

# GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

## TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

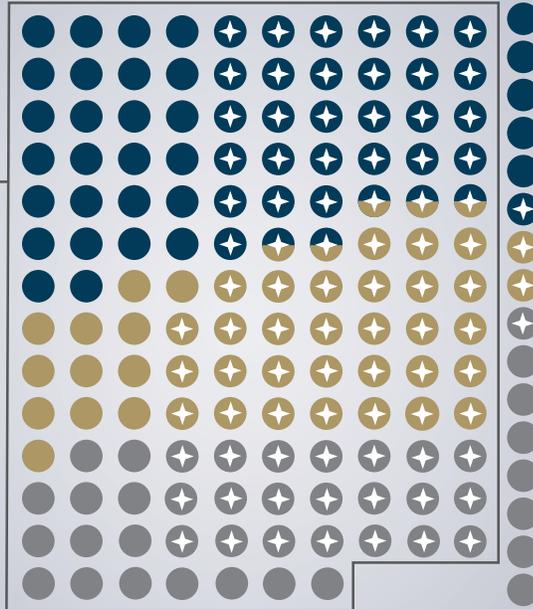
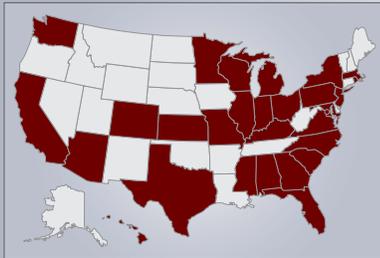
Program on Extremism  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**153** INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN CHARGED IN THE U.S. ON OFFENSES RELATED to the Islamic State (also known as IS, ISIS, and ISIL) since March 2014, when the first arrests occurred. Of those:

The average age of those charged is **28**

**90%** are male

Their activities were located in **28** states and the District of Columbia



**42%** were accused of attempting to travel or successfully traveled abroad.

**32%** were accused of being involved in plots to carry out attacks on U.S. soil.

**58%** were charged in an operation involving an informant and/or an undercover agent.

★ indicates law enforcement operation

The average length of sentence in years **13.9\*** **90** HAVE PLEADED OR BEEN FOUND GUILTY

\* Uses 470 months for life sentences per the practice of the U.S. Sentencing Commission'

## Islamic State–Related Apprehensions/Charges

### KAAN SERCAN DAMLARKAYA

DEC 11 18 TX

Eighteen-year-old Houston, Texas, resident Kaan Sercan Damlarkaya was charged with unlawfully distributing information on how to produce explosives and attempting to provide material support to IS. According to the criminal complaint, Damlarkaya discussed both attempting to travel to join the group in Syria and committing attacks in the United States if travel was not possible. Using an online messaging platform, he allegedly told undercover federal agents and other sources about various methods of attacks, including providing formulas for the explosive triacetone

triperoxide (TATP) and information on how to build assault rifles. Sources: [Damlarkaya Criminal Complaint](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

### AYAKED ULLAH

DEC 12 27 NY

Twenty-seven-year-old Brooklyn, New York, resident Ayaked Ullah was charged with providing material support to IS, using a weapon of mass destruction, and several other explosives charges. Ullah is the alleged perpetrator of the December 11, 2017 bombing attack on a New York City Port Authority terminal,

and was arrested after being wounded in the suicide bombing attempt. The criminal complaint claims he told authorities that he conducted the attack on behalf of IS, had viewed material produced by the group, and researched how to construct an improvised explosive device for over a year. Sources: [Ullah Complaint](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

## ZOOBIA SHAHNAZ

DEC 14 27  NY

Zoobia Shahnaz was charged with several counts of bank fraud and money laundering, including one charge of money laundering to support a foreign terrorist organization. Shahnaz, a 27-year-old Brentwood, New York, resident, allegedly made several fraudulent loan and credit card applications, and used them to buy over \$60,000 worth of cryptocurrencies. Using wire transfers, she sent the money to overseas IS operatives through a series of shell companies. Following the transfers, she attempted to travel out of the U.S., purportedly to join IS, but was apprehended by federal agents. Sources: [Shahnaz Indictment](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

## EVERITT AARON JAMESON

DEC 22 27  CA

Modesto, California, resident Everitt Aaron Jameson was charged with attempting to provide material support to IS. The criminal complaint claims that Jameson, a 27-year-old former U.S. Marine, met with FBI undercover employees whom he believed were members of IS, and expressed his interest in planning an attack in the U.S. on behalf of the group. During the course of these conversations, Jameson discussed a potential attack in San Francisco during the week of Christmas, and wrote a last will and testament documenting his allegiances to IS. However, prior to executing the attack, federal agents arrested Jameson. Sources: [Jameson Criminal Complaint](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

## SEAN ANDREW DUNCAN

DEC 30 21  VA

Sean Andrew Duncan was charged with obstructing an FBI investigation. On December 29, the FBI executed a search warrant on Duncan's home in Sterling, Virginia, based on evidence that Duncan had provided material support to IS. During the search, Duncan fled the house and threw a plastic bag at agents containing a destroyed flash drive. Several sources, including an unnamed co-conspirator, an undercover FBI employee, and a IS recruiter detained overseas, claim that Duncan was an ardent IS supporter who attempted to travel to join the group in Syria and Libya and may have been planning attacks in the U.S. Sources: [Duncan Criminal Complaint](#), [CNN](#), [Washington Post](#)

## Apprehensions/Charges for Other Jihadist Groups

### SIDIKJON MAMADJONOV

DEC 22 31  CT

A 31-year-old New Britain, Connecticut, resident was charged with unlawfully procuring residency in the U.S., making false statements on a naturalization application, and perjury. Sidikjon Mamadjonov, a citizen of Uzbekistan and a lawful U.S. permanent resident, applied for U.S. citizenship in September 2014. On his application, Mamadjonov misrepresented the purpose of his previous travel to Turkey and his associations with terrorist groups. In 2013, Mamadjonov traveled to Turkey to try to locate his brother, but he was informed that his brother had died fighting for Jabhat al-Nusra, a jihadist group in Syria affiliated with AQ. Mamadjonov also failed to disclose that he previously lived next door to Azizjon Rakhmatov, another Uzbek citizen who was arrested in May 2016 for attempting to provide material support to IS. Sources: [Mamadjonov Criminal Complaint](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

## Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Groups)

### ASHER ABID KHAN

DEC 4

23



Twenty-three-year-old Spring, Texas, resident Asher Abid Khan pleaded guilty to providing material support for IS. In 2014, Khan and his friend Sixto Ramiro Garcia traveled to Turkey, planning to later travel to Syria to join IS. However, Khan returned to the U.S. after his parents claimed his mother was hospitalized in an attempt to prevent Khan from entering Syria. Khan continued to assist Garcia by providing him money and access to an IS facilitator. With Khan's help, Garcia arrived in Syria; he was killed fighting for IS in December 2014. Khan is scheduled to be sentenced in March 2018. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Houston Chronicle](#)

### NICHOLAS YOUNG

DEC 18

38



Nicholas Young, a former Washington, D.C., transit police officer, was convicted by a jury of attempting to provide material support to IS and obstruction of justice. Young, a 38-year-old Fairfax, Virginia, resident, purchased several gift cards and transmitted their codes to IS members overseas. Later, Young attempted to impede a federal investigation by concealing the whereabouts of a confidential human source whom he believed traveled to Syria to join IS. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Washington Post](#), [NBC Washington](#)

### OMAR FARAJ SAEED AL HARDAN

DEC 18

25



A 25-year-old Iraqi refugee and resident of Houston, Texas, was sentenced to 16 years in federal prison after pleading guilty to providing material support for IS. Omar Faraj Saeed Al Hardan admitted in October 2016 that he communicated with several individuals about traveling to Syria to join Jabhat al-Nusra or IS. He attempted to attain training in building explosives

and participated in weapons training in the U.S., and also made statements on social media in favor of IS.

Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [The New York Times](#), [ABC News](#), [Houston Chronicle](#)

### DAVID WRIGHT

DEC 19

25



David Wright was sentenced to 28 years in federal prison. In October 2017, Wright was found guilty by trial of conspiring to provide material support to IS, conspiring to commit acts of terrorism transpiring national boundaries, and two counts of obstruction of justice. Wright, a 28-year-old from Everett, Massachusetts, conspired with his uncle Usaamah Rahim and his friend Nicholas Rovinski to form a "Martyrdom Operations Cell" for IS in the United States. In June 2015, Rahim attempted to attack police officers in Roslindale, Massachusetts; he was shot and killed in the facilitation of the plot. Soon after, Wright and Rovinski were arrested; prior to Wright's arrest, he obstructed justice by deleting all records of communication between him and the other co-conspirators from his computer. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Boston Globe](#), [Washington Post](#)

### AKHROR SAIDAKHMETOV

DEC 20

22



Twenty-two-year-old Brooklyn, New York, resident Akhror Saidakhmetov was sentenced to 15 years in prison for attempting to provide material support to IS. In 2014, Saidakhmetov became active on online pro-IS forums and expressed interest in traveling to Syria to join the group, and planning attacks in the U.S. should he be unable to travel. Along with Abdurasul Juraboev, his codefendant, Saidakhmetov made plans to travel to Syria via a connecting flight to Turkey. On February 25, 2015, Saidakhmetov was arrested at New York's JFK International Airport prior to boarding his flight. He pleaded guilty in January 2017. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Reuters](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#)

## LIONEL WILLIAMS

DEC 20

26



Lionel Williams was sentenced to 20 years in prison after pleading guilty in August 2017 to attempting to provide material support for IS. Williams was arrested and charged in December 2016 after planning a “martyrdom” operation in the United States, including asking an FBI confidential human source for AK-47 ammunition for use in a “local” operation. Williams also sent money to an individual that he believed to be a financier for IS. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Williams Government Sentencing Memorandum](#)

## JALIL IBN AMEER AZIZ

DEC 20

19



Jalil Ibn Ameer Aziz was sentenced to 13 years and four months in prison for conspiring to provide material support for IS and transmitting communications with threats to injure. From July 2014 to December 2015, Aziz used over 72 Twitter accounts to express his support for IS and disseminate its propaganda. Using these accounts, he served as an intermediary between an individual looking to travel to Syria

to join IS and additionally re-posted a “kill list” which contained the personal information of over 100 U.S. military service members. Aziz pleaded guilty to both counts in January 2017. Source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [ABC 27 News](#)

## Attacks

### AYAKED ULLAH

DEC 11

27



A lone attacker detonated an improvised explosive device at a Port Authority terminal in New York City during morning rush hour. There were no deaths, and the only individual that suffered serious injuries was the attacker, who was subsequently hospitalized, arrested, and identified as Ayaked Ullah, a 27-year-old Brooklyn resident and citizen of Bangladesh. According to the criminal complaint, Ullah told authorities that he had conducted the attack on behalf of IS. Bomb-making materials and IS propaganda were found during a search of Ullah’s apartment in Brooklyn. Source: [The New York Times](#), [Washington Post](#), [CNN](#), [BBC](#)