

Eagleton Podcast Features Chief Jan. 6 Committee Intelligence Investigator; Jan 6 Report cites two groundbreaking Eagleton Miller Center reports on January 6, QAnon conspiracies

New Brunswick, N.J. (January 6, 2023) - The Eagleton Institute of Politics is commemorating the second anniversary of the January 6, 2020 disruption of the transition of presidential power by releasing the [latest episode of its podcast](#) "This Moment in Democracy," featuring former Congressman Denver Riggleman, an experienced intelligence analyst who led the January 6 Committee's investigation of data related to texts, telephones, Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) and Web Intelligence (WEBINT) that lead to the violence on January 6.

Riggleman, who is joining Eagleton's Miller Center for Policing Excellence and Community Resilience as a subject matter expert, was an early target of QAnon conspiracy adherents after performing a gay marriage. As he tells Professor Saladin Ambar in the podcast, the threats posed by such groundless conspiracy theories may have crested in the violence of January 6, but they have not disappeared.

John Farmer, Director of the Miller Center and the Eagleton Institute, said, "January 6, 2020, will be remembered as one of the darkest days in modern American history. The attempt to obstruct the lawful transition of presidential power is anathema to every foundational value we at Eagleton are pledged to protect. We are proud to have worked prior to the 2020 election, along with Congressman Denver Riggleman, and others to identify the threat posed by disinformation and conspiracy theories like [QAnon](#), to have conducted the earliest analysis after January 6 of the social media climate, and to have seen our work recognized in the [January 6 report](#)."

Eagleton's and the Miller Center's commitment to continue to call out these threats is reflected in its announcement that Denver Riggleman has joined the Miller Center as a subject matter expert. Riggleman joins the research team at NC Lab at the Miller Center, which has written reports and briefed federal and state law enforcement agencies on [extremist groups](#) such as the Boogaloo Bois, one of whose leaders was recently sentenced in the plot to abduct Michigan Governor Whitmer, threats posed by radical anarcho-socialist extremists, and threats to vulnerable populations such as [Asians](#) and [Hindus](#). The NC Lab at the Miller Center has also researched the use of hate speech on Twitter since the company's recent acquisition. Researchers found that use of hateful and racist speech increased by almost 500 percent. This research was recently cited by United Nations experts in a [statement](#) about the tension between freedom of speech and hate speech on social media.

"I got to know the work of the Rutgers team in the heat of the QAnon attack on me, and my respect for the team's integrity has only grown over time. I am proud to join Eagleton's effort to protect our democracy," said Congressman Denver Riggleman.

Mr. Farmer and Mr. Riggelman are available for media follow-up questions.

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The Eagleton Institute of Politics

[The Eagleton Institute of Politics](#) at Rutgers University—New Brunswick studies how American politics and government work and change, analyzes how the democracy might improve, and promotes political participation and civic engagement. The Institute explores state and national politics through research, education, and public service, linking the study of politics with its day-to-day practice.

The Miller Center for Policing Excellence and Community Resilience

[The Miller Center for Policing Excellence and Community Resilience](#) engages in education and public service focused on protecting vulnerable communities. The Eagleton affiliated center identifies and disseminates best practices, offers training workshops, consults on security and civil liberties, and undertakes research.

Rutgers University - New Brunswick

[Rutgers University—New Brunswick](#) is where Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, began more than 250 years ago. Ranked among the world's top 60 universities, Rutgers's flagship university is a leading public research institution and a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. It is home to internationally acclaimed faculty and has 12 degree granting schools and a Division I Athletics program. It is the Big Ten Conference's most diverse university. Through its community of teachers, scholars, artists, scientists, and healers, Rutgers is equipped as never before to transform lives.