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Feds will seek death penalty for Meehan

Accused in 2021 killing of THPD detective/
FBI Task Force officer Greg Ferency

By MARK FITTON
TRIBUNE-STAR

Federal prosecutors will seek the death penalty against the man accused of killing Greg Ferency, a Terre Haute police detective and FBI Task Force agent, in July 2021.

The government filed its notice of intent Tuesday in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana.

The notice says capital punishment will be sought if Shane Meehan of Terre Haute is convicted of premeditated murder of a federal officer or of using/

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Online extra

Read the government's Notice of Intent to Seek the Death Penalty filing with this story at www.tribstar.com.

carrying/discharging a firearm in a crime of violence causing death.

The government argues Meehan, if convicted, is eligible for the death penalty in that he "intentionally and specifically engaged in an act of violence, knowing that the act created a grave risk of death to" Ferency, 53, and showing a reckless disregard for human life.

Turn to **MEEHAN**, A5



Submitted photo

Terre Haute police detective and FBI task force officer Greg Ferency was killed in the line of duty in 2021; he is shown here in a photo provided by his family. Federal prosecutors on Tuesday filed notice they would seek the death penalty against the man charged with murder in the case, Shane Meehan of Terre Haute.

'Things happen'



AP

President Donald Trump meets Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in the Oval Office of the White House on Tuesday in Washington.

Trump dismisses U.S. intelligence that Saudi prince was likely aware of 2018 killing of Indiana State graduate and journalist

By AAMER MADHANI
ASSOCIATED PRESS • Washington

President Donald Trump on Tuesday dismissed U.S. intelligence findings that Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman likely had some culpability in the 2018 killing of Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi as Trump warmly welcomed the de facto ruler of Saudi Arabia on his first White House visit in seven years.

The U.S.-Saudi relationship had, for a time, been sent into a tailspin by the operation targeting Khashoggi, a fierce critic of the kingdom.

But seven years later, the dark clouds over the relationship have been cleared away. And Trump is tightening his embrace of the 40-year-old crown prince, who he said is an indispensable player in shaping the Middle East in the decades to come.



AP/file

Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi speaks during a press conference in Manama, Bahrain on Dec. 15, 2014.

Trump in his defense of the crown prince derided Khashoggi as "extremely controversial" and said "a lot of people didn't like that gentleman." Prince Mohammed denies involvement in the killing of Khashoggi, who was a Saudi citizen and Virginia resident.

"Whether you like him or didn't like him, things happen," Trump said when asked about the killing by a reporter during an Oval Office appearance with Prince Mohammed. "But [Prince Mohammed] knew nothing about it. And we can leave it at that. You don't have to embarrass our guest by asking a question like that."

But U.S. intelligence officials determined that the Saudi crown prince likely approved the killing by Saudi agents of U.S.-based journalist inside the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, according to U.S. findings declassified in 2021 at the start of the Biden administration. Trump officials, during his first administration, refused to release the report.

Prince Mohammed said Saudi Arabia "did all the right steps" to investigate Khashoggi's death.

Turn to **KILLING**, A2

Congress acts swiftly to force release of Epstein files

Trump agrees to sign bill

By STEPHEN GROVES
ASSOCIATED PRESS • Washington

Both the House and Senate acted decisively Tuesday to pass a bill to force the Justice Department to publicly release its files on the convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, a remarkable display of approval for an effort that had struggled for months to overcome opposition from President Donald Trump and Republican leadership.

When a small, bipartisan group of House lawmakers introduced a petition in July to maneuver around Speaker Mike Johnson's control of the House floor, it appeared a longshot effort — especially as Trump urged his supporters to dismiss the matter as a "hoax."



AP

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., speaks during a news conference on the Epstein Files Transparency Act, Tuesday outside the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

But both Trump and Johnson failed to prevent the vote. The president in recent days bowed to political reality, saying he would sign the bill. And just hours after the House vote, senators agreed to approve it unanimously, skipping a formal roll call.

Turn to **EPSTEIN**, A5

Sparring continues over County Council, school oversight panel

By SUE LOUGHLIN
TRIBUNE-STAR

The Vigo County Council has approved funding for a school facilities oversight board, but disagreement over an earlier measure rejecting that funding continues.

Vigo County Council member Steve Ellis argues rules have been broken, and he says he's consulted a top-tier attorney — but he's not made a decision on filing suit.

The councilman, who posts videos to a Facebook page he runs called Holding Vigo County Accountable, also said he has received more than 300 private mes-



Inside

Vigo County elected officials' salaries get approved after a somewhat bumpy ride, **A2**

Resort tax revenue. In an interview Tuesday, Ellis said he has not decided whether he would take legal action, but is leaning against it.

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