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Six men indicted for felony riot following May 1, 2019 demonstrations in Multnomah County

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced a Multnomah County grand jury indicted six men with one count of felony riot following the May 1, 2019 mass demonstrations in Multnomah County.

The indictment charges 37-year-old Christopher Ponte, 45-year-old Ian Kramer, 35-year-old Joseph Gibson, 29-year-old Mackenzie Lewis, 24-year-old Matthew Cooper and 50-year-old Russell Schultz.

Under Oregon law, a person commits the crime of riot if, while participating with five or more other people, the individual engages in tumultuous and violent conduct and thereby intentionally or recklessly creates a grave risk of causing public alarm.

On August 12, 2019, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office presented the Presiding Judge of Multnomah County with an affidavit seeking an arrest warrant for all six men. The court reviewed this affidavit for legal sufficiency and merit and authorized the arrest warrants.

A Multnomah County grand jury, which is comprised of seven community members selected by the court, has reviewed evidence in this case and has made a legal finding to file the single count indictment against all six men.

Like in all criminal and civil matters, electronic copies of court documents, which are not subject to a protective order, are available to the public through the Oregon eCourt Information (OECI) system.

No additional information can be released by the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office at this time pursuant to the Oregon State Professional Rules of Conduct.

An indictment is only an accusation of a crime and Ponte, Kramer, Gibson, Lewis, Cooper and Schultz are all innocent unless and until proven guilty.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office continues to work with law enforcement to identify and investigate any criminal conduct that occurred during past mass demonstrations. This conduct includes assaults that have been recorded and posted online.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office does not prosecute individuals based on their ideologies or affiliations with political or non-political organizations. The District Attorney's Office will initiate a criminal case following a review of all available evidence and whenever legally and ethically appropriate, pursuant to state and constitutional law.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office encourages anyone with information on the identity of any person observed in criminal behavior during a mass demonstration to contact Portland Police so these cases can be investigated and then sent to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office for prosecution consideration.

Tips should be directed to the Portland Police Bureau's Detective Division at (503) 823-0400 or submitted anonymously to [Crime Stoppers of Oregon](#) by calling 503.823.HELP (4357)

In general, the statute of limitation for most felony crimes committed during a mass demonstration is typically three years. Similarly, for most misdemeanor crimes committed during a mass demonstration, the statute of limitation is typically two years.

#MCDA#

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