



PRESS RELEASE

Three Men Found Guilty of Assaulting Officers During Jan. 6 Capitol Breach

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, District of
Columbia

Defendants Clashed With Officers on Lower West Terrace; One Stole Police Riot Shield, Another Stole Police Baton

WASHINGTON – Three men were found guilty in the District of Columbia today of assaulting law enforcement officers and other charges for their actions on Jan. 6, 2021, including during a clash with officers on the Lower West Terrace of the U.S. Capitol. Their actions and the actions of others disrupted a joint session of the U.S. Congress convened to ascertain and count the electoral votes related to the presidential election.

The three men - Robert Morss, 29, of Glenshaw, Pennsylvania, Geoffrey William Sills, 31, of Mechanicsville, Virginia, and David Lee Judd, 36, of Carrollton, Texas - were found guilty of obstruction of an official proceeding. Morss and Sills also were found guilty of assaulting, resisting, or impeding officers with a dangerous weapon and robbery. Judd also was found guilty of assaulting, resisting, or impeding officers. All of the charges are felonies.

Judge Trevor N. McFadden returned the verdicts after a trial in which all three defendants stipulated to a set of facts agreed upon by the government and the defendants.

According to court documents, on Jan. 6, 2021, all three men illegally entered the Capitol grounds after earlier attending a rally at the Ellipse. They joined in the violence that occurred in

the tunnel area of the Capitol's Lower West Terrace. From approximately 2:40 p.m., law enforcement officers maintained a line at the second set of glass doors inside the tunnel leading from the inaugural platform to the entrance to the Capitol. These officers fought a group of rioters –including the defendants -inside the tunnel, protecting the doors, until approximately 3:19 p.m. when they cleared them from the tunnel. Clashes continued throughout the afternoon.

Morss joined the crowd gathering on the West Front of the Capitol grounds at approximately 2 p.m. He was wearing a vest intended to carry body armor plates and had a black knife sheath and scissors. Morss moved to the front of the line of rioters squaring off with law enforcement officers. He then attempted to steal a police-issued baton from an officer with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). He also removed a bike rack fence from the immediate control of an MPD sergeant, leaving no barrier between the police officers and rioters. He yelled out to several officers, "Take a look around. We are going to take our Capitol back."

Morss then joined a line of rioters that pushed officers back and followed them up to the Lower West Terrace. At approximately 3:03 p.m., he participated in a heave-ho motion in which the rioters rocked against the police line. He wrested a riot shield from an MPD detective and passed it back in the tunnel, towards other rioters. He and others then created a wall of shields that they used to continue with the heave-ho efforts. Morss later joined several other rioters in climbing through a broken window. Morss entered an office within the Capitol, took a chair, and passed it out of the broken window to the rioters outside.

Sills joined the crowd at the West Front of the Capitol grounds at approximately 2:13 p.m. He was wearing black goggles and a black gas mask. He joined the line of rioters that pushed police officers back. Sills threw several pole-like objects at the officers as they retreated, while filming the events and posting them to social media. He then followed the retreating officers to the Lower West Terrace and into the tunnel. He wrested away a police baton from an MPD officer. A few minutes later, he exited the tunnel, holding the baton above his head. He re-entered the tunnel several minutes later, moving to the line of officers. He then pointed a flashing strobe light at the police line, disorienting officers. Sills also struck at officers with the baton, hitting at least two of them.

Judd also joined the crowd at the West Front of the Capitol Grounds. By approximately 2:43 p.m., he was in the group on the Lower West Terrace. Less than 15 minutes later, Judd was at the mouth of the tunnel, waving other rioters into the tunnel. He, too, participated in the heave-ho against the police line. Judd then stood directly outside the tunnel, receiving police riot shields from rioters inside the tunnel and passing them back to other rioters. Judd entered the tunnel at 3:07 p.m. and lit an object that appeared to be a firecracker. He threw it at the police line, where officers were fighting with other rioters to keep them out of the building.

Later, after law enforcement officers cleared the tunnel, Judd joined in an attempt to push against a newly established police line.

Morss was arrested on June 11, 2021. Sills was arrested on June 18, 2021. Judd was arrested on March 26, 2021. Morss is to be sentenced on Jan. 6, 2023. Sills is to be sentenced on Nov. 18, 2022, and Judd is to be sentenced on Feb. 27, 2023.

The obstruction charge carries a statutory maximum of 20 years in prison. The charge of assaulting, resisting, or impeding officers with a dangerous weapon carries a statutory maximum of 20 years in prison. The charge of assaulting, resisting, or impeding officers carries a statutory maximum of eight years, and the robbery charge carries a statutory maximum of 15 years. All of the charges also carry potential financial penalties. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

This case is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia and the Department of Justice National Security Division's Counterterrorism Section. Valuable assistance was provided by the U.S. Attorney's Offices for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the Eastern District of Texas, and the Eastern District of Virginia.

The cases were investigated by the FBI's Washington, Pittsburgh, and Dallas Field Offices. Morss was identified as #147, Sills as #153, and Judd as #137, on the FBI Washington Field Office's seeking information photos. Valuable assistance was provided by the FBI's Richmond Field Office, the Metropolitan Police Department and the U.S. Capitol Police.

In the 19 months since Jan. 6, 2021, more than 860 individuals have been arrested in nearly all 50 states for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including over 260 individuals charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. The investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with tips can call 1-800-CALL-FBI (800-225-5324) or visit tips.fbi.gov.

Updated August 23, 2022

Attachments

[Morss - Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial](#) [PDF, 3 MB]

[Sills - Statement of Facts for Stipulated Trial](#) [PDF, 2 MB]

[Judd - Statement of Offense for Stipulated Trial](#) [PDF, 4 MB]

Topic

VIOLENT CRIME

Components

[Federal Bureau of Investigation \(FBI\)](#) | [National Security Division \(NSD\)](#) | [USAO - District of Columbia](#) | [USAO - Pennsylvania, Western](#) | [USAO - Texas, Eastern](#) | [USAO - Virginia, Eastern](#)

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February 4, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

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Parren Hawkins, 33, of Washington, D.C., was charged today in Superior Court with armed carjacking in connection with an incident, yesterday, in Northeast D.C. The charge was announced by U.S...

February 3, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

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Darius Anderson, 23, of Washington, DC, was sentenced today to 32 years of in prison for first-degree murder while armed and related offenses in the June 2022 killing of 30-year...

January 31, 2025



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