

**PRESS RELEASE**

Florida Man Found Guilty of Felony Charges Related to Jan. 6 Capitol Breach

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

For Immediate Release

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

Defendant, a Vice City Proud Boy, Interfered with Multiple Officers to Obstruct the Electoral College Certification

WASHINGTON – A Florida man was found guilty in the District of Columbia yesterday of two felony charges for his actions during the Jan. 6, 2021, breach of the U.S. Capitol. His 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 2020 presidential election.

Gabriel Augustin Garcia, 42, of Miami, Fla., was found guilty of obstruction of an official proceeding and interference with law enforcement during a civil disorder, both of which are felonies.

According to the government's evidence — all of which was agreed to by Garcia — Garcia was a member of the Vice City Chapter of the Proud Boys, which was led at the time by the national chairman of the Proud Boys, Enrique Tarrio. In the leadup to Jan. 6, 2021, Garcia was hand-selected by Enrique Tarrio to join a national rally planning chapter of the Proud Boys called the Ministry of Self Defense or MOSD. Garcia participated in Telegram message groups among the members of the MOSD. Messages exchanged among the members of the MOSD discussed the potential for violence at the Capitol on January 6. On Jan. 3, 2021, Garcia posted a

message that read, “1776 flag flying over the White House last night” and then later added, “time to stack those bodies in front of Capitol Hill.”

On the morning of January 6, as instructed in messages exchanged among MOSD members and other Proud Boys in a message group called “Boots on Ground,” a large group of Proud Boys gathered at the Washington Monument at 10 a.m. before marching toward the Capitol building and away from the planned speeches at the Ellipse. Garcia was not initially with the group; however, at approximately 1 p.m., messages were posted in the Boots on Ground group that said, “Storming the capital building right now!!” and “Get there[.]”

In response, Garcia contacted another member of the MOSD, [Gilbert Fonticoba](#), and asked Fonticoba to provide his “current location.” Fonticoba provided precise coordinates for his location on Capitol ground and advised that “we got maze and hit with paint balls.” After receiving this information, Garcia proceeded to the Capitol and joined a mob that unlawfully entered the building.

Garcia commemorated his incursion into the Capitol building in a series of videos that he live-streamed to Facebook. His actions were also recorded by Capitol surveillance video and body-worn cameras of the Metropolitan Police Department

Garcia entered the Capitol building through the Senate Wing Door less than five minutes after the initial breach of the building. Garcia filmed himself as he approached a line of officers in the Crypt. In his video, Garcia boasted: “We just went ahead and stormed the Capitol.” Garcia moved to the front of the line of rioters and stood within feet of the officers who were attempting to stop the rioters from moving further into the building. Garcia saw an individual push forward and attempt to breach the line of officers. As officers controlled the individual, Garcia began to yell, “F-you guys, you f-ing traitors.” Garcia continued to yell at the officers, telling them “You ain’t stopping a million. You ain’t gonna hold a million back today” and “How does it feel being a traitor to the country? How does it feel?”

Eventually, the crowd broke through the line of officers. Garcia joined in the breach of the line of officers and advanced further into the Capitol building. Garcia eventually entered the Rotunda of the Capitol, where he recorded himself yelling, “Nancy, come out and play!” and then later chanting menacingly, “Nancy...Nancy...” Almost 45 minutes after entering the Capitol building, Garcia joined a group of rioters who were collectively attempting to push through a line of officers who were guarding a doorway. Garcia and the rioters were unsuccessful, and Garcia was removed from the building approximately one hour after he first entered.

The FBI arrested Garcia on Jan. 19, 2021, in Miami.

Garcia is to be sentenced on Mar. 28, 2024. The court will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The 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 U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida, and the Department of Justice’s Criminal Division.

The case was investigated by the FBI’s Washington Field Office. Valuable assistance was provided by the FBI’s Miami Field Office, the U.S. Capitol Police, and the Metropolitan Police Department.

In the 34 months since Jan. 6, 2021, more than 1,200 individuals have been charged in nearly all 50 states for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including more than 400 individuals charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement, a felony. The investigation remains ongoing.

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

Updated November 22, 2023

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VIOLENT CRIME

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