PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY DEMAND

BETHESDA MANSION CASE

TWO INDICTMENTS. ONE PUBLIC NARRATIVE. QUESTIONS THE NEWSROOMS MUST ANSWER.

A public demand for accuracy, documentary disclosure, corrections and a fair opportunity to respond. Naming the reporting, the journalists, the quoted sources and the corporate decision-makers.

APR 04, 2013
CASE 122514C
NOLLE PROSEQUI: SEP 17

SEP 06, 2013
CASE 123483C
GUILTY DISPOSITIONS: NOV 14

To: The Washington Post; Patch; CBS News; AOL/Yahoo; The Daily Beast; The Atlantic; Portland Press Herald; and the named contributors in this dossier.

Issued by: Office of the Consul General of Morocco - North America
Prepared: November 6, 2026 | **Public record:** Bethesda Mansion Case

01 | DOCUMENTED COURT RECORD

The chronology that demands an explanation

The two Maryland Judiciary case summaries supplied for publication should be read together, not separately.

APR 4, 2013	Criminal indictment **122514C** was filed, naming LAMONT MAURICE BUTLER. The case summary lists four charges. The April 26 case docket includes court proceedings and notice events.
APR-MAY 2013	Lamont Maurice El submitted jurisdictional challenges and documents characterized by him as affidavits and Notices of Default Judgment. The certified file includes an April 26 filing stamp. His account of the April 26 hearing says Ann S. Harrington acknowledged the filed positions.
SEP 6, 2013	A second indictment, **123483C**, was filed. The public case detail displays **"Offense Date From: 09/06/2013"** on all four surviving listed charge entries.
SEP 9-17, 2013	Both records show a September 9 consolidation motion. On September 17, all four displayed counts in **122514C** were entered **NOLLE PROSEQUI**. The prosecution proceeded to trial in **123483C**.
SEP 17-20, 2013	The 123483C docket records a four-day jury trial and a September 20 verdict sheet. Lamont Maurice El reports that the trial discussion and testimony concerned the **January 2013** incident and that no separate September 6 event was presented to the jury.
NOV 14, 2013	The 123483C summary lists **guilty dispositions** on four displayed charges. This later case outcome must not be concealed when discussing the September 17 dismissal of the earlier case.

THE ISSUE NEWS REPORTS SHOULD CONFRONT: Why did the public hear about the September verdict without an explanation of the April case's nolle prosequi, the September replacement indictment, and the new docket's recorded offense date? The online offense-date entry does not, by itself, prove that the operative indictment alleged a distinct September occurrence.

Record sources: Case Summary 122514C, p. 1 (filed 04/04/2013; all four dispositions 09/17/2013); Case Detail 123483C, pp. 1-3 (filed 09/06/2013; offense-date fields and verdict dispositions), p. 5 (09/20 verdict sheet entry). The actual indictments and complete transcripts are not reproduced in this dossier.

The reporters: answer these questions

Direct links lead readers to the precise stories and permit a statement-by-statement comparison.

DAN MORSE | THE WASHINGTON POST

Published report: March 18, 2013 and September 20, 2013 articles

What requires scrutiny: The September 20 account centered the verdict and a characterization of the jurisdictional defense. It did not explain the September 17 nolle prosequi of 122514C or name 123483C.

Public question: Was the reporter aware of the replacement indictment and the dismissal of all four original charges? If so, why were those facts omitted; if not, will the paper append an explanatory correction or follow-up?

SUZY KHIMM | THE WASHINGTON POST

Published report: April 4, 2013 indictment report

What requires scrutiny: The April report linked the then-new indictment to the January 3 allegations. The subsequent disposition of that indictment matters to any historical account of the case.

Public question: Will The Post connect its April indictment story to the later September 17 disposition and disclose the distinct case number in which the trial occurred?

JENNIFER JENKINS | THE WASHINGTON POST

Published report: Contributor to March 18, 2013 article

What requires scrutiny: The March article expressly credits Jenkins as a contributor, not its lead byline.

Public question: Which primary records underpinned the March report, and what steps were taken to distinguish allegations from verified case outcomes?

GRAHAM WOOD | AOL REAL ESTATE / YAHOO

Published report: Article using "Squatter" in its title

What requires scrutiny: The headline used a contested descriptive label; the live article bears a later update timestamp.

Public question: What primary records supported that label, and will the archived or updated headline reflect the disputed identity and two-indictment history?

Who framed the allegations - and how?

Attribution matters: a reporter's words, a quoted official's claim, and an editorial headline are not the same thing.

LAURA L. THORNTON | PATCH MEDIA

Published report: June 5, 2013 "potentially violent conspiracy" story

What requires scrutiny: The story attributed grave allegations concerning alleged conspiracy and sovereign-citizen activity to Montgomery County Police Sgt. **Kenneth Penrod** and other sources.

Public question: Where are the supporting evidence and case-specific records? Will Patch distinguish unproven official assertions from facts judicially established?

CBS NEWS | UNSIGNED REPORT; JOHN MILLER QUOTED

Published report: March 25, 2013 "Religious group or opportunists?"

What requires scrutiny: The report contrasted members of Moorish communities with alleged opportunists. Miller appears as a quoted CBS correspondent, not the page byline.

Public question: Will CBS explain the editorial basis for using a broad group characterization in a report involving specific allegations against one named person?

THE DAILY BEAST | UNSIGNED EDITORIAL BRIEF

Published report: September 2013 "Man Claims Sovereignty Over Bethesda Mansion"

What requires scrutiny: The item used mocking editorial rhetoric and treated the verdict as the end of the story. No individual author is credited on the accessible page.

Public question: Who edited and approved the item, and will The Daily Beast disclose the case-number transition that accompanied the trial?

ADAM CLULOW | THE ATLANTIC

Published report: October 23, 2013 essay "How to Claim a Continent"

What requires scrutiny: This was historical commentary about the public claims and coverage, not firsthand courtroom reporting.

Public question: Will the essay be clarified where it repeats a simplified case narrative without distinguishing the April and September case records?

A decade later, the original narrative returned

Later reporting can perpetuate earlier omissions even when the newer article concerns a different controversy.

PETER JAMISON | THE WASHINGTON POST

Published report: December 27, 2022 gun-range report

What requires scrutiny: The article referred back to the 2013 Bethesda convictions as biographical background. It did not recount the original four-count nolle prosequi or the transition to a second indictment.

Public question: When repeating historical allegations to explain a new dispute, did the reporter examine both case files? Will the article be supplemented with the complete procedural history?

LIZZIE JOHNSON | THE WASHINGTON POST

Published report: December 30, 2022 courtroom report

What requires scrutiny: The article characterized Moorish Americans and revisited an earlier prosecutorial narrative in connection with different allegations.

Public question: Which statements about nationality and public conduct are sourced conclusions, which are disputed claims, and will The Post publish the subject's documented response?

THE DOCUMENTARY CONTRADICTION THAT REMAINS OPEN

Lamont Maurice El states that the September 17-20 trial addressed the January occurrence only; his inspection of the complete files found the original jurisdictional filings absent from the replacement record even though the prosecutor requested transfer of earlier filings. Those are **claims arising from his stated review**, not independently established by the two online case summaries. They are appropriate subjects for a response and examination, not grounds to declare every reporter dishonest without further evidence.

Additional unresolved discrepancy: The September 20 Washington Post report described five convictions, while the supplied contemporary electronic summary of case 123483C displays four guilty charge entries (numbers 1, 2, 5 and 6). The original verdict sheet and historical disposition record are needed to reconcile this difference.

05 | DIRECT PUBLIC CHALLENGE

Corrections, answers and accountability

Formal demands addressed to newsroom editors, current publishers and corporate officers identified in the following directory.

TO THE NAMED JOURNALISTS, EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS: The public has been given an incomplete procedural history. You are asked to examine the attached/publicly posted case summaries, compare them with your publications, and supply a documented response. Generalized dismissal of the subject's nationality or jurisdictional position is not a substitute for answering the record-based questions.

01. NAME BOTH CASES

Publish the original April indictment number 122514C and the September replacement indictment number 123483C when recounting the September 2013 prosecution.

02. ACKNOWLEDGE THE NOLLE PROSEQUI

Disclose that all four displayed charges in 122514C were entered nolle prosequi on September 17, 2013. Do not portray that disposition as an acquittal or as the outcome of 123483C.

03. ADDRESS THE OFFENSE-DATE ENTRY

Explain what the 09/06/2013 "Offense Date From" fields in 123483C represent and compare them with the underlying indictment and testimony concerning January.

