AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

United States of America v.

ORDERED UNSEALED on 04/19/2024 s/ melodyqui

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of California

		j	Case No.		
ANTON A	NDREYEVICH	I IAGOUNOV )			
	Defendant(s)	)			
		CRIMINAL CO	OMPLAINT		
I the com	nlainant in this ca	ase, state that the following i	s true to the best of my k	mowledge and belief	
On or about the da		aly 5, 2022 to July 24, 2022	in the county of	El Dorado	in the
Eastern	District of	California , the	lefendant(s) violated:		
Code S	ection		Offense Descript	ion	
18 U.S.C	C. § 912	False Personation of an	Officer or Employee of t	the United States (07/0	05/2022)
18 U.S.C		False Personation of an			
18 U.S.C		False Personation of an			
18 U.S.C		False Personation of an			
(see attachr	nent) tinued on the atta	sched sheet.			
			Wil House	_	
			October 1	mplainant's signature	
			***************************************	SA David D. Hume	
			P	rinted name and title	
Sworn to me and s	igned via telepho	one.			
Date: 11:63 41	n 3/8/24			S// Judge's signature	tvivi parametajas keri augustikanna
City and state:	Sacramento, C.	A		elaney, U.S. Magistrat	e Judge
			Pri	nted name and title	

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### AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT AND ARREST WARRANT FOR ANTON ANDREYEVICH IAGOUNOV

I, David Hume, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows:

#### PURPOSE AND AGENT BACKGROUND

- 1. I make this affidavit in support of the issuance of criminal complaint and arrest warrant charging defendant Anton Andreyevich Iagounov with violations of 18 U.S.C. § 912 - False Personation of an Officer or Employee of the United States.
- I am a Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), where I have been employed for two years. As a Special Agent, in accordance with Title 18, United States Code, Section 2510(7), I am a Federal Law Enforcement Officer of the United States, who is empowered by law to conduct investigations of and make arrests for offenses enumerated in Title 18.
- 3. I am currently assigned to the Reno Resident Agency of the FBI Las Vegas Division, where I have so been assigned for two years.
- 4. During my tenure with the FBI, I have conducted surveillance, analyzed phone records, drafted search warrant applications, interviewed witnesses, recruited confidential sources, supervised activities of sources, utilized and analyzed GPS tracking technology, executed search warrants, and executed arrest warrants. I have also received ongoing on-the-job training from other agents and law enforcement officials.
- 5. The facts in this affidavit come from my personal observations, my training and experience, and information obtained from other agents and witnesses. This affidavit is intended to show merely that there is sufficient probable cause for the issuance of an arrest warrant and a criminal complaint and does not set forth all of my knowledge about this matter.
- Based on my training and experience and the facts as set forth in this affidavit, there is 6. probable cause to believe that Anton Iagounov has committed a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 912 – False Personation Officer or Employee of the United States, which states as follows:

Whoever falsely assumes or pretends to be an officer or employee acting under the authority of the United States or any department, agency or office thereof, and acts as such, or in such pretended character demands or obtains any money, paper, document, or thing of value, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than three years, or both.

lagounov has, on multiple occasions, identified specifically below, pretended to be an officer acting under the authority of offices and agencies of the United States, and acted as such.

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#### П. PROBABLE CAUSE

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#### A. Investigation Background

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- 7. The following describes an investigation involving the FBI Reno Resident Agency, as well as other federal and state investigative agencies, from January 2022 to the present. This investigation has uncovered ongoing criminal conduct by Iagounov, which includes impersonating a federal agent on multiple occasions, specified here in Section II.E, below.
- In December 2021 and January 2022, the FBI and ATF investigated a bomb threat that had been called into INTERPOL Operation and Command Center. The investigation determined that the call had been made from a "spoofed" telephone number, in an attempt by the caller to make it appear that another individual had made the threat. During the course of this investigation, agents from the FBI and ATF received calls from an individual claiming to work for the "intelligence community," giving the agents false information about the purported threat. The caller used voice distortion technology to disguise his voice, but the cadence and language the caller used indicated it was the same person calling the different agents. Further investigation identified Iagounov as the caller.
- 9. On October 27, 2022, federal agents served a search warrant at Iagounov's residence in South Lake Tahoe, California, and seized multiple electronic devices, including a mobile telephone and two computers belonging to Iagounov. Case No. 2:22-sw-0769-EFB (E.D. Cal., Oct. 25, 2022). A forensic download of those devices produced evidence establishing that Iagounov was the party impersonating a federal agent and calling bomb threats to individuals and agencies all over the country.
  - Evidence of Iagounov's Bomb Threats Establishes His Control Over the Devices B. Also Used to Impersonate Federal Agents.
- During the FBI's search of Iagounov's devices seized during the October 27, 2022 10. search—including a Samsung Galaxy mobile telephone, from Iagounov's person, as well as a Lenovo

<sup>1 &</sup>quot;Spoofing" is a method by which a caller uses a computer application when making a telephone call to deliberately falsify the information transmitted to the caller ID display of the receiving party, to make it appear as though the caller is calling from a different telephone number. A caller who is able to spoof numbers can transmit any telephone number they choose to the receiving party's caller ID.

laptop computer and Hewlett-Packard (HP) desktop computer, from Iagounov's bedroom—agents uncovered evidence of bomb threats **Iagounov** had made in late 2021 and early 2022. When making these threats, **Iagounov** spoofed the telephone numbers of other people, agencies, and businesses, thereby disguising his involvement and casting suspicion on others.

- During the search of **Iagounov**'s telephone, agents found a text conversation with the user of a telephone with the number xxx-xxx-1654, from late December 2021. From that conversation, it appears that the user did not know Iagounov, nor that Iagounov knew the user (it is unclear why Iagounov was communicating with this particular user in the first place). Near the same time, **Iagounov's** Lenovo laptop's internet browser logged a visit to the website "Fastpeoplesearch.com/xxx-xxx-1654" (searching for that specific telephone number) on December 31, 2021, at 10:47 p.m.<sup>2</sup> It appears that Iagounov was attempting to identify the user of this number.
- 12. On January 1, 2022, the next day, Saddleback Memorial Hospital, in Laguna Hills, California, received a bomb threat from the number xxx-xxx-1654.
- 13. On that same day, at 12:00 p.m. (Mountain Time), the office of Senator Cynthia Lummis (Wyoming) received a call in which the caller indicated that someone "plans on blowing up your office with an improvised explosion device." The caller ID indicated that the call originated from a telephone number belonging to Saddleback Memorial Hospital. The caller's voice matched that used with a voice distortion technique in the voicemails left for federal agents in the investigation of the threats to INTERPOL. Despite the voice distortion, the caller sounds the same in the recordings based on his accent, cadence, and phrasing. (When agents searched **Iagounov**'s Lenovo Laptop, after seizing it on October 27, 2022, the internet browser history shows that its user had searched via DuckDuckGo for "Memorialcare Saddleback Hospital," on January 3, 2022 at 10:29 a.m. As described below, it appears that **Iagounov** was looking for news reports related to the threat he had called in.)
- 14. Further searches on **Iagounov**'s Galaxy telephone showed that, on April 14, 2022, at approximately 11:22 a.m., he conducted a DuckDuckGo search for "long beach police dispatch," "texas capital building" and "texas city hall." Less than 20 minutes later, at 11:40 a.m. the city hall for the City

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All times mentioned in this affidavit are Pacific Time, unless otherwise noted.

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- number that appears on the Long Beach Police Department dispatch website. In the voicemail the caller left, he stated, "There is a bomb at Temple City Hall that is going to go off one hour from now. Very many people are going to die and we're gonna take the country back." At approximately 9:11 p.m. that same day, Iagounov's telephone's internet browser recorded a DuckDuckGo search for "temple bomb threat," and the user captured a screenshot of a news website's headline reporting the incident.
- Data from Iagounov's Samsung Galaxy telephone also showed DuckDuckGo searches for "luxor casino security" and "las vegas police non dispatch," at approximately 11:27 a.m. on the same day. Roughly 30 minutes later, Las Vegas Metro Police Department (LVMPD) received a telephone call in which the caller stated that an explosive device would explode at the Luxor Casino at "noon today." The call appeared to originate from Long Beach Police Department dispatch telephone phone number ((562) 435-6711). Iagounov's Samsung telephone recorded a DuckDuckGo search that evening, at 9:11 p.m., for "luxor bomb." The next day, April 15, at 8:02 a.m., the user conducted another search for "bomb threat luxor." Later that day, at 7:16 p.m., the user of Iagounov's Lenovo laptop computer conducted DuckDuckGo news search for "bomb squad luxor."
- Also on April 15, 2022, at approximately 11:22 a.m., the Albany Fire Department in 16. Albany, New York, received a call from a male caller who stated there was a "thermal device" in a Walmart in Albany that would detonate "in one hour." The call appeared to come from the telephone number for a shopping mall in Torrance, California, the Del Amo Fashion Center, 310-542-8525. (On Iagounov's Samsung Galaxy telephone, agents found a picture of a computer screen displaying a Times Union article about the Walmart bomb threat. Time stamps indicated that the picture was created on April 23, 2022, at approximately 11:48 p.m., roughly 25 minutes after the threat had been made.)
- 17. Several minutes after the threat to Walmart, at approximately 11:29 a.m., the Torrance Police Department received a call in which the caller stated "there is a bomb at the Del Amo Fashion Center set to go off precisely one hour from now." The call appeared to originate from the telephone for the Fortune Cookie Chinese Restaurant in Torrance. Responding officials determined the number of origin had been spoofed. At approximately 11:35 a.m., a caller to the Torrance Fire De partment made a similar threat concerning a bomb at the Del Amo Fashion Center. (Iagounov's Lenovo computer

recorded DuckDuckGo searches for news articles including the terms "bomb mall threat," and "torrance bomb," at approximately 3:34 p.m. that same day.)

