

ELECTION 2020

Biden: ‘I ask everyone to stay calm. The process is working’

Continued from Page A1

Trump by more than 9,000 votes, and Georgia, where Biden led by more than 1,500, came as Americans entered a third full day after the election without knowing who will lead them for the next four years. The prolonged process added to the anxiety of a nation whose racial and cultural divides were inflamed during the heated campaign.

Biden was at his home in Wilmington, Delaware, as the vote count continued. Trump stayed in the White House and out of sight, as more results trickled in, expanding Biden’s lead in must-win Pennsylvania. In the West Wing, televisions remained tuned to the news amid trappings of normalcy, as reporters lined up for coronavirus tests and outdoor crews worked on the North Lawn on a mild, muggy fall day.

Trump’s campaign, meanwhile, was quiet — a dramatic difference from the day before, when it held a morning conference call projecting confidence and held a flurry of hastily arranged press conferences announcing litigation in key states.

With his pathway to reelection appearing to greatly narrow, Trump was testing how far he could go in using the trappings of presidential power to undermine confidence in the vote.

On Thursday, he advanced unsupported accusations of voter fraud to falsely argue that his rival was trying to seize power in an extraordinary effort by a sitting American president to sow doubt about the democratic process.

“This is a case when they are trying to steal an election, they are trying to rig an election,” Trump said from the podium of the White House briefing room.

He took to Twitter late Friday to pledge further legal action, tweeting “Joe Biden should not wrongfully claim the office of the President. I could make that claim also. Legal proceedings are just now beginning!”

Biden spent Thursday trying to ease tensions and project a more traditional image of presidential leadership. After participating in a coronavirus briefing, he declared that “each ballot must be counted.”

“I ask everyone to stay calm. The process is working,” Biden said. “It is the will of the voters. No one, not anyone else who chooses the president of the United States of America.”

Trump showed no sign of giving up and was back on Twitter around 2:30 a.m. Friday, insisting the “U.S. Supreme Court should decide!”

Trump’s erroneous claims about the integrity of the election challenged Republicans now faced with the choice of whether to break with a president who, though his grip on his office grew tenuous, commanded sky-high approval ratings from rank-and-file members



Republican canvas observer Ed White, center, and Democratic canvas observer Janne Kelhart, watch as Lehigh County workers count ballots on Friday in Pennsylvania.

of the GOP. That was especially true for those who are eyeing presidential runs of their own in 2024.

Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, a potential Republican presidential hopeful who has often criticized Trump, said unequivocally: “There is no defense for the President’s comments tonight undermining our Democratic process. America is counting the votes, and we must respect the results as we always have before.”

But others who are rumored to be considering a White House run of their own in four years aligned themselves with the incumbent, including U.S. Sen. Josh Hawley, a Republican from Missouri, who tweeted support for Trump’s claims, writing that “If last 24 hours have made anything clear, it’s that we need new election integrity laws NOW.”

Trump’s campaign engaged in a flurry of legal activity, saying it would seek a recount in Wisconsin and had filed lawsuits in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia.

But judges in the three states quickly swatted down legal action. A federal judge who was asked to stop vote counts in Philadelphia instead forced the two sides to reach an agree-

ment without an order over the number of observers allowed.

“Really, can’t we be responsible adults here and reach an agreement?” an exasperated U.S. District Judge Paul S. Diamond said during an emergency hearing Thursday evening. “The whole thing could (soon) be moot.”

In Pennsylvania, officials had not been allowed to process mail-in ballots until Election Day under state law, and those votes went heavily in Biden’s favor.

Mail ballots from across the state were overwhelmingly breaking in Biden’s direction. A final vote total may not be clear for days because the use of mail-in ballots, which take more time to process, has surged as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Trump campaign said it was confident the president would ultimately pull out a victory in Arizona, where votes were also still being counted, including in Maricopa County, the state’s most populous area. The Associated Press has declared Biden the winner in Arizona and said Thursday that it was monitoring the vote count as it proceeded.

“The Associated Press continues to watch

and analyze vote count results from Arizona as they come in,” said Sally Buzbee, AP’s executive editor. “We will follow the facts in all cases.”

Trump’s campaign was lodging legal challenges in several states, though he faced long odds. He would have to win multiple suits in multiple states in order to stop vote counts, since more than one state was undeclared.

Some of the Trump team’s lawsuits only demand better access for campaign observers to locations where ballots are being processed and counted. A judge in Georgia dismissed the campaign’s suit there less than 12 hours after it was filed. And a Michigan judge dismissed a Trump lawsuit over whether enough GOP challengers had access to handling of absentee ballots.

Biden attorney Bob Bauer said the suits were legally “meritless.” Their only purpose, he said “is to create an opportunity for them to message falsely about what’s taking place in the electoral process.”

Associated Press writers Colleen Long and Alexandra Jaffe in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.





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SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
50 35	50 33	49 42	50 37	51 42	52 43	52 43
Partly sunny, a shower	Sunny, but chilly	A p.m. shower or two	Showers possible	Showers possible	A chance of rain	Cloudy, rain possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

Temperatures

High/low	58/48
Normal high/low	56/42
Record high	71 in 1923
Record low	29 in 1971

Precipitation

Thursday	0.80"
Month to date	1.62"
Normal month to date	1.54"
Year to date	48.01"
Normal year to date	48.01"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2020

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: High in the NE, Cassiopeia, the queen, look more like the letter M or W.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:05 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:52 p.m.
Moonrise today	10:35 p.m.
Moonset today	1:29 p.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Nov 8	Nov 14	Nov 21	Nov 30

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks	Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
6:16 a.m.	6.2	11:21 a.m.	4.0	
4:46 p.m.	7.3	none		
Cape Disappointment	5:54 a.m.	6.1	10:37 a.m.	4.4
4:35 p.m.	6.9	11:36 p.m.	0.7	
Hammond	6:07 a.m.	6.3	11:01 a.m.	4.2
4:45 p.m.	7.3	11:56 p.m.	0.4	
Warrenton	6:11 a.m.	6.6	11:05 a.m.	4.1
4:41 p.m.	7.7	none		
Knappa	6:53 a.m.	6.5	12:14 a.m.	0.4
5:23 p.m.	7.6	12:22 p.m.	3.4	
Depoe Bay	5:15 a.m.	6.3	10:06 a.m.	4.6
3:42 p.m.	7.2	11:07 p.m.	0.6	

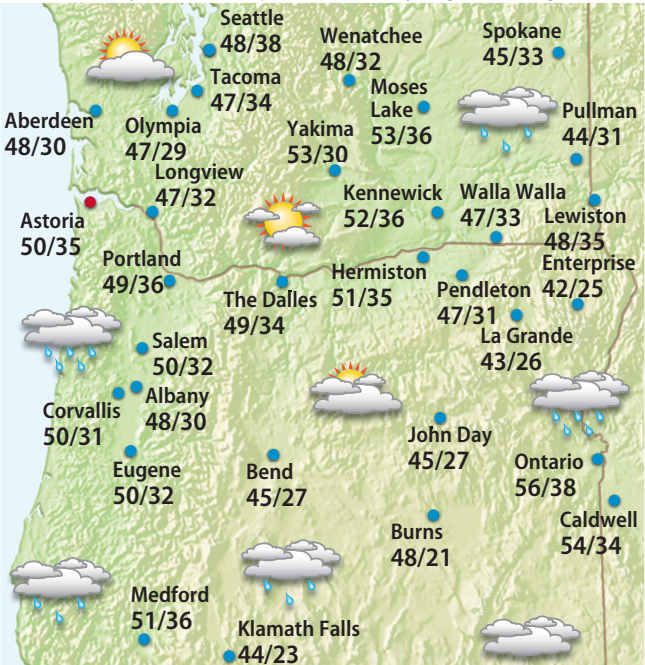
NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	73/62/pc	73/64/c
Boston	68/49/pc	68/50/s
Chicago	72/55/s	72/60/pc
Dallas	76/58/s	76/62/pc
Denver	73/46/s	59/31/s
Honolulu	86/74/sh	86/75/pc
Houston	78/61/pc	79/66/pc
Los Angeles	60/49/r	60/42/sh
Miami	82/76/r	80/76/r
New York City	72/55/s	72/56/s
Phoenix	76/52/pc	67/52/pc
San Francisco	60/49/pc	60/45/pc
Wash., DC	74/53/s	73/57/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 Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
Baker City	48/27/r	39/15/sf
Brookings	55/43/c	55/40/s
Ilwaco	50/37/pc	49/35/s
Newberg	48/31/pc	49/24/s
Newport	50/37/r	49/33/s

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sun. Hi/Lo/W
North Bend	55/39/r	53/34/s
Roseburg	48/37/pc	49/29/pc
Seaside	50/34/c	50/30/s
Springfield	49/33/r	47/26/s
Vancouver	48/34/pc	49/28/s