

Illinois man pleads guilty to coercion and enticement of 14-year old Massachusetts girl

"Defendant previously convicted of a child pornography offense.

An Illinois man pleaded guilty yesterday in federal court in Boston in connection with coercion and enticement of a minor.

Domenique Dequon Hines, 25, of Crystal Lake, Ill., pleaded guilty to one count of coercion and enticement of a minor before U.S. Senior District Court Judge William G. Young who scheduled sentencing for Jan. 11, 2023. Hines was initially charged by criminal complaint and arrested in Illinois in December 2020 and subsequently indicted by a federal grand jury in January 2021. Hines was later charged in a superseding Information on Sept. 9, 2022 with coercion and enticement of a minor.

Hines and a 14-year-old Massachusetts victim initially met on Instagram in October 2020 and exchanged phone numbers and profile pictures and began communicating online via iMessage and other forms of internet communication for a period of approximately 10 days. On the first day of communications, Hines confirmed with the victim that she was 14 years old and he informed the victim that he is 23 years old. After confirming her age, Hines knowingly persuaded, induced, enticed and coerced the victim to take and send him, sexually explicit images and videos of herself. Hines requested that the victim call him "daddy," and explained that if her parents ever try to take her phone, she should delete all of their text messages.

Hines was previously convicted of a child pornography offense in the state of Illinois.

The charging statute provides for a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and up to life in prison, a mandatory minimum of five years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Boston Division; and Norfolk County District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Suzanne Sullivan Jacobus and Christopher R. Looney of Rollins' Criminal Division are prosecuting the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse, launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices and the DOJ's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <https://www.justice.gov/psc>." -Massachusetts Department of Justice.

Man pleads guilty to

threatening Massachusetts Merriam-Webster office with Anti-LGBTQ violence

"Defendant's threats caused Merriam-Webster to close offices in Springfield, Mass. and New York.

A California man pleaded guilty on Sept. 8, 2022 in federal court in Springfield, Mass. to making threats to commit anti-LGBTQ violence against Springfield-based Merriam-Webster, Inc. and others.

Jeremy David Hanson, 34, of Rossmore, Calif., pleaded guilty to one count of interstate communication of threatening communications to commit violence against the employees of Merriam-Webster, and to another count charging the same offense, initially filed in the Eastern District of Texas, targeting the President of the University of North Texas. In a written statement of facts accompanying his plea agreement, Hanson also admitted to sending threatening communications to various corporations, politicians, and others, including the Walt Disney Co., the Governor of California and the Mayor of New York City, a New York rabbi and professors at Loyola Marymount University. Hanson also admitted that he frequently selected the object of his threatening communications because of the gender, gender identity and/or sexual orientation of various persons.

U.S. District Court Judge Mark G. Mastroianni scheduled sentencing for Jan. 5, 2023. On April 20, 2022, Hanson was arrested and charged by criminal complaint and subsequently indicted by a federal grand jury on May 5, 2022.

"Every member of our community has a right to live and exist authentically as themselves without fear. Hate motivated threats of violence that infringe upon that right are not

tolerated in Massachusetts in any capacity. This conviction represents my office's dedication to protecting targeted communities and bringing accountability and justice when those who aim to endanger act upon their hatred," said United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins. "I want to remind people to call the 1-83-END-H8-NOW (1-833-634-8669) line if they have information about concerning or troubling incidents of hate, potential hate crimes, or concerns regarding individuals believed to be espousing hate-filled views or threats of actions."

"Jeremy Hanson is now a convicted felon after admitting to making hate-fueled threats of violence related to the LGBTQ+ community," said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. "If you believe you are a victim or a witness to similar conduct, we encourage you to report it to the FBI so we can hold the perpetrators behind these crimes accountable for their actions, like we did in this case."

Between Oct. 2 and Oct. 8, 2021, Springfield-based Merriam-Webster, Inc. received various threatening messages and comments demonstrating bias against specific gender identities submitted through its website's "Contact Us" page and in the comments section on its webpages that corresponded to the word entries for "Girl" and "Woman." Authorities later identified the user as Hanson.

Specifically, on Oct. 2, 2021, Hanson used the handle "@anonYmous" to post the following comment on the dictionary's website definition of "female:" "It is absolutely sickening that Merriam-Webster now tells blatant lies and promotes anti-science propaganda. There is no such thing as 'gender identity.' The imbecile who wrote this entry should be hunted down and shot."

Hanson also sent the following threatening message via the website's "Contact Us" page: "You [sic] headquarters should be

shot up and bombed. It is sickening that you have caved to the cultural Marxist, anti-science tranny [sic] agenda and altered the definition of 'female' as part of the Left's efforts to corrupt and degrade the English language and deny reality. You evil Marxists should all be killed. It would be poetic justice to have someone storm your offices and shoot up the place, leaving none of you commies alive."

On Oct. 8, 2021, Hanson posted another threatening comment on the dictionary's website and a threatening message via the "Contact Us" page that read: "I am going to shoot up and bomb your offices for lying and creating fake definitions in order to pander to the tranny mafia. Boys aren't girls, and girls aren't boys. The only good Marxist is a dead Marxist. I will assassinate your top editor. You sickening, vile tranny freaks." As a result of the threats, Merriam-Webster closed its offices in Springfield, Mass. and New York City for approximately five business days.

The charge of interstate transmission of threatening communications provides for a sentence of up to five years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

U.S. Attorney Rollins and FBI SAC Bonavolonta made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven H. Breslow of Rollins' Springfield Branch Office is prosecuting the case." - Massachusetts Department of Justice.

43-year old New Bedford man pleads guilty to possessing Heroin intended for distribution

"Defendant faces five-year mandatory minimum."

A New Bedford man has pleaded guilty in federal court in Boston in connection with heroin distribution.

Ramon Serrano, 43, pleaded guilty on Sept. 12, 2022 to possession with intent to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin. U.S. District Court Judge Denise J. Casper scheduled sentencing for Jan. 11, 2023. Serrano was charged in July 2019.

During a search of Serrano's residence in Feb. 20, 2019, approximately \$27,000, digital scales, cellular telephones and a money counter were recovered. Additionally, over 544 grams of fentanyl and heroin as well as over 206 grams of cocaine – divided into separate plastic bags for distribution – were also found at Serrano's residence.

The charge of possession with intent to distribute over 100 grams of heroin provides for a mandatory minimum sentence of five years and up to 40 years in prison, at least four years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$5 million. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins and New Bedford Police Chief Paul Oliveira made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Craig Estes of Rollins' Narcotics and Money Laundering Unit is prosecuting the case." -Massachusetts

Massachusetts State Police seek public's help solving 30-year-old Susan Taraskiewicz's cold case

"Thirty years ago this morning, Susan Taraskiewicz's body was found in the trunk of her car, which had been left outside an auto repair shop on Route 1A in Revere. Across all the years, after almost a third of a century, the work to hold Susan's killer or killers accountable goes on. It won't stop until we find justice for her and her family.

That work continues through street-level investigative tactics, application of forensic capabilities to existing evidence, and continued outreach to those who might have information about the case. To that last point, earlier this year we created a deck of playing cards featuring unsolved homicides. Each card shows a victim's photo and details about his or her case, as well as a number to call if you have information to share.

Susan's card is the Eight of Spades.



UNSOLVED HOMICIDE



Susan Taraskiewicz

On September 13, 1992, the victim left work at Logan Airport to pick up lunch and did not return. The next day, her car was found in **Revere** and her body was found in the trunk of her car. The victim had been beaten and stabbed.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFO ABOUT THIS CASE PLEASE CALL

1-855-MA-SOLVE



Massachusetts State Police photo.

"The detectives and prosecutors who have investigated, and

continue to investigate, Susan's homicide have done outstanding work to advance this case to the point we are at today," Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police, said. "We, along with our law enforcement partners, are committed to seeing this investigation through to its only acceptable end, namely, that the person or persons who took Susan's life are brought to justice and that her survivors at long last know that their daughter and sister has been spoken for."

