Judge’s indictment puts Lelling in hot seat

US prosecutor with reputation as fair also called overzealous

By Maria Cramer and Matt Stout

When President Trump first nominated Andrew Lelling to be Massachusetts’ US attorney in 2017, even liberal-leaning judges and criminal defense lawyers described the prosecutor as judicious and politically motivated.

Lelling’s indictment this week of a sitting state court judge on charges she allowed an undocumented immigrant to marry federal authorities has thrust the fast-rising prosecutor into the country’s heated immigration debate and put him at the center of another dispute about prosecutorial overreach.

Former Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court justice Geraldine S. Hines said Lelling’s indictment this week of a sitting state court judge on charges she allowed an undocumented immigrant to marry federal authorities was an example of “prosecutorial overreach.”

Critics say Andrew Lelling is grandstanding.

A package of YouTube TV and Netflix, for example, rose 35% in one year and is now $86 a month.

As streaming services cut back on cable price, it’s getting harder to save

Hawai’ai Bray

Millions of television viewers who’ve ditched the cable company for Internet TV services might be finding a bit of nostalgia, but not in a good way. One by one, prices on many services are creeping up, and suddenly they don’t look like such a great deal.

Illnesses like old times, doesn’t it? Services like sling TV, DirecTV Now, YouTube TV, and Sony’s PlayStation Vue act like virtual cable companies, delivering standard TV channels over the Internet. They let you get rid of channels you don’t watch, but watch TV for a lot less.

But these virtual cable services are getting costly, with price increases over the past year that range from $5 to $15 a month. Throw in a subscription to some other streaming networks like Netflix or CBS All Access or HBO Now, and our household viewing budgets are creeping back toward the traditional.

The trend began modestly enough last year, with $5-a-month price hikes from YouTube TV, Sling TV, and DirecTV Now. Then in January, Hulu’s live TV streaming service upped its price $5 to $65. In March, DirecTV Now imposed yet another increase to its basic service—the second within a year—adding $10 to reach $50 a month, while reducing its channel selection to 40 from more than 60.

Boston Calling court case to be brought again

June corruption trial sought for City Hall aides

By Matt Rocheleau

In a case that once seemed all but dead, federal prosecutors on Friday signaled they will prepare for a trial on public corruption charges against two Boston City Hall aides.

The prosecutors have requested that the court set a trial date of June 17. Attorneys for Kenneth Brissette and Timothy Sullivan, the two city hall aides, asked that the court move the trial to July 15 or later.

Legal observers say prosecutors will have to prove a complex case involving interpretations of the law that federal defenders say are flawed, but they note it is nonetheless significant that they plan to pursue a trial.

Martin G. Weinberg, a Boston criminal defense attorney not connected to the case, said the prosecution “will challenge the outer limits of the Hobbs Act.”

“One of the most critical requirements necessary for us to fulfill our mission is to have the trust and confidence of the citizens we serve,” Gilpin said. “That trust had been broken, Gilpin and Baker said, while unveiling a plan that afternoon to fix it. They pledged increased “transparency, accountability” and outlined initiatives to stanch the corruption that had “tarnished” the department.

Yet, one year later, several of these initiatives are partially, if not entirely, unfulfilled, and a shift in culture at the troubled agency has proved stubbornly elusive.

Although overtime spending dropped department-wide last year, it was driven in part by a steady reduction in the agency’s ranks. Some pro-

State Police reforms are slow to materialize

1 year after push by Baker, Gilpin, the scandal-plagued agency has resisted change

By Matt Rocheleau

Massachusetts State Police Colonel Kerry Gilpin and Governor Charlie Baker stood side by side on a stage last April and vowed to reform the state’s largest law enforcement agency, which was marred in scandal, its troopers the focus of state and federal criminal probes.

“Upon that stage, I vowed that we would stand together and unbind the shackle that we will now call the Hobbs Act.”

“Today, to the public, our sworn officers, and our families who have endured the pain of our agency’s past, I say we have not been silent,” Gilpin said. “One of the most critical requirements necessary for us to fulfill our mission is to have the trust and confidence of the citizens we serve,” Gilpin said. “That trust had been broken, Gilpin and Baker said, while unveiling a plan that afternoon to fix it. They pledged increased “transparency, accountability” and outlined initiatives to stanch the corruption that had “tarnished” the department.

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Whale protections

A government-appointed team agreed to measures aimed at reducing the number of whale deaths and serious injuries by 60 percent.

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Windy, sun late.

Spring fake

Saturday: Winter, sub-freeze.


Sunday: Early, rain late.

High: 56-41, Lower: 37-42.

Sunny: 54-55.

Weather and Comics

April 27, 2019

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Spring fake

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Biden declines to apologize

**STATE POLICE**

Continued from Page 1

The union itself is under scrutiny by federal prosecutors, who are investigating possible financial improprieties. While Biden and Baker are divided on the bill, both are still facing serious challenges. Despite the wide-scale scrutiny, former president Donald Trump has maintained a strong following and is expected to continue to support the state police. The Massachusetts State Police, along with state troopers, are expected to continue to serve the public in their roles and respond to any violations that may be encountered.

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