppression Calls Made in Australia

by [Evan Craighead](#)

While Americans were heading to the polls and voting by mail over the past few weeks, dozens of Australians were reportedly receiving robocalls Down Under that encouraged them to stay home and not cast their so-called ballots in the US presidential election.

"I've had four or five of these calls, which I initially assumed was something to do with a COVID-19 message," Perth resident Ben [told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation](#). "Coming up as a local mobile number, I wasn't expecting something linked to the US election. I just blocked the number and moved on."

The call reportedly told unsuspecting Australians that they should stay home on November 3, rather than head to the polls to cast their votes for either US President Donald Trump or former Vice President Joe Biden.

The issue is now being looked into, according to a Department of Homeland Security official who spoke with ABC.

According to RoboKiller, [an app that boasts](#) a "global database of 1.4 Billion analyzed calls" to fight against telemarketers and robocalls, the call in question has been issued millions of times within the past year.

"There's a little bit of confusion about this one across the industry [but] this robocall is being sent at a very high volume," Giulia Porter, vice president of RoboKiller, noted.

She also revealed that by Tuesday, the robocall had risen to fifth place on the company's list of top spam calls.

David, from Brisbane, was particularly perplexed after receiving a similar robocall from an unrecognizable Australian number.

"The US elections have got nothing to do with me," he said in reference to the call, which went straight to voicemail. "I can't see why they're targeting Australians who have nothing to do with the US voting system."

News of these robocalls in Australia comes amid a flurry of similar reports in the US state of Michigan, which prompted the opening of a [probe by the Federal Bureau of Investigation](#).

“Getting reports of multiple robocalls going to Flint residents that, due to long lines, they should vote tomorrow,” [tweeted Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel](#) on Tuesday. “Obviously this is FALSE and an effort to suppress the vote. No long lines and today is the last day to vote. Don’t believe the lies! Have your voice heard! RT PLS.”

Also, [GOP fraudsters Jack Burkman, 54, and Jacob Wohl, 22](#), were arraigned in early October on charges of voter intimidation, conspiracy to commit an election law violation and using a computer to commit the crime of conspiracy and election law. They allegedly sent out a robocall seeking to dissuade voters from casting their ballots.

Jack Burkman, 54, and Jacob Wohl, 22.

“Mail-in voting sounds great, but did you know that if you vote by mail, your personal information will be part of a public database that will be used by police departments to track down old warrants and be used by credit card companies to collect outstanding debts?” the call erroneously claimed.

Nessel claims the duo called around 12,000 Detroit and suburban residents in August.

“This effort specifically targeted minority voters in an attempt to deter them from voting in the November election,” Nessel pointed out in her office’s [October 1 release](#) on the matter. Black Detroiters make up [78.6% of the city’s population](#).

The pair is still awaiting judgment on their array of felony charges, but they [have since been ordered](#) to call and apologize to residents in a "curative" message that addresses the misinformation.

Wohl and Burkman [are also facing eight counts](#) of telecommunications fraud and seven counts of bribery after they were indicted by Ohio’s Cuyahoga County for issuing similar robocalls to residents in Cleveland. Black residents make up [49.6% of Cleveland’s population](#).

The two are facing up to 18 years behind bars in Cleveland.

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‘No Evidence’ of Significant Foreign Interference in 2020 US Election - DHS Agency
by [Evan Craighead](#)

US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Director Chris Krebs said Wednesday that his agency has seen almost no signs of interference in the 2020 US presidential election, despite persistent Russiagate rumors.

“Over the last four years, the [CISA] has been a part of a whole-of-nation effort to ensure American voters decide American elections. Importantly, after millions of Americans voted, we

have no evidence any foreign adversary was capable of preventing Americans from voting or changing vote tallies," Krebs [announced in a Wednesday news release](#). "We are only here because of the hard work of state and local election officials and private sector partners who have focused efforts on enhancing the security and resilience of elections." "We will remain vigilant for any attempts by foreign actors to target or disrupt the ongoing vote counting and final certification of results. The American people are the last line of defense against foreign influence efforts and we encourage continued patience in the coming days and weeks," he added.

