

Be the ones with the lights on. **GENERAC GENERATORS**

**Install Now & Save \$500\***

- \$500 off installation of Generac Automatic Standby Generator
- 10-year warranty

\*Offer valid for new customers only. Financing is subject to qualification. See dealer for complete details.

✓ Stay powered through every outage.

✓ Exclusive 10-year warranty with purchase (\$1,095 value).

✓ Installed & serviced by the same trusted company.

✓ Easy financing with payments from \$149/month\*.

Over 2,000+ 5-Star Google Reviews

Schedule Your FREE ESTIMATE today!

**352-717-7271**

Installed 20k+ Whole Home Generators

LICENSE #EC13009069

# Ocala StarBanner

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025 | OCALA.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Abrego Garcia released from detention facility



Kilmar Abrego Garcia, a sheet metal worker who entered the United States illegally in 2012, was living in Beltsville, Maryland, when he was detained by ICE agents on March 15. ELIZABETH FRANTZ/REUTERS FILE

## Judge blocks effort to have migrant returned to custody

Michael Collins and Natalie Neysa Alund  
USA TODAY

In a whiplash series of events, a federal judge on Dec. 12 blocked an effort to have Kilmar Abrego Garcia returned to custody a day after his release from Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention.

On Dec. 11, District Judge Paula Xinis ordered the immediate release of Abrego Garcia, the Salvadoran migrant at the center of a case that has spotlighted

President Donald Trump's hard-line immigration policies.

Xinis said the Trump administration had no legal basis to expel him from the country and misled her at a November hearing.

Abrego Garcia left the detention facility in Pennsylvania at 4:45 p.m. ET Dec. 11, said his attorney, Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg. He was en route to his family in Maryland.

However, an immigration judge then filed a new order saying Abrego Garcia must report back to ICE custody by

8 a.m. Dec. 12.

Abrego Garcia's lawyers asked the judge to issue a temporary restraining order to block the new detention order. Xinis did so, preventing immigration authorities from re-detaining Abrego Garcia.

It was the latest turn in a labyrinthine series of events for Abrego Garcia, a sheet metal worker who entered the United States illegally in 2012. He was living with his wife and three children

See **ABREGO GARCIA**, Page 2A

## DOJ on defensive after 2 failures

### The indictment against Trump targets collapse

Aysha Bagchi  
USA TODAY

Dismissed indictments; two grand juries refusing to issue new charges; a judge blocking key evidence from being used for a fresh case: In trying to prosecute key targets of President Donald Trump, the Justice Department has faced failures on a scale rarely seen in federal prosecutions.

The most dramatic recent setback was a second federal grand jury's refusal on Dec. 11 to indict New York Attorney General Letitia James, after an earlier grand jury rejected the Justice Department's proposed charges last week. Abbe Lowell, a prominent lawyer who represents James, described the repeat failure as "unprecedented."

Shortly before that, earlier indictments against James and former FBI Director James Comey were thrown out, and a judge ruled the DOJ can't use evidence — at least for now — that was key to its first indictment against Comey.

The latest developments exacerbate the mounting struggles Trump administration lawyers have faced in trying to prosecute Comey and James. The president called for prosecuting both of them, as well as Sen. Adam Schiff, D-California, in a Sept. 20 social media post.

"This is an embarrassment," Neema Rahmani, a former federal prosecutor, told USA TODAY. "The last thing you want to be as a prosecutor is to be on the

See **FAILURES**, Page 2A

## Indiana lawmakers vote down new House map

### Republican senators defy pressure from Trump

Kathryn Palmer and Terry Collins  
USA TODAY

Indiana state lawmakers have rejected a proposed map that would have created two new heavily red-leaning districts, a blow to President Donald Trump's hotly contested redistricting campaign.

The state Senate on Dec. 11 voted down a plan that would have made Indiana join a half-dozen other states that passed new congressional maps ahead of the 2026 midterms. Trump was unable to convince enough Republican state senators to approve the redistricting plan, even though the GOP holds a supermajority in the chamber.

In a rare setback for Trump's party, 21 Republicans voted against the bill — more than the 19 who voted for it — while all 10 Democrats voted against it.

During a signing ceremony at the White House hours later, Trump downplayed his defeat in Indiana.

"I wasn't working on it very hard," Trump told reporters, adding that he's won the state in the last three presidential elections. "It would've been nice. We would've picked up two seats if we did

(win)."

The president then took aim at Senate leader Rodric Bray, one of the 21 Republicans who voted against the bill.

"He'll probably lose his next primary, whenever that is," Trump said. "I hope he does, because he's done a tremendous disservice."

Indiana's redistricting vote came amid much scrutiny for lawmakers,

See **MAP**, Page 3A

**NORTH AMERICA'S #1 Selling Walk-In Tub**

Featuring our Shower Package

**SPECIAL OFFER**

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing. Introducing Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **Shower Package!**

- ✓ First and only walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ Now with 10 Hydro Jets, 16 Air Bubble Jets, and *MicroSoothe*® Advanced Air Therapy System
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

Call today and receive exclusive savings! **Our Best Offer Ever! Don't Wait! \$2,000 OFF + FREE TOILET**

Expires 2/15/26

WhySafeStep.com **352-414-5893**

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

CSLB 983603 F13000002885 13HV08744300 13VH11096000

### Subscriber-only eNewspaper

The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by going to [ocala.com/enewspaper](http://ocala.com/enewspaper) or scan this code on your mobile device. You will also find late news and sports in the bonus sections. Check it out today!



Volume 83 | No. 53  
Subscribe 867-7827  
©2025 \$2.50