After her murder, Susan's employer, Northwest Airlines, offered a \$250,000 reward for information leading to an arrest. In 2008, Northwest was absorbed into Delta Airlines in a merger. Delta has informed Susan's mother that it stands by that reward offer. The money remains available to anyone who provides information that allows us to bring justice to Susan and her family.

Susan's body was found early on Sept. 14, 1992, little more than a day after she left her shift as a ramp supervisor at Logan Airport to pick up sandwiches for her co-workers. She never returned to Logan or her home. For the three decades – to the day – since that morning, the Massachusetts State Police, the Revere Police Department, and the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office have ceaselessly followed the evidence wherever it has led us.



Massachusetts State Police photo.

Today, even as that mission continues, we know a good deal about Susan's murder. But there is more information that we

still need to obtain or confirm before we can finally secure justice for Susan.

There are people walking around today, going about their lives, who have that information. Of that we are certain.

And so, again, we make a plea to anyone who can help us cross the last few miles of this marathon investigation. If you have any information about Susan's murder or the person or people who may have been involved, please contact us. Whatever reason you had for remaining silent until now doesn't matter anymore. Time passes, and people change. Maybe you were scared. Maybe you were protecting someone, or maybe you just did not want to get involved in a police investigation. Yet time passes, and people change. So, too, do priorities, and the reasons for keeping quiet maybe don't seem so important anymore. Not when compared to the chance to do the right thing before it's too late.

And it's not too late. It's a long time past September 14, 1992, but not too late. If you are one those people who have information about Susan's murder or the person or people involved, please call the State Police Detective Unit for Suffolk County at (617) 727-8817.

What was done to Susan Taraskiewicz three decades ago should not be allowed to stand unanswered. Your call might be the difference." -Massachusetts State Police.

Massachusetts woman pleads

guilty in \$100 Million home health care fraud, kickback scheme

"A Lowell woman has pleaded guilty in federal court in Boston in connection with a \$100 million home health care fraud scheme.

Winnie Waruru, 42, of Lowell, pleaded guilty on Sept. 8, 2022 to one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud; one count of health care fraud – aiding and abetting; one count of conspiracy to pay and receive kickbacks; two counts of making false statements; and one count of making a false statement in a health care matter. U.S. Senior District Court Judge George A. O'Toole Jr. scheduled sentencing for Jan. 12, 2023. Waruru was arrested and charged along with co-defendant Faith Newton in February 2021. Newton has pleaded not guilty and is pending trial.

According to the indictment, from January 2013 to January 2017, Newton was part owner and operator of Arbor Homecare Services LLC. Waruru was a Licensed Practical Nurse employed as a home health nurse at Arbor. Waruru and, allegedly, Newton engaged in a conspiracy to use Arbor to defraud MassHealth and Medicare of at least \$100 million by committing health care fraud and paying kickbacks to induce referrals. Newton then allegedly laundered the ill-gotten gains.

Specifically, it is alleged that Arbor, through Newton and others, including Waruru, failed to train staff, billed for home health services that were never provided or were not medically necessary and billed for home health services that were not authorized. Arbor, through Newton and others, developed employment relationships as way to pay kickbacks for patient referrals, regardless of medical necessity

requirements. They also allegedly entered sham employment relationships with patients' family members to provide home health aide services that were not medically necessary and routinely billed for fictitious visits that did not occur. As alleged in the civil complaint, Newton either directly or through Arbor, targeted particularly vulnerable patients who were low-income, on disability and/or suffering from depression and/or addiction.

Waruru and Arbor billed MassHealth for Waruru's skilled nursing visits, many of which she did not perform, were medically unnecessary, or were not approved by a physician. Waruru was personally responsible for causing Arbor to bill MassHealth for over \$1.2 million in skilled nursing visits, much of which was fraudulent. Waruru also passed cash payments allegedly from Newton to two Arbor patients to retain those patients.

