



President Donald Trump speaks with reporters as he participates in a ceremonial swearing in of Paul Atkins as chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in the Oval Office of the White House, Tuesday, April 22. AP PHOTO/ALEX BRANDON

Law firms ask judges to block orders

By ERIC TUCKER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two major law firms are expected to ask separate judges on Wednesday to permanently block President Donald Trump's executive orders that were designed to punish them and hurt their business operations.

The firms — Perkins Coie and WilmerHale — have said the orders imposed in March are unconstitutional assaults on the legal profession that threaten their relationships with clients and retaliate against them based either on their past legal representations or their association with particular attorneys who Trump perceives as his adversaries.

COURTS LAST month temporarily halted enforcement of key provisions of both orders, but the firms are in court Wednesday asking for the edicts to be struck down in their entirety and for judges to issue rulings in their favor. Another firm, Jenner & Block, is expected to make similar arguments next week.

"Although Perkins Coie did not bring this suit lightly, it was compelled to do so to preserve its ability to continue representing the best interests of its clients," lawyers for Perkins Coie wrote in a filing ahead of the hearing. "The Constitution does not permit our elected leaders, from any party, to punish lawyers by fiat for representing clients who oppose their political agendas. It would set a grave precedent for our Republic if the Order were allowed to stand."

The executive orders taking aim at some of the country's most elite and prominent law firms are part of a wide-ranging retribution campaign by Trump designed to reshape civil society and extract concessions from perceived adversaries. The actions have forced targeted entities, whether law firms or universities, to decide whether to push back and risk further incurring the administration's ire or to agree to concessions in hopes of averting sanctions. Some firms have challenged the orders in court, but others have proactively reached settlements.

THE ORDERS HAVE generally imposed the

same consequences, including directing the suspension of attorney security clearances, restricting lawyers' access to federal buildings and terminating federal contracts.

The first law firm action took place in February when Trump signed a memo suspending the security clearances of attorneys at Covington & Burling who have provided legal services to special counsel Jack Smith, who investigated the president between his first and second terms and secured two indictments that have since been abandoned.

The executive order targeting Perkins Coie singled out the firm's representation of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clin-

ton during the 2016 presidential race, and the one against WilmerHale cited the fact that special counsel Robert Mueller — who investigated Trump during his first term over potential ties between Russia and his 2016 campaign — was for years a partner at the firm.

LAST MONTH, the firm Paul Weiss cut a deal with the Trump administration that resulted in an executive order against it being rescinded.

Since then, more than a half-dozen other firms have reached agreements with the White House that require them, among other things, to dedicate free legal services to causes the Trump administration says it champions.

Stocks: Trump rhetoric

Continued from A1

fire the head of the Federal Reserve. Trump had been angry with Jerome Powell, whom Trump had called "a major loser," because of the Fed's hesitance to cut interest rates.

While cutting rates could give the economy a boost, it could also put upward pressure on inflation. Economists say Trump's tariffs are likely both to slow the economy and to raise inflation, at least briefly.

Trump's tough talk had frightened investors because the Fed is supposed to act independently, without pressure from politicians, so that it can make decisions that may be painful in the short term but are best for the long term.

Trump may have recognized the market's fear about a move against Powell. He may also be looking to keep someone around whom Trump could blame later if the economy does fall into a recession, according to Thierry Wizman, a strategist at Macquarie.

"Indeed, if the Fed cuts its policy interest rates aggressively, Trump would have little excuse for a recession apart from the pugnacity of his tariff policies," Wizman said.

Markets also rose after Trump said late Tuesday that U.S. tariffs on imports coming from China could come down "substantially" from the current 145%. "It won't be that high, not going to be that high," Trump said.

The hope along Wall Street has been that Trump may lower his tariffs after negotiating trade deals with other countries, and Trump said Tuesday he would be "very nice" to the world's second-largest economy and not play hardball with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

"There is an opportunity for a big deal here," U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a Wednesday morning

speech.

If Trumps brings his tariffs down by enough and quickly enough, investors believe a recession could be averted.

U.S. businesses say they're already feeling the effects of the trade war. A preliminary reading of U.S. business activity fell to a 16-month low, as the threat of tariffs helped push up prices charged for goods and services at the sharp rate for just over a year, according to S&P Global's latest survey released Wednesday.

That's why one of the few predictions many along Wall Street are willing to make is only that sharp swings for financial markets will continue for a while.

Public notice

(First published in The Iola Register April 24, 2025)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF ALLEN COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of WALLACE KUMALAE, deceased Case No. AL-2025-PR-000016 Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on April 21, 2025, a Petition was filed in this Court by Shannon Simpson and Richard Kumalae, persons interested in the Estate of Wallace Kumalae as heirs, devisees, and legatees and as the co-executors named in the "Last Will and Testament of Wallace Kumalae," requesting that (i) the instrument attached to the Petition be admitted to probate and record as the Last Will and Testament of the decedent and (ii) Letters Testamentary under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act be issued to the Co-Executors to serve without bond.

You are further advised under the provisions of the Kansas Simplified Estates Act the Court need not supervise administration of the Estate, and no notice of any action of the Co-Executors or other proceedings in the administration will be given, except for notice of final settlement of decedent's estate. If written ob-

jections to simplified administration are filed with the Court, the Court may order that supervised administration ensue.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 1:30 P.M. in the Allen County District Court, 1 N. Washington Ave., Iola, KS 66749, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, within thirty (30) days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited they shall be forever barred.

Shannon Simpson and Richard Kumalae, Petitioners

Jacob T. Knight, #28070 KNIGHT LAW, LLC 6 E. Jackson Ave. Iola, KS 66749 (P): (620) 305-2598 (F): (620) 305-2597 Email: jake@jakeknightlaw.com Attorney for Petitioners

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Low Tuesday night	56	This month to date	4.39
High a year ago	68	Total year to date	12.33
Low a year ago	44	Excess since Jan. 1	4.26
Sunrise 6:34 a.m.		Sunset 8:06 p.m.	

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THE CITY OF LA HARPE IS ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS FOR THE DEMOLITION OF ALL THE BUILDINGS AND CLEANING OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1202 S WASHINGTON AND 1212 S WASHINGTON. SUBMIT SEALED BIDS TO THE CITY CLERK BY 4:00PM, MAY 14, 2025.

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