

# January 6<sup>th</sup> Attack

## Basics

### Overview

#### January 6<sup>th</sup> Attack

(also see Timeline - page 3)

##### NOTE: Trump continues to claim:

- Jan 6<sup>th</sup> was peaceful
- He won the 2020 Election
- He did nothing wrong

##### VIDEO OVERVIEWS:

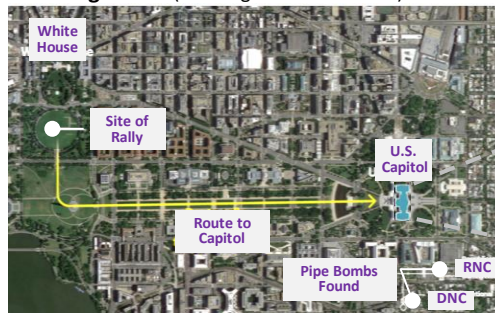
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2r1bQNV2GcI> (5:27)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXnHJkZZAs> (5:25)

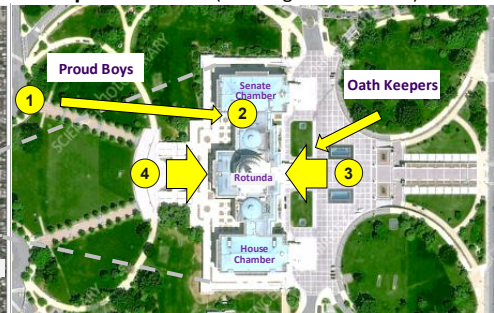
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-DgsUKw-YE> (50:58)

- **January 6<sup>th</sup> Attack:** After a speech by **Donald Trump** on **6 JAN 2021**, pro-Trump supporters attacked the **U.S. Capitol** to stop **Congress** from certifying the **2020 presidential election**
  - **53,000+** pro-Trump supporters gathered at the **Save America Rally** in **Washington DC**
    - Trump gave a speech telling supporters that the **election was stolen** and to “**fight like hell**”
  - **10,000+** supporters rioted outside the Capitol (note: Capitol grounds had been closed for 1/6)
    - Pipe bombs were discovered at the **RNC** and **DNC**, distracting police from the Capitol
  - **2,000+** rioters illegally broke into the Capitol building and disrupted the joint session of Congress
    - The **electoral vote count was suspended** and placed in jeopardy as Congress took shelter
  - After **5+** deaths, **174+** injuries and **\$1.5 M+** damages, the **National Guard** helped restore order
  - Early on **January 7<sup>th</sup>**, Congress voted to certify **Joe Biden** as the winner of the **2020 election**

Washington DC (showing areas of interest)



US Capitol Grounds (showing rioter attacks)



#### Pipe Bombs

- **Pipe Bombs:** On Jan 5<sup>th</sup>, pipe bombs were placed near the **Capitol** at the **RNC** & **DNC** buildings
  - The person who planted the bombs was **caught on video** but has never been apprehended
  - The **bombs were discovered** on Jan 6<sup>th</sup> just as the Capitol riot started (**12:45 pm** and **1:07 pm**)
  - **Police suspected** the pipe bombs were placed to draw officers away from the Capitol

#### Damage

- **Jan 6<sup>th</sup> Quantitative Damage**
  - **Lives:** 5 immediate deaths, 4 subsequent police suicides, **174** police injuries, ?? other injuries
  - **Cost:** \$1.5 M+ Property Damage, \$2.1 B Emergency Security Funding
  - **Attacks:** 2<sup>nd</sup> attack on the U.S. Capitol (the 1<sup>st</sup> was by the British during the **War of 1812**)
- **Jan 6<sup>th</sup> Qualitative Damage:** Jan 6<sup>th</sup> is a key date in U.S. history (like **Dec 7<sup>th</sup>**, **Sep 11<sup>th</sup>**, etc.)
  - Jan 6<sup>th</sup> undermined U.S. democracy and eroded democratic norms
  - Jan 6<sup>th</sup> deepened public polarization within the U.S.
  - Jan 6<sup>th</sup> spread misinformation about U.S. election security that still influences politics
  - Jan 6<sup>th</sup> aligned the **Republican Party** with a lie that is a **litmus test** for personal loyalty to Trump

#### Convictions & Pardons

- **Convictions:** Over **1,270** people were subsequently found guilty of more than **1,475** crimes
  - Charges included assaulting police, obstructing Congress, trespassing, theft and property damage
  - **14** rioters (**9 Oath Keepers** and **5 Proud Boys**) were found guilty of **Seditious Conspiracy**
    - **Seditious Conspiracy** involves attempting to obstruct or overthrow the U.S. government
- **Pardons:** President Trump pardoned all of the Jan 6<sup>th</sup> offenders on **20 JAN 2025**