- 18. Around the same time as the second threat to the Del Amo Fashion Center, at 11:35 a.m., the offices for Saratoga State Park, outside Albany, received a call about a "nuclear device" that was going to be set off in an hour. The call appeared to come from the telephone number 518-242-4400, which is the number for the Albany County Sheriff's Office at the Albany International Airport. (Data from Iagounov's Lenovo computer indicates that he conducted a DuckDuckGo search for "Albany Sheriff's dispatch non emergency contact phone," near the time the threat was made.)
- 19. Also on April 15, 2022, at 12:06 p.m. (Eastern Time), the Boston Fire Department received a bomb threat from a male caller who stated "a bomb will go off at city hall in exactly one hour. You have been warned." Data from Iagounov's Samsung Galaxy telephone show DuckDuckGo searches for news articles including the terms "bomb" and "boston" at approximately 3:33 p.m. that day. The results showed headlines for the bomb threat at Boston City Hall as well as the threat made to the Walmart in Albany on the same day. A screenshot of DuckDuckGo search results for the term "bomb" was saved to Iagounov's Samsung Galaxy telephone. A search of the HP desktop computer seized from Iagounov's room also recovered a picture of a news article about the Boston bomb threat incident. On November 21, 2023, Iagounov uploaded a video to his YouTube channel, "Ninjavelli," where he included a screenshot of the news article. (See Pic. 1, below.)

Pic. 1

Boston City Hall Evacuated After Bomb
Threat

WBZ
NEWS

FBI Agenc PRANK CALLS White House Situation Room-NSA Security Operations Investigates
Proposed School Proposed School

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received a call from the telephone number 713-416-5591, in which the caller stated, "a thermonuclear explosive device is set to go off at your airport precisely an hour from now." The call appeared to originate from the office of Congressman Eugene Wu. (On **Iagounov's** Lenovo computer, agents found a PDF from the website www.fastpeoplesearch.com, listing the Congressman's office's contact information. The PDF lists telephone number 713-416-5591 as the most recent number for Eugene Wu. This PDF was stored in a folder on Iagounov's computer titled "hacking\_case studies.")

21. In addition to the evidence described above, agents found evidence of **Iagounov**'s

On April 16, 2022, at 1:20 a.m., Harry Reid International Airport Dispatch, Las Vegas,

21. In addition to the evidence described above, agents found evidence of **Iagounov**'s searches for, and visits to, websites explaining how to spoof telephone numbers. Browser activity on his HP desktop computer showed visits to the website "worldofprankcalls.com/2020/08/06/setting-up-a-prank-call-spoofing-system-using-raspberry-pi." A Raspberry Pi is a small single-board computer with an open-design allowing it to be programmed for a wide variety of uses including emulating telephone systems. During the October 27, 2022 search, agents seized a Raspberry Pi from **Iagounov**'s bedroom.

### C. <u>Iagounov's False Claims of Law Enforcement Employment</u>

- 22. On April 22, 2022, **Iagounov** was stopped by Carson City Sheriff's (CCSO) deputies for driving with an obstructed license plate. Deputies noticed what appeared to be red and blue police lights in **Iagounov**'s vehicle. They cited him for violating Nevada Revised Statutes 484A.480 Designation of authorized emergency vehicles; equipment; limitations on use of warning devices. Deputies searched **Iagounov** and found a counterfeit FBI badge on his person. **Iagounov** was not forthcoming about where the badge had come from. CCSO Detective Francisco Torres arrested **Iagounov** at the scene.
- 23. Following **Iagounov**'s arrest, deputies interviewed him under a *Miranda* warning.

  Deputies also contacted FBI agents, who joined the interview. **Iagounov** told agents that he worked for various federal agencies. He claimed to have contracted or trained with the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Marshals, and Department of Justice. He also claimed that he could not tell the interviewing agents where he had obtained the fake FBI badge. He later said he got it while "red-teaming" in an operation but told the agents that they were "not cleared"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Federal agencies conduct training exercises periodically to test their own ability to defend against external threats. The "Red Team" is a team of agents who play the role of enemy agents in those

to know about it. He also claimed he had worked for the National Security Agency (NSA) and received awards from a four-star general. Iagounov provided a telephone number for an NSA employee whom Iagounov claimed could verify his work.

24. Agents then contacted the NSA employee, who indicated she did not know **Iagounov** and had not worked with him.<sup>4</sup> Agents also confirmed that **Iagounov** was not employed by or working with the NSA or any of the other agencies he named.

