AO 91 (Rev. 11/	11) Criminal Co	omplaint (Rev. by USAO on 3/	12/20) □ Origin	al Duplicate Original
LOI CLERK, U.S. I	DGED DISTRICT COURT	UNITED STATE	S DISTRICT C	OURT
	9/21/2020		For the	FILED CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA BY:DDEPUTY		Central Dis	trict of California	September 21, 2020
United States of America,				CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORN
V.				2:20MJ4508-Duty
BENJAMIN JONG REN HUNG,			Case No.	2.2011s 1300 Bacy
Defendant				
I the o	Ol	CRIMINAL COMPI R OTHER RELIABI	LE ELECTRONIO	= '
	-			
				sent, in the county of Los Angeles in
the Central Di	strict of Calif	ornia, the defendant(s) vio	olated:	
Code Section		Offense Descri	Offense Description	
18 U.S.C. § 371		Conspiracy		
This ca	riminal compl	aint is based on these fact	s:	
Pleas	e see attached	l affidavit.		
⊠ Coı	ntinued on the	attached sheet.		
			,	/s/
				Complainant's signature
			Diame	ond Outlaw, Special Agent
Attested to by	y the applican	t in accordance with the re	equirements of Fed. R	Printed name and title . Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone.
Date:	Septem	ber 21, 2020	Pau	QZ. alrams
2000.				Judge's signature

Hon. Paul L. Abrams, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

City and state: Los Angeles, California

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

I, DIAMOND OUTLAW, being duly sworn, declare and state as
follows:

## I. PURPOSE OF THE AFFIDAVIT

- 1. This affidavit is made in support of a criminal complaint against and arrest warrant for **BENJAMIN JONG REN HUNG** ("HUNG") for a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Transport Firearms Interstate and Make a False Statement in Acquisition of Firearms).
- 2. This affidavit is also made in support of an application for a warrant to search the following premise:

(the "SAN MARINO

RESIDENCE"), as described more fully in Attachment A, which is incorporated herein by reference, for evidence, fruits and instrumentalities of violations of the following statutes, as described more fully in Attachment B, which is also incorporated herein by reference: 18 U.S.C. § 231 (Civil Disorders);

18 U.S.C. § 245(b) (Federally Protected Activities); 18 U.S.C. § 249 (Hate Crime Acts); 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy); 18 U.S.C. § 2101 (Anti-Riot Act); and 18 U.S.C. § 922(a)(3) (Interstate Transport of Firearms); 18 U.S.C. § 922(a)(6) (False Statement in Acquisition of Firearms) (collectively, the "Subject Offenses").

3. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based upon 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 requested warrants and does not purport to set forth all of my knowledge of or investigation into this matter. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, all conversations and statements described in this affidavit are related in substance and in part only with original typographical errors and all dates and times are approximate.

## II. BACKGROUND OF AFFIANT

4. I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") and have been so employed since May 2017. I am currently assigned to the Los Angeles Division's Civil Rights Squad. I attended 21 weeks of New Agent Training at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. During my career as an FBI Special Agent, I have participated in multiple investigations regarding hate crimes, misconduct under color of law, and fraud against the government. Through my training and experience with the FBI, I have learned and used a variety of investigative techniques and resources, including surveillance, undercover operations, subpoenas, search warrants, evidence seizures, and telephone toll analysis. During my time at the FBI, I have participated in the execution of multiple search warrants, including search warrants executed at physical residences in cases involving threats of violence.

## III. SUMMARY OF PROBABLE CAUSE

5. As detailed below, on May 31, 2020, HUNG intentionally drove his Dodge Ram truck adorned with flags associated with right-wing extremist groups into a crowd of individuals peacefully protesting against racial injustice in police

practices on a street in Pasadena, California. The victims were forced to run out of the way to avoid being struck. Pasadena Police Department ("PPD") officers arrested HUNG at the scene of the incident for attempted assault with a deadly weapon and found in his truck a loaded semiautomatic handgun, multiple loaded high-capacity magazines, an 18-inch machete, \$3,200 in cash, a long metal pipe, and a megaphone.

- 6. HUNG acquired the handgun he possessed during the protest from a friend, C F ("F"), who purchased the firearm for HUNG in Oregon and then transported it to Lodi, California for HUNG. When F purchased the firearm, he falsely represented that he was the actual transferee of the gun, rather than HUNG. HUNG then kept the firearm at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE prior to bringing it to the protest on May 31, 2020.
- 7. In addition to the firearm HUNG obtained unlawfully from F , HUNG purchased and then transported at least three firearms from Oregon to Lodi, California in March 2020. HUNG also amassed other firearms and tactical equipment from suppliers throughout the United States and used his family's vineyard in Lodi, California as a training camp to prepare to engage in civil disorders. As detailed below, HUNG communicated frequently with associates about creating this tactical training camp and firearms range at his family's vineyard in Lodi, California, and his intent to use the firearms in preparation for civil disorders.

## IV. LEGAL BACKGROUND

### A. Civil Disorders

8. Title 18, United States Code, Section 231(2) (Civil Disorders) provides, in pertinent part:

Whoever transports or manufactures for transportation in commerce any firearm, or explosive or incendiary device, knowing or having reason to know or intending that the same will be used unlawfully in furtherance of a civil disorder . . . shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

9. Title 18, United States Code, Section 232(1) defines a Civil Disorder as "any public disturbance involving acts of violence by assemblages of three or more persons, which causes an immediate danger of or results in damage or injury to the property or person of any other individual."

### B. Civil Rights Crimes

10. Title 18, United States Code, Section 245(b) provides, in pertinent part:

Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, by force or threat of force willfully injures, intimidates or interferes with, or attempts to injure, intimidate or interfere with . . . any person because of his race, color, religious or national origin and because he is or has been . . . participating in or enjoying any benefit, service, privilege, program, facility or activity provided or administered by any State or subdivision thereof; or any citizen because he is or has been, or in order to intimidate such citizen from lawfully aiding or encouraging other persons to participate, without discrimination on account of race, color, religion or national origin . . . participating lawfully in speech or peaceful assembly opposing any denial of the opportunity to so participate . . . shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both; and if . . . such acts include the use, attempted use, or threatened use of a dangerous weapon . . . shall be

fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

11. Title 18, United States Code, Section 249 provides, in pertinent part:

Whoever, whether or not acting under color of law, willfully causes bodily injury to any person or, through the use of fire, a firearm, a dangerous weapon . . . attempts to cause bodily injury to any person, because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, or national origin of any person . . . shall be imprisoned not more than 10 years, fined in accordance with this title, or both.

#### C. Anti-Riot Act

12. Title 18, United States Code, Section 2101 provides, in pertinent part:

Whoever travels in interstate or foreign commerce or uses any facility of interstate or foreign commerce . . . with intent . . . to commit any act of violence in furtherance of a riot . . . and who either during the course of any such travel or use or thereafter performs or attempts to perform any other overt act for any purpose specified in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), or (D) of this paragraph—shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.

