

Former US Capitol Police officer on trial for allegedly telling rioter to delete evidence related to attack

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Byline: By Weslan Hansen and Casey Gannon, CNN

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Body

A former US Capitol police officer on trial for allegedly telling a January 6, 2021, rioter to delete evidence related to the attack also told the rioter he thought some of the "agitators" that day were **Antifa**, according to prosecutors.

A day after the attack, officer Michael Riley allegedly told the now convicted rioter Jacob Hiles in a private Facebook message to "(t)ake down the part" about being in the Capitol building after Hiles made a Facebook post stating "I very simply made my way through the building."

"I'm a capitol police officer who agrees with your political stance," Riley allegedly wrote before telling Hiles to delete his Facebook posts, adding that people who entered the Capitol that day were being investigated.

"Just looking out!" Riley wrote, according to court documents.

Riley faces two counts of obstruction to which he has pleaded not guilty. Hiles pleaded guilty to unlawfully protesting in the Capitol in September 2021. He was sentenced to 24 months of probation.

The day after the attack, Hiles allegedly sent a message to Riley that he thought January 6 "was all a set up."

Riley told Hiles that the government and Capitol police didn't assist with staging violence after Hiles alleged that **Antifa** received government assistance during the attack, but Riley also suggested they could have been agitators that day.

"I'm starting to think that some of the agitators were **Antifa**," Riley said in a later message exchange with Hiles.

According to prosecutors, Riley accepted a Facebook friend request from Hiles on January 1, 2021, despite not knowing Hiles. The two, however, were part of the same fishing-related Facebook group before becoming friends on the platform, both prosecutors and the defense explained.

During opening statements Tuesday, assistant US attorney Mary Dohrmann told the jury that Riley "knew his fellow officers had been assaulted and attacked trying to protect the Capitol," yet still worked to delete evidence related to the attack.

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Prosecutors said that Riley responded to a report of an explosive device outside the Capitol complex, claiming he was aware of the violence occurring. The defense claimed, during opening arguments, that in addition to responding to the explosive, Riley was the first on the scene.

Riley's attorney, Christopher Macchiaroli, also said that his client did not hide or destroy any evidence and eventually cut ties with Hiles.

"This is not a document that was hidden away and shredded so the grand jury couldn't find it," Macchiaroli said, adding later that in his last message to Hiles on January 21, 2021, Riley wrote "This is a goodbye," and "I am not your buddy."

By Weslan Hansen and Casey Gannon, CNN

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Former RNC Chair Michael Steele Thinks Trump Supporters Are 'Lice, Fleas, and the Blood-Sucking Ticks.'

Newstex Blogs

Granite Grok

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Body

Oct 21, 2022(Granite Grok: <http://granitegrok.com/> Delivered by Newstex)

I learned something new today. Former RNC chairman (2009-2011) Michael Steele (no known relation to Christopher of the fake Dossier[1]) has a paid gig as a political analyst at MSNBC. So, while Christopher got paid to collect lies, Michael gets paid to create them. And he does.

Related: Those 87,000 Armed IRS Agents Are Coming for Your Free Speech[2]

On a recent MSNBC appearance, he had what, in the grand scheme of things, was not as unkind as an opinion you might find on The View but glowing, it was not[3].

'Kevin McCarthy has not learned from the history of three prior Republican speakers of the House who've all been thrown out by their Republican caucus. Stop and think about that — what Republicans have done to themselves going back to Newt Gingrich, John Boehner, and Paul Ryan, right?' Steele said.

'So McCarthy is now next in line with a base that is prepared to throw him out should they allow him to be speaker,' he added. 'Kevin has decided to make his bed and is prepared to lie down with the lice, the fleas, and the blood-sucking ticks.'

Two things (probably more). First, McCarthy and Steele are stitched from the same shoddy cloth. They are both republican elites content to feed at whatever trough the Left will allow. Kiddie table? Sure! At least we're at a table.

You know the sort. We have one for our governor here in New Hampshire. Their Republican party is not ours, and if demeaning a significant portion of them earns them favor on the Left, they might take a shot.

Second, as is noted at the source link, Steele has taken this disregard to a new low, not for Democrats, but nearly. By openly equating Trump supporters with parasites, he appeases the intolerance of the Left while dehumanizing them (at least he didn't call them lumps of cells).

Shockingly, a political analyst on a prominent cable news outlet was permitted by the network and its MAGA-loathing host, Wallace, to dehumanize millions of Donald Trump-aligned conservatives by comparing fellow Americans to parasites for simply having different political views from Democrats in power and RINOs who support them.

It's not shocking. In the Red speech[4], that Biden fellow opened the door to any act of dehumanization. Everything is permitted.

Former RNC Chair Michael Steele Thinks Trump Supporters Are 'Lice, Fleas, and the Blood-Sucking Ticks.'

This is straight-up Nazi imagery. This is the kind of language that historically has been the prelude to a massacre. So all that's left is brute force. Will the Biden regime resort to brute force to crush its political opponents, with applause from useful idiots such as Michael Steele? The groundwork is being laid.

This is not new in the US or uncommon in politics generally, but when high-profile figures ape this narrative, bad things follow. And not just for the so-called MAGA-Republicans. A government and leaders (and pundits) permitted to use these tactics without pushback will direct them to everyone or anyone as the need arises. And it will.

Related: The Biden Administration Summed Up In One Short Video[5]

That includes groups like BLM and **Antifa**, should they perk up and get pissy about their place on the progressive identity politics totem.

If you let them go down this road uncontested, and in the case of BLM and **Antifa** in particular, help them the way the King's guards 'helped' King Henry II with his Thomas Becket problem, you deserve what you get. The authoritarian Left will let you help them (want you to help them), but the moment you appear to be a problem or a distraction, they'll come for you 'with F-15s and Nukes' to borrow a metaphorical turn of phrase from 'Brandon.'

Imagery that means by any means at our disposal - to facilitate your disposal.

If you think I'm kidding, pick up a history book, if you can find one, and look at Venezuela, Cuba, China, Russia, Italy, and Germany. Assuming they've not all been rewritten.

The post Former RNC Chair Michael Steele Thinks Trump Supporters Are 'Lice, Fleas, and the Blood-Sucking Ticks.' [6] appeared first on Granite Grok [7].

[1]: <https://granitegrok.com/?s=%22Steele+Dossier%22> [2]: <https://granitegrok.com/blog/2022/08/those-87000-armed-irs-agents-are-coming-for-your-free-speech> [3]: <https://gellerreport.com/2022/10/rino-former-rnc-chief-michael-steele-calls-maga-republicans-lice-fleas-and-blood-sucking-ticks.html/> [4]: <https://granitegrok.com/?s=Biden+Red+Speech> [5]: <https://granitegrok.com/blog/2022/08/the-biden-administration-summed-up-in-one-short-video> [6]: <https://granitegrok.com/blog/2022/10/former-rnc-chair-michael-steele-thinks-trump-supporters-are-lice-the-fleas-and-the-blood-sucking-ticks> [7]: <https://granitegrok.com>

[Link to the original story.](#)

Notes

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Rioter gets 34 months for attacks on journalist, police

Chicago Daily Herald

October 22, 2022 Saturday

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Body

WASHINGTON — A Pennsylvania man was sentenced on Friday to nearly three years in prison for assaulting an Associated Press photographer and attacking police officers with a stun gun during the U.S. Capitol riot. Alan Byerly apologized to his victims before U.S. District Judge Randolph Moss sentenced him to two years and 10 months in prison followed by three years of supervised release. Byerly will get credit for the more than 15 months he already has served behind bars since his arrest, according to his lawyers.

"I didn't go to D.C. to harm anyone," Byerly told the judge. Byerly, 55, pleaded guilty in July to assaulting AP photographer John Minchillo and then activating a stun gun as he charged at police officers who were trying to hold off the mob that formed outside the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Byerly said he was an "antagonistic jerk" when he confronted the officers. He also said he assaulted Minchillo after hearing a voice say, "That's *antifa*. Get him out of here." Minchillo was wearing a lanyard with AP lettering when Byerly and other rioters attacked him on the Capitol's Lower West Terrace, according to a court filing. accompanying Byerly's guilty plea. Byerly grabbed Minchillo, pushed him backward and dragged him toward a crowd, the filing says. Another AP photographer captured the assault on video. "I should have never gotten involved, and I'm deeply sorry for my actions," Byerly said. Prosecutors sought a sentence of at least three years and 10 months of imprisonment, followed by three years of supervised release. Defense lawyers requested a sentence below an estimated guidelines range of 37 to 46 months in prison. Moss said he believed Byerly is genuinely remorseful for his role in the mob's "assault on democracy." The judge said it was clear that Byerly couldn't have injured anybody with the inexpensive stun gun that he brought to the Capitol, but the officers couldn't have known that given the sound that it made. "They were clearly frightened by it," Moss said. "It undoubtedly added to the fear the officers felt that day." Minchillo "must have been extremely frightened, as well," the judge added. None of Byerly's victims attended his sentencing hearing. Byerly bought the stun gun before traveling from his home in Fleetwood, Pennsylvania, to Washington, D.C., for the "Stop the Steal" rally on Jan. 6. Leaving the rally before then-President Donald Trump finished speaking, Byerly went to the west side of the Capitol and joined other rioters in using a metal Trump billboard as a battering ram against police, prosecutors said. Later, Byerly approached police officers behind bike racks and deployed his stun gun. After officers grabbed the stun gun from Byerly's hands, he charged at them, struck and pushed them and grabbed an officer's baton, prosecutors said. One of the officers fell and landed on his hands while trying to restrain Byerly.

Rioter gets 34 months for attacks on journalist, police

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