

STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. On January 6, 2021, your affiant, Benjamin J. Bullington, was on duty and performing my official duties as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) in the Washington, D.C. field office. Since December of 2014, I have been assigned to work on federal narcotics investigations on the FBI Washington, D.C., Safe Streets Task Force, a violent crime and gang task force. I am also a member of the FBI’s SWAT team, and, as part of those duties, I was physically present at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, from approximately 2:45 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. As a Special Agent, I am authorized by law or by a Government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detention, investigation, or prosecution of a violation of Federal criminal laws.

2. The U.S. Capitol, which is located at First Street, SE, in Washington, D.C., 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 are allowed access inside the U.S. Capitol.

3. On January 6, 2021, the exterior plaza of the U.S. Capitol was closed to members of the public. On January 6, 2021, a joint session of the United States Congress convened at the United States Capitol. 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.

4. 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 surround 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. The crowd included many people who expressly objected to the conduct of the proceedings to certify the vote count of the Electoral College of the 2020 Presidential Election, and who expressly stated that their purpose was to stop or disrupt those proceedings.

5. At approximately 2:00 p.m., certain individuals in the crowd forced their way through, up, and over the barricades, and past officers of the U.S. Capitol Police, including by engaging in assaultive and abusive conduct towards officers of the U.S. Capitol Police who were lawfully attempting to block access to the U.S. Capitol. The crowd then 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 by U.S. Capitol Police Officers or other authorized security officials.

6. At such time, the certification proceedings, specifically, the proceedings in the House and Senate to address the objection, 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, shortly after 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.

7. 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, all proceedings of the United States Congress, including the joint session, were effectively suspended until shortly after 8:00 p.m. the same day. In light of the dangerous circumstances caused by the unlawful entry to the U.S. Capitol, including the danger posed by individuals who had entered the U.S. Capitol without any security screening or weapons check, Congressional proceedings could not resume until after every unauthorized occupant had left the U.S. Capitol, and the building had been confirmed secured. The proceedings resumed at approximately 8:00 pm after the building had been secured. Vice President Pence remained in the United States Capitol from the time he was evacuated from the Senate Chamber until the session resumed.

8. At approximately 5:19 p.m., a concerned citizen (“C-1”) called the FBI National Threat Operations Center (“NTOC”) informing FBI that he believed that JOSHUA LOLLAR (“LOLLAR”) had entered the United States Capitol Building as part of the civil unrest described above. C-1 informed NTOC that the uniform resource locator (“URL”) for LOLLAR’s Facebook page is “facebook.com/cobra6hotel.”

9. On January 8, 2021, your affiant participated, along with other FBI agents, in a telephonic interview of C-1. C-1 stated that he knew LOLLAR from past employment and, although they no longer worked together, LOLLAR and C-1 were “friends” on the social media platform Facebook, but he had little to no interaction with LOLLAR over the years. According to C-1, on January 6, 2021, after learning about the events at the U.S. Capitol, C-1 reviewed C-1’s Facebook news feed and observed that LOLLAR had posted several photographs of himself which he claimed depicted him traveling to, and participating in, the civil unrest at the U.S. Capitol Building. C-1 informed agents that LOLLAR also posted “Facebook Live” livestream video feed of LOLLAR clashing with, and overtaking, police officers while making his way inside the U.S. Capitol Building.

10. C-1 provided agents with several screenshots that he took of LOLLAR’s Facebook account. The screenshots that C-1 provided captured what appear to be events taking place within the U.S. Capitol Building during the civil unrest described above. All of the screenshots provided by C-1 show that they came from the same Facebook account, namely, the “cobra6hotel” account.

11. One screenshot provided by C-1 shows a photo posted to LOLLAR’s Facebook feed depicting a crowded room of people, three of whom were wearing red baseball hats, one of which had a “TRUMP” patch or pin on the back with an American flag next to it and another having “MAKE A...” embroidered over “Great...” I am familiar with this particular style of hat, which is popular among supporters of the President of United States and reads “MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN.” Another individual in the crowd is wearing a green tactical helmet with

material commonly known as Velcro adhered to the side as well as a rail system where attachments can be affixed. Additionally, it appears as though a large flag is being carried. This photo is captioned with the words “Busting in.”



12. Another screenshot provided by C-1 shows a photo posted to LOLLAR’s Facebook feed at “36 minutes,” depicting Metropolitan Police Department (“MPD”) Police Officers in riot control gear. LOLLAR captioned this photo “Inside the Capitol.” Given the close proximity of the MPD officers to the camera lens, and the fact that there is no person or property visible in between the camera and the bodies of the MPD officers, it appears that LOLLAR was at the front lines of a physical confrontation with MPD officers. The background in the photograph further confirms that it was taken in the U.S. Capitol Building, in what I recognize as the Rotunda. That screenshot also shows that, moments before, LOLLAR had posted at “23 minutes” the following: “Sorry they are jamming the phones so I can’t do much about a live stream or uploading. I’ll do my best, it’s about to get spicey boi!”



