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## Fauci: US going in 'wrong direction'

Says return of edict on masks to counter virus surge discussed

From news services

WILMINGTON, Del. — The United States is in an "unnecessary predicament" of soaring COVID-19 cases fueled by unvaccinated Americans and the virulent delta variant, the nation's top infectious diseases expert said Sunday.

"We're going in the wrong

direction," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, describing himself as "very frustrated."

He said recommending that the vaccinated wear masks is "under active consideration" by the government's leading public health officials.

Fauci said government experts are reviewing data as they consider whether to recommend that vaccinated individuals to get booster shots. He also suggested that some of the most vulnerable, such as organ transplant and

cancer patients, are "likely" to be recommended for booster shots.

Fauci, who also serves as President Joe Biden's chief medical adviser, told CNN's "State of the Union" that he has taken part in conversations about altering the mask guidelines.

He noted that some local jurisdictions where infection rates are surging, such as Los Angeles County, are already calling on individuals to wear masks in indoor public spaces regardless of

vaccination status.

Fauci said those local rules are compatible with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendation that the vaccinated do not need to wear masks in public.

With about half of Americans not yet vaccinated and the fast-spreading delta variant circulating, Fauci and a range of current and former health officials Sunday expressed exasperation at the situation and vigorously pressed the case that vacci-

nation is the best and most effective way to stem the tide of COVID cases.

"It is really a pandemic among the unvaccinated," Fauci said, adding, "It's like you have two kinds of America. You have the very vulnerable unvaccinated part and you have the really relatively protected vaccinated part. If you are vaccinated, you are in a very different category than someone" unvaccinated.

The situation is so dire that recently, even some

Republican governors in low-vaccination states have been exhorting people to get a COVID vaccine.

On Sunday on CNN, Gov. Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas said that, with the new school year on the horizon, "this is a pivotal moment in our race against the COVID virus," adding that "what's holding us back is a low vaccination rate."

Hutchinson, a Republican, said he has been hold-

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A Coastal Waste and Recycling truck empties a brown recycling bin, after dumping a green trash can into the same truck, on Thursday in Davie. The city ended its recycling program last month. JOE CAVARETTA/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL PHOTOS

## Recycling gone to waste

But Broward is moving ahead with idea for alternative to corporate giants

By Lisa J. Huriash  
South Florida Sun Sentinel

Douglas Seaton has been separating his recyclables from garbage for no reason.

Clean plastic apple juice bottles go into one bin, food scraps into another. But then the Davie man watched the garbage truck toss them all together as if it was nothing but ... trash.

Davie ended its traditional recycling program last month, although the city says the change could be temporary. A new garbage and recycling pipeline is in the works — and taxpayers could start paying for the first stages of the planning as early as October.

Cities are being asked



The same truck empties the green trash can just a few minutes earlier. Davie is setting aside \$100,000 as Broward County looks to create an independent garbage and recycling district.

to stockpile money during this summer's budget talks as the county plows ahead with its idea of creating an independent garbage and

recycling district as an alternative to corporate giants.

Davie is setting aside \$100,000. Cooper City likely will tuck away \$40,000.

Other cities, including Fort Lauderdale, haven't come up with a dollar amount yet but said they are committed to contributing when the next budget year starts in October.

The money will be used to pay for a waste generation study that would figure out "the composition" of the garbage and recycling being generated and what it would cost for the county to create its own recycling program.

The study also will look at what kind of materials could be accommodated, such as plastic, paper, metal, glass, yard waste or all of it, said County Commissioner

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## 'Nobody gave us a phone call. Nobody said anything.'

As hundreds die of COVID-19 in prison, families say the state failed them

By Grace Toohey and Hannah Phillips  
Orlando Sentinel

Last summer, when Marcellina Williams' mother died of COVID-19, it was her brother in prison who frequently checked in with her — sometimes multiple times a day — to try to keep her spirits up.

"He said, 'You're going to be OK, we're all going to be all right,'" Williams recalled recently. "And that's the kind of person he was."

But in September, amid a COVID-19 outbreak at Okeechobee Correctional Institution where he was incarcerated, Williams suddenly stopped hearing

from her brother, Donnie White.

She knew foot pain from his diabetes had sent him to the prison's infirmary and she worried he'd catch the coronavirus. The Florida Department of Corrections had at the time reported almost 100 new cases of COVID-19 in the Okeechobee prison.

When Williams finally got someone at the prison to give her information about her brother — four days after their last call — she was told he was at a local hospital. Hours later, when she called again, she was transferred to the prison's chaplain, who said her

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## 2nd Republican to join Jan. 6 probe

Ill. Rep. Kinzinger, a Trump detractor, is selected by Pelosi

By Luke Broadwater  
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on Sunday appointed Rep. Adam Kinzinger to the special committee investigating the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol, adding a second Republican who is a force-

ful critic of former President Donald Trump to the panel.

