
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**
: :
v. : Honorable Edward S. Kiel
: :
JONATHAN D. WILLIAMS : Mag. No. 21-15460 (ESK)
: :

I, Paul Safier, the undersigned complainant being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

SEE ATTACHMENT A

I further state that I am a Senior Inspector with the United States Marshals Service and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT B

Paul Safier, Senior Inspector
United States Marshals Service

Senior Inspector Paul Safier attested to this Affidavit by telephone pursuant to FRCP 4.1(b)(2)(A) on or about November 2, 2020, in the District of New Jersey

Honorable Edward S. Kiel
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Signature of Judicial Officer

ATTACHMENT A

COUNT ONE

(Threat to Assault and Murder a United States Judge)

On or about November 1, 2021 through on or about November 2, 2021, in the District of New Jersey and elsewhere, the defendant,

JONATHAN D. WILLIAMS,

knowingly and willfully did threaten to murder Judge-1, a U.S. District Court Judge in the District of New Jersey, with intent to impede, intimidate, and interfere with Judge-1 and to retaliate against Judge-1 on account Judge-1's performance of his/her official duties.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 115(a)(1)(B).

ATTACHMENT B

I, Paul Safier, am a Senior Inspector with the United States Marshals Service. I am fully familiar with the facts set forth herein based on my own investigation, my conversations with other law enforcement officers, and my review of reports, documents, witness interviews and video recordings of the evidence. Where statements of others are related herein, they are related in substance and part. Because this complaint is being submitted for a limited purpose, I have not set forth each and every fact that I know concerning this investigation. Where I assert that an event took place on a particular date, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date alleged.

1. On or about November 1, 2021, defendant Jonathan D. Williams (“WILLIAMS”) called a U.S. District Court Judge in the District of New Jersey (“Judge-1”) at least two times at Judge-1’s chambers phone number. The answering system captured the incoming telephone number as one ending in 8714 (the “8714 Phone Number”), and indicated the identifier of “Williams, Jonathan” as associated with the 8714 Phone number. The first call was answered by the courtroom deputy for Judge-1 working in Judge-1’s chambers. During the course of the conversation that ensued, WILLIAMS spoke to the courtroom deputy concerning a civil suit that WILLIAMS filed and that is presently before Judge-1. WILLIAMS stated that he (Williams) needed to get the case in front of a jury immediately in order “to get my settlement.” Thereafter, WILLIAMS called Judge-1’s chambers a second time and spoke to one of Judge-1’s law clerks, and while continuing to discuss issues related to his case, stated that “Before the snow starts falling on my head, I’m gonna put a bullet in the Judge’s brain . . . he’s a scumbag.” Thereafter, the call ended.

2. On or about November 1, 2021, the members of the United States Marshals Service (“USMS”) reported to Judge-1’s chambers to investigate the call discussed in paragraph 1, above. While the USMS was present, an individual identified by Judge-1’s law clerk as WILLIAMS called the chambers of Judge-1. That call was answered by an employee who works in the Judge’s chambers, who was instructed by the USMS to place the call on speaker so that it would be audible to both the employee and the USMS. In the conversation that ensued, WILLIAMS directed sexually-explicit, profane, and racially-disparaging remarks at that employee. WILLIAMS then stated “You’ll see! You’ll lose your job when I kill your boss.” WILLIAMS then repeated the threat a second time before the call ended.

3. On or about November 2, 2021, WILLIAMS arrived at the entrance of a law firm office located in Newark, New Jersey (“Law Office”). When WILLIAMS entered the lobby of the Law Office, two security guards who were present denied WILLIAMS entry into the Law Office. At that point, WILLIAMS pulled down a protective mask he was wearing over his mouth and nose and identified himself by name as “Jonathan Williams.” Thereafter, WILLIAMS told the security guards

that he (Williams) was “going to blow the judge’s brains out.” WILLIAMS then repeated the same threat before leaving the Law Office lobby.

4. Law enforcement database checks, and a history of calls WILLIAMS has engaged in with the chambers of Judge-1, reveal that the 8714 Phone Number resolves to Jonathan Williams. A review of the docket of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey indicated that WILLIAMS has at least one civil case pending before Judge-1, and WILLIAMS previously provided the 8714 Phone Number as his contact information to at least one employee from the chambers of Judge-1.

5. Based on the threatening statements made to Judge-1’s chambers, and at the Law Office, which made threats that include but are not limited to the following statements:

“Before the snow starts falling on my head, I’m gonna put a bullet in the Judge’s brain . . . he’s a scumbag”

“going to blow the judge’s brains out”

“You’ll see! You’ll lose your job when I kill your boss”

there is probable cause to believe that WILLIAMS made threatening communications with the intent to impede, intimidate and interfere with Judge-1, and to retaliate against Judge-1 on account of Judge-1’s performance of his/her official duties, including his/her responsibilities regarding cases involving WILLIAMS over which Judge-1 presides/presided.

6. A U.S. District Court Judge is a United States Official within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1 15(c)(3).