



# U.S. Department of JUSTICE

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**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

I, Mercedes Johanna Smith, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (hereinafter, “FBI”) and have been since July 2024. I completed a nineteen-week training program at the FBI Academy, which included instruction in the investigation of various criminal offenses governed by federal law, and I have received advanced training in matters relating to criminal investigations. Following graduation from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. I am currently assigned to Squad 5 (Joint Terrorism Task Force). As part of my duties, I have participated in individuals engaged in domestic terrorism, terrorist activity, and other criminal activities. While conducting investigations, I have assisted with interviews, surveillances, search warrants, and arrest warrants.

2. As a Federal Agent, I am authorized to investigate violations of laws of the United States and to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States. The information contained in this affidavit is either personally known to me, based upon my interview of various witnesses and review of various records and publicly available information, or has been relayed to me by other agents or sworn law enforcement personnel. Because this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of obtaining a criminal complaint and arrest warrant, I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning the investigation. I have only set forth facts to establish probable cause for the charges in the complaint.

3. Based on my training and experience and the facts as set forth in this affidavit, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Commit an

Offense Against the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 1117 (Conspiracy to Murder) were committed by Abraham Hermosillo ALVAREZ (hereinafter, "ALVAREZ").

#### PROBABLE CAUSE

4. On or about June 10, 2026, at approximately 9:18pm, officers with the Knox County Sheriff's Office and Danville Police Department were dispatched to an address in Knox County in reference to a disturbance. The caller, identified as the mother of FBI subject Tycen PROPER (hereinafter, "PROPER"), was concerned about her son, due to his recent conduct, including firearms purchases and communicating with certain individuals online.

#### **Initial Investigation by Local Authorities**

5. Officers arrived on scene at approximately 9:38pm and spoke to PROPER and his mother and father. PROPER is a 19-year-old male who lives at that residence with his parents. PROPER's father stated that PROPER had recently met random people online and had been planning "recons" with these individuals. His father said PROPER has been planning to leave this upcoming weekend (the weekend of June 13, 2026) to meet up with these online individuals. His father further stated that PROPER had also recently acquired camping gear, food, ballistic plates, a new shotgun, a rifle, "lots" of ammunition, extra magazines, and plate carriers. PROPER allegedly spent approximately \$3,000 of his graduation money to purchase the previously described equipment.

6. PROPER's father stated that, in addition to the above behavior, PROPER quit his job recently in preparation to meet the individuals he had been interacting with online to conduct "missions" and "recons." His father did not have any additional information about the identities of the people with whom PROPER was speaking.

7. The Knox County Sheriff's Office took photos of the equipment acquired by PROPER, which included several boxes of ammunition (estimated by law enforcement to be in the thousands of rounds of ammunition), two plate carriers with AR-style magazines, an AR-style rifle, and a bullpup rifle painted with an American flag. The equipment was turned over voluntarily by the family to law enforcement.

8. At the conclusion of the encounter, PROPER was transported by the Knox County Sheriff's Office to a local hospital where they submitted an application for emergency admission based on [REDACTED].

9. On June 11, 2026, the Knox County Sheriff's Office contacted the FBI as a result of its interactions with PROPER.

#### **Interview with PROPER's Mother**

10. Also on June 11, 2026, I contacted PROPER's mother for a telephone interview for additional information. She detailed that PROPER had recently begun interacting with a group online that was comprised of individuals who claimed to be ex-military and Christian-based. She didn't know the name of the group, but they expressed ultra-religious and antigovernment sentiments, specifically citing grievances about government corruption, the handling of the Epstein files, data centers taking up all the water in communities, and other government actions. PROPER's mother detailed that talking with these individuals online has caused PROPER to lean heavily into his religion, and she believed that those individuals were using religion to manipulate and influence her son.

11. In addition to the equipment and firearms PROPER had recently purchased, she stated that she observed him recently engaged in physical training, which she initially thought

was to further his aspirations to join the military or police, but later learned it was related to the online group he was part of.

12. PROPER's mother detailed that the communications with these individuals largely occurred on his cellular device, and she provided a phone number for PROPER. She also stated that she recently observed PROPER researching and mapping locations in the area just northwest of Washington D.C. She stated that she also observed additional images and maps being sent to him from unknown individuals through texts and Discord messages, and she would overhear PROPER talking to these individuals verbally on his phone.

13. When she asked PROPER what he was doing, he said he couldn't tell her exactly what he was doing, but that they were looking at multiple different locations and intended to conduct "recon" as well as "hit and run missions." PROPER's mother believed "hit and run missions" meant conducting shootings and then leaving.

#### **Execution of Search Warrants**

14. On June 11, 2026, the FBI, in coordination with the Knox County Sheriff's Office, CPD, and Danville Police Department, executed a local search warrant at the residence of PROPER. While on scene, investigators observed a large quantity of boxes of spent ammunition, rounds of spent cartridge casings (consistent with ammunition having been fired), and other tactical clothing. Investigators also spoke to PROPER's father and grandmother, who stated that PROPER had become more closed off from his family and spent most of his time online speaking to unidentified persons. PROPER's family members also highlighted concerning statements he had made in recent months, such as making sympathetic comments about Adolf Hitler and posting anti-Semitic comments on Facebook.

15. Also on June 11, 2026, a local search warrant was executed on PROPER's Apple iPhone, which the Knox County Sheriff's Office had previously seized to preserve evidence. During a preliminary search of the device, investigators observed chats on Signal groups that laid out detailed plans to conduct an attack in Washington D.C. with several unidentified confederates. In the chat, detailed imagery of the National Capitol Region and maps of the area were shared to a group of which PROPER was a member, highlighting sniper locations, potential drone launch locations, and other detailed tactical planning.

#### **Interview of PROPER**

16. On June 11, 2025, investigators conducted an interview with PROPER at the medical facility where he was housed. The interview was consensual and took place in an unlocked room while a case worker was present.

17. During the interview, PROPER admitted to planning with others a coordinated attack against the United States government during the UFC event scheduled to take place on the White House lawn in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, June 14, 2026.

18. According to PROPER, some members of the group who would participate in the attack began communicating with one another in or around March 2026 via a TikTok group called "Vanguard of the Old." The members of the group stated that they wanted to protect the United States, which they believed was headed in the wrong direction. Members of the group believed that the United States needed to be torn down so that it could be rebuilt. Some expressed a desire that people who were involved with Jeffrey Epstein should not govern the country. Members shared information with each other on the TikTok group to show their trustworthiness and commitment to the cause, such as identification documents and videos of their abilities and workouts.

19. Some of the more serious members of the group, including PROPER, moved their communications over to the encrypted communications app Signal. There they planned an attack for the upcoming White House UFC event. PROPER believed many of the group members had prior military experience. The group was broken up into three tiers, with “Tier 1” having to meet physical fitness standards and acquire equipment such as personal body armor and firearms. PROPER admitted to being one of the team leaders.

20. PROPER described the general plan for the attack. All members would leave their homes on Friday or Saturday (June 12 or 13, 2026) to meet up in Fredericksburg, Virginia. PROPER himself was planning to drive, taking his weapons and body armor, including an AR15, all his ammunition, tactical vests, and ballistic plates. He planned to take extra body armor for other members of the group. He also planned to pick up another member of the group on the way who was hoping to acquire a firearm from a friend or his employer. Investigators have identified that individual and believe he lives in West Virginia. PROPER said that although he was not going to the protest in order to shoot people, several other members of the group were intent on violence.

21. According to PROPER, the plan as he knew it was to stage a demonstration on the north side of the White House. While the demonstration was taking place, the group would fly small, unmanned aircraft (i.e. drones) laden with unspecified explosive devices which would detonate over the north side of the UFC arena. When the unmanned aircraft detonated, the intent was to force the crowd attending the UFC event and high value targets (HVTs) to evacuate to the south. PROPER stated that the plan was for members of his group to act as snipers and additional shooters, preferably with long guns, staged at or near the southern evacuation point to conduct shootings of the members of the crowd and HVTs as they fled from the explosive devices which

had just been detonated. The HVTs included both wealthy people and politicians. According to Proper, this attack was designed to “jumpstart” a revolution in the United States.

22. During PROPER’s June 11 interview, he stated that he originally learned of an anti-government protest in Washington, DC after it was advertised on TikTok by a user identified as Shepherd. He further detailed Shepherd directed the actions that would take place during the event and that Shepherd was the primary individual involved with planning. PROPER directly stated that Shepherd was the leader of the group and described him as aggressive in tactical planning. He believed Shepherd was approximately 30 years old and possibly prior military. Finally, PROPER also indicated that Shepherd was the one who created the group’s tier systems.

23. PROPER appeared to identify potential US Congressional targets due to their support for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), noting donations the members previously received from AIPAC. Proper identified specific politicians that were supportive of Israel, stating “these are the people we’re going to focus on.” Proper included names and photos for US Senator Marsha Blackburn, US Senator Tom Cotton, US Senator Shelley Moore Capito, US Senator Jim Justice, US Representative Carol Miller, US Representative Riley Moore, and WV State Delegate Tristan Leavitt. Proper’s associates also noted hating “billionaires” and “capitalist elites.” It was unclear if Shepherd was involved in these chat messages, but the targeting of US Congressional targets was related to the original plot that PROPER tied to Shepherd.

#### **Information Obtained from PROPER’s Phone Related to ALVAREZ**

24. The search of PROPER’s cell phone revealed chats in the Signal app, consistent with much of what PROPER described. In the phone, investigators could see that there was a

primary large chat, consisting of approximately 19 individuals. Additionally, there were smaller chat groups, consisting of approximately 4 or 5 individuals. These smaller chat groups were based on role assignments and locations, such as shooters at one location or shooters at another location. The review of PROPER's cell phone also revealed group members discussing exit, escape and evasion resources for the attack, including the location of a potential "safe house," and also potential exfiltration or escape routes for members of the group after the attack. Some plans indicated that members of the group would travel from the area of the White House to the Potomac River and travel along the river to escape the area.

25. In the Signal chat titled "Hunters," investigators observed a user going by the online moniker Shepherd who appeared to be posting a large portion of the planning information and was providing direction to other members of the chat. The following is a summary of information posted by Sheperd in the chat.

- a. On June 10, 2026, Shepherd posted, "This is the best action I see. Position your teams in the purple dots (counter sniper and drones) Long range (circled area) (great shot) Easy out into the river." This post was accompanied by a map screenshot of the National Capitol Region with areas circled as described.
- b. Shepherd immediately followed up by posting, "They will try to close down the highways stick to meeting near the 495 bridge. Take the river south, there are back roads, you can also take the river." accompanied by another screenshot of the Potomac river.
- c. Shepherd then provided direction for a safe zone and instructed the other members to take back roads or the river down to the "pick up location."
- d. Later that same evening, Shepherd also provided locations in the area for drone launch points and sniper positions. He also instructed members that he believed the Thomas Jefferson memorial offered the cleanest route to exfiltrate from the area.
- e. Also on or about June 10, 2026, other members of the Signal chat asked Shepherd about a "second wave" of the plot. Shepherd replied, "Several factions and militia have been notified. They will be the teeth and the Shepherds. I also sent out a mass call to action to all protest groups, that will bring numbers.

(working on arming them). They will engage when they see the signal. Told them they know will know when they see it.” He further stated, “at the same time, this day, several other ops are happening all at once. Keeps the enemy distracted while we cut the arteries.”

f. Shepherd then detailed that they expected the system to collapse after their attack was carried out and encouraged individuals in the group to seek refuge and stay within their pre-determined tiers. He provided the Hunters Signal chat with a fall back zone of [REDACTED] Cana, VA, 24317.

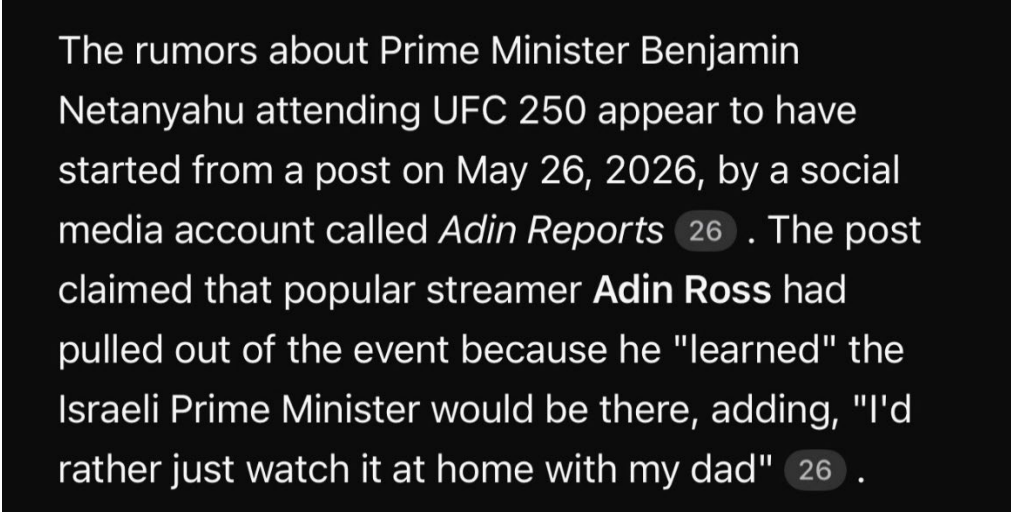
g. Shepherd also provided guidelines for the compartmentalized Signal chats, stating that Lions Den was for members to check-in to designated operations and teams, and stated that each team knows nothing about each others operations.

h. On or about June 11, 2026, Shepherd sent the following screenshot to members of the Hunters chat group:

Shriveledshlong: “Those drones will take more time. However if we’re just rigging explosives I can do small drones quicker”.

