



'Empire' Actor Jussie Smollett Orchestrated Attack, Source Says. Police Raid 'Persons of Interest' Home.

Evidence that actor Jussie Smollett staged an attack against himself, and blamed white male Trump supporters, may be growing as Chicago police raided the home of two black Nigerian brothers who had appeared on the 'Empire' TV series and know Smollett. Police collected bleach, shoes, electronics, receipts and other items from their home. Although Smollett gave police a limited and redacted list of his phone records, police reportedly had already obtained Smollett's complete phone records from a tower data dump given by the phone provider.

CHICAGO (CBS) – Investigators believe Jussie Smollett and the non-cooperating witnesses in last month's alleged attack of the *Empire* actor "potentially staged the attack," a source with intimate knowledge of the investigation tells CBS 2 Investigator Brad Edwards.

Chicago police raided the home of two "persons of interest"

Wednesday night, a relative of those men says.

Police took bleach, shoes, electronics, receipts and other items from the home.

The men, who are both of Nigerian descent, have appeared as extras on the show and their attorney, Gloria Schmidt, says they do both know Smollett.

“They do know Jussie,” she said. “They have worked with him on *Empire*.

My preliminary investigations show that on set it’s very tight. They’re all very cordial with each other, so they’re baffled why they are people of interest.”

The relative who was home Wednesday night says she heard a loud banging at the door, and that door came crashing down. She says a flood of officers were there saying they had a search warrant.

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Additional source:
<https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2019/02/breaking-jussie-smollett-staged-attack-because-his-character-was-being-written-out-of-show-empire/>



Congress Passes Veto-Proof Spending Bill that Encourages Mass Immigration

Congress passed the new spending bill, without reading it, to prevent another government shutdown, voting 300-128 in the Democrat-majority House and 83-16 in the Republican-majority Senate, which is veto-proof. Critics are encouraging Trump to veto and send it back to Congress for reconsideration. Representative Mo Brooks (R-AL) says the spending deal will lead to an amnesty for millions of illegal aliens because the bill prevents illegal aliens from being deported and makes sure that newly arrived border crossers are resettled in the US.

Congress has refused to remove benefits that attract migrants and close immigration loopholes, and is instead increasing bad policies by expanding Catch-and-Release, potentially doubling low-skilled foreign workers, reducing detention for border crossers, creating a path to amnesty for Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC), and implementing chokeholds on immigration enforcement. In exchange, Trump will get \$1.3 billion for 55 miles of steel bollard fencing. Local officials, including those in sanctuary cities, must approve all wall construction. Trump said he would sign the bill and vowed to make an emergency declaration to use existing government funds

to build the wall without congressional approval. Brooks said there are three provisions in the spending deal that courts could use to stop the building of a wall at the border through an emergency declaration.

Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL) is urging President Trump to veto a [spending bill](#) put forward by establishment Republicans and Democrats, telling SiriusXM Patriot's *Breitbart News Tonight* the deal is "really bad for America."

Brooks detailed all aspects that he said make the spending package a major problem for American citizens while benefitting illegal aliens, human smugglers, child traffickers, the MS-13 Gang, and the Mexican Cartels.

The spending bill includes:

- \$1.3 billion for [55 miles](#) of steel bollard fencing
- An [expansion](#) of Catch and Release
- A [potential doubling](#) of the annual low-skilled foreign workers imported to the U.S.
- Less [detention space](#) for border crossers
- An [amnesty pipeline](#) for Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) and their relatives
- Stipulations [requiring local officials](#) to approve all wall construction
- Chokeholds on [immigration enforcement](#) at the border and in the interior

Trump, Brooks said, should veto the spending bill.

“If the president were to veto it, we would sustain his veto,”
Brooks
said. “I would certainly hope that the president will veto
because it’s
really bad for America. Whether he will or not, I can’t say.”

“I applaud President Trump when he does those things that
helps
secure our border, that helps protect the Rule of Law. This
legislation
does not help secure our border, it makes things worse, in my
judgement.”

Brooks went on to slam the de facto amnesty provision for the
illegal
alien sponsors, household members, and relatives of UACs
coming across
the southern border and other restrictive policies that could
block a
national emergency declaration:

***Any sanctuary city or state potentially has the
authority to block the construction of any wall during this
fiscal year
that they don't like or want. You've also got large tracks of
federal government land where the president is prohibited
from building a
wall along the border under this legislation. With respect to
Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), all sorts of
limitations that
are in effect, amnesty for illegal aliens. [Emphasis added]***

...

If you have an Unaccompanied Alien Child (UAC) in your household, then the entire household is exempt from being deported.

If you're MS-13 drug cartel, what does this tell you? The thing to do is to kidnap or get a kid, put that kid in your household and boom, you're immune from deportation no matter how many drugs you sell or people you kill. That's horrific. [Emphasis added]

...

Then you've got other language in this legislation that has the potential to restrict the ability of a president to build a wall under the emergency declaration that we anticipate tomorrow. [Emphasis added]

While urging Trump to veto the spending package, the Alabama congressman also asked voters and Trump supporters to flood the White House phone lines to voice opposition to the border deal.

“The average folks need to call and contact the White House and go crazy about this legislation,” Brooks said. “Ideally, under this circumstance, when you're trying to get bad legislation shoved down your throat in the last second where no one in the public had an opportunity to review it or understand it, much less communicate their views to their elected officials in Washington, D.C.”

Specifically, Brooks said there are three provisions in the spending deal that could be interpreted by the courts to ultimately prevent the president from building a wall at the border through an emergency declaration.

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Amazon Will Pay a Whopping \$0 in Federal Taxes on \$11.2 Billion Profits. Bezos Cancels NY Campus.

Amazon is valued at \$800 billion and almost doubled its profits between 2017 and 2018 from \$5.6 billion to \$11.2 billion, but the company will pay \$0 in taxes, for the second year in a row. The Institute on Taxation and Economic noted that Amazon's tax rate is a result of Trump's tax cuts that decreased corporate tax rates from 35% to 21%, and failed to close a slew of tax loopholes that allow companies to avoid

paying federal and state income taxes on almost half of their profits.

Amazon canceled its plans to expand to New York, which stood to gain 25,000 jobs and an estimated \$27 billion in tax revenue over the next two decades. New York offered the company \$3 billion in tax benefits to build a campus in the Long Island City neighborhood. Amazon supporters blame the New York State Senate for appointing a critic of the deal to a state board that had veto power, and the senate representative refused to even meet with the company.

Those wondering how many zeros [Amazon](#), which is [valued at nearly \\$800 billion](#), has to pay in federal taxes might be surprised to learn that its check to the IRS will read exactly \$0.00.

According to a [report](#) published by the Institute on Taxation and Economic (ITEP) policy Wednesday, the [e-tail/retail/tech/entertainment](#)/everything giant won't have to pay a cent in federal taxes for the second year in a row.

This tax-free break comes even though Amazon almost doubled its U.S. profits from \$5.6 billion to \$11.2 billion between 2017 and 2018.

To top it off, Amazon actually reported a \$129 million 2018 federal income tax rebate—making its tax rate -1%.

Amazon's low (to non-existent) tax rate has been

chided by politicians ranging from Senator Bernie Sanders to President Donald Trump.

[Read full article here...](#)

Additional

source:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/14/opinion/amazon-new-york.html>