



Graffiti in downtown Portland following a riot in June 2020. Photo: Anonymous

Thank you Chairman Cruz, ranking member Hirono, and members of the Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to testify today.

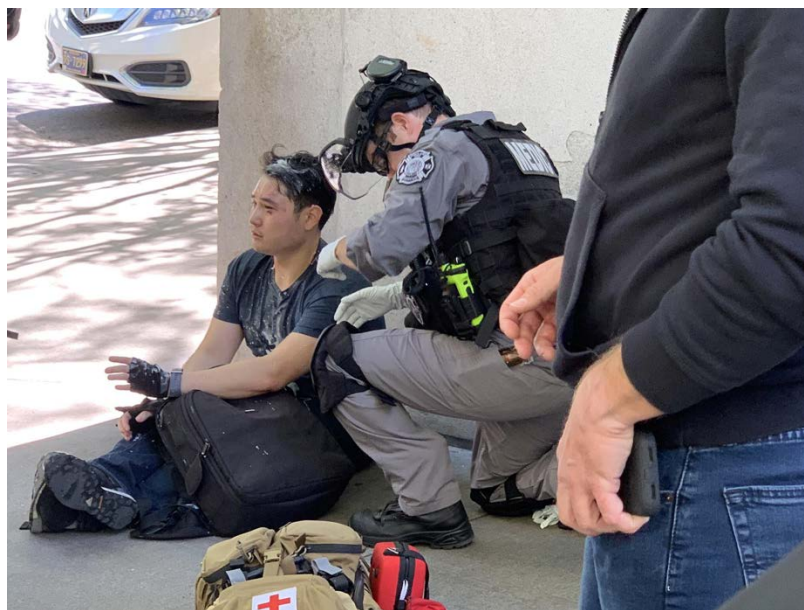
Antifa is not a fantasy. It's not a myth. I have been reporting on them for years; in fact, by attempting to shine a light on their ideology, I have put my own life at risk. As any good journalist knows, the most important stories are sometimes those stories that are not otherwise being told, or are being intentionally ignored. With Antifa, I see mostly half-truths, misinformation and deception reported about their extreme, violent, far-left ideology. Most of the time, I have seen them ignored entirely. So, I made Antifa my beat — and that makes me a target.

Antifa do not want me recording their actions, since the footage shows them to be both criminal and violent. They do not want me writing critically about them because they have come to rely on sympathetic coverage to mask their intent. Since I have covered Antifa without censorship, they want me silenced, and at any price. To be clear, those are their words, not mine.



Graffiti found in Portland after a night of riots in June 2020. Photo: Anonymous

They regard the knowledge, the insight, and the first-hand evidence I have gathered as a threat to their mission. So, they use violence and intimidation to try to terrify me into silence. First, they moved to discredit me, falsely branding me as a “fascist” and “white supremacist.” Then they threatened to kill me and hurt my family. They almost succeeded last year, when they surrounded me in the middle of downtown Portland. During a so-called “anti-racist” protest during Pride month, I was attacked and beaten — so badly that I was hospitalized for a subarachnoid hemorrhage.¹ I still suffer from the effects of that traumatic brain injury. To this day, no one has been arrested. No one has been charged. I’m apprehensive about speaking to Congress today, given that I’m already a target. But I’m more afraid of the consequences of remaining silent.



Police medics respond to Andy Ngo after he was beaten by Antifa in June 2019. Photo: Anonymous

What we’ve witnessed for more than two months in Portland — over 66 days — are almost *daily* violent protests and riots led by Antifa. Even when they aren’t starting fires, firing guns and trying to maim officers, they leave threatening messages, such as decapitated pig heads outside the Justice Center.² Even after federal agencies agreed to pull back their visible presence in downtown starting July 30, 2020, Antifa militants attacked a Portland Police building in a residential part of the city. All of this is a direct result of a media and political culture that inexplicably tolerates, and even encourages, far-left extremism masquerading as “racial justice.”

¹ (Ngo 2019)

² (Garcia 2020)



A severed pig's head was left on the street near the Justice Center in Portland in June 2020. Photo: Anonymous

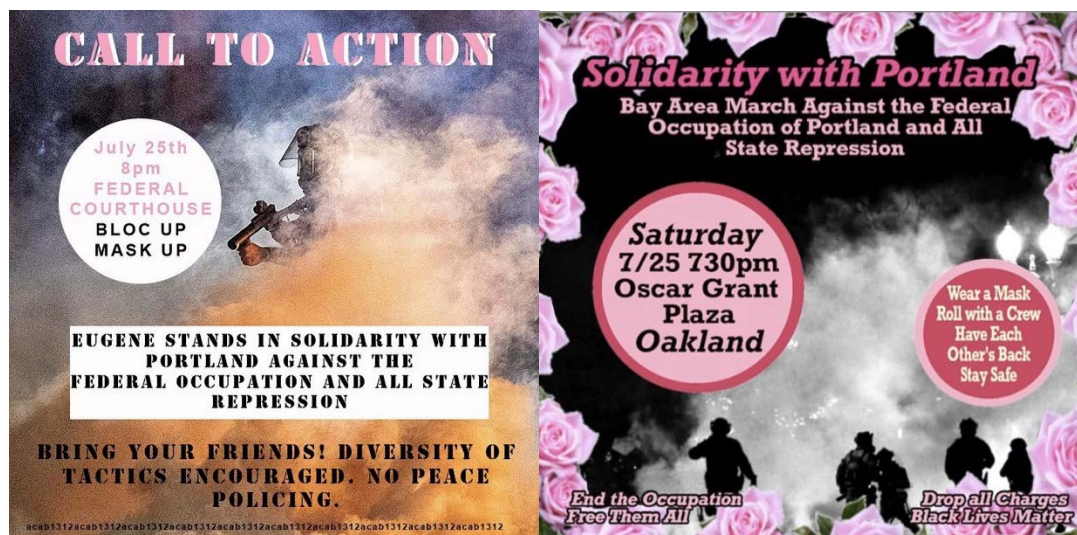


A decapitated pig head wearing a cop hat was set on fire on top of an American flag outside the Justice Center on 30 July, 2020. Photo: Nathan Howard/Getty Images

Think about it: In a major American city, masked militants have laid siege almost every night to a portion of downtown where they openly carry out acts of assault, vandalism, and arson, without hesitation and without consequence. That should be the headline. Instead, again inexplicably, reports are focused on the uniforms and cars of federal law enforcement trying to keep order and protect property. These are distractions, intentionally or unintentionally, meant to shift our attention from the far greater threat: a violent anti-government insurgency; a terrorist movement of anarchists and communists.

In Portland, the riots have been organized and led by the local chapter of the Youth Liberation Front (YLF), a shadowy Antifa organization with secret membership. The YLF has cells across

the U.S., organized using social media channels like Twitter, and directing people when and where to meet.³ They openly advocate for violence elsewhere, such as when they issued national “calls to action” in support of the Portland riots. When their followers obliged, we witnessed street violence in Seattle, Olympia, Wash., Eugene, Ore., Oakland, Tempe, Austin, Atlanta, Richmond, among other cities.⁴ There were multiple shootings, dozens of officer injuries, and even a death.



Antifa flyers calling for “solidarity” with the Portland antifa riots. Note the instruction for no ‘peace policing.’

I have worked undercover for months in Portland and other cities, and I’ve seen with my own eyes how hundreds of so-called protesters work together to carry out acts of organized criminality against government and civilians.⁵ Everyone, both violent and non-violent, play a role. For example, Antifa by their own admission, depend on mass numbers of peaceful protesters to act as human shields. Those privy to the organizational workings are divided into units: one for cop-watching, one for street medics and transport, one for fighters, one for vandals and arsonists, and so on. They coordinate on encrypted chat applications like Signal and Telegram, knowing that they’re extremely difficult for law enforcement to track.⁶

³ (“PNW Youth Liberation Front on Twitter: “People Are at the George Wash...” 2020, “PNW Youth Liberation Front on Twitter: “ABOLISH THE POLICE Peninsula ...” 2020, “PNW Youth Liberation Front on Twitter: “Mourn for the Dead, and Fight...” 2020)

⁴ (Affairs n.d.; Gentzler 2020; Wallace 2020; “Oakland Police Station Vandalized after Hundreds Rally in Support of Portland Protesters” 2020; azfamily.com News Staff 2020; Goard 2020; “ICE and DHS Building in Atlanta Damaged Overnight” 2020; WTVR CBS 6 Web Staff 2020)

