

17CSW 1498

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
SEARCH WARRANT**

TO: CHIEF OF POLICE OR ANY OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

(Specific Law Enforcement Officer or Classification of Officer of the Metropolitan Police Department or other Authorized Agency)

AFFIDAVIT, HEREWITH ATTACHED, HAVING BEEN MADE BEFORE ME BY DETECTIVE GREGGORY PEMBERTON, FROM THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, SEVENTH DISTRICT has probable cause to believe that in the home with the address of [REDACTED] WHICH IS DESCRIBED MORE FULLY IN THE AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF A D.C. SUPERIOR COURT SEARCH WARRANT WHICH IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE in the District of Columbia, there is now being concealed property, namely computers, cellular phones, tablets, and other electronic devices capable of connecting to the internet; all papers, ledgers, notebooks, or logbooks documenting the organization or planning of a riot or "Black Bloc" march on January 20, 2017, the use of "Black Bloc" tactics, and/or the planned destruction of property or destruction of violence; and mail matter, photographs or proof of ownership/occupancy, which is evidence in the furtherance of the investigation into the conspiracy to riot and to commit felony destruction of property in the District of Columbia,

WHICH IS in violation of D.C. Criminal Code and as I am satisfied that there is probable cause to believe that the property so described is being concealed on the above-designated PREMISES and that the foregoing grounds for issuance of the warrant exist.

YOU ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED within 10 days of the date of issuance of this warrant to search in the daytime designated PREMISES for the property specified, and if the property be found there

YOU ARE COMMANDED TO SEIZE IT, TO WRITE AND SUBSCRIBE in an inventory of the property seized, to leave a copy of this warrant and return, and to file a further copy of this warrant and return with the Court on the next Court day after its execution.

Issued this 27 day of March, 2017

[Signature]  
Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

**RETURN**

I received the above warrant on MARCH 27, 2017 and have executed it as follows: On APRIL 3, 2017 at 9:00 AM, I searched the HOME described in the warrant and I left a copy of the warrant and return with DYLAN PETRONILOS (OCCUPANT) properly posted.  
(name of the person searched or owner, occupant, custodian or person present at place of search)

The following is an inventory of the property taken pursuant to this warrant:

(8) CELL PHONE, (1) DESKTOP COMPUTER, (3) APPLE LAPTOP COMPUTER, (2) SKETCH PADS, (1) DVD, (1) DIGITAL CAMERA, (1) PONTON, (1) TABLET, (1) PRINTER, (1) SMART TV, (2) HARD DRIVES, (1) SD CARD, (2) MEMORY HARD DRIVES, (15) ROLLS 35MM FILM, (4) SMOKE BOMBS, (3) M-80'S, (4) FLAGS, MAIL MATTER, VARIOUS T-SHIRTS, (1) PRINTER w/SD CARD

This inventory was made in the presence of DETECTIVES EVANS, LEO SHARP TON, MONDIZ, NORRIS, SGT. WHITELER, OFFICERS KASUP, STOUT, HEFFELMAN, SAIFER, TALLIST  
I swear that this is a true and detailed account of all property taken by me under this warrant.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10 day of April, 2017

[Signature]  
Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia

17 CSW498

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

**FOR THE ENTIRE PREMISES OF [REDACTED] WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS A DIRTY-WHITE BRICK THREE LEVEL ROWHOUSE WITH THE NUMBERS [REDACTED] AFFIXED TO FRONT PORCH. A COUCH AND OTHER SEATING ITEMS ARE VISIBLE ON THE UNENCLOSED FRONT PORCH, AND SEVERAL BANNERS AND A FLAG HANG FROM THE FRONT PORCH.**

**BACKGROUND**

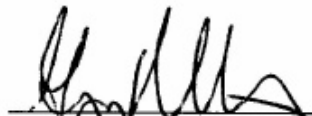
Your affiant, Detective Gregory Pemberton, is a sworn member of the Metropolitan Police Department, and is currently assigned to the Seventh District Detectives Office.

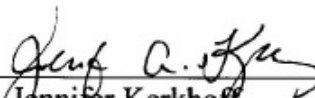
Since this affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of obtaining authorization to search the specified premises, your affiant has not included each and every fact known to him concerning this investigation. Your affiant has set forth the facts that he believes are essential to establish the necessary foundation for the issuance of a search warrant.

**THE INVESTIGATION**

On January 20, 2017, between approximately 1015 hours and 1055 hours, in the area between and around the intersections at 13<sup>th</sup> and O Streets Northwest (Logan Circle) and 12th and L Street Northwest, Washington, D.C., a large group of individuals using "Black Bloc" tactics marched approximately sixteen (16) city blocks, destroying public and private property as they moved through the streets. (Your affiant notes that the "Black Bloc" tactic involves having members of the group dress similarly to one another, in predominantly black clothing, with faces concealed; the tactic is designed to make it difficult for law enforcement to identify individual perpetrators of violence and to allow the perpetrators of violence to blend in with the larger group of "Black Bloc" participants.) As the "Black Bloc" moved through the city, trash cans and newspaper boxes were dragged into the street, and some were set on fire. Members of the "Black Bloc" group smashed large plate glass windows from a Starbucks coffee shop, a McDonalds, a Bank of America, a hotel, and other establishments and business. The windows of a limousine were also smashed, and the limousine was later destroyed by fire. The damage caused by the group was well in excess of \$100,000. In addition, multiple law enforcement officers were assaulted with bricks, rocks, and pieces of concrete by individuals participating in the "Black Bloc" group.

Two hundred and fourteen (214) of the individuals who participated in the above-described "Black Bloc" group have been indicted by a grand jury on the charge of felony rioting as a result of their criminal conduct on January 20, 2017.

  
Det. Gregory Pemberton  
Metropolitan Police Department

 3/23/17  
Jennifer Kerkhoff  
Assistant United States Attorney

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 27 DAY OF March 2017

  
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

LAP 2/27/16

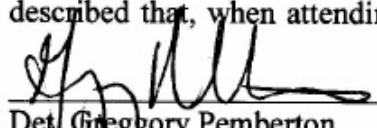
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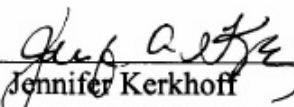
**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

During the investigation into the felony rioting and destruction of property, your affiant learned that the use of the "Black Bloc" tactic to destroy property and engage in violence was planned by certain individuals in advance of January 20, 2017. Specifically, on or about January 6, 2017, two individuals who identified themselves as anarchists using the names "D" (a male) and "Mads" (a female) appeared on a podcast that was broadcast on a known anarchist website. During this podcast, "D" and "Mads" answered questions about events they were organizing designed to disrupt the inauguration. During the podcast, "D" stated he was with the "DisruptJ20" group and was excited to make Washington, D.C. a "clusterf\*ck" on the day of the inauguration. "D" further stated that his mother planned on participating in the "Black Bloc" and "D" was "personally very excited" that his mother was excited "about the possibility of throwing down." "D" also stated that he found it appealing that his mother recognized the need for "militant action." During the podcast, "Mads" and "D" discussed several "permitted" actions or marches that were planned for January 20, 2017, as well as approximately 15-20 planned blockades and an "anti-capitalist block" that would meet at Logan Circle at 10 am. "D" and "Mads" also promoted an "action camp" that was taking place on January 14 - 16, 2017, that was focused on "direct action" and would include political education pieces, picket training, as well as legal training that included information about "long term jail support." With respect to concerns about interference or arrests by law enforcement, "D" and "Mads" stated that law enforcement in Washington, D.C. had "been sued into a state of fear" and, as a result, they are "trained little piggies." This sentiment was repeated multiple times throughout the podcast. For example, later in the podcast, "Mads" and "D" stated that chances of arrest are very low, and that the Metropolitan Police Department ("MPD") does not use chemical control (i.e., pepper spray) or engage in mass arrests for groups over twenty-five (25) people. "D" and "Mads" noted that, shortly after the presidential election, their group had engaged in two "rowdy protests" and unpermitted actions (to include taking over a major roadway) and law enforcement in Washington, D.C. "did literally nothing." "D" noted that, "I think we just outflanked them and they were scared," and "Mads" responded, "well, we are good at that." Both "D" and "Mads" then laughed.

During the course of this investigation, your affiant interviewed an undercover officer employed by the Metropolitan Police Department (hereinafter, "U/C"). The U/C stated that IT had been operating in an undercover capacity within a local anarchist group that was organizing events to disrupt the inauguration. Among the individuals the U/C had met in this anarchist group was DYLAN PETROHILOS, who the U/C understood to be one of the principle organizers of the group.

In January 2017, the U/C attended several meetings sponsored by the anarchist group. These meetings included a multi-day "action camp" at American University in Washington, D.C., as well as a meeting held in the basement of a church located in Northwest, Washington, D.C. The U/C described that, when attending these meetings, IT received information about the meeting via a

  
Det. Gregory Pemberton  
Metropolitan Police Department

 3/23/17  
Jennifer Kerkhoff  
Assistant United States Attorney

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9/12/17 3:47

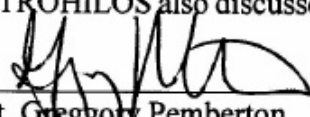


**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

number of publically available social media sites. When the U/C arrived at the meetings, IT was required to log into a website on a computer maintained by the organizers to register ITS attendance at the meeting and to verify ITS identity. The U/C stated that the meetings were not public and, on at least one occasion, the U/C was told to put ITS cell phone in a microwave in an apparent effort to prevent infiltration of the meetings by law enforcement or individuals opposed to the group.

The U/C further reported that, on January 8, 2017, IT attended a meeting held in the basement of a church located in Northwest, Washington, D.C. During this meeting, the U/C observed DYLAN PETROHILOS leading a discussion of the events planned for January 20, 2017. During this meeting, PETROHILOS looked at and appeared to read from handwritten notes on a piece of paper. PETROHILOS stated that the goal of the events was to cause a "clusterf\*ck" in Washington, D.C. during the inauguration. During this meeting, PETROHILOS informed the attendees that an anti-capitalist block march would meet at approximately 10:00am at Logan Circle and would deploy from Logan Circle at 10:30am. PETROHILOS stated that he expected this to be one of the biggest anti-capitalist blocks organized in some time. PETROHILOS noted that specific "affinity groups" participating in the march would be planning the specific actions that would be committed within the march, and that PETROHILOS (and others) were the ones organizing the march. A question was posed by an attendee about how 'arrestable' this march was, and PETROHILOS responded that MPD does not conduct mass arrests in Washington, D.C. PETROHILOS further stated that the organizers were asking the participants to wear all black clothing, and that participants should not wear unique clothing because that will make it easier to arrest or identify them. PETROHILOS stated that the exact route would not be publicly announced, but that he would make sure ISAAC DALTO (one of the indicted felony rioting defendants) knew the route because DALTO and his "affinity group" would responsible for serving as "marshals" for the group. PETROHILOS also asked for individuals to volunteer to be "scouts" for the march, so that the participants would know where law enforcement was being deployed during the march, and that he (PETROHILOS) and other organizers were setting up a communication system so the "scouts" would be able to communicate with the "marshals". PETROHILOS and other attendees discussed the neighborhood in which the march was to take place. During this part of the discussion, PETROHILOS noted that the neighborhood where the march would take place was "gentrified" and there was discussion among attendees that this made the neighborhood "fair game" for the march. In addition, there was specific discussion about making sure the group did not target certain mental health or drug rehab centers located in the area because the attendees did not want to make lives worse for those individuals. Later in the meeting, PETROHILOS stated that, at the conclusion of the anti-capitalist march, participants should reconvene at the Festival of Resistance, which is where participants could remove their all-black clothing. PETROHILOS then reminded the participants that the Festival of Resistance was a family-friendly event so there should be no window breaking at the festival. PETROHILOS also discussed the potential for participants in the anti-capitalist march to be arrested,

9/12/17 JST

  
Det. Gregory Pemberton  
Metropolitan Police Department

 3/23/17  
Jennifer Kerkhoff  
Assistant United States Attorney

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JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

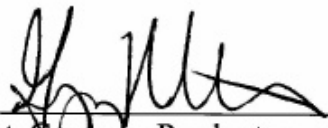
and discussed whether the participants should engage in "jail solidarity" which was described as follows: arrested defendants refuse to provide their name or other identifying information to law enforcement with the hope that law enforcement becomes so frustrated that they release the defendants back into the community without charges.

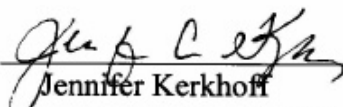
The U/C informed your affiant that based on information provided to the U/C during these meetings, it was clear to the U/C that the anti-capitalist block would be employing "Black Bloc" tactics and would engage in destruction of property and/or violence during the planned January 20, 2017 anti-capitalist march.

During the course of the investigation, a third party provided your affiant with a copy of unedited video footage of portions of the same January 8, 2017 meeting in the church basement attended by the U/C. This video was taken by a third-party (non-law enforcement) who attended the meeting. Your affiant has viewed the video and IT is consistent with the U/C's statement about what happened at the meeting. In addition, the video shows DYLAN PETROHILOS leading the meeting. Your affiant has viewed multiple photos of DYLAN PETROHILOS, to include photos contained in law enforcement databases and photos posted on the twitter account belonging to "DYLAN PETROHILOS." Your affiant submits that the individual on the video is identical to DYLAN PETROHILOS, with a registered home address of [REDACTED]

In addition, your affiant notes that the voice of DYLAN PETROHILOS on the video footage, as well as certain expressions of speech and inflections, sounds identical to the individual who called himself "D" in the January 6, 2017 podcast previously described in this affidavit.

On January 20, 2017, at approximately 10:15 am, law enforcement observed a large group of individuals gathered in Logan Circle, in Northwest, Washington, D.C. Multiple members of the group were observed carrying weapons, including a hammer, a crow bar, and a baseball bat. Many members of the group were dressed similarly to one another, to include predominantly black clothing with faces concealed, which is the tactic known as "Black Bloc" and is designed to make it difficult for law enforcement to identify individual perpetrators of violence. At approximately 10:19 am, the group headed south from Logan Circle where, for thirty-three (33) minutes, they moved as a cohesive group for approximately sixteen (16) city blocks. As they moved, members of the "Black Bloc" group damaged public and private property, as previously described in this affidavit. The destruction of property began within two (2) minutes of the group stepping off Logan Circle, and members of the group did not stop destroying property until approximately 10:52 am, after law enforcement was able to surround a portion of this group. Law enforcement arrested more than two hundred (200) individuals in this group for felony rioting.

  
 Det. Gregory Pemberton  
 Metropolitan Police Department

 3/23/17  
 Jennifer Kerkhoff  
 Assistant United States Attorney

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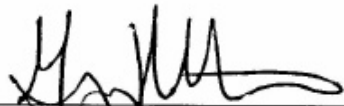
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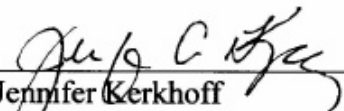
**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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Following the arrest of the more than two hundred (200) now-indicted rioting defendants on January 20, 2017, all cellular telephones, electronic communication devices, and recording equipment were seized as evidence, in addition to other evidence to include weapons, lighters, bandanas, goggles, masks, and shin guards. Your affiant notes that, on January 24, 2017, after the seizure of the cellular telephones and other electronic recording devices from the defendants, the Metropolitan Anarchist Coordinating Council posted on social media instructions to individuals who had their cell phones taken during an arrest. These instructions included detailed information on how to remotely erase data from cell phones in police custody. These instructions were re-posted (re-tweeted) by the social media account for the group that had organized the anti-capitalist march.

Search warrants were obtained for a number of the cellular telephones seized on January 20, 2017, to include the cellular phone in the possession of ISAAC DALTO, who was among the individuals at the January 8, 2017, meeting with DYLAN PETROHILOS and to whom PETROHILOS stated he would be providing route information for the anti-capitalist march. In a January 18, 2017 chat message from ISAAC DALTO to another indicted co-defendant, DALTO states that "DYLAN" wants DALTO to come to Washington, D.C. (from Baltimore) on January 18, 2017 for a meeting to let out-of-town groups in on the plan. Earlier that day, there is a chat message between "DYLAN POSI" and DALTO. The phone number belonging to "DYLAN POSI" is [REDACTED]. Your affiant notes that he searched police databases and learned that DYLAN PETROHILOS used that number [REDACTED] to place a phone call to law enforcement in May 2016. During the January 18, 2017 chat message with DALTO, it appears that DALTO and "DYLAN" are discussing another group's decision to participate in a different march. DALTO writes "I'd rather they go there than show up at a black bloc that they don't want to be in, yknow?" "DYLAN" responds, "Honestly, Im okay with it." The chat message continues into January 19, 2017 with DALTO noting that there is an error on a flyer or media posting for the meeting location of the anti-capitalist march, and that it needs to be corrected to say Logan Circle. "DYLAN" responds that he will "fix that today." Contained in the cell phone seized on January 20, 2017 from DALTO, and from the cell phone of another indicted defendant are email messages sent a few days before the riot from [REDACTED]. The email messages contain a form for participants to fill out in advance of January 20, 2017 for jail support, as well as additional information about what might happen if participants are arrested. Emails from that same gmail address further note that the group's website will be updated with additional information regarding legal/jail support for participants in advance of January 20, 2017. DALTO's cell phone also shows multiple other emails in January 2017 from [REDACTED] that appear to be related to the organization of events designed to disrupt the inauguration.

LAP 3/27/16

  
Det. Gregory Pemberton  
Metropolitan Police Department

 3/23/17  
Jennifer Kerkhoff  
Assistant United States Attorney

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 27 DAY OF March 2017

  
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT**

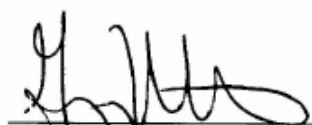
Your affiant has conducted a search of law enforcement databases. These databases list the current residence of DYLAN PETROHILOS as [REDACTED] Your affiant further notes that, on May 16, 2016, PETROHILOS contacted Frederick, MD Police to report that a friend was suicidal and asked Frederick MD Police to conduct a welfare check. PETROHILOS provided his own home address to police for reporting purposes as [REDACTED] He also provided his own contact phone as [REDACTED] the number located in DALTO's phone logs.


On March 22, 2017, a Metropolitan Police Department detective went to [REDACTED] The detective knocked on the door and a male answered the door. The male stated that he lived at [REDACTED] with "Dylan" and a third person, and that the three roommates had lived at that residence for approximately three (3) years.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the facts set forth in this affidavit, your affiant believes probable cause exists and respectfully requests that a Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court issue a search warrant for the premises of [REDACTED] to allow the seizure and processing of evidence from the premises by law enforcement or other authorized agencies such as DC Department of Forensics Sciences (DFS) or the Metropolitan Police Department. Your affiant believes that within this premises there is physical evidence in the investigation of conspiracy to riot and to commit felony destruction of property in the District of Columbia. This evidence to include but not limited to: the seizure of all computers, cellular phones, tablets, and other electronic devices capable of connecting to the internet; all papers, ledgers, notebooks, or logbooks documenting the organization or planning of a riot or "Black Bloc" march on January 20, 2017, the use of "Black Bloc" tactics, and/or the planned destruction of property or destruction of violence; and mail matter, photographs or proof of ownership/occupancy, which is evidence in the furtherance of the investigation into the conspiracy to riot and to commit felony destruction of property in the District of Columbia.

1/1/22/16  
LAW 5/22/16

  
Det. Gregory Pemberton  
Metropolitan Police Department

  
Jennifer Kerkhoff  
Assistant United States Attorney

3/28/17

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 27 DAY OF March 2017

  
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.