Krebs' Wednesday announcement falls in line with his comments issued during a Tuesday morning news conference.

He said that while was "some early indication of system disruption," he still had "confidence that the vote is secure, the count is secure and the results will be secure," as [reported by Government Technology](#).

These revelations came alongside [Washington's announcement](#) of US Cyber Command (CYBERCOM) and National Security Agency (NSA) cyber ops against Iran.

US Army Gen. Paul Nakasone, the CYBERCOM and NSA chief, expressed to reporters on Tuesday that, with regard to attempted interference, he did not "see the levels that we had seen" in 2018, but he was "very confident in actions" taken against Iran.

Meanwhile, home-grown US election interference via robocalls has been reported in the US states of [Michigan and Ohio, as well as in Australia](#).

According to Krebs' Tuesday remarks, his agency's Operations Center - based in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) headquarters in Arlington, Virginia - will continue monitoring election-related events for the next several weeks.

Earlier Wednesday, US President Donald Trump's reelection campaign announced it had filed lawsuits aimed at halting ballot counting in [Michigan, Pennsylvania and Georgia](#), which amount to a total of 52 Electoral College votes.

Trump campaign manager Bill Stepien argued staffers were not permitted "meaningful access" to monitor the opening of ballots in certain Michigan locations.

"We have filed suit today in the Michigan Court of Claims to halt counting until meaningful access has been granted," he claimed, [as reported by The Hill](#). "We also demand to review those ballots which were opened and counted while we did not have meaningful access.

President Trump is committed to ensuring that all legal votes are counted in Michigan and everywhere else."

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Photos: Trump's Hollywood Walk of Fame Star Boarded, Fenced Up Amid US Election Uncertainty
by [Victoria Teets](#)

US President Donald Trump's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame has been fenced and boarded up, along with many surrounding buildings ahead of the highly anticipated and already contentious presidential election results.

Many businesses around the country have taken additional security precautions in anticipation of protests stemming from the results of the election by boarding up their buildings with plywood. On California's Hollywood Boulevard, establishments such as the El Capitan Entertainment Center, the Ripley's Believe It or Not museum and multiple posh shopping areas have put up boards.

According to a [report by Variety](#), as of Tuesday morning, Trump's star on Hollywood Boulevard was also covered with plywood, and a sign had been put up saying "No public access" on barrier guardrails surrounding it to prevent people from getting too close.

Trump's star, which was awarded in 2007 for producing TV beauty pageants, has repeatedly been a target for vandalism by his detractors. In fact, it has already been destroyed at least four times in the past several years: twice in October and once each in 2016 and 2018.

According to Variety, James Otis, who has previously vandalized Trump's star, destroyed it with a pickaxe on Friday morning. It's possible the star has remained boarded up since then and was intentionally left protected for Election Day.

Otis has also claimed that he was behind its earlier vandalism in October, when someone dressed as [Marvel's Incredible Hulk destroyed the star](#) mere hours after the president and first lady Melania Trump announced they had [tested positive for COVID-19](#).

The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has spoken out against any damaging of the stars, which can be met with felony charges.

"Any star which is vandalized or destroyed, no matter which honoree it belongs to, will be replaced by the Hollywood Historic Trust, a non-profit, non-partisan group. The Hollywood Walk of Fame is a historic landmark which celebrates the professional contributions of the inductees," Rana Ghadban, president and CEO of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, told Variety.

"The stars, once installed, are considered part of the historic fabric of the Walk," Ghadban added.

"When people are angry with one of our honorees, we would hope that they would project their anger in more positive ways than to vandalize a California state landmark. Our democracy is based on respect for the law. People can make a real difference by voting and not destroying public property."