#### Aftermath of Jan 6<sup>th</sup>

- **Trump was impeached** by the House on **17 JAN 2021**, but acquitted by the Senate on **14 FEB**
  - A bipartisan majority voted to both impeach (**232 - 197**) and convict (**57 - 43**) Trump
    - **10** of the Representative and **7** of the Senators who voted against Trump were **Republican**
  - Trump was acquitted because a **2/3<sup>rd</sup>s** super-majority (**67** votes) was needed to convict him
    - **43** acquitting Senators were all **Republicans** (a **100% partisan** acquittal)
    - **22** cited constitutional concerns about impeaching a former president (<https://www.newyorker.com>)
- **Trump was indicted** but avoided federal prosecution by winning the **2024** election
  - Trump was indicted on **4** charges related to conspiring and obstructing Congress (see next page)
  - Federal charges were dropped because **DOJ** has a policy of not prosecuting a sitting president
  - Becoming president also allowed Trump to **pardon related convictions** (see 'Pardons' above)

Federal Charges Against Trump															
<div>Federal Charges Against Trump</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>U.S. v. Donald J. Trump</li><li>Indictments</li><li>Special Counsel Report</li></ul></div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Federal Charges against Trump:</b> In <b>August 2023</b>, Trump was indicted on <b>4</b> federal criminal charges related to attempts to interfere with the <b>2020 presidential election</b><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Conspiracy to Defraud the United States (18 U.S.C. § 371)</li><li>Conspiracy to Obstruct an Official Proceeding (18 U.S.C. § 1512(c)(2))</li><li>Attempted Obstruction of an Official Proceeding (18 U.S.C. § 1512(k))</li><li>Conspiracy Against U.S. Rights (18 U.S.C. § 241)</li></ol><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Charges were eventually dropped since the <b>DOJ</b> has a policy of not prosecuting a sitting president</li></ul></li></ul></div>														
<div>Summary of Case Against Trump</div> <div><p><b>NOTE:</b> Conspiracies do not require formal meetings or detailed plans</p><p>"This evidence shows that the rioters' disruption of the certification proceeding is exactly what [Trump] intended on January 6,"</p><p>Jack Smith (Special Counsel)</p><p>"As set forth in the original and superseding indictments, when it became clear that Mr. Trump had lost the election and that lawful means of challenging the election results had failed, he resorted to a series of criminal efforts to retain power,"</p><p>DOJ Report on Jan 6<sup>th</sup></p></div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Summary of Case Against Trump:</b> Although he lost the election and all lawful objections to its results, Trump led an alleged conspiracy to stop the vote count and remain in power</li><li><b>Charge 1 &amp; 2:</b> Trump <b>conspired</b> to obstruct certification of the <b>2020 presidential election</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump lost the election, was told by key advisors he lost, and at times acknowledged he lost<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>'Can you believe I lost to this guy', etc.</li></ul></li><li>Regardless, Trump conspired with <b>unindicted</b> co-conspirators to illegally disrupt the election<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>CC1: <b>Rudy Giuliani</b> Trump's personal attorney who coordinated fraud claims</li><li>CC2: <b>John Eastman</b> Legal <b>architect</b> of fake elector plot and plans to pressure Pence</li><li>CC3: <b>Sidney Powell</b> Attorney who filed <b>lawsuits</b> with unfounded election fraud claims</li><li>CC4: <b>Jeffrey Clark</b> Official who pressured <b>DOJ</b> to open false election claims</li><li>CC5: <b>Kenneth Chesebro</b> Lawyer who invented and supported the fake elector plot</li><li>CC6: <b>Boris Epshteyn</b> Political advisor involved in legal efforts and the fake elector plot</li></ul></li></ul></li><li><b>Charge 3 &amp; 4:</b> Trump executed a criminal <b>conspiracy</b> to stop the certification of the election<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump made false claims, promoted frivolous lawsuits and organized fake electors (see below)</li><li>Trump pressured <b>Mike Pence</b> and the <b>Department of Justice</b> to obstruct election results</li><li>Trump <b>provoked supporters</b> to attack the Capitol in order to obstruct the election certification</li></ul></li></ul></div>														
