

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
District of Columbia

United States of America
v.

WILLIAM MCCALL CALHOUN JR.



Defendant(s)

)
) Case: 1:21-mj-00040
) Assigned to: Judge Zia M. Faruqui
) Assigned Date: 1/12/2021
) Description: COMPLAINT W/ARREST WARRANT
)

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
District of Columbia, the defendant(s) violated:

Table with 2 columns: Code Section, Offense Description. Rows include 18 U.S.C. 1752(a) Restricted Building or Grounds, 40 U.S.C. 5104(e)(2) Violent Entry or Disorderly Conduct, 18 U.S.C. 1512(c)(2) Tampering With a Witness, Victim, or an Informant

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

Continued on the attached sheet.

Handwritten signature of Ryan E. Genry

Ryan E. Genry, Special Agent FBI
Printed name and title

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

Date: 01/12/2021

Handwritten signature of Zia M. Faruqui



Zia M. Faruqui
2021.01.12 18:08:14 -05'00'

Judge's signature

City and state: Washington, D.C.

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

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	:	<b>Case No:</b>
	:	
<b>v.</b>	:	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)</b>
	:	<b>(Restricted Building or Grounds)</b>
	:	
	:	<b>40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)</b>
<b>WILLIAM MCCALL CALHOUN, JR</b>	:	<b>(Violent Entry or Disorderly Conduct)</b>
<b>Defendant.</b>	:	
	:	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2)</b>
	:	<b>(Tampering With a Witness, Victim, or</b>
	:	<b>an Informant)</b>
	:	
	:	<b><u>UNDER SEAL</u></b>
	:	

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL COMPLAINT  
AND ARREST WARRANT**

I, Ryan E. Genry, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

**PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT**

1. This Affidavit is submitted in support of a Criminal Complaint charging WILLIAM MCCALL CALHOUN, JR. with violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a), 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e), and 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2). I respectfully submit that this Affidavit establishes probable cause to believe that CALHOUN (1) did knowingly enter or remain in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority, or did knowingly, and with intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions, engage in disorderly or disruptive conduct; (2) did willfully and knowingly 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 any deliberations of either House of Congress; and (3) corruptly did obstruct, influence, or impede any

a proceeding before the Congress. Specifically, on or about January 6, 2021, CALHOUN traveled to Washington, D.C. and knowingly and willfully joined and encouraged a crowd of individuals who forcibly entered the U.S. Capitol and impeded, disrupted, and disturbed the orderly conduct of business by the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate.

### **BACKGROUND OF AFFIANT**

2. I have been a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation since January, 2018. I am currently assigned to the Atlanta Field Office, Albany Resident Agency of the FBI. As an FBI Agent, I have participated in numerous investigations involving unlawful narcotics distribution, organized crime, bank robberies, threats cases, unlawful firearms cases and other violent criminal offenses. In these investigations, I have been involved in the application for and execution of numerous arrest and search warrants related to the aforementioned criminal offenses. Through my training and experience, I am familiar with the actions, habits, traits, methods, and terminology utilized by violent criminal offenders.

3. Unless otherwise stated, the information in this Affidavit is either personally known to me, has been provided to me by other individuals, or is based on a review of various documents, records, and reports. Because this Affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause to support an application for an arrest warrant, it does not contain every fact known by me or the United States. The dates listed in this Affidavit should be read as “on or about” dates.

### **BACKGROUND**

4. 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. Vice President Mike Pence was present and presiding in the Senate chamber.

5. With the joint session underway and with Vice President Mike Pence presiding, a large crowd gathered outside the U.S. Capitol. 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. At approximately 2:00 p.m., certain individuals in the crowd forced their way through, up, and over the barricades and officers of the U.S. Capitol Police, and the crowd advanced to the exterior façade of the building. At such time, the joint session was 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. 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 session resumed.

**Americus, Georgia Resident McCall Calhoun's Use of Social Media to Post Threatening Communications Prior to January 6, 2021**

6. On November 12, 2020, the FBI National Threat Operation Center received a phone call from a concerned citizen who provided information concerning an individual named McCall CALHOUN. The caller stated that CALHOUN is a lawyer who resides in Americus,

Georgia and was making threats on social media platforms to include Facebook, Twitter and Parler. According to the caller, CALHOUN had posted a message encouraging people to storm Washington D.C. and peacefully protest while openly carrying firearms. The caller also read messages CALHOUN had purportedly posted stating:

- a. “some of you will live long enough to be exterminated with extreme prejudice”;
- b. “it’s going to be hard to buy a beer when Democrats are being shot on site [sic];”  
and
- c. “we are going to kill every last communist who stands in Trump’s way”

**Calhoun’s Use of Social Media to Document his Violent Intention and Participation in Storming the Capitol**

7. This investigation began on January 6, 2021, when I was provided with a video CALHOUN had posted on Facebook of himself inside the U.S. Capitol earlier that day. CALHOUN posted a message with the video: “After we had forced our way in but before the cops were rout...” An image of the Facebook post is enclosed as Enclosure 1.

**ENCLOSURE 1**



8. The FBI subsequently obtained additional messages and images on CALHOUN's social media pages revealing evidence that CALHOUN intended to and did travel to Washington, D.C. on January 6, 2021, to protest what he believed to be fraud in the 2020 presidential election and to "storm" the Capitol.

9. On December 29, 2020, CALHOUN posted a message to his Parler page that read: "Being physically present in Washington on January 6 is of key importance. We the people have no other realistic option to communicate our unwavering intent to demand fair elections now and forever – or else. I'll see you there!" That Parler post is enclosed as Enclosure 2.