#### D. Iagounov's Harassment of CCSO Personnel

- 25. Following Iagounov's arrest on April 22, 2022, he began harassing CCSO personnel, including Sheriff Kenneth Furlong and CCSO Det. Francisco Torres, with repeated and threatening telephone calls, which continue to this day. While Iagounov has at times made some effort to disguise his voice, the caller's cadence and accent match Iagounov's speech. The language Iagounov used in these calls is also consistent with language used not only in the bomb threats described above, but also in numerous videos he has posted to his social media accounts (which federal agents have reviewed), in which he often touts anti-government messaging.
- 26. In addition, on May 6, 2022, **Iagounov** sent a FOIA request to the FBI, purporting to be from Sheriff Furlong, asking for information on conspiracies targeting the sheriff. **Iagounov**'s Lenovo laptop contained evidence that, on May 6, 2022, he sent the FBI an electronic FOIA request from the email address kfurlong@candassociates[.]com. The submitter claimed to be Sheriff Ken Furlong and wrote: "I am a sworn Category I peace officer, and the designated Sheriff elected by the people, for the City of Carson City, Nevada. I believe that I am the target of a nationwide conspiracy designed to overthrow our Republic, and the information herein being sought requires urgency in it's release to the public." The submitter requested information regarding visitor logs and names of Sacramento FBI

exercises.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This particular NSA employee had organized an NSA code breaker challenge in 2020, a competition open to college students. As part of that, she had sent mass emails to the contestants, including **Iagounov**, with her contact information in the signature block. It is likely that this is how **Iagounov** had acquired her name and contact information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Because **Iagounov** often calls from spoofed or blocked telephone numbers, Det. Torres has been blocking calls from unknown numbers for months. The charges arising from Iagounov's April 20, 2022 arrest remain pending and **Iagounov** is currently in fugitive status, having failed to appear for all court dates since his arrest. At the time of writing, agents believe he has fled the country.

personnel on duty on January 7, 2014. Following agents' seizure of **Iagounov**'s laptop on October 27, 2022, agents found on it a PDF copy of a FOIA request matching the request submitted to the FBI under Sheriff Furlong's name. (The FBI has confirmed with Sheriff Furlong that he made no such request.) In addition, **Iagounov** had stored on his computer an image of a signature ostensibly belonging to Sheriff Ken Furlong saved as "furlong.png." This image file was saved in the folder named "hacking\_case studies."

27. On August 18, 2022, multiple law enforcement agencies in Nevada received faxes appearing to come from other law enforcement agencies, announcing the death of Sheriff Furlong the previous day. (See Pic. 2, below.) According to Sheriff Furlong, this report of his death is false.

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13 Pic. 2

Recipient Information
To: Humbolt County Sheriff's Office
Company: Humbolt County Sheriff's Office
Fax #: 17756232192

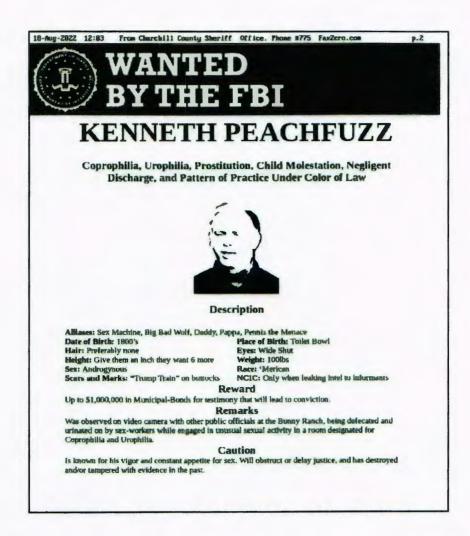
s Office Sand's fast fire free

Sender Information
From: Churchill County Sheriff's Office
Company: Churchill County Sheriff's Office
Email address: yupgeedwzyt@arxxwalls.com (from 185.220.101.14)
Phone #: 7752375704
Sent on: Thursday, August 18 2022 at 7:59 AM EDT

Condolences to our brother and Sheriff Kenneth Furlong, who passed away of a heart attack on 08/17/2022 in his hometown, Carson City, Nevada.

28. The faxes included a cover sheet expressing condolences for Sheriff Furlong's passing but also attached a counterfeit FBI Wanted poster for "Kenneth Peachfuzz," which included an image of Sheriff Furlong above a litany of derisive information, alleging corruption, child molestation, and sexual deviancy (including references to "coprophilia" and "urophilia," which are sexual fetishes involving human waste). (See Pic. 3, below.)

Pic. 3



- 29. Evidence from Iagounov's HP computer shows that Iagounov created and sent these faxes. His computer's internet browser history included Google searches on August 18, 2022 (the day the fax was sent) using the terms, "what is the style of sex called when people shit on eachother" and "urifellia." Data from the computer also showed that a PDF titled "kenneth\_peachfuzz.pdf" had been created on that computer around 3:00 a.m., on August 18, 2022, and saved to a removable hard drive. Agents served a subpoena on the fax service used to send the fax announcing Sheriff Furlong's death (falsely). The records sent in response show that the email sent from the customer attached a PDF with the same filename as the PDF from Iagounov's computer: "kenneth\_peachfuzz.pdf."
- 30. Nearly a year later, on June 8, 2023, Sheriff Furlong received a voicemail on his home telephone line from an individual that he believed to be **Iagounov**, based on the voice. The voicemail

said that the FBI would soon be arresting Furlong for "exploiting children."

- 31. A few days later, on June 13, 2023, at approximately 4:06 a.m., CCSO Det. Torres received a call from what appeared to be Sheriff Furlong's home phone number. Det. Torres did not answer the call. That same morning, Sheriff Furlong received two phone calls between 4:00 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. When Sheriff Furlong answered the first call, he heard nothing. When he answered the second call, the call transferred him to Jones West Ford car dealership. (During his October 27, 2022 interview with federal agents, **Iagounov** explained that he can make two telephones call each other at the same time, and that he can listen in on the call when both parties have answered. **Iagounov** referred to the technique as "SIP trunking." Agents recovered from **Iagounov**'s electronic devices recordings he had made of telephone calls in which both parties seem to believe that the other party had initiated the call. One of the recordings was of a call between the Central Intelligence Agency public line and the White House Situation Room. **Iagounov** posted a recording of this call on his YouTube channel, with a caption that read, "FBI Special Agent **Iagounov** strikes back.")
- 32. On September 8, 2023, at approximately 7:30 a.m., CCSO Deputy Samantha Torres (Det. Torres' wife) was off duty at her residence. Her personal cell phone rang and its screen showed "No Caller ID" (which is common for calls coming from law enforcement agencies). When she answered, a male voice that sounded familiar said, "Samantha, hi." The male continued that several CCSO deputies had been exposed to methamphetamine through skin contact and he was calling to check on "Francisco," as one of those exposed. Deputy Torres asked the caller who he was. The caller responded that he could not disclose that information, but that he was from a "federal agency." The caller gave an agency's name but Deputy Torres was unable to hear what he said. Det. Torres, having heard part of the conversation, told her the caller was likely **Iagounov**, and advised her to end it, which she did.
- 33. The next day, September 9, 2023, at approximately 6:46 a.m., Deputy Torres received another phone call from an unknown number. She sent the call to voicemail. She later listened to the voicemail and again recognized **Iagounov**'s voice. He seemed to have made no attempt to disguise it

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Deputy Torres was in fact familiar with **Iagounov**'s voice from previous law enforcement contacts. During her prior tenure with another Nevada sheriff's office, she had encountered **Iagounov** several times when he worked at the Mont Bleu Casino in Stateline, Nevada. She had also seen several of **Iagounov**'s social media videos, in which he speaks at length.

this time. Iagounov's voicemail included the following:

"Hey Samantha, also, you might want to let your DEA friends know that, um, 'La Eme'—piece of shit, 'Evil'—somebody got him. Alright? ....
[Y]'all are going to be sorry you ever trafficked narcotics — y'all going to be real fucking sorry. That little badge of yours, that shit ain't gonna protect anybody. Not your guns, not your chewing tobacco, not your whiskey, not your badges. Let those people know that if I catch any more of your CI's trafficking drugs, I am going to be sending them back to you people in fucking pieces.... You all won't be trafficking no cocaine, ever. Not into America, not worldwide.... I am going to fucking deal with the problem. We are going to find out where it stems from and we are going to deal with that shit, for real."

#### E. Falsely Pretending to be a Federal Agent (Four Counts)

34. Agents' search of **Iagounov**'s electronic devices, seized on October 27, 2022, also uncovered **Iagounov**'s pretending to be a federal agent by creating false investigative documents, which purported to be sent by a federal agent, in an attempt to obtain government documents by impersonating a federal agent.

#### 1. Count One: July 5, 2022

- 35. On July 5, 2022, Iagounov falsely pretended to be a federal agent working for NASA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by authoring an affidavit for a federal search warrant and signing it in the name of a fictional agent, before sending it to the U.S. Capitol Police.
- 36. On July 5, 2022, U.S. Capitol Police received an email with a PDF attachment of a signed searched warrant, ostensibly authorizing the search for and seizure of a computer and "access control logs" located at the Pentagon. The document purported to have been filed with the federal district court, assigned a magistrate case number, and been designated "SEALED." (See Pic. 4, below.) The warrant's affidavit appeared to be authored (and sworn) by a "Special Agent Joel O'Neill, NASA Office of the Inspector General (OIG)," and signed by Judge Beryl Howell, Chief United States Judge for the District of Columbia. (See Pic. 5, below.) Attachment B to the warrant sought Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information and data related to network logistics. (See Pic. 6, below.) In transmitting this document, Iagounov pretended to be fictional Special Agent Joel O'Neil, who purportedly had the authority as a NASA OIG Special Agent to swear out an affidavit for a federal search warrant.

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 2 FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 3 IN THE MATTER OF THE SEARCH OF 4 Case No. 1:20-mj-01016-DKW-RT MAC POWERBOOK 500 SERIES MODEL 550c, & DOD SMART CARD ACCESS Chief Judge Beryl A. Howell Pic. 4 5 CONTROL LOGS, CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON. FILED UNDER SEAL WASHINGTON, DC 20301 6 AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION UNDER RULE 41 FOR A 7 WARRANT TO SEARCH AND SEIZE 8 l, Special Agent Joel O'Neill, being first duly sworn, hereby depose and state as follows: 9 10 Respectfully submitted. 11 Joel Q. O'Neill, Special Agent 12 NASA-Office of the Inspector General Subscribed and sworn to before me Pic. 5 13 on July 4, 2022: A. Horall 14 Baryl A. Howell 15 UNITED STATES CHIEF JUDGE 16 17 Evidencing content contained within the "Mac PowerBook" reflecting the above-18 tated names, and their involvement with the "insider threat," or "malicious actors," as such 19 relates to the violations of federal law mentioned in Section 1 of Attachment B, and; 20 a. existence of the "doomsday script," or otherwise evidence showing a compromise 21 to "The Golden Codes," and the U.S. National Missile Defense System: 22 Pic. 6 b. who the contents of the "Mac PowerBook" may have been shared with; 23 c. any information showing a compromise to any U.S. protected trade secrets: 24 d. any Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information; 25 e. any data related to logistics of their network 26 "The Pentagon's" "Lost and Found," located at the "Pentagon Library and 27 28

- 37. U.S. Capitol Police alerted NASA to the warrant. NASA OIG Criminal Investigators reviewed it and confirmed that it had not been created by nor transmitted from their agency. They confirmed also that there was no NASA OIG Special Agent named Joel O'Neill.
- 38. Searches of **Iagounov**'s electronic devices yielded multiple digital versions of the affidavit, in various stages of editing, establishing that he was its author. Different versions of the affidavits had caption information adjusted for different federal district courts around the country.

#### 2. Count Two: July 11, 2022

- 39. On July 11, 2022, Iagounov falsely pretended to be a federal agent working for NASA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by authoring an affidavit for a federal search warrant and signing it in the name of the same fictional agent, before sending it to United States District Court for the Central District of California.
- 40. On July 11, 2022, another version of the counterfeit search warrant (labeled this time for the Central District of California instead of the District Court of Columbia), was submitted to the Central District of California Emergency Filings via email to the addresses "emergencyfilings@cacd.uscourts[.]gov" and "emergency\_motions@ca3.uscourts[.]gov." The body of the transmitting email had been written to appear as if it was a forwarded email conversation between NASA OIG employees concurring that the warrant was ready for submission to the court. An examination of the email header showed that the email had been sent from email address service-processing@usoig[.]us. A review of open-source tools indicated that the domain usoig[.]us was registered to Anton Iagounov. Further open-source analysis indicated that Iagounov had also registered the domain nsamil[.]us. The counterfeit warrant purported to seek the same Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information and data related to network logistics as the warrant Iagounov had sent to the U.S. Capitol Police.
- 41. A court employee at the United States District Court for the Central District of California received the email. The employee replied to the email address service-processing@usoig[.]us, stating, "I believe this was sent in error to CACD's civil after hours emergency email." The sender then replied, "This isn't the clerk's desk for criminal complaints?"
  - 42. By transmitting this document, Iagounov again pretended to be fictional Special Agent

 Joel O'Neil, who purportedly had the authority as a NASA OIG Special Agent to swear out an affidavit for a federal search warrant. By responding to the Court's employee by asking if he had sent the warrant application to the "clerk's desk for criminal complaints," Iagounov further acted falsely in the role of a federal agent attempting to file criminal process.

#### 3. Count Three: July 18, 2022

- 43. On July 18, 2022, Iagounov falsely pretended to be a federal agent working for NASA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by authoring an affidavit for a federal search warrant and signing it in the name of a real agent, Assistant Special Agent In Charge Michael Mataya, before sending it to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Georgia.
- 44. On July 18, 2022, NASA OIG ASAC Michael Mataya was contacted by the Clerk for the Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Georgia, to say that the court had received an affidavit from him to be filed with the district court. ASAC Mataya responded that he had not filed any affidavits with the Middle District of Georgia. Agents obtained a copy of the affidavit from the Bankruptcy Court, which purported to be signed by ASAC Mataya. The affidavit was otherwise nearly identical to the affidavit that Iagounov had attempted to file in the Central District of California, under the name of SA Joel O'Neill, on July 11, 2022, including its recitation of material for which it had the purported authority to seize.