Shepherd replied to the above message stating: As many and as deadly as we can get.

Shepherd sent the following screenshot:



The rumors about Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attending UFC 250 appear to have started from a post on May 26, 2026, by a social media account called *Adin Reports* 26 . The post claimed that popular streamer **Adin Ross** had pulled out of the event because he "learned" the Israeli Prime Minister would be there, adding, "I'd rather just watch it at home with my dad" 26 .

Immediately following this screenshot, Shepherd sent the following messages:

- i. Targets confirmed
- ii. 1. 2. VP 3. N 4. Musk

Based on my training and experience, I believe this to mean, “1” was likely identifiable with President Donald Trump; “2” was likely referring to Vice

President JD Vance; “3. N” was likely referencing the above screenshot, referring to Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu; and “4. Musk” likely referred to Elon Musk.

Following the above chat, the following messages were shared:

Shepherd: Sniper 1. [unknown emoji]  
Sniper 2. [unknown emoji]  
Sniper 3. [unknown emoji]  
Drone operator: needs to check in  
Drones : working on them as we speak  
Cake: under development, gathering supplies today and tomorrow

Whiskey\_Six: Where we at with the explosives? I’d consider the viability of the mission as a fraction without the drones rigged.

Shepherd: We are waiting in our drone operator, I will start cooking now.

Sheperd: 10-4 [unknown graphic] is ground leader.  
3 snipers, 3 different locations.  
3-5 drones, I have one so far. [unknown graphic] is making some as we speak.  
Our evacuation options are too pricy with our current assets, I can get the 15k.. but it will take time. Not enough.. so we need another out. I’m open to suggestions.. so far we have the cake and drones being worked on today and tomorrow.  
[unknown graphic] should be on his way, he can pick up [unknown graphic] and meet with [unknown emoji] and [unknown graphic] at base location to get equipped. From there they will head to DC.  
We are working on other evacuation options. As well as reinforced opportunities.

i. On or about June 12, 2026, Shepherd shared the following messages to the Hunters chat group: “They can grow the camp, and make a training ground we have the go ahead from the owner”. “grow your numbers, I will build your teams”. “Train them, fall back location is NE in an old church”. Shepherd then sent the following image:



### **Identification of ALVAREZ**

26. On June 13, 2026, the FBI’s Domestic Terrorism Targeting Unit (DTTU) reviewed Signal posts by Shepherd and identified screenshots from TikTok. One of the accounts, @unitedworldwide444, was followed by several identified subjects related to the plot to attack The White House UFC fight. DTTU also observed that many of the reposted videos and posted material aligned with themes and theories consistent with other identified subjects.

27. Based on the information provided from DTTU, the FBI issued a request for emergency disclosure for @unitedwoldwide444.

28. TikTok responded by providing basic subscriber information for the user, which included a registration IP address of 68.13.158.112 which was registered on October 31, 2025. The IP address registered to the Internet Service Provider Cox Communications.

29. FBI CI subsequently issued a request for emergency disclosure to Cox Communications for IP address 68.13.158.112. Cox Communications responded to the request with subscriber information related to the IP as an E [REDACTED] P [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Omaha, NE 68154.

30. FBI CI conducted research on Puteney and the subscriber address and located a male who also appeared to reside at the address, identified as Abraham Hermosillo Alvarez with a Date of Birth [REDACTED].

31. Based on the above information, the FBI has probable cause to believe Omaha resident Abraham Alvarez (ALVAREZ) is the online user Shepherd.

32. I am aware that a UFC event is scheduled to take place on the lawn of the White House on Sunday, June 14, 2026. I am aware that the President of the United States is scheduled to be in attendance at the event. I am also aware, based on news reports and open-source reporting, that politicians, potentially including members of Congress and Cabinet officials, will likely be at the UFC event.

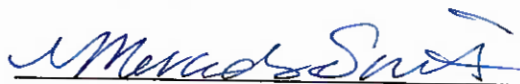
33. According to employees at a store in Knox County, Ohio, on or about June 5, 2026, PROPER came into the store and purchased a bullpup shotgun. Firearms tracing records from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives confirmed the purchase.

34. On June 14, 2026, FBI Omaha arrested ALVAREZ.

### **CONCLUSION**

35. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Commit an Offense Against the United States) and 18 U.S.C. § 1117 (Conspiracy to Murder), were committed by ALVAREZ. I therefore respectfully request that a warrant be issued authorizing the arrest of ALVAREZ.

Respectfully submitted,



Mercedes Smith  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed and sworn to before me on June 14th, 2026



HONORABLE JACQUELINE M. DELUCA  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE



# U.S. Department of **JUSTICE**

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**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Andrew Brown, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

**I. AGENT BACKGROUND**

1. I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) in Kansas City, Missouri, and have been assigned to this office since February 2017, following graduation from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. I am currently assigned to Squad 13 (Domestic Terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction, and Special Events), which is a component of the Joint Terrorism Task Force. As part of my duties, I have participated in investigations of organizations and individuals engaged in domestic terrorism, terrorist activity, and other criminal activities. While conducting investigations, I have assisted with monitoring GPS tracking devices, interviews, surveillances, search warrants, and arrest warrants. Prior to being hired by the FBI, I was a practicing attorney for over five years. Through my experience, education, and training, I have become familiar with methods and tradecraft utilized by individuals to communicate online and engage in activities online in support of criminal behavior. I have gained this knowledge through my training at the FBI Academy and my daily work related to domestic terrorism investigations. As a Special Agent, I am authorized to investigate violations of laws of the United States and to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States.

2. The facts in this affidavit come from my personal observations, my training and experience, and information obtained from other agents and witnesses. This affidavit is intended to show merely that there is sufficient probable cause for the requested warrant and does not set forth all of my knowledge about this matter.

3. Based on my training and experience and the facts as set forth in this affidavit, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1111 and 1117 (Conspiracy to Commit

Murder), collectively referred to as the TARGET OFFENSES, were committed by Daniel K. ESKRIDGE (“ESKRIDGE”).

## **II. PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT**

4. The FBI is investigating a plot to carry out an attack during an Ultimate Fighting Championship (“UFC”) event scheduled to take place Sunday, June 14, 2026 (“UFC Freedom 250”) on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, DC. I know this to be within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States.

5. During the course of this investigation, the FBI identified a group of conspirators, including ESKRIDGE, who have procured weapons and made plans to carry out an attack at the UFC Freedom 250 event on June 14, 2026.

6. On June 12, 2026, Tycen C. Proper (“PROPER”) was charged in the Southern District of Ohio for his involvement in this plot.

7. PROPER was interviewed by the FBI on June 11 and 12, 2026. During his June 11, 2026, interview, and as further described below, PROPER identified the online usernames of his co-conspirators, including the online username of a co-conspirator living in the Western District of Missouri who was involved in planning this attack. The FBI later identified ESKRIDGE as the co-conspirator using the online username PROPER had identified.

8. On June 13, 2026, the FBI searched ESKRIDGE’s residence and found additional evidence of his involvement in the conspiracy.

## **III. SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

### **A. Ohio Law Enforcement Uncover a Plot to Assassinate Federal Officials at the UFC Fight**

9. Based on my conversations with other law enforcement officers, review of relevant reports, databases, videos, photos, and extracted digital evidence pursuant to search warrants, I understand the following:

10. On or about June 10, 2026, at approximately 9:18 p.m., officers with the Knox County, Ohio Sheriff's Office and Danville, Ohio Police Department were dispatched to 105 S Mickley Street, Danville, Ohio 43014, in reference to a disturbance. The caller, identified as the mother of Tycen J. PROPER,<sup>1</sup> was concerned about her son, Tycen J. PROPER, due to his recent conduct, including firearms purchases and communicating with concerning individuals online.

11. Officers arrived on scene at approximately 9:38 p.m. and spoke to PROPER, his mother, and father. PROPER is a 19-year-old male who lives at that residence with his parents. When deputies spoke to the father of PROPER,<sup>2</sup> he stated that PROPER had recently met random people online and had been planning "recons" with these individuals. His father expressed how PROPER has met these individuals online and was planning to leave this upcoming weekend (the weekend of June 13, 2026) to meet up with these online individuals. His father further stated that PROPER had also recently acquired camping gear, food, ballistic plates, a new shotgun, a rifle, "lots" of ammunition, extra magazines, and plate carriers. PROPER allegedly spent approximately \$3,000 of his graduation money to purchase the previously described equipment.

12. In addition to the above behavior, PROPER's father stated that PROPER also quit his job recently in preparation to meet the individuals he had been interacting with online to

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<sup>1</sup> I know the name of PROPER's mother, but in this affidavit, I refer to her as the mother of PROPER.

<sup>2</sup> I know the name of PROPER's father, but in this affidavit, I refer to him as the father of PROPER.

conduct “missions” and “recons.” His father did not have any additional information about the identities of the people with whom PROPER was speaking.

13. The Knox County Sheriff’s Office took photos of the equipment acquired by PROPER which included several boxes of ammunition (estimated by law enforcement to be in the thousands of rounds of ammunition), two plate carriers with AR-style magazines, an AR-style rifle, and a bullpup rifle painted with an American flag<sup>3</sup>. The equipment was turned over voluntarily by the family to law enforcement.

14. At the conclusion of the encounter, PROPER was transported by the Knox County Sheriff’s Office to a local hospital where they submitted an application for emergency admission based on homicidal ideations. The application detailed that PROPER had been thinking about joining the military or police force with the goal of being able to kill people.

15. On June 11, 2026, the Knox County Sheriff’s Office contacted the FBI as a result of its interactions with PROPER.

16. Also on June 11, 2026, a Task Force Officer with FBI Cincinnati Division contacted the mother of PROPER for a telephone interview for additional information. The mother of PROPER detailed that PROPER had recently began interacting with a group online that was comprised of individuals who represented themselves as ex-military and that may share some Christian-based ideology. She stated that she didn’t know the name of the group, but that they expressed ultra-religious and anti-government sentiments, specifically citing grievances about government corruption, the handling of the Epstein files, data centers taking up all the water in

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<sup>3</sup> According to employees at a store in Knox County, Ohio, who were interviewed by law enforcement, on or about June 5, 2026, PROPER came into the store and purchased a bullpup shotgun. Firearms tracing records from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives confirmed the purchase

communities, and other government actions. The mother of PROPER detailed that talking with these individuals online has caused PROPER to lean heavily into his religion and she believed that those individuals were using religion to manipulate and influence PROPER.

17. In addition to the equipment and firearms PROPER had recently purchased, she stated that she observed him recently engaged in physical training, which she initially thought was to further his aspirations to join the military or police, but later learned was in relation to the online group in which he was participating.

18. The mother of PROPER detailed that PROPER's communications with these individuals largely occurred on his cellular device and provided a phone number for PROPER as xxx-xxx-3044. She also stated that she recently observed PROPER researching and mapping locations in the area just northwest of Washington D.C. She stated that she also observed additional images and maps being sent to him from unknown individuals through texts and Discord messages and would overhear PROPER talking to these individuals verbally on his phone.

19. When the mother of PROPER asked PROPER what he was doing, he stated that he could not tell her exactly what he was doing, but that they were looking at multiple different locations and intended to conduct "recon" as well as "hit and run missions." A task force officer asked the mother of PROPER what she thought PROPER meant when he said, "hit and run missions" and she believed that it meant conducting shootings and then leaving.

**B. Law Enforcement Searches PROPER's Residence**

20. On June 11, 2026, the FBI, in coordination with the Knox County Sheriff's Office, CPD, and Danville Police Department, executed a local search warrant at the residence of PROPER, recovering a journal from his room that included pages in which PROPER wrote that the government wants to control people and that a larger group worships a demonic figure and

sacrifices children to it. The journal also had a list of approximately 46 names, which included celebrities and politicians. While on scene, investigators also observed a large quantity of boxes of spent ammunition, rounds of spent cartridge casings, and other tactical clothing. Investigators also spoke to PROPER's father and grandmother, who stated that PROPER had become more closed off from his family and spent most of his time online speaking to unidentified persons. PROPER's family members also highlighted concerning statements he made in recent months, such as making sympathetic comments about Adolf Hitler, and posting anti-Semitic comments on Facebook.

21. In addition to the search warrant on PROPER's residence, a search warrant was executed on the Apple iPhone belonging to PROPER which had been previously seized by the Knox County Sheriff's Office to preserve evidence. During a preliminary review of the device, investigators observed chats on Signal groups that laid out detailed plans to conduct an attack in Washington D.C. with several unidentified co-conspirators. In those chats, law enforcement saw detailed imagery of the National Capitol Region and maps of the area with different potential sniper locations highlighted, potential drone launch locations identified, and other detailed tactical planning.

**C. Law Enforcement Interviewed PROPER Who Admitted that the Co-Conspirators Planned to attack the UFC Freedom 250 Event**

22. FBI investigators traveled to Dublin Springs Mental Health center in Columbus, Ohio to conduct an interview with PROPER. The interview was consensual and took place in an unlocked room while a case worker was also present. During the interview, PROPER admitted to planning with others a coordinated attack against the United States government, to take place during the UFC Freedom 250 event scheduled to take place on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, June 14, 2026.

23. PROPER also provided additional details on the planned attack and stated that the plan as he knew it was to stage a demonstration on the north side of the White House. While the demonstration was taking place, the group would fly small, unmanned aircraft (*i.e.*, drones) laden with unspecified explosive devices which would detonate over the north side of the UFC arena. When the unmanned aircraft detonated, the intent was to force the crowd attending the UFC event and high value targets (“HVTs”) to evacuate to the south. PROPER stated that the plan was that members of his group would act as snipers and additional shooters, preferably with long guns, staged at the south to conduct shootings of the members of the crowd and HVTs as they fled from the explosive devices which had just been detonated.

24. Based on public reporting, I am aware that a UFC event is scheduled to take place on the lawn of the White House on Sunday, June 14, 2026. I am also aware that the President of the United States is scheduled to be in attendance at the UFC Freedom 250 event. Also, based on news reports and open-source reporting, that politicians, potentially including members of United States Congress and the President’s Cabinet officials, would likely be at the UFC Freedom 250 event. Based on the location of the UFC Freedom 250 event, which is on the White House grounds, I believe the area falls within the Special Maritime and Territorial Jurisdiction of the United States. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 7(3).

**D. Information Obtained from PROPER’s Phone Corroborates the Existence of a Conspiracy to Attack the UFC Freedom 250 Event at the White House**

25. Based on law enforcement reports, I know that the FBI has begun to review PROPER’s cell phone and that the review has revealed chats in the application SimpleX,<sup>4</sup> wherein PROPER and several other co-conspirators, including ESKRIDGE, had planned the attack on June

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<sup>4</sup> Simple X is an encrypted messaging application.

14, 2026. For example, in chats on or about May 13, 2026, PROPER stated, “I got a possible target [U.S. Senator-Victim No. 1] is senator for [the name of a state],” and in response to a question asking why attack her, he stated, “She’s taken money from the Israel pro Israel lobby and supports them.”<sup>5</sup> On May 31, 2026, PROPER sent several messages, leading with the text “These are people we’re going to focus on,” and then sent images of [U.S. Senator-Victim No. 2], [U.S. Senator-Victim No. 3], [U.S. Representative-Victim No. 1], and [U.S. Representative-Victim No. 2]. Images of these members of Congress appear to have been taken from the website “TrackAIPAC.com” and appear to include information about how much money each congressperson received “from pro-Israel PACS.”

26. PROPER told law enforcement that there would be other Signal chats on his cell phone and that the members of this group were primarily recruited through TikTok. Once an individual had proven himself to be an established member of the group on TikTok, they were then transitioned to a vetted (and more secure) Signal chat. PROPER stated that the group exchanged videos, pictures of tactical kits, physical training proof, and other material through TikTok direct messages.

27. PROPER also provided investigators with the TikTok usernames of other individuals in the group. Those usernames that PROPER provided included, among others, TikTok username: @fulcrumresist - UID 7584676845362103327 (believed to be associated with ESKRIDGE, as described in more detail below).<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> I know the victims identified in this affidavit, but I have redacted their names for their protection.

<sup>6</sup> I know that PROPER was communicating with a username identified as Fulcrum, but, for the reasons explained in this affidavit, I believe the user of the Fulcrum username is ESKRIDGE. Accordingly, in this affidavit, I often refer to Fulcrum as ESKRIDGE.

28. PROPER indicated that the user later identified as ESKRIDGE, and other TikTok users became members of the group who were vetted and participated in the chats in Signal regarding the planned attack on June 14, 2026.

29. PROPER also indicated to investigators that he had been planning to drive to Washington, D.C., from Ohio, travelling through West Virginia. In West Virginia, he planned to meet up with another member of the online group and then to drive with that individual the rest of the way to Washington, D.C.

30. Based on conversations with other law enforcement agents, I know that investigators ultimately identified that individual in West Virginia. On June 12, 2026, the FBI interviewed Co-conspirator 4 in West Virginia, who confirmed that he and others communicated online about attacking the UFC Freedom 250 event in Washington, D.C., but claimed that the members of the group had cancelled their attack plans on the morning of June 12, 2026.

31. A review of PROPER's cell phone also revealed chats in the Signal app, consistent with much of what PROPER described. In PROPER's phone, investigators could see that there was a large chat, consisting of approximately 19 individuals. There were also smaller chat groups, consisting of approximately 4-5 individuals. These individuals in these smaller chat groups were divided based on role assignments and locations, including the locations in which the co-conspirators would occupy and shoot from during the attack. The review of PROPER's cell phone also showed the group discussing exit, escape, and evasion resources for the attack, including the location of a potential "safe house," and also potential exfiltration or escape routes for members of the group after the attack. Some of the messages on PROPER's phone indicated that members of the group would travel from the area of the White House to the Potomac River and travel along the river to escape the area.

32. During his June 11, 2026, interview, PROPER also indicated that he had purchased equipment for the attack for other individuals.

33. On June 12, 2026, FBI personnel interviewed PROPER again at the Dublin Springs Mental Health center<sup>7</sup>. After receiving *Miranda* warnings, PROPER provided information that confirmed what he had stated to the FBI during his June 11, 2026, interview.

**E. ESKRIDGE Identified as a Member of the Conspiracy**

34. FBI personnel identified ESKRIDGE as a participant and conspirator in the TARGET OFFENSES using information from PROPER's TikTok account and information from an analysis of a search conducted on PROPER's cellular telephone. During his June 11, 2026, interview, PROPER showed investigators the TikTok profiles of some of the individuals with whom he was conspiring to commit the aforementioned activities, including the TARGET OFFENSES. One of the TikTok accounts that he identified had the screenname "@fulcrumresist." Upon viewing the publicly available @fulcrumresist account, investigators identified TikTok user @danieleskridge as a TikTok profile of interest. TikTok user @danieleskridge was the first account to both follow and be followed by @fulcrumresist, despite the fact that the @danieleskridge account was not very active. The @danieleskridge account has also reposted many of the posts from the @fulcrumresist account. A review of ESKRIDGE's Missouri driver's license picture indicates his picture is of the same individual whose picture appears on the @danieleskridge account, which is closely linked to the @fulcrumresist account.

35. Analysis of PROPER's phone identified a user, "FULCRUM," listed in various chats as 41 Fulcrum. In those chats, FULCRUM indicates he is 32 years old; lives an hour north

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<sup>7</sup> I am aware that since that interview, PROPER has been released from the mental health center and has been taken into Federal custody.

of Kansas City, MO; has a wife and 5 kids; lives on a rural property with a garage, that the property is 5-6 acres, right off the highway; and FULCRUM claims to be a union carpenter and previously a union boilermaker. A screenshot of these communications is below:

From: 41 Fulcrum

1.) Fulcrum-Kansas City, Missouri

2.) 32

3.) currently union carpenter foreman, previously union boilermaker welder/rigger/foreman/high angle rescue team. I currently build commercial and government buildings and previously worked in energy generation field building and maintaining all of the many different types of power plants and substations also built and maintained oil refineries.

4.) husband and father of 5, I live in the country on 6 acres with my wife and kids. capable of using my garage as a safe house. The only downside to the property where I live is it's right on the side of a major highway. I have 25 acres that is mostly timber and secluded also but it's not maintained to be of any real use to us I would need a tractor with a brush hog.

5.) have reliable transportation (sedan)

6.) like I said above I have a family and a job but when it's go time I'll have to leave them behind in hopes that I return home with a brighter future for them.

7.) full kit.

Main rifle- Smith and Wesson M&P15 5.56 custom build non FRT at the moment also non suppressed. 30 round mags-30, 450 rounds 5.56 62gr green tip, 500 rounds 5.56 55 gr fmj

Side arm- Taurus G3 9mm. 17 round mags-9, 15 round mag-2. 300 rounds 9 mm 115 gr fmj

Long range- Remington 700 .308 with Burris scope. Consistent 9" grouping at 1000 yds. 200 rounds .308 150 gr

Shotgun- Mossberg 590 breaching shotgun with magnetic holder. 150 rounds 00 8ball buckshot

Two plate carriers

Yakeda YT8796 with lvl 4 ceramic front back and side plates

Rothco with lvl 3+ front back and side plates

Camel pack, one day pack, 3 day pack/ruck

Baofeng UV-21r ham radio with PTT connected to walker razor helmet mounted muffs, level 3A ballistic helmet. Second set of headband style walker razors with walkie attachment.

IFAK loaded with all the ifaky goodies 5 CATs total, one mounted to my buttstock, one in my pack on my carrier, two in my IFAK and one banded to the front of my carrier and mounted combat knife. Battle belt with mag pouches dump pouches and my IFAK

8.) no official combat or tactical training but have been running battle drills with my local KC guys. Also set up a make shift range for running and gunning at the back of my property and have been solo training. Good at building anything and everything with anything and everything also good at demolition. Tons of outdoor experience- primitive living, fire starting, shelter building, water filtration, tracking trapping and hunting, fishing, foraging, land nav. Worked on high angle rescue team have experience with repelling and hoisting, first responders/ emt training.

9.) embedded in several other groups mainly for the purpose of scouting out serious prospects for this group. Involved with several group leaders and a member of Revolutions Network

10.) as soon as we are planned and manned

11.) Tier 1

Status: Read

5/22/2026 11:07:32 PM(UTC-4)

This information is consistent with the individual identified as Daniel Kenely ESKRIDGE, date of birth 4/8/1994, Social Security Number XXX-XX-8003. In the same chats, FULCRUM stated,

“[m]y name is Fulcrum on all socials.” The information about the property is also consistent with what I know about the ESKRIDGE’s residence, located in Kidder, Missouri, in the Western District of Missouri.

36. On June 13, 2026, the FBI searched ESKRIDGE’s residence and seized his cellular telephone associated with telephone number ending in 0925. Upon initial review of his cellphone, multiple messaging accounts were found, all of which included the name “Fulcrum” in the naming scheme. Due to ESKRIDGE’s cellphone not being connected to the internet during their review, law enforcement officers were unable to view many of the applications on his cell phone. However, investigators confirmed the following accounts associated with ESKRIDGE: X accounts @FulcrumResist and @deskridge94; Instagram account @fulcrumresist; and Telegram account @Fulcrum\_MO. I believe ESKRIDGE to be the user of the TikTok handle @fulcrumresist and any direct messaging application involving the naming scheme “Fulcrum” in the context of the conspiracy.

**F. Law Enforcement Identifies Chats with ESKRIDGE Actively Participating in the Conspiracy**

37. On June 11, 2026, the Columbus, Ohio Division of Police, in conjunction with the Knox County, Ohio Sheriff’s Office, executed a state search warrant at PROPER’s residence and on his cellular telephone. The data from the cellphone was downloaded and reviewed, which revealed many direct messages and group chat communications on social media and end-to-end encrypted communication platforms. On or about May 13, 2026, on SimpleX, in a chat with user “Prox,” whom I believe to be PROPER, Prox asked ESKRIDGE, who was using an account with the username “Fulcrum,” how things were going for Fulcrum. ESKRIDGE responded that he was “pretty pissed” because he felt like the operation fell apart the previous night. ESKRIDGE advised that he was really banking in this being the trigger event and now it may not be safe to continue

with “this specific op.” ESKRIDGE inquired of another user if they were an individual that he (ESKRIDGE) recruited. ESKRIDGE then advised “my name is Fulcrum on all socials.”

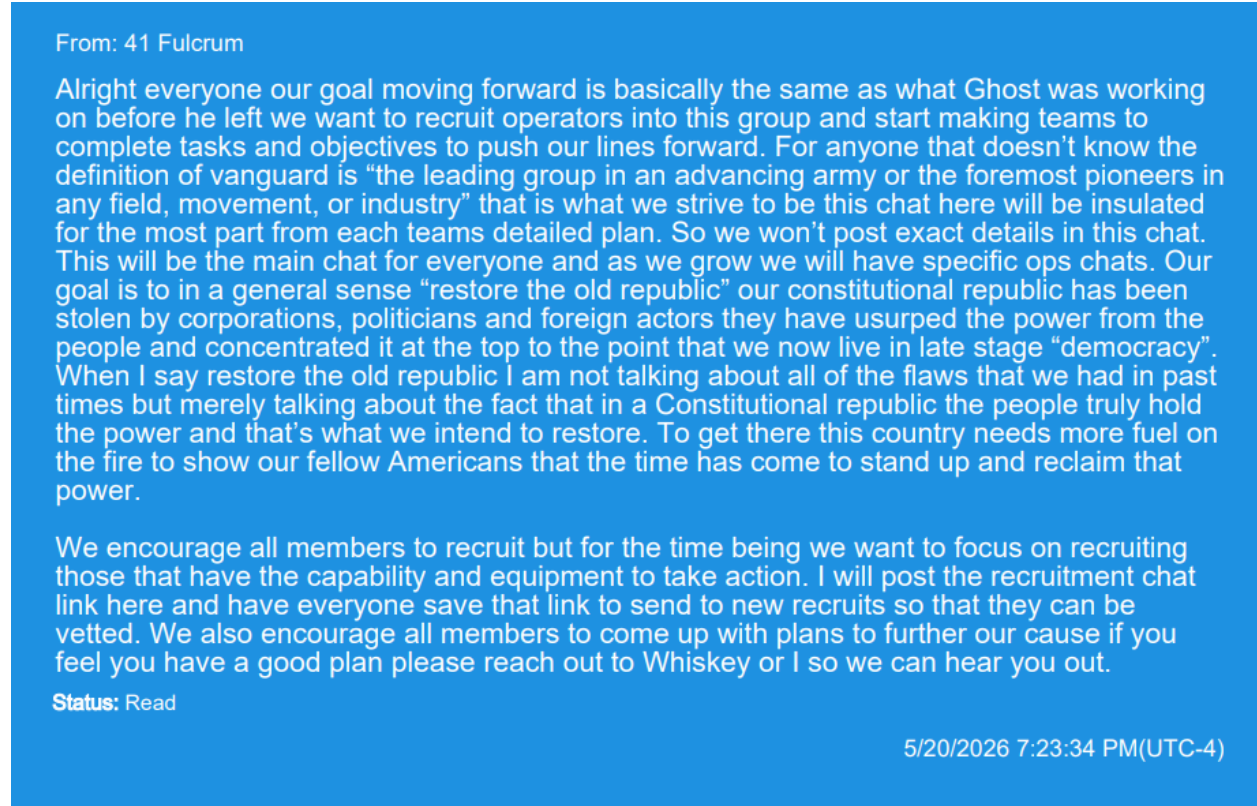
38. On or around May 13, 2026, to May 15, 2026, ESKRIDGE was engaged in a group chat with Prox (PROPER) and another user. In this chat, PROPER asked ESKRIDGE, “What are you thinking for a target?” ESKRIDGE said at the time he had no idea but that he was “heavily invested in [user inserted initials consistent with those of a sitting United States Senator].” PROPER then mentioned U.S. Senator-Victim No. 1 as a target because she has taken money from pro-Israel lobby. ESKRIDGE then advised that when it comes to a target it would need to be “big and someone a majority of the country knows.” ESKRIDGE went on to state that it would have to be someone that both Democrats and Republicans would unite over. The group went on to discuss other targets such as United States Senator-Victim No. 4 and the power grid. Further conversation about the power grid attack revealed that ESKRIDGE wished to use a fleet of drones to hit specific transformers. ESKRIDGE went on to state that the group needed to focus on how they could get their narrative out to “combat the governments narrative.” ESKRIDGE then inquired about obtaining an “EMP.”<sup>8</sup> ESKRIDGE closed out this chat thread by advising that he was going to make a new chat with active members and that new chat would allow them to begin team formations to “accomplish objectives.”

39. On or around May 20, 2026, through June 8, 2026, in a group chat titled “Vanguard of the Old Republic,” ESKRIDGE provided a link to PROPER and advised that this link should be sent to anyone “you think [would]make a productive addition to the group.” ESKRIDGE expressed that focus would be on “operators.” ESKRIDGE (using the “Fulcrum” screenname)

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<sup>8</sup> EMP refers to an electromagnetic pulse device that can be used disrupt or permanently damage electrical devices and systems.

opened the group chat with the below screenshot message:



ESKRIDGE then provided a link for users to send to individuals that fit the description in the opening message. Another co-conspirator, herein referred to as Co-conspirator 1,<sup>9</sup> affirmed that ESKRIDGE was "running the show."

40. ESKRIDGE continued to talk about a corrupt system and how individuals in the group should put differences aside because they have all been "victims of the system in one way or another." ESKRIDGE then went on to state that the "revolution will not be televised" and this movement needs a "group like ours." ESKRIDGE then stated: "So right now in the historical

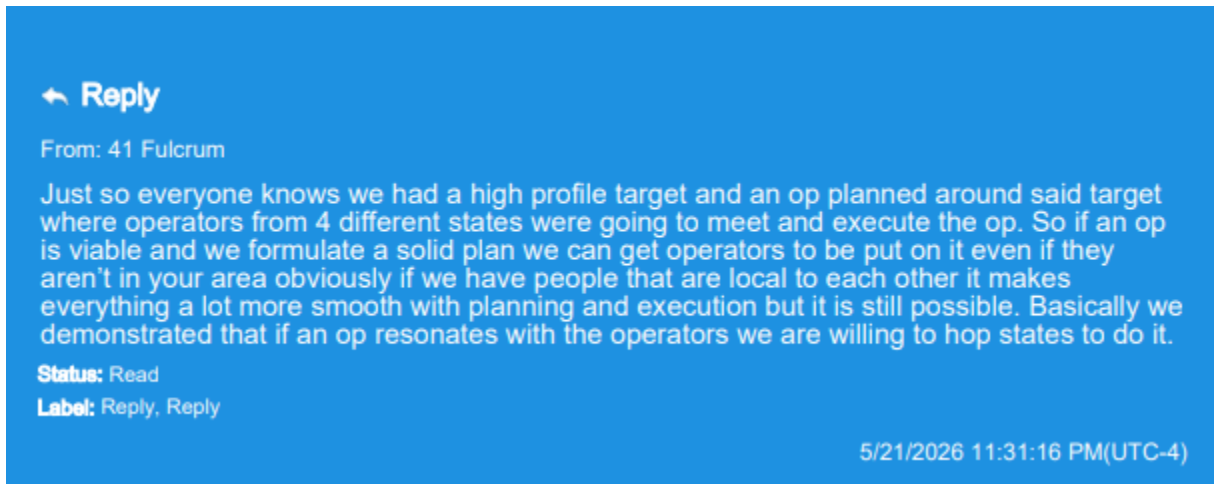
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<sup>9</sup> As part of my involvement in this investigation, I know the identity of the subject who is suspected to be a member of this conspiracy and who resides in California.

timeline I believe we are at the ‘trigger event’ point. Meaning to set this off we need an event or events that cause people to realize the revolution has officially begun.”

41. ESKRIDGE discussed how three companies owned everything and discussed how specific executives at large U.S. corporations were involved. ESKRIDGE then advised that “if a person [was] to be a target of an event we need to make sure it’s someone that can’t be easily turned into a right vs left thing we want someone both sides would celebrate.” ESKRIDGE then stated, “[another prominent business executive] is a very good target he fits the bill for someone both sides would cheer and support us for taking out.”

42. At the same time ESKRIDGE mentioned taking out “[another prominent business executive],” he stated (screenshot below):



43. The following day, ESKRIDGE posted the following (screenshot below):

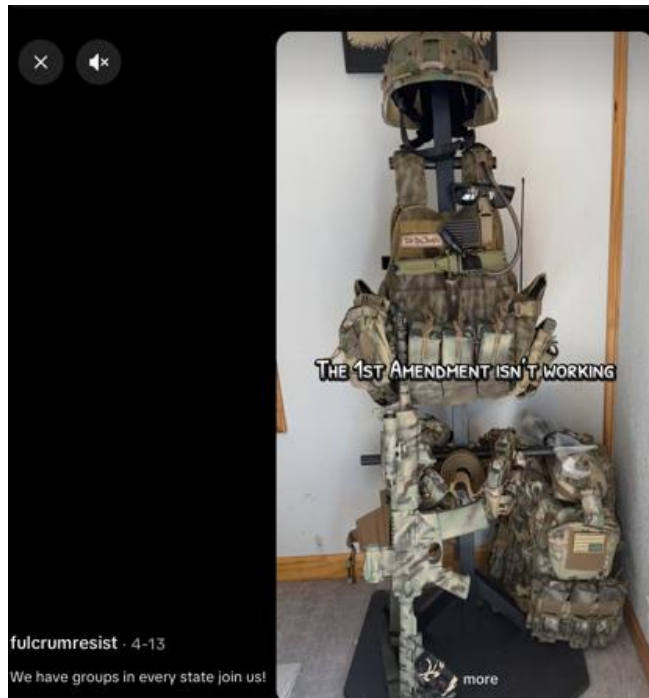
From: 41 Fulcrum

So the goal here is to get at least 3 trigger event ops fully planned and manned and to the best of our ability have them executed on the same day or in rapid succession so that our message is undeniably clear to our illegitimate government and our fellow Americans that we are waging war. We don't need to wait for resistance infrastructure, supply lines and all these other things. That's what every other group in this movement is working on and I'm sure one of them will get it right but they can't do that without mass support and they won't get mass support so long as people think all anyone is doing is holding signs and chanting. All we need is 3 small groups of fully committed operators with a fully fleshed out perfectly formulated plan and all real world on the ground intel they will need for each op to be successful. Once we have decided on what 3 events would provide the most impact and bring in the most support we will create special chats for those ops specifically so that only the people on those ops know the details.

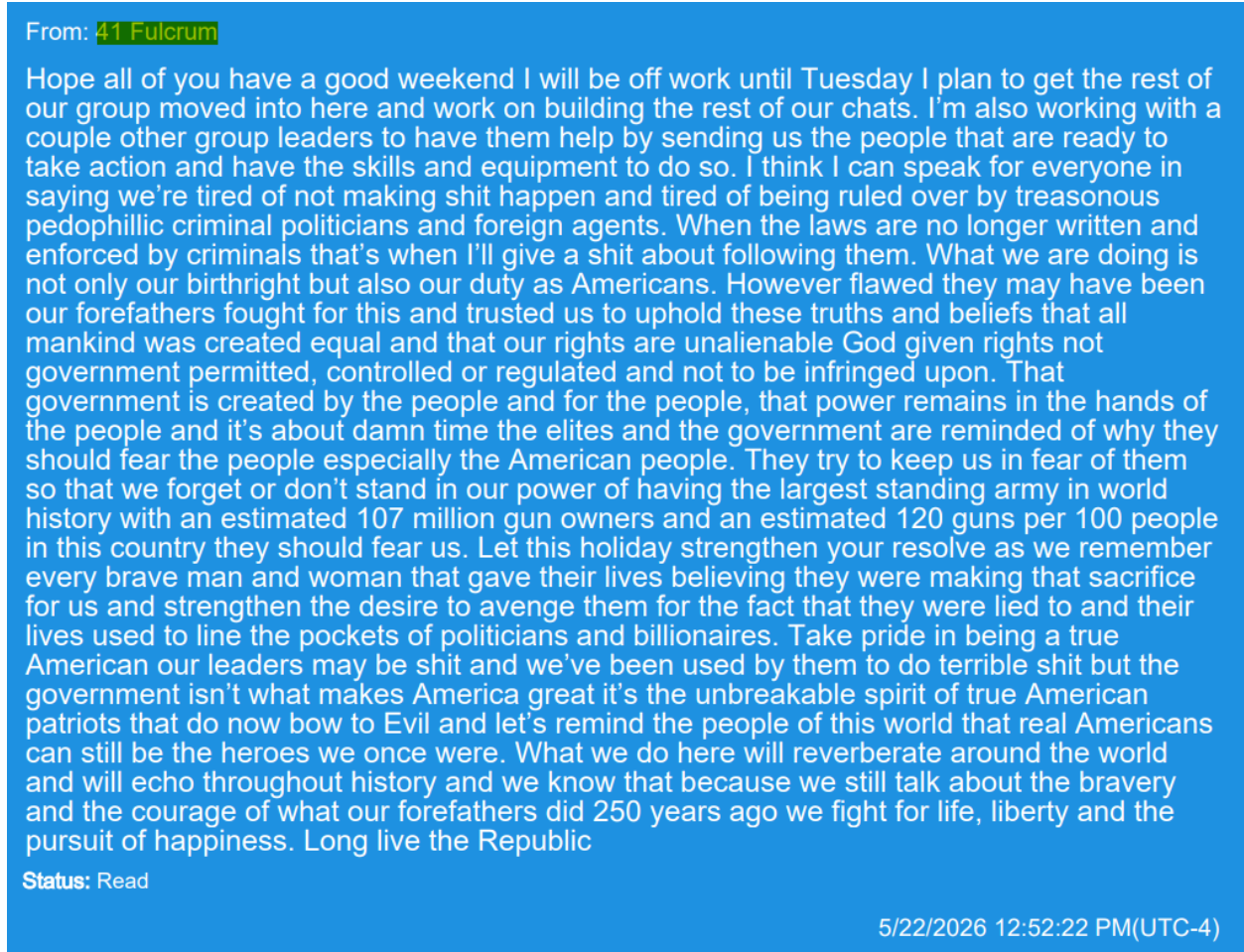
Status: Read

5/22/2026 12:06:29 AM(UTC-4)

44. Utilizing SimpleX, the group then started sharing photographs of what equipment they possessed in relation to the operation. On May 22, 2026, ESKRIDGE contributed a picture of tactical equipment, including a rifle, helmet, and ballistic vest. The photograph in the chat was nearly identical to a photograph posted on the @fulcrumresist TikTok page, which is found below:

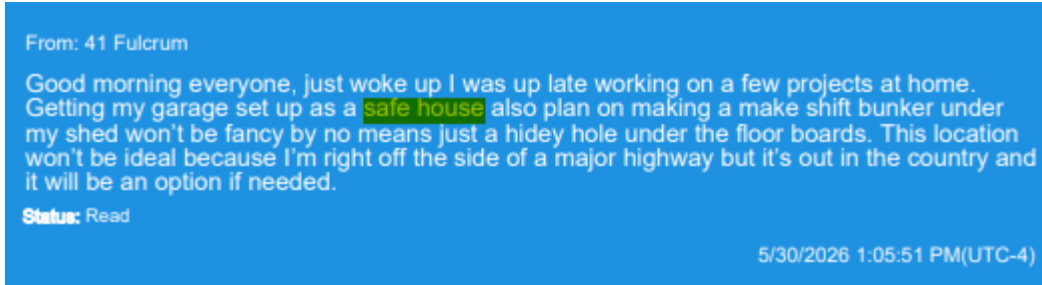


45. ESKRIDGE then sent the following message to the group (screenshot below):



46. ESKRIDGE noted that when this “goes full scale” the group would likely have access to higher grade equipment. ESKRIDGE thought that half of the military would join their cause and not follow “unlawful orders.” ESKRIDGE goes on to state that after the trigger event there was a potential for three percent of the population to stand with their group.

47. On or around May 30, 2026, ESKRIDGE stated that he was preparing his garage to be a safe house and making a “bunker” under the floorboards of his shed. Below is a screenshot of the communication.



48. The group continued to discuss different targets, recruitment, and operational strategy until approximately June 7, 2026, when the California based co-conspirator stated, “We’re planning something in a week. I don’t think I need a pilot anymore. Are you in? We’ll need drivers and support.”

49. In a separate group of approximately nine users, a conversation took place during the same time frame and contained Co-conspirator 1, ESKRIDGE, and some of the other chat group members, the members of the group laid out, in detail, their plan to attack the UFC Freedom 250 event at the White House on June 14, 2026. Specifically, Co-conspirator 1 stated, “Pensilvania avenue” and that he needed “as many as [he could] muster.” ESKRIDGE said the group should obtain \$1,300 in United States currency and they needed “5 teams of 3 each team consisting of 1 sniper, 1 tier one operator as support/ look out, [and] one drone operator.” ESKRIDGE said the money would provide them the funding to purchase “drones and charges,” and encouraged the group to all “pitch in.”

50. ESKRIDGE posted the following message which laid out the plan and “target” as the UFC Freedom 250 event:

From: 41 Fulcrum

Alright yall here's the idea we've come up with between us and a couple other groups but this is going to take everyone and it's going to put a hold on the other ops we have talked about. We need 5 teams of 3. One tier one operator working as a sniper, one tier one operator working as rifleman/spotter/ back up and one drone pilot per team. We select 5 locations that best suit our mission these 5 locations need to be ideal for precise sniper shots and for the drone pilot to operate from. Depending on these locations we may need to restrain the occupants for the duration of the attack. The target is ufc 250 if you don't know where that's being held look it up. Each team will get into position once each team is mission ready the green light will be given and the drone rigged with explosives will fly they will initiate the attack as soon as the drones have done their part and the attention of our opposition is on the skies and not the rooftops snipers will initiate their part of the plan eliminating HVTs first then the retaliatory forces such as SS, NG, and swat. There will be a protest going on outside the gates at that location which will help with keeping the chaos so that extraction teams can get out operators out and fall back to a location out of state to regroup and gauge the response. If all goes according to plan anyone who is willing will join the second wave as ground force. If we are successful this could be the first battle of the second American Revolution. Now who is willing and able to drop everything and be one of these 10 operators and who here is confident and capable of flying drones?

Status: Read

6/7/2026 10:28:53 PM(UTC-4)

51. ESKRIDGE then went on to state (screenshot below):

From: 41 Fulcrum

I will be on the ground leading from the front as one of the 5 snipers. I would never ask yall to do something I wouldn't do myself but I can't do this alone so I'm asking for volunteers

Status: Read

6/7/2026 10:30:03 PM(UTC-4)

52. The following day, June 8, 2026, ESKRIDGE stated (screenshot below):

From: 41 Fulcrum

This op is what we call the trigger event. The terrain is urban but after this we will have no choice but to go old school because they will send everything they have to hunt us. But if we pull this off correctly we'll raise an army

Status: Read

6/8/2026 10:23:04 PM(UTC-4)

53. The group continued to talk about the need for additional drone operators and the number of members "activating on the 14th."

54. On or around June 10, 2026, a Signal group chat was created that included Co-conspirator 1 and Fulcrum {MO} 1667 (ESKRIDGE), among three other users. The purpose of

the Signal chat was specific operational planning for the proposed June 14, 2026, attack. The messages included maps with pins to locate positions of attack, as well as planned routes of escape following the execution of the group's plan. Once the details were settled among other members of the group, ESKRIDGE stated, "I'm liking it, now if we can keep it all coordinated it should work."

**G. Law Enforcement Search of ESKRIDGE's Residence on June 13, 2026**

55. On June 13, 2026, law enforcement executed federal search warrants for ESKRIDGE's person and his residence, signed by the Honorable Lajuana M. Counts, United States Magistrate Judge. During the search of ESKRIDGE's residence, law enforcement seized the following, in relevant part:

- Smith and Wesson Model M&P-15 5.56mm caliber rifle S/N TF58735
- Remington Model 700 .308 Win caliber rifle S/N 6573389
- Yildiz YP12SC 12-gauge pump action shot gun S/N TF58735
- Taurus G3 9mm pistol S/N AEC135636
- Two tactical vests with ballistic plates and ammunition filled magazines
- Baofeng UV-21R Radio
- Multi-cam gun belt with medical kit

The tactical gear found was neatly packed in the corner of ESKRIDGE's kitchen, near the main entry room of the residence. This gear corroborates ESKRIDGE's May 22, 2026, SimpleX post (screenshot above) listing his location, background, equipment, and an "approximate activation date" of "as soon as we are planned and manned." A picture of the equipment from the June 13, 2026, search is below:



56. Law enforcement interviewed ESKRIDGE's spouse after the execution of the search warrants. During the interview, she stated that ESKRIDGE told her that he was a recruiter for the group. She was aware of ESKRIDGE's online communications on the Signal messaging application because she saw the messages pop up on a shared tablet connected to the application. She also indicated that ESKRIDGE purchased a large amount of tactical equipment over the past few months. He bought a \$700 rifle and painted it, as well as a large amount of ammunition. ESKRIDGE also built a firearms range on their property approximately 3 weeks ago. Due to a recent Child Protective Services call involving a domestic situation with his stepson, ESKRIDGE's

wife stated that ESKRIDGE removed all his tactical equipment from their residence and took it to his parents' house. However, she said he recently moved the equipment back to his residence.

57. Additional communications regarding the planned June 14, 2026, attack were found on ESKRIDGE's cell phone during the search. Between June 7, 2026, through June 11, 2026, ESKRIDGE was involved in a group Telegram chat with a co-conspirator, hereinafter referred to as Co-conspirator 1 and two other individuals. The channel was called "D ops," and was used to discuss the drone operations planning for the June 14, 2026, attack. On June 7, 2026, ESKRIDGE stated, "...I was thinking [Co-conspirator 1] and I are the ones that lead the operators group, [Co-conspirator 1] is doing night op training right now. He had mentioned that we may have explosives taken care of along with this drone purchase just making sure I understood him right and that I don't need to keep looking for a cook."<sup>10</sup> Another member of the group stated that he knew how to build drones connected via fiber optic cable and capable of carrying explosive charges but did not have access to the materials needed for explosive charges. That member suggested that they "may need to hit an MIC<sup>11</sup> facility for the things we need." ESKRIDGE responded, "10-4 I'm liking the sound of this."

58. The group continued to discuss the benefits and detriments of obtaining a "cook" for explosive charges versus stealing military ordnance from a manufacturing plant. The group member who suggested hitting a military ordnance manufacturing facility forwarded a list of 4 ammunition plants, including the Parsons, Kansas Assembly Facility, located in Parsons, Kansas, and suggested the location was the "most viable." Another member of the group, hereinafter

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<sup>10</sup> I know from my training and experience that the reference to a "cook" is a reference to an individual with the knowledge and capability to make homemade explosives.

<sup>11</sup> The member clarified that MIC stands for Military Industrial Complex.

referred to as Co-conspirator 2,<sup>12</sup> suggested that ESKRIDGE “set it up.” ESKRIDGE responded, “that’s about 4 hours from me but I know we have some people in Kansas let me look into that plant and see who we have out there or capable of getting on the ground intel for it.” Co-conspirator 1 then stated, “Call up your guy, see if he can scope it out tonight. We’re running out of time.” During initial FBI search of ESKRIDGE’s cell phone, the most recent search conducted in the Google Maps application was for the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant in Parsons, Kansas. ESKRIDGE followed up by stating, “[g]ot a guy digging into Parsons assembly facility he good I’ll update as soon as I have something.”

59. The D ops group chat continued to discuss the use of fiber optics to prevent jamming as well as the size of the explosive charges. ESKRIDGE weighed in stating, “[y]es I definitely agree and I also agree that we need something that will do massive damage it’s not worth losing our lives over just maiming these shit bags.” In response to a comment that stated “[g]o big or go home as they say,” ESKRIDGE stated, “[e]xactly I want the message loud and clear.”

60. On June 11, 2026, another co-conspirator, herein referred to as Co-conspirator 3,<sup>13</sup> began driving toward Washington, D.C., which was confirmed by traffic cameras observing his registered vehicle in Barstow, California, approximately one hour from his residence. On June 13, 2026, the FBI searched Co-conspirator 3’s residence and found evidence of his involvement in the conspiracy. During Co-conspirator 3’s interview with the FBI, he confessed to attempting to drive to Washington, D.C. but denied that he intended to conduct an attack. Based on my training,

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<sup>12</sup> As part of my involvement in this investigation, I know the identity of the subject who is suspected to be a member of this conspiracy and who resides in Nebraska.

<sup>13</sup> As part of my involvement in this investigation, I know the identity of the subject who is suspected to be a member of this conspiracy and who resides in California and is different from Co-conspirator 1.

experience, and knowledge of this investigation, I believe Co-conspirator 3 was driving to Washington, D.C. to participate in the conspiracy to conduct an attack at the UFC Freedom 250 event.

**CONCLUSION**

61. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1111 and 1117 (Conspiracy to Commit Murder), was committed by Daniel Kenely ESKRIDGE. I therefore respectfully request that a warrant be issued authorizing the arrest of Daniel Kenely ESKRIDGE.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Brown  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subscribed and sworn to before me on June 15th, 2026 Sworn to by telephone  
5:33 AM, Jun 15, 2026

  
HONORABLE LAJUANA M. COUNTS  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI





# U.S. Department of **JUSTICE**

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Ohio

United States of America

v.

Tycen Proper

Case No.

D: 26 mj 341

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of March 1, 2026 to June 11, 2026 in the county of Knox in the Southern District of Ohio, the defendant(s) violated:

Table with 2 columns: Code Section and Offense Description. Rows include 18 U.S.C. § 371, § 1114(a), § 924(c), § 924(h) and their corresponding offense descriptions.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See Affidavit in Support of Criminal Complaint

Continued on the attached sheet.

Handwritten signature of Christopher S. Betts

Complainant's signature

Christopher S. Betts, FBI Task Force Officer

Printed name and title

Sworn to before me and attested signed in my presence. pursuant to Rule 4.1 FRCP

Date: June 12, 2026

City and state: Columbus, Ohio

Handwritten signature of Norah McCann King

Judge's signature

Norah McCann King

Printed name and title

USMJ

**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

I, Christopher S. Betts, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

**INTRODUCTION**

1. I am a Task Force Officer with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) Joint Terrorism Task Force (“JTTF”), and a Detective for the Columbus Division of Police (“CPD”) Counter Terrorism Unit and have been employed since December 2015. I am currently assigned to the FBI’s Cincinnati Division, Columbus Resident Agency, Joint Terrorism Task Force. Previously, I graduated from Penn State University with a Master’s Degree in Homeland Security: Counterterrorism and from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor’s Degree in International Studies: Security and Intelligence. During my tenure with the FBI and Division of Police, I have investigated and participated in the investigation of domestic terrorism violations and, among other things, have conducted or participated in surveillances, reviews of records, and the executions of search and tracking warrants. From these experiences, and from training related to counterterrorism matters, I have become familiar with the ways in which persons conduct criminal activity online, to include but not limited to, the efforts persons involved in such activity take to disguise operations and avoid detection by law enforcement. I additionally have working knowledge coding websites, managing small networks, and server management. I have obtained the GIAC Security Essentials Certification from the GIAC (previously Global Information Assurance Certification).

2. As a Federal Agent, I am authorized to investigate violations of laws of the United States and to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States. The information contained in this affidavit is either personally known to me, based upon my interview of various witnesses and review of various records and publicly available information, or has been relayed to me by other agents or sworn law enforcement personnel. Because this

affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of obtaining a criminal complaint and arrest warrant, I have not included each and every fact known to me concerning the investigation. I have only set forth facts to establish probable cause for the charges in the complaint.

3. Based on my training and experience and the facts as set forth in this affidavit, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Commit an Offense Against the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 1114(a) (Attempted Murder of Any Officer or Employee of the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) (Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence), and 18 U.S.C. § 924(h) (Receipt or Transfer of a Firearm Used to Commit a Felony) were committed by TYCEN PROPER.

#### **PROBABLE CAUSE**

4. On or about June 10, 2026, at approximately 9:18pm, officers with the Knox County Sheriff's Office and Danville Police Department were dispatched to an address in Knox County in reference to a disturbance. The caller, identified as PROPER's mother, was concerned about her son, identified as PROPER, due to his recent conduct, including firearms purchases and communicating with certain individuals online.

#### **Initial Investigation by Local Authorities**

5. Officers arrived on scene at approximately 9:38pm and spoke to PROPER and his mother and father. PROPER is a 19-year-old male who lives at that residence with his parents. PROPER's father stated that PROPER had recently met random people online and had been planning "recons" with these individuals. His father said PROPER has been planning to leave this upcoming weekend (the weekend of June 13, 2026) to meet up with these online individuals. His father further stated that PROPER had also recently acquired camping gear, food, ballistic plates, a new shotgun, a rifle, "lots" of ammunition, extra magazines, and plate carriers.

PROPER allegedly spent approximately \$3,000 of his graduation money to purchase the previously described equipment.

6. PROPER's father stated that, in addition to the above behavior, PROPER quit his job recently in preparation to meet the individuals he had been interacting with online to conduct "missions" and "recons." His father did not have any additional information about the identities of the people with whom PROPER was speaking.

7. The Knox County Sheriff's Office took photos of the equipment acquired by PROPER, which included several boxes of ammunition (estimated by law enforcement to be in the thousands of rounds of ammunition), two plate carriers with AR-style magazines, an AR-style rifle, and a bullpup rifle painted with an American flag. The equipment was turned over voluntarily by the family to law enforcement.

8. At the conclusion of the encounter, PROPER was transported by the Knox County Sheriff's Office to a local hospital where they submitted an application for emergency admission based on homicidal ideations.

9. On June 11, 2026, the Knox County Sheriff's Office contacted the FBI as a result of its interactions with PROPER.

#### **Interview with PROPER's Mother**

10. Also on June 11, 2026, I contacted PROPER's mother for a telephone interview for additional information. She detailed that PROPER had recently begun interacting with a group online that was comprised of individuals who claimed to be ex-military and Christian-based. She didn't know the name of the group, but they expressed ultra-religious and anti-government sentiments, specifically citing grievances about government corruption, the handling of the Epstein files, data centers taking up all the water in communities, and other government

actions. PROPER's mother detailed that talking with these individuals online has caused PROPER to lean heavily into his religion, and she believed that those individuals were using religion to manipulate and influence her son.

11. In addition to the equipment and firearms PROPER had recently purchased, she stated that she observed him recently engaged in physical training, which she initially thought was to further his aspirations to join the military or police, but later learned it was related to the online group he was part of.

12. PROPER's mother detailed that the communications with these individuals largely occurred on his cellular device, and she provided a phone number for PROPER. She also stated that she recently observed PROPER researching and mapping locations in the area just northwest of Washington D.C. She stated that she also observed additional images and maps being sent to him from unknown individuals through texts and Discord messages, and she would overhear PROPER talking to these individuals verbally on his phone.

13. When she asked PROPER what he was doing, he said he couldn't tell her exactly what he was doing, but that they were looking at multiple different locations and intended to conduct "recon" as well as "hit and run missions." PROPER's mother believed "hit and run missions" meant conducting shootings and then leaving.

#### **Execution of Search Warrants**

14. On June 11, 2026, the FBI, in coordination with the Knox County Sheriff's Office, CPD, and Danville Police Department, executed a local search warrant at the residence of PROPER. While on scene, investigators observed a large quantity of boxes of spent ammunition, rounds of spent cartridge casings (consistent with ammunition having been fired), and other tactical clothing. Investigators also spoke to PROPER's father and grandmother, who stated that

PROPER had become more closed off from his family and spent most of his time online speaking to unidentified persons. PROPER's family members also highlighted concerning statements he had made in recent months, such as making sympathetic comments about Adolf Hitler and posting anti-Semitic comments on Facebook.

15. Also on June 11, 2026, a local search warrant was executed on PROPER's Apple iPhone, which the Knox County Sheriff's Office had previously seized to preserve evidence. During a preliminary search of the device, investigators observed chats on Signal groups that laid out detailed plans to conduct an attack in Washington D.C. with several unidentified confederates. In the chat, detailed imagery of the National Capitol Region and maps of the area were shared to a group of which PROPER was a member, highlighting sniper locations, potential drone launch locations, and other detailed tactical planning.

#### **Interview of PROPER**

16. On June 11, 2025, investigators conducted an interview with PROPER at the medical facility where he was housed. The interview was consensual and took place in an unlocked room while a case worker was present.

17. During the interview, PROPER admitted to planning with others a coordinated attack against the United States government during the UFC event scheduled to take place on the White House lawn in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, June 14, 2026.

18. According to PROPER, some members of the group who would participate in the attack began communicating with one another in or around March 2026 via a TikTok group called "Vanguard of the Old." The members of the group stated that they wanted to protect the United States, which they believed was headed in the wrong direction. Members of the group believed that the United States needed to be torn down so that it could be rebuilt. Some

expressed a desire that people who were involved with Jeffrey Epstein should not govern the country. Members shared information with each other on the TikTok group to show their trustworthiness and commitment to the cause, such as identification documents and videos of their abilities and workouts.

19. Some of the more serious members of the group, including PROPER, moved their communications over to the encrypted communications app Signal. There they planned an attack for the upcoming White House UFC event. PROPER believed many of the group members had prior military experience. The group was broken up into three tiers, with “Tier 1” having to meet physical fitness standards and acquire equipment such as personal body armor and firearms. PROPER admitted to being one of the team leaders.

20. PROPER described the general plan for the attack. All members would leave their homes on Friday or Saturday (June 12 or 13, 2026) to meet up in Fredericksburg, Virginia. PROPER himself was planning to drive, taking his weapons and body armor, including an AR-15, all his ammunition, tactical vests, and ballistic plates. He planned to take extra body armor for other members of the group. He also planned to pick up another member of the group on the way who was hoping to acquire a firearm from a friend or his employer. Investigators have identified that individual and believe he lives in West Virginia. PROPER said that although he was not going to the protest in order to shoot people, several other members of the group were intent on violence.

21. According to PROPER, the plan as he knew it was to stage a demonstration on the north side of the White House. While the demonstration was taking place, the group would fly small, unmanned aircraft (i.e. drones) laden with unspecified explosive devices which would detonate over the north side of the UFC arena. When the unmanned aircraft detonated, the intent

was to force the crowd attending the UFC event and high value targets (HVTs) to evacuate to the south. PROPER stated that the plan was for members of his group to act as snipers and additional shooters, preferably with long guns, staged at or near the southern evacuation point to conduct shootings of the members of the crowd and HVTs as they fled from the explosive devices which had just been detonated. The HVTs included both wealthy people and politicians. According to Proper, this attack was designed to “jumpstart” a revolution in the United States.

#### **Information Obtained from PROPER’s Phone**

22. The search of PROPER’s cell phone revealed chats in the Signal app, consistent with much of what PROPER described. In the phone, investigators could see that there was a primary large chat, consisting of approximately 19 individuals. Additionally, there were smaller chat groups, consisting of approximately 4-5 individuals. These smaller chat groups were based on role assignments and locations, such as shooters at one location or shooters at another location. The review of PROPER’s cell phone also revealed group members discussing exit, escape and evasion resources for the attack, including the location of a potential “safe house,” and also potential exfiltration or escape routes for members of the group after the attack. Some plans indicated that members of the group would travel from the area of the White House to the Potomac River and travel along the river to escape the area.

23. The review of PROPER’s cell phone also revealed chats in the application SimpleX, wherein PROPER chatted with co-conspirators regarding the attack on June 14, 2026. In chats on or about May 13, 2026, PROPER stated, “I got a possible target Marsha Blackburn is senator for Tennessee,” and in response to a question in the chat asking why to attack her, he stated, “She’s taken money from the Israel pro Israel lobby and supports them.” On May 31, 2026, PROPER sent messages, leading with the text, “These are people we’re going to focus

on,” and then sent images of U.S. Senator Jim Justice, U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito, U.S. Representative Carol Miller, and U.S. Representative Riley Moore. The four images of these members of Congress appear to have been taken from the website “TrackAIPAC.com” and appear to include information about how much money each Congressperson received “from pro-Israel PACS.”

24. I am aware that a UFC event is scheduled to take place on the lawn of the White House on Sunday, June 14, 2026. I am aware that the President of the United States is scheduled to be in attendance at the event. I am also aware, based on news reports and open-source reporting, that politicians, potentially including members of Congress and Cabinet officials, will likely be at the UFC event.

25. According to employees at a store in Knox County, Ohio, on or about June 5, 2026, PROPER came into the store and purchased a bullpup shotgun. Firearms tracing records from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives confirmed the purchase.

### CONCLUSION

26. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Commit an Offense Against the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 1114(a) (Attempted Murder of Any Officer or Employee of the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) (Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence), and 18 U.S.C. § 924(h) (Receipt or Transfer of a Firearm Used to Commit a Felony) were committed by TYCEN PROPER. I therefore respectfully request that a warrant be issued authorizing the arrest of TYCEN PROPER.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ch Betts*

Christopher S. Betts  
Task Force Officer  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

*SWORN for attestation*

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 12th day of June, 2026.

*pursuant to FRCP 4.1*

*Norah McCann King*

NORAH MCCANN KING  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE



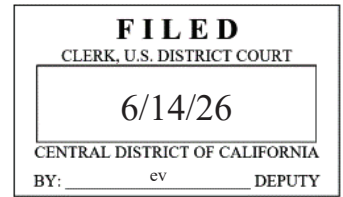
# U.S. Department of JUSTICE

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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Central District of California



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

BRYAN OMAR ROA, and  
MICHAEL ALAN THOMAS,  
Defendants

Case No. 5:26-mj-00418-DUTY

## CRIMINAL COMPLAINT BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the dates of June 11-12th, 2026 in the county of San Bernardino in the Central District of California, the defendants violated:

*Code Section*

18 U.S.C. § 1117

*Offense Description*

Conspiracy to Commit Murder

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

*Please see attached affidavit.*

Continued on the attached sheet.

*/s/*

*Complainant's signature*

Mark Prator, FBI Special Agent

*Printed name and title*

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

Date: 6/14/26

*Judge's signature*

City and state: Los Angeles, California

Hon. Margo A. Rocconi, U.S. Magistrate Judge

*Printed name and title*

AUSA: Colin S. Scott (X3159)

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, Mark Prator, being duly sworn, declare and state as follows:

**I. PURPOSE OF AFFIDAVIT**

1. This affidavit is made in support of a criminal complaint and arrest warrants against Bryan Omar Roa ("**ROA**") and Michael Alan Thomas ("**THOMAS**") for a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1117 (Conspiracy to Commit Murder).

**II. BACKGROUND OF AGENT**

2. I am a Special Agent ("SA") of the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") and have been a Special Agent with the FBI since June of 2025. I am currently assigned to FBI Los Angeles Field Office, Riverside Resident Agency, Joint Terrorism Task Force, where I investigate, among other things, people who commit violent criminal acts in furtherance of their political and social ideology, and investigate threats associated with the use of firearms, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive materials. As a Special Agent, I received both formal and informal training from the FBI regarding domestic and foreign investigations. Through my training and experience, I am familiar with the methods of operation that individuals associated with domestic and foreign terrorist organizations employ to communicate with associates regarding their ideology, to organize actions on behalf of their organizations, and to bring attention to their political and social agendas. As an FBI Special Agent, I have also participated in executions of multiple arrest and search warrants, including warrants executed in cases involving domestic terrorism and threats.

3. In the course of my employment with the FBI, I have investigated a variety of domestic terrorism, counterterrorism, and criminal investigations, including the interviewing of witnesses and subjects, physical surveillance, analyzing data from electronic devices, executing search warrants, and the arrest of individuals wanted for various violations of federal and state law. I have also personally participated in the execution of search warrants involving the search and seizure of electronic devices, vehicles, and documents of criminal activities. In addition to my formal training, I have learned from and worked alongside numerous FBI agents with years of experience in counterterrorism and criminal investigations. Throughout my experiences with these agents, I have received training and real-time experience in various investigative techniques, including interviewing, evidence collection, surveillance, and data analysis. As a Federal Agent, I am authorized to investigate violations of laws of the United States and to execute warrants issued under the authority of the United States.

4. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based upon my personal observations, my training and experience, and information obtained from various law enforcement personnel and witnesses. This affidavit is intended to show merely that there is sufficient probable cause for the requested warrant and does not purport to set forth all of my knowledge of, or investigation into, this matter. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, all conversations and statements described in this

affidavit are related in substance and in part only, and all dates and times are on or about those indicated.

### **III. SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

5. Multiple co-conspirators, including **ROA** and **THOMAS**, plotted to kill government officials and others attending the Ultimate Fighting Championship ("UFC") event that took place on June 14, 2026 on the White House lawn ("UFC Freedom 250"). According to public reporting, UFC Freedom 250 was a large public event with key members of the United States government in attendance including the President of the United States.

6. Specifically, during the investigation the FBI identified a group of conspirators who procured weapons and made plans to carry out an attack at UFC Freedom 250. Among other things, the co-conspirators discussed using drones to drop explosives on the north side of the White House to create panic and funnel event attendees toward locations where the co-conspirators would have snipers prepared to kill certain high value targets. As further described below, the co-conspirators' murder plot appears to have been motivated by their anti-government ideology.

7. On June 12, 2026, one of the co-conspirators, Tycen C. Proper ("PROPER") was charged in the Southern District of Ohio via complaint for his involvement in this plot. The day before (June 11, 2026), PROPER was interviewed by the FBI. During his interview, and as further described below, PROPER identified two other co-conspirators via their social media accounts, later identified as **ROA** and **THOMAS**, who live in the Central District

of California and were also involved in planning for this attack.

8. On June 13, 2026, FBI searched residences belonging to **ROA** and **THOMAS** pursuant to federal search warrants. During the searches, agents found further evidence showing **ROA's** and **THOMAS'** involvement in the murder plot. Inside **ROA's** vehicle, agents found firearms, a tactical belt, and radios. Agents also seized **ROA's** cellular phone which, as described below, contained communications with co-conspirators about the attack plan. Inside **THOMAS'** residence, agents found a hunting rifle, an AR-style rifle, 30-round extended magazines for the AR-style rifle filled with approximately 180 rounds of ammunition, and a pistol. Additionally, **THOMAS** spoke with law enforcement and admitted to helping plan the attack and encouraging others to take part in it. During **ROA's** interview, he admitted to law enforcement that he attempted to drive to Washington, D.C. to protest UFC Freedom 250 but disclaimed any involvement in the conspiracy.

#### **IV. SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

##### **A. Ohio Law Enforcement Uncover a Plot to Attack UFC Freedom 250**

9. Based on my conversations with other law enforcement officers, review of relevant reports, databases, videos, photos, and extracted digital evidence pursuant to search warrants, I understand the following:

10. On or about June 10, 2026, at approximately 9:18 p.m., officers with the Knox County Sheriff's Office and Danville

Police Department in Ohio were dispatched to a residence in Danville, Ohio in reference to a disturbance. The caller, identified as Proper's mother ("D.P."), was concerned about a family member, identified as the Tycen C. PROPER ("PROPER"), due to his recent conduct, including firearms purchases and communications with concerning individuals online.

11. Officers arrived on scene at approximately 9:38 p.m. and spoke to PROPER. PROPER is a 19-year-old male who lives at that residence with two family members. When deputies spoke to a family member, A.P., he stated that PROPER recently met random people online and had been planning "recons" with these individuals. A.P. stated that PROPER was planning to leave this upcoming weekend (the weekend of June 13, 2026) to meet up with these online individuals. A.P. further stated that PROPER had also recently acquired camping gear, food, ballistic plates, a new shotgun, a rifle, "lots" of ammunition, extra magazines, and plate carriers.<sup>1</sup> PROPER allegedly spent approximately \$3000 of his graduation money to purchase the previously described equipment.

12. In addition to the above behavior, A.P. stated that PROPER also quit his job recently in preparation to meet the individuals he had been interacting with online to conduct "missions" and "recons." A.P. did not have any additional information about the identities of the people with whom PROPER was speaking.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on my training and experience, I know that a plate carrier is a form of body armor used to shield the user from ballistics shot from a firearm.

13. The Knox County Sheriff's Office took photos of the equipment acquired by PROPER which included several boxes of ammunition (estimated by law enforcement to be in the thousands of rounds of ammunition), two plate carriers with AR-style magazines, an AR-style rifle, and a bullpup rifle painted with the American flag.<sup>2</sup>



This equipment was turned over voluntarily by the family to law enforcement.

14. At the conclusion of the encounter, PROPER was transported by the Knox County Sheriff's Office to a local hospital where law enforcement submitted an application for an emergency admission based on his homicidal ideations. The application detailed that PROPER had been thinking about joining the military or police force with the goal of being able to kill people.

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<sup>2</sup> According to employees at a store in Knox County, Ohio, who were interviewed by law enforcement, on or about June 5, 2026, PROPER came into the store and purchased a bullpup shotgun. Firearms tracing records from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives confirmed the purchase

15. On June 11, 2026, the Knox County Sheriff's Office contacted the FBI as a result of its interactions with PROPER.

16. I am also aware that on June 11, 2026, another FBI agent contacted D.P. for a telephone interview for additional information. During that interview, D.P. explained that PROPER had recently began interacting with a group online that was comprised of individuals who represented themselves as ex-military and that may share some Christian-based ideology. She stated that she did not know the name of the group, but that they expressed ultra-religious and anti-government sentiments, specifically citing grievances about government corruption, the handling of the Epstein files, data centers taking up all the water in communities, and other government actions. D.P. believed that these individuals were using religion to manipulate PROPER.

17. In addition to the equipment and firearms PROPER had recently purchased, she stated that she observed him recently engaged in physical training, which she initially thought was to further his aspirations to join the military or police, but later learned it was in relation to the online group in which he was participating.

18. D.P. detailed that PROPER's communications with these individuals largely occurred on PROPER's cellular device, and provided a phone number for PROPER ending in -3044. She also stated that she recently observed PROPER researching and mapping locations in the area just northwest of Washington, D.C. She stated that she also observed additional images and maps being

sent to him from unknown individuals through texts and Discord messages, and would overhear PROPER talking to these individuals over the phone.

19. When D.P. asked PROPER what he was doing, he stated that he could not tell her exactly what he was doing, but that they were looking at multiple different locations and intended to conduct "recon" as well as "hit and run missions." When asked what D.P. thought PROPER meant when he said, "hit and run missions," she said that she believed that it meant conducting shootings and then leaving.

**B. Law Enforcement Search PROPER's Residence**

20. On June 11, 2026, the FBI, in coordination with Ohio local law enforcement, executed a state search warrant of PROPER's home. During the search of PROPER's residence law enforcement recovered a journal from his room that included pages in which PROPER wrote that the government sought to control people and to sacrifice children and others to a demonic figure. The journal also had a list of approximately 46 names, which included celebrities and politicians. While on scene, investigators also observed a large quantity of boxes of spent ammunition, rounds of spent brass, and tactical clothing.

21. Law enforcement also obtained a state search warrant for PROPER's Apple iPhone which had been previously seized by the Knox County Sheriff's Office. During a preliminary review of the device, investigators observed chats on Signal groups that laid out detailed plans to conduct an attack in Washington, D.C. with several unidentified co-conspirators. In those chats,

law enforcement saw detailed imagery of the National Capitol Region and maps of the area with different potential sniper locations highlighted, potential drone launch locations identified, and other detailed tactical planning locations.

**C. PROPER Admitted the Co-Conspirators Planned to Attack UFC Freedom 250**

22. On June 11, 2026 FBI investigators traveled to Dublin Springs Mental Health center in Columbus, Ohio to interview PROPER.<sup>3</sup> The interview was consensual and took place in an unlocked room while a case worker was also present. During the interview, PROPER admitted to planning a coordinated attack against the United States government that would occur during UFC Freedom 250 which took place on the White House lawn in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, June 14, 2026.

23. PROPER explained that the plan involved staging a demonstration on the north side of the White House. While the demonstration was taking place, the group would fly small, unmanned aircraft (i.e. drones), laden with unspecified explosive devices, which would detonate over the north side of the UFC arena.<sup>4</sup> PROPER explained that the goal of detonating the unmanned aircraft was to force the crowd attending the UFC event and other high value targets ("HVTs") to evacuate to the south. PROPER said that the plan was then for the conspirators to act as snipers, with additional shooters, preferably with long guns,

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<sup>3</sup> As described below, PROPER was released from the mental health facility and arrested on a federal complaint.

<sup>4</sup> As detailed below, when law enforcement interviewed ROA he described a nearly identical use of drones as a potential form of violence to enact political change.

staged at the south of the White House to conduct shootings of the members of the crowd and HVTs as they fled from the explosives.

24. Based on public reporting, I am aware that a UFC event titled "UFC Freedom 250" took place on the lawn of the White House on Sunday, June 14, 2026. I am also aware that the President of the United States was in attendance at the event and also, based on news reports and open-source reporting, I know that politicians, including members of Congress, were at UFC Freedom 250 which drew a large crowd to Washington, D.C. Based on the location of UFC Freedom 250, which is on the White House grounds, I believe the area falls within the Special Maritime and Territorial Jurisdiction of the United States. See 18 U.S.C. § 7(3).

25. On June 12, 2026, FBI investigators interviewed PROPER again at the Dublin Springs Mental Health center. After receiving Miranda warnings, PROPER provided information that confirmed what he had stated to the FBI during his June 11, 2026, interview.

26. Based on law enforcement records, I know that on June 12, 2026, PROPER was charged by complaint in the Southern District of Ohio for his involvement in this plot. The Complaint charges PROPER with violations of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Commit an Offense Against the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 1114(a) (Attempted Murder of Any Officer or Employee of the United States), 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) (Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence), and 18 U.S.C. § 924(h)

(Receives or Transfers Firearm with Knowledge Firearm Will Be Used for a Felony).

**D. Information Obtained from PROPER's Phone Corroborates the Co-Conspirators' Plot to Attack the UFC Freedom 250 Event at the White House**

27. Based on law enforcement reports, I know that the FBI has begun to review PROPER's cell phone and that this review has revealed chats in the encrypted messaging application SimpleX, wherein PROPER and several other coconspirators planned for an attack to occur on June 14, 2026.

28. For example, in chats on or about May 13, 2026, PROPER stated, "I got a possible target" and identified a U.S. Senator. In response to a question asking why PROPER wanted to target the Senator, he stated the Senator had "taken money from the Israel pro Israel lobby and supports them." On May 31, 2026, PROPER sent several messages, leading with the text "These are people we're going to focus on," and then sent images of additional members of Congress. The four images of these four members of Congress appear to have been taken from the website "TrackAIPAC.com" and appear to include information about how much money each congressperson received "from pro-Israel PACS."

29. PROPER told law enforcement that there would be other Signal chats on his cell phone and that the members of this group were primarily recruited through TikTok. Once an individual had proven himself to an established member of the group on TikTok, they were then transitioned to a vetted (and more secure) Signal chat. PROPER stated that the group

exchanged videos, pictures of tactical kits, physical training proof, and other material through TikTok direct messages.

30. PROPER also provided investigators with the TikTok usernames of other individuals in the group. Those usernames that PROPER provided included, among others:

a. TikTok username: @noble\_0066 - UID 6772018651245446149 (believed to be associated with **ROA**, as described below); and

b. TikTok username: @whiskey\_six\_actual - UID 6779367300937892869 (associated with **THOMAS**, as further described below).

31. PROPER told investigators that @noble\_0066 (**ROA**), @whiskey\_six\_actual (**THOMAS**), and several other TikTok users had become members of the inner group by being vetted and had participated in Signal chats regarding the planned attack on June 14, 2026.

32. PROPER also indicated to investigators that he had been planning to drive to Washington, D.C., from Ohio, travelling through West Virginia. In West Virginia, he planned to meet another member of the online group and then to drive with that individual the rest of the way to Washington, D.C.

33. Based on conversations with other law enforcement agents, I know that investigators ultimately identified that individual in West Virginia. On June 12, 2026, the FBI interviewed the co-conspirator in West Virginia, who confirmed that he and others communicated online about attacking the UFC Freedom 250 event in Washington, D.C., but claimed that the

members of the group had cancelled their attack plans on the morning of June 12, 2026.

34. A review of PROPER's cell phone also revealed chats in the Signal application, consistent with much of what PROPER described. In PROPER's phone, investigators could see that there was a large chat, consisting of approximately 19 individuals. There were also smaller chat groups, consisting of approximately 4-5 individuals. These smaller chat groups were divided based on role assignments and locations, including by the locations which the co-conspirators would occupy and shoot from during the attack. The review of PROPER's cell phone also showed the group discussing exit, escape, and evasion resources for the attack, including the location of a potential "safe house," and also potential exfiltration or escape routes for members of the group after the attack. Some of the messages on PROPER's phone indicated that members of the group would travel from the area of the White House to the Potomac River and travel along the river in order to escape.

35. During his June 11, 2026 interview, PROPER also suggested that he had purchased equipment for the attack for other individuals.

**E. The FBI Identifies ROA and THOMAS as Members of the Conspiracy Based on Communications with PROPER**

36. Based on conversations with other law enforcement personnel, I know that FBI personnel identified **ROA** and **THOMAS** as co-conspirators using information from PROPER's TikTok account.

37. During his June 11, 2026 interview, PROPER showed investigators the TikTok profiles of some of the individuals with whom he was conspiring to initiate the attack at UFC Freedom 250. One of the TikTok accounts PROPER identified as a co-conspirator had the screenname "noble\_0066." This account included pictures of a user that was visible to investigators. After obtaining this information, investigators issued an emergency disclosure request ("EDR") to TikTok for information regarding the noble\_0066 account. In response to the EDR, TikTok provided a phone number and email address. Open-source social media queries using those identifiers led to identification of **ROA**. Furthermore, a review of **ROA's** California driver's license picture revealed that his picture is nearly identical to the individual whose picture appears on the "noble\_0066" TikTok profile that PROPER identified as a participant in the conspiracy.

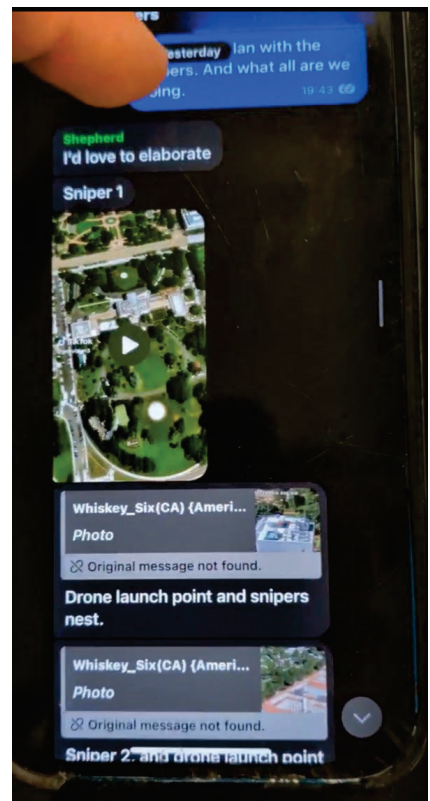
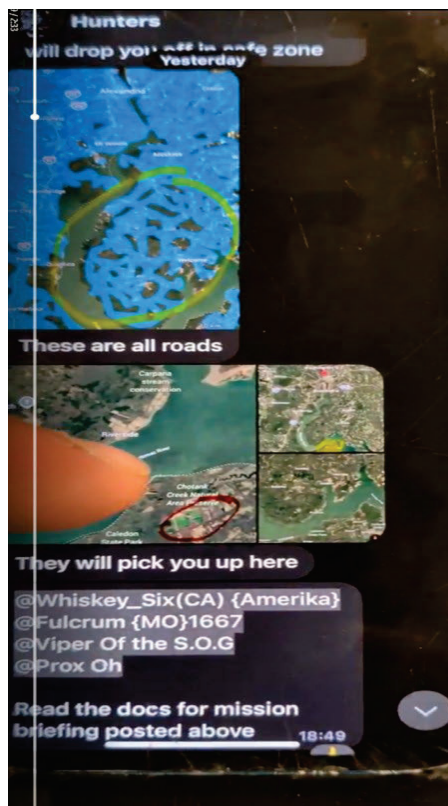
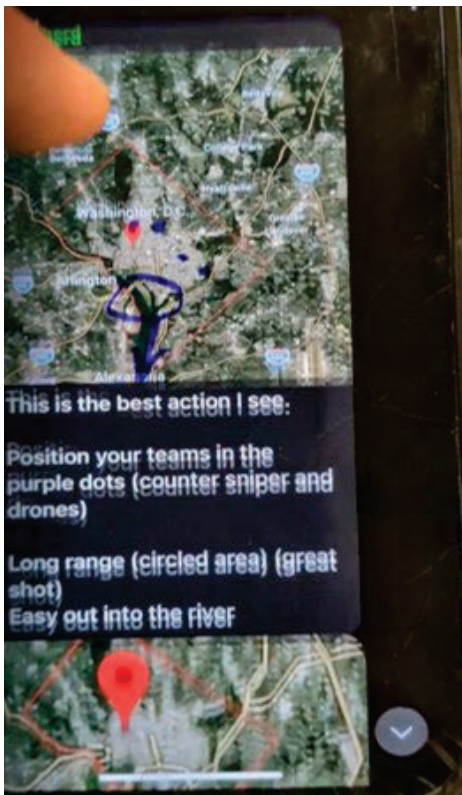
38. On June 12, 2026 law enforcement reviewed **ROA's** social media accounts and saw public posts on Instagram Stories which included photographs of **ROA** conducting firearms training and engaging in tactical training in a remote area with another individual and by himself.



39. During his voluntary interview with law enforcement on June 11, 2026, PROPER said that an individual with the online username "Whiskey Six Amerika" was one of the primary individuals involved in planning the attack at UFC Freedom 250 and that this individual provided information during the planning phases. During a review of PROPER's cellular phone, investigators identified Signal user "whiskey\_six(CA) {Amerika}" as one of the co-conspirators. This user - along with other co-conspirators - was in a Signal group called "Hunters." During the review of PROPER's phone, investigators also located a SimpleX user with the name "Whiskey\_Six{AmeriKa}." That SimpleX user sent PROPER identifying documents showing that his true address was a residence in Pinon Hills and that his true name was Michael Allen **THOMAS**.

40. The "Hunters" Signal group, which included **THOMAS**, PROPER, and other co-conspirators, contained detailed instructions for carrying out the attack at UFC Freedom 250 including plans to safely escape after the attack. Below are

some of the screenshots from PROPER's phone regarding these plans. As indicated in the screenshots below, the conspirators exchanged aerial photos and maps of locations in and around Washington, D.C. - including the White House - and discussed where snipers should be placed and where drones should be launched.



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**F. Law Enforcement Identifies Additional Communications Between ROA and THOMAS Regarding the Conspiracy**

41. Based on my review of messages in the SimpleX application between users "Noble6" (identified as **ROA**) and "Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}" (identified as **THOMAS**) as collected from PROPER's phone, **ROA** and **THOMAS** had discussions about weapons and tactical gear.

42. I have also reviewed message on SimpleX between **ROA** and **THOMAS** in a chatroom titled "Vanguard of the Old Republic," which contained multiple other co-conspirators. Messages in this chatroom showcase **THOMAS'** violent ideology. For instance, on May 21, 2026, **THOMAS** wrote: "To be clear, I intend to escalate this group, and I don't want to take 6business years to do it" and that everyone in the group should "consider yourselves an enemy of the state." In response to another co-conspirator, **THOMAS** wrote "Ok, big picture. Got it. So, to be precise, you're imagining executions right?"

43. On May 23, 2026, **THOMAS** described "tiers" of operators within their anti-government group, stating:

Tier 1 operators may be asked to put themselves in harms way, break the law, and potentially go into hiding. Tier 2 would consist of get away drivers, drone operators, and direct support. May still be asked to seriously break the law. Tier 3 may be a runner, or part of the Underground Railroad. Indirect support, recruitment, supply, logistics, tech.. still actively contributing, but most likely safe from legal issues. Tier 4 social media influencers, protesters, funders, press, followers...nobody being asked for much or taking any risks. Tier one status is not something to take lightly. You will be sacrificing for your country, and carrying a brunt of the weight. I want to make that clear that we will all sacrifice for tier one operators. We will make sure they have an escape plan, backup plan, transportation, three meals a dav and a

defense position to hide out. All the tier 2 support we can provide. We will try to break them out of jail if we need to.

44. Additional messages in the same chatroom show that **ROA** and **THOMAS** both discussed living in Southern California and met on at least one occasion in the last month to practice marksmanship and tactics related to the group's violent anti-government ideology. For instance, on May 22, 2026, **ROA** and **THOMAS** exchanged the following messages in the Vanguard of the Old Republic group chat:

- o Noble6: Anyone from Southern California
- o Noble6: Bro if you live in southern cali teach me
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika} : I am
- o ...
- o Noble6: I am willing to meet up for a beer bro if you're interested
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Now you're talking my language. I'm up the hill behind LA
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Pinon hills
- o Noble6: Yucaipa ca brotha
- o ...
- o Noble6: I usually don't work weekend we should link up

On May 24, 2026:

- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: @'Noble6 CA' you getting some sleep? Meet me at that gas station at 10 and I'll drive us to the spot in the truck. Or we'll come up with another plan. Bring targets and all your shit. I'll buy the beer.
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Unless you wanna pick me up tonight and we do some night shooting, a camp out, and some day shooting before we go back home. Up to you.
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: @'Noble6 CA' im going to sleep. Your destination is: [location on Mountain Rd Pinon Hills, CA 92372 United States I will be ready for you anytime. My cell is [(\*\*) \*\*]-1078. Call if you can't get ahold of me here.

- o ...
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Noble 6 and I are going to be putting each other to the test tomorrow. I intend on having his marksman training knocked out completely tomorrow.
- o {approximately 17 hours later}
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Nah when noble gets home he'll tell ya I was huffing and puffing today went a little slow, and we didn't get to cover as many things as I was hoping to, but we definitely have a starting point.

45. On May 25, 2026, **THOMAS** discussed his recent training exercise with **ROA**, writing in the Vanguard of the Old Republic chatroom:

- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Yes... I've put some deliberation into what exactly we need to train for. It occurred to me when I was with noble, that we're not going to be conducting the type of missions or combat that I did back in the day. It will be gorilla style warfare. There will be some raid attacks, which I've done before. But we'll also need to be creative, and more conservative. I learned a lot of lessons today.
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: What we NEED is skilled operators to work like ghosts. Most missions that expect contact will be infiltration missions. And that won't be for a while. There's a lot we can do before we fight toe to toe.
- o Whiskey\_Six{Amerika}: Noble and I trained on vehicle dismount, cover vs concealment, bounding, and basic marksmanship today.

46. Based on these chats, I believe that **THOMAS** and **ROA** were training to carry out an attack involving firearms to further the group's anti-government ideology.

47. On June 7, 2026, as plans were taking shape to carry out the attack at UFC Freedom 250, a co-conspirator wrote to

**THOMAS** saying: "\$1300 gets us the drones and the charges. Yes we should all pitch in and we need it asap @Whiskey\_Six(Amerika) how much more do we need?" to which **THOMAS** replied, "Uhh, \$800 I'm flat broke. I can pay in manpower though I bet you could come up with \$100 in a week somehow. Maybe just hold a sign by the freeway saying "fund the freedom fighters."

**G. Law Enforcement Searches ROA's Residence on June 13, 2026**

48. On June 13, 2026, law enforcement executed a federal search warrant signed by the Honorable Anna Y. Park, United States Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California. During the search of **ROA's** residence and vehicle, law enforcement seized, among other items, the following:

- An AR-style rifle;
- A Glock 19 handgun;
- A tactical belt;
- An ammo can full of bullets;
- A two-way radio;
- A PEQ15 (an infrared laser target pointer); and
- A rifle magazine.

49. Additionally, during the execution of the search warrants, I interviewed **ROA**. During that interview, **ROA** told me that he had planned to attend UFC Freedom 250 as a protester but that his vehicle malfunctioned and he had to return home. **ROA** also said that he would drive through Barstow on his way to

Washington, D.C.<sup>5</sup> **ROA** also discussed how someone could hypothetically use drones armed with explosives to bomb buildings near the White House which would cause mass panic with limited deaths at UFC Freedom 250. **ROA** mentioned this as an example of how to use drones to enact political change in a more targeted way rather than indiscriminately killing people. As discussed above, the use of drones to drop explosives at UFC Freedom 250 was part of the operational plan described by **PROPER** and his coconspirators. Based on this exchange, I believe **ROA** was privy to the operational details of that plan.

50. During the interviews of **ROA's** family members, his family members told law enforcement that **ROA** had alluded to traveling to Washington, D.C. For instance, **ROA** told D.R., that one day they would wake up and he would be gone, and that he intended to travel to Washington D.C. where "something big" would happen. On June 10, 2026, D.R. awoke to find that **ROA** had left.

51. Multiple other family members (including D.R., S.R., D.R., D.R.S. and B.R.) told law enforcement that **ROA** had been planning a trip to Washington, D.C. **ROA's** family members also believed he intended to commit an act of violence during this trip due to his increased time spent shooting his weapons and a noticeable change in behavior including increased anxiety, irritation, and seclusion. Family members also stated that within the last 3 months **ROA** began spending more time with a new

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<sup>5</sup> Based on law enforcement reports, I know that on June 11, 2026, traffic cameras show that **ROA's** registered vehicle was located in Barstow, California.

group of online friends. Other family members told law enforcement that **ROA** seemed extremely agitated when he experienced mechanical difficulties with his vehicle earlier in the week of June 9, 2026. **ROA's** family considered reporting him to the police after he left but did not so before he returned home.

**H. ROA's Phone Reveals Additional Communications with the Co-Conspirators**

52. During the search of **ROA's** residence, law enforcement seized his mobile device. I have begun to review that device and found additional communications between **ROA, THOMAS, PROPER,** and other members of the conspiracy.

53. For instance, in a SimpleX group chat titled "Ops Stage One (Vanguard of the Old Republic)," I saw members of the conspiracy including **THOMAS, ROA, PROPER,** and others communicate about planning the attack at UFC Freedom 250. For example, in one message a user named Fulcrum<sup>6</sup> states that "once each team is mission ready the green light will be given and the drone rigged with explosives will fly [and] they will initiate the attack." After the attack began, Fulcrum noted that "rooftop snipers will initiate their part of the plan eliminating HVTs [high value targets]." Later on Fulcrum told the group: "we also need to come up with \$1300 asap" to which **ROA** responded, "if we need the money asap we all need to contribute to pay, what do you think."

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<sup>6</sup> Fulcrum has since been identified by the FBI and arrested in the Western District of Missouri, for his role in this conspiracy.

54. **ROA** also had private messages with members of the conspiracy over SimpleX including **THOMAS** and Fulcrum. In private messages with Fulcrum, **ROA** asked him: "Any tips on researching with out getting traced.???" Fulcrum responded by provided **ROA** with instructions from a "tech friend" about how to evade law enforcement detection on the internet. Separately, **ROA** messaged **THOMAS**, over SimpleX, about purchasing tracers and magazines. **THOMAS** urged **ROA** to "Get signal. I want to pop you in a couple chats." Based on my review of **ROA's** phone I was able to determine that **ROA** had downloaded Signal on his phone but that the application had then been deleted, possibly at or around the time law enforcement executed the search warrant on June 13, 2026.

55. I have also reviewed **ROA's** Google maps history on his cellphone which showed that he had searched for various locations in Washington, D.C.

**I. THOMAS Admitted to Planning the UFC Freedom 250 Attack**

56. On June 13, 2026, the FBI executed federal search warrants at **THOMAS'** residence that were authorized by the Honorable Anna Y. Park, United States Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California. During this search, agents seized a hunting rifle, an AR-style rifle, 30-round extended magazines for the AR-styles rifle filled with approximately 180 rounds of ammunition, and a pistol.

57. During the execution of the warrants, agents interviewed **THOMAS**. Agents were also able to review screenshots on **THOMAS'** phone which showed photos of Google Maps sections of

the Washington D.C. area including areas surrounding the White House. During the interview, **THOMAS** stated that he saw himself as the planner and advisor for the group, and while he was not willing to take action himself, wanted to guide and instruct others on how to carry out attacks. **THOMAS** expressed frustration that some members of the group seemed non-committal and used excuses as to why they could not take action, particularly with the planned attack on the UFC Freedom 250 event. **THOMAS** said that the aim of this and subsequent attacks was to create enough chaos to bring about the overthrow of the U.S. government. **THOMAS** indicated that he believes that the U.S. government is run by an elite group of individuals who sacrifice and consume infants who also were deeply involved with Jeffery Epstein and are now protected by President Donald Trump. **THOMAS** places some of the responsibility of this corruption of government with Jewish people and blames them and Israel for the current war with Iran.

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**V. CONCLUSION**

58. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1117 (Conspiracy to Commit Murder), were committed by **BRYAN OMAR ROA** and **MICHAEL ALAN THOMAS**.

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone on this 14th day of June, 2026.



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HONORABLE MARGO A. ROCCONI  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE