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MINNEAPOLIS

Trump threatens to use Insurrection Act

STEVE KARNOWSKI, ALANNA DURKIN RICHER, HALLIE GOLDEN AND AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — President Donald Trump threatened to invoke the Insurrection Act and deploy troops to quell persistent protests against the federal officers sent to Minneapolis to enforce his administration's massive immigration crackdown.

Thursday's threat comes a day after an immigration officer shot and wounded a man. That shooting further heightened the fear and anger that radiated across the city since Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent Jonathan Ross shot and killed Renee Good.

Trump repeatedly threatened to invoke the rarely used federal law to deploy the U.S. military or federalize the National Guard for domestic law enforcement, over the objections of state governors.

"If the corrupt politicians of Minnesota don't obey the law and stop the professional agitators and insurrectionists from attacking the Patriots of I.C.E., who are only trying to do their job, I will institute the INSURRECTION ACT, which many Presidents have done before me, and quickly put an end to the travesty that is taking place in that once great State," Trump said on social media.

Presidents invoked the Insurrection Act more than two dozen times, most recently in 1992 by President George H.W. Bush to end unrest in Los Angeles. In that instance, local authorities asked for the assistance.

Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison responded to Trump's post by saying he would challenge any deployment in court. He already sued to try to stop the surge by the Department of Homeland Security, which says it has made more than 2,000

arrests in the state since early December. ICE is a DHS agency.

Demonstrations

In Minneapolis, smoke filled the streets Wednesday night near the site of the latest shooting as federal officers wearing gas masks and helmets fired tear gas into a small crowd. Protesters responded by throwing rocks and shooting fireworks.

Demonstrations have become common in Minneapolis since Ross killed Good on Jan. 7.

"This is an impossible situation that our city is presently being put in and at the same time we are trying to find a way forward to keep people safe, to protect our neighbors, to maintain order," Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey said.

Frey said the federal force — five times the size of the city's 600-officer police force — "invaded" Minneapolis, and that residents

are scared and angry.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Minnesota filed a lawsuit on behalf of three people who said they were questioned or detained in recent days. The lawsuit says two are Somali and one is Hispanic; all three are U.S. citizens.

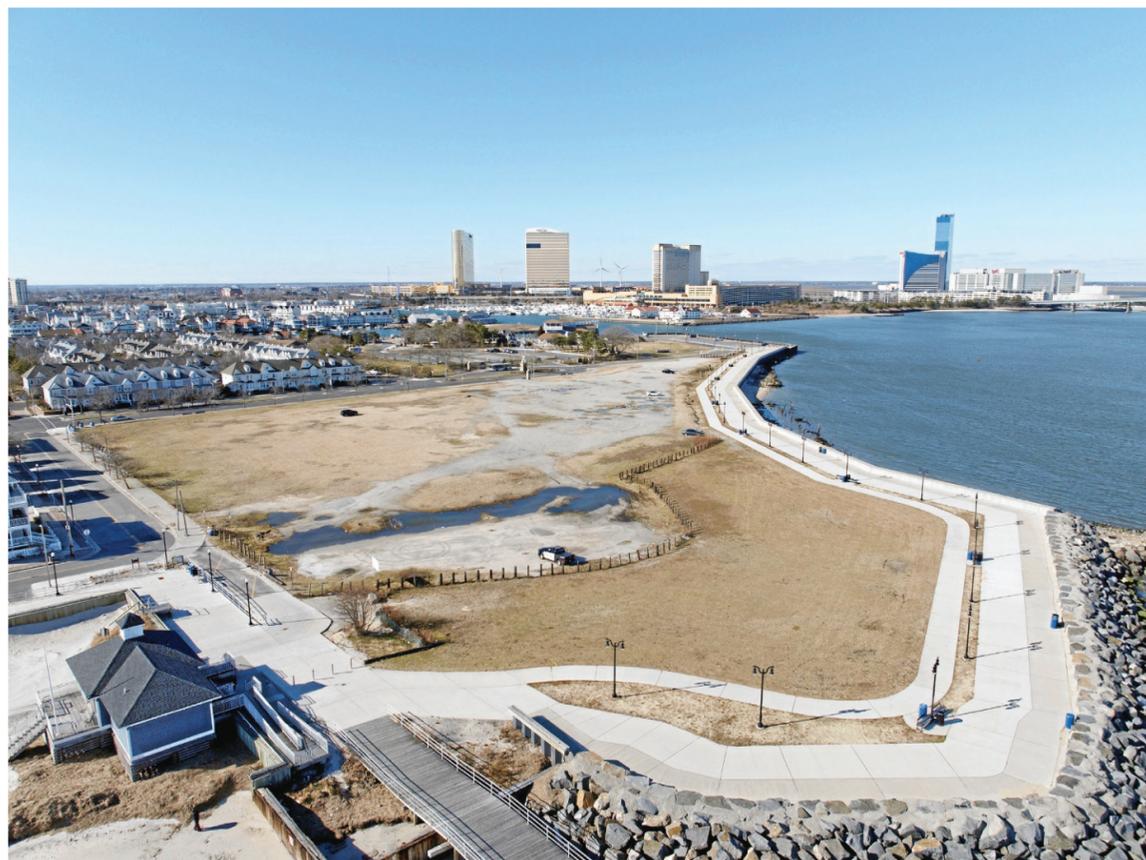
The lawsuit seeks an end to what the ACLU describes as a practice of racial profiling and warrantless arrests. The government did not immediately comment.

Another shooting

Homeland Security said in a statement that federal law enforcement officers stopped a driver from Venezuela on Wednesday who is in the U.S. illegally. The person drove off then crashed into a parked car before fleeing on foot, DHS said.

Please see ICE, Page A2

CRDA HEARS 4 BIG AC PROJECTS



MATTHEW STRABUK, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Caspian Pointe is a proposed four-building apartment complex on a 2.5-acre site bordered by New Hampshire and Caspian avenues in Atlantic City.

Plans would build more housing, remake firehouse, overhaul Sheraton

WAYNE PARRY
Staff Writer

ATLANTIC CITY — Four big projects that would bring hundreds of new housing units, a total makeover of the Sheraton hotel including some senior housing, and the conversion of an empty former firehouse into a multi-use business center were presented Thursday to a state agency that aims to redevelop Atlantic City.

The projects, worth hundreds of millions of dollars, had land use hearings before the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, in its role as land use regulator for the city's Tourism District.

The agency heard applications for a 180-unit apartment project in the Caspian Point neighborhood, 152 townhouses in the South Inlet neighborhood, the conversion of a

shuttered firehouse into commercial and office space, and the renovation of part of the Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel into senior housing.

No final decisions were issued; the full CRDA board must consider the projects at future meetings, which could happen as soon as Feb. 17.

Caspian Pointe is a proposed four-building apartment complex on a 2.5-acre site bordered by New Hampshire and Caspian avenues.

Kusher Companies said the development would stabilize an up-and-coming neighborhood and promised to closely supervise it, from screening potential tenants to monitoring activities at the site.

Please see CRDA, Page A3

Judge lets work begin again at NJ wind farm

WAYNE PARRY
Staff Writer

A wind farm off the coast of New Jersey and New York that President Donald Trump has changed his mind on several times is back on again following a federal judge's ruling Thursday.

The judge in Washington, D.C., allowed the Empire Wind project to resume while a lawsuit challenging the federal government's recent halt to the work proceeds through the legal system.

Equinor, the Norwegian company building the wind farm off Long Branch in New Jersey and Long Beach on New York's Long Island, said work would immediately resume Thursday.

"Empire Wind will now focus on safely restarting construction activities that were halted during the suspension period," the company said in a statement. "In addition, the project will continue to engage with the U.S. government to ensure the safe, secure and responsible execution of its operations."

The project was 60% complete when the Interior Department ordered work stopped on Dec. 22, citing national security concerns including possible interference with military radar systems.

Please see WIND, Page A3

Man held in killing of AC teen

JOHN O'CONNOR
Staff Writer

A Galloway Township man who allegedly shot and killed a 15-year-old boy in Atlantic City in November was ordered held in jail until trial Thursday.

Louis Jackson, 23, is charged with murder and attempted murder in the death of Jameer Simpkins.

Jackson is also charged with aggravated assault, possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose and unlawful possession of a weapon stemming from an unrelated Feb. 17 shooting in which he allegedly shot a man in the torso after the individual tried to intervene while Jackson was arguing with another person.

The hearing came following three postponements.

Please see JACKSON, Page A3