# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

### **Holding a Criminal Term**

Grand Jury Sworn in on January 8, 2021

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : CRIMINAL NO.

v. : MAGISTRATE NO. 21-mj-542

LUKE WESSLEY BENDER, : VIOLATIONS:

: 18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2)

Defendant. : (Obstruction of an Official Proceeding)

: 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1)

: (Entering and Remaining in a Restricted

Building or Grounds)18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(2)

: (Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a

Restricted Building or Grounds)

40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(A)

: (Entering and Remaining on the Floor of

Congress)

: 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)

:

#### INDICTMENT

The Grand Jury charges that:

## **COUNT I**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia and elsewhere, **LUKE WESSLEY BENDER**, attempted to, and did, corruptly obstruct, influence, and impede an official proceeding, that is, a proceeding before Congress, specifically, Congress's certification of the

Electoral College vote as set out in the Twelfth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and 3 U.S.C. §§ 15-18.

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

### **COUNT II**

On or about January 6, 2021, in the District of Columbia, **LUKE WESSLEY BENDER**, did 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 III**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, LUKE WESSLEY BENDER, 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 IV**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, LUKE WESSLEY BENDER, willfully and knowingly entered and remained on the floor of a House of Congress and

in any cloakroom and lobby adjacent to that floor, in the Rayburn Room of the House of Representatives, and in the Marble Room of the Senate, without authorization to do so.

(Entering and Remaining on the Floor of Congress, in violation of Title 40, United States Code, Section 5104(e)(2)(A))

### **COUNT V**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, LUKE WESSLEY BENDER, 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 VI**

On or about January 6, 2021, within the District of Columbia, LUKE WESSLEY BENDER, 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.

Chauning D. Phillips