

**Written Submission of Documentary Filmmaker; Nick Quested, to the Select Committee
To Investigate the January 6th Attack on The United States Capitol.**

I am a British-born legal resident of the United States. I received my Bachelor of Fine Arts from New York University in 1992. I am an artist and an independent filmmaker. I have directed hundreds of music videos and have produced upwards of 40 documentaries. I have won an Emmy and a Dupont Columbia Award, and I have produced an Oscar nominated film.

Much of my work in the last twenty years has revolved around conflict. I have filmed documentaries dealing with war and areas in conflict such as *Restrepo*, *Korengal*, *The Last Patrol*, *Hell on Earth: The Fall of Syria and the Rise of ISIS*, and most recently, *Blood on the Wall*.

I testified before this Committee on June 9, 2022, because in December of 2020 and January of 2021, I was filming a documentary in Washington, D.C. about “why Americans are so divided when Americans have so much in common.” I had started working on this film in the summer of 2020 when I observed what America was experiencing. As part of that documentary, I interviewed and spoke with groups such as Antifa and the Proud Boys. I filmed several rallies in Washington, D.C. on December 11 and December 12, 2020, and began filming several of the groups spearheading those rallies such as the Proud Boys and the Oath Keepers.

I learned there would be a rally on the National Mall on January 6, 2021, and three colleagues and I came to document the rally. We traveled from New York to Washington, D.C. on January 5, 2021, and we started filming when we were invited to document a Proud Boy, Enrique Tarrío’s release from government custody. On January 5, 2022, we documented Mr. Tarrío as he retrieved his property from the Metropolitan Police Department, retrieved his luggage from a Washington, D.C. Hotel, participated in a meeting in an underground parking garage, and traveled to a hotel in Baltimore. After documenting those events, we returned to Washington, D.C.

On January 6, 2021, my colleagues and I headed to the Mall for the rally. According to the permit for the event, there was to be a rally at the Ellipse. I arrived as a group was heading west on the Mall. I observed a large contingent of Proud Boys marching toward the Capitol. I filmed the crowd walking toward Capitol Hill. Almost immediately, I was separated from my colleagues. I documented the crowd turn from protesters to insurrectionists. I was surprised at the size of the group, the anger, and the profanity. I experienced pepper spray, violent surging, and acts of violence and I heard aggressive chanting.

My goal as an independent journalist is always to prioritize truth and to let people speak for themselves rather than to interpret events for my audience. The clips of my footage that were shown to the world on June 9, 2022, were a snapshot of what we saw occur on January 6, 2021. I hope my footage and the subsequent documentary will help people understand and visualize what occurred on that date. It is important for Americans to see the unvarnished truth of what happened for themselves. The events I captured on film leading up to January 6, and the January 6 attacks themselves, shook me.