# A "riot" is defined as:

A public disturbance involving (1) an act or acts of violence by one or more persons part of an assemblage of three or more persons, which act or acts shall constitute a clear and present danger of, or shall result in, damage or injury to the property of any other person or to the person of any other individual or (2) a threat or threats of the commission of an act or acts of violence by one or more persons part of an assemblage of three or more persons having, individually or collectively, the ability of immediate execution of such threat or threats, where the performance of the threatened act or acts of violence would constitute a clear and present danger of, or would result in, damage or injury to the property of any other person or to the person of any other individual.

# D. Interstate Transport of Firearms

13. Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(a)(3) provides, in pertinent part, that it shall be unlawful:

for any person, other than a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector to transport into or receive in the State where he resides (or if the person is a corporation or other business entity, the State where it maintains a place of business) any firearm purchased or otherwise obtained by such person outside that State, except that this paragraph (A) shall not preclude any person who lawfully acquires a firearm by bequest or intestate succession in a State other than his State of residence from transporting the firearm into or receiving it in that State, if it is lawful for such person to purchase or possess such firearm in that State, (B) shall not apply to the transportation or receipt of a firearm obtained in conformity with subsection (b)(3) of this section, and (C) shall not apply to the transportation of any firearm acquired in any State prior to the effective date of this chapter.

## E. False Statement in Acquisition of Firearm

14. Title 18 United States Code, Section 922(a)(6) provides, in pertinent part, that it shall be unlawful:

for any person in connection with the acquisition or attempted acquisition of any firearm or ammunition from a licensed importer, licensed manufacturer, licensed dealer, or licensed collector, knowingly to make any false or fictitious oral or written statement or to furnish or exhibit any false, fictitious, or misrepresented identification, intended or likely to deceive such importer, manufacturer, dealer, or collector with respect to any fact material to the lawfulness of the sale or other disposition of such firearm or ammunition under the provisions of this chapter.

# V. STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

- A. HUNG Seeks Out and Attempts to Assault Black Lives Matter Protestors in Pasadena, California
  - 1. On May 31, 2020, Peaceful Protestors Took to the Streets of Pasadena, California, to Protest Racial Injustice
- 15. After the death of George Floyd at the hands of the police in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 26, 2020, widespread protests erupted across the nation, including in the Central District of California. Local media stations covered the daily and nightly protests extensively, including displaying images from the protests and their general locations.
- 16. On Sunday, May 30, 2020, according to news reports from Pasadena Now, 1 a local news outlet, more than 100 demonstrators gathered and marched peacefully in Old Pasadena in a protest against the police killing of George Floyd. The protestors gathered in Old Pasadena, at the intersection of Fair Oaks Avenue and Colorado Boulevard. Protesters could be heard chanting phrases like "I can't breathe," in reference to George Floyd's final words, and "Black Lives Matter." The crowd marched for an hour and eventually dispersed peacefully.

Pasadena Now's coverage of the May 30, 2020, protests is available here: https://www.pasadenanow.com/main/peacefuldemonstration-in-old-pasadena-protested-death-of-george-floyd/

17. On Monday, May 31, 2020, according to news reports from Pasadena Now, 2 nearly 100 protestors returned to Old Pasadena again to march in peaceful protest of George Floyd's death. The crowd began at a park and marched down Fair Oaks Avenue, forming a square at the intersection of Fair Oaks Avenue and Orange Grove. According to news reports, the marchers "chanted, danced, and held the intersection for about 10-15 minutes" before continuing down Fair Oaks Avenue and forming another square at Colorado Avenue. Pictures from the protest reflect a racially diverse crowd carrying signs with phrases like "Black Lives Matter," "Justice for George," and the phrase "Police Brutality" with a circle drawn around it and a line through it. Below is a photograph from the protest as reported by Pasadena Now. Visible in the photograph are signs that read: "Black Lives Matter" and "Let Us Breath."



Pasadena Now's coverage of the May 31, 2020, protests is available here: https://www.pasadenanow.com/main/protestersmarch-again-in-pasadena/

18. In addition to local news coverage of the protests, bystander videos, witness interviews, and social media posts also indicate that the protest on May 31, 2020, in Pasadena was a peaceful assembly of individuals protesting racial injustice in response to the killing of George Floyd. There were no reports of looting by the protestors who assembled at the corner of Fair Oaks Avenue and Colorado in Pasadena on the afternoon of May 31, 2020, or confrontations with law enforcement by that group, and the police did not arrest any of the protestors in that group for their conduct that afternoon.

# 2. <u>HUNG Intentionally Drove His Truck into the</u> Protestors

- 19. According to my review of PPD records, on May 31, 2020, PPD Sergeant Buchholz was driving an unmarked police car in the Old Town area of Pasadena, California, where the large protest described above was occurring. At approximately 4:45 p.m., Sergeant Buchholz estimated that a crowd of approximately 150 protestors had gathered in the intersection of Colorado Boulevard and Fair Oaks Avenue. Sergeant Buchholz then saw a large white truck driving west along Colorado Boulevard toward the protestors in the intersection. (HUNG was later identified as the driver of the truck and HUNG's wife, E
- 20. According to the PPD reports, witness interviews, and video of the incident taken by bystanders, **HUNG's** truck came to a stop behind three to four other cars each waiting to slowly make U-turns because it was clear that the intersection was

blocked by protestors. Instead of turning around, however, HUNG blared a loud train-like horn, causing the cars in front of his truck to move out of the way. Sergeant Buchholz then saw the truck accelerate rapidly as it drove toward the crowd, and he saw the protestors, including two plain clothes PPD detectives, sprint out of the truck's way to avoid being run over.

21. According to bystander video and surveillance footage from a nearby store, HUNG acted without provocation. None of the demonstrators antagonized HUNG or interacted with the truck before HUNG drove into the crowd, although several protestors appeared to chase after HUNG's truck as he accelerated through the intersection. The videos also show HUNG accelerate toward the intersection, causing demonstrators to run out of the way to avoid being struck, reflected in the below image from a bystander video:



- 22. Based on my review of video footage of the incident and witness interviews, the subject matter of the protest would have been readily apparent to HUNG as he approached the crowd. In addition to the signs described above, and the general media attention in the local news about the subject matter of the protests that particular weekend, security footage from a nearby bar shows that HUNG had the driver's side window down and was waving his hand out the window as he approached the intersection. Although that video does not have audio, other videos taken by bystanders reflect a loud but peaceful group audibly shouting "black lives they matter here" in the moments before HUNG drove into the crowd.
- 23. After HUNG drove into the crowd of peaceful protestors, PPD officers pulled HUNG over and detained HUNG and the only passenger, S. According to PPD video recordings, while being commanded to exit the truck and being placed in handcuffs, HUNG spontaneously said that he felt threated by the protestors, who he claimed had been throwing items at his truck while he attempted to leave the area. (None of the video footage or witness interviews I have seen support HUNG's claim that the protestors threw items at his truck before he drove into the intersection.)
- 24. PPD arrested **HUNG** for attempted assault with a deadly weapon and the truck was impounded and searched.<sup>3</sup> In the truck,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> **HUNG** was charged with a misdemeanor violation of carrying a loaded firearm in violation of California Penal Code § 25850(a) in Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No.

officers found a black fanny pack that contained a loaded Glock 26 9mm semiautomatic handgun bearing serial number BBMM205 ("the Glock 26") with a 17-round magazine. The fanny pack also contained a second loaded 15-round magazine, a trigger guard, and a flashlight. Also in the truck, officers found an 18-inch machete, a backpack containing \$3,200 in cash, an 18-inch long metal pipe, and a megaphone. The pipe was wedged between the driver's seat and the backseat, such that it was easily accessible to HUNG as he drove the truck.