13. Another screenshot provided by C-1 shows another Facebook user, an individual whose account was identified as “Joe Reeves,” posting a message to LOLLAR’s account, asking LOLLAR, “Hows it going are you done yet! My fb people want to know lol.” LOLLAR then replied, “They ran us out of the Capitol area”



14. On January 11, 2021, Special Agents of the FBI Houston Division interviewed LOLLAR at his residence in Spring, Texas. LOLLAR stated to agents that he had driven to Washington, D.C. from Spring, Texas, leaving on January 4, 2021, resting along the way in Georgia, then continuing on and arriving in Arlington, Virginia, where he stayed at the Wyndham Hotel. On the morning of January 6, 2021, LOLLAR drove his vehicle to Washington, D.C., and parked near the National Mall, where he attended the speech given by The President of The United States at the Ellipse. LOLLAR viewed the entirety of the speech and then returned to his vehicle. LOLLAR stated he then followed a crowd of people to the United States Capitol Building. LOLLAR stated that he in fact did enter the United States Capitol Building. LOLLAR stated to agents that he did record several videos of the events that day and that he had posted them to his Facebook page. LOLLAR stated he had removed them from his Facebook page due to attention they were getting, but that the videos remained on his cellphone, which he had in his possession. LOLLAR gave agents consent to take and search his phone, as well as gave the password to unlock his phone.

15. On or about January 11, 2021, pursuant to a federal search warrant for records and information associated with the “cobra6hotel” Facebook account, Facebook, Inc. provided records from the account. These records confirm that LOLLAR is the subscriber and controls the account. They also contain numerous videos and photographs that LOLLAR had posted to his Facebook page, as well as communications he had with other Facebook users, leading up to, during, and following the January 6, 2021 events. I have reviewed many of the videos, images, and communications. Some are “selfie”-style and other are outward-facing videos and photographs. In the “selfies,” the person holding the cell phone, a man that I recognize as LOLLAR, is visible because he is holding his cell phone at arm’s length and the camera lens, which can be directed in two different directions, is directed back toward LOLLAR. I have shared a few samples of the selfie-style videos and photographs with the FBI agents in Houston who interviewed LOLLAR, and they confirmed that it is LOLLAR who is depicted in the images. In some of the selfie-style videos and photos, LOLLAR is wearing a black hooded zip jacket, a black hooded sweatshirt with an American flag in color, a red “Keep America Great” baseball cap, and he is carrying a backpack. In some, LOLLAR is wearing a grey/black neck gaiter-style face covering. In others, his dark moustache and beard are visible. In other “selfie” videos, LOLLAR is wearing a tan-colored body armor vest (which is indicated in the highlighted red circles below), the same red baseball hat and a grey/black neck gaiter, and black gloves. Two examples are set forth below.



16. In the video associated with the “Inside the Capitol” screenshot that C-1 provided and is shown in paragraph 12 above, which was provided in the Facebook records (file labeled “videos_1022578393566139.mp4”), LOLLAR is part of a crowd that is attempting to push through a line of law enforcement officers, including at least three MPD officers in riot control gear, who are trying to keep the crowd back in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol Building.

17. In the three frames below, which are taken from that video, based upon the proximity of the camera lens to the law enforcement officers, LOLLAR appears to be at the leading edge of a physical confrontation with law enforcement officers as the crowd moves forward in what the full video shows was an unsuccessful attempt to pass through their line. The third frame shows that LOLLAR, while holding his phone and filming, was jostled and began to fall.





18. Your affiant obtained and reviewed body worn camera (“BWC”) footage from one of the MPD officers whose badge number is visible from LOLLAR’s video described above. That footage shows a man I believe to be LOLLAR standing in front of the BWC, wearing a gas mask, black gloves, and a tan-colored body armor vest. A screenshot from that footage is below:



19. Records from LOLLAR’s Facebook account show that on January 6, 2021, at 7:34 p.m. EST (UTC converted to EST), LOLLAR posted, “Yeah, I’m good. Just got gassed and fought

with cops that I never thought would happen.” In a continuation of this conversation, LOLLAR stated, “I don’t know what we can do, but I’m trying my best to get it done peaceful. We can’t loose [sic] our America.”

20. On January 6, 2021, at 7:41 p.m. EST LOLLAR received a post from a Facebook user named “Brenda Lollar,” believed to be his sister, who posted, “We cleaned off the post of you going into and inside the capital [sic] since they plan to prosecute everyone that was in there.” A minute later, she posted, “You need to clean off your page.”

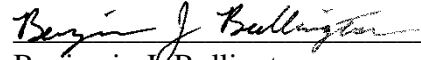
21. Facebook records show that LOLLAR subsequently received two more warnings from Brenda Lollar. One at 8:03 p.m. stated, “Delete.” The other, at 9:04 p.m. stated, “Please get off Facebook or delete you in the capital [sic].”

22. Based on the foregoing, your affiant submits that there is probable cause to believe that JOSHUA LOLLAR 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, ... 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. A civil disorder means a public disturbance involving acts of violence by assemblages of three or more persons, which causes an immediate danger of or results in damage or injury to the property or person of another individual.

23. Your affiant submits that there is also probable cause to believe that JOSHUA LOLLAR violated 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) and (2), which makes it a crime to (1) knowingly enter or remain in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do so; 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. 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.

24. Your affiant submits that there is also probable cause to believe that JOSHUA LOLLAR violated 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D), 5104(e)(2)(E) and 5104(e)(2)(G) which make 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; (E) obstruct, or impede passage through

or within, the Grounds or any of the Capitol Buildings; and (G) parade, demonstrate, or picket in any of the Capitol Buildings.



Benjamin J. Bullington
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone, this 13 day of January 2021.



2021.01.13

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THE HONORABLE G. MICHAEL HARVEY
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE