

# President Trump signs executive order challenging social media protections

Lashed out at Twitter for fact checking tweets

By ZEKE MILLER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump escalated his war on social media companies Thursday, signing an executive order challenging the liability protections that have served as a bedrock for unfettered speech on the internet.

Still, the move appears to be more about politics than substance, as the president aims to rally supporters after he lashed out at Twitter for applying fact checks to two of his tweets.

Trump said the fact checks were “editorial decisions” by Twitter and amounted to political activism. He said it should cost those companies their protection from lawsuits for what is posted on their platforms.

Trump, who personally relies heavily on Twitter to verbally flog his foes, has long accused the tech giants in liberal-leaning Silicon Valley of targeting conservatives by fact-checking them or removing their posts. “We’re fed up with it,” Trump said, claiming the order would uphold freedom of speech.

It directs executive branch agencies to ask independent rule-making agencies including the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission to study whether they can place new regulations on the companies — though experts express doubts much can be done without an act of Congress.

Companies like Twitter and Facebook are granted liability protection under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act because they are treated as “platforms,” rather than “publishers,” which can face lawsuits over content.

A similar executive order was previously considered by the administration but shelved over concerns it couldn’t pass legal muster and that it violated conservative principles on deregulation and free speech.

“They’ve had unchecked power to censor, restrict, edit, shape, hide, alter virtually any form of communication between private citizens or large public audiences,” Trump said of social media companies as he prepared to sign the order. “There is no precedent in American history for so small a number of corporations to control so large a sphere of human interaction.”

Trump and his campaign reacted after Twitter added a warning phrase to two Trump tweets that called mail-in ballots “fraudulent” and predicted “mail boxes will



Evan Vucci/AP Photo

**President Donald Trump holds up a copy of the New York Post as he speaks before signing an executive order at the White House on Thursday aimed at curbing protections for social media giants.**

be robbed.” Under the tweets, there’s now a link reading “Get the facts about mail-in ballots” that guides users to a page with fact checks and news stories about Trump’s unsubstantiated claims.

Trump accused Twitter of interfering in the 2020 presidential election and declared “as president, I will not allow this to happen.” His campaign manager, Brad Parscale, said Twitter’s “clear political bias” had led the campaign to pull “all our advertising from Twitter months ago.” In fact, Twitter has banned political advertising since last November.

Late Wednesday, Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey tweeted, “We’ll continue to point out incorrect or disputed information about elections globally.”

Dorsey added: “This does not make us an ‘arbiter of truth.’ Our intention is to connect the dots of conflicting statements and show the information in dispute so people can judge for themselves.”

On the other hand, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg told Fox News his platform has “a different policy, I think, than Twitter on this.”

“I just believe strongly that Facebook shouldn’t be the arbiter of truth of everything that people say online,” he said.

The president’s critics, meanwhile, scolded the platforms for allowing him to put forth false or misleading information that could confuse voters.

“Donald Trump’s order is plainly illegal,” said Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden, a Democrat and advocate for internet freedoms. He is “desperately trying to steal for himself the power of the courts and Congress. ... All for the ability to spread unfiltered lies.”

## OBITUARIES

### Margaret Turina Radich

Portland

Dec. 1, 1918 — May 22, 2020

Margaret Turina Radich passed away at home May 22, 2020. Born in Portland, Oregon, Dec. 1, 1918, Margaret was the daughter of Margaret Vranizan Turina and Charles Andrew Turina.

Margaret graduated from St. Mary, Star of the Sea High School and attended Astoria Business College. She was a bookkeeper at St. Mary’s Hospital in Astoria, and later worked at Chris’ News.

On April 21, 1945, Margaret married Anthony John Radich of Clifton, Oregon. Anthony and Margaret had nine children.

Margaret’s life centered on faith and family. She was a lifelong member of Court Columbia, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Astoria, and served as grand regent. In 2012, Margaret was honored for her service as a Catholic Daughter.

She was active in St. Mary, Star of the Sea Parish, serving as finance chairwoman for the annual parish dinner and bazaar. She substitute taught for the Sisters of the Holy Names and led summer school religious education classes.

In 1970, the family moved to Portland.

Margaret was the center of her family, and beloved by them. She enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren, celebrating life and sharing family history.

She is survived by her children, Rita Radich Grant (Jeff), of Lanham, Maryland, Paula Radich, of Newberg, Oregon, Michele Dahl, of Portland, Anthony Radich (Sonja), of Denver, Colorado, Sister Kathleen Radich, Order of St. Francis in St. Mary’s, Alaska, John Radich (Kathy), of Eugene, Trina Radich, of Portland, and Joan Sullivan (John), of Kirk-

land, Washington; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Margaret was preceded in death by her son, Mark, and husband, Anthony.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Clare Catholic Church Thursday, with interment at Ocean View Cemetery.

A public celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Francis Center, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul or Oregon Right to Life.



Margaret Radich

### Carl Wilfred Kotaniemi

Warrenton

Nov. 14, 1923 — May 25, 2020



Carl Wilfred Kotaniemi passed away peacefully in his home at Glenwood Village, surrounded by members of his family, on Memorial Day.

He was born in Humboldt, Michigan, on Nov. 14, 1923, to Charles and Hulda Kotaniemi. He had four sisters and two brothers, all of whom preceded him in death except his youngest sister.

After becoming the first in his family to graduate from high school, Carl entered the Air Force during World War II, and was later honorably discharged.

After the war, Carl moved to Astoria, where he met Helen Christell Johnson while working at Point Adams Cannery. They were married on Oct. 11, 1947.

In 1954 they moved to Michigan, where they stayed for 13 years before returning to Astoria in 1967, where he remained the rest of his life. They had seven children, of whom one was stillborn (Sylvia, 1949),

and one previously died of cancer (David, 1989). His wife, Helen, passed away in 1976.

Carl is survived by his sister, Helen Johnson, of Marquette, Michigan; three sons, Steven, of Astoria, Jeffrey, of Eugene, and Michael, of Ilwaco, Washington; and two daughters, Sandra Ogier, of Hillsboro, and Cynthia Kotaniemi, of Portland. Also surviving are 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

A family service will be held on Monday at 11 a.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 565 12th St. in Astoria.

A public service will also be held at the gravesite at 1 p.m. at Greenwood Cemetery on Oregon Highway 202. Pastor Steve Dornfeld of Peace Lutheran Church will preside at both ceremonies.

Please join us in celebrating Carl’s 96 years, 6 months and 11 days as our family’s beloved mentor and patriarch.



Carl Kotaniemi

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## SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
58 49	61 47	62 48	62 49	64 50	61 49	59 48
Cooler with rain	A brief morning shower	Mostly sunny	Partly sunny	A shower possible	Cloudy	Showers possible

## ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

### Temperatures

High/low	76/49
Normal high/low	62/48
Record high	81 in 1922
Record low	38 in 1973
<b>Precipitation</b>	
Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	3.30"
Normal month to date	3.02"
Year to date	35.36"
Normal year to date	33.31"

Forecasts and graphics provided by  
AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

## UNDER THE SKY

Tonight’s Sky: First quarter moon (8:30 p.m. PDT).

## SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:29 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:58 p.m.
Moonrise today	1:31 p.m.
Moonset today	2:34 a.m.

	First	Full	Last	New
	May 29	June 5	June 12	June 20

## TODAY’S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
7:28 a.m.	6.8	1:58 p.m.	0.9	
9:01 p.m.	7.2	2:25 p.m.	0.3	
<b>Cape Disappointment</b>				
7:05 a.m.	6.5	1:17 a.m.	3.4	
8:44 p.m.	7.2	1:36 p.m.	0.3	
<b>Hammond</b>				
7:18 a.m.	6.9	1:34 a.m.	3.2	
8:54 p.m.	7.5	1:57 p.m.	0.3	
<b>Warrenton</b>				
7:23 a.m.	7.2	1:42 a.m.	3.0	
8:56 p.m.	7.6	2:09 p.m.	0.4	
<b>Knappa</b>				
8:05 a.m.	7.1	2:59 a.m.	2.5	
9:38 p.m.	7.5	3:26 p.m.	0.3	
<b>Depoe Bay</b>				
6:16 a.m.	6.3	12:46 a.m.	3.1	
7:58 p.m.	7.1	1:04 p.m.	-0.1	

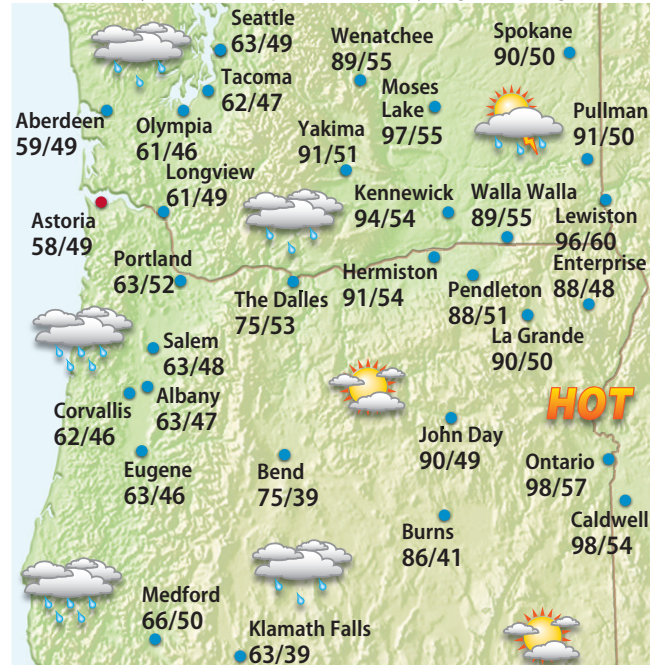
## NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sun.
Atlanta	83/64/t	82/64/s
Boston	79/59/pc	70/49/s
Chicago	72/50/pc	70/53/s
Dallas	87/64/s	87/65/s
Denver	84/55/pc	86/58/pc
Honolulu	85/72/s	85/74/pc
Houston	89/66/pc	90/69/pc
Los Angeles	75/57/s	77/60/pc
Miami	88/73/c	87/74/pc
New York City	84/56/pc	72/52/s
Phoenix	108/80/pc	108/82/s
San Francisco	73/57/c	68/54/pc
Wash., DC	84/60/pc	74/53/s

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.

## REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today’s weather. Temperatures are today’s highs and tonight’s lows.



City	Today	Sun.	City	Today	Sun.
Baker City	91/52/pc	73/47/pc	North Bend	58/48/r	62/49/c
Brookings	56/47/r	62/50/pc	Roseburg	60/49/r	71/52/pc
Ilwaco	58/50/sh	59/50/c	Seaside	58/48/r	60/46/c
Newberg	64/48/r	66/47/c	Springfield	62/48/r	68/45/pc
Newport	56/46/r	58/47/c	Vancouver	63/51/r	65/48/c