- 25. According to bystander video and witness interviews, HUNG's truck was very distinctive. The truck, a white Dodge Ram 2500, bore an Oregon license plate that read, "WAR RIG."<sup>5</sup> It was also modified with an elevated suspension, large tires, and an enhanced exhaust pipe, which expelled a large plume of black smoke as it accelerated into the crowd. At the time of the incident, the truck was also flying three large flags: (1) a "Thin Blue Line" flag; (2) a Gadsden "Don't Tread on Me" yellow flag; and (3) an original 13 states "Betsy Ross" American flag.
- 26. Based on my training and experience investigating civil rights violations, I am aware that:

OPD01751. **HUNG** is scheduled to make his initial appearance on September 29, 2020.

 $<sup>^{4}</sup>$  As described further herein, the Glock 26 was registered to F  $\,$ 

<sup>5</sup> According to Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles records, the truck is registered to the Four Seasons Garden RV Resort in Bend, Oregon. According to Oregon Secretary of State records, the registered owner of the Four Seasons Garden RV Resort is C H ("C "), and the manager is I H ("I "). According to basic Internet searches and law enforcement database records, C and I are HUNG's parents.

- a. The "thin-blue-line" flag is a modified version of the American flag that is black and white with a prominent horizontal blue line. The flag has been used to demonstrate support for police officers, who are sometimes referred to as the "thin blue line." The Gadsden flag is a yellow flag with an image of a snake and the words "DON'T TREAD ON ME." The Betsy Ross flag is an early version of the American flag with thirteen alternating red-and-white stripes and a dark blue square in the upper left corner containing thirteen white stars arranged in a circle.
- b. Some far-right extremist groups have used all three flags at and in advertisements for demonstrations, including at the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia in August 2017. The Unite the Right rally was organized by several white-supremacist groups, including the neo-Nazi organizations and the Ku Klux Klan.
- c. Far-right militia groups, including the "Three Percenters" organization have also used the Gadsden and Betsy Ross flags. The Three Percenters is a far-right militia and paramilitary group with chapters nationwide whose members pledge to engage in protest and armed resistance against perceived attempts to curtail constitutional rights. Their official flag is the Betsy Ross flag with three "I"s in the middle of the stars, and they have also been known to display the Gadsden flag. The flag on HUNG's truck did not have the three "I"s in the middle; however, as detailed below, HUNG is depicted in a

photograph wearing clothing bearing the Three Percenters' version of the Betsy Ross flag.

- 3. HUNG Surveilled the Area before the May 31, 2020,
  Assault in an Apparent Effort to Locate the
  Protestors
- 27. According to witness interviews and social media reports, several individuals recalled seeing what appeared to be the same truck as the one **HUNG** drove into the crowd of protests earlier in the weekend.
- 28. After news reports showing HUNG's truck driving into the protestors on May 31, 2020, an Instagram user posted a video s/he had taken the night before while protesting in downtown Pasadena that was then shared on Twitter. The video from May 30, 2020, depicted a white truck matching HUNG's with the same distinct flags rapidly accelerating and spewing an excessive amount of exhaust fumes onto the video-taker near a street corner in Pasadena. The truck's passenger is visible in the video and appears to be male, but has not been identified.
- 29. The FBI has identified and interviewed the user who took the video, who confirmed that s/he was in Pasadena the night of May 30, 2020, to protest George Floyd's death. The witness indicated that s/he had been in the area of Fair Oaks and Colorado with a large peaceful protest for several hours, but that after the crowd dispersed s/he decided to stay on the street corner holding a sign that said "it's our duty to fight for freedom" with his/her two friends. The witness saw a large white truck resembling HUNG's with the same three distinct flags on the back drive past the corner, but then slow down and do a

U-turn to come back to the intersection where s/he was standing. The witness described the driver of the truck as an Asian male with short hair, and indicated that there were two other men in the car. When the traffic light turned green, HUNG's truck sped off and "coal rolled" him/her, as explained below. The truck then appeared to do another U-turn, and the witness and his/her friends fled to a nearby parking garage and decided to leave because they were scared. Based on my training and experience and knowledge of this investigation, "coal rolling" refers to intentionally rapidly accelerating a car or truck in order to spew an excessive amount of exhaust fumes at a targeted person or item.

- 30. Google records for a Google account operated by HUNG, obtained pursuant to a federal search warrant issued by the Honorable Rozella A. Oliver, United States Magistrate Judge on September 1, 2020, in Case No. 2:20-MJ-4157, show that HUNG watched a YouTube video in November 2019 called, "Rolling Coal on Protestors (BlackLivesMatter, Trump Haters, Tree Huggers)," which depicts large trucks spewing fumes on protestors. During the video, one of the drivers of a truck can be heard jokingly saying "I like when there's white people at a black lives matter protest."
- 31. T-Mobile cell-site records, obtained pursuant to a federal search warrant issued by the Honorable Gail Standish, United States Magistrate Judge on June 30, 2020, in Case No. 2:20-MJ-3043, show that **HUNG's** cell phone was located in the Old Town Pasadena area on the evening of May 30, 2020, and the

afternoon of May 31, 2020. Specifically on May 30, 2020, HUNG's cell phone pinged at locations in Pasadena, California, near the area of the protestors between 8 and 9 p.m. and again between approximately 10 and 11:30 p.m. In between, HUNG's cell phone pinged in downtown Los Angeles, another area where protests were occurring that weekend.

- 32. The FBI also interviewed a witness who worked security at a building near the area of the protests on May 31, 2020. This witness recalled seeing a truck resembling HUNG's on the nights of both May 29 and May 30, 2020, in the same area as the protests near Fair Oaks Boulevard and Colorado Avenue. On the night of May 29, 2020, the truck's passenger asked the witness where to find protests in Pasadena and how to access the crowds. The witness identified both the driver and the passenger as Caucasian males wearing dark hats. T-Mobile cell-site records do not place HUNG's cell-phone in Old Town Pasadena on the night of May 29, 2020.
- 33. **HUNG** and S also communicated with their associates the weekend of the protests and bragged about their efforts to assault protestors. Specifically, I have reviewed the following Apple records obtained pursuant to a federal search warrant:

<sup>6</sup> PPD officers seized an Apple iPhone from **HUNG** during his arrest. After **HUNG's** release from PPD custody, the iPhone was returned to **HUNG.** On June 30, 2020, the Honorable Gail Standish, United States Magistrate Judge, issued a search warrant for **HUNG's** Apple iCloud account, in case number 2:20-MJ-3044. According to Apple records, the Apple iCloud account associated with the email address phone number is registered to "BENJAMIN HUNG." According to T-Mobile records, the telephone number

- a. On May 28, 2020, an associate of HUNG's, M

  ("G"") texted HUNG, S, and several other

  associates that "[t]hey got Antifa<sup>8</sup> lighting the windows and

  burning stuff," to which another associated replied 40 minutes

  later with "Black lives matter at it again!" The next day, HUNG

  asked the group if they were "trying to come by nest?" which as

  explained below I believe is a reference to the SAN MARINO

  RESIDENCE.
- b. Later in the day on May 29, 2020, after T-Mobile cell-site records placed his phone in downtown Los Angeles, California, in the same vicinity as where major protests were occurring, HUNG sent a text message to this same group of associates stating, "Antifa has been avoiding me or something. I can never seem to find them when I'm out war rigging??" The associate replied, "they hear the war rig coming and want no fucking part mi liege." Based on my training and experience and facts developed in this investigation, I believe "war rigging"

A, San Marino, California, 91108.

According to the California Secretary of State, ICM Resources
Inc. is a company registered to HUNG's dad, I How, at the same address.

The phone number that sent the text is identified in  ${\tt HUNG's}$  contacts as "Market Game"," and the same number is also identified on Experian records as being in the name of "Market Game"."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Based on my training and experience, I am aware that Antifa is a left-wing political movement in the United States that has been associated with both violent and nonviolent action in support of a wide variety of issues. During the George Floyd protests, many news reports covered allegations that individuals and groups associated with Antifa were involved in organizing the protests.

refers to **HUNG's** attempts to use his truck, with the license plate "WAR RIG," to assault demonstrators.

- through the crowd of protestors, an associate of HUNG's sent a photograph to HUNG and others, including one phone number saved in HUNG's account as "E" and which law enforcement databases identify as belonging to S, showing what appears to be protestors blocking traffic on a highway. S replied, "That's why you don't stop on the freeway for these people and have a gun," and then added "If they try this on my car, I'm running them over."
- 34. Apple records for **HUNG's** account also included a photograph of **HUNG** wearing a "Three Percenter" tank top, with the Betsy Ross flag with three "I's" surrounded by thirteen stars, and flexing his left arm in a manner like a body builder:



- B. HUNG Amassed Firearms and Other Tactical Equipment from Out of State to Circumvent California Gun Laws and Prepare to Engage in Civil Disorders
- 35. As detailed below, based on my review of public databases, witness interviews, cell-site information, and PayPal, Wells Fargo, and iCloud records, I believe HUNG resides in two locations in California: (1) the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE, and (2) a residence located at ("Lodi Residence"). HUNG also frequently visits his family's vineyard located at (the "Lodi Vineyard").9 HUNG also travels to Oregon periodically to visit his family's RV Resort and other properties, but does not appear to maintain a residence in Oregon.
  - 1. HUNG Acquired the Firearm that He Possessed

    During His Assault on the Protestors Through an Associate, Who Illegally Purchased the Firearm for HUNG in Oregon and Transported the Firearm to California for HUNG

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Lodi Residence and the Lodi Vineyard are located within the Eastern District of California. An application to search the Lodi Residence and the Lodi Vineyard is being filed concurrently herewith in the Eastern District of California.

- a 9mm Glock 43 semiautomatic pistol bearing serial number BCFU215 (the "Glock 43").
- 37. I know from my training and experience and conversation with law enforcement that, when purchasing firearms, federal law requires the completion of ATF Form 4473, which documents the firearms transaction and requires the purchaser to make several representations under penalty of criminal prosecution. One of the required representations is that the person acquiring the firearm is the "actual transferee/buyer of the firearm(s) listed on this form." When purchasing the Glock 26 and the Glock 43 on December 26, 2017, Finance checked "yes" next to this question. Finance then signed his name under a warning that checking yes to that question if he is not the actual transferee/buyer "is a crime punishable as a felony under Federal law."
- 38. Based on my training and experience, my knowledge of firearms restrictions, and my conversations with other law enforcement officers, I am aware that California is often perceived as having more restrictive gun laws than other states. For example, California requires the registration of all firearm purchases within the state, whereas Oregon does not. Oregon does not maintain a statewide database recording who has purchased firearms in the state, whereas California does. California also has a 10-day waiting period before someone can purchase a firearm, which effectively means that a person cannot walk into a firearms store and purchase a gun the same day.

Oregon does not have this waiting period and permits same-day purchases of firearms.

- 39. On December 26, 2017, the same day F purchased the firearms in Oregon, Apple records for HUNG's iCloud account show that HUNG and F communicated about F 's plans to go to the gun shop. F messaged HUNG, "I'm in gonna check out the pistols." HUNG responded, "Nice. You still in guns? Or are you haircut started?" F then replied "Hair brotha."
- sent HUNG text messages seeking out ammunition and indicating that F was likely at the Lodi Vineyard.

  F asked HUNG if he had "any 9mm ammunition laying around?" and HUNG responded that if F was "at the vineyard . . . there should be some 9mm in the closet of my room there where the ammo is." HUNG was not sure if there was any ammunition left, but if not, he assured F that he "got 9mm here in Pasadena," and that he would "put more in Lodi." 10 From my training and experience and facts developed in this investigation, I believe that HUNG was discussing storing 9mm ammunition at the Lodi Vineyard, when HUNG references having "9mm" at the "vineyard."
- 41. On January 3, 2018, **HUNG** wrote to F to ask "where are my pistols at?" F responded, "I have your

During this same conversation, HUNG also explained why he liked shooting in Lodi, California, "because you have a relatively long and flat range to shoot. You can really practice your distance shots."

pistols and ammo with me" and that he would "leave it here in your closet." HUNG also asked if his "big suitcases with the glocks" were "in Lodi." HUNG added that if F had "the Ruger" with him, which is a type of firearm, to "bring that with you. For protection." F responded that he would "leave your glocks in Lodi if that is what you want," which further confirms that F was in Lodi, California, at the time he informed HUNG he would be leaving "pistols and ammo" in HUNG's closet.

- 42. I believe that **HUNG** was located in the San Marino, California, area, within the Central District of California, at the time **HUNG** inquired about the status of his "pistols" on January 3, 2018, based on the following:
- a. Text messages between HUNG and others indicate that he planned to go to Oregon for Christmas in 2017. In one text message to his brother, HUNG indicated that he would be flying out of Los Angeles International Airport on "Saturday" and returning to Los Angeles on "Friday," which would have been December 23 to December 29, 2017.
- b. Wells Fargo purchase records show that **HUNG** made purchases in Pasadena, Alhambra, and Monterey Park, California, starting on December 30, 2017, and continuing through January 2018.
- 43. Throughout 2019 and 2020, **HUNG** texted with his associates about his ownership of a Glock 26 and the fact that he kept it at the **SAN MARINO RESIDENCE**. In October 2019, for example, **HUNG** sent General a text stating, "I have a Glock 19,

19x and E [See ] has 43 . . . I also have a 26." Based on my training and experience and knowledge of this investigation, I believe **HUNG** is referencing his ownership of the Glock 26 and the fact that his wife, See , has the Glock 43.

- texted HUNG that "Lodi is the official bug out spot if stuff goes down," and HUNG responded that "I'm sure your pops has all the firepower needed, but just in case you know the spare block 26 is at the nest."

  Based on context and subsequent messages, I believe that "block 26" is likely a typo and is a reference to the Glock 26.

  Greplied that the "nest is much closer than Glendora."

  Law enforcement checks and open source research confirm that

  Gressidence, which would be closer to his home than the town of Glendora, California. Based on my knowledge of the investigation and subsequent text messages described below, I therefore believe that the "nest" is a reference to the SAN MARINO

  RESIDENCE. 11
- 45. In that same text thread from February 10, 2020,

  Game asked HUNG to identify the location of the Glock 26 in
  the "nest," and HUNG replied that it was located in the "[t]op
  drawer big wooden dresser next to bed I sleep in" with "extra
  mags and ammo and holster." HUNG added, "I think there's a box
  full of ammo in my room maybe 1000+ rounds."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> I have also reviewed text messages from HUNG inviting associates who live in the San Marino area to come over to the "nest house," which furthers my belief that the "nest" is a reference to the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE.

- 46. On March 12, 2020, G wrote to **HUNG** and others that his plan in the event of a military operation would be to "[g]rab glock 26 from Nest house or get my own ASAP." Later that week, as described more below, G asked **HUNG** if he could "borrow g26" if "things get worse," and **HUNG** replied that he was in Oregon, but that G could "get the Glock without anyone knowing. It's in the drawer next to the bed."
- 47. An undated photograph from HUNG's iCloud account, described further below, shows a table covered in firearms, ammunition and equipment. One of the firearms depicted appears to be a Glock 43. For the reasons discussed below, I believe that this photograph was likely taken in Lodi, California, sometime between March and May 2020. The absence of the Glock 26 in the photograph is consistent with text messages, described above, indicating that HUNG kept the Glock 26 at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE.
  - 2. HUNG Drove to Oregon in March 2020 to Acquire
    Three Additional Firearms, Which He Then Brought
    Back to California
- 48. HUNG and S have no firearms registered to themselves in the state of California. Apple records for HUNG's iCloud account, however, contain numerous undated photographs of firearms and firearm accessories, including the following photograph that I believe was taken in California for the reasons set forth below:



49. Based on my knowledge of firearms, I have identified six firearms displayed on a table that appears to be indoors:

(1) two assault rifles; (2) three semi-automatic pistols, including one resembling a Glock 43; and (3) one long-range rifle. Additionally, the table contains (4) four assault rifle barrels; (5) at least fifteen assault rifle magazines; (6) 11 standard pistol magazines; (7) at least 15 extended pistol magazines; (8) numerous boxes of ammunition of various calibers; (9) a tactical vest equipped with assault rifle magazines and a tourniquet; (10) a green tactical belt holding five assault rifle magazines and two pistol magazines; and (11) miscellaneous

firearm accessories such as a tan pistol holster, camouflage eye protection, rifle scope, binoculars, and assorted gun parts.

- 50. Although the photo is undated, I believe it was taken somewhere in California and reflects firearms that **HUNG** purchased in Oregon in March 2020 and brought back to California for the following reasons:
- a. According to records from Tillamook Sporting Goods in Oregon, in March 2020, **HUNG** purchased three firearms: 12 (1) on March 18, 2020, a Mossberg 464 lever action rifle with serial number LA068565; (2) on March 22, 2020, a Winchester XPR bolt action rifle with serial number 357ZR05273; and (3) on March 22, 2020, a Bergara Hunter bolt action rifle with serial number 61-06-214565-18.
- b. The long-range rifle on the table appears to be the same make and model of the Bergara Hunter bolt action rifle **HUNG** bought in Oregon; therefore, the picture would have been taken after March 22, 2020.
- c. Pictured next to the rifle is a Vortex Optics Crossfire II Adjustable scope, which was not purchased until March 31, 2020, after T-Mobile cell-site records show **HUNG's** cell phone arriving in Lodi, California; 13

<sup>12</sup> The records from Tillamook identify **HUNG's** address as the same one listed on his Washington driver's license.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> According to Apple records, **HUNG** took a screenshot of an Amazon Prime purchase for the same make and model of scope, which stated that the item was last purchased on March 31, 2020, for \$299. **HUNG's** Wells Fargo debit card history shows a purchase from Amazon for \$323.67 on March 31, 2020, which appears to be the \$299 scope plus applicable tax.

- d. Pictured next to the Vortex scope is a Talley banded scope mount that was also purchased on March 31, 2020, with a notation to "Deliver to E Lodi 95242." 14
- 51. Because **HUNG** and S do not have any firearms registered to them in California, I believe that the other firearms pictured likely also came from out of state. 15
  Additionally, because the Winchester and Mossberg rifles do not appear in this photograph, I believe they are likely being kept at a separate location, to include the **SAN MARINO RESIDENCE**.
- 52. I believe that HUNG drove to Oregon to acquire the three firearms purchased at the end of March for the following reasons:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> According to Apple records, **HUNG** took a screenshot of a Talley 700-721-722-725-40X Scope Mount from Amazon that stated it was lasted purchased on March 31, 2020, and the option to for originally \$48.95, but at the time of the screen shot, only cost \$35.47. **HUNG's** Wells Fargo debit card history shows a purchase from Amazon for \$59.05 on March 31, 2020, which appears to be the original cost at \$48.95, plus shipping and tax since the item is not an Amazon Prime eligible purchase to receive free shipping.

<sup>15</sup> In addition to firearms, HUNG also sought to circumvent California's restrictions on acquiring automobile parts. For example, on January 8, 2020, HUNG exchanged messages with an associate about sending automobile parts that were illegal in California to Oregon, and having the associate then ship the items to HUNG in California to the Lodi Residence. HUNG wrote "Gratze mi Lorde!! Must be Intake piping, can't be shipped to Cali for stupid emissions control so redirected to the land of the free lol its metal tube that's illegal...California. If possible when you have a chance just put it into the garden house or something please and thank you. Unless it's possible to ship it to Lodi from front office?" The associate responded, "Are you serious??? You can't ship that down there? What a shame. I can send it to you in Lodi."

- a. According to T-Mobile cell-site records, seized pursuant to the federal warrant number in Case No. 2:20-MJ-3043 described above, HUNG's cell phone was located in California from early January 2020 to approximately March 16, 2020. During the first half of the year, his phone was located predominantly in the Lodi, California, area, in the vicinity of both the Lodi Vineyard and the Lodi Residence. During the last two weeks of March 2020, however, HUNG's cell phone pinged at multiple locations in Oregon. After March 30, 2020, HUNG's cell phone was again located in California and did not return to Oregon through June 30, 2020, the last date of available cell-site records. 16
- b. Wells Fargo records confirm that HUNG travelled from California to Oregon in March 2020 and that HUNG stated in Oregon for approximately two weeks. At the end of March 2020, HUNG made several purchases from establishments located in Oregon. Prior purchases and subsequent purchases were at establishments located in California.
- 53. Prior to his trip to Oregon, HUNG and his associates communicated regularly about his plans to stockpile firearms to prepare for civil disorders. These communications appeared to escalate in early March 2020 before HUNG's trip to Oregon at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and increased conspiracy theories

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> On September 14, 2020, the Honorable Michael R. Wilner, United States Magistrate Judge, issued a search warrant for **HUNG's** additional historical cell-site records from June 30, 2020, to September 11, 2020, and prospective data, in case number 2:20-MJ-3044, but T-Mobile has not yet provided the updated historical cell-site records.

propagated by the far-right movement known as "QAnon," described more below, that the virus was a hoax.

54. On March 12, 2020, for example, G wrote to **HUNG** and others:

Just so everyone is clear if shit really does go down next steps are immediately. 1. if at work go home or rendezvous with parents which ever is most effective 2. If at home grab parents, bring weapons/food Grab glock 26 from Nest house or get my own ASAP. Hit gas station possibly full tank of coast clear Haul ass straight to Lodi We make bunker We never surrender ??

As discussed above, I believe that the reference to a "glock 26" at the "nest house" is a reference to the Glock 26 that HUNG kept at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE. I further believe that "Lodi" is a reference to the Lodi Residence and/or the Lodi Vineyard and that the proposal to bring "weapons" to "make bunker" and "never surrender" is a reference to the potential need to use violence against any intruders once in Lodi, California.

HUNG, S , and others, "#QANON storm is upon us. Deep state is in panic. This may be the greatest military operation ever I'm starting to believe it now. Going to be fucking bad bro.

Better be ready." Based on my training and experience, I know that "QANON" is a reference to a movement of individuals that follow an anonymous internet poster known as "Q" who advocates numerous conspiracy theories, including that government officials who are part of the "deep state" are engaged in a variety of criminal enterprises including sex trafficking of minors. Based on my training and experience and facts developed

in this investigation, I believe the references in the above message to the "storm" and the "greatest military operation ever" are references to the individual's belief, which is commonly espoused by QANON supporters, that government responses to the COVID-19 pandemic were in fact a cover for a military operation related to a purported "deep state" criminal enterprises.

- 56. In response to G 's message to be ready for the "greatest military operation ever," S replied to the same thread including HUNG, "about damn time." Another associate replied, "On stand by." S replied, "The sheep have no idea what's coming."
- 57. A few days later, on March 16, 2020, G asked HUNG whether he could "borrow g26" if "things get worse," or whether that would be "super illegal." HUNG replied the next day that he was in Bend, Oregon, 17 but that G could "get the Glock without anyone knowing. It's in the drawer next to the bed."
  - 3. HUNG Converted the Lodi Vineyard into a Tactical Training Ground Using Weapons and Ammunition Acquired from Out of State to Prepare for Civil Disorders
- 58. Throughout 2020, in advance of the protests that arose in response of the death of George Floyd, **HUNG** and his associates regularly discussed their plans for responding to civil unrest and a perceived conspiracy by government officials

 $<sup>^{17}</sup>$  This is consistent with cell-site information placing **HUNG's** phone in multiple places in Oregon, between March 16 and March 29, 2020.

to suppress individual rights. Part of these plans appeared to include converting part of the Lodi Vineyard into a shooting range and tactical training grounds.

- 59. HUNG communicated with several associates about acquiring ammunition and firearms accessories outside of California and then having them transported into California.

  For example, on April 22, 2020, Garage asked HUNG if he would be in Oregon anytime soon because Garage need to "send some ammo somewhere." HUNG replied, "Gonna be heading up there sometime in the next few weeks" but that if Garage was going to Vegas he could ask a friend to have the ammunition shipped there instead. HUNG added that he was "going to ship some mags and ammo as well to Oregon" or to another associate that, based on his name, I believe is located in either Colorado or Wyoming.
- 60. A week later **HUNG** wrote another associate to encourage him to "buy ammo ASAP" because "the delivery ban got lifted."

  The associated replied, "Mi lorde 300+ rounds shipped out this morning for Jogee apartment. Yup got like 200+ rounds of 115 grain for like under 100 bucks. We aren't messing around." **HUNG** replied, "Yes I want to pick up another 2000. Rounds."
- 61. During the same exchange, the associate referenced the existence of "training facility" in Lodi. The associate wrote, "once my m&p shield comes I needa come up to the Hunt Lodi Training Facility." HUNG replied, "Hell yee baby!! Come run the course my lorde!" Based on my training and experience and facts developed in this investigation, I believe the "Hunt Lodi Training Facility" refers to the Lodi Vineyard.

- messages about buying gun parts and assembling homemade assault rifles that are not compliant with California gun laws. HUNG then described the gun parts and barrel lengths he owned, and replied, referencing the inability to purchase California-compliant AR-style, "Well yeah I would do the complete lower but they don't have any California ones right now. So should I just build then? But than I have nothing registered?" HUNG replied, "Yeah exactly. Ghost guns. 18 Things that don't exist lol."
- 63. That same day, on April 30, 2020, HUNG and a different associate discussed shooting drills and the ability to practice those skills at the Lodi Vineyard. HUNG described telling his dad "how legit it is for us to have our own area to shoot guns" and that people all over the world "would kill to shoot in their backyard."
- 64. On May 20, 2020, **HUNG** sent a link to an associate for a shoot house. 19 **HUNG** then wrote, "I wonder what these cost to build. Our very own Shoot House!!! The only way to practice

<sup>18</sup> Based on my training and experience, I know that "Ghost guns" is a term used to describe privately made firearms that lack commercial serial numbers or other identifying marks. Individuals who make "ghost guns" typically do so to evade state or federal firearms regulations.

<sup>19</sup> Based on my training and experience, I know that a "shoot house" is a structure specifically designed for shooters to enter and conduct live fire, firearms training in confined spaces in order to simulate urban combat and clearing buildings and rooms. Generally, the rooms inside a shoot house can be changed and/or rearranged in order to have different configurations to train on.

clearing buildings/rooms/staircases!! Would love to build on the vineyard." I believe this is another reference by **HUNG** to developing a larger capacity to conduct firearms related training at the Lodi Vineyard.

- 65. T-Mobile cell-site records indicate that after returning from Oregon at the end of March 2020, HUNG's cell phone was located in Lodi, California for most of April, split between the Lodi Vineyard and the Lodi Residence before returning to the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE in early May 2020. This is consistent with HUNG's financial records, which show that HUNG purchased items from establishments located in Lodi, California, between April 2, 2020, and May 8, 2020. Beginning on May 9, 2020, HUNG purchased items from locations in Southern California, including a purchase at a smoke shop in Pasadena on May 27, 2020, the weekend of the protests.
- 66. In addition to communications with his associates about his efforts to create a tactical training facility at the Lodi Vineyard, HUNG's iCloud records and purchase histories confirm that he was amassing an arsenal of weapons, ammunition, and tactical equipment at the Lodi Vineyard.
- 67. Apple records for **HUNG's** iCloud account also included numerous additional photographs of firearms and firearm accessories, including the following in addition to the one described above:
- a. A photograph of two additional assault rifles on a chair on what appears to be the back porch of an unknown residence with straight rows of unidentified agricultural crops

in the background, which would be consistent with the topography of the Lodi Vineyard.

