

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
District of Columbia

United States of America
v.
Tanner Bryce Sells
DOB: XXXXXX

) Case: 1:21-mj-00424
) Assigned to: Judge Faruqui, Zia M.
) Assign Date: 5/12/2021
) Description: COMPLAINT W/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. § 1752(a)(1) - Knowingly Entering or Remaining in any Restricted Building or Grounds Without Lawful Authority,
18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2) - Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a Restricted Building or Grounds,
40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) - Disorderly Conduct in a Capitol Building,
40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(G) - Parading, Demonstrating, or Picketing in a Capitol Building.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See attached statement of facts.

Continued on the attached sheet.

Matthew W. Chenevey (signature)

Complainant's signature

Matthew W. Chenevey, Special Agent
Printed name and title

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

Date: 05/12/2021

(Seal and signature of Zia M. Faruqui)

2021.05.12
17:00:54 -04'00'

Judge's signature

City and state: Washington, D.C.

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. Your affiant, Matthew Chenevey, is a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), where I investigate violations of federal criminal law. I have been a Special Agent with the FBI since 2004. I am currently assigned to the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the Oklahoma City FBI office. During my career, I have conducted investigations involving violations of federal criminal law relating to, but not limited to, counterterrorism, national security, financial crimes, and firearms-related offenses. I am authorized to investigate violations of laws of the United States, and as a law enforcement officer I am authorized to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States.

2. 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.

Incursion at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021

3. 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.

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 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.

5. 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, shortly 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.

6. 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.

7. 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 Tanner Bryce Sells

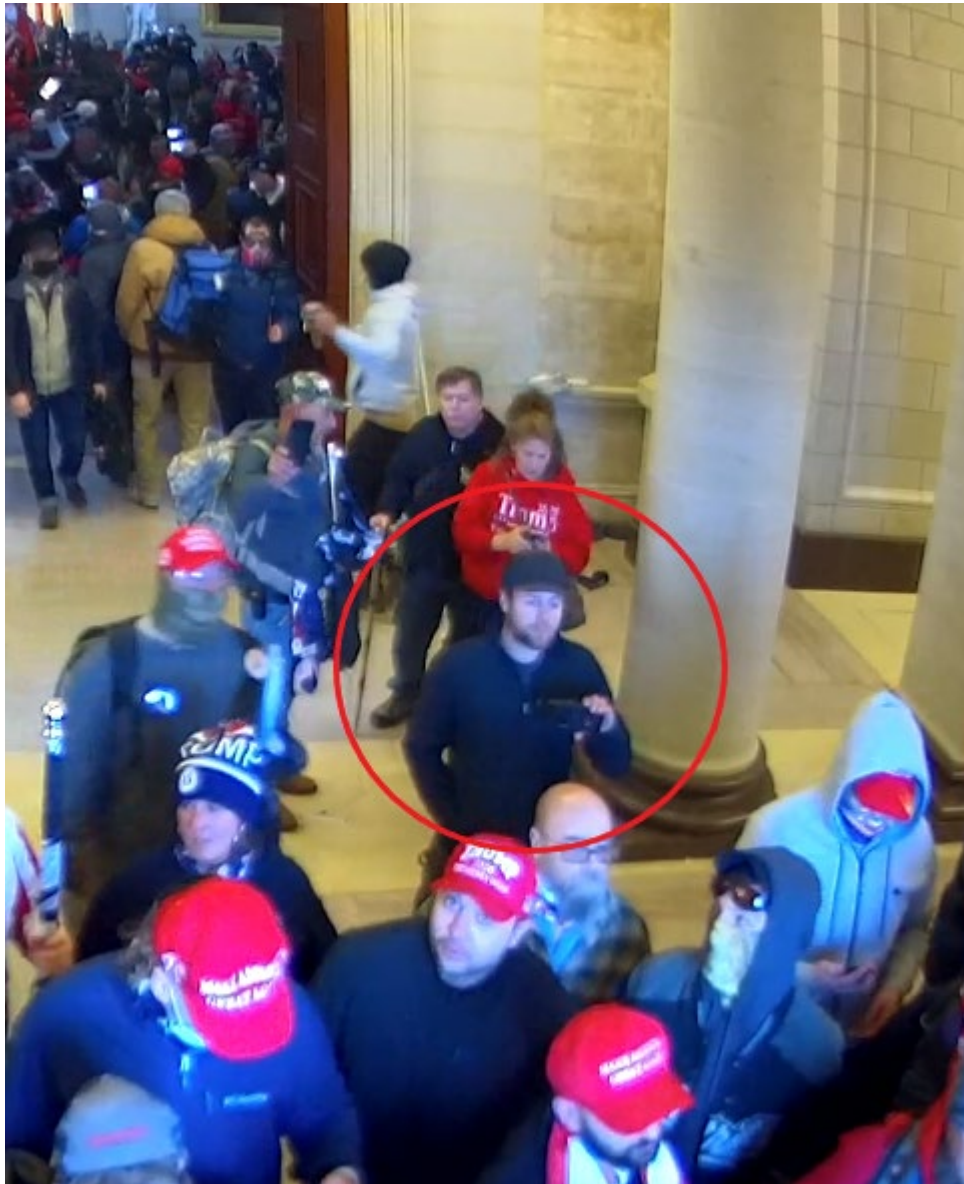
8. The U.S. Capitol has closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras covering the U.S. Capitol. Footage from January 6, 2021, was reviewed by law enforcement officers. A search of Oklahoma Department of Motor Vehicles returned TANNER BRYCE SELLS's driver's license photograph. By comparing this photograph to the image of the person captured on CCTV footage, your affiant reasonably believes that the person identified below is TANNER BRYCE SELLS.

9. Additionally, a person known to FBI (WITNESS 1) captured Facebook videos posted on SELLS' Facebook page that feature him both inside and outside the U.S. Capitol. WITNESS 1 has known SELLS for over five years. WITNESS 1 provided the FBI with a recent photograph of SELLS from SELLS's social media account, showing SELLS from inside the U.S. Capitol, included below:



10. Capitol CCTV Video labeled 0686 USCH02 Rotunda Door Interior, at approximately 19:46 GMT captured the following (all times approximate):

- a. SELLS enters the frame at the 6:07 mark, wearing a black jacket, with brown/gray hat. SELLS enters from a large doorway in the middle of the video. SELLS is holding what appears to be a cell phone in his left hand and moves to the far right of the screen. SELLS talks to an individual and walks out of camera view at the 7:13 mark.



11. Participants of the storming of the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, utilized mobile devices to organize, document, and broadcast many of the events at the Capitol. As seen in the video above, SELLS appeared to use a cell phone while inside the Capitol.

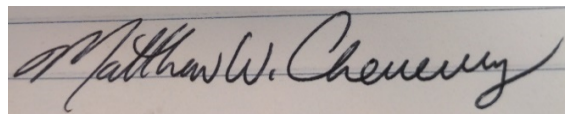
12. According to WITNESS 1, SELLS has telephone number ending in 3414. WITNESS 1 confirmed the number ending in 3414 is the cell phone through which WITNESS 1 has been communicating with SELLS. WITNESS 1 stated 3414 is the only number WITNESS 1 has for SELLS, and it is still current and active. Records identified telephone number ending in 3414 as an Apple iPhone XR, IMEI 3573490994356022, in the vicinity of the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021.

13. According to records obtained through a search warrant served on AT&T, on January 6, 2021, in and around the time of the incident, SELLS' number ending in 3414 was identified as having utilized a cell site consistent with providing service to a geographic area that includes the interior of the United States Capitol building.

Probable Cause Violations

14. Based on the foregoing, your affiant submits that there is probable cause to believe that Tanner Bryce Sells 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; 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.

15. Your affiant submits there is also probable cause to believe that Tanner Bryce Sells violated 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) & (G), 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 (G) parade, demonstrate, or picket in any of the Capitol Buildings.



Matthew Chenevey
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 12th day of May 2021.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Zia M. Faruqui".

2021.05.12

16:49:31 -04'00'

ZIA M. FARUQUI
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE