

Email mix-up causes cousin to send mistaken invitation

DEAR ABBY: I recently received an online invitation to a New Year's Eve party at the home of a dear cousin. Having not heard from her in a while, I decided to call her to express our delight at having been invited and let her know we might be able to come. (They live 350 miles away, but we plan to be in their town earlier that week and could potentially stay a few days longer and go to the party.)

Well, when I called, she told me that our having been included on the e-vite was a mistake! She said there must have been a mix-up because my email address is similar to a friend of hers who is invited.

Although she then said we were welcome to come, we declined saying, "Thank you for your flexibility given the awkward circumstance. Forgive us, but I think we'll stick to our original plan to come back north around Dec. 28."

Could this have been handled better? It has put a strain on an otherwise lovely relationship.

— **EMBARRASSED IN CALIFORNIA**
DEAR EMBARRASSED: Your dear cousin was clearly caught flat-footed by your phone call, but she should not have blurted out that your invitation was a mistake, although she did try to clean it up by telling you you were welcome to come.

I don't blame you for telling her you would stick to your original plan because I doubt you would have felt comfortable had you chosen to attend. The way to handle this going forward would be to make a New Year's resolution to forgive her for the breach of etiquette, not allow it to create a rift in your relationship and let it go.

DEAR ABBY: I work at a school. There's this woman here I would like to know. She's 21; I'm 24. I do maintenance and janitorial work. She's a professional. I wrote her a note wishing her and her family well for the holidays. She texted me once, thanking me for the note and wishing me happy holidays, too.

I want more communication. I'm not sure if she's nervous and doesn't know what to say. She seems like an incredible person, and I'd hate to pass up the opportunity to know her better. What's your take on this?

— **HER FUTURE FRIEND? IN SAN FRANCISCO**

DEAR FRIEND: Because you both work at the same school there could be rules against fraternization or even sexual harassment that could put your job in jeopardy if you do what you have in mind, however innocent it may be. That's why I don't recommend it. Appreciate the opportunity to work with pleasant, wonderful, "incredible" people, but leave it at that.

DEAR ABBY: I am an estate planner who would like to say that folks who don't believe in writing thank-you letters have no idea how much they may have lost by not sending those little notes of gratitude. I am talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars that have not gone to people who failed to pen a note and buy a stamp.

Many of my clients who are grandparents tell me they are leaving nothing to the "children" who never thanked them. They say the ingrates deserve what they'll be getting, which is nothing.

— **PATRICIA IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR PATRICIA: I'm printing your letter verbatim. A word to the wise, folks ... Happy holidays!

DEAR ABBY: I read your column often, and it appears to me that if everyone would just take a few moments to step back and think, "What if someone said I did this to me? How would I feel?" the world would be a smidge kinder. What do you think? Is it that simple, or am I just simple-minded?

— **PONDERING IN ALBUQUERQUE**

DEAR PONDERING: You are not simple-minded. You are paraphrasing a variation of the Golden Rule, which is found in the Bible and has been preached from the pulpit since it was written. We need to apply it now more than ever. And yes, it is just that simple.



DEAR ABBY

Wife of 'El Chapo' off the hook for allegedly using phone to contact kingpin

By Molly Crane-Newman and Nancy Dillon
 New York Daily News

NEW YORK — The wife of Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman is officially off the hook in her phone flap, but two defense lawyers are banned from bringing phones into the courthouse for an entire year.

The judge overseeing Guzman's drug trafficking trial in Brooklyn said Thursday he didn't have enough evidence to definitively conclude the Mexican drug lord and his wife Emma Coronel Aispuro were illegally texting each other on smuggled cellphones in the courthouse Nov. 19, as prosecutors alleged.

In his nine-page order, U.S. District Judge Brian Cogan declined to issue sanctions against defense lawyer Mariel Colon Miro for claims she facilitated the alleged texting — but he had other harsh words for the attorney, her fellow defense lawyer Michael Lambert and Guzman's beauty queen wife.

He said the three failed in several statements and affidavits to fully explain to the court how and why Coronel was using cellphones in the courthouse on both Nov. 19 and Nov. 20 in violation of his prior order banning such conduct.

He specifically called out Coronel, 29, for being less than "forthcoming."

"The Court does not appreciate Mr. Lambert's and Ms. Coronel's lack of candor. They are strongly cautioned that, in the future, they must be helpful, forthcoming, and candid in the representations they make to the Court," Cogan wrote in the order.

According to the order, Coro-

nel and her lawyers claimed she only used Lambert's cellphone in a cafeteria and possibly in the courtroom to access Google Translate. The judge said that didn't explain the security footage that caught her using a cellphone alone on the third floor on Nov. 19.

He said both Colon and Lambert failed to "clarify the circumstances of Ms. Coronel's multiple instances of using an unauthorized cellphone in the courthouse."

"For example, Ms. Colon and Mr. Lambert both refer to a situation when Mr. Lambert gave Ms. Coronel his cellphone to use Google Translate. But Ms. Coronel's multiple representations indicate that this instance happened both in the courtroom and the cafeteria, and Mr. Lambert's affidavit lacks any detail that would assist the Court in gaining a firmer basis of the relevant facts," he wrote.

He then said Lambert and Colon are prohibited from carrying any cellphones, iPads or other phone-capable devices into the Brooklyn courthouse for an entire year from the date of his Thursday order.

The long-awaited ruling came after prosecutors argued Colon personally gave Coronel one of her cellphones on the third floor and then walked to the attorney conference room with another cellphone to enable Coronel to send messages to Chapo in violation of the court's ban on such communication.

"The security footage shows that, at the same time Ms. Colon was alone with defendant in the attorney conference room, Ms. Coronel was alone on the third floor of the courthouse using a cellphone.

The security footage also shows that Ms. Colon and Ms. Coronel left the courthouse together soon after, but that neither of them retrieved a cellphone from the check-in point in the lobby," the judge's order explains.

Despite the circumstantial evidence of misconduct, Cogan said he "disagrees with the government's conclusion" that Colon facilitated contact between the spouses.

"The security footage is more consistent with a coincidence than with a scheme by defense counsel to violate the (security order)," he wrote.

Cogan said he needed more "definitive proof" before accusing Colon of such a flagrant violation of his orders.

He said she's the only Spanish-speaking defense lawyer able to spend ample time with Guzman in custody to help him with the language barrier.

Guzman has pleaded not guilty to a 17-count indictment filled with charges of drug trafficking, money laundering and conspiracy.

The alleged former head of Mexico's powerful Sinaloa cartel turned emotional in court Thursday when Coronel arrived for the day's testimony with the couple's 7-year-old twin daughters Emaly and Maria Joaquina, who arrived wearing matching white blazers and bows in their hair.

The accused head of the Sinaloa drug cartel waved at his daughters and tried to blow them kisses before a marshal signaled him to stop.

The little girls are due to visit with their father in custody Friday, a source told the New York Daily News on Wednesday.

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weather

	TONIGHT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
	Snow and rain, up to 1"	A couple of snow showers	A bit of afternoon snow	Low clouds	Partly sunny and chilly
Baker City	30	37 18	33 24	35 17	31 20
Comfort Index™	1	0	0	1	0
La Grande	30	35 21	34 29	33 22	32 20
Comfort Index™	2	0	0	1	2
Enterprise	29	33 19	32 25	31 18	28 15
Comfort Index™	3	0	0	1	2

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Sunday	35°	39°	39°
Low Sunday	29°	31°	33°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.01	Trace	0.05
Month to date	0.44	0.64	3.27
Normal month to date	0.73	1.26	2.30
Year to date	5.68	14.21	29.74
Normal year to date	9.88	16.12	22.97

SUNDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 86°	McAllen, Texas
Low: -18°	Crested Butte, Colo.
Wettest: 1.38"	Tillamook, Ore.
OREGON	
High: 55°	North Bend
Low: 15°	Crecent
Wettest: 1.08"	Meacham

WEATHER HISTORY

Record cold gripped the East and the Ohio Valley Christmas Day of 1983. Daily record low temperatures were set in 124 cities in 24 states. Pittsburgh dropped to 12 degrees below zero.

SUN & MOON

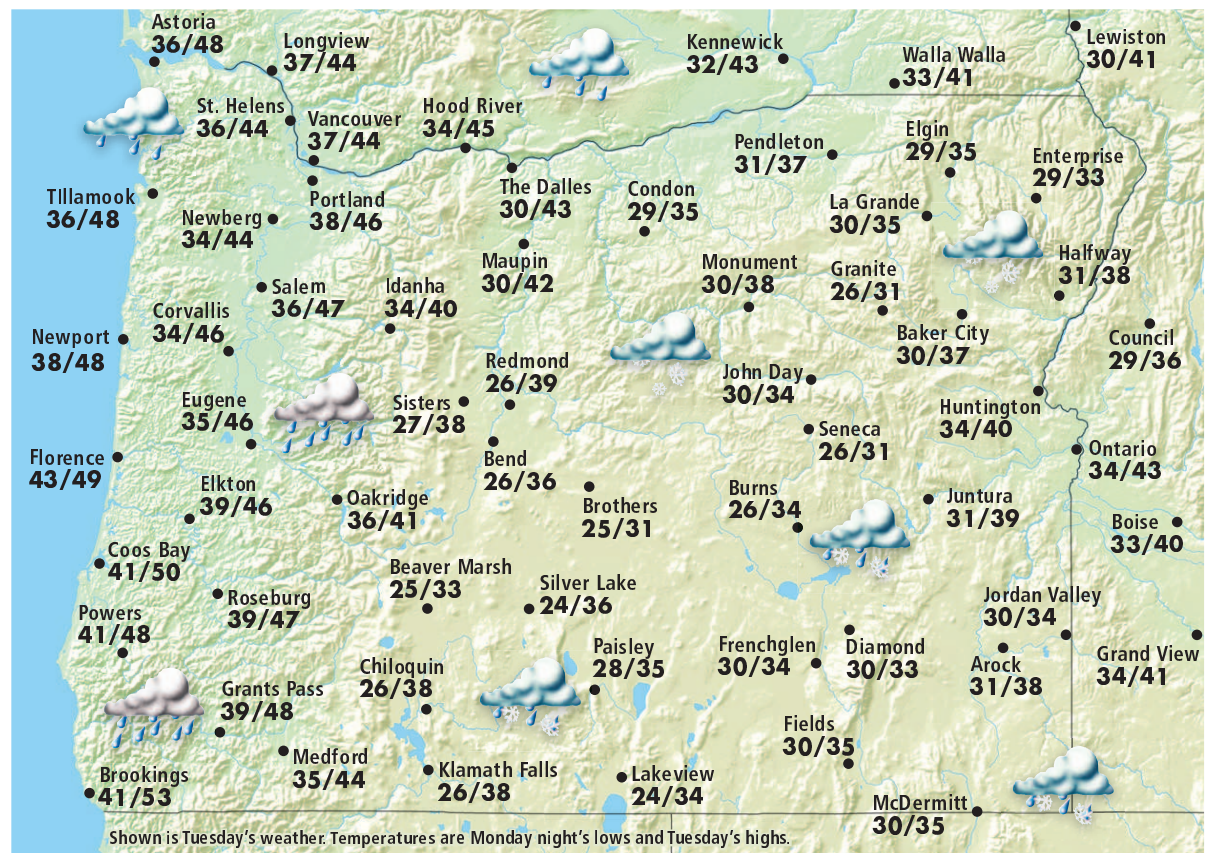
	MON.	TUE.
Sunrise	7:30 a.m.	7:30 a.m.
Sunset	4:14 p.m.	4:14 p.m.
Moonrise	6:49 p.m.	8:04 p.m.
Moonset	9:17 a.m.	10:04 a.m.

MOON PHASES

Last	New	First	Full
Dec 29	Jan 5	Jan 13	Jan 20

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018



REGIONAL CITIES

City	TUE. HI/Lo/W	WED. HI/Lo/W	City	TUE. HI/Lo/W	WED. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	48/38/pc	49/40/r	Lewiston	41/29/c	39/29/c
Bend	36/20/pc	38/25/sn	Longview	44/37/pc	43/37/r
Boise	40/22/sn	36/24/pc	Meacham	32/19/sf	33/28/sn
Brookings	53/38/pc	49/40/r	Medford	44/29/pc	41/35/r
Burns	34/12/sn	31/20/c	Newport	48/40/pc	49/41/r
Coos Bay	50/38/pc	51/42/r	Olympia	43/33/pc	43/34/r
Corvallis	46/33/pc	45/32/r	Ontario	43/22/sn	36/26/c
Council	36/15/sf	29/20/c	Pasco	42/28/pc	39/28/c
Elgin	35/22/sf	34/29/sn	Pendleton	37/27/c	37/30/sn
Eugene	46/33/pc	45/33/r	Portland	46/37/pc	45/39/r
Hermiston	43/29/pc	39/30/c	Powers	48/35/pc	48/41/r
Hood River	45/32/pc	41/36/r	Redmond	39/17/pc	40/27/sn
Imnaha	38/23/sf	38/29/c	Roseburg	47/35/pc	46/38/r
John Day	34/23/sf	36/28/c	Salem	47/35/pc	46/36/r
Joseph	33/17/sf	32/25/c	Spokane	32/22/pc	32/24/sn
Kennewick	43/30/pc	39/30/c	The Dalles	43/28/sf	38/30/sn
Klamath Falls	38/17/pc	37/23/c	Ukiah	32/19/sf	34/26/sn
Lakeview	34/11/sn	33/21/c	Walla Walla	41/30/c	41/32/sn

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

RECREATION FORECAST TUESDAY

Location	Forecast	High	Low
ANTHONY LAKES	A bit of a.m. snow	23	16
PHILLIPS LAKE	A bit of a.m. snow	36	27
MT. EMILY REC.	A bit of a.m. snow	33	24
BROWNLEE RES.	Cloudy	41	31
EAGLE CAP WILD.	Morning flurries	27	20
EMIGRANT ST. PARK	Snow, up to 1"	36	25
WALLOWA LAKE	Cloudy	38	28
MCKAY RESERVOIR	A bit of a.m. snow	43	30
THIEF VALLEY RES.	A bit of a.m. snow	38	30
RED BRIDGE ST. PARK	A bit of a.m. snow	41	30

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