The move, which bolsters the committee's bipartisan credentials, came after Pelosi rejected two Republicans who are among Trump's most vociferous defenders in Congress from joining, saying their conduct suggested they could not be trusted to participate.

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## Which company is telling the truth?

Battle in lie-detecting industry is getting stranger than fiction

By Marc Freeman  
South Florida Sun Sentinel

Someone is not telling the truth. It's either the polygraph industry behind the age-old lie detection equipment, or it's the makers of the newer voice-stress test technology.

Both say their methods

are dependable, and both claim their competitor is spreading falsehoods about what works best for police. It's a fight that won't be resolved any time soon.

But it gets worse. Two companies touting the alternative, voice-stress systems are battling each other like you wouldn't believe. And

it'll take a South Florida court to decide between the rivals. Voice-stress analyzers use computers to measure vocal patterns to detect deception during interrogations.

Numerous law enforcement agencies in the state and nation find them useful in criminal investigations, as well as in hiring cops. Some doubt their reliability. Others still prefer the old-fashioned poly-

graph machine, or they use neither tool. For the past 18 years, two Florida-based voice-stress-test firms have lobbied accusations at each other. After a mediation session failed to resolve the civil dispute this past week, a trial is likely this fall.

And there's a bit of irony: None of these competing truth-seeking ways is permitted to sort out who's

Turn to Truth, Page 6



Rep. Adam Kinzinger, shown in May, who has long urged a rejection of Donald Trump's falsehoods, said Sunday: "For months, lies and conspiracy theories have been spread, threatening our self-governance." STEFANI REYNOLDS/THE NEW YORK TIMES





## Truth

from Page 1

being honest here. That'll be the job of a Palm Beach County judge.

The combatants are NITV Federal Services of Wellington (NITV at one point stood for National Institute for Truth Verification,) and Elwood Gary Baker of Panama City, owner of Baker Group International. Each promises superior technology for ferreting out the truth from suspects and job applicants.

## 'System of choice'

Founded and run by Charles Humble, NITV sells a laptop-based system called the Computer Voice Stress Analyzer. He claims it is 98% accurate, and there's no way for someone to skew the results. A typical question-and-answer session runs about an hour.

The latest model, the CVSA-III, runs nearly \$10,000, which includes a weeklong training program for two officers to learn how to become examiners.

Don't even think about trying to buy one for home or entertainment purposes: "You've got to be a government agency and the users have to be government agents," Humble, 75, said.

NITV touts on its website that it is the "truth verification system of choice for over 2,500 local, state, federal, and international law enforcement agencies." The biggest user is said to be the California Highway Patrol, and others include police departments in New Orleans, Atlanta and Nashville. Florida has 186 agencies that own at least one device, according to the company. It does not provide a list but shows Miami Beach Police, Tallahassee Police and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office among its users.

Spokeswoman Teri Barbera said investigators with the special victims unit and bomb squad use voice stress "sparingly" to question suspects. Tallahassee

Police say it is used only for employment screenings.

Daytona Beach Police have found the voice-stress analyzer "useful at times during investigations," said Messod Bendayan, public information officer. "It has helped our detectives figure out the truth when speaking to suspects or victims," he said. "It does have some limitations, but overall, it's been a positive for us."

## Verifying veracity

Baker, 77, markets computer software called Digital Voice Stress Analyzer. He says it's free for police — "I'm not greedy" — with a charge of only \$1,500 for an officer to attend his 40-hour training course. "The system, if applied properly, is 100% accurate," Baker said. "You have to ask the right questions to get the right answers."

He says his "state-of-the-art" software is proven to "verify veracity." When a person speaks into a microphone, it measures what he says are "stress-related components of the voice" and humans are powerless to fool the system. Baker says he has 1,500 clients with more signing up all the time. His website shows a few testimonials from officers in mainly smaller police departments, such as Niceville in Florida's Panhandle and Lake County Sheriff's Office in Northeast Illinois.

## Reliability questions

The American Polygraph Association warns that voice-based lie detectors work no better than chance. It points to research that slammed the reliability of the systems, including a 2008 study funded by the federal government's National Institute of Justice.

That review found the tests "were no better in determining deception about recent drug use among arrestees than flipping a coin." In that study,

researchers interviewed 319 inmates in an Oklahoma jail about their recent drug uses. The results from analyzers were matched with urine samples testing the presence of drugs.

In response, voice-stress proprietors Humble and Baker agree the polygraph folks are not to be trusted.

Humble's company warns, "Don't be tricked by the 'unreliable, unscientific and biased' sales pitches being put forth by the pro-polygraph lobby." In promoting his product, Baker points out that customers will be pleased not to find "attached sensors, blood pressure cuffs, and or electrodes as in polygraph examinations."

## Endless litigation

The feuding began in 2003, when Humble's original company, NITV, LLC, sued Baker in federal court for false advertising and unfair competition. The following year, NITV sued Baker for a second time, but by early 2005 the parties had agreed to a settlement.

The peace was temporary. That same year Baker sued NITV for defamation, this time in Palm Beach County Circuit Court. He accused NITV of sending out "Scam Alert" notices to police departments around the country warning about Baker's product.

A jury sided with Baker, and in 2011, a state appeals court agreed Baker was entitled to a \$250,000 award for damage to his reputation. The trial judge later approved that judgment plus interest.

But Baker says he still hasn't seen any money. Scott W. Zappolo, attorney for Baker, said he is now asking a new judge to order Humble's company to pay out over \$400,000, including the interest amount.

Humble's attorney, William A. Fleck, could not be reached for comment despite attempts by email and calls to his office.

Marc Freeman can be reached at [mjfreeman@sunsentinel.com](mailto:mjfreeman@sunsentinel.com) and on Twitter @marcjfreeman.

## Probe

from Page 1

Kinzinger, a six-term Illinois congressman who has drawn censure from his own party for disavowing Trump and the conspiracy theories the former president perpetuated, said in a statement that he had accepted the post.

Pelosi, who has final say over the committee's membership, has already given one of the eight seats normally reserved for the majority party to Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo.

Cheney was ousted from House leadership in May for criticizing Trump and his actions before and during the riot.

About 140 police officers were injured Jan. 6 as Trump loyalists stormed the Capitol, where Congress was meeting to formalize President Joe Biden's election, chanting "Hang Mike Pence," stalking the halls looking for Pelosi and forcing lawmakers to evacuate their chambers.

Pelosi began seriously considering unilaterally appointing Kinzinger last week after she blocked Reps. Jim Banks, R-Ind., and Jim Jordan, R-Ohio. Both had amplified Trump's false claims of election fraud, joined their party's efforts Jan. 6 to challenge Biden's victory and made statements that undermined the select committee's work and mission.

Pelosi, however, said she welcomed the three other Republicans whom Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., had nominated to join the

panel.

"We have to ignore the antics of those who do not want to find the truth," she said Sunday on ABC's "This Week," reiterating her rationale for barring Banks and Jordan.

Her decision to reject the pair drew an angry response from McCarthy, the minority leader, who announced that all his picks would boycott the panel. He has described Pelosi's intervention as confirmation that the investigation was nothing more than a political exercise to hurt the GOP.

"Speaker Pelosi's rejection of the Republican nominees to serve on the committee and self-appointment of members who share her preconceived narrative will not yield a serious investigation," he said in a statement Sunday.

On Fox News on Sunday, Banks, who arranged a recent trip to join Trump at the Southwestern border, blamed Pelosi for the security breakdowns at the Capitol during the breach by the pro-Trump mob. He claimed, without evidence, that he was rejected from the committee as part of a cover-up.

"At the end of the day, she is ultimately responsible for the breakdown of security at the Capitol that happened on Jan. 6," he said.

Congressional leaders hire the law enforcement personnel responsible for Capitol security, but they are typically not involved in day-to-day decisions about security protocols.

Security at the Capitol is controlled by the Capitol Police Board, which

includes the House and Senate sergeants-at-arms and the architect of the Capitol. At the time of the attack, the House sergeant-at-arms, Paul Irving, had been on the job since 2012, when he was hired under Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio. The Senate sergeant-at-arms at the time, Michael Stenger, was hired in 2018 when Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., led the chamber.

Both Irving and Stenger, along with the chief of the Capitol Police at the time, Steven Sund, resigned under pressure after the riot.

Asked about Kinzinger's potential selection Sunday, Banks pointed to his colleague's unsparing criticism of Trump: "It's clear that Pelosi only wants members on this committee who will stick to her talking points and stick to her narrative."

Kinzinger has urged his fellow Republicans to reject Trump's lie of a stolen election and his brand of grievance-based politics.

"For months, lies and conspiracy theories have been spread, threatening our self-governance," Kinzinger said Sunday.

In her statement appointing Kinzinger to the panel, Pelosi emphasized his military service as an Air Force veteran and lieutenant colonel in the Air National Guard.

"He brings great patriotism to the committee's mission: to find the facts and protect our democracy," she said.

There will nine members of the committee seated when the panel has its first hearing Tuesday.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

**On July 26, 1775,** the Continental Congress established a Post Office and appointed Benjamin Franklin its Postmaster-General.

**In 1788,** New York became

the 11th state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

**In 1847,** the western African country of Liberia, founded by freed American slaves, declared its independence.

**In 1908,** U.S. Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte ordered creation of a force of special agents, forerunner of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**In 1990,** President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**In 2002,** the Homeland Security Department was created in the biggest government reorganization in decades.

**In 2016,** Hillary Clinton became the first woman to be nominated for president by a major political party.

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