

SUNDAY JUNE 28, 2026

VOL. 123
NO. 912
\$4.99
MIAMIHERALD.COM

Miami Herald

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What the Supreme Court TPS ruling means for South Florida Haitians

BY SYRA ORTIZ BLANES
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The news many Haitian immigrants living in South Florida were dreading became a reality on Thursday – a Supreme Court ruling gave the Trump administration the green light to strip them of deportation protections and work permits.

The ruling was a major blow to immigrants with Temporary Protected Status, which shields immigrants from countries in turmoil from deportation. For

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- Supreme Court TPS ruling could deepen Haiti's worsening crisis, experts say. **8A**

the Trump administration, whose mass deportation agenda has relied on stripping immigrants of their legal status, the ruling is

another victory toward the goal of cracking down on all immigration — both legal and illegal.

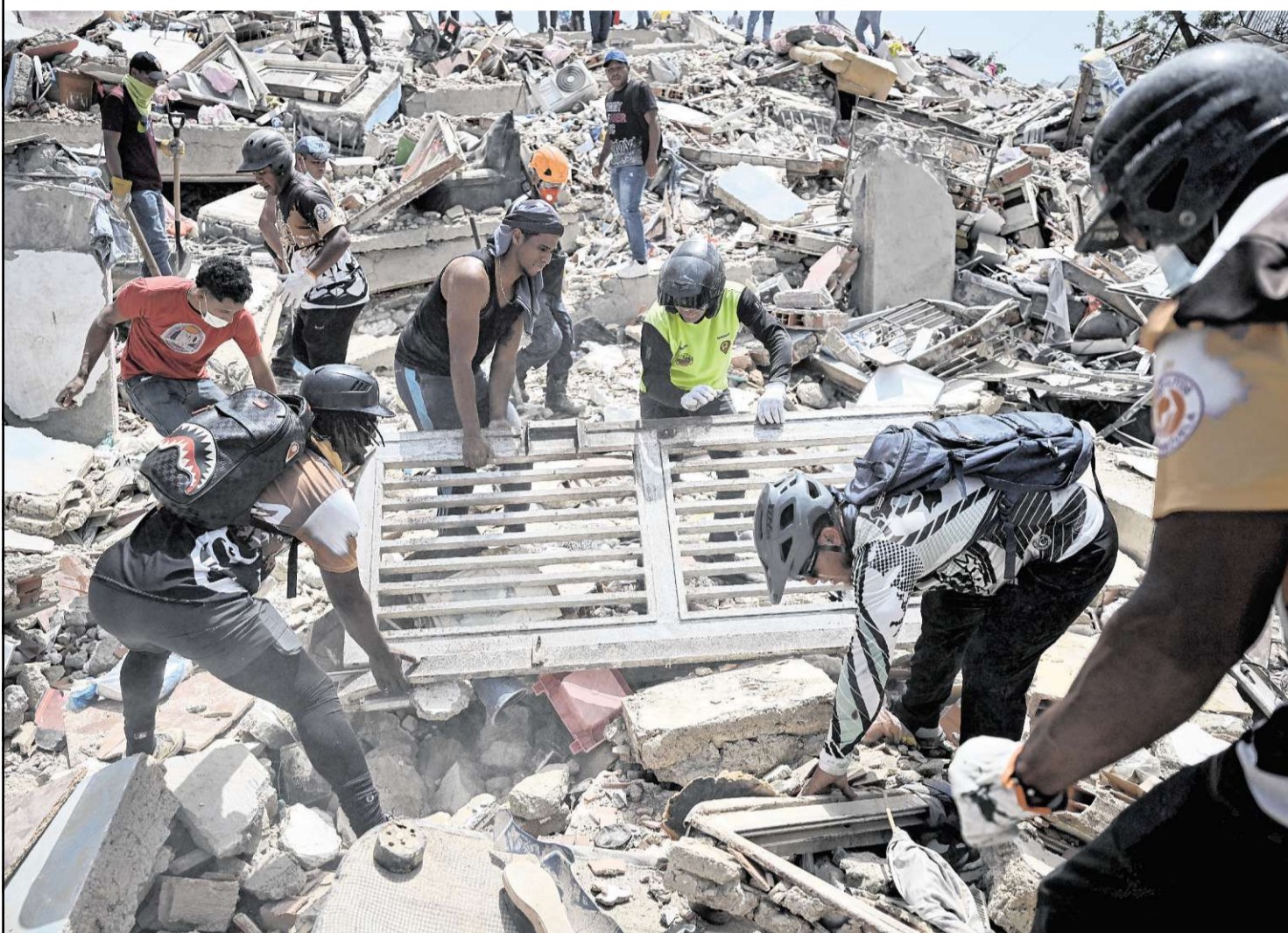
As a result of the decision, over 350,000 Haitians and Syrians are now facing the possibility of being deported back to their homelands in crises, which advocates, experts, officials and Haitians say will expose them to life-threatening danger.

Haiti is experiencing extreme gang violence, widespread hunger, and political instability. And following the ousting of longtime dictator Bashir Al-Assad, Syria continues to have armed conflict and sectarian violence. Trump's own State Department has issued "Do Not Travel" advisories for both countries.

Here's what South Floridians need to know about the Supreme Court decision and what it

SEE TPS, 7A

THE AFTERMATH OF THE DEVASTATION



FEDERICO PARRA AFP via Getty Images

Volunteers lift a metal gate as they search through debris on the rubble of collapsed buildings in Catia La Mar, La Guaira, Venezuela, on Friday following deadly earthquakes.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT

Venezuela earthquake death toll reaches 1,430

BY ANTONIO MARÍA DELGADO
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With aftershocks still rattling shattered neighborhoods and thousands sleeping outdoors, Venezuela's earthquake catastrophe worsened Saturday as the official death toll climbed to at least 1,430.

Authorities said 3,238 people have been injured, while 3,142 displaced families are being housed in tempo-

rary shelters across the seven hardest-hit states, according to figures released Saturday by National Assembly President Jorge Rodríguez.

The latest figures mark another sharp increase in casualties, underscoring the catastrophic scale of the disaster triggered by the twin earthquakes of 7.2 and 7.5 magnitude, which struck Wednesday just 39 seconds apart, devastating large parts of

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- 'I thought I was going to die': Devastation in Caracas after double earthquake. **4A**
- U.S. races to reopen Venezuela airports for urgently needed earthquake aid. **4A**
- Miami Venezuelans ask Trump to defer deportations, extend TPS, amid earthquakes. **12A**

Florida hospitals act fast to discharge gun victims — especially if they're uninsured

BY DANIEL CHANG
AND FRED CLASEN-KELLY
KFF Health News
AND OLGA PIERCE
The Trace

Alea Bates wasn't ready to leave Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare's main hospital four days after a stranger shot her seven times at close range. Miraculously, hospital records show, none of the bullets damaged her internal organs.

But after surgery, Bates said, she couldn't get out of bed or walk to the bathroom without help. She complained of intense pain radiating down her left leg, weakness in her knee, and a numbing sensation below it, according to hospital records. Bates, who worked as an Uber Eats driver, didn't have the strength to drive a car.

Still, Bates said, the hospital told her it was time to go.

"They didn't do any further X-rays or CTs or MRIs to figure out why my knee was numb," she said. "And they were just like, you know, 'It'll go away.'"

Doctors said she was medically stable, Bates said, and because she had no health insurance, they could not send her to a rehabilitation hospital or a skilled nursing facility, which can charge thousands of dollars a day for such care.

"They were just like, *We need the bed for somebody who has insurance*," she said. "That's of course, you know, what they say without saying it."

An American emergency room treats at least one firearm injury every 30 minutes. Tens of thousands die from their injuries every year. Many more, like Bates, are left to face long recoveries, steep medical

SEE HOSPITALS, 6A



ALICIA DEVINE KFF Health News

Alea Bates was uninsured when surgeons removed bullets and fragments from her body after a stranger shot her seven times. She went home from the hospital after four days with about \$60,000 in bills. 'It's crazy that in this country somebody else can hurt you,' Bates says, and 'you have to pay for what they did to you.'



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