

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION — INCIDENT / INVESTIGATION REPORT

CLASSIFICATION: LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE // FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FORM: FD-1023 (Rev. 06-2024) **CASE NO.:** 176A-WF-291174 **NCIC:** NX-7741-2026

FIELD OFFICE: FBI WFO, 1900 Half Street SW, Washington, D.C. **ASSISTING:** USSS-PI/DS

DATE OF INCIDENT: 27 March 2026, ~21:40–22:05 EDT **REPORT FILED:** 28 Mar 2026, 07:12 EDT

REPORTING SA: SA Karen M. Vasquez, WFO/CI-4 **COORDINATING SSA:** SSA Roy T. Eckhardt

REPORT DATE: 02 April 2026

SECTION I — CASE IDENTIFICATION

Subject	Disappearance / Potential Assault on a Federal Officer (18 U.S.C. § 111, § 1114)
Missing Person	SA Elliot J. Crane, FBI, Badge 9F-2271, GS-13, WFO/CI-4 (Counterintelligence — Economic Espionage / Foreign Influence)
Status	Unaccounted For / Missing Under Suspicious Circumstances — OPEN / ONGOING
Last Known Location	Vicinity of 14th St NW & K St NW, Washington, D.C. (open-air)
Last Contact	27 Mar 2026, 21:38 EDT (outbound cellular call, 16.8 s duration)
Recovered Evidence	One (1) mobile telephone — exhibit E-01 (recovered 30 Mar 2026; see §III)
Injury/Fatality	Unconfirmed — see §V

SECTION II — SYNOPSIS

On 27 March 2026, SA Elliot J. Crane (WFO/CI-4) failed to return home or report for a scheduled 06:00 EDT briefing on 28 March 2026. Carrier records show he placed an outbound call at 21:38 EDT that terminated abruptly after **16.8 seconds**. A Missing Person inquiry was opened 28 Mar 2026, 07:12 EDT. On 30 March 2026, his mobile telephone was recovered from a storm grate at 14th St NW & New York Ave NW

by MPD and turned over to FBI ERT (exhibit E-01). Forensic extraction revealed a locally recorded audio file of the final call; at approximately **T + 11 s** a sharp, high-amplitude acoustic transient (consistent with a loud bang) is present, immediately followed by cessation of speech. SA Crane remains unaccounted for; **currently available details are inconclusive.**

SECTION III — NARRATIVE

3.1 Movements. SA Crane departed WFO at ~21:10 EDT 27 Mar 2026 in a Bureau-issued silver sedan (tag DC-7741022 — recovered 29 Mar, parked/locked at 15th St NW & I St NW, no forced entry). LPR data places the vehicle northbound on 14th St NW, 21:18–21:34 EDT. No scheduled meeting appears in his Bureau calendar, BlackBerry, or personal effects.

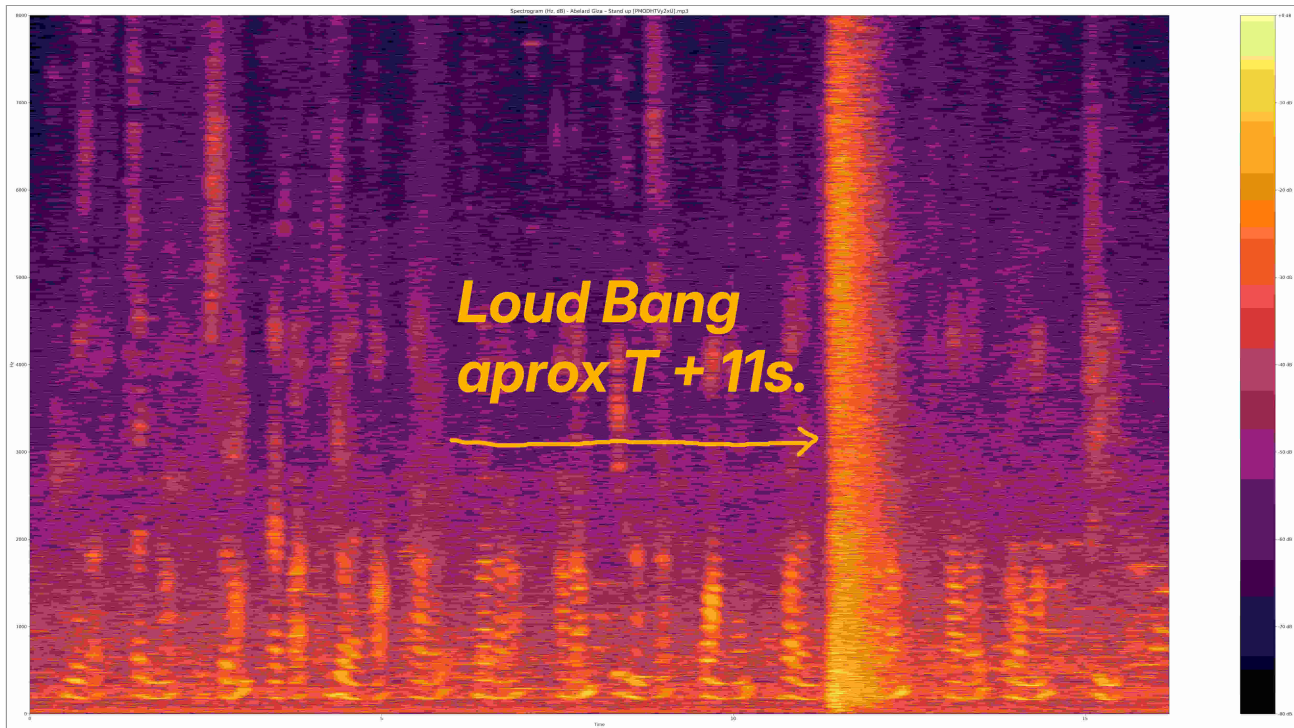
3.2 Final call. At **21:38:14 EDT**, SA Crane's phone (IMEI ...8841) called a U.S. number tied to an inactive prepaid account ("J. Marston," acquired 14 Mar 2026); the call connected at 21:38:16 and dropped after **16.8 s**. A device-side recording was cached by "AutoRecorder Pro" (installed 19 Mar 2026) — the only retained recording on the device.

3.3 Recovery. On 30 Mar 2026, ~14:22 EDT, an MPD crew recovered the phone wedged in a storm grate (14th St NW & New York Ave NW). Superficially damaged but functionally intact; MPD P.O. A. Reyes (Badge 4471) noted a Bureau credential wallpaper and notified FBI WFO Watchdesk at 14:51. Taken into ERT custody (SA T. Quigley) at 15:38, logged as **exhibit E-01**. Chain of custody: MPD → ERT → DFL-2 (Forensic Tech R. Mendoza, 17:05) → SA Vasquez (31 Mar, 09:40, CI-4 evidence vault).

SECTION IV — AUDIO EXAMINATION (E-01-A)

Recording. File `REC_20260327_213816_8841.m4a` — AAC-LC, 44.1 kHz, 16-bit, mono, 16.8 s. Originating party: SA Crane (voice exemplar match, CONFIDENCE: HIGH). Receiving party: unidentified male, accent inconclusive. Integrity hash verified; not overwritten or tampered with.

Spectrogram (0–22 kHz vs. time). The anomalous transient is clearly visible at ~**T + 11 s**:



Spectrogram of REC_20260327_213816_8841.m4a – FFT size 2048, Hann window, 87.5% overlap. High-amplitude broadband impulse visible at T+10.9s–T+11.4s, followed by decay envelope and broadband low-level noise through end of file at T+16.8s.

Analytical notes (Forensic Audio, DFL-2). The transient at T+10.9 s has abrupt onset (rise time < 4 ms), broadband energy 80 Hz–18 kHz (peak 250–1,200 Hz, ~-3.1 dBFS), consistent with a single high-energy impulse near the microphone. Possible classifications (non-exhaustive): firearm discharge (close/medium range); vehicle collision/impact; structural collapse or dropped heavy object; distant detonation — **none confirmable from the recording alone.** No intelligible speech is recoverable post-event (T+11.4–16.8 s); content consistent with device being moved or placed against a surface. The receiving party's speech shows no co-location reverberation, supporting that he was remote (on the phone), not present with SA Crane.

SECTION V — ASSESSMENT (PRELIMINARY)

Hypothesis	Confidence
Acoustic event = assault / harmful incident to SA Crane	MODERATE (unconfirmed)
Acoustic event = vehicular collision / accident	LOW-MODERATE
	LOW

Hypothesis	Confidence
Acoustic event = environmental / non-hostile (tire blowout, dropped equipment)	
SA Crane departed voluntarily (recording staged)	LOW

The recording captures a single abrupt, high-amplitude transient at ~T+11 s, followed by immediate cessation of speech and call termination — consistent with, but not dispositive of, a harmful event near SA Crane. **Evidence is insufficient** to conclude (a) the nature of the event, (b) whether SA Crane was harmed, (c) the identity/role of the receiving party, or (d) whether the disappearance is hostile, accidental, or voluntary. The recently acquired prepaid number, third-party recorder installed eight days prior, and CI assignment warrant continued investigation, but no inference of criminal or hostile conduct should be drawn from these facts alone.

SECTION VI — INVESTIGATIVE STATUS

Status: OPEN / ONGOING **Lead:** FBI WFO / CI-4 **Assisting:** USSS-PI; MPD Major Crimes; FBI BAU-1 (consultative); DOJ-NSD (notified)

Pending actions: (1) ID subscriber "J. Marston" + toll/subscription records; (2) geofence warrant — 14th St NW & New York Ave NW, 21:30–22:00 EDT 27 Mar 2026; (3) CCTV canvass (MPD, DDOT, private); (4) SA Crane financial/CTA/travel records; (5) forensic voice exemplar comparison; (6) E-01 full data extraction (in progress). **Next report:** FD-1023-S due 09 Apr 2026, or upon material development.

SECTION VII — AUTHENTICATION

Prepared by: SA Karen M. Vasquez, FBI WFO/CI-4 **Reviewed by:** SSA Roy T. Eckhardt, FBI WFO/CI-4
Concurred (Audio/Forensics): Forensic Technician R. Mendoza, FBI WFO DFL-2 **Date:** 02 April 2026

LES // FOUO — FOIA exemptions (b)(7)(A)/(b)(7)(C). Sensitive law enforcement document; unauthorized disclosure may result in administrative, civil, or criminal action. All persons presumed innocent. Facts as of date of issuance; investigation ongoing; details inconclusive.