



The Worst of The Worst: Who Will Trump Pardon?

Since January 6, 2021, when Donald Trump incited a violent insurrection in the U.S. Capitol, over 1,500 perpetrators have been indicted for crimes they committed that day. Some of the charges they faced included seditious conspiracy and assaulting or impeding law enforcement, and many of the conspirators even have links to white supremacist groups. These are some of the people that Donald Trump has said he could pardon within the first "nine minutes" of his presidency. If MAGA Republicans in Congress don't take a stand against releasing these violent criminals who tried to overturn an election, they will have turned their backs against law enforcement, against the will of the voters, and against the Constitution. All Americans must call on their elected representatives to publicly oppose the pardoning of those who attacked the Capitol and remind them that they can either stand by the rule of law and the peaceful transfer of power or by violent insurrectionists who attack police. This report outlines some of the most egregious offenses of the insurrectionists who attacked our democracy on January 6th. Their actions should not be excused from accountability, nor should they be pardoned and released back into our communities.

- Former Capitol Police Officer Harry Dunn

Most Egregious Leaders:



Photo by Jared Holt. CC BY-SA 4.0

Henry "Enrique" Tarrio

Ex-Proud Boys leader, Tarrio was sentenced to 22 years in prison and 36 months of supervised release for seditious conspiracy and other charges related to the Capitol breach. Tarrio orchestrated the attack through the "Ministry of Self-Defense," planning and encouraging violent actions, despite not being physically present on January 6 due to prior arrest. He monitored the live events and continued to encourage the violence through social media. His leadership of the Proud Boys' involvement in every major breach of the Capitol made them a key group in the insurrection.

Sources: NBC News on Enrique Tarrio, BBC Coverage of Tarrio, CNN Report on Sentencing, Getty Images of Enrique Tarrio



Kelly Meggs

Meggs, a Florida leader of the Oath Keepers, played a pivotal role in organizing and leading the group's Capitol attack. Using encrypted communications and paramilitary tactics, he sought to obstruct the presidential power transition. Convicted of seditious conspiracy, obstruction of an official proceeding, and conspiracy to prevent an officer from discharging duties, Meggs was sentenced to 12 years in prison. He also recruited members, stockpiled weapons, and on January 6, led a "stack" formation to breach the Capitol while others waited nearby with firearms as a "quick reaction force" ready to escalate violence.

Sources: ClickOrlando Report on Meggs, NBC on Oath Keepers Verdict, HuffPost on Sentencing, BBC Coverage of Oath Keepers



Stewart Rhodes

Elmer Stewart Rhodes III, founder and leader of the Oath Keepers, was convicted of seditious conspiracy and other charges related to the January 6, 2021, Capitol attack. Rhodes led efforts to disrupt the 2020 election certification, coordinating with group members via encrypted communications. He organized armed quick reaction forces stationed outside Washington, D.C., and directed plans to breach the Capitol. He played a central role in orchestrating the attack and entered the restricted area of the Capitol grounds. Rhodes was sentenced to 18 years in federal prison.

Sources: <u>Texas Tribune on Rhodes Sentencing</u>, <u>NPR Report on Verdict</u>, <u>NYT Overview of Rhodes</u>, <u>NBC on Rhodes' Testimony</u>, <u>CBS on Rhodes' Sentencing</u>



Photo by Elvert Barnes. CC BY-SA 2.0

Ethan Nordean

Nordean, another leader of the Proud Boys known as "Rufio Panman," was sentenced to 18 years in prison for his role in the January 6, 2021, Capitol attack. As the "undisputed leader on the ground," Nordean led nearly 200 Proud Boys or "rally boys" in a violent effort to obstruct Congress from certifying the 2020 election results and disrupt the transfer of power to President Joe Biden. Convicted of seditious conspiracy, civil disorder, destruction of government property, and conspiring to impede or injure a law enforcement officer, Nordean played a central role in organizing and executing the assault.

Sources: <u>Seattle Times on Nordean's Sentencing</u>, <u>Washington Post on Proud Boys Sentencing</u>, PBS on Nordean's 18-Year Sentence



Joseph Randall Biggs

Biggs, a former leader of the Proud Boys, was sentenced to 17 years in prison for his role in the January 6, 2021, Capitol attack. Convicted of seditious conspiracy and other felonies, including obstructing an official proceeding and illegal entry to restricted Capitol grounds, Biggs played a key leadership role in the violence. Starting in December 2020, he encouraged Proud Boys members to join the January 6 demonstration and coordinated with group chairman Enrique Tarrio.

Sources: Washington Post on Biggs Arrest, CBS News on Biggs Arrest, Washington Post on Biggs Detention

Other Noteworthy Egregious Actions:



Julian Elie Khater

Khater was charged in connection with the death of U.S. Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick, who died from multiple strokes the day after the riot, likely caused by the stress of the event. Khater and another man sprayed the officers with a toxic chemical that temporarily blinded them, including Sicknick.



Lonnie Leroy Coffman

Coffman parked a truck near the Capitol containing incendiary devices, firearms, a crossbow, and other weapons. Court documents revealed that when he was stopped by police, he had asked them whether they located the bombs. He also intended to distribute the weapons. Authorities also found notes with contact details for Senator Ted Cruz.



Eric Gavelek Munchel

Munchel, nicknamed the 'zip-tie guy,' was seen carrying plastic handcuffs into the Senate chamber, signaling a willingness to capture hostages. A search of Munchel's home uncovered two tactical vests, 15 firearms (including assault rifles, a sniper rifle, and pistols), a drum-style magazine, and other ammunition. Prosecutors described this as a legal "arsenal" that suggested Munchel still had the capacity to carry out further acts of intimidation, similar to those on January 6. He pleaded not guilty on all charges but was sentenced to five years in prison.



Dominic Pezzola

Pezzola, Proud Boys active member, used a stolen police riot shield to smash a Capitol window, allowing rioters to enter. After the event, he allegedly stated he "would have killed anyone they got their hands on, including Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Michael Pence.