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WANNA KNOW

The Pennsylvania State Senate's Intergovernmental Operations Committee has officially issued a pair of subpoenas asking for information regarding security upgrades at Governor **Josh Shapiro's** private residence. The intent is to learn about the one million dollars spent on his residence in the wake of the arson attack earlier this year. There has also been \$32 million spent on upgrading security at the Governor's Manor in Harrisburg. Information requested needs to be submitted by January 16th, 2026.

FLOATING

Voting for Pennsylvania's 2026 River of the Year has begun in earnest according to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). The public is encouraged to vote through January 16th, 2026 for their favorite river between the Chillisquaque Creek, the Conestoga River, and Schuylkill River's lower portion that runs through Philadelphia. A \$15,000 grant from DCNR will be awarded to the winning river's nominating organization. More information about voting can be found [here](#).

UNCAPPING CAPS

The U.S. Supreme Court plans on revisiting if campaign finance restrictions should remain in place. Current restrictions on national party spending have been challenged by now Vice President **JD Vance**. Vance and other GOP campaign committees argue the elimination of spending caps for House and Senate races would revive party influence over elections as opposed to outside actors. A lawyer appointed by the court to argue in favor of the restrictions has claimed that the Vice President does not have standing in the case as he is no longer a candidate despite running for Senate at the time when the challenge was made.

RECORDS UNSEALED

A federal judge has approved the Department of Justice's request to unseal thousands of pages of grand jury testimony in the case of **Ghislaine Maxwell**. The judge noted the records are not expected to add new information and said they do not identify anyone other than Epstein and Maxwell as having sexual contact with a minor. The judge also criticized the DOJ for failing to notify victims before seeking the release.

CHEUGY

Australia has become the first country to ban social media use for children under 16, ordering ten major platforms to block young users or face heavy fines. The law covers apps like TikTok, YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook and took effect at midnight. The government says the move aims to protect children's health and safety, while tech companies and free speech advocates argue the ban goes too far. Other countries are watching closely as they consider similar age limits for online platforms. *Go touch grass, mate...*



Happy Birthday

- **State Senator *Greg Rothman***
- **State Representative *Joe D'Orsie***
- **Adjutant General of Pennsylvania *John R. Pippy***
- ***Chris Herr*, Executive VP, PennAg Industries Association**
- ***Sheri L. Phillips*, Former Secretary, PA Department of General Services**



Committee Meetings

- Joint Local Government Commission – 9:00AM – Monthly business meeting



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