- b. A photograph of two assault rifles in what appears to be a bedroom.
- c. Multiple photographs of a black assault rifle on what appears to be a mattress.
- d. Multiple photographs of **HUNG** wearing a green tactical vest and holding an additional black assault rifle inside a residence.
- 68. According to PayPal records, 20 HUNG bought various firearms-related items from online vendors in various states throughout 2020, which he had shipped to the Lodi Residence. These shipments included a holster for a Glock 19 handgun on April 30, 2020, a large but undescribed purchase from a tactical equipment company on April 27, 2020, a shooting target on April 30, 2020, and a "rubber dummy" shooting target designed to resemble the torso of an adult male on May 16, 2020.
- 69. **HUNG** continued to ship firearms components to the Lodi Residence after the May 31, 2020 incident. For example, according to PayPal records, **HUNG** purchased another shooting target in the shape of a male torso on August 3, 2020, a component part for building a Glock 19 handgun on August 26,

Paypal has identified approximately 23 accounts associated with HUNG through either the email address

(20 accounts) or

(3 accounts). All 23 are registered in the name of "Benjamin Hung" except for one, which is in the name of "E S " but still linked to

2020, and another shooting target in the shape of a male torso on August 22, 2020.

70. During this same time period, between May 8, 2020, and May 16, 2020, PayPal records show that **HUNG** was also shipping firearms-related components to his parents' residence in

"Old Mill Residence"), which is less than three miles away from the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE, including, for example, several base pads<sup>21</sup> for different types of Glock handguns and another "rubber dummy" shooting target.

71. Neighbors of the Lodi Vineyard have confirmed the presence of firearms activity as recently as September 9, 2020. On September 10, 2020, a neighbor to the Lodi Vineyard was interviewed by a Task Force Officer with the FBI.<sup>22</sup> S/he stated that s/he hears gunfire, often. S/he pointed west to the property across the river and stated the shots originated from that direction, which was in the direction of the Lodi Vineyard. When asked if the gunfire came from "the vineyard," the neighbor said yes, affirmatively. The neighbor advised that the gunfire sounded like target practice and that their domestic partner, who is familiar with firearms, positively identified the sound as gun shots. The neighbor further advised that they hear the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> A base pad is a firearm part that can be used to extend the magazine of a firearm beyond the manufacturer's capacity.

 $<sup>^{22}</sup>$  Local law enforcement had previously received an anonymous complaint about gunfire in the area, and the Task Force Officer used this complaint as the basis for interviewing the neighbor.

gunfire approximately twice a month, and that sometimes it would last for approximately two hours. When the neighbor was asked when was the last time they had heard gun shots, s/he stated September 9, 2020, the day before the interview. S/he advised that it lasted about a half hour and that it was loud enough to scare their dogs.

72. Aerial surveillance of the Lodi Vineyard from September 2020 depicts what appears to be a shooting range with targets and in a forested area set back from the main house.

# C. HUNG Resides at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE, the Lodi Residence, and the Lodi Vineyard

- 73. As explained above, **HUNG** appears to spend his time in both San Marino, California, at the **SAN MARINO RESIDENCE**, and Lodi, California, at the Lodi Residence and the Lodi Vineyard.
- 74. According to video recordings from HUNG's arrest on May 31, 2020, Stold PPD officers during routine questioning that they lived together at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE.

  Similarly, HUNG told PPD officers that he was from San Marino but that he also lived in Oregon and spent time in Washington because the company he works for operates in all three states.<sup>23</sup>
- 75. The FBI interviewed a neighbor, who lives next door to the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE, who recognized a photograph of San and identified San by name, describing San as the daughter of his/her neighbor. S/he also recognized a photograph of HUNG as the boyfriend of San who began showing up at the SAN MARINO

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> **HUNG's** driver's license is a Washington State driver's license and lists an address in Seattle, Washington.

RESIDENCE approximately six months before. S/he was shown a photograph of HUNG's truck, which s/he recognized as belonging to HUNG because s/he had seen HUNG drive the truck to the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE. S/he recalled seeing the truck displaying various flags, including a "don't tread on me," flag, and a Confederate flag attached to the back. The neighbor mostly observed and HUNG at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE on weekends and recalled seeing HUNG drive the truck to and from SAN MARINO RESIDENCE on the weekend of the incident. The neighbor also described seeing HUNG on multiple occasions at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE wearing military-like camouflage, military fatigues, and carrying a gray tactical vest.

- 76. The San Marino neighbor also saw **HUNG** at the **SAN**MARINO RESIDENCE as recently as July 8, 2020, with an unfamiliar RV parked out front that bore an out-of-state license plate.

  S/he observed **HUNG** and S loading the RV with what appeared to be lawn chairs and coolers. S/he remembered seeing the RV depart around 11:00 p.m. on July 8, 2020.
- 77. On July 11, 2020, FBI personnel saw a white Sunseeker RV with an Oregon license plate parked in front of the SAN

  MARINO RESIDENCE around 8:27 p.m. Agents also saw lights on in the house. According to the Oregon Department of Motor

  Vehicles, the Sunseeker RV is registered to C H , HUNG's mother, at the same Four Seasons Garden RV Resort in Bend,

  Oregon, owned and operated by HUNG's parents.
- 78. When in Lodi, California, S and HUNG reside at the Lodi Residence and also spend time at the Lodi Vineyard.

According to Wells Fargo records, HUNG maintains two bank accounts that list the Lodi Residence as his mailing address and maintains two bank accounts: one that lists the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE as her residence and a second that lists the Lodi Residence as her residence. According to Venmo records, Salso listed the Lodi Residence as her residence. According to PayPal transaction records, further detailed below, on multiple occasions in 2019 and 2020, HUNG purchased items from different online vendors and listed the Lodi Residence as his shipping address. According to public databases, the Lodi Residence is owned by HUNG's father, I HUMB, and utility services are registered in Salvey name.

- 79. According to the California Secretary of State records, **HUNG's** father owns "157 California Reserve Inc.," the entity that owns the Lodi Vineyard. The Lodi Vineyard is located approximately 4.5 miles north of the Lodi Residence.
- 80. As detailed above, **HUNG** exchanged numerous text messages with associates throughout 2020 describing his presence at the Lodi Residence, the Lodi Vineyard, and the **SAN MARINO RESIDENCE**, as well as his travel between those locations and Oregon.

<sup>24</sup> According to the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office parcel viewer, the Lodi Vineyard is owned by 157 California Reserve Inc., with a mailing address of the same address associated with ICM Resources Inc. in Oregon. 157 California Reserve Inc. was incorporated at the same address for ICM Resources Inc. in San Marino, California.

- 81. On August 25, 2020, FBI personnel saw a white and gray Dodge pick-up truck with the Oregon license plate """ 25 parked in the driveway of the Lodi Residence that appears to be the same truck HUNG drove through the crowd on May 31, 2020. Instead of the "WAR RIG" license plate, the license plate seen on August 25, 2020 reads """. Several pictures saved to HUNG's Apple iCloud account, seized pursuant to a federal search warrant, show a similar truck with the same custom configurations and Oregon license plate ""." I believe that this is likely the same truck, but that HUNG replaced the license plate to conceal the truck after receiving significant attention for the license plate "WAR RIG" on social media and in local news following his arrest in Pasadena.
- 82. For the reasons set forth above, including HUNG's purchase of firearms from Oregon, his transport of those firearms to his multiple residences in California, his apparent intent to transport the firearms for use in connection with civil disorders, and his purchase history of firearms and firearm-related items, there is probable cause to believe that evidence of the Subject Offenses will be found at the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE.

## VII. TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE ON FIREARMS OFFENSES

83. From my training, personal experience, and the collective experiences related to me by other law enforcement

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> The Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles was unable to provide registration information for this license plate because of an "unable to locate" error message.

officers who conduct firearms investigations, I am aware of the following:

- a. Persons who possess, purchase, or sell firearms generally maintain records of their firearm transactions as items of value and usually keep them in their residence, or in places that are readily accessible, and under their physical control, such in their digital devices. It has been my experience that individuals who own, deal, or transport firearms illegally will keep the contact information of the individual who is supplying firearms or other individuals involved in criminal activities for future purchases or referrals. Such information is also kept on digital devices.
- b. Many people keep mementos of their firearms, including digital photographs or recordings of themselves possessing or using firearms on their digital devices, or of firearms that they wish to sell to others. These photographs and recordings are often shared via social media, text messages, and over text messaging applications.
- c. Correspondence between persons buying and selling firearms, or transporting firearms, including correspondence between co-conspirators in the dealing of firearms without a license or illegally transporting them across state lines, often occurs over phone calls, e-mail, text message, and social media message to and from smartphones, laptops, or other digital devices. This includes sending photos of the firearm between the seller and the buyer, as well as negotiation of price. In my experience, individuals who engage in street sales of

firearms frequently use phone calls, e-mail, and text messages to communicate with each other regarding firearms that they sell or offer for sale. In addition, it is common for individuals engaging in the unlawful sale of firearms to have photographs of firearms they or other individuals working with them possess on their cellular phones and other digital devices as they frequently send these photos to each other to boast of their firearms possession and/or to facilitate sales or transfers of firearms. Individuals engaged in the illegal purchase or sale of firearms often use multiple digital devices.

## VI. TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE ON DIGITAL DEVICES 26

- 84. Based on my training, experience, and information from those involved in the forensic examination of digital devices, I know that the following electronic evidence, inter alia, is often retrievable from digital devices:
- a. Forensic methods may uncover electronic files or remnants of such files months or even years after the files have been downloaded, deleted, or viewed via the Internet. Normally, when a person deletes a file on a computer, the data contained in the file does not disappear; rather, the data remain on the hard drive until overwritten by new data, which may only occur

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> As used herein, the term "digital device" includes any electronic system or device capable of storing or processing data in digital form, including central processing units; desktop, laptop, notebook, and tablet computers; personal digital assistants; wireless communication devices, such as paging devices, mobile telephones, and smart phones; digital cameras; gaming consoles; peripheral input/output devices, such as keyboards, printers, scanners, monitors, and drives; related communications devices, such as modems, routers, cables, and connections; storage media; and security devices.

after a long period of time. Similarly, files viewed on the Internet are often automatically downloaded into a temporary directory or cache that are only overwritten as they are replaced with more recently downloaded or viewed content and may also be recoverable months or years later.

- b. Digital devices often contain electronic evidence related to a crime, the device's user, or the existence of evidence in other locations, such as, how the device has been used, what it has been used for, who has used it, and who has been responsible for creating or maintaining records, documents, programs, applications, and materials on the device. That evidence is often stored in logs and other artifacts that are not kept in places where the user stores files, and in places where the user may be unaware of them. For example, recoverable data can include evidence of deleted or edited files; recently used tasks and processes; online nicknames and passwords in the form of configuration data stored by browser, e-mail, and chat programs; attachment of other devices; times the device was in use; and file creation dates and sequence.
- c. The absence of data on a digital device may be evidence of how the device was used, what it was used for, and who used it. For example, showing the absence of certain software on a device may be necessary to rebut a claim that the device was being controlled remotely by such software.
- d. Digital device users can also attempt to conceal data by using encryption, steganography, or by using misleading filenames and extensions. Digital devices may also contain

"booby traps" that destroy or alter data if certain procedures are not scrupulously followed. Law enforcement continuously develops and acquires new methods of decryption, even for devices or data that cannot currently be decrypted.

- 85. Based on my training, experience, and information from those involved in the forensic examination of digital devices, I know that it is not always possible to search devices for data during a search of the premises for a number of reasons, including the following:
- a. Digital data are particularly vulnerable to inadvertent or intentional modification or destruction. Thus, often a controlled environment with specially trained personnel may be necessary to maintain the integrity of and to conduct a complete and accurate analysis of data on digital devices, which may take substantial time, particularly as to the categories of electronic evidence referenced above. Also, there are now so many types of digital devices and programs that it is difficult to bring to a search site all of the specialized manuals, equipment, and personnel that may be required.
- 86. Digital devices capable of storing multiple gigabytes are now commonplace. As an example of the amount of data this equates to, one gigabyte can store close to 19,000 average file size (300kb) Word documents, or 614 photos with an average size of 1.5MB.
- 87. The search warrant requests authorization to use the biometric unlock features of a device, based on the following,

which I know from my training, experience, and review of publicly available materials:

- a. Users may enable a biometric unlock function on some digital devices. To use this function, a user generally displays a physical feature, such as a fingerprint, face, or eye, and the device will automatically unlock if that physical feature matches one the user has stored on the device. To unlock a device enabled with a fingerprint unlock function, a user places one or more of the user's fingers on a device's fingerprint scanner for approximately one second. To unlock a device enabled with a facial, retina, or iris recognition function, the user holds the device in front of the user's face with the user's eyes open for approximately one second.
- b. In some circumstances, a biometric unlock function will not unlock a device even if enabled, such as when a device has been restarted or inactive, has not been unlocked for a certain period of time (often 48 hours or less), or after a certain number of unsuccessful unlock attempts. Thus, the opportunity to use a biometric unlock function even on an enabled device may exist for only a short time. I do not know the passcodes of the devices likely to be found in the search.
- c. Thus, the warrant I am applying for would permit law enforcement personnel to, with respect to any device that appears to have a biometric sensor and falls within the scope of the warrant: (1) depress HUNG's thumb and/or fingers on the device(s); and (2) hold the device(s) in front of HUNG's face

with his or her eyes open to activate the facial-, iris-, and/or retina-recognition feature.

88. Other than what has been described herein, to my knowledge, the United States has not attempted to obtain this data by other means.

# VII. CONCLUSION

89. For all of the reasons described above, there is probable cause to believe that that HUNG has committed a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371 (Conspiracy to Transport Firearms Interstate and Make a False Statement in Acquisition of Firearms). There is also probable cause to believe that the items to be seized described in Attachment B will be found in a search of the SAN MARINO RESIDENCE as described in Attachment A.

Attested to by the applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1 by telephone on this <u>21st</u> day of <u>September</u>, 2020

Paul Z. alrams

THE HONORABLE PAUL L. ABRAMS UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE