

Election interference case against lawmaker shifts to neighboring DA

A conflict of interest prompted the Hancock County DA to hand off the case against State Rep. Nina Milliken, who's charged with attempting to influence another person's decision during an election in April.



REP. NINA MILLIKEN

By RACHEL OHM
Staff Writer

The Hancock County District Attorney's Office has handed off oversight of an election interference case against a Maine lawmaker due to a conflict of interest. Rep. Nina Milliken, D-Blue Hill, was issued a summons last week on a charge of attempting to influence another person's decision, a

Class E misdemeanor. A complaint filed in Ellsworth District Court Friday by the Hancock County Sheriff's Office says that on or around April 4, Milliken "attempted to influence another person's decision regarding a candidate or ballot issue" while within 250 feet of the entrance to the voting place, as well as within the voting place itself, in Blue Hill.

Maine law prohibits attempts to influence voters' decisions on candidates and ballot questions on public property within 250 feet of the entrance to voting places as well as within voting places. Milliken, who has been a representative since 2022 and currently serves on the Criminal Justice

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The case against State Rep. Nina Milliken will now be overseen by Natasha Irving, the district attorney for Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Knox and Waldo counties. Few details have been released about the complaint that led to the charge against Milliken. (ANNA CHADWICK/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

TODAY'S ALMANAC

September 9, 2025

Today is the 252nd day of 2025. There are 113 days left in the year.

Today in history:
On Sept. 9, 1971, prisoners seized control of the maximum-security Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, New York, taking 42 staff members hostage and demanding improvements to inmate treatment and living conditions.

Also on this date:
In 1776, the second Continental Congress formally adopted the name "United States of America," replacing the "United Colonies of North America."
In 1850, California was admitted as the 31st U.S. state.
In 1919, about 1,100 members of Boston's 1,500-member police force went on strike. The strike was broken by Massachusetts Gov. Calvin Coolidge with replacement officers.
In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the first civil rights bill since Reconstruction, a measure aimed at protecting voting rights. It also established a Civil Rights Division in the Department of Justice.

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Papoose Pond in Waterford, where in June a 911 call during an accidental drowning resulted in 14 people being arrested by Border Patrol. At the lower left is Route 118 and Papoose Pond Campground. (RUSS DILLINGHAM/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER)

How an accidental drowning led to 14 arrests by Border Patrol

By EMILY ALLEN
Staff Writer

The call came in around 8:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning, reporting a canoe had capsized on Papoose Pond in Waterford. Pedro Quizhpi had gone under. When Oxford County Sheriff's Deputy Dennis Lowe arrived on the scene, he noticed the blue canoe floating less than 100 feet from the shore and several emergency responders trying to revive a man at the water's edge. Quizhpi, 50, originally from Ecuador, was pronounced dead within the hour. His brother, standing nearby, told Lowe

Scarborough police were pulled into helping immigration officials arrest more than a dozen men who had been staying in Waterford when one fell into the water and died.

they were from Queens in New York City and were working in Scarborough. Lowe wrote in a report that the brother told him they were in Waterford, "spending a few days away to relax" with more than a dozen other men.

Records from the Maine Warden Service confirm Quizhpi's drowning on June 14 was an accident. But Lowe's suspicions that the men were in the U.S. illegally prompted a statewide alert and, eventually, the arrest of 14 men, including Quizhpi's brother, by U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents. The Press Herald obtained reports from other agencies in which their officers question Oxford County's approach, and whether the sheriff's office broke its own guidelines about not participating in

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How teachers are using AI and which Maine schools are setting up guidelines

By KRISTIAN MORAVEC
The Maine Monitor

In Technology Director Mike Arsenault's office at the Yarmouth School Department, papers and boxes sat on his desk — some of it swag from the tech company MagicSchool, one of several artificial intelligence programs the district is now using. The AI platform, which was designed for educators, offers tools like a lesson planner, letter of recommendation producer, Individualized Education Plan drafter and even a classroom joke writer. The district pays about \$10,000 a year for a MagicSchool enterprise package, and Arsenault said that his favorite element is the "Make it Relevant"



Mike Arsenault is the technology director for the Yarmouth School Department, which adopted its first set of AI guidelines last year. An AI platform called MagicSchool said it has over 8,500 educator accounts in Maine. (KRISTIAN MORAVEC/THE MAINE MONITOR)

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CHICAGO

Confusion over new immigration effort as city braces for federal intervention

By SOPHIA TAREEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Department of Homeland Security trumpeted the start of a new immigration operation Monday in Chicago, stirring up fresh confusion and anxiety as the city remained on alert for a federal intervention President Donald Trump has touted for days. Blasting so-called sanctuary laws in Chicago and Illinois, the latest effort targets people without legal permission to live in the U.S. who

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