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**Subject:** EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | JUNE 9, 2017  
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**Ladies & Gentlemen, below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.**

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## EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | JUNE 9, 2017

### TOP STORIES

**COMEY BLUNTLY RAISES POSSIBILITY OF TRUMP OBSTRUCTION AND CONDEMNS HIS 'LIES'.** James B. Comey, the recently fired FBI director, said Thursday in an extraordinary Senate hearing that he believed President Trump had tried to derail an investigation into his national security adviser, and accused the president of lying and defaming him and the FBI. [Read more](#)

**THE MEMO: BRUISED BY COMEY, TRUMP AVOIDS CATASTROPHE.** As the smoke begins to clear from James Comey's dramatic testimony on Capitol Hill, one thing has become clear: It was bad for President Trump — but it could have been worse. The fired FBI director delivered several gut-punches to Trump and his administration, but there was no knockout blow. [Read more](#)

**DONALD TRUMP CALLS COMEY A 'LEAKER' IN FIRST RESPONSE TO**

**SENATE TESTIMONY.** Donald Trump on Friday branded his former FBI director a “leaker,” a day after James Comey gave testimony in which he accused the president of trying to quash an investigation and lying about him and the FBI. “Despite so many false statements and lies, total and complete vindication...and WOW, Comey is a leaker!” Trump tweeted in his first comments since the Senate intelligence committee hearing on Thursday. [Read more](#)

**THERESA MAY, DESPITE U.K. ELECTION SETBACK, WILL FORM A MINORITY GOVERNMENT.** Prime Minister Theresa May of Britain, smarting from a humbling snap-election defeat that cost her Conservative Party its governing majority, said on Friday that her party would stay in power by forming a minority government with the Democratic Unionist Party of Northern Ireland. [Read more](#)

**QATAR REJECTS SAUDI-LED BLOC’S ‘TERROR’ LIST.** Qatar on Friday rejected allegations of supporting individuals and groups blacklisted as “terrorists” by four Arab countries which cut ties with it this week amid a major diplomatic fallout. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Egypt published a list of 59 people and 12 groups with links to Qatar late on Thursday, alleging that they have ties to “terrorism.” [Read more](#)

**NASA’S FINAL 12 ASTRONAUT CANDIDATES FOR 2017 ARE OUT OF THIS WORLD.** NASA has selected 12 candidates for its 2017 astronaut corps from some 18,300 applications who could soon find themselves aboard the International Space Station or in orbit around the moon. [Read more](#)

## ADMINISTRATION

**WHO IS CHRISTOPHER WRAY, TRUMP’S PICK TO REPLACE COMEY AS FBI DIRECTOR?** After Donald Trump’s abrupt firing of FBI director James Comey last month, former agents said the bureau’s rank-and-file wanted one thing: a fiercely independent replacement who would restore the bureau’s reputation for staying apolitical. Christopher Wray, a criminal defense attorney and former senior justice department official, may not have been their first choice. But Trump’s pick for FBI director seems qualified and “fairly non-controversial,” according to former agents. [Read more](#)

**WHITE HOUSE SHOWS HOW TRUMP'S \$1T INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN WILL BE DIVIDED UP.** The White House offered new details Thursday about how it plans to divvy up the money in President Trump's \$1 trillion infrastructure package. Officials have long said that the proposal will inject \$200 billion into the country's infrastructure, but will spur an additional \$800 billion in investment through public-private partnerships and regulatory reforms. [Read more](#)

**FOR TRUMP, THE 'CLOUD' JUST GREW THAT MUCH DARKER.** Upset about the investigation into Russian interference in last year's election, President Trump sought relief from James B. Comey, then the FBI director. By Mr. Comey's account, Mr. Trump asked him to help "lift the cloud." But thanks to Mr. Trump's own actions, the cloud darkened considerably on Thursday and now seems likely to hover over his presidency for months, if not years, to come. [Read more](#)

## CONGRESS

**ABORTION RESTRICTIONS THREATEN SENATE GOP'S OBAMACARE REPEAL PUSH.** A key part of Senate Republicans' new health care bill could get derailed over abortion restrictions, according to several GOP sources, a potential setback in their effort to repeal Obamacare. [Read more](#)

**TRUMP FACES GROWING SENATE RESISTANCE ON SAUDI ARMS DEALS.** As President Donald Trump aligns with Saudi Arabia amid a fresh dispute among Gulf nations, senators in both parties may try to block him from selling more than \$500 million in offensive weapons to Riyadh. [Read more](#)

**BILL TO ERASE SOME DODD-FRANK BANKING RULES PASSES IN HOUSE.** The House approved legislation on Thursday to erase a number of core financial regulations put in place by the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act, as Republicans moved a step closer to delivering on their promises to eliminate rules that they claim have strangled small businesses and stagnated the economy. [Read more](#)

## POLITICS

**DEMOCRATIC LEADERS MUST PUSH FOR IMPEACHMENT SOONER**

**RATHER THAN LATER.** Rep. Al Green (D-Texas) is already drafting articles of impeachment related to Trump's firing of FBI Director James Comey, believing there's enough evidence of Trump's obstruction of justice to begin an impeachment inquiry (not to mention Trump's blatant violation of the Constitution's emoluments clause by profiting off his presidency, and much else). But Democratic leaders are pushing back, warning there aren't enough facts to justify an impeachment inquiry at this point, and, in any event, such an inquiry would politicize ongoing congressional investigations. [Read more](#)

**REP. TREY GOWDY WINS OVERSIGHT GAVEL.** Rep. Trey Gowdy (R-S.C.) was chosen Thursday as the next chairman of the House Oversight Committee. Gowdy never officially announced a bid for the post, but he was considered a lock to get it ahead of the House GOP Steering Committee's meeting Thursday where the decision was made. [Read more](#)

**OSSOFF RAISES \$23 MILLION IN MOST EXPENSIVE HOUSE RACE IN HISTORY.** Jon Ossoff, the Democrat running in a closely watched special House election in Georgia, raised over \$15 million in the last two months, vastly exceeding his Republican rival and shattering fund-raising records, according to federal campaign finance documents filed on Thursday. [Read more](#)

## DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**U.S. PILOT SHOOTS DOWN ARMED DRONE IN SYRIA.** An American pilot shot down an armed drone that attacked U.S.-backed forces in southern Syria on Thursday in an escalating confrontation with President Bashar al-Assad and his allies, military officials said. [Read more](#)

**AIR FORCE TO CUT THREE A-10 SQUADRONS UNLESS FUNDING FOR NEW WINGS EMERGES.** Although the Air Force fully funds the operations and maintenance of all nine A-10 squadrons in its fiscal 2018 budget request, Lt. Gen. Arnold Bunch, the service's top uniformed acquisition official, committed in written testimony to Congress to retaining only six squadrons long term. [Read more](#)

**REVEALED: TRUMP'S \$110 BILLION WEAPONS LIST FOR THE SAUDIS.** The administration's much touted \$110 billion arms proposal to Saudi Arabia,

previously slim on specifics, includes seven THAAD missile defense batteries, over 100,000 air-to-ground munitions and billions of dollars' worth of new aircraft. [Read more](#)

## **ECONOMY AND FINANCE**

**UNRESOLVED U.S. DEBT CEILING CASTS A SHADOW OVER MANY FORECASTERS' ECONOMIC OUTLOOKS.** Once again, economists must consider the risk that Congress may be unable to easily deal with the nation's statutory borrowing limit. For the first time since the presidential election, a majority of economists in the survey are concerned the economy could do worse than forecast. [Read more](#)

**ECB FORECASTS HIGHER GROWTH BUT KEEPS RATES ON HOLD.** The ECB now expects growth across the Eurozone to be 1.9% in 2017 compared with its March forecast of 1.8%. It also increased its growth projection for 2018 to 1.8% from 1.7%, and for 2019 to 1.7% from 1.6%. [Read more](#)

**ELECTION 2017: INVESTORS UNNERVED BY ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY.** The prospect of a hung parliament and speculation about the election result's impact on Brexit saw the value of sterling slide against the dollar. Although the FTSE 100 edged higher - boosted by companies that earn profits in dollars - domestic stocks like Next and Barratt Developments were hit hard. [Read more](#)

## **ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**PITTSBURGH AND PARIS JOIN OVER 200 CITIES AND STATES REJECTING TRUMP ON CLIMATE.** Yesterday, the mayors of Pittsburgh and Paris co-authored a New York Times editorial rejecting Trump's efforts to pit the two cities against each other on climate change. Additionally, 12 states (California, New York, Washington, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia) plus Puerto Rico created the U.S. Climate Alliance, committed to upholding the Paris accord. [Read more](#)

**TRUMP MIGHT RESTRICT LENGTH OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS UNDER INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN.** The Trump administration may enforce

restrictions on the length of environmental reviews as part of an effort to streamline the project approval process in his \$1 trillion infrastructure package. [Read more](#)

**BUSINESS LEADERS PUSH BACK AGAINST TRUMP'S ENERGY RESEARCH CUTS.** More than a dozen executives sent a letter Thursday to congressional budget and appropriations leaders asking that they prioritize energy research and development — and make sure that it is sufficiently funded. [Read more](#)

## TECHNOLOGY

**MICROSOFT UNVEILS A LOT OF BIG CHANGES FOR WINDOWS 10.** Microsoft is releasing a new test version of Windows 10, build number 16215 and there are a lot of changes on the way. The first big change is a new look for the notification center (Action Center). Perhaps the biggest changes Microsoft is focusing on are with Windows 10 stylus support. [Read more](#)

**SOFTBANK TO BUY TWO PIONEERS IN ADVANCED ROBOTS FROM GOOGLE PARENT.** SoftBank Group Corp. said it would buy Alphabet Inc. units building robots that can perform feats such as pirouetting and climbing stairs, highlighting the Japanese company's long-term investment horizon. [Read more](#)

**LAMBORGHINI'S NEW SUPERCAR WRANGLES THE WIND TO CONQUER THE TRACK.** Lamborghini Huracán Performante is the supercar that a few months ago demolished the lap time record at Germany's devilish Nürburgring Nordschleife circuit. It delivers 631 horsepower and 443 pound-feet of torque. It reaches 60 mph in just 2.9 seconds. [Read more](#)

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## Simmons, Ellen

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**To:** BOS  
**Subject:** FW: Hampton Roads UASI Designation  
**Attachments:** Governor UASI Announcement Website June22017\_2pg.pdf; UASI.pdf

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**From:** Robert A. Crum, Jr. [<mailto:rcrum@hrpdcva.gov>]

**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2017 3:18 PM

**To:** Quigley, Craig R.; [rdwyer@hrmffa.org](mailto:rdwyer@hrmffa.org); Alexander, Kenneth; Alphin, Rex ; Baker, James E. ; Bazzani, Phillip N. ; Bunting, Mary; Cheatham, Barry; Collins, Marvin ; Craig, Lonnie; Dyer, Robert M. "Bob"; Fedors, J. Brent; Fedors, J. Brent ; Franklin, Tyrone W.; Freiling, Paul; Gray, Jimmy; Hansen, David; Henley, Barbara; Hill, Bryan J.; Hipple, Michael J.; Hux, David; Johnson, Linda T.; Johnson, Mamie ; Johnson, Michael W.; Jones, Louis R.; Keaton, Randy; Martin, Randy ; McClellan, Andria P.; Morgan, Neil; Moss, John; Patton, Lydia Pettis; Porter, Barry ; Price, McKinley; Price, McKinley Dr.; Ritter, Debbie; Roberts, Patrick; Rowe, John; Rowe, John L.; Scott, Sharon P.; Seward, John; Shepperd, Jr., Thomas G.; Shepperd, Thomas; Smigiel, Thomas; Smith, Doug; Smith, Doug; Stephenson, Peter M.; Tuck, Donnie R.; Uhrin, John; Ward, Ella; Wheeler, J. Randall; Williams, Angelia M.; Williams, T. Carter; Benda, Wynter; Rohlf, Cynthia D.; Stallings, Michael; Barnard-Bailey, Wanda; D'Antonio, Anna; Deprofio, Brian; Dillard, Joe; Drake, Thelma; Hunt, Sherry; Matthias, Robert R.; Neil, Sherri; Robertson, Donald; Smith, Brian; Sorey, Earl; Trivette, Andrew; Washington, Michelle; Wilson, Jerri

**Subject:** Hampton Roads UASI Designation

HRPDC Members:

On Friday, we learned that the Hampton Roads region regained its designation through the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) program and will receive \$1 million of UASI funding in Fiscal Year 2017. As you know, this item has been a regional legislative priority for the HRPDC and we are very pleased that our region will receive this funding.

The effort to restore UASI funding for our region was truly a collaborative effort among the HRPDC and HRMFFA and our region's localities, elected officials, legislative liaisons, federal delegation and state partners. This effort would not have been successful without the unanimous support of our region's 17 localities who spoke with a strong and unified voice on this initiative.

I have attached Friday's press release from Governor McAuliffe's office and a list of UASI funding levels for the nation's metropolitan regions.

Thank you to everyone for your work on behalf of the Hampton Roads region

Bob



Robert A. Crum Jr.

**Executive Director**

*Hampton Roads Planning District Commission*

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*For Immediate Release: June 2, 2017*

*Contacts: Office of the Governor: Brian Coy, (804) 225-4260, Brian.Coy@governor.virginia.gov | Virginia Department of Emergency Management, Jeff Caldwell, (804) 897-9730, Jeff.Caldwell@vdem.virginia.gov*

## ***Virginia Receives \$31.4 Million in Federal Emergency Preparedness Grants***

***~Hampton Roads restored to critical Homeland Security Grant Program~***

***RICHMOND—*** Governor Terry McAuliffe today announced that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has allocated \$31.4 million in federal emergency preparedness and security grants to the Commonwealth.

*“We are thrilled that DHS has once again recognized the need to fund critical security initiatives throughout the Commonwealth,” said Governor McAuliffe. “Virginia plays a unique role in the security of our nation. We are home to more than two dozen military installations, the second largest military presence in the country, and many other national security and economic assets that require significant resources to protect. We are proud to have secured this critical funding for our Commonwealth and especially pleased that DHS heard our input and restored Hampton Roads as a designated UASI region.”*

*Notably, following a concerted effort of almost three years by local, state and federal officials, Hampton Roads received \$1 million for security enhancements by returning to the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) for the first time since 2014. In the past, UASI program funds have provided critical assistance to help Virginia localities with planning for terrorist attacks; training and exercising law enforcement and first responders to effectively prevent, protect, respond, and recover from acts of terrorism; purchasing personal protective equipment; and ensuring interoperable communications.*

*Overall, the grants announced today include:*

- *State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), \$7,428,500*
- *Hampton Roads Urban Area Security Initiative (HR UASI), \$1,000,000*
- *National Capital Region UASI, \$52,809,000 (Virginia portion approximately \$15 million)*
- *Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), \$8,028,530*

*“Virginia is a crossroads for threats, both natural and man-made because of our strategic location and our heritage of being a home to the nation’s armed forces” said Brian Moran, Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security. “Hampton Roads’ return to the UASI program is due to the significant coordination between Virginia’s congressmen, senators, regional mayors and elected officials, emergency management professionals and the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission who banded together to work with Washington to restore the critical funding for vital security and emergency preparedness projects”*

*Overall, Virginia’s participation in these federal grant programs will strengthen the Commonwealth’s ability to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. The \$31.4 million in grants announced today are vital to the homeland security and emergency management community to help build, sustain and deliver programs to achieve a secure and resilient Commonwealth.*

*Recognizing the changing terrorist threat environment, the Commonwealth has worked collaboratively with local governments to highlight the importance of our critical infrastructure. The Virginia Department of Emergency Management will now work with localities to administer the funds to individual projects. Localities’ project submissions*

*will open in June and funds will be distributed to localities for projects selected on a competitive basis by fall 2017.*

*Virginia's proposals for the federal grants are developed with input from local and state governments, nonprofit organizations and others from throughout the Commonwealth. These entities work together to identify statewide and regional projects that will improve Virginia's capabilities to plan for and respond to manmade and natural emergencies.*

*For more information on how localities can apply for projects funded from these grants, visit <http://www.vaemergency.gov/emergency-management-community/grants/>*

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**Appendix B**

**Table 3. FY 2017 UASI Allocations**

<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Funded Urban Area</b>	<b>FY 2017 UASI Allocation</b>
Arizona	Phoenix Area	\$5,180,000
California	Anaheim/Santa Ana Area	\$5,180,000
	Bay Area	\$27,536,000
	Los Angeles/Long Beach Area	\$68,110,000
	Riverside Area	\$2,837,000
	Sacramento Area	\$2,837,000
	San Diego Area	\$16,158,000
Colorado	Denver Area	\$2,837,000
District of Columbia	National Capital Region	\$52,809,000
Florida	Miami/Fort Lauderdale Area	\$5,180,000
	Tampa Area	\$2,837,000
Georgia	Atlanta Area	\$8,430,000
Illinois	Chicago Area	\$68,110,000
Indiana	Indianapolis Area	\$1,000,000
Maryland	Baltimore Area	\$4,212,000
Massachusetts	Boston Area	\$17,270,000
Michigan	Detroit Area	\$5,180,000
Minnesota	Twin Cities Area	\$5,180,000
Missouri	St. Louis Area	\$2,837,000
Nevada	Las Vegas Area	\$2,837,000
New Jersey	Jersey City/Newark Area	\$20,034,000
New York	New York City Area	\$178,123,000
North Carolina	Charlotte Area	\$2,837,000
Ohio	Cleveland Area	\$2,837,000
Oregon	Portland Area	\$2,837,000
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia Area	\$17,763,000
	Pittsburgh Area	\$2,837,000
Texas	Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington Area	\$14,802,000
	Houston Area	\$23,193,000
	San Antonio Area	\$1,000,000
Utah	Salt Lake City Area	\$1,000,000
Virginia	Hampton Roads Area	\$1,000,000
Washington	Seattle Area	\$5,180,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$580,000,000</b>