



One Hundred Seventeenth Congress

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol

November 23, 2021

Robert Patrick Lewis  
Chairman, 1st Amendment Praetorian



Dear Mr. Lewis:

Pursuant to the authorities set forth in House Resolution 503 and the rules of the House of Representatives, the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (“Select Committee”) hereby transmits a subpoena that compels you to produce the documents set forth in the accompanying schedules by December 7, 2021 and to appear for a deposition on December 16, 2021.

The Select Committee is investigating the facts, circumstances, and causes of the January 6th attack and issues relating to the peaceful transfer of power, in order to identify and evaluate lessons learned and to recommend to the House and its relevant committees corrective laws, politics, procedures, rules, or regulations. The inquiry includes examination of how various individuals and entities coordinated their activities leading up to the events of January 6, 2021, as well as the influencing factors that fomented such an attack on American representative democracy while engaged in a constitutional process.

The investigation and public accounts have revealed credible evidence of your involvement, and the involvement of 1st Amendment Praetorian, in the events within the scope of the Select Committee’s inquiry. You are identified in reporting<sup>1</sup> as well as an archived version of the 1st Amendment Praetorian website as the leader of the organization.<sup>2</sup>

1st Amendment Praetorian provided security to the “Million MAGA March” on November 14, 2020, including providing protection to Ali Alexander;<sup>3</sup> you described your coordination with Mr. Alexander as “tight at the hip.”<sup>4</sup> You later claimed that you provided security for Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn at the “Jericho March” in Washington, D.C., on December 12, 2020<sup>5</sup> and have

<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., David Gilbert, *This QAnon Militia of Ex-Cops and Soldiers Is Training ‘Patriots’ for Revolution*, VICE NEWS, June 18, 2021, <https://www.vice.com/en/article/4avnxn/qanon-militia-of-ex-cops-and-soldiers-is-training-patriots-for-revolution>.

<sup>2</sup> 1st Amendment Praetorian Leadership (Archived), available at <https://web.archive.org/web/20210826114141/https://1apraetorian.com/leadership/>.

<sup>3</sup> William Brederman, *The Far-Right Paramilitary Wannabes Feeding Mike Flynn’s Conspiracy Machine*, DAILY BEAST, June 11, 2021, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/1st-amendment-praetorian-the-far-right-paramilitary-wannabes-feeding-mike-flynn-conspiracy-machine>.

<sup>4</sup> *IAP - Million MAGA March DC - A Call to Action*, YOUTUBE, Nov. 15, 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnOZeDU8veo>.

<sup>5</sup> Tweet by @RobertPLewis, Dec. 12, 2020, <https://twitter.com/RobertPLewis/status/1337900637795782668>.

claimed to coordinate closely and regularly with Lt. Gen. Flynn.<sup>6</sup> You have also claimed to coordinate closely with Sidney Powell.<sup>7</sup>

On January 4, 2021, the 1st Amendment Praetorian Twitter account suggested that violence was imminent: “There may be some young National Guard Captains facing some very, very tough choices in the next 48 hours. Pray with every fiber of your being that their choices are Wise, Just, and Fearless.”<sup>8</sup>

You were listed as a speaker on the permit for the “Rally to Revival” on Freedom Plaza scheduled for January 5, 2021; the permit also stated that 25 members of 1st Amendment Praetorian would serve as “demonstration marshals.”<sup>9</sup> On January 6, 2021, at 2:18 P.M., you tweeted: “Today is the day the true battles begin.”<sup>10</sup> At 4:13 P.M., the 1st Amendment Praetorian Twitter account tweeted, “The cost of Truth is Pain. The greater the Truth, the greater potential for pain.”<sup>11</sup>

On January 7, 2021, you claimed that you were participating in “war-gaming” with “constitutional scholars” regarding efforts to keep President Trump in office despite Congress’ certification of the 2020 presidential election results the day before.<sup>12</sup> In the same video, you note that 1st Amendment Praetorian creates after-action reviews of each job, and that individuals working for 1st Amendment Praetorian wear body cameras.<sup>13</sup>

You have also claimed to be in contact with Stewart Rhodes, the founder and leader of the Oath Keepers, prior to January 6;<sup>14</sup> the Select Committee’s investigation and public reports have also revealed credible evidence of the involvement of the Oath Keepers in the attack on the U.S. Capitol.

Accordingly, the Select Committee seeks documents and a deposition regarding these and other matters that are within the scope of the Select Committee’s inquiry.

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<sup>6</sup> William Bredderman, *The Far-Right Paramilitary Wannabes Feeding Mike Flynn’s Conspiracy Machine*, DAILY BEAST, June 11, 2021, <https://www.thedailybeast.com/1st-amendment-praetorian-the-far-right-paramilitary-wannabes-feeding-mike-flynn-s-conspiracy-machine>.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> Tweet by @1st\_praetorian, Jan. 4, 2021, [https://twitter.com/1st\\_praetorian/status/1346190700233146369](https://twitter.com/1st_praetorian/status/1346190700233146369).

<sup>9</sup> Public Gathering Permit 21-0274, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, Jan. 4, 2021, available at [https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/foia/upload/21-0274-Rally-to-Revival-Freedom-Plaza-permit\\_Redacted.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/foia/upload/21-0274-Rally-to-Revival-Freedom-Plaza-permit_Redacted.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> Tweet by @RobertPLewis, Jan. 6, 2021, <https://twitter.com/RobertPLewis/status/1346898868219371522>.

<sup>11</sup> Tweet by @1st\_praetorian, Jan. 6, 2021, [https://twitter.com/1st\\_praetorian/status/1346927854714458113](https://twitter.com/1st_praetorian/status/1346927854714458113).

<sup>12</sup> Patriot Transition Voice, Episode 90, available at

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ig4Hf9z7upUscc9W5Zx27tWKQsXgpLmY/view>.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*

<sup>14</sup> David Gilbert, *This QAnon Militia of Ex-Cops and Soldiers Is Training ‘Patriots’ for Revolution*, VICE NEWS, June 18, 2021, <https://www.vice.com/en/article/4avnxn/qanon-militia-of-ex-cops-and-soldiers-is-training-patriots-for-revolution>.

A copy of the rules governing Select Committee depositions, and document production definitions and instructions are attached. Please contact staff for the Select Committee at 202-225-7800 to arrange for the production of documents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bennie G. Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Bennie" on top and "G. Thompson" below it.

Bennie G. Thompson  
Chairman