# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

:

v. : Case No.: 21-CR-508 (2) (BAH)

LANDON BRYCE MITCHELL,

:

Defendant.

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS FOR STIPULATED TRIAL

The United States of America, by and through its attorney, the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, and the defendant, Landon Bryce Mitchell, with the concurrence of his attorney, hereby submit the Elements and Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial in this action.

#### I. Elements

A. Count One: Obstruction of an Official Proceeding.

The essential elements of the offense of obstruction of an official proceeding, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2), each of which the government must prove the following beyond a reasonable doubt, are as follows:

- 1. The defendant attempted to or did obstruct or impede an official proceeding;
- 2. The defendant intended to obstruct or impede the official proceeding;
- 3. The defendant acted knowingly, with awareness that the natural and probable effect of his conduct would be to obstruct or impede the official proceeding; and
- 4. The defendant acted corruptly.

### B. Count Two: Entering and Remaining in a Restricted Building or Grounds.

The essential elements of the offense of entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1), each of which the government must prove the following beyond a reasonable doubt, are as follows:

- 1. The defendant entered or remained in a restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do so; and,
- 2. That the defendant did so knowingly.

# C. Count Three: Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a Restricted Building or Grounds.

The essential elements of the disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building or grounds, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2), each of which the government must prove the following beyond a reasonable doubt, are as follows:

- 1. That the defendant engaged in disorderly or disruptive conduct in, or within such proximity to, any restricted building or grounds;
- 2. That such conduct occurred when, or so that, such conduct, in fact, impeded or disrupted the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions; and
- 3. That the defendant did so knowingly, and with intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions.

#### D. Count Four: Entering and Remaining on the Floor of Congress.

The essential elements of the offense of entering and remaining on the floor of Congress, in violation of 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(A), each of which the government must prove the following beyond a reasonable doubt, are as follows:

- 1. That the defendant entered or remained on the floor of either House of Congress without authorization; and
- 2. The defendant acted willfully and knowingly.

#### E. Count Five: Disorderly Conduct in a Capitol Building or Grounds.

The essential elements of the offense of entering and remaining on the floor of Congress, in violation of 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D), each of which the government must prove the following beyond a reasonable doubt, are as follows:

- 1. The defendant engaged in disorderly or disruptive conduct in any of the United States Capitol Buildings;
- 2. The defendant did so with the intent to impede, disrupt, or disturb the orderly conduct of a session of Congress or either House of Congress; and
- 3. The defendant acted willfully and knowingly.

#### F. Count Six: Parading, Demonstrating, or Picketing in a Capitol Building.

The essential elements of the offense of parading, demonstrating, or picketing in a Capitol building, in violation of 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(G), each of which the government must prove beyond a reasonable doubt, are as follows:

- 1. The defendant paraded, demonstrated, or picketed in any of the United States Capitol Buildings; and
- 2. The defendant acted willfully and knowingly.

#### II. Statement of Offense.

- A. The Attack at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.
- 1. The U.S. Capitol, which is located at First Street, SE, in Washington, D.C., is secured twenty-four hours a day by U.S. Capitol Police ("USCP"). Restrictions around the Capitol include permanent and temporary security barriers and posts manned by USCP. Only authorized people with appropriate identification are allowed access inside the Capitol.
- 2. On January 6, 2021, the exterior plaza of the Capitol was closed to members of the public.

- 3. On January 6, 2021, a joint session of the United States Congress convened at the 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 the Capitol to certify the vote count of the Electoral College of the 2020 Presidential Election, which had taken place on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. The joint session is set out in the Twelfth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and 3 U.S.C. §§ 15-18 and requires a deliberate and legally prescribed assessment of ballots, lists, certificates, and, potentially, written objections. 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.
- 4. As the proceedings continued in both the House and the Senate, and with Vice President Pence present and presiding over the Senate, a large crowd gathered outside the Capitol. Temporary and permanent barricades, as noted above, were in place around the exterior of the Capitol, and USCP officers were present and attempting to keep the crowd away from the Capitol and the proceedings underway inside.
- 5. At approximately 2:00 p.m., certain individuals in the crowd forced their way through, up, and over the barricades. Officers of the USCP were forced to retreat and the crowd advanced to the exterior façade of the building. The crowd was not lawfully authorized to enter or remain in the building and, prior to entering the building, no members of the crowd submitted to security screenings or weapons checks as required by USCP officers or other authorized security officials.

