UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Columbia

United States of America v. FREDERICK BREITFELDER DOB: XXXXXX	Case: 1:25-mj-00012 Assigned To: Judge G. Michael Harvey Assign. Date: 01/15/2025 Description: COMPLAINT W/ARREST WARRANT			
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT				
I, the complainant in this case, state that the follow	ing 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 <u>Columbia</u> , th	e defendant(s) violated:			
Code Section	Offense Description			
Title 18, U.S.C. § 111(a)(1) - Assaulting, Resist 18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3) - Obstruction of Law Enformation 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1), (a)(2), and (a)(4)- Enter Conduct; and, Engaging in Physical Violence in 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D), and (e)(2)(F), Disord Capitol Grounds or Buildings.	orcement During Civil Disorder, ing and Remaining; Disorderly and Disruptive			
This criminal complaint is based on these facts:				
See attached statement of facts.				
X Continued on the attached sheet.				
Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirement by telephone.	ments of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1			
Date: 01/15/2025	Judge's signature			
City and state: Washington, D.C.	G. Michael Harvey, U.S. Magistrate Judge Printed name and title			

Case: 1:25-mj-00022-SKB Doc #: 1 File (1.30) 15/25 Page: 001418 PAGEID #: 2

Assigned To : Judge G. Michael Harvey

Assign. Date: 01/15/2025

Description: COMPLAINT W/ARREST WARRANT

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Your affiant, is a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation assigned to the FBI's Cincinatti Field Office. In my duties as a Special Agent, I am responsible for investigating violations of Title 18 of the United States Code and other violations of federal law. I have conducted and participated in investigations that the used, among other techniques: physical and electronic surveillance; witness and subject interviews; the executon of search warrants; and, the analysis of evidentiary items. Currently, I am tasked with investigating criminal activity in and around the 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, 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 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.

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 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.

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.

As a result of the siege of the Capitol, the Mayor of the District of Columbia issued a Declaration of a Second Public Emergency – Citywide Curfew which imposed a curfew commencing at 6:00 p.m. EST on January 6, 2021 and ending at 6:00 a.m. EST on Thursday, January 7, 2021. This adversely impacted interstate commerce¹. For instance, Safeway Supermarket in Washington, D.C. closed at 4:00 p.m. EST as a result of the curfew, which according to Safeway records had a negative impact on sales².

During national news coverage of the events at the Capitol on January 6th, 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 at the U.S. Capitol building without authority to be there, with many documented assaulting and impeding officers protecting the Capitol.

From those videos and pictures, as well as body worn cameras (BWCs) worn by many of the Metropolitan Police Department officers who responded to the Capitol to assist the U.S. Capitol Police, an individual was identified on the West Front of the Capitol engaged in numerous criminal acts as detailed below. The individual was distincitively dressed in a dark jacket, wearing a black baseball/softball helmet with facemask, and carrying a light blue sling bag and an American flag attached to an axe handle. Figure 1 is an image captured of him on that day.



Figure 1

Through investigation, some of which is detailed below, that individual has been identified as an Ohio resident named Frederick BREITFELDER.

¹ https://mayor.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-orders-citywide-curfew-beginning-6pm-today

² https://www.washingtoninformer.com/safeway-closes-d-c-locations-amid-protests/

After the events of January 6, 2021, and in response to social media requests by the FBI to identify individuals involved in criminal activity on that day, an individual (W-1) contacted the FBI and informed them that he/she recognized the individual in the FBI social media post below in Figure 2, as Frederick BREITFELDER. W-1 has known BREITFELDER for decades and had last seen him in late 2019. W-1 had stayed in communication with BREITFELDER after 2019 and received a text from BREITFELDER in December of 2020 where BREITFELDER stated that he was going to be driving to "DC" on January 5th. On January 7, 2021 BRIETFELDER texted W-1 to confirm that he was driving back, but did not provide details of his trip.



Figure 2 – FBI Social Media Inquiry for an individual the individual listed as "Photo 516."

