



Weekly News Recap

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Top Stories of The Week

SEC Drops TRON And Robinhood Investigation, Signaling Regulatory Shift

99Bitcoins

The SEC spent the last week dropping its cases and investigations against various crypto-related firms. Specifically, the SEC dropped its cases against Coinbase and Consensys while it ended investigations into Robinhood Crypto, OpenSea, Uniswap, and Gemini. While the SEC has stated it will always prosecute fraud, the moves represent a more open stance by the agency.

Bybit restores Ethereum reserves following \$1.4B breach, launches \$140M bounty program

CryptoSlate

Bybit CEO Ben Zhou announced the restoration of Ethereum reserves after a \$1.4b breach, confirming 1:1 client asset coverage. The exchange replenished reserves via OTC purchases and loans, totaling 157,660 ETH. A 10% bounty program for recovery efforts was launched, potentially offering \$140 million. Attackers began laundering funds using techniques linked to the Lazarus Group.

Solana Plunges to Lowest Price Since October as Meme Momentum Cools

Decrypt

SOL fell 16% over the last week and is down 51% from its all-time high just over a month ago. Impacting the price is reduced memecoin trading activity in the wake of the LIBRA memecoin fiasco that showed memecoins may not be as an efficient and fair vehicle for speculation as traders originally thought. In addition, Solana has a 11.2m SOL unlock on March 1, and traders may be getting out of the way ahead of what could be selling as locked tokens become sellable.

Bank of America CEO Hints at Launching Dollar-Pegged BofA Stablecoins

News

Bank of America is considering launching a US dollar-pegged stablecoin, pending regulatory clarity in the US. Regulatory shifts are prompting major banks to explore crypto, with potential benefits for faster transactions and financial inclusion.

Aya Miyaguchi to become president of Ethereum Foundation

Crypto Briefing

Aya Miyaguchi will transition from Executive Director to President of the Ethereum Foundation, focusing on institutional relationships and expanding the organization's vision. She emphasizes the EF's role in upholding Ethereum's values and promoting resilience. The move comes as ecosystem participants question Ethereum's rollup-centric strategy.

Ethereum

[Ethereum's Pectra Upgrade Crashes Holesky Testnet](#)

[Ethereum considers Poseidon hash to boost zero-knowledge proof efficiency](#)

[Arbitrum DAO committee proposal to invest 7,500 ETH in non-native projects sparks criticism](#)

[Ethereum devs to kick off Pectra testing on Holesky](#)

Altcoins

[Sky introduces Polaris to connect to Berachain as part of 'agent framework'](#)

[Solana Proposal to Slash Inflation by 80% Heads to Community Vote](#)

[DFINITY Foundation Launches OISY: 'First Fully-Decentralized Wallet' for Bitcoin, Ethereum, Solana, and ICP](#)

[Olas' Mech Marketplace Enables AI Agents to Hire Each Other for Help](#)

[XRP Ledger unveils institutional DeFi roadmap](#)

[Ethereum Layer-2 Starknet Gets First Gaming App-Chain](#)

[Polygon could lose over \\$300 million in TVL as Aave votes to halt lending on PoS chain](#)

[Avalanche Visa Card Goes Live Aiming to Further the Mass Adoption of Crypto](#)

[Raydium's token drops 28% as pump.fun appears to test AMM feature](#)

[Berachain Surpasses \\$3.26B TVL, Becomes Sixth-Largest DeFi Blockchain](#)

[Hedera-Based Origin Emerges from Stealth, Enables VC Treatment for Everyday Users](#)

[Emergency Sky proposal sparks governance debate](#)

[BNB Chain's \\$4.4 Million Meme Token Liquidity Program Starts February 18, 2025, with \\$BROCCOLI as First Winner](#)

[Rune Christensen Pushes Through Sky Changes to Prevent “Irreversible Catastrophe”](#)

[Helium Mobile expands presence in Mexico](#)

Stablecoins

[Metro department store debuts stablecoin payments in Singapore: Report](#)

[Justin Sun says USDT on Tron is going ‘gas-free’ next week](#)

[Circle’s USDC and EURC Gain Legal Status with DFSA Approval in Dubai](#)

[Ethena assures users of solvency after Bybit hack](#)

[Stablecoins poised to be ‘new payment method’ if they clear these hurdles, says Fed researcher](#)

