

presidential pardon

1,500 defendants are released from charges related to attack on Capitol

Ashley Murray
The Kansas Reflector

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump on Monday night issued sweeping pardons for nearly all Jan. 6 defendants, erasing accountability for those who violently tried to stop the certification of the 2020 presidential election results on that date in 2021.

Trump told reporters he signed a pardon for nearly 1,500 defendants who participated in the attack and commuted the sentences for several others whose punishments require “further research,” he said.

Journalists outside the D.C. Central Detention Facility, where many Jan. 6 defendants are being held, reported families began gathering there Monday in anticipation of the pardons.

The White House released the names of 14 defendants whose sentences Trump commuted.

As of early January the department had charged just over 1,580 people for crimes related to the riot, 608 of whom were charged with assaulting, resisting or impeding law enforcement, including nearly a third who used a dangerous or deadly weapon, according to the department's latest figures.

They include numerous right-wing militia leaders convicted of seditious conspiracy.

Among them are Stewart Rhodes of Texas and Kelly Meggs of Florida, the founder and current leader of the Oath Keepers, as well as members of the Proud Boys, including Joseph Biggs of Florida, Ethan Nordean

of Washington, Zachary Rehl of Pennsylvania, and Dominic Pezzola of New York.

All remaining Jan. 6 defendants convicted of crimes related to the Capitol attack received a “full, complete and unconditional pardon,” according to the order.

Trump praised the defendants on the cam-

paign trail as “hostages,” “patriots” and “warriors,” and pardoning them became a major theme of Trump’s rallies.

Former U.S. Capitol Police officer Harry Dunn said the pardons marked a “dark day in American history.”

“This decision is a betrayal to the officers who were severely injured - and died - as a result of the insurrection. This decision puts Americans at risk as these violent criminals return to their communities. These pardons are a reflection of what abuse of power

looks like and what we the people are bound to witness over the next four years,” Dunn said.

The U.S. Department of Justice launched its largest-ever investigation following the attack that left over 140 police officers injured and upwards of \$2.8 million in damage to the Capitol.

As of early January the department had charged just over 1,580 people for crimes related to the riot, 608 of whom were charged with assaulting, resisting or impeding law (See PARDON on page 23)

Scott Co. LEC Report

Week of January 7-17 Police Department

Jan. 7: A non-injury vehicle accident occurred at the intersection of 6th and Main streets.

Jan. 9: A theft was reported at Ace Hardware.

Jan. 11: Chad Lane, 39, was arrested for domestic battery in the 600 block of Russell Street.

Jan. 12: Isaac Bridges, 31, was arrested in the 400 block of Main Street for transportation of an open container, speeding and driving on a suspended license.

Jan. 13: Sexual battery was reported on Sunflower Road.

Jan. 14: Alesha Heitschmidt, 44, was arrested for domestic battery.

Jan. 15: An injury vehicle accident occurred at the intersection of 3rd and College streets.

Jan. 17: An unattended death occurred at 102 S. Main Street.

Jan. 17: Officers provided assistance at 600 W. 5th Street.

Sheriff's Department

Jan. 9: Jasmine Mills, 21, was arrested on a Scott County warrant.

Jan. 13: Thomas Miles, 42, Garden City, was arrested for failure to appear.

Jan. 15: An injury vehicle accident occurred at the intersection of Road 160 and Cherokee Road.

Jan. 17: Officer responded to child in need of care (CINC) at 600 W. 5th Street.

Public Notice

(Published in The Scott County Record Thurs., Jan. 23, 2025)1t

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE

Notice is hereby given that the Scott City Planning Commission will hold a special meeting on February 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at City Hall, 221 West 5th Street, Scott City, Kansas, to consider the following agenda item(s):

1) Application for Variance by Antonio Navarrete to allow moving a trailer home within the City of Scott City that does not comply with City Codes: Uses allowed in an R-3 zoning district by City Code 10-6C-4, 10-6C-5B, 10-6D-4, 10-6D-5b, 10-6D-5c, 10-6D-5d, 10-6D-5e, and 10-6D-5i.

The request is being made to move a trailer home from an R-1 zone, Lot 8 & S2 of Lot 5, Block 11, Fairlawn Addition (807 Kingsley) to an R-3 zone, S2 Lot 3 & N2 of Lot 4, Block 6, Southview 2nd Addition (1603 S. College).