⁵ (Ngo 2020)

⁶ (CBS News 2019)



A June 2020 tweet by the Youth Liberation Front outlining various units they want to emulate from the Minneapolis riots⁷

What can be deceptive about Antifa, and dangerous with such a sympathetic media, is how many of its methods appear innocuous until it's too late. For example, projectiles that look like water balloons can be filled with paint or chemicals; police lines are often pelted with rocks and ball bearings fired from slingshots, that could easily blind an officer.⁸ Umbrellas can be fastened with discreet pocket-knives at the end.⁹ Homemade shields are used to bash victims on the head. Powerful handheld lasers can permanently blind officers.¹⁰



Molotov cocktails and loaded magazines found by police near the Portland federal courthouse. Photo: Portland Police Bureau¹¹

⁷ ("PNW Youth Liberation Front" 2020)

⁸ (Portland Police Public Information Office n.d.)

⁹ (Portland Police Public Information Office n.d.)

¹⁰ (Portland Police Public Information Office n.d., n.d.; Miller 2020)

¹¹ (Portland Police Public Information Office n.d.)



An umbrella fastened with a knife was confiscated by Portland Police. Photo: Portland Police Bureau

Antifa and their allies have made rioting into an art in Portland. They have access to a rich stream of cash, flowing from crowdfunding platforms like GoFundMe, Venmo and CashApp. For example, their Portland bail fund campaign, operated by an extremist named Katherine Belyea who assaulted me at the Antifa protest last year, has raised over \$1.3 million dollars.¹² Any criminal conspirator arrested in Portland is instantly bailed out, and ready for the next night of violent protests.

Antifa also uses front groups to launder money. The “Riot Ribs” anarchist co-op, which set-up an illegal restaurant outside the sieged courthouse in Portland, raised over \$300,000 dollars before suddenly closing shop.¹³ Tens of thousands of dollars were passed by Riot Ribs to other anonymous individuals and groups involved with the riots in Portland and elsewhere.¹⁴ There is no public account of what has happened to the money, there is no transparency about where and how it is spent, and the money is untaxed.

¹² See the Oregon Secretary of State Domestic Nonprofit Corporation Filing for the ‘General Defense Committee Local 1’ (registration no. 159681395) (“PDX Protest Bail Fund” 2020)

¹³ (Ramakrishnan and The Oregonian/OregonLive 2020)

¹⁴ (“RIOT RIBS” 2020)



Riot Ribs made a donation to a group that purchased lacrosse sticks. U.S. Marshals have stated that some projectiles are hurled at officers using lacrosse sticks.¹⁵

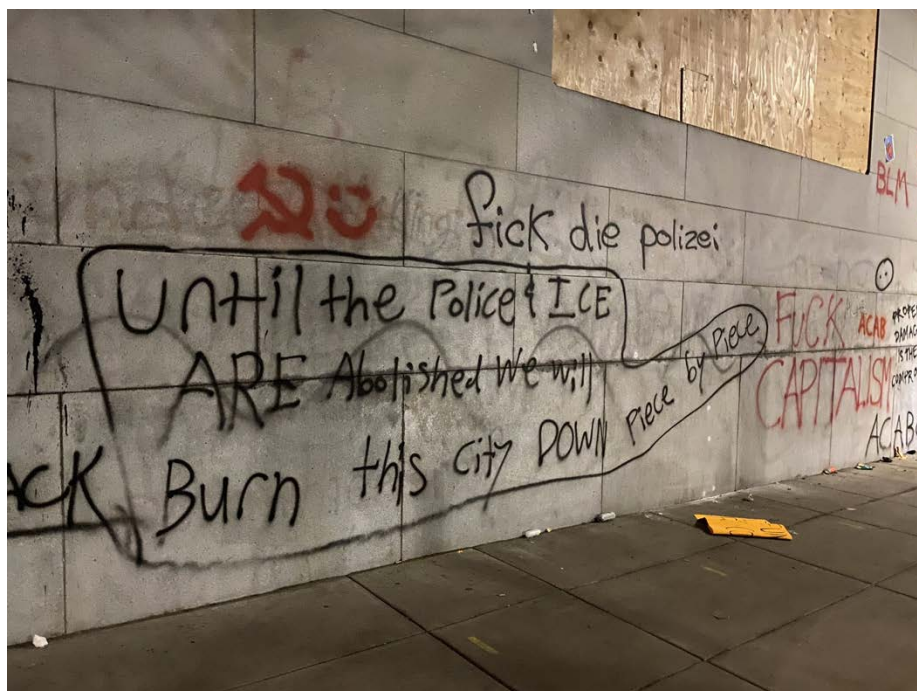
Portland is the canary in the coalmine for America. Look to my city to see what happens when Antifa extremism is mainstreamed and has reached a critical mass. Even our city's mayor is afraid of them.¹⁶

I come to you today with a message for Senators of both parties. Antifa's goal is to not only to abolish the criminal justice system, it is to abolish the Republic itself. They don't care whether you're a Democrat or a Republican. They don't care whether you profess some sympathy, in some form, for their cause. They want to bring the system down. You don't have to take my word for it. Go read their literature, listen to their chants, and look at their messages when they graffiti walls.

As I left a violent riot in downtown Portland last week, I came across a large message written on the Multnomah County Courthouse, across the park from the federal courthouse that rioters had tried to set on fire: "Until the police and ICE are abolished, we will burn this city down piece by piece."

¹⁵ ("PDX Hydration Station & Umbrellacrosse Sticks" 2020, "'They Have to Defend Themselves': U.S. Marshals Speak out on Violent Clashes with Portland Protestors" 2020)

¹⁶ (Andy Ngo n.d.)



Graffiti on the Multnomah County Courthouse after a riot. Photo: Andy Ngo

Supplementary information:

There are claims that there is no evidence for Antifa at the on-going violent protests in the U.S.¹⁷ This is untrue. The following is a select and incomplete list of arrest and charging information for suspects where there is a documented Antifa element.



Amelia Joan Shamrowicz

Incident date: 30 May, 2020

Incident location: Portland, Ore.

Charges: Felony arson, felony criminal mischief, felony riot

According to the Multnomah County district attorney's affidavit, Shamrowicz started a fire at a downtown Portland bank using a Molotov cocktail. She allegedly told a roommate "she is part of Antifa" and that she was "extremely excited about being labeled a terrorist and was very animated about her hopes that police officers would be killed and injured by the riots." See affidavit for more information.



¹⁷ (*The Washington Post* 2020)

Legba Carrefour, 40

Incident date: 31 May, 2020

Incident location: Washington, D.C.

Charge: Destruction of property

Carrefour identifies as an anarchist on his social media and has posted numerous times in support of Antifa. He was filmed fully dressed in black bloc smashing off bits of concrete from the ground to allegedly throw at police in D.C..¹⁸ He was also an organizer of "DisruptJ20," a series of violent antifa protests against the 2016 Inauguration Day.¹⁹



Lisa Hogan, 27

Incident date: 31 May, 2020

Incident location: Austin, Texas

Charges: Felony riot and felony burglary of a building

Hogan is suspected of sending out live feed video from the scene on Facebook, encouraging others to join the group at the Target to loot the store. The Travis County District Attorney's office accuses her of being part of a "self-identified communist/socialist ANTIFA group." See the attached press release for more information.

¹⁸ ("Protesters See Someone Destroying DC, Tackle Him and Hand over to Police" 2020)

¹⁹ (*Outside Agitators? Among Arrests at DC Protests We Found... One* 2020)



Samuel Miller, 22

Incident date: 31 May, 2020

Incident location: Austin, Texas

Charges: Felony criminal mischief and felony burglary of a building

Miller is accused of destroying and ripping out the surveillance cameras located outside of the Target store. The Travis County District Attorney's office accuses him of being part of a "self-identified communist/socialist ANTIFA group." See the attached press release for more information.



Skye Elder, 23

Incident date: 31 May, 2020

Incident location: Austin, Texas

Charge: Felony burglary of a building

The Travis County District Attorney's office accuses Elder of being part of a "self-identified communist/socialist ANTIFA group." See the attached press release for more information.