#### 4. Count Four: July 24, 2022

- 45. On July 24, 2022, Iagounov falsely pretended to be an employee of NASA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by authoring a fax transmission which demanded from the United States

  District Court for the Norther District of Florida a response to a request for a search warrant.
- 46. On July 24, 2022, a fax sent using FaxZero by a user with email address usmcman\_00@proton[.]me was sent to the U.S. District Court for Northern District of Florida, listing "Timothy Metz, NASA-OIG" as the sender and the sending company as "NASA-Office of the Inspector General." The cover text of the fax referred to a "41-Rule Search Warrant" and listed the same case number as the false warrant sent from service-processing@usoig[.]us. (See Pic. 7, below.) The body of the fax indicated that NASA OIG had previously sent a request for a "41-Rule Search Warrant" to the Court but had not received a response. The fax went on to claim that an "exigent circumstance"

47. Agents recovered multiple versions of the counterfeit affidavit from Iagounov's Lenovo Laptop with the caption pages edited for the following U.S. District Courts: District of Columbia, Central District of California, Northern District of Florida, Southern District of Utah, Southern District of New York, Western District of Virginia, Southern District of Indiana, Northern District of Indiana, Southern District of Ohio, Middle District of Georgia, and the Northern District of Texas.

	To: Kathy Rock	
	To: Kathy Rock Company: U.S. District Court/Florida Fax #: 18505213656	
	Sender Information From: Timothy Metz Company: NASA-Office of the Inspector General Email address: usmcman_00@proton.me (from 185.220.101 Phone #: 3012869316 Sent on: Sunday, July 24 2022 at 5:15 PM EDT	sead a fax far free
	Please reference Case No. 1:20-mj-01016-DKW-RT	
	I am contacting you regarding a recent request for a 41-Rule Search	Warrant emailed to your court,
ı	for which we have not received a response.	
	We have an exigent circumstance and require a judges signature. Ple confirmation, or if you need me to re-send the affidavit. Thanks.	ease contact me for
	Timothy Metz	
1	NASA-OIG	
	Goddard Space Flight Center	
	Code 190 Building 1 Investigations	
	Greenbelt, MD 20771	
	301-286-9316	
L	301-286-0355	

#### 5. Venue

Pic.

48. Evidence of the creation of these documents was found on Iagounov's electronic devices, including the computers seized from his home in South Lake Tahoe, California, just a few months after he created and transmitted them, in July 2022. Iagounov was living at that same residence at the time he transmitted the falsified documents and was therefore within the Eastern District of California when falsely pretending to be a federal agent.

### F. Additional Evidence Connecting Iagounov to the Charged Conduct

49. Additional evidence uncovered through the course of this investigation further establishes Iagounov's involvement in the charged conduct. For example, the email sent to the U.S. Capitol Police on July 5, 2022, attaching the counterfeit warrant, had been sent from the email address alvin.ch@proton[.]me.<sup>7</sup> On July 12, 2022, this same email address was used to send a fax to the ATF through online fax service FaxZero. The fax purported to be a DOJ Interstate Firearms Shipment Theft/Loss Report form, filed by Wild Bill's Guns Too, a business in Carson City, Nevada. The Theft/Loss Report listed four firearms as lost or stolen while in transit from Wild Bill's Guns Too to a Department of Defense Facility in Saratoga Springs, Utah. The document appeared to be written and signed by an employee of Wild Bill's Guns. (See Pic. 8, below).

U.S. Department of Bureau of Alcohol, 1	Justice fobacco, firearms and Explosive	5		te Firearms .oss Report	Shipmo	ent		
	Name and	IFFLA		Address		Teleph	one Number	
Shapper Transferor		FFL# 9-88-510-01-3D-04807 Silverado Spur Inc.		1901 N. Carson St. Carson City, NV 89703		775-434-7125		
Consignee Transfere		ORI# ORDOD0000 U.S. Dept. of Defense		Utah Data Center Saratoga Springs, UT 84045		801-256-2360		
Carner	FedEx		7400 Laguna Bivd. Elk Grove, CA 95758			800-463-3339		
Shipment Tracking Number FedEx 398141012563 & 776217095667						Date Shipped 04/23/2022		
Full Name and Position of Person Making Report (Please neint)  Joan Ceccarini (Treasurer)  Email Address of Shipper or Person Making Report  joohi 143@hotmail.com			of Person Mai	775-434-			Date 07/12/2022	
0011143@10(118	Firearm(s) Description (1 )	e 478 Form 3310.11	Comtenuation !	Sheet if additional st	the cas Kerd	ed)		
Туре	Manufacturer	Model	Caliber	Serial N			ne Acquired	
Handgun	Glock	23 (Gen 3)	.40	BAEA057	057		04/22/2022	
Handgun	Glock	20 (Gen 4)	10mm	88LS897		04/2	04/22/2022	
	Glock	19 (Gen 5)	5) 9mm BFZD028		04/22/2022		2/2022	
Handgun			9mm	ACVB342		04/22/2022		

Pic. 8

<sup>7</sup> Investigators learned that FaxZero requires customers to provide an email address. FaxZero then sends a confirmation email to that email address that includes a verification link, on which the customer must click to activate the service. This confirms that the user has provided a working email address to which the customer has access.

- 50. FBI investigators contacted the employee listed on the form as the reporting party. The employee indicated that she had not made any such report and that the signature was not hers. Further investigation revealed that two of the four firearms on the form had been sold to Wild Bill's Guns Too, on June 9, 2022, by Anton Iagounov. Interviews with Wild Bill Gun's employees indicated that these guns had not been put up for sale yet, however. According to the employees, this means that the only people who would have known the guns were in the store's possession—and therefore the only people who would have had the information to put it on the form—were Wild Bill Gun's employees, who would have no reason to falsify such a form, and Iagounov.
- 51. A duplicate copy of the Shipment Theft/Loss form was also sent via FaxZero to the ATF from a different email address: usmcman\_00@proton[.]me. Records obtained through a subpoena to PayPal show that Iagounov made monthly payments to Proton Technologies AG, and Proton Research Incorporated, from April 2021 to April 2022 (the month investigators served the subpoena on PayPal). Proton Technologies AG and Proton Research Incorporated are virtual private network and encrypted email providers that issue email addresses with the domain proton[.]me.
- 52. Returns from the subpoena served on FaxZero also showed that the user with access to the email address usmcman\_00@proton[.]me had sent or attempted to send ten faxes on July 29, 2022, in the name of a particular ATF agent. The fax's cover page also contained the agent's name in the signature block, as well as the agent's real contact information. A document titled "theftoffirearms\_interstate.pdf" was included in the fax. When interviewed, the ATF agent confirmed she had not sent the faxes.
- 53. FaxZero records also indicated that, on August 19, 2022, a user with email address yjofwviq@candassociates[.]com and IP address 77.111.246.40 sent or attempted to send a fax to xxx-xxx-5054, a fax number associated with a public school in New York state. The cover page text contained the message, "A tactical thermonuclear bomb is set to go off at your location at noon today. You have been warned."
- 54. A user with the same email address, yjofwviq@candassociates[.]com, and the same IP address, 77.111.246.40, also attempted to send a fax to a publicly-listed fax number for Edwards Air Force Base xxx-xxx-2732, with a cover page stating, "There is a bomb set to go off at your

establishments at noon today. You have been warned to stay out of the middle-east and have failed to obey the will of Allah. Time for you American pigs to pay for your wars" (sic).

55. Investigators also learned from the FaxZero records that IP address 77.111.246.40 was used to send faxes from the email address alvin.ch@proton[.]me. This is the email address from which Iagounov transmitted the counterfeit search warrant to U.S. Capitol Police and the false Shipment Theft/Loss Form to the ATF. Through these means, agents have been able to confirm further that Iagounov is the source of these false and counterfeit documents.

#### III. AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

56. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that Anton Andreyevich Iagounov has violated 18 U.S.C. § 912, False Personation of an Officer or Employee of the United States on multiple occasions. I therefore request respectfully that the Court authorize a criminal complaint and arrest warrant for his apprehension.

#### IV. REQUEST FOR SEALING

57. I further request that this Court issue an order sealing, until further order of the Court, all papers submitted in support of the criminal complaint and arrest warrant, including this application and affidavit, as well as the arrest warrant itself. These documents discuss an ongoing criminal investigation that is neither public nor known to all of the targets of the investigation. Based on my training and experience, I know that criminals actively search for criminal affidavits and warrants via the internet and disseminate them to other criminals as they deem appropriate, e.g., post them publicly online.

Premature disclosure of the contents of this affidavit and related documents may have a significant and negative impact on the continuing investigation and may severely jeopardize its effectiveness, including by causing co-conspirators to flee, destroy or otherwise alter evidence, or to notify confederates.

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Accordingly, there is good cause to seal these documents. I therefore request that the Court order that all papers in support of this application, including the affidavit and Criminal Complaint, sealed, until **Iagounov** is arrested and appears for his initial appearance. I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief. Respectfully submitted, Special Agent, FBI Subscribed and sworn to me by telephone on: 3/3/24 Hon. Carolyn K. Delaney U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE Approved as to form by AUSA JAMES R. CONOLLY