

FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

Plaintiff,

VS.

Defendant.

CRIMINAL NO. 21-CR-878 KG

Count 1: 18 U.S.C. §§ 2261A(2)(B) and 2261(b): Cyberstalking;

Counts 2-9: 18 U.S.C. § 875(c): Threats
in Interstate Commerce.

The Grand Jury charges:

Between on or about February 4, 2021, and May 23, 2021, in Doña Ana County, in the District of New Mexico and elsewhere, the defendant, **JOHN BENJAMIN THORNTON**, with the intent to harass and intimidate T.T., used facilities of interstate and foreign commerce, including an electronic communication service and an interactive computer service, to engage in a course of conduct, to wit, the sending of text messages and posting messages on Facebook, that caused, attempted to cause, and would be reasonably expected to cause, substantial emotional distress to T.T., a former spouse of the defendant.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2261A(2)(B) and 2261(b).


Counts 2-9

On or about the dates listed below, in Doña Ana County, in the District of New Mexico and elsewhere, the defendant, **JOHN BENJAMIN THORNTON**, with the intent to threaten, and knowing it would be viewed as a threat, knowingly transmitted in interstate and foreign commerce communications containing threats to injure the person of another as identified below:

<u>Count</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Victim</u>	<u>Means of Communication</u>	<u>Messages</u>
2	February 4, 2021	T.T.	Facebook messages	Threat to injure T.T.
3	February 16, 2021	E.L.	Facebook messages	Threat to injure and/or kill E.L. and/or employees of D-Wave
4	April 3, 2021	T.T.	Facebook messages	Threat to injure T.T.
5	April 10, 2021	E.L.	Facebook messages	Threat to kill E.L.
6	May 12, 2021	E.L.	E-Mails	Threat to kill E.L. and/or employees of D-Wave
7	May 18, 2021	T.T.	Text messages	Threat to kill T.T.
8	May 18, 2021	R.T.	Text messages	Threat to kill R.T.
9	May 23, 2021	T.T.	Facebook messages	Threat to kill T.T.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 875(c).

A TRUE BILL:


 Assistant United States Attorney
 11/09/21 1:32PM

/s/
 FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY