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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 3.7.22

[Howe, “. . . Death Penalty for Boston Marathon Bomber,” SCOTUS Blog, 3.4.22.](https://www.scotusblog.com/2022/03/in-6-3-ruling-court-reinstates-death-penalty-for-boston-marathon-bomber/)

1. Describe the crime at hand, when and where it was committed.
2. Which U.S. Circuit Court reviewed and ruled on the case?
3. What did they rule?
4. What had Tsarnaev’s attorneys pointed to in arguing that the death penalty would be unfair?
5. What was the vote on the Court?
6. Which justice wrote the majority opinion?
7. What about the Court’s opinion reveals a judicial restraint, or conservatism?
8. What was Justice Breyer’s take on the case?

[Shafer, “On the Stupidity of Graham’s [message] . . .” *Politico.Com*, 4.4.22.](https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2022/03/04/lindsey-graham-assassination-putin-dumb-00014309)

1. Who is Republican Lindsey Graham and what did he recently suggest?
2. What was fellow Republican Senator Ted Cruz’s response?
3. When and how were U.S. assassinations of foreign leader officially made non-policy?
4. What 1960s dictator was the potential target of a US assassination?
5. What unintended consequences might result from such a plot?
6. How would characterize the author’s overall tone and message?

[“Pence: No Room in GOP for Putin apologists, PBS/AP, 4.4.22.](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/pence-to-urge-theres-no-room-in-gop-for-apologists-for-putin)

1. What is former VP Mike Pence conveying in a recent public speech?
2. What had former Pres. Trump said about Vladimir Putinthat may have encouraged Pence’s words?
3. What does/will Pence say about the 2020 election?
4. What do you believe is Pence’s purposes here?
5. Do you agree or disagree with Pence? Why or why not?