

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA**

CASE NO. 1:23-mj-02440 Damian

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

ROBERT DAVID CROIZAT

Defendant.

_____ /

CRIMINAL COVER SHEET

1. Did this matter originate from a matter pending in the Central Region of the United States Attorney's Office prior to August 8, 2014 (Mag. Judge Shaniek Maynard)? Yes X No
2. Did this matter originate from a matter pending in the Northern Region of the United States Attorney's Office prior to October 3, 2019 (Mag. Judge Jared Strauss)? Yes X No

Respectfully submitted,

MARKENZY LAPOINTE
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

By:



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AO 91 (Rev. 08/09) Criminal Complaint

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Southern District of Florida

United States of America

v.

ROBERT DAVID CROIZAT

Case No. 1:23-mj-02440 Damian

Defendant(s)

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER RELIABLE ELECTRONIC MEANS

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of March 8, 2023 in the county of Miami-Dade in the
Southern District of Florida, the defendant(s) violated:

| <i>Code Section</i> | <i>Offense Description</i> |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Title 49 U.S.C. § 46504 | interference with flight crew members and attendants |
| Title 18 U.S.C. § 113(a)(5) | assault within maritime and territorial jurisdictions |

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT.

☒ Continued on the attached sheet.


Complainant's signature

SA Freddy G. Ortiz, FBI
Printed name and title

Attested to by the Applicant in accordance with the requirements of Fed.R.Crim.P. 4.1 by FACETIME

Date: 3/9/2023


Judge's signature

City and state: Miami, Florida

The Hon. Melissa Damian
Printed name and title

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Your affiant, Freddy G. Ortiz, being duly sworn, deposes and states as follows:

INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND

1. I am a Special Agent with the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), currently assigned to the Miami Field Office. I am an investigative or law enforcement officer of the United States within the meaning of Section 2510(7) of Title 18, United States Code, in that I am empowered by law to conduct investigations of and to make arrests for offenses in Section 2516 of Title 18, United States Code, and related offenses. I am submitting this affidavit in support of a Federal Criminal Complaint. I have been employed with the FBI since September 2007. As an FBI Special Agent, I have primarily been assigned to investigate violent crimes, drug trafficking organizations, domestic terrorism, health care fraud, and currently the Joint Terrorism Task Force.

2. This Affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause that, on or about March 8, 2023, Robert David CROIZAT committed the offense of Interference with Flight Crew Members and Attendants, in violation of Title 49, United States Code, Section 46504, and Assault Within Maritime and Territorial Jurisdictions, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 113(a)(5).

3. The statements contained in this Affidavit are based on my personal knowledge, as well as information provided by other individuals, including other law enforcement officials, and my review of records and other evidence obtained during this investigation. I have not included each fact known to me and to other law enforcement officers involved in this investigation, but only the facts sufficient to establish probable cause.

PROBABLE CAUSE

4. On March 8, 2023, at approximately 3:53 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, CROIZAT

boarded American Airlines flight 1192, from Bridgetown (BGI), Barbados to Miami International Airport (MIA), Florida.

5. Approximately 1 hour and 54 minutes into the flight, CROIZAT caused a disturbance on the flight by getting out of his assigned seat and approaching flight attendant ("FA") 1, according to information provided by FA 1. CROIZAT told FA 1 he was a "shitty" flight attendant and should have addressed him in a better way when giving him the choices for his meal. At this point, flight attendant 2 ("FA 2") observed CROIZAT shouting at FA 1, according to FA 2. During the exchange, CROIZAT admitted to FA 1 that he had two drinks during the flight. At this time, CROIZAT turned to FA 2 and stated "what, you want to call the Captain?" and, according to FA 2, aggressively, demandingly, and loudly ordered the flight attendants to "get the Captain out here." FA 1 and FA 2 told CROIZAT to sit back down, according to information they provided to law enforcement, but he refused to comply and continued to ask for the Captain.

6. During this altercation, CROIZAT touched flight attendant 3 ("FA 3"), according to information provided by FA 3 to law enforcement. When FA 3 told CROIZAT not to touch her, he pushed her twice, according to FA 3. Law enforcement obtained a video of this part of the altercation from a passenger, where CROIZAT can be seen making contact with FA 3 twice on the shoulder. Near that moment, FA 3 grabbed called the captain of the flight ("Captain") in the cockpit to inform him of the situation. CROIZAT continued to persist in being belligerent and non-compliant, according to FA 3. While on the phone with the Captain, FA 3 informed a passenger the flight attendants needed help because of the disturbance.

7. Shortly thereafter, FA 2 was standing in front of the cockpit and told CROIZAT to sit down, according to FA 2. CROIZAT refused to comply and pushed FA 2, briefly pinning her against the cockpit door, according to FA 2. All the while, according to FA 2, passengers told

CROIZAT many times to sit down, but CROIZAT refused and continued to be disruptive. Finally, a passenger lifted CROIZAT and placed him in his seat in attempt to restrain him, causing a glass of wine to spill, FA 2 explained to law enforcement.

8. CROIZAT remained in his seat for the rest of the flight, continuing to complain to the flight attendants about the way he was treated. FA 2 placed her cart between the cockpit and the cabin to keep CROIZAT from making any further attempts to contact the Captain in the cockpit.


9. The Captain called air traffic control to report the incident during the flight, informing air traffic control that there was an attempted breach of the cockpit. The Captain further informed air traffic control that the passenger was restrained at that point. The Captain then instructed the passengers on the flight to remain seated and put the seatbelt sign on in the cabin. At approximately 6:49 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, the plane landed in MIA and law enforcement removed CROIZAT from the flight.

[THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

CONCLUSION

10. Based on the information provided above, I respectfully submit that there exists probable cause to believe that on or about March 8, 2023, in Miami-Dade County, in the Southern District of Florida, CROIZAT committed the offense of Interference with Flight Crew Members and Attendants, in violation of Title 49, United States Code, Section 46504, and Assault Within Maritime and Territorial Jurisdictions, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 113(a)(5).

FURTHER YOUR AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.


Freddy G. Ortiz, SA
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attested to by the Applicant in accordance
with the requirements of Fed. R. Crim. P. 4.1
by FACETIME on 9th day of March 2023.


THE HON. MELISSA DAMIAN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE