AUSA: Kaiya Arroyo

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA v. ANNA MOCHALOVA, Defendant.	**SEALED COMPLAINT** Violations of 18 U.S.C. § 249(a)(1)(A) COUNTY OF OFFENSE: NEW YORK

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, ss.:

CHRISTINE MEYER, being duly sworn, deposes and says that she is a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI"), and charges as follows:

COUNT ONE
(Hate Crime Act – Victim-1)

1. On or about October 21, 2026, in the Southern District of New York, ANNA MOCHALOVA, the defendant, willfully caused bodily injury to a victim ("Victim-1"), and through the use of a dangerous weapon attempted to cause bodily injury to Victim-1, because of Victim-1's actual and perceived race and religion, to wit, MOCHALOVA stabbed Victim-1 in the back with a sharp object while Victim-1 was walking down the street causing Victim-1 bodily injury.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 249(a)(1)(A).)

COUNT TWO
(Hate Crime Act – Victim-2)

2. On or about October 21, 2026, in the Southern District of New York, ANNA MOCHALOVA, the defendant, willfully caused bodily injury to a victim ("Victim-2"), and through the use of a dangerous weapon attempted to cause bodily injury to Victim-2, because of Victim-2's actual and perceived race and religion, to wit, MOCHALOVA stabbed Victim-2 in the arm with a sharp object while Victim-2 was standing at a street corner, causing Victim-2 bodily injury.

(Title 18, United States Code, Section 249(a)(1)(A).)

The bases for my knowledge and for the foregoing charges are, in part, as follows:

3. I am a Special Agent at the FBI. I have been personally involved in the investigation of this matter, and I base this affidavit on that experience, on my conversations with other law enforcement officials, and on my examination of various reports, records, and surveillance footage. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of

demonstrating probable cause, it does not include all the facts I have learned during my investigation. Where the contents of documents and the actions, statements, and conversations of others are reported herein, they are reported in substance and in part, except where otherwise indicated.

The October 21 Assaults

4. Based on my participation in this investigation, my discussions with other law enforcement officers, my conversations with Victim-1 and Victim-2, my review of video footage, and my review of law enforcement reports and records, I have learned the following:

a. On or about October 21, 2026, at approximately 5:50 p.m., Victim-1, a Jewish man, was walking along West 47th Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenue when he noticed a white female who I believe, for the reasons described below, to be ANNA MOCHALOVA, the defendant, following him and speaking Russian. At the time, Victim-1, who has a beard, was wearing attire traditionally worn by Orthodox Jewish men, including a black hat, a black suit, a white shirt, and tzitzit. As Victim-1 walked past a particular commercial store ("Store-1"), Victim-1 felt MOCHALOVA stab him in his lower back with a sharp object, which he described as the feeling of a needle prick. Victim-1 then observed MOCHALOVA stalk past him towards Sixth Avenue.

b. Surveillance footage collected from Store-1 depicts MOCHALOVA approach Victim-1 from behind and make a jabbing motion towards Victim-1's back. Victim-1 can be seen flinching away in response to the jabbing motion. MOCHALOVA is then seen moving down the street towards Sixth Avenue, where she takes a left at the corner and heads southbound out of view. A screenshot of the assault is depicted below:



c. Shortly thereafter, MOCHALOVA approached Victim-2 and a second man ("Individual-1"), who were standing together on the northeast corner of Sixth Avenue and West 45th Street, approximately two blocks south of the location where Victim-1 was assaulted. Victim-2 and Individual-1 are also Jewish men, and both were wearing yarmulkes when MOCHALOVA approached. MOCHALOVA bumped into Victim-2 multiple times. As Victim-2 started to confront MOCHALOVA about her repeated bumps, he observed MOCHALOVA stab him with a sharp object on his right forearm. Victim-2, who speaks Russian, recalls that MOCHALOVA spoke in Russian and told him, in sum and substance, "run away, I have a gun." MOCHALOVA also asked Individual-1, in sum and substance, if he was Jewish. Individual-1 responded, in sum and substance, "I don't know, I'm Muslim?" MOCHALOVA told Individual-1 that she "was so sorry" and then fled northbound on Sixth Avenue.

d. Based on my experience as a law enforcement officer working in Manhattan and my familiarity with its various neighborhoods and districts, I know that the city block located on 47th Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenue is known as the Diamond District and that many Orthodox Jews, including Hasidic Jews, work in this area.

Identification of MOCHALOVA

5. Based on my participation in this investigation, my discussions with other law enforcement officers, my conversations with Victim-1 and Victim-2, my review of video footage, and my review of law enforcement reports and records, I have learned the following:

a. On or about October 21, 2026, law enforcement recovered surveillance footage from a second commercial store ("Store-2") on West 47th Street, which depicts the same white female seen in the surveillance footage from Store-1 in greater detail. The surveillance footage depicts the attacker wearing dark clothing with a distinctive dark-and-light patterned bulky jacket (the "Jacket") tied around her waist, as well as a thick silver ring on her left middle finger (the "Ring"). A still image of the footage from Store-2 is depicted below:



b. On or about October 22, 2026, law enforcement showed Victim-2 a clip of surveillance footage taken from Store-2. The clip depicted multiple individuals walking down the street for a period of time. Law enforcement asked Victim-2 to watch the clip and see if he recognized anyone. Victim-2 identified MOCHALOVA in the clip as his attacker.

c. On or about October 24, 2026, at approximately 4:30 a.m., MOCHALOVA was arrested by law enforcement for a transit violation in Brooklyn, New York. At the time of her arrest, MOCHALOVA was wearing what appeared to be the Jacket that the attacker was seen wearing on October 21, 2026, the day of the two assaults. Following her arrest, MOCHALOVA told law enforcement agents that her primary language is Russian.

d. As further confirmation, on or about October 23, 2026, law enforcement reviewed arrest reports and body-worn camera footage of a law enforcement interaction with MOCHALOVA in or about June 18, 2025 (the "2025 Footage") that resulted in her arrest. In the footage, MOCHALOVA appears to be wearing, on her left middle finger, the same Ring that the attacker can be seen wearing in the October 21, 2026 surveillance footage recovered from Store-2. MOCHALOVA was arrested in June 2025 in connection with an act of violence against a Jewish person in a Hasidic neighborhood in Brooklyn.

e. Based on my review of surveillance video and images from the day of the attacks, the 2025 Footage, images of MOCHALOVA during her October 23, 2026 arrest, the Victims' description of their attacker as a Russian-speaking white female, the timing between the two attacks, and Victim-2's identification of his attacker in surveillance footage, I believe MOCHALOVA attacked both Victim-1 and Victim 2 on October 21, 2026.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that a warrant be issued for the arrest of ANNA MOCHALOVA, the defendant, and that he be arrested, and imprisoned or bailed, as the case may be.

S/by the Court with permission

CHRISTINE MEYER
Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to me through the transmission of this Complaint by reliable electronic means, pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 4.1, this 27th day of October, 2026

THE HONORABLE ROBERT W. LEHRBURGER
United States Magistrate Judge
Southern District of New York