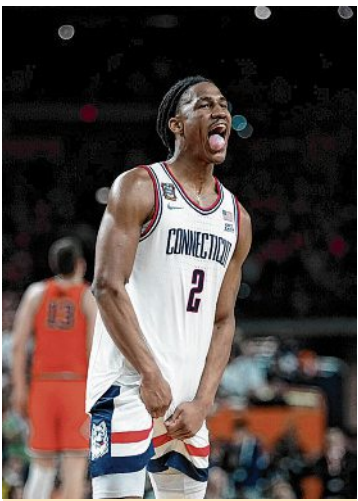


Republican American



ICE arrested Cheshire student while trying to rearrest his father

By Joshua Eaton
STAFF WRITER

A Cheshire High School student was riding in a car with his uncle and younger brother the morning of April 6, when three vehicles filled with masked immigration agents boxed them in, according to a court filing by his attorneys.

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Column: ICE arrestee and the candidate — two men on diverging paths **Page A5**

The agents weren't there to arrest the student, Rihan, the court filing said. They were looking for his father, Zia, a former interpreter for U.S. forces in

Afghanistan who spent three months in immigration detention before his release last October, according to the court filing.

It was only after the uncle said Zia wasn't with them that the officers asked for Rihan's identification and detained him, the court filing says.

Rihan and his family entered the United States at John F. Ken-

edy Airport in New York City in October 2024 on a two-year humanitarian parole that was set to expire on Oct. 7, 2026. ICE officers arrested his father, Zia, last July during a routine visit to a federal immigration office in East Hartford. Zia had worked as an interpreter during the war in Afghanistan, and his case be-
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ON POINT

Point guard Silas Demary Jr. announces he is returning to UConn men's basketball for his senior season.
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LAST HURRAH

A look at the Connecticut Sun roster for its final season in the state.
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LOOK OUT SPEEDERS

Winchester gets the state's OK to install speed enforcement cameras along Route 44.
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FANCY EATERY

From flying carpets to Cave of Wonders, Southington's Cava unveils its "Aladdin" rooms at the restaurant known for its displays.
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MCMAHON SPEECH

Dan Haar hopes we can find some common ground when Linda McMahon speaks at Yale.
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MOVIE REVIEWS

Check out the latest films including David Lowery's "Mother Mary," a fitfully spellbinding chamber drama that grows more operatic with every stitch.
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IRAN WAR

Some are critical of the war during Vance's rally with Turning Point USA.
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Trump administration sues state, New Haven



Associated Press photos

President Donald Trump's administration has filed a lawsuit over what the Justice Department describes as "sanctuary policies that interfere with the federal government's enforcement of immigration laws."

Immigration enforcement policies subject of administration lawsuit

By Alex Putterman
STAFF WRITER

President Donald Trump's administration has filed a lawsuit against the state of Connecticut and the city of New Haven over what the Justice Department describes as "sanctuary policies that interfere with the federal government's enforcement of immigration laws."

The lawsuit, filed Monday in federal court, also names Gov. Ned Lamont, Attorney General William Tong and New Haven



Gov. Ned Lamont is named in the lawsuit.

Mayor Justin Elicker as defendants.

Trump administration officials have previously criticized Connecticut for the state's Trust Act, which limits local law enforcement's coordination with federal immigration authorities, as well as other immigration-related policies.

Now, the U.S. Department of Justice is asking a federal judge to invalidate certain provisions of the Trust Act, state policy guidance around immigration enforcement, and an executive
Trump continues on A7

Waterbury student's short story sparks legal debate on school threats

By Michael Gagne
STAFF WRITER

WATERBURY — A high school student's fictional short story made its way from the classroom and into a courtroom recently, as lawyers debated whether the 15-year-old simply followed his teacher's instructions in writing it, or instead used that story to make thinly veiled threats to kill both his teacher and school principal.

After submitting the assignment last December, the student was suspended from his school, Waterbury Career Academy, and recommended by the principal to be expelled. The student was subsequently transferred to another in-district high school, Kennedy. Meanwhile, the student's par-



Jim Shannon/Hearst Connecticut Media

Waterbury Career Academy on Birch Street in June 2025.

ents sued to have him reinstated to Career Academy, arguing his rights to due process had been violated because of how the suspension and transfer were carried out.

The lawsuit also seeks to

end all expulsion proceedings and expunge the student's record of all references related to the suspension and expulsion, and seeks monetary damages, including attorney fees.

Student continues on A11

Companies behind \$90M project unknown

By Steven Goode
STAFF WRITER

SOUTHINGTON — A \$90 million retail, hotel and gas station project has been proposed for 38 acres in town — but the identity of the companies remains a mystery.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is considering an application for a zone change that would facilitate the construction of the development. The applicant is identified as Southington 2 LLC.

If approved, the applicant plans to construct a 172,000 square-foot retail space, a 20-bay gas station, a 100-120-room hotel
Project continues on A11