Another individual (W-2) was also interviewed by FBI agents and also identified BREITFELDER in the photographs. W-2 had known BRIETFELDER for years and knew him through work, having last worked with him in approximately 2016. Having reviewed the photographs that the FBI posted on social media, W-2 identified them as BREITFELDER, stating that while he/she hoped BREITFELDER was not involved with the events of January 6th, the resemblance to BREITFELDER in the FBI photos was uncanny.

In addition to the identification of BREITFELDER by the above individuals, your affiant has also reviewed records obtained through a search warrant which identified that a cellular telephone believed to be used by was present on the West front of the Capitol Building in the afternoon on January 6, 2021.

Breitfelder's Criminal Acts at the U.S. Capitol

The following description is based on my investigation including review of video footage taken by individuals in the crowd, BWC, U.S. Capitol CCTV, and my knowledge of the events of January 6 through this and other investigations. By the afternoon of January 6, 2021, thousands of protestors had gathered on the west side of the Capitol building. Initially the protestors gathered

outside of the restricted area, which was cordoned off by fencing and bike rack barricades linked together, with officers guarding the line. However, as the crowd grew and became more hostile, portions of the line were breached and rioters streamed through. In videos taken by other individuals in the crowd that day BREITFELDER can be seen pulling on a section of bike rack barricade which was placed there to restrict access to the Capitol Building and grounds. BREITFELDER can be seen in the yellow square in Figure 3, and can be seen dragging a bike rack barricade to open a gap in the line in Figure 4.



Figure 3 – Still image from video showing BREITFELDER (yellow box) pulling at barricades



Figure 4 – Still image from video showing BREITFELDER dragging a bike rack barricade

Once BREITFELDER and the others pushed past the outer barriers of the restricted area, they then came to a second line of United States Capitol Police (USCP) and Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) officers formed along the West Plaza to the Capitol. The officers were posted there behind a line of metal bike rack fences at a landing above a small flight of stairs which spanned the Lower West Plaza. This area was well inside of the restricted perimeter which had been set up around the entire Capitol for that day. During this time rioters confronted officers at that line and made repeated efforts to remove or push back the bike racks or otherwise get past the police line, assaulting and impeding officers. After the rioters made numerous efforts to breach the police line, some of which are detailed below, the line broke at about 2:30 p.m., and officers were forced to fall back as rioters surged further forward toward the Capitol building.

During this time officers were attempting to keep the rioters from progressing past the West Plaza, numerous rioters were pushing against the fencing and trying to pull it down. BREITFELDER was at the front of that crowd. While BREITFELDER was there, multiple efforts were made by rioters to pull the fencing way from the officers. At about 2:02 p.m., BREITFELDER was captured on an officer's BWC at the front of the crowd of rioters with the

axe handle raised in the air and gripped with both of his hands. Figure 5, with BRIETFELDER circled in yellow.



Figure 5 - Still image of MPD BWC video

At about 2:04 p.m., BWC captured rioters attacking the police line and pulling and pushing the officers and their equipment in an attempt to break the police line. Officers were pulled down the steps by the rioters. As those were assisted by other officers and were retreating back up the steps, BREITFELDER was captured in BWC swinging the axe handle down at an MPD Officer's hand two separate times as the officer attempted to deploy pepper spray to dispurse rioters, striking the metal bike rack barricade the officer was standing immediately behind both times. Figures 6 and 7, with BREITFELDER cicled in yellow.



Figure 6 - Still image of MPD BWC video



Figure 7 - Still image of MPD BWC video

At approximately 2:12 pm rioters once again surged up the stairs in the same area and attacked officers, pulling some of them down the steps. Other officers then advanced down the steps to protect and retrieve the others, at which time rioters, including BREITFELDER, attacked the officers. As the officers were at the bottom of the steps BREITFELDER came forward from the crowd and pushed an MPD officer. Figure 8, with BREITFELDER circled in yellow.

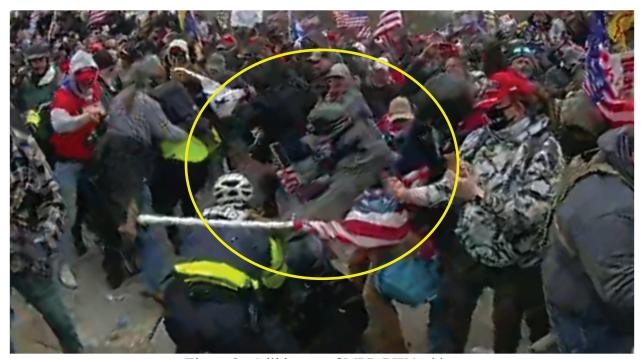


Figure 8 - Still image of MPD BWC video

Officers were able to assist the the other officers back up the stairs to the police line, and once again re-established the police line at the top of the steps. However, the rioters continued to confront officers and BREITFELDER remained near the front of rioters. After repeated efforts by rioters to attack the officers, the police line was finally and decisively breached at approximately 2:30 p.m. The rioters overtook the entire West Plaza as officers retreated back. During this time BREITFELDER was captured in a video taken by another rioter. In that video he is at the front of the crowd of rioters as they pushed against officers, Figure 9, with BREITFELDER circled in yellow.

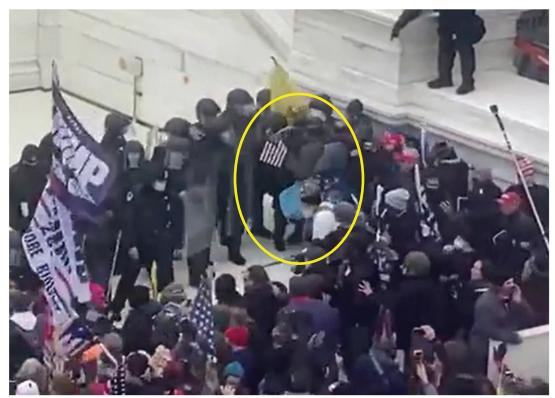


Figure 9 – still image from video

Further, on January 8, 2025, your affiant met in-person with BREITFELDER at his home and BREITFELDER agreed to be interviewed. During that interview BREITFELDER admitted that he was at the Capitol building on January 6, 2021, and he identified himself in a number of still images from that day, including the two images displayed above in Figure 2.

In addition to the admissions made by BREITFELDER during the interview, the identification of him by W-1 and W-2, and the presence of his phone at the Capitol on January 6, 2021, your affiant also believes that BREITFELDER is the same individual involved in the videos described above both because of the similarities in his physical appearance to images from that day, and because of the distinct similarity in what he was wearing and carrying throughout January 6: wearing a dark jacket, wearing and carrying a black baseball/softball helmet with facemask, and carrying a light blue sling bag and an American flag attached to an axe handle.

Based on the foregoing, your affiant submits there is probable cause to believe that BREITFELDER committed a felony violation of Title 18, U.S.C. § 111(a)(1), which makes it unlawful to forcibly assault, resist, oppose, intimidate, or interfere with any person or persons while engaged in or on account of the performance of official duties. For purposes of Section 111(a)(1), the person or persons in this instance were Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and United States Capitol Police Officers responding to the siege of the United States Capitol. Through my investigation, I know that MPD officers at the Capitol on January 6th were present specifically to assist federal law enforcement in their efforts to protect the Capitol and the people inside, and were assisting federal officers in the performance of their official duties as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1114.

Your affiant further submits there is probable cause to believe that BRETFELDER violated Title 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 Joint Session of Congress where the Senate and House count Electoral College votes.

Your affiant also submits that there is probable cause to believe that BREITFELDER 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 so; 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; and 18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(4), which makes it a crime to knowingly engage in any act of physical violence against any person or property in any restricted building or grounds; 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.

Finally, your affiant submits there is also probable cause to believe that BREITFELDER violated Title 40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D) and (F) 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, (F) engage in an act of physical violence in the Grounds or any of the Capitol Buildings.



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

telephone, this 14

the 15th day of January 2025.

G. MICHAEL HARVEY U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Distri	ct of Columbia
United States of America v. FREDERICK BREITFELDER Defendant	Case: 1:25-mj-00012 Assigned To: Judge G. Michael Harvey Assign. Date: 01/15/2025 Description: COMPLAINT W/ARREST WARRANT
ARRES	ST WARRANT
To: Any authorized law enforcement officer	
who is accused of an offense or violation based on the following accused of an offense or violation based on the following accused of an offense or violation based on the following accused of an offense or violation based on the following accused and accused in the following accused to the following accuse the following accused to the following accused to the following	nformation
	Return
This warrant was received on (date) at (city and state)	, and the person was arrested on (date)
Date:	Arresting officer's signature
	Printed name and title

AO 442 (Rev. 11/11) Arrest Warrant (Page 2)

This second page contains personal identifiers provided for law-enforcement use only and therefore should not be filed in court with the executed warrant unless under seal.

(Not for Public Disclosure)

Name of defendant/offen	nder: FREDERICK BREITFELDE	₹
Known aliases:		
Last known residence:		
Prior addresses to which	defendant/offender may still have ties	:
Last known employment	:	
Last known telephone nu	ambers:	
Place of birth:		
Date of birth: $\frac{6/11}{1}$	/1964	
Social Security number:	299-72-1446	
Height:		Weight:
Sex: M		Race:
		Eyes:
Scars, tattoos, other distin	nguishing marks:	
History of violence, weap	pons, drug use:	
Known family, friends, a	and other associates (name, relation, addre	ss, phone number):
FBI number:		
Complete description of	auto:	
Investigative agency: Federal Bureau of Investigation		
Investigative agency add	dress:	
	nbers (office and cell) of pretrial service	ces or probation officer (if applicable):
Brandon Shelley:	Brandon Shelley:202-440-0156	
Diandon Shelley.		
Date of last contact with	pretrial services or probation officer (f applicable):
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Case: 1:25-mj-00012

Assigned To: Judge G. Michael Harvey UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Defendant.

Assign. Date : 01/15/2025

Description: COMPLAINT W/ARREST WARRANT

VIOLATIONS: v.

Title 18, U.S.C. § 111(a)(1) - Assaulting, : Resisting, or Impeding Certain Officers; FREDERICK BREITFELDER

18 U.S.C. § 231(a)(3) - Obstruction of Law

Enforcement During Civil Disorder; :

18 U.S.C. § 1752(a)(1), (a)(2), and (a)(4)-:

Entering and Remaining; Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct; and, Engaging in

Physical Violence in a Restricted Building

or Grounds;

40 U.S.C. § 5104(e)(2)(D), and (e)(2)(F),

Disorderly Conduct and Acts of Physical

Violence in the Capitol Grounds or :

Buildings.

:

ORDER

This matter having come before the Court pursuant to the application of the United States to seal criminal complaint, the Court finds that, because of such reasonable grounds to believe the disclosure will result in flight from prosecution, destruction of or tampering with evidence, intimidation of potential witnesses, and serious jeopardy to the investigation, the United States has established that a compelling governmental interest exists to justify the requested sealing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application is hereby GRANTED, and that the affidavit in support of criminal complaint and other related materials, the instant application to seal, and this Order are sealed until the arrest warrant is executed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk's office shall delay any entry on the public docket of the arrest warrant until it is executed.

Date: January 15, 2025

HONORABLE G. MICHAEL HARVEY UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE AO 257 (USAO REV. 6/99)

DEFENDANT INFORMATION RELATIVE TO A CRIMINAL ACTION - IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT DEFENDANT U.S. vs. **COMPLAINT INFORMATION** INDICTMENT FREDERICK BREITFELDER Name of District Court, and/or Judge/Magistrate Location (City) Address 10641 Carolina Trace Rd. Harrison, OH DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, U.S.D.Ct. Alien Birth Date 6/11/1964 Male Name and Office of Person (if applicable) Female Furnishing Information on THIS FORM Kenneth L. Parker Social Security Number 299-72-1446 X U.S. Att'y Other U.S. Agency Name of Asst. U.S. Att'v **DEFENDANT** (if assigned) Timothy S. Mangan IS NOT IN CUSTODY **PROCEEDING** x Has not been arrested, pending outcome this proceeding 1) If not detained give date any prior Name of Complainant Agency, or Person (& Title, if any) summons was served on above charges FBI 2) Is a Fugitive 3) Is on Bail or Release from (show District) person is awaiting trial in another Federal or State Court, give name of court USDC, District of Columbia 1:25-mj-00012 IS IN CUSTODY this person/proceeding transferred from another district per (circle one) FRCrP 20, 21 or 40. Show District 4) On this charge 5) On another conviction 6) Awaiting trial on other charges Fed'l State SHOW this is a reprosecution of charges DOCKET NO. previously dismissed which were If answer to (6) is "Yes", show name of institution dismissed on motion of: U.S. Att'y Defense Yes this is prosecution relates to a pending case Has detainer If "Yes" give involving this same defendant date filed been filed? No MAG. JUDGE prior proceedings or appearance(s) before **DATE OF** CASE NO. U.S. Magistrate judge regarding this ARREST defendant were recorded under 11/16/2017 Or...if Arresting Agency & Warrant were not Federal **DATE TRANSFERRED** $\mathbf{Z}_{\tilde{i}}$ TO U.S. CUSTODY Petty Minor Place of offense Misdemeanor District of Columbia Χ This report amends AO 257 previously submitted Χ Felony OFFENSE CHARGED - U.S.C. CITATION - STATUTORY MAXIMUM PENALTIES - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR COMMENTS Arrest Warrant Needed Yes No Case to be sealed Yes No NO NOTICE NEEDED

Defense Attorney (If known): Christopher McDowell

Charge/Citation/Count Number(s): SEE ATTACHED

Defendant: Frederick Breitfelder

AUSA: Timothy S. Mangan

Rep. by: CHRISTOPHER MCDOWELL

COUNT 1

Assaulting, Resisting,

Or Impeding Certain

Officers

Up to 8 Years Imprisonment;

3 Year Term of Supervised Release;

\$250,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$100;

18 U.S.C. 111(a)(1)

COUNT 2

Obstruction of Law Enforcement During

Enforcement During Civil Disorder

Up to 5 Years Imprisonment;

3 Year Term of Supervised Release;

\$250,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$100;

18 U.S.C. 231(a)(3)

COUNT 3

Entering and Remaining In a Restricted Building

Or Grounds

Up to 1 Year Imprisonment;

1 Year Term of Supervised Release;

\$100,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$25;

18 U.S.C. 1752(a)(1)

COUNT 4

Disorderly and Disruptive Conduct in a Restricted

Building or Grounds

Up to 1 Year Imprisonment;

1 Year Term of Supervised Release;

\$100,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$25;

18 U.S.C. 1752(a)(2)

COUNT 5

Engaging in Physical Violence in a Restricted Building or Grounds

Up to 1 Year Imprisonment;

1 Year Term of Supervised Release;

\$100,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$100;

18 U.S.C. 1752(a)(4)

COUNT 6

Disorderly Conduct in the

Capitol Grounds or

Buildings

Up to 6 Months Imprisonment; 5 Year Term of Probation;

\$5,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$10;

40 U.S.C. 5104(e)(2)(D)

COUNT 7

Acts of Physical Violence in the Capitol Grounds or

Buildings

Up to 6 Months Imprisonment; 5 Year Term of Probation;

\$5,000 Fine;

Special Assessment of \$10;

40 U.S.C. 5104(e)(2)(F)

Counts 1-5 Felonies Counts 6-7 Misdemeanors