04. DISCLOSE THE RECORD-TRANSFER QUESTION

Identify whether your reporting addressed the September 17 announcement transferring bond and earlier filings, and the subject's allegation that his jurisdictional papers were absent from the new case file.

05. REVISIT DEROGATORY CHARACTERIZATIONS

Identify the factual support for characterizations such as "sovereign citizen," "squatter," and insinuations of irrationality. Clearly attribute allegations to the officials or sources who supplied them.

06. CORRECT THE HISTORICAL RECORD

If a materially misleading omission or factual error is confirmed, publish a visible correction, editor's note or substantive follow-up at the original article URL.

07. RESPOND IN WRITING

Provide a documented response stating the editor responsible for review, records examined, disputed statements retained or corrected, and the reason for the editorial decision.

Requested response: Within 30 calendar days after actual receipt of a written request enclosing the case summaries and challenged article passages. This is a public request for accountability and corrections, not a representation that defamation has been judicially established.

Official record access: 123483C Case Search | Bethesda Mansion Case exhibits

Every named source. Every newsroom contact.

The following research directory identifies 11 linked reports, corporate leadership, publicly listed correction channels and portrait/profile references.

What follows is a full source and accountability directory. Its structure separates **the named reporters and commentators**, **the publisher and 2026 editorial leadership**, and **the quoted officials** whose allegations were reported. Photographs are available through professional profile links and QR codes where appropriate; unavailable or uncertain portraits are not fabricated.

AUTHORS / CONTRIBUTORS

Dan Morse; Suzy Khimm; Jennifer Jenkins (contributor); Graham Wood; Laura L. Thornton; Adam Clulow (historian/essayist); Peter Jamison; Lizzie Johnson.

NAMED QUOTED SOURCES

John McCarthy, former Montgomery County State's Attorney; Kenneth Penrod, Montgomery County Police sergeant; John Miller, CBS News correspondent quoted in CBS's report. Inclusion denotes an identifiable statement or official role, not a finding of culpability.

NAMED COURT PARTICIPANTS

Sherri Debra Koch, Assistant State's Attorney; Ann S. Harrington and Terrence J. McGann, judicial officers identified in the described proceedings. Names are provided to connect procedural events with participants, not to attribute unproven criminal conduct.

PUBLIC CONTACT PATH

The Washington Post corrections desk; Patch correction requests; CBS News Ombudsman; The Daily Beast editorial desk; Yahoo public corporate contact; The Atlantic support route; Portland Press Herald staff directory.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The later directory contains 23 source-linked professional profiles or articles and QR codes. Some links provide a real portrait; others lead to a verified article or masthead without a confirmed portrait. Do not confuse professional portraits with proof of involvement in any alleged wrong.

Editorial note: The charge dispositions, filing dates, case numbers and online offense-date fields are confirmed by the supplied case summaries. Statements about the full trial audio, individual motive, omissions from the complete case file, and alleged personal harm are presented as the subject's account where independent documentation has not been furnished. This distinction strengthens a public correction demand by keeping each allegation traceable.

SECTION 01 | HISTORICAL REPORTING

2013: original allegations and trial coverage

Original titles are preserved or lightly shortened for display; linked text opens the source.

Mar 18, 2013 | The Washington Post — REPORT

01 “Moorish American national” charged with trying to take mansion

Credit: Dan Morse; Jennifer Jenkins credited as contributing researcher. Original reporting concerning January 2013 allegations; includes descriptions of nationality and property claim.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

2013 coverage; page updated 2016 | AOL Real Estate — REPORT

02 Squatter Lamont Butler Puts Faith-Based Claim on Lavish Mansion

Credit: Graham Wood. Retelling of the mansion allegations that cites Washington Post reporting. The live AOL page shows a later update date.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Mar 20, 2013 | Portland Press Herald — SYNDICATION

03 “Moorish” man claims Maryland mansion, part of odd trend

Credit: Syndicated Washington Post copy (not independently attributed to a Press Herald reporter). Republication of the earlier allegations; demonstrates circulation beyond the original outlet.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Mar 25, 2013 | CBS News — REPORT

04 Moorish Nationals: Religious group or opportunists?

Credit: CBS News / unsigned web article; John Miller named as quoted CBS senior correspondent. Broadcast-related coverage including interviews with outside sources and a quotation from John Miller.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Apr 4, 2013 | The Washington Post — REPORT

05 “Moorish American national” indicted in Maryland mansion break-in

Credit: Suzy Khimm. Reports the April indictment and January allegations; quotes Montgomery County State’s Attorney John McCarthy.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Jun 5, 2013 | Patch Media / Bethesda-Chevy Chase — REPORT

06 “Moorish National” burglary ... larger, potentially violent conspiracy

Credit: Laura L. Thornton. Reports an interview with Montgomery County Police Sgt. Kenneth Penrod and identifies police theories.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Sep 20, 2013 | The Washington Post REPORT

07 Novel defense strategy — we're in Morocco — fails in Montgomery courtroom

Credit: Dan Morse. Reports the September trial and guilty verdicts without identifying the replacement case number in the article.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Sep 2013 | The Daily Beast COMMENTARY

08 Man Claims Sovereignty Over Bethesda Mansion

Credit: Unsigned editorial brief. Brief commentary on the trial, linking to the Washington Post account.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Oct 23, 2013 | The Atlantic COMMENTARY

09 How to Claim a Continent

Credit: Adam Clulow, essayist and historian. Historical commentary referencing the conviction and newspaper reporting, not a firsthand trial report.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

SECTION 02 | LATER COVERAGE

December 2022: subsequent references

The two Washington Post articles concerned a later Charles County controversy but referred back to the Bethesda prosecution.

Dec 27, 2022 | The Washington Post REPORT

10 Moorish Americans take over a rural gun range, sparking a strange showdown

Credit: Peter Jamison. Reports on the Southern Maryland gun range dispute and revisits the 2013 Bethesda conviction as background.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

Dec 30, 2022 | The Washington Post REPORT

11 “Treason!” Moorish Americans facing gun charges create disarray in Md. courtroom

Credit: Lizzie Johnson. Describes subsequent courtroom proceedings and recounts the earlier Bethesda mansion allegations.

OPEN ORIGINAL REPORT

SOURCE-RECORD COMPARISON

The two case summaries supplied for this project document separate indictment filing dates: case **122514C** was filed April 4, 2013, with all four displayed charges entered **nolle prosequi** on September 17, 2013; case **123483C** was filed September 6, 2013 and separately records guilty dispositions on November 14, 2013. The latter docket also lists September 6, 2013 as the “Offense Date From” for the four displayed charges. The docket alone does not establish whether a distinct September event was alleged in the operative indictment.

The present directory identifies articles for comparison, not a legal determination about whether an article is defamatory. To evaluate specific alleged misstatements, compare the publication wording with the original indictment, verdict sheet, certified docket, and hearing transcript.

CASE RECORD LINKS

Case 123483C — Maryland Judiciary portal

Bethesda Mansion Case — document collection

SECTION 03 | CORPORATE IDENTIFICATION

Publisher leadership and public contacts

Leadership roles are current unless explicitly labeled historical. Public company channels, not private contact details, are listed.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Jeff D'Onofrio — Publisher & CEO; Matt Murray — Executive Editor. Historical 2013: Katharine Weymouth — Publisher/CEO; Martin Baron — Executive Editor.

Corrections: corrections@washpost.com
Newsroom: matt.murray@washpost.com
Reporter: dan.morse@washpost.com; **Peter Jamison:** peter.jamison@washpost.com
General: 1-800-477-4679
Corrections channel

PATCH MEDIA

Charles "Charlie" C. Hale — Chairman & CEO; Warren St. John — President; Kara Seymour — Editor-in-Chief. Important: Patch's 2014 AOL spinoff postdates the June 2013 article.

Corrections: correctionrequests@patch.com
Support: support@patch.com
Editor contact: through the article's author profile / local editor link.
Publisher leadership

CBS NEWS

Tom Cibrowski — President & Executive Editor; Jennifer Mitchell — President, Stations and Digital. John Miller is identified in the March 2013 report as a CBS senior correspondent, not the unsigned page's byline.

Editorial concerns: CBS News Ombudsman
Corporate contact: CBS News contact page
Executive team

Publisher leadership, continued

Ownership, leadership and editorial chains can change between the reporting date and today.

AOL / YAHOO

AOL Real Estate originally hosted Graham Wood's article. Yahoo's current leadership includes Jim Lanzone — CEO and Ryan Spoon — President, Yahoo Media Group. The Yahoo/AOL business configuration in 2026 is not identical to 2013.

Public press inquiries: press@yahooinc.com
Corporate newsroom: Yahoo Newsroom
Original story: AOL article
Yahoo executive biographies

THE DAILY BEAST

Ben Sherwood — Publisher & CEO; Joanna Coles — Chief Creative and Content Officer; Hugh Dougherty — Executive Editor. The 2013 item is unsigned.

Editorial: editorial@thedailybeast.com
News tips: tips@thedailybeast.com
Press inquiries: pr@thedailybeast.com
Official contact channels

THE ATLANTIC

Nicholas Thompson — CEO; Michael Finnegan — President (identified on public organizational listings); Jeffrey Goldberg — Editor-in-Chief. Adam Clulow contributed a historical essay, not a courtroom news report.

Contact / issue submission: Atlantic support form
Original article: The Atlantic, Oct. 23, 2013
Publisher

PORTLAND PRESS HERALD

Stefanie Manning — President & Publisher; Carolyn Fox — Executive Editor (Maine Trust for Local News). Its March 2013 entry is credited to The Washington Post.

General business: 207-791-6650; 800-442-6036
Postal business address: 295 Gannett Drive, South Portland, ME 04106
Staff directory

Photographs and photo-bearing profiles

Scan each QR code or select VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO. This is a profile and photo-access directory, not a reproduced portrait gallery.

The identifiers are supported by publication bylines or corporate/public institutional pages. Some entries intentionally link to a verified article or masthead rather than an unverified photograph.

Dan Morse 2013 reporter  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Publisher photo/profile	**Suzy Khimm** 2013 reporter  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Author biography	**Jennifer Jenkins** 2013 contributor  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Author/research profile
Graham Wood AOL journalist  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Bylined article; no verified portrait	**Laura L. Thornton** Patch reporter  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Profile image	**Adam Clulow** Atlantic essayist  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO University portrait
Peter Jamison 2022 reporter  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Publisher photograph	**Lizzie Johnson** 2022 reporter  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Publisher portrait	**John Miller** CBS quoted correspondent  VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Article; no verified portrait

Photographs and profiles, continued

Jeff D'Onofrio
WP CEO

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Publisher headshot

Matt Murray
WP Executive Editor

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Publisher portrait

Tom Cibrowski
CBS News President

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
CBS headshot

Charles C. Hale
Patch Chairman & CEO

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Official photo/profile

Warren St. John
Patch President

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Official photo/profile

Kara Seymour
Patch Editor-in-Chief

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Official photo/profile

Jim Lanzone
Yahoo CEO

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Official headshot

Ryan Spoon
Yahoo Media Group President

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Official headshot

Ben Sherwood
Daily Beast CEO

VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO
Publisher headshot

Photographs and profiles, continued

Joanna Coles Daily Beast Content Chief VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Author portrait/profile	**Hugh Dougherty** Daily Beast Executive Editor VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Masthead / bio	**Nicholas Thompson** Atlantic CEO VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Professional headshot
Jeffrey Goldberg Atlantic Editor-in-Chief VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Professional profile	**Stefanie Manning** Press Herald Publisher VIEW PROFILE / PHOTO Publisher photo/profile	

SECTION 05 | METHODOLOGY

How to use this directory

A practical checklist for validating allegations and contacting editors.

Locate the original publication

Follow the linked 2013 or 2022 report. Record its exact title, byline, publication or update date, and URL. Some pages have changed since their first publication.

Identify the statement in dispute

Quote the sentence exactly and separate a journalist's own wording from allegations attributed to police, lawyers, interviewed witnesses, or other sources.

Match it to a primary record

Compare against the complete indictments, filing inventories, official case summaries, verdict sheets, and transcripts. Distinguish the nolle prosequi in case 122514C from the guilty dispositions in 123483C.

Address the appropriate publisher

Use public newsroom correction channels. Current corporate leaders are listed for present-day escalation, not necessarily personal involvement in 2013.

Keep a correction log

Preserve submission date, recipient, article URL, challenged passage, supporting exhibit, delivery confirmation, reply and any correction or refusal.

EDITORIAL NOTES

This report is a descriptive research directory, assembled November 6, 2026. It does not adjudicate disputed facts or make a finding of defamation. Exact current leadership and external web content may change. All hyperlinks were researched against publisher pages, public biography pages, or publicly accessible reproductions; citations consist of the clickable source URLs throughout this PDF.

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