

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Case No. 1:23-cr-257-TSC

DONALD J. TRUMP,

Defendant.

**DEFENDANT DONALD J. TRUMP'S MOTION FOR RECUSAL OF
DISTRICT JUDGE PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 455(a)**

Ex. A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	.	
	.	
Plaintiff,	.	CR No. 22-0242 (TSC)
	.	
v.	.	
	.	
CHRISTINE PRIOLA,	.	Washington, D.C.
	.	Friday, October 28, 2022
Defendant.	.	10:06 a.m.
.	

TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCING
BEFORE THE HONORABLE TANYA S. CHUTKAN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

For the Government:	JOLE ZIMMERMAN, AUSA U.S. Attorney's Office 601 D Street NW Washington, DC 20530 (202) 252-7566
For Defendant:	CHARLES E LANGMACK II, ESQ Langmack Law 38106 Third Street Willoughby, OH 44094 (440) 497-5068
Court Reporter:	BRYAN A. WAYNE, RPR, CRR U.S. Courthouse, Room 4704-A 333 Constitution Avenue NW Washington, DC 20001 (202) 354-3186

Proceedings reported by stenotype shorthand.
Transcript produced by computer-aided transcription.

Excerpted Pages

1 and love one another despite our differences. I just -- I
2 want to be a good example in the world of how to help families
3 not be divided and coworkers and friends not be divided and
4 our nation not be divided. I just really want to try to do
5 that. And whatever sentence you give me, I hope it just
6 brings justice and peace -- some peace to the people I have
7 hurt. Thank you, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Priola.

9 After calculating the sentencing guidelines and any
10 applicable departures, and hearing the statements made by
11 counsel and Ms. Priola, I have to now -- I have the difficult
12 job, as I do in every case -- and it is a difficult one -- to
13 consider the relevant factors set out by Congress in 18 U.S.C.
14 § 3553(a), and ensure that I impose a sentence sufficient but
15 not greater than necessary to comply with the purpose was
16 sentencing.

17 The government has stated these purposes, and Mr. Langmack
18 has mentioned them. I don't need to list them all again. But
19 I've considered all the purposes of sentencing and the factors
20 that I have to consider, and I'll discuss some of them now.
21 Some of them weigh more heavily than others in this case, as
22 they do in every case.

23 We are now well familiar with the events of January 6.
24 We have had, by my last count, close to 900 prosecutions,
25 all brought in this court. This is a small court. All the

1 judges are taking their fair share of these cases, myself
2 included; and every case presents a different defendant and
3 a different situation, and I know I and my other colleagues
4 endeavor to treat each defendant as an individual and not as
5 part of a mob. But we have to be mindful of what happened
6 that day.

7 Every single time that I see videotape or hear recordings
8 of what happened that day, I am struck anew with both the
9 horror of what was going on that day and how close we came --
10 how close we came to not fulfilling one of the basic functions
11 of our democracy, which is a peaceful transfer of power, which
12 we lecture other governments all over the world on and we're
13 supposed to be an example of, and we were not that day.

14 And so while Mr. Langmack is correct in that your
15 background didn't involve any criminal activity, the events
16 of that day and the seriousness of those events cannot be
17 understated. This was nothing less than an attempt to
18 violently overthrow the government, the legally, lawfully,
19 peacefully elected government by individuals who were mad
20 that their guy lost.

21 I see the videotapes. I see the footage of the flags and
22 the signs that people were carrying and the hats they were
23 wearing and the garb. And the people who mobbed that Capitol
24 were there in fealty, in loyalty, to one man -- not to the
25 Constitution, of which most of the people who come before me

1 seem woefully ignorant; not to the ideals of this country;
2 and not to the principles of democracy. It's a blind loyalty
3 to one person who, by the way, remains free to this day.

4 There is no mob without the members of the mob, as I've
5 said before. So Mr. Langmack made a point in his sentencing
6 memorandum, that if we were to take your participation out
7 of that group, that everything would have still happened;
8 your actions did not materially contribute.

9 But they did, because you were there. And people act
10 in ways that they would never act alone when they're with
11 a group, or when they're with a mob, and when emotions are
12 involved.

13 But in terms of the seriousness of the offense and the
14 nature of the offense, it cannot be understated how serious
15 this was and how horrifying it was to the country and the fact
16 that the divisions that were already existing in this country
17 were worsened, that this country is more divided than ever,
18 and it was exacerbated by the actions of that day.

19 And you're one of the few defendants, Ms. Priola -- and
20 maybe it's because I have talked about it at every single
21 sentencing I've done -- to at least acknowledge the harm that
22 was done to the people there.

23 I hear a lot about rioters calling themselves and their
24 fellow protesters "patriots." Nothing could be further from
25 the truth. The people who stormed the Capitol that day were

Excerpted Pages

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CERTIFICATE

I, BRYAN A. WAYNE, Official Court Reporter, certify that the foregoing pages are a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

/s/ Bryan A. Wayne
Bryan A. Wayne