<div>False Claims of Election Fraud</div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>False Claims of Election Fraud:</b> Trump knowingly spread false claims of election fraud<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump claimed election fraud within hours of polls closing with no evidence or investigation</li><li>Trump's false claims were debunked directly to him by officials well-positioned to know the truth</li><li>Trump repeatedly accepted and amplified fraud claims without investigation or evidence</li></ul></li></ul></div>														
<div>Frivolous Post-Election Lawsuits</div> <div><p>"[T]his lawsuit seems to be less about achieving the relief Plaintiffs seek [...] and more about the impact of their allegations on People's faith in the democratic process..."</p><p>Linda Parker (Judge)</p></div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Frivolous Post-Election Lawsuits:</b> Trump directed <b>frivolous litigation</b> after the election<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Co-Conspirators submitted multiple lawsuits (<b>Note:</b> the one "ongoing" case was filed against Trump in GA)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Most of Trump's lawsuits (<b>44</b>) were dropped or dismissed – <b>4 of 5</b> were defeated in court</li><li><b>None of the lawsuits would have had any effect on the outcome of the election</b></li></ul></li><li>Co-Conspirators, including <b>Rudy Giuliani</b> &amp; <b>Sidney Powell</b>, later received <b>ethics sanctions</b></li></ul></li></ul><div>Lawsuits in Battleground States after the 2020 Election<table><tr><th>Battleground States</th><th>Ongoing</th><th>Dropped</th><th>Dismissed</th><th>Against Trump</th><th>For Trump</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>AZ, GA, MI, PA, NV, NM, WI</td><td>1 (2%)</td><td>13 (26%)</td><td>31 (62%)</td><td>4 (8%)</td><td>1 (2%)</td><td>50</td></tr></table></div></div>	Battleground States	Ongoing	Dropped	Dismissed	Against Trump	For Trump	Total	AZ, GA, MI, PA, NV, NM, WI	1 (2%)	13 (26%)	31 (62%)	4 (8%)	1 (2%)	50
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<div>Fake Electors Plot</div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Fake Electors Plot:</b> Trump led a multi-state scheme to submit false electoral college votes<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump asked Republican legislators submit 'alternate' electors to Congress, despite Biden's win<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump sought to give <b>Mike Pence</b> a pretext to delay certification of the election on <b>Jan 6</b></li></ul></li><li>The plot was detailed in <b>Eastman Memos</b> and executed in <b>7</b> states (AZ GA MI NV NM PA WI)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>42</b> individuals have since been charged in <b>5</b> states; some plead guilty or accepted immunity</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>														
<div>Pressure on the DOJ &amp; Mike Pence</div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Pressure on the DOJ &amp; Mike Pence:</b> Trump pressured <b>DOJ</b> &amp; <b>Mike Pence</b> to break the law<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump pressured <b>DOJ officials</b> to declare the 2020 election was corrupt (without evidence)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Trump attempted to install <b>Jeffrey Clark</b> as the acting Attorney General to further his agenda</li></ul></li><li>Trump publicly and privately pressured <b>Pence</b> to interfere with the electoral college votes</li></ul></li></ul></div>														
Other Issues Related to Jan 6 <sup>th</sup>															
<div>14<sup>th</sup> Amendment</div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>14th Amendment:</b> Prohibits public office for anyone who swore an oath to support the Constitution, but then "engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the U.S." (<b>Section 3</b>)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There was initial <b>lawmaker discussion</b> and <b>state action</b> to invoke the 14th Amendment<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The <b>Supreme Court issued a ruling</b> that only Congress can invoke the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>														
<div>25<sup>th</sup> Amendment</div>	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>25th Amendment:</b> Outlines the procedures for presidential and VP succession and allows the VP and Cabinet to declare the President "unable to discharge" duties (<b>Section 4</b>)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There was initial <b>lawmaker discussion</b> about invoking the 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment after Jan 6<sup>th</sup></li></ul></li></ul></div>														

Timeline	
<b>Timeline of the Jan 6<sup>th</sup> Attack</b> <b>JUL-OCT 2020</b> (Prior to 2020 Election)	<b>Timeline of the January 6<sup>th</sup> Attack</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>19 JUL</b> <b>Trump</b> refused to commit to accepting the upcoming election results ("I have to see")</li> <li>• <b>30 JUL</b> <b>Trump</b> cast skepticism on mail-in ballots (note: mail-in ballots increased because of COVID)</li> <li>• <b>23 SEP</b> <b>Trump</b> refused to commit to a peaceful transition of power</li> <li>• <b>29 SEP</b> <b>Trump</b> made concerning comments during a <b>presidential debate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ He failed to denounce the <b>Proud Boys</b> ("stand back and standby")</li> <li>○ He cast doubt on the election ("This is going to be a fraud like you've never seen")</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>31 OCT</b> <b>Steve Bannon</b> outlined Trump's alleged "strategy" <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxNoUnxN_cs&amp;t=2s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OxNoUnxN_cs&amp;t=2s</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ "More of our people vote early [...] theirs vote in mail."</li> <li>○ "What Trump's gonna do is just declare victory. [...] He's just gonna say he's a winner."</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>NOV-DEC 2020</b> (During the <b>2020 Election Process</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>03 NOV</b> <b>Election Day</b>: The day ended with no projected winner (as expected because of COVID)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Trump</b> prematurely declared victory without evidence</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>07 NOV</b> <b>Winner Declared</b>: Enough votes were counted to project Biden as the winner           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>12 NOV</b> <b>Homeland Security</b> reported the election was "the most secure in history"</li> <li>○ <b>13 NOV</b> <b>Trump attorneys</b> conceded in AZ (meaning Trump would lose the election)</li> <li>○ <b>01 DEC</b> <b>Attorney General (Bill Barr)</b> told Trump a DOJ investigation found no fraud</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>08 DEC</b> <b>State Results</b>: The vote counts were finalized in each state <b>as required by law</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>11 DEC</b> <b>Supreme Court</b> ruled against Trump objections in <b>Texas v. Pennsylvania</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>14 DEC</b> <b>Electoral College</b>: Electors met separately in each state capital <b>as required by law</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The <b>electoral college</b> voted in each state to finalize the state election results</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>JAN 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>06 JAN</b> <b>Certification of the 2020 Presidential Election</b>: Congress met to count the state electoral results, vote on any objections, and certify the election <b>as required by law</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>1:00 am</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted: "If Vice President @Mike_Pence comes through for us, we will win the Presidency."</li> <li>○ <b>8:17+ am</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted multiple times (4+) about false election issues</li> <li>○ <b>9:00 am</b> <b>Supporters</b> gathered at the <b>Save America Rally</b> at <b>The Ellipse</b></li> <li>○ <b>Noon</b> <b>Trump</b> gave a speech for over an hour to <b>53,000</b> attendees               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ He repeated false allegations and called the election "<b>fraudulent</b>"</li> <li>▪ He urged "<b>peacefully...make your voices heard</b>" but "<b>fight like hell</b>"</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>12:45 pm</b> <b>Police</b> responded to unexploded pipe bombs at the <b>RNC</b> and <b>DNC</b></li> <li>○ <b>12:53 pm</b> <b>Rioters</b> breached the <b>Capitol</b> barricades at <b>Peace Circle (Proud Boys)</b></li> <li>○ <b>1:00 pm</b> <b>Congress</b> started its session to certify the electoral college vote</li> <li>○ <b>1:10 pm</b> <b>Trump</b> ended his speech at <b>The Ellipse</b> as supporters rioted at the <b>Capitol</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eventually, over <b>10,000</b> rioters illegally breached the Capitol perimeter</li> <li>▪ <b>Secret Service</b> took Trump to the <b>White House</b> over his objections</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>2:11 pm</b> <b>Rioters</b> broke into the <b>Capitol</b> west of the <b>Senate Chamber (Proud Boys)</b></li> <li>○ <b>2:20 pm</b> <b>Congress</b> recessed and lawmakers evacuated</li> <li>○ <b>2:24 pm</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted Pence "didn't have the courage" to overturn election</li> <li>○ <b>2:38 pm</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted for rioters to "stay peaceful", but repeated election lies</li> <li>○ <b>2:39 pm</b> <b>Rioters</b> entered the <b>Capitol</b> thru east <b>Rotunda</b> doors (<b>Oath Keepers</b>)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ultimately about <b>2,000+</b> breached the <b>Capitol</b> building</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>2:44 pm</b> <b>Police</b> shot <b>Ashli Babbitt</b> for attempting to breach the Speaker's Lobby</li> <li>○ <b>3:00 pm</b> <b>Rioters</b> entered the <b>Senate Chamber</b> and offices               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Vice President Pence called out the national guard (Trump would not)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>3:13 pm</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted for rioters to, "...remain peaceful. No violence!"</li> <li>○ <b>4:17 pm</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted a <b>video</b> telling rioters to "go home"; repeated election lies</li> <li>○ <b>5:40 pm</b> <b>National Guard</b> arrived at Capitol grounds</li> <li>○ <b>6:00 pm</b> <b>Police</b> began clearing attackers from Capitol building</li> <li>○ <b>6:01 pm</b> <b>Trump</b> tweeted false election claims and asked rioters to go home</li> <li>○ <b>8:00 pm</b> <b>Congress</b> reconvened to resume certification               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Republicans raised additional <b>3+</b> objections (defeated in votes)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>3:40 am</b> <b>Congress</b> formally certified Biden's electoral victory</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>JAN-FEB 2021</b> (Immediately After January 6 <sup>th</sup> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>07 JAN+</b> <b>Congress</b> considered invoking the 14<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> Amendment</li> <li>• <b>13 JAN</b> <b>The House</b> impeached Trump for "incitement of insurrection" (2<sup>nd</sup> impeachment)</li> <li>• <b>20 JAN</b> <b>Joe Biden</b> was Inaugurated as president</li> <li>• <b>13 FEB</b> <b>The Senate</b> acquitted Trump (in part because Trump was no longer the president)</li> </ul>