

# Joe Says No: Biden Won't Run, A Boost For Clinton

BY JULIE PACE  
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — After months of tortured indecision, Vice President Joe Biden said Wednesday he won't be a candidate in the 2016 White House campaign, solidifying Hillary Rodham Clinton's status as the Democratic front-runner and the party's likely heir to President Barack Obama's legacy.

Standing under bright sun in the White House Rose Garden, Biden spoke movingly about mourning the recent death of his son, Beau, a process he said does not match the political calendar. While he said his family was emotionally prepared to undertake a grueling presidential campaign, they arrived at that decision too late for him to mount a credible bid for a job that has long been the north star of his political ambitions.

"Unfortunately, I believe we're out of time," said Biden, flanked by his wife, Jill, and the president.

Biden's decision puts to rest the uncertainty hanging over the Democratic primary. The race now will likely settle into a two-person contest between Clinton and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who has energized the party's liberal base but lacks Clinton's campaign infrastructure and support from party leaders.

Biden was seen by some Democrats as an ideal blend of Clinton's establishment credentials and Sanders' populist appeal. Interest in his potential candidacy was fueled both by an outpouring of affection after his son succumbed to cancer in May and the persistent questions about Clinton's viability, particularly amid revelations about her controversial email use at the State Department.

However, Clinton appeared to calm nervous supporters with a commanding performance in last week's first Democratic debate. What was already a narrow path to the presidency for Biden appeared to get even smaller.

In a written statement Wednesday, Clinton praised Biden's "unyielding faith in America's promise" and said she expected he would



U.S. Vice President Joe Biden announces he will not be seeking the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016 as President Barack Obama listens on in the Rose Garden of the White House on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

MIKE THEILER/CNP/ZUMA PRESS/TNS

"always be on the front lines, always fighting for all of us." The two spoke by phone shortly after the vice president concluded his remarks.

Biden notably did not endorse a candidate in the Democratic race. Instead, he delivered a 13-minute speech that very well could have been a platform for the campaign he'll never run. He decried the role of big money in politics and touted the importance of reducing income inequality and making college education more accessible, issues with significant support among liberals.

He also repeated a veiled criticism of Clinton that had crept into his speeches in recent days, saying Democrats should not view Republicans as their enemies. Clinton said in the debate that she was proud to count the GOP among the enemies she's made during her political career.

Biden's decision gives Clinton a boost heading into her testimony Thursday before a Republican-led House committee investigating the deadly attack on Americans in Benghazi, Libya, three years ago. With Biden out of the race, Clinton's campaign sees the hearing as a final hurdle before she can fully focus on

early voting contests in Iowa, New Hampshire and elsewhere.

For many Republicans, Biden's decision comes as a disappointment. Party leaders had all but cheered his potential candidacy, eager to see the Democratic race thrown into chaos and perhaps distract attention from a GOP primary that's been roiled by the rise of unorthodox candidates such as Donald Trump and Ben Carson.

Trump praised Biden and took a poke at Clinton in a single tweet: "I think Joe Biden made the correct decision for him & his family. Personally, I would rather run against Hillary because her record is so bad."

To be sure, Clinton still faces a challenge from Sanders, the Vermont independent and self-described Democratic socialist. Sanders is drawing big crowds and contributions, but he's seen as unelectable by some Democrats.

Sanders thanked Biden Wednesday for "a lifetime of public service and for all that he has done for our nation."

Biden's announcement follows months of discussions with his family and political advisers about entering the race. He blew through multiple deadlines and appeared to

send mixed signals to supporters, including an email from a longtime aide to former staffers last week that appeared to lay out the rationale for a Biden candidacy.

However, those familiar with Biden's deliberations say it became increasingly clear in recent days that he would have faced substantial logistical challenges in mounting a campaign this late in the primary process.

Aides said the vice president made his final decision Tuesday night, capping a political career that began with his election to the Senate in 1972 at age 29.

During his final 15 months as vice president, aides say Biden plans to immerse himself in a new national effort to cure cancer, a cause for which he has an obvious personal attachment. A talented, though gaffe-prone campaigner, he could also be a valuable surrogate for the eventual Democratic nominee.

Even as he signaled the end of his political career, Biden made clear he had no plans to quietly fade into the background.

"While I will not be a candidate, I will not be silent," he vowed.

## House Freedom Caucus Supports Ryan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The hardline House Freedom Caucus says it is supporting Rep. Paul Ryan for speaker of the House, all but guaranteeing he'll get the job.

The decision from the group of around three dozen rebellious conservatives held off on an official endorsement.

Support from the group was not certain since they've repeatedly opposed GOP leaders and pushed the current speaker, John Boehner (BAY'nuhr), to announce his resignation.

Several members of the group had raised concerns about Ryan. But after meeting behind closed doors Wednesday night the lawmakers emerged to say they would support him.

Ryan, the GOP's former vice presidential nominee, did not want to run for speaker but yielded to entreaties from party leaders and said he would — if he could gather consensus support.

## Leader Meetings Push To End Syria Crisis

MOSCOW (AP) — Bashar Assad's surprise meeting with Vladimir Putin could signal that Russia ultimately seeks a political settlement after weeks of heavy airstrikes in Syria. But the terms of such an arrangement are uncertain, and questions remain about whether Moscow will seek the departure of its longtime ally or try for a power-sharing agreement.

In a further sign that a diplomatic push might be underway to end the four-year crisis, Russia announced Wednesday that Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry had agreed to meet Friday in Vienna with their counterparts from Saudi Arabia and Turkey — both firm Assad critics.

The Syrian president's visit to Moscow, his first known trip abroad since war broke out in 2011, was announced on Wednesday, the morning after it happened, and raised intense speculation about the two leaders' motives — and a strong response from Washington.

"We view the red-carpet welcome for Assad, who has used chemical weapons against his own people, at odds with the stated goal by the Russians for a political transition in Syria," said White House spokesman Eric Schultz.

If nothing else, it underscored how emboldened the embattled Syrian leader has become in the wake of the Russian airstrikes that began on Sept. 30 and Iran's deployment of hundreds of ground forces to fight alongside Syrian government troops.

## Ex-CEO's Defense Weaves Views Into Trial

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — An outspoken critic of President Barack Obama, charged with conspiring to violate mine safety rules before a deadly explosion, is under orders not to tell jurors he's being persecuted by Democrats.

The federal judge also warned former Massey Energy CEO Don Blankenship that safety rules are not in trial.

But Blankenship hasn't checked his Republican politics at the courtroom door, and three weeks into his trial, the coal boss's lawyers have found ways to repeatedly suggest to jurors that regulators targeted his company for political reasons.

Blankenship, whose unabashed bankrolling of West Virginia Republicans once inspired a John Grisham novel, "The Appeal," was an active blogger before the trial, blaming the nation's problems on media liberals, unions, "greeniacs," and much of corporate America.

In front of the jury, Blankenship's multimillion-dollar defense team acknowledged his outspoken behavior. Attorney William Taylor said he had been "rude" and "insulting" as he increased Massey Energy's revenues to \$2.3 billion in 2009.

## Man Arrested For Slaying NYC Officer

NEW YORK (AP) — A career criminal accused of killing a police officer had been released from jail into a drug diversion program and was wanted in a shooting last month, said Police Commissioner William Bratton, noting that the suspect had shown an increasing level of violence and shouldn't have been on the streets.

Tyrone Howard is expected to be charged with fatally shooting New York Police Department Officer Randolph Holder during a gunfight Tuesday night on a pedestrian bridge after stealing a bike.

He was arrested in October 2014 along with 18 other people and charged with selling crack cocaine at an East Harlem public housing complex. But Bratton said Howard was released into a drug diversion program, which is meant to keep drug offenders from overcrowding the city's jails.

"If ever there was a candidate not to be diverted, it would be this guy," Bratton said. "There are people in our society who are criminals, who are violent criminals ... who should be separated from the rest of society."

But court officials said Howard qualified for the program because he was charged with selling and possessing drugs and was addicted.

## Police Detain Man In Rage Shooting

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Police detained a man on Wednesday in connection with the road-rage killing of a 4-year-old girl who was shot in the backseat of her father's truck after he picked up her and her brother from school, signaling a possible break in a case that has horrified the public.

Albuquerque police would not say if they believe the person of interest taken into custody is the shooter, but they said he matched the description of the gunman. His name was not immediately released.

Four-year-old Lilly Garcia was riding in the backseat of her dad's truck with her 7-year-old brother Tuesday when someone in a Toyota opened fire on the family as they traveled down the main east-west freeway in Albuquerque. The father quickly pulled the truck into the median and tried to administer first aid on his daughter as a bystander called 911 to report "an adult holding an unresponsive child."

Two nurses showed up and tried to save the girl's life as ambulances arrived and rushed her to the hospital, where she died, Albuquerque Police Chief Gordon Eden said.

Authorities quickly began pressing for tips, offering roughly \$25,000 for information that leads to the arrest of the shooter, who was driving a newer-model maroon or dark red Toyota Corolla or Camry with a spoiler on the trunk and dark tinted windows. The car also had a University of New Mexico license plate.

# Israel's Netanyahu Heads To Berlin To Meet Kerry

BY JOSEF FEDERMAN  
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — With no end in sight to weeks of Israeli-Palestinian violence, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu headed to Germany on Wednesday as part of a high-profile diplomatic push to restore calm.

The trip, which included a meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and talks with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on Thursday, came on a day of new Palestinian attacks in the West Bank.

Israeli officials said a female Israeli soldier was stabbed and seriously wounded by a Palestinian man who was shot dead, while late Wednesday, the army said a Palestinian motorist wounded four Israelis in a hit and run in the southern West Bank. Israeli soldiers opened fire, and the fate of the driver was not immediately clear. Meanwhile, Israeli troops shot and wounded a 14-year-old Palestinian girl

whom they said was carrying a knife and trying to infiltrate a Jewish settlement.

It remains unclear whether the diplomatic push will be able to succeed. The Israeli and Palestinian leaders have vast differences over the causes of the violence. It is also unclear whether anyone can rein in the attackers, who have been young "lone-wolf" Palestinians, often in their teens, acting on their own.

At a news conference with Merkel, Netanyahu reiterated his belief that Palestinian incitement has fueled the unrest. He pointed to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' refusal to condemn attacks on Israelis and accusations that Israel is changing delicate prayer arrangements at Jerusalem's holiest site.

Netanyahu called the claims false. "It is very clear to us that incitement leads to terror," he said. "The international community must demand that President Abbas stop the incitement and stop spreading the lies about the Jewish state and about

Israel's policies."

The unrest began last month after clashes erupted at the holy site — a hill-top Old City compound revered by Jews and Muslims. Jews call the compound the Temple Mount, the holiest site in Judaism and home to the biblical Temples. Muslims call it the Noble Sanctuary, and today it houses the Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third-holiest site and an important Palestinian national symbol.

Israel captured the site, along with the rest of east Jerusalem and the West Bank, from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war. Under a "status quo" arrangement, Jews are permitted to visit but not pray in the compound. While Netanyahu says Israel is committed to preserving the status quo, Palestinians point to a growing number of Jewish visitors, including Israeli officials, who seek prayer rights and an expanded presence on the mount as evidence of Israeli encroachment.

# Krebs

From Page 1

measures process. We were one of the first in the nation to initiate the initiated measure process."

Krebs said it says a lot about voter participation in the state that so many measures are considered.

"It boils down to citizens' involvement," she said. "I think it's truly a form of democracy. It's nothing new to the citizens. I think it shows the involvement in civic activity."

But the office does more

than just overseeing elections. "Most folks in the general public and the media do think of the Secretary of State's office as elections, and elections only," Krebs said. "We are the chief elections office for the state of South Dakota, but ... one bigger area we handle is the business service division, or corporate filings."

Krebs said the office is the first stop for businesses looking to start up in the state.

"Our state law says that if a company is going to incorporate or become a business in South Dakota, they file with the Secretary of State's office," she said. "We are the central filing agency or office for businesses to incorporate in South

Dakota."

She added the office also handles other business dealings.

"We're also the central filing office for all uniform commercial code filings that come through," she said. "For a lien that's outstanding, for a farm product, cattle or grain, with lenders filing with us, we're the central filing office that lenders are able to search that database with."

Krebs said one of the biggest surprises since taking office in January has been how much beyond elections the office must oversee.

"When you walk down the street, I have more people say, 'Hey, I got your letter remind-

ing me that my annual report this month is due,' or 'Hey, I'm searching for a corporation, looked on your site and you had the information,'" she said. "I think it's the amount or volume of interaction we have with people on a day-to-day basis. Our office received over 300-400 phone calls. We see 200-300 pieces of mail in our office. We send out on average about 900 letters outside of our office. ... That just tells you that we're obviously more than elections."

Additionally, the office's website sees more than 95,000 web hits per day.

Follow @RobNielsenPandD on Twitter.

Advertise Here!  
Call 665-7811

### ARCH SUPPORT

Boston Shoes To Boots  
312 West 3rd, Yankton, SD  
605-665-9092

### AUTO BODY

Justras Body Shop  
2806 Fox Run Parkway  
Yankton, 665-3929

Riverside Auto Body  
www.riversideautobody-gonegreen.com  
402-667-3285

### BANKING

Services Center  
Federal Credit Union  
609 W. 21st, Yankton, SD

First Dakota National Bank  
225 Cedar St., 665-7432  
2105 Broadway, 665-4999

### CONVENIENCE STORE

TJ's Convenience Store and Bait Shop  
3703 W. 8th St., 665-5070

### ELECTRICAL

Johnson Electric, LLP  
Commercial • Residential • Trenching  
500 W. 12th, Yankton  
605-665-5686

### L&S Electric

Harry Lane, Contractor  
665-6612 • 661-1040

### FAMILY MEMORIALS

Yankton Monument Co.  
325 Douglas, Yankton  
605-664-0980

### FURNITURE

Slumberland FURNITURE  
920 Broadway  
Yankton, SD  
57078

605-665-3719  
Slumberland.com

### FUNERAL/CREMATION

Wintz & Ray  
FUNERAL HOME  
and Cremation Service, Inc.  
Yankton • 605-665-3644

Garden of Memories Cemetery

Wintz  
FUNERAL HOME  
Harrington, Coleridge & Crofton

402-254-6547  
wintzrayfuneralhome.com

Trusted For Generations

### HEATING & COOLING

Larry's  
HEATING & COOLING  
920 Broadway, Yankton  
665-9461

Carrier  
Turn to the Experts

### Advertise Here!

Call The Advertising Dept.  
For More Info  
665-7811!

### HOUSE CLEANING

J&H Cleaning Services -  
Residential & Commercial  
605-665-2571 or 605-661-9211  
Serving Yankton since 1994

### INSURANCE

Missouri River Associates, LLC  
2800 Broadway Ave.  
605-665-6885

### LANDSCAPING

Harley's Curb Appeal Landscaping, Inc.  
3109 Old River Rd.  
Yankton, SD 57078  
605-661-0856

### MEDICAL CLINIC

Lewis and Clark Family Medicine  
2525 Fox Run Parkway, Ste. 200  
Yankton, SD • (605)260-2100

Also online at www.yankton.net

Also online at www.yankton.net