

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

CHRISTIAN KULAS
Date of Birth xx/xx/xxxx

I, [REDACTED] being first duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

AFFIANT'S BACKGROUND

1. Your affiant, [REDACTED] is a Special Agent assigned to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and have been so employed for approximately three years. In my assigned duties as a Special Agent, I investigate domestic terrorism. Currently, I am tasked with investigating criminal activity in and around the U.S. Capitol grounds on January 6, 2021. 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. I am familiar with the facts and circumstances set forth below from my personal participation in the investigation, my review of documentation and publicly available information, and my conversations with other law enforcement officers. Where the actions, statements, and conversations of others are recounted herein, they are recounted in substance and part, unless otherwise indicated. Where the affidavit contains items in quotation marks, those quotations are based on agent notes and may not be completely verbatim. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of supporting a criminal complaint, I am setting forth only those facts and circumstances necessary to establish probable cause for the issuance of the requested complaint. Unless otherwise indicated, all written and oral statements referred to herein are set forth in substance and in part, rather than verbatim.

PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT

3. This affidavit is in support of a criminal complaint charging CHRISTIAN KULAS with violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1752(a)(1) and (2) (unlawful entry on restricted building and grounds), and 40 U.S.C. §§ 5104(e)(2) (D) and (G) (disorderly conduct on U.S. Capitol grounds).

FACTUAL BASIS SUPPORTING PROBABLE CAUSE

4. 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.
5. On January 6, 2021, a joint session of the United States Congress convened at the U.S. 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 PM. Shortly thereafter, by approximately 1:30 PM, 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.

6. 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 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.
7. 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 PM, 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.
8. Shortly thereafter, at approximately 2:20 PM, members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate, including the President of the Senate, Vice President 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 PM. Vice President Pence remained in the United States Capitol from the time he was evacuated from the Senate Chamber until the sessions resumed.
9. 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.
10. On and about January 9, 2021, FBI received multiple tips that an individual by the name of CHRISTIAN KULAS was captured in images and video of the unlawful activity that occurred on January 6, 2021, in and around the U.S. Capitol Building and grounds. As a result of these tips, the FBI interviewed several individuals.
11. A cooperating witness (“CW-1”) provided the FBI video clips from an Instagram social media account with the user ID “radheshyam97” (the “Instagram Account”). The video clips from the Instagram Account include a video depicting the scene at the January 6, 2021, rally where President Trump was speaking, and appears to have been filmed from within the crowd of rallygoers:



12. A second video clip posted on the Instagram account shows a large crowd of people walking towards the U.S. Capitol Building chanting “block the steal”:



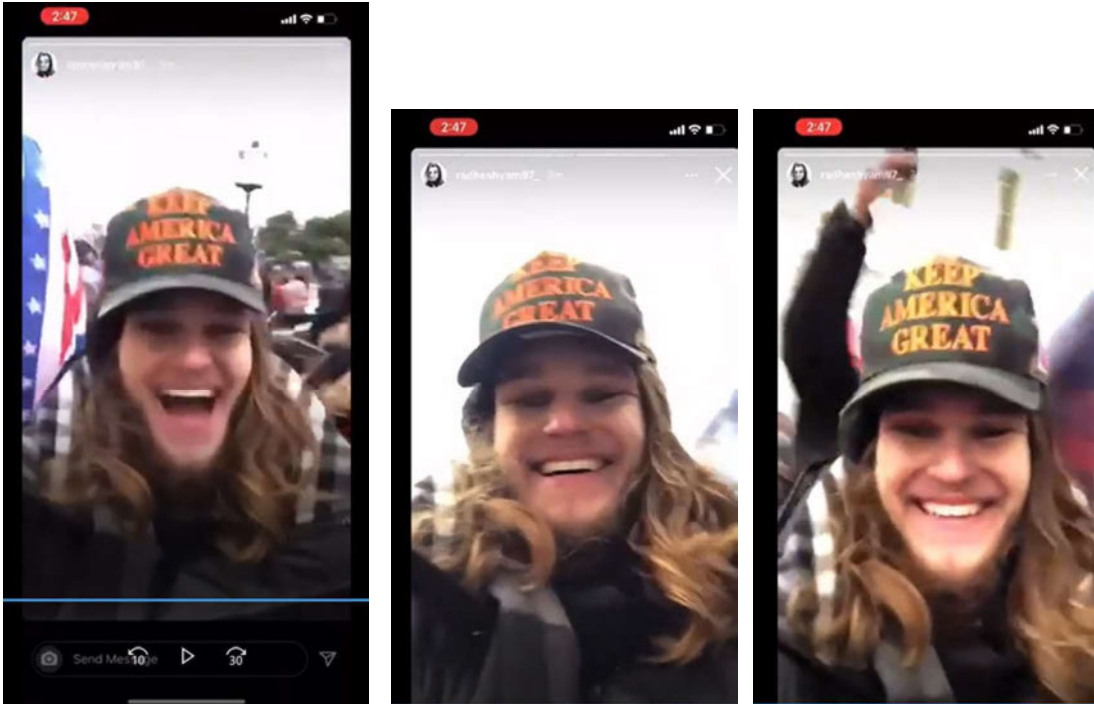
13. A third video clip posted on the Instagram account shows a crowd of people climbing the exterior wall of the U.S. Capitol Building:



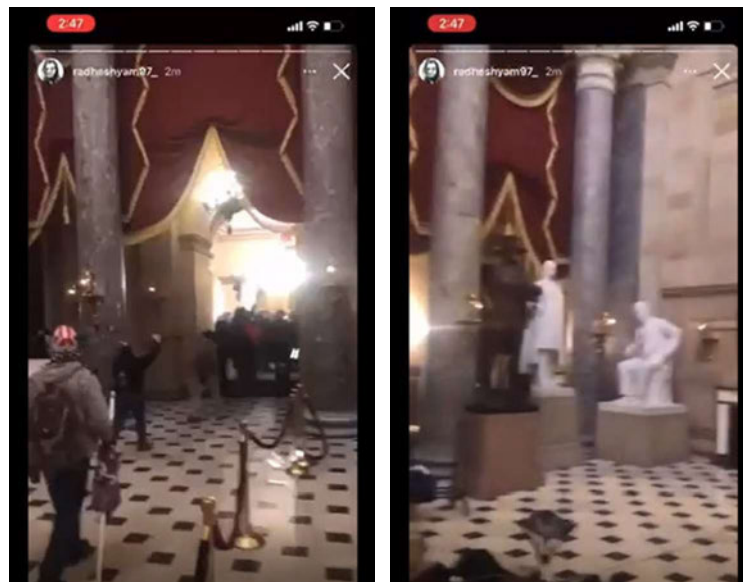
14. A fourth video clip posted on the Instagram Account shows a large crowd walking up the steps of the U.S. Capitol Building:



15. The video clip of people walking up the steps outside the U.S. Capitol Building includes a moment where the camera pans around and shows the face of the individual that appears to be operating the camera. The individual depicted in the video is laughing. The individual is wearing a dark baseball type hat with “KEEP AMERICA GREAT” in bright orange letters on the hat. The individual was also wearing a dark coat with a Burberry print around the hood of the coat:



16. A fifth video clip posted by the Instagram Account depicts the inside of the U.S. Capitol Building. During the video, a male voice can be heard saying, “Storming the Capitol”:



17. CW-1 provided additional information to the FBI about the user of the Instagram account. CW-1 stated that KULAS lived in the Winnetka/Lake Forest area of Illinois and provided a point of contact (“CW-2”) who had additional information about KULAS.

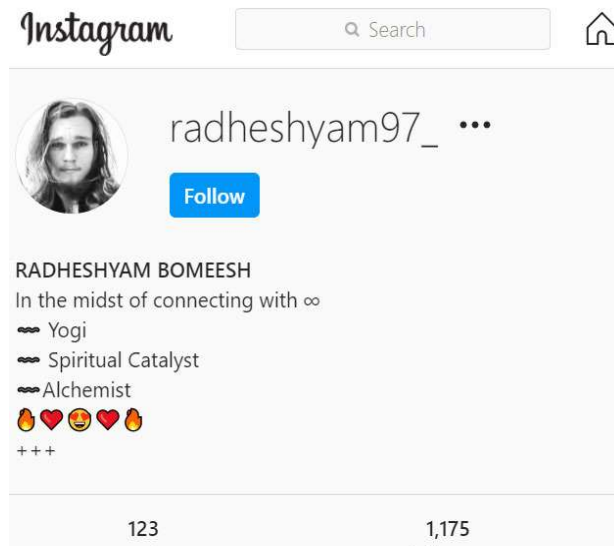
18. The FBI also interviewed CW-2, an individual who has known KULAS for several years. CW-2 reported that CW-2 attended middle school and high school with KULAS. CW-2 viewed the videos posted by the Instagram Account, and was highly confident that the

individual depicted in the videos wearing the Burberry coat was KULAS. CW-2 was also familiar with the sound of KULAS's voice, and CW-2 identified KULAS as the speaker of the words "storming the Capitol" in the video posted by the Instagram Account.

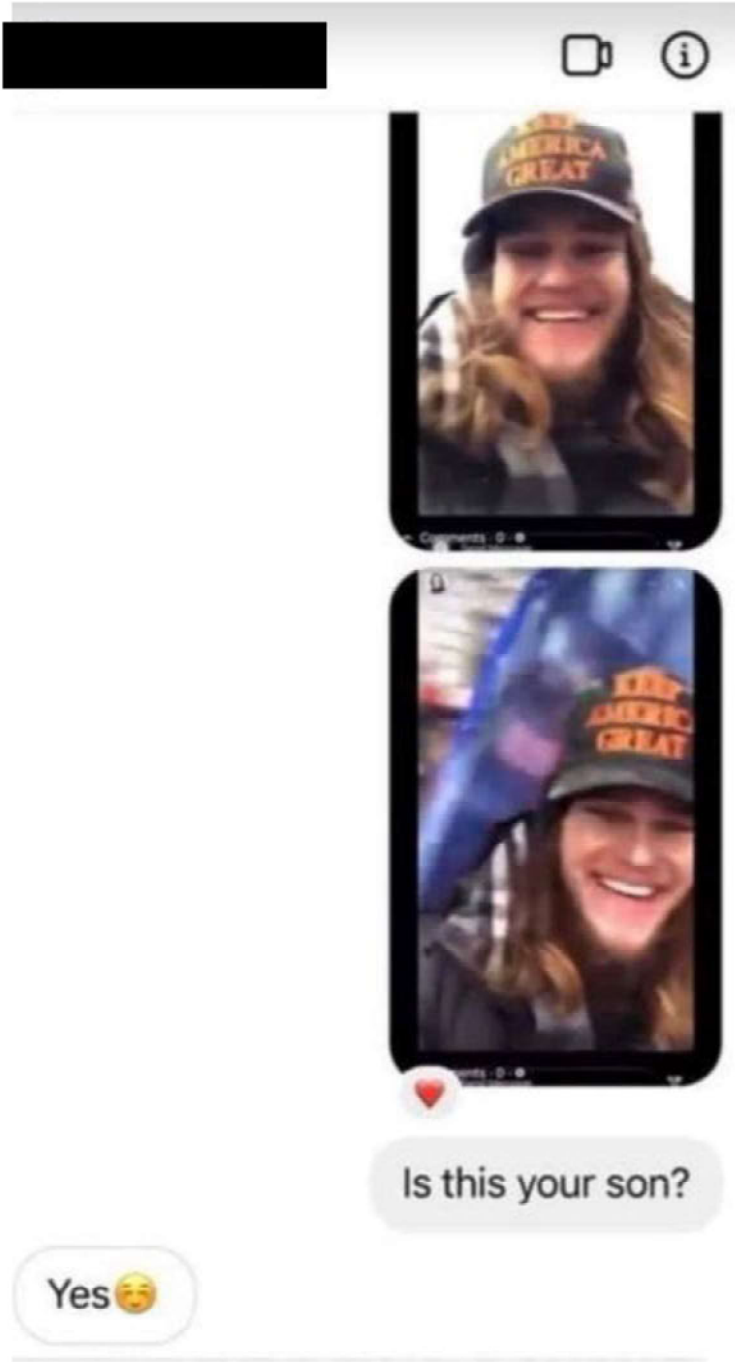
19. The FBI has obtained additional video footage from a variety of sources that appears to show KULAS inside the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021, wearing the same hat and Burberry coat depicted in the videos posted by the Instagram Account. This other video footage includes footage taken by other rioters, and also official surveillance camera footage:



20. The Instagram Account was registered using an e-mail address, and the FBI has learned that the registration e-mail address was itself registered by an individual who provided his name as "Christian Kulas". The Instagram Account profile page for the user includes a photograph that appears to be KULAS:



21. The FBI learned that some of the photographs that appear to be taken from the video footage posted by the Instagram Account appeared on a social media service. In a response to a posted question about the photographs, a user of the social media service identified the image in the photographs as the user's "son". Law enforcement examined government databases and identified the name of KULAS' mother and her phone number. The user of the social media service had a user ID that matched the name of KULAS' mother. Law enforcement obtained subscriber information from the social media service about the user's account, and learned that the user's account was created using an e-mail address that also matched the name of KULAS' mother. Additionally, the subscriber information for the user's account contained KULAS' mother's phone number.



22. Based on the foregoing, your affiant submits that there is probable cause to believe that CHRISTIAN KULAS 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.

23. Your affiant submits there is also probable cause to believe that CHRISTIAN KULAS violated 40 U.S.C. §§ 5104(e)(2)(D) and (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.



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 3rd day of June 2021.

A handwritten digital signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Michael Harvey".

Digitally signed
by G. Michael
Harvey

HON. G. MICHAEL HARVEY
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE