Case 1:23-mj-00345-GMH Document 1-1 Assigned To : Harvey, G. Michael Assign. Date : 12/12/2023 Description: COMPLAINT W/ARREST WARRANT

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Your affiant, fis a Task Force Officer (TFO) assigned to the former of the FBI's field Office. In my duties as a TFO, I have received specialized training from the FBI and my agency, the former of the FBI police Department, including training in the investigation of domestic terrorism and anti-government violent extremism. During my tenure as a Task Force Officer, I have been assigned to the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force of the fibration Division, which investigates, among other violations of federal law, domestic and international terrorism, anti-government violent extremism and racially motivated violent extremism. During my nine years as a police officer, I have served as a member of the SWAT critical incident response unit, as an Explosives Ordnance Detection K-9 handler and I am a certified FBI Hazardous Devices School (HDS) Bomb Technician.

Currently, I am tasked with investigating criminal activity in and around the U.S. Capitol grounds on January 6, 2021. As a Task Force Officer, I am authorized by law or by a Government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of a violation of Federal criminal laws.

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.

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 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.

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.

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, 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.

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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 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 PM Vice President Pence remained in the United States Capitol from the time he was evacuated from the Senate Chamber until the sessions resumed.

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.

Geolocation Information Associated with CHRISTOPHER GEORGE ROCKEY

Since January 6, 2021, the FBI has been investigating and identifying those who were inside of the Capitol without authority and disrupted the proceedings. During that investigation, the FBI learned that, according to records obtained through a search warrant served on Google, a mobile device associated with Google account crockeyXXX@XXX.com (the Rockey account), with a recovery email address of relaxationXXXXX50@XXX.com and a recovery telephone number of (XXX) XXX-6456 (the "6456 number"), was present at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

Google estimates device location using sources including GPS data and information about nearby Wi-Fi access points and Bluetooth beacons. This location data varies in its accuracy, depending on the source(s) of the data. As a result, Google assigns a "maps display radius" for each location data point. Thus, where Google estimates that its location data is accurate to within 10 meters, Google assigns a "maps display radius" of 10 meters to the location data point. Finally, Google reports that its "maps display radius" reflects the actual location of the covered device approximately 68% of the time.

In this case, Google location data shows that a device associated with the Rockey account was present at the locations illustrated in Image 1, below. The mobile device was within the U.S. Capitol at locations reflected by each darker blue circle in Image 1, below, with the "maps display radius" reflected by each lighter blue ring around each darker blue circle. As illustrated in Image 1, the listed locations encompass areas that are at least partially within the U.S. Capitol Building between approximately 2:21 PM and 3:01 PM (EST) on January 6, 2021. In addition, as illustrated in Image 1, the listed locations were entirely within areas of the U.S. Capitol Grounds which were restricted on January 6, 2021.

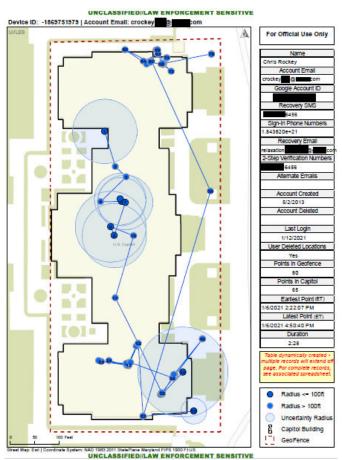


Image 1: A screenshot of the geolocation data for the Rockey account between approximately 2:22 PM and 4:50 PM (EST) on January 6, 2021 showing the device associated with the Rockey account in or around the Capitol.

Legal process to Google identified the subscriber of the Rockey account as "Chris Rockey." Legal process to AT&T identified the subscriber of the 6456 number as "Laura Rockey" and identified a billing address in Charleston, South Carolina (the "Charleston address"), and a contact email address as relaxationXXXX50@XXX.com. Through the investigation I learned that in January 2021, CHRISTOPHER GEORGE ROCKEY ("ROCKEY") was married to Laura Rockey. ROCKEY's South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles records show that the Charleston address listed on ROCKEY's driver's license in January 2021.

The FBI Receives Information about ROCKEY and "Patriot Eddie"

On January 5, 2022, the FBI interviewed Person 1 after his/her arrest for crimes stemming from Person 1's conduct at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. Person 1 has pled guilty to and been sentenced for Person 1's conduct on January 6, 2021. Person 1 is not actively cooperating with the FBI and the information below comes from Person 1's post-arrest interview and a search of Person 1's cellphone. Person 1 explained that he/she met ROCKEY through a mutual friend and that on January 6, 2021, the two of them were inside the Unites States Capitol together along with a third person named "Eddie." Person 1 described "Eddie" as a white male with a long blonde ponytail. Person 1 said that they were all carrying pepper spray and that ROCKEY was wearing

a helmet. Person 1 reviewed Image 2, below, and identified the individual circled in red as ROCKEY and the individual circled in yellow as "Eddie."



Image 2: Image shown to Person 1

In Image 2, above, the individual identified as ROCKEY appears to be wearing a green helmet, green sweatshirt, and camouflage pants. The individual identified as "Eddie" appears to be wearing jeans, a dark vest, and a green or beige long-sleeve shirt or sweater.

Law enforcement conducted a search of Person 1's cellphone. In Person 1's phone, telephone number XXX-XXX-1689 (the "1689 number") was saved in the contacts section of the phone as "patriot Eddie." Legal process to T-Mobile identified the subscriber of the 1689 number as EDWARD PICQUET, JR. ("PICQUET").

AT&T records from the 6456 number show calls and texts between the 6456 number and Person 1's phone in January of 2021, including January 3, 4, 5, and 6, 2021.

Additional Identification of ROCKEY

On January 14, 2022, I conducted an interview of Person 2, who has lived in the same neighborhood as ROCKEY for several years. Person 2 stated that while on the FBI website for an unrelated reason, he/she discovered pictures that he/she was sure were ROCKEY's—Images 3 and 4 below:



Image 3

Image 4

Images 3 and 4 depict ROCKEY wearing a green helmet, green sweatshirt, goggles, and camouflage pants. The clothing worn by the individual in Images 3 and 4, and identified by Person 2 as ROCKEY, is consistent with the clothing worn by the individual depicted in Image 2 and identified by Person 1 as ROCKEY.

Person 2 was shown another image, image 5 below, and was unable to say whether ROCKEY was depicted in the image.

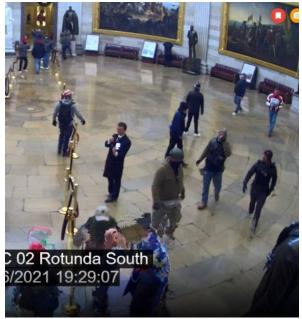


Image 5

In addition, I have reviewed ROCKEY's South Carolina Driver's License Photograph. Based upon that review and the information provided by Person 1 and Person 2, I believe that the individual depicted in Images 2, 3, and 4, above, is ROCKEY.

Additional Identification of PICQUET

On June 10, 2022, I spoke to a Charleston County South Carolina Sheriff's Deputy to attempt to confirm PICQUET's identity. The Deputy had conducted a traffic stop of PICQUET on May 21, 2022, and had confirmed PICQUET's identity during the stop by PICQUET's South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit. I emailed the Deputy Image 6, a picture of an individual inside of the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021:



Image 6

The Deputy responded by stating "Yes that looks like him," meaning PICQUET. In Image 6, PICQUET appears to be wearing a red and white neck gator.

I have reviewed PICQUET's South Carolina Driver's License Photograph. Based upon that review and the information provided by the Deputy and Person 1, I believe that the individual depicted in Images 2, above, is PICQUET.

ROCKEY and PICQUET inside of the Capitol on January 6, 2021

U.S. Capitol Police CCV footage shows ROCKEY and PICQUET entering the Capitol through the Senate Wing Doors at approximately 2:23 PM, approximately 10 minutes after the initial breach of the Capitol building. At approximately 2:27 PM, ROCKEY and PICQUET appear on CCV footage in the Rotunda:



Image 7: ROCKEY (circled in red) and PICQUET (circled in yellow) in the Rotunda at approximately 2:28 PM

Along with a crowd, ROCKEY and PICQUET moved toward the House Chamber. The crowd confronted a police line:



Image 8: ROCKEY (circled in red) and PICQUET (circled in yellow) in the Capitol at approximately 2:31 PM



At approximately 2:35 PM, ROCKEY put goggles on:

Image 9: ROCKEY (circled in red) in the Capitol at approximately 2:35 PM

The crowd pushed through the police line at approximately 2:36 PM. ROCKEY and PICQUET continued to walk through the Capitol building and eventually exited the Capitol through the East Front House Door at approximately 2:44 PM.

<u>ROCKEY and PICQUET on Capitol Grounds</u>

After exiting the East Front House Doors, ROCKEY walked back up to the doors and peered inside (but did not re-enter the Capitol) at approximately 2:54 PM:



Image 10: ROCKEY (circled in red) outside of the Capitol at approximately 2:54 PM

At some point after exiting the Capitol, ROCKEY and PICQUET joined a crowd on the Upper Terrace on the north side of the Capitol. Video footage between approximately 4:34 PM and 4:35 PM depicts ROCKEY, dressed in the same attire as in Images 3,4, 7, and 10, pushing and grabbing a Metropolitan Police Department ("MPD") officer's riot shield as law enforcement attempted to clear the area. The video footage also depicts PICQUET, dressed in the same attire as in Images 2, 7, 8, and 9, positioned behind ROCKEY, as pictured below in Image 14.



Image 11: ROCKEY (circled in red) with his hand (circled in blue) pushing an officer's shield at approximately 4:34 PM



Image 12: ROCKEY's helmet (circled in red) and hand (circled in blue) at approximately 4:35 PM



Image 13: ROCKEY's hand (circled in blue) at approximately 4:35 PM



Image 14: ROCKEY (circled in red) and PICQUET (circled in yellow) outside of the Capitol at approximately 4:35 PM

Open-source images and videos show this incident from another angle. In the image below, ROCKEY's hand can be seen on the top of a law enforcement officer's riot shield:



Image 15: Open-source image showing ROCKEY (circled in red) with his hand (circled in blue)



Image 16: Open-source video showing ROCKEY (circled in red) with his hand (circled in blue) on a law enforcement officer's shield.

An open-source video¹ captures this same incident and depicts ROCKEY using his right hand to grab the shield of an MPD officer and then using his right hand to strike the officer in the face:

¹ Available at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b76KfHB0Q08</u> (last visited August 14, 2023).

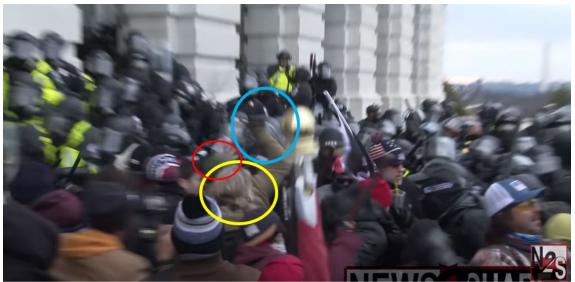


Image 17: Image from an open-source video showing ROCKEY (circled in red) with his hand (circled in blue) raised and PICQUET (circled in yellow).



Image 18: Open-source image showing ROCKEY (circled in red) striking an officer with his hand (circled in blue).

The open-source video also shows PICQUET involved in the altercation. As depicted in the video, PICQUET moves up in the crowd to the front of the police line. Once near the front, PICQUET places his hands on the back of ROCKEY, grabbing his sweatshirt and pushing him forward directly into the line of officers. In the video, the crowd is yelling "hold the line" and "traitors." A still image from the video is below:



Image 19: Image from an open-source video showing ROCKEY (circled in red) with his hand (circled in blue) on what appears to be a law enforcement officer's shield and PICQUET (circled in yellow) with his hand (circled in green) on ROCKEY's back.

Another open-source video² shows PICQUET pushing on ROCKEY from another angle:



Image 120: Image from an open-source video showing ROCKEY (circled in red) and PICQUET (circled in yellow) with his hand (circled in green) on ROCKEY's back.

In the video the crowd is yelling "hold the line," "push," and "traitor."

² <u>https://ia902308.us.archive.org/6/items/gKPN3TmMKtkaNErgG/Indo_szn_10000000_8702575.mpeg4</u> (last visited Aug. 15, 2023).

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After the incident described above and depicted in Images 10-19 above, ROCKEY and PICQUET remained on the Upper Terrace on the north side of the Capitol. Video footage between approximately 4:36 and 4:37 PM depicts ROCKEY, dressed in the same attire as in Images 3, 4, 7, and 10, grabbing a MPD Officer's baton and then grabbing another MPD Officer's shield. The video footage also depicts PICQUET, dressed in the same attire as in Images 2, 7, 8, and 9, positioned behind ROCKEY, as pictured in Image 22 below.



Image 21: ROCKEY's hand (circled in red) hand grabbing MPD Officer M.T.'s baton at approximately 4:37 PM



Image 22: Screenshot from MPD Officer M.T.'s body-cam footage showing ROCKEY (circled in red) with his hand (circled in blue) grabbing MPD Officer M.P.'s shield at approximately 4:37 PM. PICQUET is circled in yellow

Based on the foregoing, I submit that there is probable cause to believe that CHRISTOPHER GEORGE ROCKEY and EDWARD PICQUET, JR. violated 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1) and (2), which make 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 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.

I also submit that there is also probable cause to believe that ROCKEY violated 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(4), which makes it a crime to (4) knowingly engage in any act of physical violence against any person or property in any restricted building or grounds, or attempt or conspire 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.

I also submit there is also probable cause to believe that ROCKEY and PICQUET violated 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2) (D) and (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; and (G) parade, demonstrate, or picket in any of the Capitol Buildings.

I also submit that there is also probable cause to believe that ROCKEY violated 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(F), which makes it a crime to willfully and knowingly engage in an act of physical violence in the Grounds or any of the Capitol Buildings.

I also submit that there is probable cause to believe that ROCKEY violated 18 U.S.C. § 111(a)(1), which makes it a crime to forcibly assault, resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, or interfere with any person designated in section 1114 of Title 18 while that person is engaged in the performance of official duties, or on account of that person's performance of official duties, where such acts involve physical contact with the victim or the intent to commit another felony. Persons designated within section 1114 of Title 18 include federal officers such as USCP officers, and include any person assisting an officer or employee of the United States in the performance of their official duties.

I also submit there is probable cause to believe that ROCKEY and PICQUET 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, or adversely affects commerce or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce or 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 Secret Service's protection of the Vice President and his family and the Capitol Police's protection of the U.S. Capitol.



Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone, this 12th day of December 2023.

G. MICHAEL HARVEY U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE