

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Mon 8/7/2017 4:51:37 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD): TRUMP to head back to New York next week -- BUZZ: KAYLEIGH MCENANY joining the RNC -- PETER THIEL waffling on POTUS

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)

By JAKE SHERMAN (sherman@politico.com; [@JakeSherman](https://twitter.com/JakeSherman)), ANNA PALMER (anna@politico.com; [@apalmerdc](https://twitter.com/apalmerdc)), DANIEL LIPPMAN (daniel@politico.com; [@dlippman](https://twitter.com/dlippman)), ZACH MONTELLARO (zmontellaro@politico.com; [@ZachMontellaro](https://twitter.com/ZachMontellaro))

Good Monday afternoon. NEWS -- KAYLEIGH MCENANY is joining the RNC as its national spokesman, bringing in house a prominent supporter of President Donald Trump. McEnany is expected be a major presence on television for the GOP. She recently left CNN, where she was a contributor.

WITH TRUMP dumping all over Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) this morning, it got us questioning how he will work with Democrats this fall when the debt limit needs to be lifted and government needs to be funded. Republicans will definitely need Democratic votes for must-pass legislation like lifting the nation's borrowing limit. Sources tell us Trump has not had substantive conversations with Democratic Hill leaders in some time. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer haven't been to the White House in some time.

NEWS , per pooler Peter Baker of the NYT: Cabinet secretaries are expected at Bedminster over the next few days and VP Mike Pence will also come up. "Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump have been here all weekend and are still here. John Kelly has been here all weekend and will be here during the week. Rick Waddell, the deputy national security adviser, is here. Kellyanne Conway will be coming. Elaborating on the presidential tweet from earlier this morning, Walters says Potus will spend part of the first half of next week in New York. Details to come." ...

... **TRUMP** spoke with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Chief of Staff John Kelly for an hour to talk about Tillerson's trip to Asia and North Korea, per Baker.

FROM BEDMINSTER -- TWEETS IN THE JOHN KELLY ERA -- @realDonaldTrump at 6:38 a.m.: "The failing @nytimes, which has made every wrong prediction about me including my big election win (apologized), is totally inept!" ... **at 6:58 a.m.:** "The Trump base is far bigger & stronger than ever before (despite some phony Fake News polling). Look at rallies in Penn, Iowa, Ohio....." **at 7:04 a.m.:** "...and West Virginia. The fact is the Fake News Russian collusion story, record Stock Market, border security, military

strength, jobs....." ... **at 7:09 a.m.:** "... Supreme Court pick, economic enthusiasm, deregulation & so much more have driven the Trump base even closer together. Will never change!" ... **at 7:18 a.m.:** "Hard to believe that with 24/7 #Fake News on CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS, NYTIMES & WAPO, the Trump base is getting stronger!" ... **at 7:32 a.m.:** "Working hard from New Jersey while White House goes through long planned renovation. Going to New York next week for more meetings." ...

... **at 7:47 a.m.:** "Interesting to watch Senator Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut talking about hoax Russian collusion when he was a phony Vietnam con artist!" ... **at 7:52 a.m.:** "Never in U.S.history has anyone lied or defrauded voters like Senator Richard Blumenthal. He told stories about his Vietnam battles and...." ... **at 8:01 a.m.:** "...conquests, how brave he was, and it was all a lie. He cried like a baby and begged for forgiveness like a child. Now he judges collusion?"

-- **THE NEW YORK TIMES** did not apologize. The information Trump is using to criticize Blumenthal for came from a New York Times story!

BLUMENTHAL RESPONDS -- @SenBlumenthal: "Mr. President: Your bullying hasn't worked before and it won't work now. No one is above the law."

-- **A REMINDER:** In the 1990s, Trump tried to acquire the Empire State Building from Blumenthal's wife's family, which owned the New York City landmark for years.
<http://n.pr/2vbXRlg>

-- **@KFILE:** "Something that's always struck me as under-reported is Trump's misleading statements about how he avoid Vietnam. I've listened to lifetime archival footage of Trump - for years he always mentioned attributed 'high lottery number' never deferments."

PHOTO OF THE DAY -- @jacobkornbluh: "Netanyahu met today with Democratic congressional delegation headed by @WhipHoyer in Jerusalem - photo by Amos Ben Gershom GPO" <http://bit.ly/2hBzA9U>

PLAYBOOK ON THE ROAD -- With everyone headed out of town on vacation, or back to their districts, we are starting a new August feature: Playbook on the Road. Send us a photo of yourself, or others reading Playbook during your travels this month and we will feature five photos every Friday. Participating Playbookers will automatically be entered into a drawing to win a signed cartoon by POLITICO's Pulitzer winning cartoonist Matt Wuerker. Email photos to Daniel at daniel@politico.com. Or, Tweet them to @playbookplus with the hashtag #PlaybookLoyal.

SPOTTED -- RUTH BADER GINSBURG dining at La Piquette in Cleveland Park Sunday night.

VALLEY WATCH -- "Peter Thiel Has Been Hedging His Bet On Donald Trump," by BuzzFeed's Ryan Mac: "Donald Trump's most prominent Silicon Valley supporter has

distanced himself from the president in multiple private conversations, describing at different points this year an 'incompetent' administration, and one that may well end in 'disaster.' Peter Thiel's unguarded remarks have surprised associates, some of whom are still reeling from his full-throated endorsement of Trump at the Republican National Convention. And while the investor stands by the president in public -- 'I support President Trump in his ongoing fight,' he said in a statement to BuzzFeed News -- his private doubts underscore the fragility of the President's backing even from his most public allies. ...

"Thiel's views remain private -- but various disparaging comments were recounted to BuzzFeed News by three separate sources, and others who subsequently confirmed those accounts. These people requested anonymity for fear of damaging personal relationships and possible retribution. While Thiel told Trump that he is off to a 'terrific start' at a White House event in June, his previous statements to friends and associates did not reflect that sentiment. In half a dozen private conversations with friends that were described to BuzzFeed News dating from spring 2016 to as recently as May, Thiel, who served on the Presidential Transition Team Executive Committee, has criticized Trump and his administration and developed increasingly pessimistic feelings about the president." <http://bzfd.it/2uzbvBC>

***** **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** If you know only one fact about rising drug costs, know this one: drug makers set prices for prescription drugs. To help manage nearly double-digit price increases, employers, unions and government programs use PBMs to negotiate lower net prices to help curb costs for employers and patients. Learn more at affordableprescriptiondrugs.org *****

A BIG DEAL -- THE POST AND COURIER'S GLENN SMITH: "Emails: South Carolina AG coordinated with key figure in statehouse probe on letter booting special prosecutor off case": " South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson enlisted the help of a central figure in the Statehouse corruption probe in an attempt to sideline the case's special prosecutor just as the investigation was about to zero in on Wilson's close allies, according to emails obtained by The Post and Courier.

"It's a highly unusual move that legal observers say raises serious questions about the allegiances of the state's chief law enforcement official and his willingness to meddle in matters in which he had already revealed a potential conflict. Wilson, however, painted the emails as an innocent exchange with a trusted adviser with better grammar skills. The emails, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, show Wilson used his private account to coordinate with his embattled political consultant Richard Quinn on an October 2014 letter aimed at derailing the investigation being conducted by Wilson's handpicked special prosecutor, David Pascoe.

"The exchange came as Pascoe prepared to dig deeper into a State Law Enforcement Division report detailing alleged misdeeds by sitting lawmakers. Named in that document were Quinn and his son, state Rep. Rick Quinn, who was also identified as a potential target of the probe. Just a few weeks earlier, Wilson had told his chief

deputy he had a potential conflict and needed to be 'firewalled' on the matter.

"But that didn't stop the attorney general from seeking advice from the elder Quinn on phrasing a letter to pull Pascoe off the case, the email chain shows. 'Letter 1 is the longer one I read to you tonight. Letter 2 is a slightly shorter version,' Wilson wrote to the elder Quinn. 'I will be working on these tomorrow with Bob. Let me know what you think.' Quinn returned a revised draft to the Attorney General's Office the following day, noting that it contained 'a few new edits.' That same day, Pascoe was informed that Wilson's office would be handling the investigation from there on." <http://bit.ly/2vetL5k>

THE WINTER WHITE HOUSE -- "'Apply by fax': Before it can hire foreign workers, Trump's Mar-a-Lago Club advertises at home -- briefly," by WaPo's David Fahrenthold and Lori Rozsa: "President Trump's Mar-a-Lago Club needs to hire 35 waiters for this winter's social season in Palm Beach, Fla. Late last month, the club placed an ad on page C8 of the Palm Beach Post, crammed full of tiny print laying out the job experience requirements in classified ad shorthand. '3 mos recent & verifiable exp in fine dining/country club,' the ad said. 'No tips.'

"The ad gave no email address or phone number. 'Apply by fax,' it said. The ad also provided a mailing address. It ran twice, then never again. This was an underwhelming way to attract local job-seekers. But that wasn't the point. The ads were actually part of Mar-a-Lago's efforts to hire foreign workers for those 35 jobs." <http://wapo.st/2uivnOv>

ABOUT THOSE NOMINATIONS -- "Warren Blocks Trump's Pick for Antitrust Chief," by Bloomberg's Sara Forden and Billy House: "Democratic Senator Elizabeth Warren put a 'hold' on the confirmation of Makan Delrahim, President Donald Trump's nominee to run the Justice Department's antitrust division, delaying a vote until at least September, according to two people familiar with the matter. The delay means Delrahim remains on the outside as Justice Department lawyers wrap up their investigation of AT&T Inc. and Time Warner Inc.'s proposed \$85.4 billion merger and start early talks with company representatives about possible conditions that could secure approval. AT&T's bid for the owner of CNN and HBO would reshape the media landscape and has drawn fire from Trump." <https://bloom.bg/2uidQFP>

DAVID BAILEY, a member of Steve Scalise's police detail who was injured in the attack, "has been placed on administrative leave due to his injuries, and during the investigation of the events of June 14, 2017. As a result of the injuries sustained, Agent Bailey has incurred financial burdens." *Donate* <http://bit.ly/2wAmNql>

PLAYBOOK BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- Cuomo mulls running for a third term -- 'Barack Obama Day' declared in Illinois <http://politi.co/2uiRhAW>

SPORTS BLINK -- "A dream and a reality, the 2028 Olympics give Los Angeles a chance to imagine its future," by the LA Times' Thomas Curwen: "Los Angeles is famous for its ability to court both dreamers and pragmatists. For every eccentric ambition, there is a broken sidewalk needing repair. For every point of pride, a darkened

shadow. But the city is too easily rendered in either utopian or dystopian terms, as if each is mutually exclusive. Will the 2028 Games be fiscally wise or foolish? Will they be politically popular or a political blunder?" <http://lat.ms/2uyRaN9>

AWARDS CIRCUIT -- Venezuelan human rights activist and attorney Alfredo Romero has been named the 2017 winner of the Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Award. **Full release** <http://bit.ly/2uzbTQA>

MEMO FROM MARTY KADY TO THE POLITICO NEWSROOM -- "First, we're thrilled to announce that Jane Norman, a veteran policy editor who has spent the past eight years at CQ, will be joining Pro as a multi-vertical editor, with primary oversight of our Pro Education team, as well as senior editing oversight of the Budget and Appropriations team. Jane is currently the policy editor managing budget and appropriations coverage at CQ, and she has edited multiple policy areas in the past....

"[W]e have a big hire on the Pro Agriculture team. Christine Haughney, who has spent more than 15 years working for newspapers including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post, will join the team as the primary Morning Agriculture newsletter writer. Christine has developed a specialty in food and agriculture policy in recent years, and just spent the past year developing a six-part investigative television series about global food safety that is streaming in early 2018."

HOT JOB -- Senior Social Media Coordinator - New York, NY -- for Ivanka Trump's company: "We're looking for a smart, experienced and motivated Senior Social Media Coordinator-a digital native who understands the unique needs and capabilities of each social channel and can navigate them seamlessly while growing our reach. In partnership with the Senior Marketing Manager and under the guidance of the VP of Marketing & Brand Strategy, this person will be responsible for concepting, creating, managing and analyzing content across all social media platforms. This person will be constantly connected and uniquely tasked with understanding our brand's vision and voice. We are looking for an innovative, creative thinker who's a team player and eager to dive head-first into an exciting, constantly evolving and rapidly" *One of the responsibilities:* - "Engage with our online networks-responding to comments, retweeting and reposting where applicable" <http://bit.ly/2vcqvJl>

WELCOME TO THE WORLD - Brian Faler, senior tax reporter at Politico and a Bloomberg alum, and **Amanda Lahan**, director of membership affairs at the U.S.-Russia Business Council, recently welcomed David Lahan Faler. **Pic** <http://politi.co/2vFJa13>

******* A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD) :**
The high prices that drug makers set for prescription drugs can put financial strain on patients, employers, unions and others who provide health care coverage to more than 50 percent of Americans. Pharmacy benefit managers negotiate the lowest net price for prescriptions on behalf of employers, unions and government programs. But, as list prices - the starting point for those negotiations -- continue their nearly double-digit

increases, the effects ripple throughout the system. The key to ensuring greater access and affordability lies in fostering greater competition. Facilitating faster reviews of generics and biosimilars, identifying off-patent drugs with little or no generic competition, and ending anti-competitive practices that keep safe, effective alternatives out of the market are also key to abating rising drug costs for patients. Learn more at affordableprescriptiondrugs.org *****

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