



PRESS RELEASE

Ohio Man Pleads Guilty to Felony Civil Disorder During Jan. 6 Capitol Breach

Wednesday, May 29, 2024

For Immediate Release

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

WASHINGTON – An Ohio man pleaded guilty today to a felony charge stemming from his conduct during the breach of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. 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.

Adrian Schmidt, 26, of Cincinnati, Ohio, pleaded guilty to a felony charge of civil disorder before U.S. District Judge Ana C. Reyes. Judge Reyes will sentence Schmidt on Sept. 10, 2024.

According to court documents, Schmidt traveled from Cincinnati to Washington, D.C., to attend the former President's rally on the National Mall. At about 12:50 p.m., Schmidt made his way to a line of barricades erected by U.S. Capitol Police (USCP) officers around the Capitol building near the Peace Circle Monument. Here, Schmidt was amongst a group of rioters pushing on the barricades, which eventually led to the breach of the outer perimeter of the Capitol.

After breaching the Peace Circle Monument barricades, Schmidt and the mob of rioters surged toward the Capitol, into the restricted area. Schmidt then stood on top of a small wall and yelled towards other rioters, "Our House!" and "Whose House?" Schmidt then made his way to the front of the mob that had gathered near a black metal fence on the West Plaza and jumped over the fencing as the mob surged forward toward a line of USCP officers.

Schmidt again moved to the front of the mob and confronted the line of USCP officers on the West Plaza. He used his cellphone to record a video where he chanted, “Whose House?” Schmidt then turned towards the USCP officers guarding the West Plaza and said, “We’re right here (pointing at the ground). Whose platform? Our platform!”

Court documents say that between 1:00 and 2:45 p.m., the mob on the West Plaza became more and more confrontational with the line of USCP officers. During this time, Schmidt again confronted the officers and, on several occasions, obstructed, impeded, and interfered with the USCP officers. Specifically, he pushed backward against police officers and their riot shields on the West Plaza.

Following his confrontation with police, Schmidt made his way to the Upper West Plaza and, at about 2:45 p.m., entered the Capitol building via the Upper West Terrace Doors with his fist raised in the air as fire alarms from the doors were loudly ringing. Over the next two minutes, Schmidt traveled into the Rotunda, and entered Statuary Hall. At approximately 2:51 p.m., Schmidt exited the Capitol via the East Foyer Doors. He later reentered the building through the same doors at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Schmidt remained in the East Foyer until he was forced out of the Capitol by officers at approximately 3:30 p.m. Schmidt remained on Capitol grounds, circling from the East Foyer to the West Plaza until the early evening of January 6th.

The FBI arrested Schmidt on July 28, 2023, in Ohio.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia and the Department of Justice National Security Division’s Counterterrorism Section are prosecuting this case. The U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Ohio provided valuable assistance.

This case was investigated by the FBI’s Cincinnati and Washington Field Offices. Valuable assistance was provided by the U.S. Capitol Police and the Metropolitan Police Department.

In the 40 months since Jan. 6, 2021, more than 1,424 individuals have been charged in nearly all 50 states for crimes related to the breach of the U.S. Capitol, including more than 500 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.

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VIOLENT CRIME

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**District of Columbia**

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