Arizona Daily Star

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025 | tucson.com

Feds crack down on trucking schools



JAE C. HONG, ASSOCIATED PRESS, FILE 2021

The Transportation Department says it plans to revoke the certification of nearly 3,000 schools unless they can comply with federal training requirements in the next 30 days.

JOSH FUNK
Associated Press

Nearly 44% of the 16,000 truck driving programs listed nationwide by the government may be forced to close if they lose their students after a review by the federal Transportation Department found they may not be complying with minimum requirements.

The Transportation Department said Monday that it plans to revoke the certification of nearly 3,000 schools unless they can comply with training requirements in the next 30 days. The targeted schools must notify students that their certification is in jeopardy. Another 4,500 schools are being warned they may face similar action.

Schools that lose certification will no longer be able to issue the certificates showing a driver completed training that's required to get a license, so students are likely to abandon those schools. It's not clear how many of those schools have been actively teaching students.

Separately, the Department of Homeland Security is auditing trucking firms in California owned by immigrants to verify the status of their drivers and whether they are qualified to hold a commercial driver's license.

This crackdown on trucking schools and companies is the latest step in the government's effort to ensure that truck drivers are qualified and eligible to hold a commercial license. This began after a truck driver that Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy says was not authorized to be in the U.S. made an illegal U-turn and caused a crash in Florida that killed three people.

The action reins in "illegal and reckless practices that let poorly trained drivers get behind the wheel of semi-trucks and school buses," Duffy said.

Duffy has threatened to pull federal funding from California and Pennsylvania over the issue, and he proposed significant new restrictions on which immigrants can get a commercial driver's license but a court put those new rules on hold. On Monday, he threatened to withhold $30.4 million from Minnesota if that state doesn't address shortcomings in its commercial driver's license program and revoke any licenses that never should have been issued either because they were valid beyond a driver's work permit or because the state never verified a driver's immigration status.

So far, every state Duffy has threatened has been a Democratic state, but he has said the department is auditing a number of other states, including Texas and South Dakota.

Claire Lancaster, a spokesperson for Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, said: "We

Please see **TRUCKING,** Page A2

BP agents raid migrant-aid camp

EMILY BREGEL
Arizona Daily Star

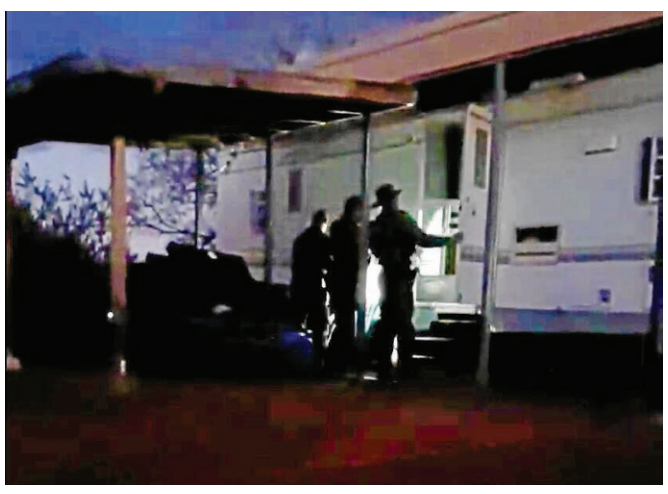
Border agents raided a migrant-aid camp near Arivaca last week, entering private structures without a warrant and arresting three people who were receiving aid there, volunteers with the group No More Deaths said.

On Sunday, Nov. 23, about 4:30 p.m., Border Patrol agents arrived at the entrance to No More Death's humanitarian camp, which provides medical aid, food and shelter to migrants who pass through the Southern Arizona area, about seven miles north of the U.S. border with Mexico.

At the camp entrance agents called out, "United States Border Patrol! Come out!" and asked for permission to enter the property, according to No More Deaths volunteers, who said they refused to let agents enter without a warrant.

About an hour later the agents entered the camp anyway, claiming they were in "hot pursuit" and didn't need

Please see **BORDER PATROL,** Page A2



COURTESY OF NO MORE DEATHS

On Sunday, Nov. 23, Border Patrol agents entered enclosed private structures at No More Deaths' humanitarian-aid camp near Arivaca, about seven miles north of the U.S. border with Mexico, in this screenshot from a video shot by the volunteer migrant-aid group. The agents made warrantless arrests of three men who were receiving medical aid there, No More Deaths volunteers said.

Amazon pulls out of Project Blue data centers, sources say

TONY DAVIS
Arizona Daily Star

Amazon Web Services has pulled out of its long-planned role as future operator of the Project Blue data center complex on the Tucson area's far southeast side, three sources told the Star.

Amazon has left the embattled project because its operations aren't compatible with the project's recently announced plans to use air cooling instead of water cooling of the data centers' servers, the sources said.

Instead, the Project Blue developer, Beale Infrastructure, is negotiating with Meta, the company that operates Facebook, to replace Amazon as the center's operator, they said.

"Amazon is out because they can't live with air cooling," one source told the Star.

Project Blue switched to plans for an air-cooled operation after the Tucson City Council voted unanimously in August to kill its effort to be annexed into the city and to receive city water supplies for its operations. Project Blue officials had pledged to build a $100 million pipeline to deliver reclaimed water to the data centers but outside critics said the city would be unable to effectively enforce those and other water-related requirements for the project, including a commitment by the company to be "water positive," or use no more water than it can replace with other, outside sources.

Meta, on its website, has said that its data centers operating in the U.S. have

Please see **AMAZON,** Page A4

White House: Boat attack in Caribbean was lawful

AAMER MADHANI AND REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House said Monday that a Navy admiral acted "within his authority and the law" when he ordered a second, follow-up strike on an alleged drug boat in the Caribbean Sea in a September U.S. military operation that has come under bipartisan scrutiny.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt offered the justification for the Sept. 2 strike as lawmakers announced there will be a congressional review of the U.S. military strikes against vessels suspected of smuggling drugs in the Caribbean and the eastern Pacific Ocean. The lawmakers cited a published report that Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth issued a verbal order for a second strike that killed survivors on the boat.

Navy Vice Adm. Frank "Mitch" Bradley, who Leavitt said ordered the second strike, is expected to provide a classified briefing Thursday to lawmakers overseeing the military.

Leavitt, in her comments to reporters, did not dispute a Washington Post report that there were survivors after

Please see **ATTACK,** Page A3

Subscriber Benefits

Scan this QR code with your smartphone to see all the benefits of being a Star subscriber.

INSIDE TODAY'S STAR

BUSINESS	A12	OBITUARIES	B3
TV	B2	COMICS	B5
BRIDGE	B3	WEATHER	C6

LEE ENTERPRISES
For home delivery,
call 1-800-695-4492
email: circulation@tucson.com

$3.00 plus tax • ❶❷❸❹❺❻⑦ • Volume 148, Issue 337 • A Lee Enterprises Newspaper • Copyright 2025

Follow us online: /ArizonaDailyStar /TucsonStar /arizonadailystar



If you experience low presure, slow drains or frequent backups, rusty water, slab leaks, or root intrusion, contact us for:

FREE CAMERA LINE INSPECTION
for homes built prior to 1980
PLUS FREE ESTIMATE

NUFLOWTUCSON.COM

- Trenchless Solutions
- Hydro Jetting
- Drain Cleaning
- Low Water Pressure
- Leak Detection
- Sewer Camera Inspections

CALL US TODAY: 520.214.4676

nuflow
WE FIX PIPES
Financing Available OAC
Lifetime Warranty Plans
ROC#297234