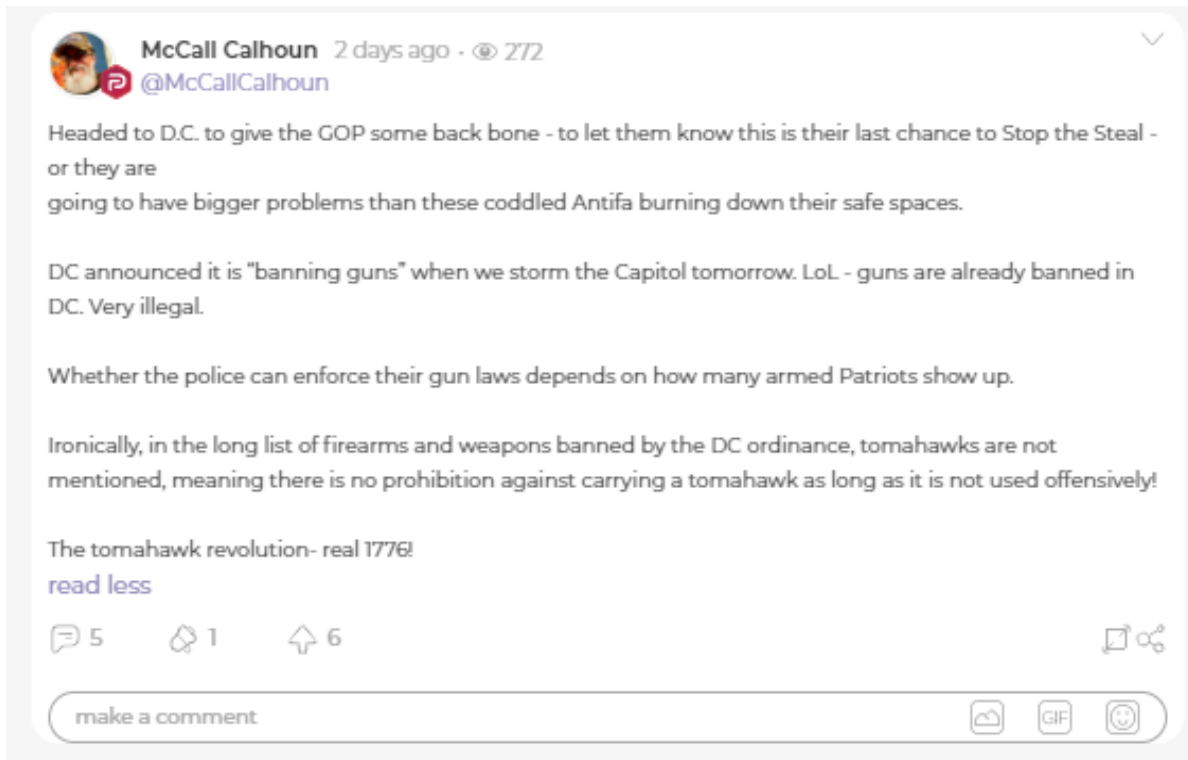
**ENCLOSURE 2**



10. On January 5, 2021, CALHOUN posted a message on his Parler page that read: "Headed to D.C. to give the GOP some back bone – to let them know this is their last chance to Stop The Steal – or they are going to have bigger problems than these coddled Antifa burning down their safe spaces. DC announced it is 'banning guns' when we storm the Capitol tomorrow. Very illegal. Whether the police can enforce their gun laws depends on how many armed Patriots show up. Ironically, in the long list of firearms and weapons banned by the DC ordinance,

tomahawks are not mentioned, meaning there is no prohibition against carrying a tomahawk as long as it is not used offensively! The tomahawk revolution – real 1776.” The Parler post is enclosed as Enclosure 3.

**ENCLOSURE 3**



11. On January 6, 2021, CALHOUN posted on his Facebook page a photograph from outside the U.S. Capitol with this message: “We’re going to get inside the Capitol before this ends.” That Facebook post is enclosed as Enclosure 4.

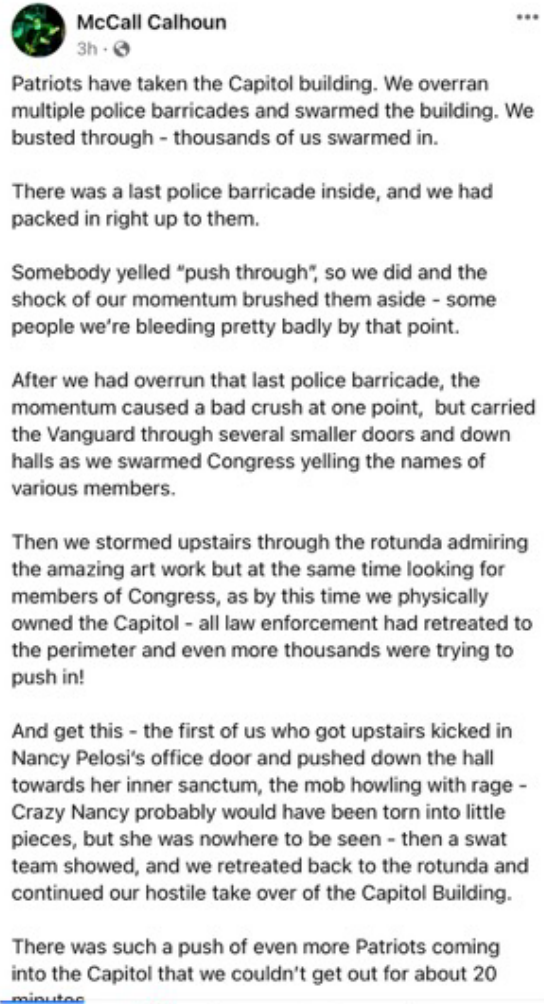
**ENCLOSURE 4**



12. Near January 6, 2021, CALHOUN also posted a message to Facebook that stated: “Patriots have taken the Capitol Building. We overran multiple police barricades and swarmed the building. We busted through – thousands of us swarmed in.” The message also states that CALHOUN and others pushed through a “police barricade inside” the Capitol, “swarmed Congress yelling the names of various members,” and “stormed upstairs . . . looking for members of Congress, as we physically owned the Capitol . . . .” The message also states that “all law enforcement had retreated to the perimeter.” CALHOUN boasted in the message that he was among “the first of us who got upstairs kicked in Nancy Pelosi’s office door and pushed down the

hall toward her inner sanctum.” CALHOUN described this as “the mob howling with rage.” That Facebook post is enclosed as Enclosure 5.

**ENCLOSURE 5**



13. Near January 6, 2021, CALHOUN posted another Facebook message that stated: “Today the American People proved that we have the power. We physically took control of the Capitol Building in a hand to hand hostile takeover. We occupied the Capitol and shut down the Government – we shut down their stolen election shenanigans.” That Facebook message is enclosed as Enclosure 6.

**ENCLOSURE 6**



14. CALHOUN posted a photograph on Facebook with the caption: “The rotunda of the Capitol, occupied by the People in a hostile takeover, Jan. 6.” That Facebook post is enclosed as Enclosure 7.

**ENCLOSURE 7**



**Calhoun Admits To His Participation in the Siege at the Capitol  
In an Atlanta Newspaper Interview**

15. On January 8, 2021, the Atlanta Journal Constitution published an article entitled: "AJC EXCLUSIVE: Georgia Attorney Among Those Who Broke Into U.S. Capitol."<sup>1</sup> The title of the article is accompanied by a picture of CALHOUN. The article states, "When hundreds of pro-Trump protesters stunned and horrified the nation by forcing their way into the United States Capitol Wednesday, self-described 'Anti-communist Counter-Revolutionary' McCall Calhoun

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ajc.com/news/georgia-attorney-among-those-who-broke-into-the-us-capitol/MF3IWF57WRGHBO2G2GTSZII374/> (last accessed January 12, 2021).

was among the first through the doors.” The article quotes CALHOUN's social media messages related to the events of January 6. CALHOUN is quoted: “The crowd was of one mind. Everybody there had the same attitude. They felt they had been robbed of a fair election and the Congress wasn't listening to them[.]” CALHOUN described the event as “civil disobedience.” He told the paper: “Anyone who claims it was anything other than civil disobedience was not there[.]” In noting CALHOUN’s various posts in the months leading up to the rally warning “of a coming civil war,” the article quotes CALHOUN in an October social media post as stating: “we’ve got to get serious about stopping them by force of arms.” CALHOUN acknowledged, “It probably wasn't the best idea, but it was what this group of people did,” and that, “I would freely admit that I trespassed, but I did it for the love of my country.”

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF AFFIANT**

16. Based on the foregoing, your Affiant submits that there is probable cause to believe that CALHOUN violated:

- a. 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a), which makes it a crime to (1) knowingly enter or remain in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority to do so; (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; (3) knowingly, and with the intent to impede or disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business or official functions, obstruct or impede ingress or egress to or from any restricted building or grounds; or (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. 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 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; and

b. 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2), which makes it a crime for an individual or group of individuals to willfully and knowingly (A) enter or remain on the floor of either House of Congress or in any cloakroom or lobby adjacent to that floor, in the Rayburn Room of the House of Representatives, or in the Marble Room of the Senate, unless authorized to do so pursuant to rules adopted, or an authorization given, by that House; (B) enter or remain in the gallery of either House of Congress in violation of rules governing admission to the gallery adopted by that House or pursuant to an authorization given by that House; (C) with the intent to disrupt the orderly conduct of official business, enter or remain in a room in any of the Capitol Buildings set aside or designated for the use of— (i) either House of Congress or a Member, committee, officer, or employee of Congress, or either House of Congress; or (ii) the Library of Congress; (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; (F) engage in an act of physical violence

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

- c. 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2), which makes it a crime to corruptly obstruct, influence, or impede any official proceeding—to include a proceeding before the Congress--or make an attempt to do so.
17. As such, I respectfully request that the court issue an arrest warrant for CALHOUN.

The statements above are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
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SPECIAL AGENT RYAN E. GENRY  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone, this 12 day of January, 2021.

  Zia M. Faruqi  
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HON. ZIA M. FARUQUI  
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE