



United States Park Police

Event Pre-Brief

Intelligence & Counterterrorism Branch

Date: 9 December 2020

Control: 20-77568

(U) 12 December 2020 WMA Demonstration Activity

(U//LES) Multiple demonstrations and counter-demonstrations are being planned for Saturday, 12 December in Washington, DC. It is believed that the events scheduled for 12 December will closely mirror those demonstrations which were held in the District on 14 November 2020. The 14 November demonstrations contained confrontations between various ideologically opposed groups. These confrontations ranged from verbal disputes, to assaults, to larger groups physically engaging each other. While only a small segment of the groups represented were believed to be involved in these violent actions, all available evidence indicates that these same participants will be returning on 12 December. The Intelligence and Counterterrorism Branch finds there is a near certainty of violence and property damage if these two groups are allowed to come into direct contact.

(U//FOUO) Beginning on the evening of 11 December 2020, various groups with polar opposite ideological interests will travel to Washington, D.C. for events scheduled to take place on 12 December 2020. One set of groups is demonstrating to show their support for President Trump and their belief that there were serious irregularities with the recent Presidential election process. A different, loosely affiliated coalition, comprised mainly of local groups, believes that those organizations arriving to protest the election results are comprised mainly of "fascists" and "white supremacists". The local affiliations, supported by some from out of town, are actively planning to counter protest the Trump-supporting groups upon their arrival in the District. On 14 November during similar demonstrations, interactions between individuals holding these two opposing ideologies resulted in violence and property damage. While the majority of the interaction between these two groups is anticipated to occur on 12 December, some interaction may occur as groups arrive on 11 December.

(U) Events Permitted by National Park Service

Name	Location	Time	Description
Women For America First (20-1340)	Freedom Plaza with march to the Supreme Court.	Event 1200 with march at 1330.	1st Amendment demonstration to support President Trump. Event permitted for 5,000 individuals.
Alex Stovall & James Sullivan (20-1359)	Sylvan Theater (Washington Monument)	1200-1500	Pro 2nd Amendment demonstration. Event permitted for 500 individuals.
Jericho March (Robert Weaver) (20-1357)	National Mall (12th to 4th Streets)	Event 1100, march from 1400-1600.	Religious event. Participants plan to march around the National Mall. Event permitted for 5,000 individuals.

(U) Permitted Events

Women For America First (20-1340): This event is scheduled to begin at Freedom Plaza at 1200 on 12 December 2020. The first part of the program will consist of speakers, with a march to the Supreme Court scheduled to depart Freedom Plaza at 1330 hours. The march route to the Supreme Court will be SE on Pennsylvania Ave, NW, east on Constitution Ave. NW, and south on 1st Street NE to the front of the Supreme Court. After a short program, the group plans to conclude their event and have participants disperse from this location. While the purpose for this event was listed on the permit application only as a "1st Amendment demonstration", historical precedent and further disclosure from the organizer has identified this group as being a supporter of the Trump Administration and promoting the idea that the recent Presidential elections contained significant irregularities which adversely affected the outcome, compromising President Trump's re-election possibilities. This event has been permitted for 5,000 individuals.

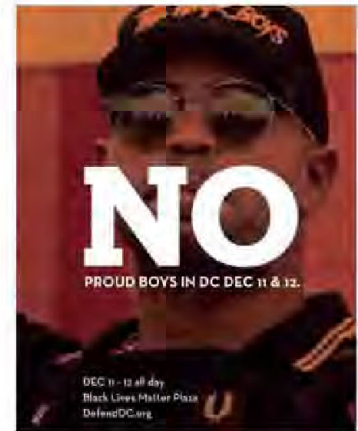
Alex Stovall & James Sullivan (20-1359): This event is permitted for the Sylvan Theater area on the grounds of the Washington Monument. The purpose of this demonstration was listed on the original permit application as promoting "election integrity". On 9 December 2020, an email was received from the organizer changing the purpose of the demonstration to a pro-2nd Amendment rally. The group still plans to hold a rally from 1200-1500 which will compose of speakers and an open panel discussion, to include a question and answer session with attendees. The event is permitted for 500 participants. The organizers claim that they are not affiliated with any other groups that may be holding events in the area. However, they did acknowledge that some of their participants may also attend the Women For America First event scheduled for Freedom Plaza. It was also learned that the organizers for this event plan to have members of the group 'United Citizens Alarm' act as marshals for their event. An open source examination of the United Citizens' Alarm web page (unitedcitizensalarm.com) reveals that many of the members appear to attend events openly carrying firearms. The laws concerning firearms in the District of Columbia were specifically explained to the organizers who acknowledged multiple times that no firearms would be allowed at their event.

Jericho March (Robert Weaver) (20-1357): The event is being held as a religious, apolitical event. The event will begin at 1100 hours on the National Mall at 12th Street with various religious speakers. At 1400 hours the group plans to begin marching in a circular pattern between 12th Street and 4th Street on the National Mall. The group plans to complete this circuit seven times and to conclude their event at 1600 hours. While the organizer is adamant that this event is apolitical, he believes that many those attending his event are likely supporters of President Trump and that some may join other activities after his permitted event has concluded. This event is permitted for 5,000 individuals.

(U//LES) While not officially affiliated with or sanctioned by any of the above permitted events, the group known as the Proud Boys have publicly stated their intentions to attend the event scheduled to take place at Freedom Plaza. Multiple media sources have identified the Proud Boys as one of the groups that engaged in violent altercations during similar demonstrations which occurred in Washington, DC on 14 November 2020. Social media sources reported that some Proud Boys were armed with knives and baseball bats. The inclusion of the Proud Boys in the events scheduled for 12 December can be viewed as one of the main catalysts that are driving opposition groups to counter-protest in force. Due to a lack of publicly available information it is difficult to predict an exact number of Proud Boys expected to travel to the District on 12 December. However, based on events which occurred on 14 November 2020 in the District as well as the build up being observed for the 12 December events, a conservative estimate for the Proud Boys would be 125-150 individuals.

(U) Opposition Groups

(U//LES) A loosely affiliated group of local protest organizations have joined to counter-protest these permitted demonstrations. These groups appear to be organizing under the banner of DefendDC.org. This website lists 16 different organizations that are planning to meet on 12 December 2020 at BLM Plaza. Their objective appears to be two-fold. Their first stated goal is to defend the BLM Plaza space from any opposing groups. During the demonstrations on 14 November, these groups reported that members of the Proud Boys group destroyed posters and other pieces of artwork displayed along the Lafayette Park perimeter fence at the south end of BLM Plaza. These groups are determined to not have this happen again. The second goal of these groups is to disrupt the planned demonstration activity of the groups permitted by the National Park Service. The groups meeting at BLM Plaza view members of these permitted groups as “fascists” and “white supremacists” and object to their very presence in their community (in this case, Washington DC). In the days leading up to 12 December, a number of the above referenced groups have been preparing for the upcoming events by engaging in various tactical training sessions, attempting to acquire communications equipment, and offering to provide “defensive equipment” for those in need. The tactics these groups will engage in to disrupt these permitted events varies greatly. These efforts will vary from non-confrontational counter protesting with signs and chants, to non-violent acts of disruption, to violent acts against individuals and/or property. The majority of the individuals in these groups will be local residents and the vast majority will refrain from physically violent activity.



(U//LES) In addition to the above-mentioned opposition groups, a more radical group of individuals is also expected to counter-protest the permitted activities on 12 December. This more radical element will be made up of individuals who self-identify with the Antifa identity as well as some more extreme local activist groups. It is this subset of the main opposition group where historically the most violent action originates. These individuals are believed to have been the main combatants with the Proud Boys during the 14 November demonstrations. As stated earlier, while a majority of these groups are made up of local individuals, there are also reports that individuals may be traveling to the District from cities along the east coast of the United States. As is the case with the Proud Boys, we expect a small percentage of these individuals to come armed with some type of weapons such as knives, baseball bats, and incendiary devices. It can also not be ruled out that some individuals may be carrying firearms.

**(U) Operational Considerations**

(U//LES) Despite the best efforts of law enforcement, it is almost a certainty that violent confrontations will occur between members of opposing groups as they converge on Washington, DC on 12 December. There exist distinct sub-groups within each ideological “side” that are attending these events with a primary objective being to violently engage their counterparts. There is evidence that each side has been preparing for this “rematch” since the events of 14 November. The primary objective of law enforcement should continue to be to keep these groups separated to the greatest extent possible. Should any confrontation erupt, law enforcement should be positioned to respond in force and expect that violent actions could erupt quickly with little to no warning.

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(U//LES) Law enforcement personnel should also be reminded that the established tactics of certain groups is to use stand-off weapons such as bricks and bottles as missiles as well as lasers and commercial grade fireworks directed at law enforcement personnel. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It is also anticipated that violent activity will likely continue after the scheduled permitted events have concluded. One of the identified opposition groups has scheduled a march starting from BLM Plaza at 1700 hours. This same group holds marches throughout the District weekly and it is not uncommon for these marches to last for several hours. It is anticipated that this march will have a "targeted" route that will draw both supportive and opposition individuals and will likely remain a stimulus for confrontation into the evening hours. Force personnel should be prepared for an extended operational period and remain as self-sufficient as possible. Officers are also reminded to immediately report and investigate any suspicious incidents or actions they observe or have reported to them by the public.

(U//FOUO) With the exception of Freedom Plaza, at this time there is no evidence that any National Park Service properties are being targeted by either group for vandalism or violent actions. On 14 November, there was a reported arson incident at Freedom Plaza where an unidentified individual set fire to some property belonging to the permitted group. The fire was extinguished with no permanent damage to Freedom Plaza.

(U) The Intelligence and Counterterrorism Branch will continue to monitor events leading up to 12 December and report any developments or changes to the information provided in this document.

(U) For questions concerning this product or for further distribution or dissemination guidance, please contact the U.S. Park Police Intelligence / Counterterrorism Branch at [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

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