

FCC REPORTS EDICION NOCTURNA SEP 16-31 PART 2

9/16/11

CALIFORNIA LABOR SUPERMARKET

VO :22

Southern California unions and supermarket operators will negotiate through the weekend in a last-ditch bid to end an escalating Southern California supermarket labor dispute that could usher in the region's first grocery strike since 2003. The union representing 62,000 workers at Ralphs, Vons and Albertsons supermarkets in Southern California issued late Thursday a 72-hour notice of its plan to cancel its extended contract. The move, aimed at exerting pressure on grocers, clears the way for a strike.

POLICE LAYOFFS

VO :23

About 60 police officers in New Jersey's capital took their boots off in front of police headquarters to protest their layoffs Friday. Officials say 105 officers, or nearly one-third of Trenton's 350-member police force, received pink slips. The layoffs included every officer with less than seven years on the force. Mayor Tony Mack says the layoffs will save the financially strapped city about \$4 million this year. Police officials say 18 of them are expected to be brought back next month with the help of a federal grant.

MEDICARE FRAUD

VO :25

A federal judge on Friday sentenced a Miami man who had owned the nation's largest community mental health center chain to 50 years in prison for his role in a

\$205 million Medicare fraud scam. The sentence is the longest ever for a case brought under a Medicare fraud strike force. Federal authorities said Lawrence Duran, 49, preyed on patients with Alzheimer's disease and severe dementia, orchestrating an elaborate scam where staff forged patient charts to bill Medicare for therapy sessions and other services it never delivered. Prosecutors said doctors and employees at American Therapeutic Corp. and its sister companies were instructed to alter diagnoses and medications to make it seem that they qualified for expensive sleep studies and mental health treatments. Patients suffering acute mental illness and on the verge of hospitalization were supposed to get intensive counseling, but federal officials said ATC didn't provide any.

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9/19/2011

ARIZONA EMPLOYMENT

VO: 20

Arizona's National Guardsmen and reservists stand out amid the nation's high unemployment rate. Statistics show they suffer higher-than-average joblessness when they return home from international war zones. The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and other jurisdictions have designated this week as Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week. It's to raise awareness about high unemployment rates among military members returning from deployment. The federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act is designed to prevent discrimination against military members after they return from service. But even with that law, servicemen are returning to uncertain job markets. *The Arizona Republic* says they'll be a job fair Sept. 29 for guardsmen and reservists, veterans, active-duty military members and their spouses. The event is expected to feature more than 100 employers.

TEXAS REDISTRICTING

VO:18

The U.S. Department of Justice said in a court filing Monday that Texas' new voting maps for Congress and for the Texas House do not meet federal anti-discrimination requirements, setting up a legal battle that will decide the landscape of future elections in the state. The case, which involves the election districts drawn by the Republican-led Texas Legislature, will likely be decided by a

federal court in Washington, D.C. District boundaries are redrawn every 10 years to reflect changes in census data. Any changes to Texas' voting practices must be cleared by a federal court or the Justice Department to ensure changes do not discriminate based on race or color.

CHICAGO HOTLINE DEPORTACION

PAULA GOMEZ - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PKG: 1:27

The country's first 24-hour Deportation Family Support Hotline will launch Sept. 19 to help Illinois families and children left behind in deportations. The hotline will serve callers from Illinois in English, Spanish, Korean, and Portuguese. In the past five years, 48,330 people have been deported from the Chicago ICE region, leaving an estimated 80,550 children without a parent. The hotline is being launched by the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR) in partnership with 35 social service agencies; the Catholic Church and other ministers; 17 private law firms and the National Immigrant Justice Center; Mexican hometown federations; the Adler School of Professional Psychology; the Mexican Consulate; and 67 trained bilingual volunteers.

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9/20/2011

TENNESSEE DISCRIMINATION

VO: 22

While Tennessee's new law requiring that all voters have photo IDs may stir controversy along party lines, Knox County early voters seem to largely support the legislation. "People just aren't honest anymore. I can't imagine why you wouldn't have to identify who you are to vote," said Paul Wittke, a West Knoxville resident early voting at Downtown West. "It's absolutely necessary." Wittke and his wife, Sheila, agreed that measures like this are crucial to ensure people aren't stuffing the ballots with illegal votes. But several Knoxville city primary early voters at Downtown West, South Knoxville and the Love Kitchen locations said they were unaware the law takes effect in January. "I'm concerned anytime there's a change in making sure people are aware of the new law and the requirements," Knox County Election Commissioner Cassandra Stuart said, adding that she got several concerned emails once the legislation passed. "I certainly don't want it to be prohibitive to anybody, so the main focus is just on getting the word out to everybody."

ALABAMA IMMIGRATION

VO: 18

Tea Party conservatives are planning a rally in support of Alabama's new law against illegal immigration.

Members of the Rainy Day Patriots are staging a demonstration in favor of the Republican-backed law in Hoover on Tuesday evening. Organizers say they hope to send a message to a federal judge who's

currently deciding whether to uphold the law. U.S. District Judge Sharon Blackburn of Birmingham has put the law on hold until she decides whether it's constitutional. Supporters of the law say states should have the right to crack down on illegal immigration because the federal government isn't doing enough. Among other things, the law makes it a crime to knowingly hire or assist an illegal immigrant.

TEXAS REDISTRICTING

JUAN JOSE RODAS - AUSTIN, TEXAS

PKG: 2:02

The Justice Department has made it harder to block a state Senate voting map that does injustice to some Fort Worth residents. But by concluding that two of Texas' redistricting plans violate federal law, the agency upped the ante in what is certain to be a complicated, drawn-out legal fight. Justice Department lawyers told a federal District Court in Washington, D.C., on Monday that two of the four maps developed by the Legislature comply with the Voting Rights Act, but two don't. That shouldn't be interpreted as a seal of approval for the Senate and the State Board of Education maps, which passed muster. For all four plans, DOJ said, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott did not provide all necessary materials to determine whether they meet Voting Rights Act requirements. That's because Abbott went directly to federal court for approval, instead of submitting the plans to the department first. Although DOJ raised no issues about the Senate and education board maps, its brief said, "the court will have to make its own determination" about their legality. The agency didn't specify what problems it found with the Texas House and congressional maps. But it said neither complies with Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Under Section 5, Texas and several other states must get pre-clearance of district changes to make sure they don't dilute the electoral strength of racial or language minorities.

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09/21/2011

NEW MEXICO DRIVER LICENSES

VO: 20

More than 100 religious leaders from around New Mexico have submitted an open letter to state legislators in support of a state law that lets those illegally in the country get New Mexico driver's licenses. Leaders from a dozen or so faith affiliations submitted the open letter Wednesday as pastors and rabbis lobbied lawmakers. Religious leaders denounced in the letter the "hate-filled rhetoric" surrounding the debate over attempts to repeal the law.

LISTERIA CANTALOUPE

VO :23

The death toll has risen to eight in an outbreak of listeria traced to Colorado-grown cantaloupes, officials said Wednesday. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that a person in Maryland died from eating the tainted produce. Four deaths have been reported in New Mexico and two in Colorado, and one person has died in Oklahoma. The CDC said 55 people in 14 states have now been confirmed as sickened from eating the cantaloupes. On Monday, the CDC reported four deaths and 35 illnesses in 10 states.

E VERIFY

LOURDES MELUZA. WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:13

House Republicans on Wednesday jump-started the immigration debate, pushing through the Judiciary Committee a key immigration-enforcement measure to require businesses to check new employees' work status against a government database - but the fight highlighted deep divides that make it unlikely any bill clears Congress in the near future. In a sharp turnaround from their usual stances, Democrats fighting to defeat the bill accused Republicans of offering "amnesty" to at least some illegal-immigrant agriculture workers who would be exempt from checks for three years. Meanwhile, Republicans, who usually argue on behalf of states' rights, defended their bill, which would override existing state laws on electronic background checks. The bill was approved by the committee on a party-line 22-13 vote

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09/22/2011

NOTHING TO REPORT

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09/23/2011

NOTHING TO REPORT

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09/26/2011

NOTHING TO REPORT

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09/27/2011

SUPREME COURT DEPORTATIONS

LOURDES MELUZA - WASHINGTON, DC

PKG: 1:53

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court agreed to hear eight cases out of the hundreds of petitions received during its summer recess. The cases, which will likely be heard

in early 2012, bring to the Court highly specific issues concerning immigration, criminal law, qualified immunity, workers' compensation and tax law. The new immigration cases seek to reconcile disagreements among the federal courts of appeal over the government's ability to deport permanent residents who have committed criminal offenses. Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, the attorney general can cancel the removal of a deportable immigrant if that person has been a lawful permanent resident for at least five years, has continuously lived in the United States for seven years after admission in any status and has not been convicted of an aggravated felony. In *Holder v. Gutierrez* and *Holder v. Sawyers* which the Court consolidated into a single hearing, the United States sought the removal of men who entered the country illegally when they were children and then committed deportable offenses less than five years after obtaining lawful permanent resident status. The issue before the Court is whether these men, because they were unemancipated minors before obtaining that status, can apply to themselves their parents' satisfaction of the act's residency requirement in order to avoid deportation

LISTERIA DEATHS LATEST

VO: 22

A listeria outbreak caused by tainted cantaloupes has infected 72 people in the United States and killed 13, U.S. health officials said Tuesday. The death toll now exceeds the 2009 salmonella outbreak from tainted peanuts that killed nine and infected more than 700 people in the United States. So far, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said 18 states have reported infections from one of the four

strains of listeria involved in the outbreak. Of the 13 deaths, four were in New Mexico, two were in

Colorado, two were in Texas, and there was one each in Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma. All of the illnesses started on or after July 31.

XMAS JOB OPPORTUNITY

BLANCA ROSA VÍLCHEZ - NEW YORK

PKG: 1:53

An early Christmas gift for job seekers... Macy's plans to fill 78-thousand temporary spots this holiday season. That's a four-percent increase from last year. The company needs to staff Macy's and Bloomingdale's stores, call centers, distribution centers and warehouses. Most of the seasonal positions are part-time. But the company says in some cases, they could lead to permanent jobs. Macy's stock rose two-percent following the announcement.

