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“Safer Web = Safer America”

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**SEPTEMBER 18 – “JUSTICE FOR J6” CAPITOL PROTEST”
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG?**

***FORMER TRUMP CAMPAIGN OFFICIALS INCITING PROTESTS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
AND IN OTHER STATES TO DEMAND THE RELEASE OF JAILED INSURRECTIONISTS***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

The Coalition for a Safer Web (CSW) commenced two weeks ago to share with the U.S. Capitol Police, the DC Metropolitan Police, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security new social media accounts alerting each of potential violence in Washington, D.C. on September 18, 2021, and in other cities where similar protests are being organized to protest the jailing of so-called “political prisoners” arrested for inciting an insurrection on January 6, 2021.

A Trump shadow organization – LOOK AHEAD AMERICA (LAA) – organized by former Trump campaign officials, is soliciting Trump supporters, white supremacists, and QAnon conspiracists to attend the DC protest, as well as planned protests in Colorado (9/25), Florida (9/18), Georgia (9/25), Kansas (10/2), Massachusetts (9/25), New Jersey (9/25), New York (9/25), North Carolina (9/18), South Carolina (9/25), Tennessee (9/25), Texas (9/25), Washington state (9/18), and Wyoming (9/25).

Organizers are using social media to attempt to rewrite history -- asserting that Jan 6 arrested protestors are being held due to their political beliefs, and not the federal crimes they are charged with. Social media accounts ricocheting off of LAA’s GETTR account are rallying on various social media platforms around other collateral causes, including “#StoptheSteal, #Justice4AshleyBabbit, and efforts to reverse COVID-19 mandates.

Moreover, members of white extremist groups and QAnon conspiracists are also populating fringe social media sites hospitable to neo-Nazi/anti-Semitic groups urging attendance – notably on GAB, 4Chan, and 8Kun. But the volume of postings nowhere matches the volume we intercepted prior to the January 6 Capitol insurrection.

The QAnon anti-Semitic conspiracists are also breaching Facebook’s alleged content moderation pledges is proof positive that Facebook cannot be trusted to prohibit QAnon accounts on its platform.

On one unencrypted TELEGRAM mobile application, protest organizer Matt Braynard was reported to have asserted that those arrested are martyrs: “We have nearly a hundred nonviolent protesters who are being held in solitary confinement without medical attention, without access to lawyers, without evidence that the government plans to use against them, and without the possibility of bail, despite no criminal record.”

Surely, such comments are designed to boost attendance and stoke anger.

Paradoxically, several members of white extremist domestic terrorist groups which incited violence in Washington on Jan 6 – notably The Proud Boys and the Three Percenters – have urged their members on TELEGRAM and Instagram NOT to attend the DC protest asserting it is a “false flag” event intended by the FBI to incite attendees to violence. But CSW discounts these isolated warnings. Following the Jan 6 insurrection many of these groups devolved into disconnected state and local cells who act on their own without national direction. CSW assesses that individual members of extremist groups will find the DC rally irresistible.

COUNTER PROTEST CALLS COULD LEAD TO STREET VIOLENCE

On Twitter, CSW located new channels created by counter-protestors organizing a competing rally on September 18 at Freedom Plaza in Washington, D.C. Other twitter followers have urged counter-protestors to attend – creating conditions for a similar violence which occurred in Washington, D.C. on December 12, 2020.

Here is a copy of one of the pamphlet’s we viewed:



That day, 4 persons were stabbed and 33 arrested after extremists supporter Trump and counter protestors clashed in the streets of Washington as skirmished broke out throughout the downtown area. Nine people were hospitalized, including two DC police officers. And such violent confrontations between extremist supporters of Donald Trump and anarchists/ ANTIFA supporters have plagued the cities of Seattle, St. Louis, Portland, and other U.S. cities in recent months, instigated by the Proud Boys, the Boogaloo Bois, and other white, neo-Nazi groups allied with Trump.

CSW plans to share with the media an update of its research on September 17.

Amb. Marc Ginsberg, President of CSW stated:

“Although CSW hopes that the Capitol and DC Metropolitan Police are better prepared than they were on Jan 6, the ingredients for incitement and violence on September 18 in DC and in other cities are real. The combustible elements have been put in place by former Trump campaign officials whose social media-based rhetoric and the response of their supporters in recent days betrays their calls for peaceful protests. As on Jan 6 and the days leading up to the insurrection social media platforms, such as TELEGRAM, are enabling more radical likely attendees to stoke false narratives which help provokes extremist incitement.”

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The Coalition for a Safer Web (www.coalitionsw.org) is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization whose mission is to promote new technologies and policies to remove extremist content from social media platforms.