The charges of health care fraud, conspiracy to commit health care fraud, money laundering conspiracy and money laundering each provide for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000 or twice the amount of the money involved in the laundering. The conspiracy to pay kickbacks, make false statements and make false statement in health care matter each provide for a sentence of up to five years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins; Phillip M. Coyne, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, Office of Investigations; Joleen D. Simpson, Special Agent in Charge of the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigation in Boston; and Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division made the

announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Rachel Y. Hemani of Rollins' Health Care Fraud Unit, David G. Tobin of Rollins' Major Crimes Unit and Carol Head, Chief of Rollins' Asset Recovery Unit are prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the court documents are allegations. The remaining defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law." - Massachusetts Department of Justice.

Massachusetts woman arrested after pizza rage incident, charged with bribery, narcotics

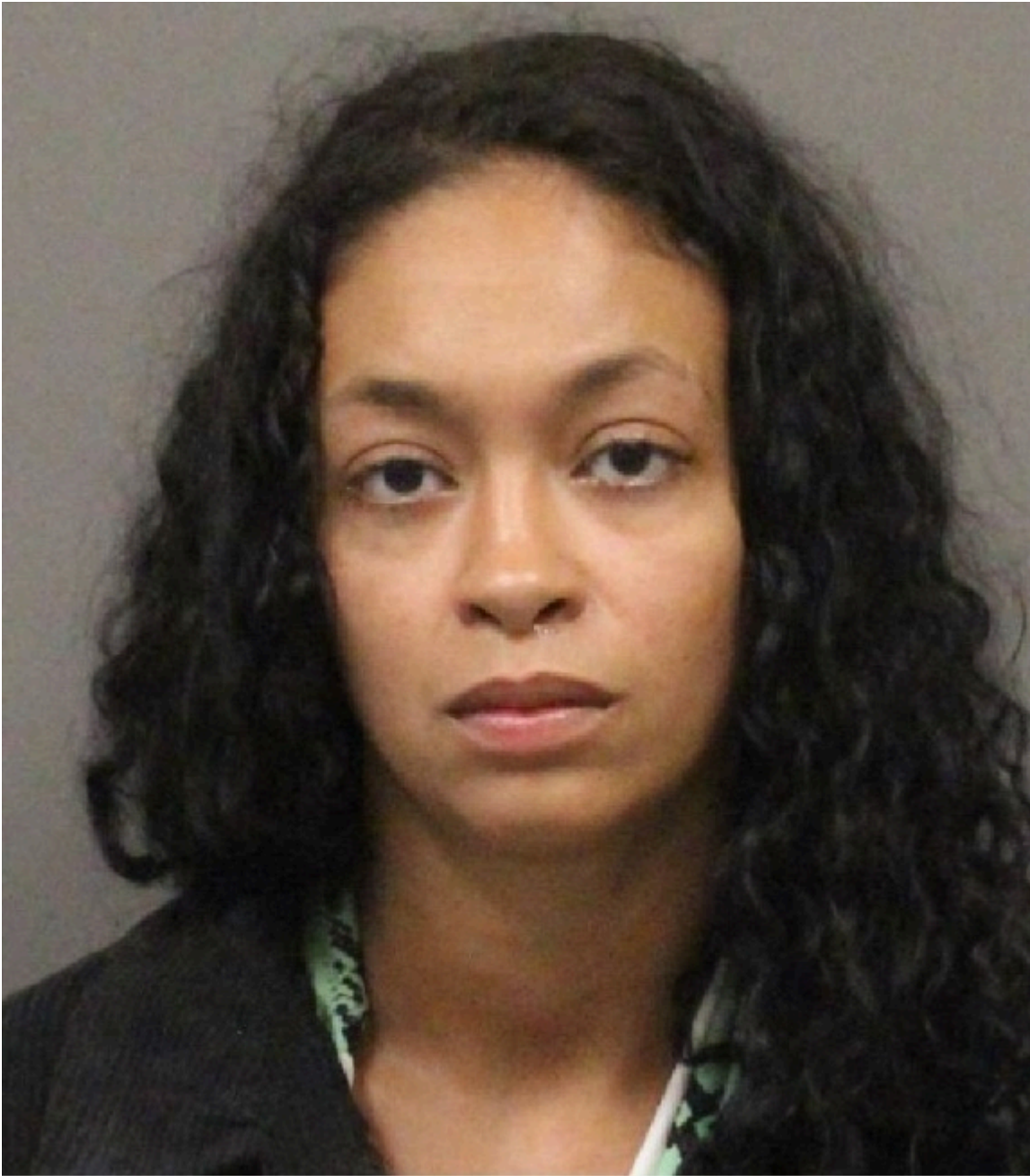
"Lenita Barbosa, 35, of Dorchester was upset that her food order was not completed in a timely manner. She ripped the cash register from it's electrical wiring, and threw it on the floor.