- 6. At such time, the certification proceedings were still underway, and the exterior doors and windows of the Capitol were locked or otherwise secured. Members of the USCP attempted to maintain order and keep the crowd from entering the Capitol; however, shortly after 2:00 p.m., individuals in the crowd forced entry into the Capitol, including by breaking windows and by assaulting members of law enforcement, as others in the crowd encouraged and assisted those acts. The riot resulted in substantial damage to the Capitol, requiring the expenditure of more than \$2.7 million dollars for repairs.
- Representatives and of the Senate, including the President of the Senate, Vice President Pence, were instructed to—and did—evacuate the chambers. Accordingly, all proceedings of the United States Congress, including the joint session, were effectively suspended until shortly after 8:00 p.m. on January 6, 2021. In light of the dangerous circumstances caused by the unlawful entry to the Capitol—including the danger posed by individuals who had entered the Capitol without any security screening or weapons check—Congressional proceedings could not resume until after every unauthorized occupant had been removed from or left the Capitol, and USCP confirmed that the building was secured. The proceedings resumed at approximately 8:00 p.m. after the building had been secured. Vice President Pence remained in the Capitol from the time he was evacuated from the Senate Chamber until the session resumed.
  - B. Defendant Landon Bryce Mitchell's Participation in the January 6, 2021, Capitol Riot.
  - 8. The defendant, Landon Bryce Mitchell, lived in Arlington, Virginia.
- 9. On December 11, 2020, Mitchell shared on his Facebook account a news article about states seceding from the United States with the comment, "I'm down for it. If biden wins, civil war it shall be[.]"



Ex. 4.1.

- 10. On December 18, 2020, Mitchell wrote, "It[']s flat out treason what they're pulling and the law doesn't apply to them. So we need to become the law." Ex. 4.2.
- 11. On December 26, 2020, Mitchell posted a Facebook meme that stated, "when they invalidated my vote with all their cheating, they invalidated my consent to be governed by them!"



Ex. 4.3.

12. On December 27, 2020, Mitchell posted a Facebook meme that stated, "if we don't fight now there is no point in ever voting again."



Ex. 4.4.

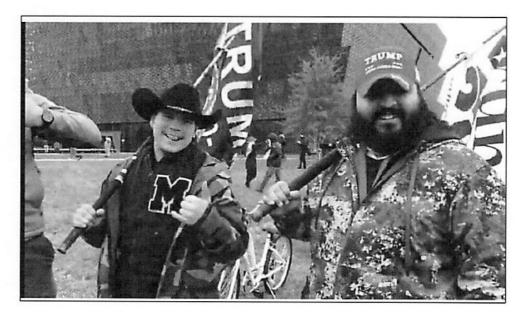
- 13. On December 30, 2020, Mitchell posted to a Facebook page titled "Joe Biden IS NOT MY PRESIDENT," the statement, "Mornin' y'all. From Texas, currently living in VA. Better believe I'll be in DC Jan. 6th! Whose [sic] coming with me?" Ex. 4.5.
- 14. On the morning of January 6, 2021, Mitchell traveled to Washington, D.C. with his friend, Luke Wessley Bender, via metro from Arlington, Virginia. The purpose of the trip to Washington, D.C. was to protest Congress' certification of the Electoral College. *See* Ex. 3.2 at 4:04.

15. Mitchell wore a red baseball cap and carried a large flag, both of which bore the name of former President Donald Trump.



Ex. 2.1, 4.8.

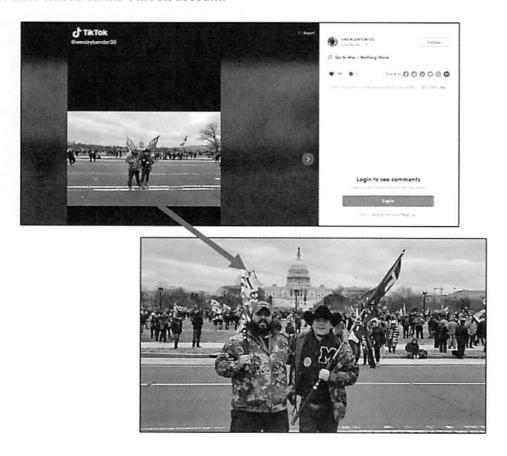
16. Mitchell and Bender then marched with other protestors to the Capitol grounds.





Ex. 2.2, 2.3.

17. As they arrived near the Capitol Building, Mitchell and Bender paused for a picture, which Bender later shared on his TikTok account.



Page 9 of 19

Ex. 4.9, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8.

18. Mitchell and Bender then climbed up scaffolding that had been erected for the inauguration of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. See Ex. 3.2 at 10:40, 11:09. Bender took a cell phone video that captured an image of Mitchell on the scaffolding, the rioters beneath him, and law enforcement officers attempting to defend the Capitol Building using pepper spray.



Ex. 5.9, 5.10.

19. At about 2:45 p.m., Bender and Mitchell unlawfully entered the U.S. Capitol Building through the Upper West Terrace Door. Mitchell wore a camouflage gaiter over the lower portion of his face during his entire time inside the Capitol Building.



Ex. 1.1, 1.2.

- 20. Bender recorded part of his and Mitchell's journey, including their entry into Capitol Building and the Rotunda. *See* Ex. 4.13, 5.12. In one of those videos, the alarm to the Upper West Terrace Door can be heard, and Mitchell's fellow rioters loudly chant, "Whose house? Our House!" Ex. 5.12. In the video, Bender exclaimed, "Right now, we're inside the Capitol. We just stormed the gates!" Ex. 5.13.
- 21. Mitchell and Bender then proceeded through the Rotunda, down the East Front Corridor, through the Ohio Clock Corridor, down a hall, and into the Senate Chamber.







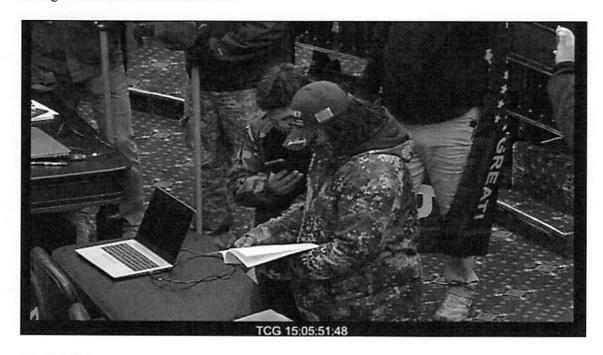
Ex. 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8.

22. Mitchell and Bender entered the Senate Floor of the U.S. Capitol Building at approximately 3:04 p.m.



Ex. 1.9, 1.10, 1.11.

23. While on the Senate Floor, Bender and his co-defendant reviewed documents sitting on tables on the Senate Floor.



Ex. 1.9, 2.4.

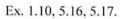
24. Mitchell and Bender also took "selfies" from the Senate floor.



Ex. 5.14, 5.15.

25. Bender then ascended to the Senate dais and posed for pictures.







26. At approximately 3:08 p.m., USCP officers entered the Senate Floor and directed Bender, Mitchell, and the other rioters to leave the Chamber.



Ex. 1.10, 1.11.

