

Abortion foes warned to stop ‘twisting’ story



Megan Kling holds a foot cast from her son, Nolan Robert Kling, on Jan. 31, 2024 at her family's home in Taylor.
MARK HOFFMAN/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

Wisconsin mom shared her experience with son's terminal diagnosis

Madeline Heim
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

A national legal organization is threatening action against an anti-abortion group that the organization says is falsifying and twisting the stories of people who have had abortions, including Wisconsin mom Megan Kling. Amplify Legal, the litigation arm of the abortion-rights group Abortion in America, sent a cease and desist letter

July 15 to the anti-abortion group Live Action, which publishes content that it describes as “news and commentary from a pro-life perspective.” The letter tells Live Action to immediately stop sharing “false and defamatory” statements about Kling and 12 other clients across the country. Kling, a Jackson County resident, has become a prominent voice against laws banning abortion. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel first wrote in November 2023 about Kling’s decision to travel to Minnesota after learning of her unborn baby’s terminal diagnosis. Kling told the Journal Sentinel she had wanted to be induced and give birth to the baby, knowing he would

not survive long if born alive. In Wisconsin, an induction after 20 weeks of pregnancy but prior to the fetus becoming viable is considered an abortion. Kling was 22 weeks pregnant. At the time, she said, she did not think of the procedure as an abortion. Live Action published two articles in 2025 about Kling’s experience, questioning whether her baby could have been saved and if her own health was at risk. Amplify Legal leaders argue the articles and others like them are not protected free speech and that they discourage others from sharing their experiences.

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Tiffany campaign funding builds as Dems battle

Congressman reported taking in \$9M this year

Jessie Opoien
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

MADISON – Wisconsin’s Democratic gubernatorial primary is on track to be a scramble to the finish line, while Republican candidate Tom Tiffany is amassing a sizable supply of cash as he awaits his general election opponent. The Republican congressman reported taking in \$8.7 million this year, nearly three-quarters of which the Republican Party of Wisconsin transferred into his account. He had just shy of \$3 million on hand at the end of June, finance reports filed Wednesday, July 15, show. Meanwhile, former Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes brought in the most money in the five-person Democratic field this year at \$841,358, followed by state Rep. Francesca Hong at \$708,884. Hong had the most cash on hand at the end of June at \$410,563, followed by state Sen. Kelda Roys at \$406,493. Candidates filed their second round of finance reports in the gubernatorial race on July 15. The latest reports come after the bombshell revelation that Lt. Gov. Sara Rodriguez’s campaign infrastructure is in disarray just as she had embarked on a swing of momentum and as a Republican group is set to run \$2.2 million in ads Democrats say will boost Hong in the primary. Political strategists from both parties now have an eye toward two more data points between now and the Aug. 11 primary: the July 22 release of the first Marquette University Law School poll on the race since March and the July 28 Democratic debate hosted by WISN-TV. Internal and statewide polling has shown over the course of the race that most decided Democratic voters favor former Barnes, Hong or Rodriguez. Roys and former Department of Administration Secretary Joel Brennan have consistently trailed the top candidates in polls, but both said they’ve seen renewed interest in their campaigns in the days since Rodriguez announced she had fired her campaign manager after she said she discovered her ac-

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HAZY SKIES

Wildfire smoke could remain in Wisconsin through weekend

Caden Perry Milwaukee Journal Sentinel | USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

A gray haze settled over much of Wisconsin on July 16 as Canadian wildfire smoke worsened air quality across the state. ● The statewide air quality alert that went into effect July 14 was extended until noon July 17. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources officials expect the alert to be extended once more for the eastern part of the state, especially counties along Lake Michigan.

As of 7 a.m. Thursday, July 16, roughly half of Wisconsin was in the “very unhealthy” Air Quality Index category, which means the risk of health effects is increased for all populations. At that level, most people should limit or avoid outdoor activity, especially anyone especially sensitive to air pollution. National Weather Service meteorologist Kevin Wagner told the Journal Sentinel relief from the smoke could still be a few days away. Wisconsin needs a southerly wind pattern to push smoke back north, but the forecast isn’t favorable, he said. “Models are telling us this should

stick through the weekend,” Wagner said. “These northerly wind patterns are typical for this time of year, and they might bring even more smoke down to the surface. If we want relief soon, the fires need to stop.” Thunderstorms could help alleviate smoky conditions in southwest Wisconsin by July 17. A warm front will clear some of the surface smoke out from the Madison area and farther west, but the rest of the state won’t get that benefit, he said. Another cold front arriving July 20 and 21 could tack even more

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Smoke from wildfires in Canada and northern Minnesota hangs over downtown Milwaukee on July 16.
MIKE DE SISTI/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

