

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

**Holding a Criminal Term**

**Grand Jury Sworn in on January 8, 2021**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b>	:	<b>CRIMINAL NO.</b>
	:	
<b>v.</b>	:	<b>MAGISTRATE NO. 21-MJ-300-01-02</b>
	:	
<b>BENJAMIN LAROCCA, and</b>	:	<b>VIOLATIONS:</b>
<b>CHRISTIAN CORTEZ,</b>	:	<b>18 U.S.C. §§ 1512(c)(2), 2</b>
	:	<b>(Obstruction of an Official Proceeding)</b>
<b>Defendants.</b>	:	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1)</b>
	:	<b>(Entering and Remaining in a Restricted</b>
	:	<b>Building or Grounds)</b>
	:	<b>18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2)</b>
	:	<b>(Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a</b>
	:	<b>Restricted Building or Grounds)</b>
	:	<b>40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D)</b>
	:	<b>(Disorderly Conduct in</b>
	:	<b>a Capitol Building)</b>
	:	<b>40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(G)</b>
	:	<b>(Parading, Demonstrating, or Picketing in</b>
	:	<b>a Capitol Building)</b>

**INDICTMENT**

The Grand Jury charges that:

**COUNT ONE**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia and elsewhere, **BENJAMIN LAROCCA** and **CHRISTIAN CORTEZ** attempted to, and did, corruptly obstruct, influence, and impede an official proceeding, that is, a proceeding before Congress, by entering and remaining in the United States Capitol without authority, committing an act of civil disorder, and engaging in disorderly and disruptive conduct.

**(Obstruction of an Official Proceeding and Aiding and Abetting, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1512(c)(2) and 2)**

**COUNT TWO**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, **BENJAMIN LAROCCA** and **CHRISTIAN CORTEZ** did unlawfully and knowingly enter and remain in a restricted building and grounds, that is, any posted, cordoned-off, and otherwise restricted area within the United States Capitol and its grounds, where the Vice President and Vice President-elect were temporarily visiting, without lawful authority to do so.

**(Entering and Remaining in a Restricted Building or Grounds, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1752(a)(1))**

**COUNT THREE**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, **BENJAMIN LAROCCA** and **CHRISTIAN CORTEZ** did knowingly, and with intent to impede and disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business and official functions, engage in disorderly and disruptive conduct in and within such proximity to, a restricted building and grounds, that is, any posted, cordoned-off, and otherwise restricted area within the United States Capitol and its grounds, where the Vice President and Vice President-elect were temporarily visiting, when and so that such conduct did in fact impede and disrupt the orderly conduct of Government business and official functions.

**(Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a Restricted Building or Grounds, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1752(a)(2))**

**COUNT FOUR**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, **BENJAMIN LAROCCA** and **CHRISTIAN CORTEZ** willfully and knowingly engaged in disorderly and disruptive conduct within the United States Capitol Grounds and in any of the Capitol Buildings with the intent to impede, disrupt, and disturb the orderly conduct of a session of Congress and either House

of Congress, and the orderly conduct in that building of a hearing before or any deliberation of, a committee of Congress or either House of Congress.

**(Disorderly Conduct in a Capitol Building, in violation of Title 40, United States Code, Section 5104(e)(2)(D))**

**COUNT FIVE**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, **BENJAMIN LARocca** and **CHRISTIAN CORTEZ** willfully and knowingly paraded, demonstrated, and picketed in any United States Capitol Building.

**(Parading, Demonstrating, or Picketing in a Capitol Building, in violation of Title 40, United States Code, Section 5104(e)(2)(G))**

A TRUE BILL:

FOREPERSON.



Attorney of the United States in  
and for the District of Columbia.