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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

WEI SING GOH,

Plaintiff,

Defendant.

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COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF

Title 49, U.S.C. Section 46504 - Interference with Flight Crew Members and Attendants

The undersigned complainant being duly sworn states:

On August 13, 2019, within the special aircraft jurisdiction of the United States, defendant WEI SING GOH, by assaulting or intimidating a flight crew member or flight attendant of Japan Airlines Flight JL66, interfered with the performance of the duties of the member or attendant or lessened the ability of the member or attendant to perform those duties, in violation of Title 49, United States Code, Section 46504.

This complaint is based on the attached Probable Cause Statement, which is incorporated herein by reference.

SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT

ZACHARY WEIGEL

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this  $\underline{1445}$  day of August, 2019.

HONORABLE ALLISON H. GODDARD UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE 

## PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

The complainant states on or about August 13, 2019, defendant WEI SING GOH (GOH), by assaulting and intimidating the flight crew members of Japan Airlines Flight JL66, did interfere with the performance of the duties of those members. Flight JL66 departed Narita, Japan at 5:24 PM Japanese Standard Time (GMT +9) on August 13, 2019 and landed in the Southern District of California at the San Diego International Airport, at 11:56 AM PST (GMT -7) on August 13, 2019. The total flight time was 10 hours and 32 minutes.

GOH boarded Flight JL66 in Narita, Japan. GOH's assigned seat was in row 19. Approximately one hour into the flight, GOH began consuming individual mini bottles of wine. Over the course of the next few hours he consumed seven mini bottles of red and white wine.

Approximately five hours into the flight, GOH became agitated and unruly. He left his seat and entered the business class area of the cabin, disturbing passengers and flight crew members. GOH did not comply with flight crew members' instructions. Flight crew members repeatedly told GOH to return to his seat and calm down. GOH told flight crew members that he thought there was a gun onboard, that people were out to get him, and that he wanted a parachute to jump out of the plane. Flight crew members were fearful that GOH might attempt to open the aircraft cabin door during flight. GOH also shouted racial slurs abd curse words, and he made inappropriate sexualized comments to a female flight crew member and inappropriately touched a female flight crew member. GOH's behavior became so disruptive that flight crew members had to relocate the passengers sitting in the seat next to him and the seats behind him. GOH's behavior was aggressive and on one occasion he got so close to a flight crew member that he touched her nose. After

receiving several verbal warnings, K.R., the Captain of the airplane, gave the order to provide GOH with a final written warning pursuant to Japan Airlines' policy. GOH was provided with a copy of the written warning and it was read aloud to him. The final warning stated that if he failed to comply with flight crew member instructions, then the authorities would be contacted.

Despite receiving a final written warning, GOH continued to act erratically. In an effort to get him to remain calm, flight crew members served GOH water and orange juice and provided him a menu from which he could order food. Flight crew member M.A., witnessed GOH throw his orange juice at the man sitting behind him, Y.R. While Y.R. was glancing down at what GOH had thrown on him, GOH turned around and struck Y.R. in the head with a crumpled cup.

After assaulting Y.R. and approximately seven hours into the flight, GOH left his seat once again and headed towards the business class section of the cabin. At that time, Chief Cabin Attendant A.O., followed Japan Airlines Policy and enlisted the help of three passengers to restrain GOH. The three passengers and Chief Cabin Attendant A.O. placed GOH in flex cuffs. GOH was able to free himself and struck flight crew member M.A. The three passengers, crew member M.A., and Chief Cabin Attendant A.O. successfully subdued GOH on their second attempt, placing him in flex cuffs and securing him to a seat with seat belt extenders.

GOH's behavior interfered with the flight crew's performance of their duties. His conduct disrupted the normal meal service of the flight. After GOH was restrained, at least one crew member at a time was charged with watching him for the remainder of the flight. This reduced the flight crew's ability to perform safety checks and other essential tasks in preparation for landing.

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Due to GOH's behavior Chief Cabin Attendant A.O. had to converse with Captain K.R. and his co-pilots between 20 and 25 times—each time for several minutes—keeping them apprised of the situation. Chief Cabin Attendant A.O. also visited the cockpit numerous times because she was having difficulty communicating the situation over the phone. Captain K.R. and his co-pilots then communicated with the Japan Airlines Operation Center and discussed whether to divert the aircraft to San Francisco to ensure a safe landing and quick resolution of the issues caused by GOH. Standard operating procedure for landing the aircraft calls for the attention of two pilots. Due to the disruption caused by GOH only one pilot was attending to the landing, the other two were communicating with the flight crew members and the Operation Center.

GOH was read his Miranda rights at approximately 4:05 PM and agreed to speak with agents. During his statement, GOH admitted to drinking heavily and being disruptive. He recalled thinking that someone was out to get him. GOH stated he had no other recollection of the events described above. He apologized for his actions.