- 27. Mitchell and Bender left the U.S. Capitol through the Senate Carriage Door at approximately 3:10 p.m. *See* Ex. 1.12, 1.13, 1.14, 1.15, 1.16, 1.17.
- 28. Later on January 6, 2021, Mitchell stated in Facebook messages to his friends and family members that he "Breached the Capitol today," that he was "one [of] the very first in," "one of the first to Breach," and "climbed the scaffolding up 3 stories, pushed back the police and breached the doors!!" Among the attachments to Mitchell's Facebook messages include photographs and videos of Mitchell on the Senate Floor on January 6, 2021. See Ex. 4.15, 4.16, 4.17, 4.18, 4.19, 4.20.
- 29. Among his messages on January 6, 2021, Mitchell explained, "Yea, people are fed up with how crooked the government has been and they pretty much been laughing at us thinking we wouldn[']t do anything about it." Ex. 4.16.

30. On January 7, 2021, defendant posted on Facebook an image of a skull surrounded by red smoke, with the caption, "Absolutely proud of my fellow Americans who made their voices heard at the Capitol."



Ex. 4.12.

- 31. On January 10, 2021, Mitchell commented on a post from January 9, 2021. He stated, "The government calls us traitors and terrorists. They seem to forget that this country was made on rebellion against the 'legal' government." Mitchell also stated, "The breach wasn[']t so much about Trump as it was about how much we the people are fed up with how our government is mistreating us and lying to us[,]" and "This election was rigged, blatantly. And here they sit laughing at us, the citizens, thinking we won[']t do anything about it but take it. Wrong." Ex. 4.23.
- 32. On January 31, 2021, Mitchell replied to an individual's comment on a post from January 30, 2021. He stated that, "the people who breached the capitol were heroes and patriots."

Case 1:21-cr-00508-BAH Document 95 Filed 12/07/22 Page 17 of 19

Mitchell also argued that former President Trump did not tell his supporters to storm the Capitol.

Ex. 4.24.

33. On February 10, 2021, Mitchell re-posted an image on Facebook of individuals

surrounding a vehicle accompanied by a statement, "they want you to forget about this summer."

Mitchell included his own comment with the re-post, stating, "and yet the patriotic capitol breach

was seen as a terroristic action (by the scum in congress, not by any true American)." Ex. 4.26.

34. On October 20, 2021, the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") interviewed

Mitchell, who admitted that he climbed the scaffolding, entered the Capitol Building, and entered

the Senate Chamber on January 6, 2021. He explained that he believed that the individuals who

entered the Capitol on January 6 did not "go too far" because, "it is our constitutional right, when

we are being run by tyrants, to try to do something about it. I don't think what we did was wrong

because I feel like they are overreaching[.]" Ex. 3.2 at 56:45.

35. Mitchell further told FBI that "If I feel like I'm being trampled on, it's my duty to

stick up for other people, too." Id. at 58:05.

Without waiving any arguments set forth in Mr. Mitchell's Motion to Dismiss Count 1, the

parties agree that if the Court finds the existence of these facts beyond a reasonable doubt, the defendant

stipulates that this evidence would establish each and every element of the charged offenses for Counts

1 through 6 of the Indictment. ECF No 7, in light of the Court's ruling on the Motion to Dismiss Count

1 and without waiving objection to the Court's ruling

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

/s/ Samantha R. Miller

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Page 17 of 19

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### **DEFENDANT'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

I, LANDON BRYCE MITCHELL, have read this Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial and have discussed it with my attorney. I fully understand the elements and the facts that are set forth. I agree and acknowledge by my signature that this Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial is true and accurate. I do this voluntarily and of my own free will. No threats have been made to me nor am I under the influence of anything that could impede my ability to understand this Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial fully.

LANDON BRYCE MITCHELL

Defendant

## ATTORNEY'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read this Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial and have reviewed it with my client fully. I concur in my client's desire to adopt this Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial as true and accurate.

Date: 12-2-2022

ELIZABETH MULLIN

Attorney for Defendant Bender