Asarra T. Butler, 23

Incident date: 1–2 June, 2020

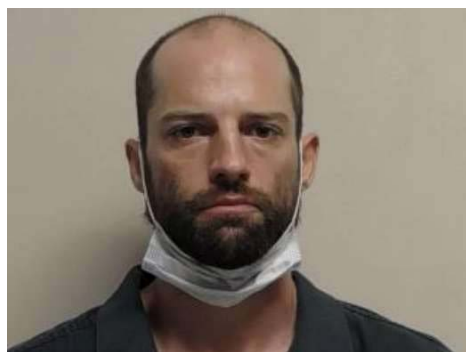
Incident location: Portland, Ore.

Charges: Felony riot, felony failure to perform the duties of a driver (injury), felony criminal mischief, felony attempt to elude by vehicle, reckless driving and reckless endangerment

Asarra T. Butler was arrested and charged with multiple felonies at a violent gathering outside the Justice Center where rioters were throwing glass bottles and rocks at officers. Portland Police say she was part of the unit that resupplied rioters.²⁰ She was quickly bailed out using funds from the antifa-run “PDX Protest Bail Fund.”

The Portland Police press release states: “[O]fficers observed several vehicles that were moving through the streets with the protestors to provide them with a continual source of supplies. Officers observed one driver handing out items to subjects on foot. Traffic officers stopped that driver, but before they could detain her, she struck multiple vehicles in an [effort] to elude police. She sped away and the Air Support Unit was able to provide updates on the vehicle location and direction of travel. Spike strips were deployed and the vehicle stopped near Southeast 14th Avenue and Franklin Street. Officers arrested the driver. One officer suffered minor injuries in this incident.”

²⁰ (Portland Police Public Information Office n.d.)



JUN 29 End Police Brutality ProBlue Counter Protest

Public · Hosted by Salt Lake City Antifascist Coalition

★ Interested ✓ Going

Monday, 29 June 2020 from 18:30-21:00 MDT
1 day ago

Provo Police Department
48 S 300 W, Provo, Utah 84601

Show map

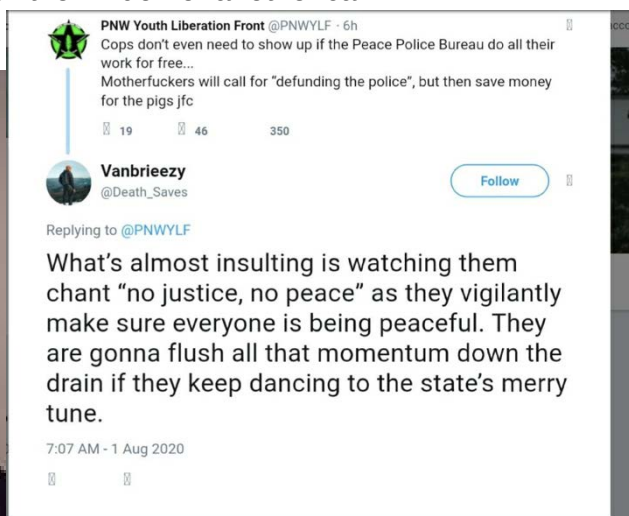
Jesse Taggart

Incident date: 29 June, 2020

Incident location: Provo, Utah

Charges: Attempted aggravated murder, aggravated assault causing serious bodily injury, rioting, threatening use of a weapon in a fight or quarrel, criminal mischief, firing a weapon near a highway

Taggart was filmed allegedly shooting a driver at a riot in Provo, Utah organized by the Salt Lake City Antifascist Coalition, an Antifa network.²¹ Provo Police say Taggart was a known “instigator” and had been involved in many recent protests in Salt Lake City. He is also accused of using his handgun to bash the window of another car.²²



²¹ (“(1) End Police Brutality ProBlue Counter Protest” 2020)

²² (Roberts 2020)



Max VanBriesen paid Eric Thompson

Jul 1

Antifa hideout rent 🍷



Max Jacob VanBriesen, 31

Incident date: 1 August, 2020

Incident location: Portland, Ore.

Charges: Felony assaulting of a public safety officer, interfering with a police officer, and disorderly conduct in the second degree

VanBriesen was arrested at the antifa attack on the southeast Portland Police precinct on 1 August, 2020. His now-deleted social media show he identified as antifa and interacted a lot with extremist group, the Youth Liberation Front. On numerous posts, he expresses frustration at protesters who try to keep the demonstrations peaceful. His Venmo activity shows a donation to a fellow comrade for “antifa hideout rent.”

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