

Oregon AG says investigators targeted Black Lives Matter

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum says one of her investigators has been put on paid leave after she learned he had searched for social media hashtags used by the Black Lives Matter movement as part of a threat-assessment program.

Rosenblum said Tuesday she was “shocked and appalled” when she learned of the allegations, *The Oregonian* reports. Her comments, including the promise of an independent investigation, came after a letter from the Urban League of Portland accused the Department of Justice of digital surveillance of people involved in the racial justice movement.

The Urban League’s director, Nkenge Harmon Johnson, accused the department of targeting those who used the phrase “Black Lives Matter”

on social media. She wrote that the surveillance snared her husband Erius Johnson — the director of the department’s civil rights division. The letter was signed by Oregon labor officials and civil rights groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon.

“We are concerned that such unwarranted investigations are racially motivated, and create a chilling effect on social justice advocates, political activists and others who wish to engage in discourse about the issues of our time,” Harmon Johnson wrote.

In an interview with *The Oregonian*, Rosenblum confirmed that an investigator in the department’s criminal justice division used an online search tool to look up social media hashtags, including the one used by the Black Lives Matter movement, as part of

threat-assessment work.

She declined to identify the investigator and said “there may be others.”

She said she has hired a special investigator to examine the data collection by the Justice Department’s Criminal Justice Division.

“I need to get to the bottom of this,” Rosenblum said.

Rosenberg told the paper she learned about the allegations two weeks ago.

Rosenblum said the criminal justice team’s overall work on threat assessment was a “legitimate area.”

“They were looking for anti-police sentiments — potential threats to police,” she said.

Mat dos Santos, legal director for the ACLU in Oregon, urged Rosenblum to reveal the “full extent of the state’s involvement in this illegal and racially based surveillance.”

BRIEFLY

Two ex-counseling center workers sue U. of Oregon

EUGENE (AP) — Two former University of Oregon counseling center employees say they were shunned, criticized and threatened with dismissal at the UO after they blew the whistle on superiors who had seized a student’s therapy records, a civil lawsuit filed this week in U.S. District Court alleges.

Jennifer Morlok, then a senior therapist, and Karen Stokes, then an executive assistant, said in recent interviews that they decided to sue out of frustration after new UO President Michael Schill said publicly that no UO employee did anything wrong with regard to the student.

The 18-year-old student, known publicly only as Jane Doe, sought counseling in 2014 after a sexual encounter with three UO basketball players. The student said she was raped by the men. The players said it was consensual.

The lawsuit by Morlok and Stokes seeks compensation for lost income, lost benefits, lost seniority and emotional distress. It doesn’t specify a sum.

The pair hired Portland attorney Beth Creighton, who specializes in employment and civil rights matters, to represent them.

Creighton has represented clients in high-profile cases such as that of Hong Kong spiritual leader Kwai Fun Wong, who was detained and repeatedly strip searched in Multnomah County jails; of Oregon Liquor Control Commission warehouse worker Gene Summerfield, who alleged workplace discrimination; and of a trial assistant who sued the Deschutes County District Attorney’s Office.

The university is doing its best, UO spokesman Tobin Klinger said in a prepared statement Tuesday.

“We believe the university has worked diligently and in good faith to balance the complex demands of student privacy, employee rights and fostering a workplace that values trust and ethical conduct.”

Stomach illness spreading in Klamath County

KLAMATH FALLS (AP) — Health officials say a stomach illness spreading through Klamath County schools has now affected more than 100 students and staff members.

The county Health Department says children in public and private schools have been sickened, and those infected have spread the illness outside schools by attending public events.

The agency believes norovirus is the illness; it’s the most common gastrointestinal infection during winter months. Those infected get a sudden onset of symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps, and are generally sick for a few days.

The department urges those who are sick to stay home, and for everyone to frequently wash their hands.

Rising rent pushing out artists that made Portland cool

By GOSIA WOZNIACKA
Associated Press



Steven and Nola Olsen pose in front of their apartment building with their children, Aubrielle, left, 1, and Marcus, 3, in Portland.

PORTLAND — Portland has been a magnet for young, creative adults for over a decade, beckoning droves with its quirkiness, liberal appeal and quality of life. But the city’s popularity has had another effect: Those who helped make it cool can’t afford to live here anymore.

Evictions and skyrocketing rents are putting apartments out of reach for many, especially those working part-time, low-wage or artistic jobs. It’s even harder to afford a house.

Some Portlanders are now looking for better-paying work. Some are giving up and leaving.

“It used to be you could live in Portland on a part-time job, pay your rent, pay your bills and be pretty comfortable,” said Steven Olsen, 31, who moved to Portland from Missouri nearly a decade ago.

Olsen had hoped to raise his two children in Portland because of its progressive

values. He now works full time doing medical billing and his wife works part time at Goodwill, but a recent \$200 rent increase is forcing them to move back to Missouri.

“I don’t really want to live in Missouri, but I also want to be able to eat,” he said.

Experts say there’s a national “shortage of cities” as people seek out hip, urban lifestyles.

Unlike previous generations, today’s college graduates under 40 — the nation’s largest demographic — are moving in droves to neighborhoods in San Francisco, Seattle or New York, Portland economist Joe Cortright said.

Companies are also increasingly setting up in or near city centers, offering well-paid jobs to those graduates, Cortright said.

As more people move

to urban cores, they’re competing for a limited number of rentals. Housing construction is still lagging behind pre-recession levels, data show.

Incomes also have remained flat, so people at the bottom income rungs — the working poor, the disabled and the underemployed, such as artists and freelancers — are hit hardest.

In Brooklyn, New York, huge demand for housing and the arrival of wealthier residents have forced out young people, including the artists and hipsters who revitalized the neighborhood in recent decades.

Portland’s vacancy rate — about 3 percent — is one of the lowest in the country. The hot market has led some rents to double or triple, even in areas once considered less desirable, said Justin Buri of Portland-based Community Alliance of Tenants.

Entire apartment complexes are cleared out, the evictions followed by new owners renovating and increasing rents.

Corrections

The *East Oregonian* works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Some sun, then turning cloudy	Cloudy	Partly sunny, a shower; mild	Cooler with a couple of showers	An afternoon shower in spots

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

53° 44° 61° 50° 58° 40° 49° 35° 49° 39°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

54° 42° 64° 50° 61° 41° 52° 36° 52° 42°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	51°	41°
Normals	51°	34°
Records	69° (1999)	6° (1978)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. Trace
Month to date 0.31"
Normal month to date 0.45"
Year to date 6.94"
Last year to date 9.65"
Normal year to date 10.44"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	56°	44°
Normals	53°	34°
Records	68° (1990)	4° (1978)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.16"
Normal month to date 0.41"
Year to date 4.74"
Last year to date 5.85"
Normal year to date 7.69"

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: A little rain across the north this afternoon; times of clouds and sun elsewhere.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Partial sunshine today; some sun, then turning cloudy across the north.

Western Washington: Rain today; any time at the coast, in the afternoon elsewhere.

Eastern Washington: Mostly cloudy today.

Cascades: Mostly cloudy today.

North Central California: Plenty of sun today. Mainly clear tonight; very cold in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	55	52	r	60	50	r
Baker City	43	26	s	48	30	c
Bend	47	34	pc	54	39	c
Brookings	57	44	pc	59	50	s
Burns	46	20	s	52	21	pc
Enterprise	41	27	pc	45	34	c
Eugene	53	43	pc	59	49	c
Hepburn	49	38	pc	58	45	c
Hermiston	54	42	pc	64	50	c
John Day	48	32	pc	55	36	c
Klamath Falls	48	23	s	53	26	pc
La Grande	46	37	pc	50	40	c
Meacham	44	36	pc	48	40	c
Medford	53	33	pc	57	36	pc
Newport	52	47	pc	57	52	sh
North Bend	57	47	pc	61	53	c
Ontario	48	28	s	51	29	s
Pasco	52	43	pc	62	51	c
Pendleton	53	44	pc	61	50	c
Portland	52	48	r	58	51	r
Redmond	50	30	pc	57	36	c
Salem	54	48	pc	60	51	r
Spokane	42	38	pc	49	45	r
Ukiah	45	34	pc	52	39	c
Vancouver	51	48	r	57	51	r
Walla Walla	53	44	pc	61	51	r
Yakima	51	40	c	60	45	c

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	49	38	c	51	40	c
Hong Kong	82	72	pc	79	72	t
Jerusalem	65	53	s	68	55	s
London	60	47	pc	51	43	pc
Mexico City	74	53	pc	68	51	pc
Moscow	37	30	sn	34	23	c
Paris	59	48	pc	58	44	c
Rome	66	46	s	66	48	s
Seoul	63	45	pc	60	49	pc
Sydney	80	65	t	80	62	t
Tokyo	60	54	pc	61	56	pc

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Friday
Boardman	SW 4-8	SW 7-14
Pendleton	SSW 6-12	SSW 8-16

UV INDEX TODAY

0 1 2 1 0 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary: Strong winds with locally damaging gusts will usher much cooler air over the Midwest today. Rain will diminish to showers from the Northeast to the southern Appalachians and ramp up in Washington.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 92° in Alice, Texas Low -9° in West Yellowstone, Mont.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	56	30	s	58	34	s
Atlanta	69	45	pc	59	38	s
Atlantic City	62	51	r	57	42	pc
Baltimore	61	43	r	57	36	pc
Billings	44	30	s	53	38	pc
Birmingham	68	44	pc	62	36	s
Boise	47	32	s	53	35	s
Boston	55	48	r	59	41	pc
Charleston, SC	80	52	pc	71	43	s
Charleston, WV	65	41	pc	54	33	s
Chicago	52	35	c	46	28	pc
Cleveland	56	40	r	48	37	c
Dallas	68	44	pc	67	46	pc
Denver	42	21	pc	50	27	s
Detroit	53	41	c	48	34	s
El Paso	67	42	pc	69	46	pc
Fairbanks	3	-7	pc	0	-6	sf
Fargo	42	24	sf	46	33	s
Honolulu	86	76	sh	86	75	sh
Houston	70	50	pc	67	49	r
Indianapolis	55	35	pc	50	28	s
Jacksonville	84	57	s	75	45	pc
Kansas City	58	32	s	57	39	s
Las Vegas	65	44	c	67	44	s
Little Rock	66	41	c	62	37	s
Los Angeles	78	51	s	81	51	s
Louisville	59	40	s	55	33	s
Memphis	66	43	s	61	37	s
Miami	88	75	pc	86	73	pc
Millwaukee	53	36	c	46	30	c
Minneapolis	45	32	c	44	32	pc
Nashville	64	41	s	59	32	s
New Orleans	73	55	pc	68	53	c
New York City	60	49	r	57	41	pc
Oklahoma City	63	36	s	63	39	s
Omaha	54	29	s	53	35	s
Philadelphia	61	49	r	57	42	pc
Phoenix	76	49	r	79	51	s
Portland, ME	50	43	r	57	37	pc
Providence	56	46	r	58	37	pc
Raleigh	73	46	pc	63	37	s
Rapid City	47	19	s	55	31	s
Reno	46	22	s	49	27	s
Sacramento	65	39	s	66	40	s
St. Louis	60	38	s	55	34	s
Salt Lake City	47	28	pc	50	32	s
San Diego	75	52	s	77	52	s
San Francisco	64	48	s	65	48	s
Seattle	51	48	r	57	48	r
Tucson	75	44	r	77	47	r
Washington, DC	63	48	r	59	40	pc
Wichita	63	32	s	63	38	s