A complete legal description is available for public inspection at City Hall. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard at such hearing. Any person appearing at the hearing has the right to appeal the reasonableness of the zoning decision to the district court.

Dated: January 23, 2025

Les Spangler, chairman
Scott City Planning Commission

Public Notice

(First published in The Scott County Record on Thurs., Jan. 23, 2025; last published Thurs., Jan. 30, 2025)2t

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE DIVISION OF VEHICLES RELEASE OF TITLE

Filed by: Trenton Cantrell
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Against vehicle owner: Stevens Westlee
201 North E. Hwy., Strassburg Mo.

Model: Ford
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Transfer of ownership title will take place upon the second publication of this notice in The Scott County Record.

Kansas House bill would use DL records to search for voters who are not citizens

Anna Kaminski
The Kansas Reflector

TOPEKA - A bill proposed in the Kansas House seeks to remove people who are not U.S. citizens from the state’s voter rolls through temporary driver’s license records, invoking concern for potential disenfranchisement of Kansas voters.

A Kansas Secretary of State’s Office official said the records are “the best tool we have” to identify voters who are not U.S. citizens, of which the true number in Kansas is unknown.

There is no “magic list” disclosing all people who are not citizens in Kansas, said Bryan Caskey, the deputy secretary of state and director of elections, at a Tuesday hearing in the House Elections Committee. But the temporary driver’s license list is about as close as the office can get, he said.

“It is one of the rare pieces of factual, direct

evidence of non-U.S. citizens,” Caskey said, “and so that’s why we want the list more often because it’s, quite frankly, one of the best tools that we have to verify non-U.S. citizens being on our voter registration list.”

The Kansas Secretary of State’s Office, which supports House Bill 2020, has received a temporary driver’s license list about six times in the past 15 years, Caskey said.

About 38,000 people in Kansas have active temporary drivers licenses as of December.

Of the state’s more than two million voters, state officials found 202 potential matches when comparing a temporary driver’s license list and the voter rolls. About 120 of those were false positives, and 85 warranted additional investigation. About 21 of the 85 have a voting history attached to them and would require even further investigation to determine citizenship status.

Public Notice

(First published in The Scott County Record Thurs., Jan. 23, 2025; last published Thurs., Jan. 30, 2025)2t

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SCOTT COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all qualified electors residing within the boundaries of the Scott County Conservation District, notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907, as amended, on the 6th day of February, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., the annual meeting of the Scott County Conservation District will be held at the Wm. Carpenter 4-H Building, 608 Fairgrounds Road, Scott County Fairgrounds, Scott City, Ks.

The meeting agenda will include the following business items:

One: The supervisors of the Scott County Conservation District shall make full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting.

Two: The supervisors shall conduct an election by secret ballot of qualified electors, there present, of one supervisor to serve for a term of three years from date of said meeting. The term of Larry Brown is expiring.

All in the County of Scott in the State of Kansas.

Luke Minnix, chairperson
Scott County Conservation District

Attest
Nichole O'Brien, district manager

check us out at scottcountyrecord.com

HB 2020 plays into conspiracy theories about large numbers of non-citizens voting in Kansas elections, and altering the outcome of those elections. This simply isn't true.

Rashane Hamby, director of policy and research, ACLU of Kansas

Clay Barker, general counsel to the secretary of state’s office, said nothing prevents officials from investigating a case of a potential voter who is not a U.S. citizen.

“There has to be something more than an odd last name, but if you have reason to believe someone’s a noncitizen, you can conduct an investigation and gather more information,” Barker said.

When obtaining a driver’s license, a person must prove residency in Kansas, which could include proof of U.S. citizenship or legal immigration status. In the latter case, a temporary driver’s license is typically issued.

The aim of the bill is to compare the lists of people with temporary driver’s licenses to the secretary of state’s voter

rolls to determine if people who are not U.S. citizens are participating in Kansas elections.

However, the Secretary of State’s Office cannot modify voter rolls, a job reserved for county elections officials, and state officials said action cannot be taken unless they receive confirmation from an outside source of a person’s current citizenship status.

Davis Hammet, president of voting rights organization Loud Light, supported the concept of the bill but expressed concern at the hearing over its language and lack of detail.

The logistics of how the bill could be administered were missing, Hammet said. He warned oversimplification of legislation could run the risk (See CITIZENS on page 23)

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