

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Columbia

United States of America
v.

Luke Hoffman
DOB: 10/14/1983

) Case No. 23-mj158
) Assigned To: Magistrate Judge Zia M. Faruqui
) Date Assigned: 7/7/2023
) Description: Complaint with Arrest Warrant
)
)
)

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of January 6, 2021 in the county of _____ in the
_____ in the District of Columbia, the defendant(s) violated:

Code Section

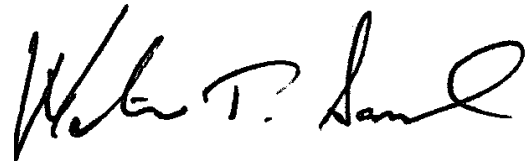
Offense Description

18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3) - Civil Disorder;
18 U.S.C. § 111(a)(1) and (b) - Assaulting, Resisting, or Impeding Certain Officers with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) and (b)(1)(A) - Entering and Remaining in a Restricted Building or Grounds with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2) and (b)(1)(A) - Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a Restricted Building or Grounds with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(4) and (b)(1)(A) - Engaging in Physical Violence in a Restricted Building or Grounds with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) - Disorderly Conduct in a Capitol Building;
40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(F) - Act of Physical Violence in the Capitol Grounds or Buildings.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See attached statement of facts.

☒ Continued on the attached sheet.



Complainant's signature

William Samad, Task Force Officer
Printed name and title

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1
by telephone.

Date: 07/07/2023

Judge's signature

City and state: Washington, D.C.

Zia M. Faruqui, U.S. Magistrate Judge
Printed name and title

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Your affiant, William T. Samad, is a Task Force Officer with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), Louisville Division, Covington Resident Agency. I have been a duly sworn law enforcement officer for over nineteen years. During this time, I have attended over 2,000 hours of law enforcement training. I have had the opportunity to serve in a multitude of roles throughout my career. I spent time in patrol, training, criminal investigations, SWAT, electronic crimes, and mostly recently have been assigned as a full-time Task Force Officer with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have investigated crimes ranging from minor offenses to murder. Since May of 2021, I have been assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the FBI as a Task Force Officer. In my duties as a Task Force Officer, I have received training and gained experience in a variety of criminal laws and procedures, primarily in complex and lengthy investigations into matters involving various domestic terrorism related offenses. Currently, I am tasked with investigating criminal activity in and around the Capitol grounds on January 6, 2021. As a Task Force Officer, I am authorized by law or by a Government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of violations of Federal criminal laws.

Background: Events at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021

The U.S. Capitol is secured 24 hours a day by U.S. Capitol Police. Restrictions around the U.S. Capitol include permanent and temporary security barriers and posts manned by U.S. Capitol Police. Only authorized people with appropriate identification were allowed access inside the U.S. Capitol. On January 6, 2021, the exterior plaza of the U.S. Capitol was also closed to members of the public.

On January 6, 2021, a joint session of the United States Congress convened at the United States Capitol, which is located at First Street, SE, in Washington, D.C. During the joint session, elected members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate were meeting in separate chambers of the United States Capitol to certify the vote count of the Electoral College of the 2020 Presidential Election, which had taken place on November 3, 2020. The joint session began at approximately 1:00 p.m. Shortly thereafter, by approximately 1:30 p.m., the House and Senate adjourned to separate chambers to resolve a particular objection. Vice President Mike Pence was present and presiding, first in the joint session, and then in the Senate chamber.

As the proceedings continued in both the House and the Senate, and with Vice President Mike Pence present and presiding over the Senate, a large crowd gathered outside the U.S. Capitol. As noted above, temporary and permanent barricades were in place around the exterior of the U.S. Capitol building, and U.S. Capitol Police were present and attempting to keep the crowd away from the Capitol building and the proceedings underway inside.

At such time, the certification proceedings were still underway and the exterior doors and windows of the U.S. Capitol were locked or otherwise secured. Members of the U.S. Capitol Police attempted to maintain order and keep the crowd from entering the Capitol; however, around 2:00 p.m., individuals in the crowd forced entry into the U.S. Capitol, including by breaking windows and by assaulting members of the U.S. Capitol Police, as others in the crowd encouraged and assisted those acts.

Shortly thereafter, at approximately 2:20 p.m. members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate, including the President of the Senate, Vice President Mike Pence, were instructed to—and did—evacuate the chambers. Accordingly, the joint session of the United States Congress was effectively suspended until shortly after 8:00 p.m. Vice President Pence remained in the United States Capitol from the time he was evacuated from the Senate Chamber until the sessions resumed.

During national news coverage of the aforementioned events, video footage which appeared to be captured on mobile devices of persons present on the scene depicted evidence of violations of local and federal law, including scores of individuals inside the U.S. Capitol building without authority to be there.

Facts Specific to Defendant Luke Hoffman

Based on my review of still images and video footage from January 6, 2021, I have observed that, on that date, an individual with short brown hair and a goatee, wearing a black sweatshirt and coyote tan tactical vest, subsequently identified as LUKE HOFFMAN, was present on and around the U.S. Capitol grounds, including on the West Plaza of the U.S. Capitol building. HOFFMAN is circled in yellow in the images below.





HOFFMAN can be seen on video and in still images interfering with law enforcement officers' attempts to secure Capitol grounds and engaging in assaults of officers on and around the Capitol grounds on January 6, 2021.

A video captured at approximately 1:25 p.m. shows HOFFMAN yanking a piece of bike-rack fencing away from a police officer as officers try to use it to manage the crowd.



At 2:28 p.m., multiple videos depict HOFFMAN grabbing and struggling with a police officer over the officer's baton.



In another video, at 2:30 p.m., body worn camera footage from a police officer present at the Capitol on January 6 shows HOFFMAN spraying a substance consistent with a chemical irritant at multiple officers.



In both publicly available videos and in footage captured on Capitol CCTV cameras, HOFFMAN can be seen outside the Lower West Tunnel entryway known as “the tunnel” for an extended period of time, from at least 3:43 p.m. to 4:05 p.m.



While standing at the front of the tunnel, HOFFMAN came face to face with police officers who were trying to secure the Capitol building. There, he physically supported other rioters who stood on his shoulders while they attacked police officers inside the tunnel with objects including a flagpole. HOFFMAN also used his hand, waved overhead, and encouraged the mob behind him to move forward.



On January 6, 2021, the Parler account @KariHoffman posted a photo showing an individual matching HOFFMAN's description outside the U.S. Capitol building on January 6, 2021, near the scaffolding erected for the inaugural stage on the West Plaza, with the caption "I am so proud of my husband! He stood up for America today!! Were you part of today too?"



Multiple individuals I have interviewed have positively identified HOFFMAN as the subject in the Parler post. An FBI Special Agent assigned to the Covington Resident Agency attended church with HOFFMAN for several years and positively identified HOFFMAN as the

subject in the @KariHoffman post. A neighbor of HOFFMAN's also positively identified HOFFMAN based on the photograph in the @KariHoffman post.

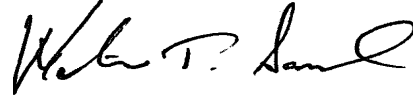
Based on the foregoing, your affiant submits there is probable cause to believe that LUKE HOFFMAN violated 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3), which makes it unlawful to commit or attempt to commit any act to obstruct, impede, or interfere with any fireman or law enforcement officer lawfully engaged in the lawful performance of his official duties incident to and during the commission of a civil disorder which in any way or degree obstructs, delays, or adversely affects commerce or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce or the conduct or performance of any federally protected function. For purposes of Section 231 of Title 18, a federally protected function means any function, operation, or action carried out, under the laws of the United States, by any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States or by an officer or employee thereof. This includes the Joint Session of Congress where the Senate and House count Electoral College votes.

Your affiant further submits there is probable cause to believe that HOFFMAN violated 18 U.S.C. §§ 111(a)(1) and (b), which makes it a crime to (a) forcibly assault, resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, or interfere with any person designated in 18 U.S.C. § 1114 as an officer or employee of the United States while engaged in or on account of the performance of official duties; and (b) use a deadly or dangerous weapon or inflict bodily injury during such assault.

Your affiant also submits that there is probable cause to believe that HOFFMAN violated 18 U.S.C. §§ 1752(a)(1), (2) and (4), and (b)(1)(a), which make it a crime to (1) knowingly enter or remain in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do; and (2) knowingly, and with intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions, engage in disorderly or disruptive conduct in, or within such proximity to, any restricted building or grounds when, or so that, such conduct, in fact, impedes or disrupts the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions; or attempts or conspires to do so; and (4) knowingly engage in any act of physical violence against any person or property in any restricted building or grounds; or attempts or conspires to do so; and (b)(1)(A) to commit any of the aforementioned offenses with a deadly or dangerous weapon or firearm; or to aid, abet, counsel, command, induce, or procure the commission of such offenses. For purposes of Section 1752 of Title 18, a "restricted building" includes a posted, cordoned off, or otherwise restricted area of a building or grounds where the President or other person protected by the Secret Service, including the Vice President, is or will be temporarily visiting; or any building or grounds so restricted in conjunction with an event designated as a special event of national significance.

Your affiant submits there is also probable cause to believe that HOFFMAN violated 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D), and (F), which makes it a crime to willfully and knowingly (D) utter loud, threatening, or abusive language, or engage in disorderly or disruptive conduct, at any place in the Grounds or in any of the Capitol Buildings with the intent to impede, disrupt, or disturb the orderly conduct of a session of Congress or either House of Congress, or the orderly conduct in

that building of a hearing before, or any deliberations of, a committee of Congress or either House of Congress; and (F) engage in an act of physical violence in the Grounds or any of the Capitol Buildings.



William Samad
Task Force Officer
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1
by telephone, this 7th day of July 2023.

ZIA M. FARUQUI
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

- 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3) - Civil Disorder;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 5 years;
 - 2. A term of supervised release of not more than 3 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$250,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$100.
- 18 U.S.C. § 111(a)(1) - Assaulting, Resisting, or Impeding Certain Officers with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 8 years;
 - 2. A term of supervised release of not more than 3 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$250,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$100.
- 18 U.S.C. § 111(a)(1) and (b) - Assaulting, Resisting, or Impeding Certain Officers with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years;
 - 2. A term of supervised release of not more than 5 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$250,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$100.
- 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) and (b)(1)(A) - Entering and Remaining in a Restricted Building or Grounds with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 10 years;
 - 2. A term of supervised release of not more than 3 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$250,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$100.
- 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2) and (b)(1)(A) - Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a Restricted Building or Grounds with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 10 years;
 - 2. A term of supervised release of not more than 3 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$250,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$100.
- 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(4) and (b)(1)(A) - Engaging in Physical Violence in a Restricted Building or Grounds with a Deadly or Dangerous Weapon;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 10 years;
 - 2. A term of supervised release of not more than 3 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$250,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$100.
- 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) - Disorderly Conduct in a Capitol Building;
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 6 months;
 - 2. A term of probation of not more than 5 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$5,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$10.

- 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(F) - Act of Physical Violence in the Capitol Grounds or Buildings.
 - 1. A term of imprisonment of not more than 6 months;
 - 2. A term of probation of not more than 5 years;
 - 3. A fine not to exceed \$5,000; and
 - 4. A special assessment of \$10.