JANUARY 6th HISTORICAL PANEL OF INQUIRY : SESSION 1

WITNESS; MATTHEW KROL

OPENING STATEMENT

I’d like to introduce myself, my name is Matt Krol and I’m from Linden, Michigan.  Thank you for inviting me.  I am a man of Christian convictions and have been for the past 44 years.  I have been a missionary to Haiti and was a missionary field representative for Global Mission Alliance  for half a dozen years.  I also have traveled extensively across the United States and the globe, doing disaster relief work for the past 30 years, founding a disaster relief organization.   
  
I am happily married to the same beautiful woman since 1984 and we raised 3 terrific kids, each giving us awesome grandchildren.  
  
As a child, my favorite subject in school was history, both world history and US history. I have always considered myself a patriotic American ever since I was a young man, including joining the US Marines in 1978.  I was honorably discharged due to medical reasons shortly after joining.   
  
Because of my Christian beliefs, I became concerned for my country and began to attend pro-life and pro-second amendment rallies during the mid-1980’s.  Mostly this was due to the democratic administrations firm stance’s against the unborn and against the Constitution, particularly the Second Amendment.  
  
In 2015, the Flint, Michigan water crisis happened, and it was just 8 miles north of where I live.  Since I was dedicated to helping with disasters, it was a natural that I get involved, and involved I did.  Many days and many hours of my time was given to the folks of Flint.  Through my involvement, it was suggested that I run for Sheriff of Genesee County, Flint is our county seat.  After some consideration, I decided to run as a  Constitutional sheriff.  So I entered the race for the office of sheriff.  I was told that I was the first Republican to run for that office in 50 years.  Although I didn’t win, I did get almost 40% of the vote.   
  
Then in 2020, when it was evident that the presidential election was stolen, I had no choice but to go to Washington, D.C., to attend the STOP THE STEAL RALLY, joining the 2 million other Americans in having my voice heard… “to send the count back to the states for a recount!”  
  
I walked from the rally to the US Capitol and stood at the grass on the west side.  After hearing the flash bang canisters, I began to walk towards the Capital.  Once I got close to the barricades, I saw riot geared police beat innocent protesters, one of whom smacked an older woman in the side of her head with his baton, knocking her beanie hat off her head (\* see notes).  This is when I reacted and passed over the barricade, grabbing the baton and eventually getting it away from the cop.  I never entered the Capital.  I was charged with robbery and assault with a dangerous weapon that included an injury (a little scratch on the back of his hand).   
  
I was arrested February 22, 2022 and was denied bond for being a danger to my community, while wearing a portable defibrillator device called a “LifeVest”.   
  
Despite having no prior criminal history, also having ran for the office of Sheriff in my county and with a serious heart condition, the federal court in Flint, Michigan denied me any bond, citing that I posed a danger to the community.   
  
On March 17, 2022, I was eventually transferred to Central Virginia Regional Jail (CVRJ).  While I was in quarantine, I also experienced a weird dizzy spell and a severe headache. My wife was contacted by the Zoll defibrillator company, who advised her to notify my cardiologist due to an Asystole (flatline) event. The next day, I informed the head nurse, who dismissed the possibility of a flatline.  Shortly thereafter, I questioned a nurse about receiving incorrect medications and was placed in solitary confinement for refusing her demands. While in solitary, I experienced a significant flatline event lasting 119 seconds (\*see photo evidence).  After lying unconscious in the solitary cell for an hour and eight minutes, I was rushed to the University of Virginia Hospital where I received an emergency pacemaker implant.   The return to CVRJ for recovery was a horrible nightmare, one of which I will never forget.  
  
I spent 35 months and eventually walked out of prison January 22, 2025 due to the presidential pardon by Donald J. Trump.