ARMY CUTS SOLDIERS

LOURDES DEL RIO - MIAMI, FLORIDA

PKG: 2:16

The Army is preparing to launch in March a five-year, nearly 50,000-soldier drawdown, using a combination of accession cuts and voluntary and involuntary separations, similar to the post-Cold War drawdown of the 1990s, according to Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, service personnel chief. Bostick, the Army G-1, said the pending drawdown initially will focus on the temporary 22,000-soldier increase launched three years ago to support the Afghanistan troop surge. These soldiers can be removed from the force primarily through offsets in accessions and retention, sources say.

NEW YORK WIRELESS

VO: 22

The New York Metropolitan Transit Authority turned on wireless service in four subway stations in Manhattan Tuesday, marking the first time a straphanger could reliably use their cellphone while waiting for their train. As previously reported service was turned on at four stations: the C and E platforms at 23rd Street and Eighth Avenue; the A, C, E and L platforms on 14th Street and Eighth Avenue; the F, M, and L platforms at the Avenue of the Americas and 14th Street; and the 1, 2 and 3 platforms at the Seventh Avenue station, also on 14th Street. AT&T and T-Mobile customers are the only ones to get service down in those stations, so Verizon Wireless and Sprint Nextel subscribers will still have to wait longer.

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09/28/2011

ALABAMA LAW

MARIA ANTONIETA COLLINS/ BURMINGHAM, ALABAMA

PKG 2:57

A federal judge Wednesday blocked parts of Alabama's crackdown on illegal immigration but let stand a provision requiring public schools to determine the legal residency of children. The Alabama law is widely seen as the toughest state measure on illegal immigration, and supporters hailed the judge's decision as "a great victory."

ICE RAID

VO :21

A month after promising to focus on deporting the most serious criminal immigrants, the Obama administration says it has rounded up nearly 3,000 criminals. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials said Wednesday they have arrested 2,901 criminal immigrants in the last week.

The arrests come just a month after Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano announced that immigration officials would focus enforcement efforts on serious criminals and delay deportation cases for most non-criminal immigrants who don't pose a threat to public safety or national security.

OBAMA AND HISPANICS

PABLO SANCHEZ / WASHINGTON, DC

PKG 2:15

Facing weakening support among Hispanics, President Barack Obama expressed deep frustration Wednesday over what he called an inaccurate and damaging perception that he can fix the nation's flawed immigration system on his own. The president said comprehensive immigration reform continues to be a "top priority" for his administration. But he blamed Republicans in Congress for failing to join Democrats in supporting legislation that would address the flow of foreigners into the U.S. and deal with illegal immigrants already in the U.S.

POOREST KIDS HISPANICS

VO:19

More Hispanic children are living in poverty than those of any other race or ethnicity, marking the first time in U.S. history that the largest group of poor children is not white, according to a new research study. In a report released Thursday, the Pew Hispanic Center said 6.1 million Hispanic children are poor, compared with 5 million non-Hispanic white children and 4.4 million black children.

CANTALOUPE LISTERIA

VO :21

Cases of illness in the U.S. listeria outbreak linked to tainted cantaloupes -- already the deadliest in a decade -- likely will rise in the next month as more people who have been infected with the bacteria begin to develop symptoms, health officials said on Wednesday. To date, 13 people have died and 72 people have been infected in the outbreak in 18 states, including two pregnant women, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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9/29/11

HB-56

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA / MARIA ANTONIETA COLLINS

PKG 2:20

A coalition of civil rights and immigrant advocacy groups filed an appeal Thursday of a federal judge's ruling that let stand much of Alabama's tough new immigration law. The groups, along with President Barack Obama's administration and church leaders, have sought to block what is widely seen as the toughest state crackdown on illegal immigration. Chief U.S. District Judge Sharon Lovelace Blackburn ruled Wednesday that Alabama could begin requiring public schools to determine the legal residency of children. She also gave the green light for police to detain people

suspected of being in the United States illegally if they cannot produce proper documentation when stopped for any reason. Alabama Governor Robert Bentley and fellow Republican lawmakers hailed the judge's decision as a major win in their efforts to curb illegal immigration in their state. Federal judges have previously blocked key parts of immigration laws passed in Georgia, Arizona, Utah and Indiana. The Obama administration argues that the Constitution bars states from adopting immigration measures that conflict with federal laws.

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9/30/11

LETTUCE RECALL

VO :23

A California farm said Thursday it was voluntarily recalling bags of chopped romaine lettuce because of possible contamination with listeria, though no illnesses

have been reported. True Leaf Farms of Salinas announced the recall of 90 cartons that were shipped to an Oregon food service distributor. From the distributor, it might have gone to at least two other states, Washington and Idaho. The Food and Drug Administration notified the company that a sample from one bag taken as part of a random check tested positive for listeria.

=====END OF THE REPORT=====