We had occasion to meet up with her and arrested her for vandalism and disturbing the peace. Prior to booking, she admitted to having contraband in her purse and offered Officer Kilcup a smooth \$1000 to throw away the drugs. Officer Kilcup responded:

"I absolutely will not be doing that."

In addition to the other charges, Ms. Barbosa was also charged with Bribing a Public Employee, two counts of possession of a class B drug, and one count of having a class C drug." -

Plymouth Police Department.



Plymouth Police Department photo.

Massachusetts man sentenced

for role in Dark Web drug trafficking operation

“Over 19 kilos of MDMA, almost seven kilograms of Ketamine, nearly one kilogram of cocaine and more than 10,000 counterfeit Xanax pills seized during the investigation.

A Brockton man was sentenced yesterday in federal court in Boston for his role in a highly sophisticated drug trafficking operation that manufactured and distributed a multitude of controlled substances using the Dark Web.

Allante Pires, 25, was sentenced by U.S. Senior District Court Judge Rya W. Zobel to 28 months in prison and three years of supervised release. Pires was also ordered to forfeit a 2013 Mercedes E sedan. The government recommended a sentence of 70 months in prison. On June 2, 2022, Pires pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture, distribute and possess with intent to distribute MDMA, commonly known as ecstasy, Ketamine and Alprazolam (Xanax).

Pires was indicted in June 2019 along with co-conspirators Binh Thanh Le and Steven McCall. Le, who was the ringleader of the drug-trafficking operation, created and operated a vendor site called “EastSideHigh” in markets on the Dark Network, more commonly known as the Dark Web. The Dark Web is any portion of the internet that can only be accessed with specific software, configurations or authorization that anonymize internet traffic. Le used these Dark Web markets to advertise various drugs for sale, including cocaine, MDMA, Ketamine and Xanax. Le ordered and received wholesale quantities of the drugs he and the others were distributing in the mail, principally from foreign sources in Canada and Europe. Le, Pires and McCall then processed and manufactured those controlled substances at an office space Le rented in Stoughton. After receiving the orders and payment via Bitcoin,

the men mailed the drugs to customers throughout the United States.

Over 19 kilograms of MDMA, almost seven kilograms of Ketamine, nearly one kilogram of cocaine and more than 10,000 counterfeit Xanax pills were seized by authorities during the investigation. Investigators also recovered a computer with the "EastSideHigh" vendor page open, numerous packages containing MDMA and Ketamine, various shipping and packaging materials and a pill press from the office space in Stoughton.

On March 10, 2022, Le was sentenced to eight years in prison and three years of supervised release. Le was also ordered to forfeit more than 59 Bitcoin (representing a forfeiture in excess of \$1.1 million), \$114,680 in cash, \$42,390 representing the proceeds from the sale of a 2018 BMW M3, along with other items including a pill press and currency counter. McCall pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy on June 28, 2022 and is scheduled to be sentenced on Sept. 28, 2022.

United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins; Ketty Larco-Ward, Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service's Boston Division; Matthew B. Millhollin, Special Agent in Charge for the Homeland Security Investigations in Boston; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Norfolk County District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey; and Jennifer De La O, Director of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Boston Field Office made the announcement. Special assistance with the investigation was provided by the Homeland Security Investigations in Colorado; Postal Inspectors from around the country; and the Stoughton, Norwood and Brockton Police Departments. Assistant U.S. Attorney James E. Arnold of Rollins' Narcotics & Money Laundering Unit prosecuted the case." -Massachusetts Department of Justice.

New Bedford Police arrest 23-year old city man for alleged robbery at knifepoint

“On Monday, September 5, officers responded to Jouvette Street and Bonney Street for a report of a robbery with a knife.

When they arrived on the scene, they arrested and charged CAMRON ZANOLLI, 23, of 40 Taft Avenue, and charged him with Assault and Battery with a dangerous weapon, armed robbery, and assault and battery.” -City of New Bedford Police Department.

Wareham Police Department seeks public's help in identifying larceny suspect

“Wareham Police is again seeking the public's assistance identifying the male in the attached photos.

He is a suspect in a larceny of a large amount of “Red Bull” energy drinks from Shaw's.

If you can identify this male please call Wareham Police Detectives at 508-295-1204.” -Wareham Police Department.



Wareham Police Department photo.

Connecticut man pleads guilty to cyberstalking and threatening Massachusetts woman

"Defendant cyberstalked and sent death threats to ex-girlfriend and her family."

A Connecticut man has pleaded guilty to threatening, harassing and intimidating a Massachusetts woman through social media and email.

Marshall Nicholas Fain, 31, of New Haven, Conn., pleaded guilty on Aug. 31, 2022 in federal court in Boston to one

count of cyberstalking and one count of transmitting threats through interstate commerce. U.S. District Court Judge Angel Kelley scheduled sentencing for Dec. 21, 2022. Fain was arrested and charged on Feb. 2, 2022.

"People deserve to end relationships without fear. Too often, women are the targets threatening, controlling and/or violent behavior. In response to the end of his two-year relationship with the victim, Mr. Fain terrorized her for several months, making her fear for her life and the lives of her family. In the face of aggressively disturbing and intimidating threats this woman bravely notified federal authorities of Mr. Fain's abusive behavior. Thanks to this woman's enormous strength and courage, Mr. Fain must now answer for the fear and pain he caused," said United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins. "Threats of violence, regardless of whether they're made in person or sent from behind a keyboard, are illegal and will not be tolerated by my office. Stalking and threatening others online are serious crimes that deeply impact victims' mental, emotional and physical welfare. The internet does not offer you anonymity – perpetrators will be identified, prosecuted and held accountable."

"The victim in this case did not let fear silence her. She courageously came forward and worked with the FBI to help bring Mr. Fain's campaign of torment to an end," said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division." Words can and do lead to violence, and the FBI would like to take this opportunity to urge victims of online threats to report the crime because we will not hesitate to investigate these cowardly acts."

Fain was in a relationship with the victim for approximately two years, until the relationship ended in August 2021. Soon after, in September 2021 and continuing through December 2021, Fain sent the victim multiple private messages through email and social media threatening to kill the victim and members of her family.

Fain created multiple social media and email accounts which he used to harass and threaten the victim anonymously. Specifically, Fain used anonymous Instagram and Facebook accounts to send the victim messages that said, among other things, "I'll kill you" and "You gonna get yours if it's the last thing I do." Fain also used anonymous email addresses to send the victim threatening messages that said, among other things, "I'm gonna find you and kill you if it's the last thing I do," "By now you know I don't give a f*** about my own life so I really don't mind taking yours," and "When the time is right you gonna be one of the girls going missing. Ima torture the f*** out of you when I catch you."

The charge of stalking by electronic means provides for a sentence of up to five years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. The charge of transmitting threats through interstate commerce provides for a sentence of up to two years in prison, one year of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

U.S. Attorney Rollins and FBI SAC Bonavolonta made the announcement today. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, New Haven Division provided valuable assistance in the matter. Assistant U.S. Attorney Evan Gotlob of Rollins Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case." -Massachusetts Department of Justice.