[Neobank Infini celebrates \\$50M TVL, then suffers \\$49.5M USDC exploit due to former insider](#)

[Bybit hacker swaps \\$3.64M to DAI via decentralized exchanges](#)

[Kraken mulls USD stablecoin as MiCA forces USDT removal: Report](#)

Crypto Ecosystem

[Pump.fun sees rapid decline in graduating tokens as memecoin frenzy fizzles out](#)

[PayPal-Backed Raise Secures \\$63M to Expand Blockchain-Based Gift Card System](#)

[Bittensor App Gets Hack Risk Cover From Nexus Mutual-Backed Insurance Firm Native](#)

[Sixth Street backs blockchain lender Figure with \\$200M investment](#)

[Blackbird, Blockchain Restaurant Loyalty App, Goes Live With Flynet Mainnet](#)

[Michael Novogratz's Galaxy Hires Zac Prince, Former CEO and Co-Founder of BlockFi](#)

[Delta Blockchain Founder Kavita Gupta Unveils Cross Chain Interoperability Startup](#)

[Onchain sleuth ZachXBT joins crypto VC firm Paradigm as incident response advisor](#)

[Tornado Cash Dev Alexey Pertsev Gets \\$1 Million Donation From Ethereum Foundation](#)

[Crypto wallet Phantom acquires token data platform SimpleHash](#)

[Blockchain Developer Alchemy Launches a \\$5M ‘Everyone Onchain Fund’](#)

[Crypto sentiment sinks to ‘extreme fear’ as Trump says tariffs still on](#)

[Tezos Layer 2 Etherlink Launches Mainnet and Unveils Rewards Programs](#)

[Security Giant Immunefi Reveals Unified Security Platform Magnus, Announces Major](#)

Partners

[Rome Protocol Integrates With Polygon AggLayer to Unlock Ethereum-Solana Interoperability](#)

[XDC Network and Archax Launch Four Tokenized Funds](#)

[Tokenized time platform Time.fun goes live on Solana following Base debut](#)

[Chintai Tokenizes \\$570M Real Estate Cash-Flow for RealNOI](#)

[KIP Protocol denies involvement in Libra launch](#)

[Blockchain Throughput Is Overestimated by 75% – Taraxa Report](#)

[Fogo plots a Solana chain running ‘pure Firedancer’](#)

[Almost 80% of FTX Creditors Will Reinvest in Crypto, 62% Plan to Buy Solana – Survey](#)

[Pump.fun sees decline in fees, users, and token launches after LIBRA incident](#)

[FTX repayments hit jurisdictional roadblocks as creditors clamour to reinvest](#)

[Artist Ye, Formerly Known as Kanye West, Teases ‘Swasticoins’ Token Launch](#)

[Helium Mobile expands presence in Mexico](#)

[Hedera-Based Origin Emerges from Stealth, Enables VC Treatment for Everyday Users](#)

NFTs / Gaming / Metaverse

[Aston Villa Launches First NFTs on Chiliz Chain to Celebrate 150th Anniversary](#)

[‘Nyan Heroes’ Plots Epic Games Store Return With New Hero, Map and Mode](#)

[Ethereum Layer-2 Starknet Gets First Gaming App-Chain](#)

[Ethereum Game ‘Nifty Island’ Now Lets Creators Drop AI Agents Into 3D Worlds](#)

[‘Hamster Combat’ Returns—Should You Tap Back in for the ‘HamsterVerse’?](#)

[Million-Dollar Dolce & Gabbana Digital Suit Fractionalized on Ethereum L2 Base—Here’s Why](#)

[Crypto company sponsorships of sports teams are on the rise, from F1 and football to MMA and snooker](#)

[Community Gaming launches CGX token, Forkast prediction market](#)

[Original Pudgy Penguins Artist Finds ‘Freedom’ With New Berachain NFT Collection](#)

Mining

[Bitcoin Miner MARA Posts Record Quarterly Revenue, Beating Estimates](#)

[CoreWeave Eyes \\$4B IPO, Could File for U.S. Listing Within a Week: Bloomberg](#)

[Core Scientific Announces \\$1.2B Data Center Expansion Despite \\$265M Q4 Loss](#)

[Cipher Mining shares down 17% as 2024 losses mount](#)

[Bitdeer stock drops 28% after earnings miss](#)

[This Wall Street Bitcoin Miner Just Hoarded \\$1.65 Billion in BTC](#)

[Russia's Bitcoin Mining Sector Records Growth as Mining Farms Increase by 7% in 2024: Report](#)

[Crypto mining tech firm Bgin Blockchain files for \\$50M IPO in US](#)

[Crypto Mining Firm BitFuFu Acquires Data Center in Oklahoma](#)

Exchanges

[SEC closes investigation into crypto exchange Gemini, Cameron Winklevoss says](#)

[Bybit secured UAE in-principle approval days before \\$1.4B hack](#)

[Stablecoin competition heats up as MEXC invests \\$20M in Ethena's USDe](#)

[Bybit registers with Indian authorities, restores services in the country](#)

[South Korea sanctions Upbit with 3-month ban on servicing new clients](#)

[Chainalysis reveals how Bybit hackers stole \\$1.4 billion in crypto](#)

[Bybit swiftly repays 40,000 Ethereum loan as hacker launders \\$250 million](#)

[Bybit Said it Closed \\$1.5B Gap Left After Largest Crypto Exploit in History](#)

[Kraken, Crypto.com among exchanges planning stablecoin launches in EU](#)

[Bybit Offers \\$140M Bounty as Crypto Industry Rallies After Historic Hack](#)

[Bybit's reserves plunge by \\$6 billion in two days after exploit](#)

[Non-KYC Exchange eXch Denies Helping Lazarus Group Launder Stolen Funds from Bybit Hack](#)

[Deribit Plans Hong Kong Expansion as City Pushes to Become Virtual Asset Hub](#)

[OX token plummets amid OX FUN extortion and insolvency of former 3AC founders rumors](#)

[Bybit Loses \\$1.5B in Hack but Can Cover Loss, CEO Confirms](#)

[SEC to Drop Enforcement Case Against Coinbase, Pending Approval](#)

[KuCoin Moves to Comply with EU Crypto Laws, Files MiCA Application in Austria](#)

Investment Mgmt

[Bitwise registers Aptos ETF entity in Delaware as altcoin fund competition escalates](#)

[DTCC lists first set of Solana futures ETFs, fueling hopes for spot SOL fund approval](#)

[Bitwise raises \\$70M to invest in team, onchain solutions](#)

[SEC Acknowledges Grayscale's Revised Staking Proposal for its Ethereum ETF](#)

[Grayscale Applies to SEC for Polkadot ETF on Nasdaq](#)

[Crypto-Friendly Former Congressman Patrick McHenry Joins A16z as a Senior Advisor](#)

[Grayscale Files for Polkadot ETF, Adding to Portfolio of Offered Funds](#)

[SEC acknowledges Grayscale Cardano ETF filing, decision by August 2025](#)

[Banco Nacional Launches Costa Rica's First Bitcoin ETF, \\$7 Billion Bank Opening Crypto Investment to Citizens](#)

[Senators press SEC for clarity on crypto ETP staking restrictions](#)

[Crypto Products See \\$508M Outflows, XRP Leads Altcoin Inflows](#)

[Litecoin, Hedera front runners for next spot crypto ETF as SEC makes comments](#)

[Canary Capital launches Axelar Trust targeting institutional investors](#)

Capital Raises

[Multicoins Leads \\$8M Investment in GPS Alternative Geodnet](#)

[Mavryk Dynamics Secures \\$5.2M for Blockchain-Powered Real-World Asset Ownership](#)

[Crypto Asset Manager Bitwise Bolsters Balance Sheet With \\$70M Equity Raise](#)

[Memes Lab raises \\$2.3 million in seed round led by Lemniscap](#)

[Institutionally-focused restaking startup Byzantine Finance raises \\$3 million in pre-seed funding](#)

[USDe Stablecoin Developer Ethena Raises \\$100M: Bloomberg](#)

Trad Fi / Tech

[Ondo Finance to Bring RWAs to Mastercard Network](#)

[Bank of America CEO Says Bank Will Likely Launch Its Own Stablecoin](#)

[GameStop Urged to Convert Its \\$5B Cash Into Bitcoin by Strive's CEO Matt Cole](#)

[Metaplanet Snaps Up 135 Bitcoin for \\$96,000 Each—Just Before Price Crash](#)

[Ken Griffin's Citadel Securities Eyes Crypto Market-Making on Coinbase and Binance](#)

[Rezolve AI Announces \\$1 Billion Bitcoin Funding Plan with Initial \\$100 Million Investment, Partnering with Tether](#)

[DekaBank Rolls Out Crypto Trading, Custody Services for Institutions: Bloomberg](#)

[HK Asia Holdings stock soars as it kicks off MicroStrategy 2.0 strategy with Bitcoin purchase](#)

[Strategy buys 20,356 Bitcoin for almost \\$2B; holdings approach 500K BTC](#)

CBDC

[Russia delays digital ruble CBDC launch, extends pilot phase indefinitely](#)

[Russia Rolls Out CDBC Anti-fraud System as Digital RUB Rollout Nears](#)

[ECB Plans Blockchain-Based Payment System for Central Bank Settlements](#)

Regulatory / Countries

[SEC Ends Robinhood Investigation 'With No Action'](#)

[DOJ reaches \\$500 million settlement with OKX affiliate over unlicensed money transmitting business](#)

[SEC Plans to Drop Enforcement Suit Against ConsenSys' MetaMask, CEO Joe Lubin Says](#)

[SEC and Justin Sun look to 'explore a potential resolution'](#)

[Stablecoins Take Center Stage at Senate's First Digital Assets Subcommittee Hearing](#)

[After Coinbase, SEC Drops Gemini Probe—Winklevoss Demands Firings, Compensation](#)

[Pakistan Aims to Regulate Crypto with New Advisory Council: Report](#)

[TRUMP meme coin under attack as House Democrats push for MEME Act](#)

[Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent Hires Galaxy Digital Counsel to Advise on Crypto](#)

[U.S. House Committee Advances Effort to Erase IRS' DeFi Tax Rule](#)

[SEC Ends Uniswap Investigation](#)

[Oklahoma BTC reserve bill passes House Committee; other states reject](#)

[One of 2 Remaining Democrats at U.S. CFTC Will Exit When New Chair Arrives](#)

[Dubai Plans Move to Reveal Identity of Crypto Whales: Report](#)

[Ohio Lawmakers Introduce Bill Banning Taxes on Digital Asset Payments](#)

[SEC to Cut Regional Directors Amid Trump Administration Cost-Cutting Push: Report](#)

[EU Adopts New Sanctions, Including Crypto Restrictions Against Russia](#)

[OKX pleads guilty, pays \\$505M to settle DOJ charges](#)

[Strategy CEO Michael Saylor Pitches Regulations Reform to SEC Crypto Task Force](#)

[Iowa Introduces Bill Allowing State Treasurer to Invest in Bitcoin and Crypto, Accessing \\$45 Billion Fund](#)

[U.S. Marshals Service Can't Say How Much Crypto It Holds, Complicating Bitcoin](#)

[Reserve Plan](#)

[U.S. Digital Assets Sub-Committee to Hold Hearing on Bipartisan Crypto Legislation](#)

[SEC Launches Cyber Unit to Combat Blockchain Fraud](#)

[SEC Drops OpenSea Investigation Easing Pressure on NFT Market](#)

[Georgia State Pushes Harder for Bitcoin Stockpile, Senate Proposes Second BTC Reserve Bill](#)

[Three US Bitcoin reserve bills fail despite Trump's pledges — 'Smacks of speculation'](#)

[Costa Rica Makes First Foray Into Crypto with New Bitcoin ETF](#)

[SEC Approves Yield-Bearing Stablecoin as Crypto Regulations Evolves](#)

[Sinema calls Arizona a 'trailblazer' as state pushes to keep unclaimed crypto in native form](#)

[Fed's Michael Barr responds to crypto debanking concerns, says the central bank tries to be 'straight up the middle'](#)

Environmental, Social, Governance

[Tokenization is Already Helping the World's Vulnerable. Here's How](#)

Surveys, Hacks, Other Misc

[Lazarus appears to compromise Safe developer machine in lead up to \\$1.5 billion Bybit hack: report](#)

[Waste expert says chances of UK man finding lost bitcoin fortune are 1 in 902 million](#)

[Sam Bankman-Fried tweets from prison, aligns himself with DOGE efficiency philosophy](#)

[U.S. Law Enforcement Seizes \\$31M in Crypto Tied to Uranium Finance Hack](#)

[SafeMoon CTO Thomas Smith Pleads Guilty to Massive Crypto Fraud Scheme](#)

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