

GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

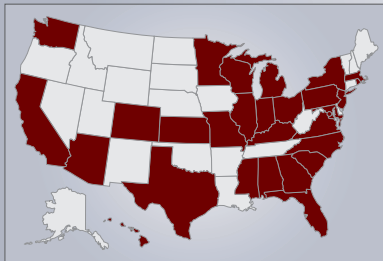
Program on Extremism
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

157 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**

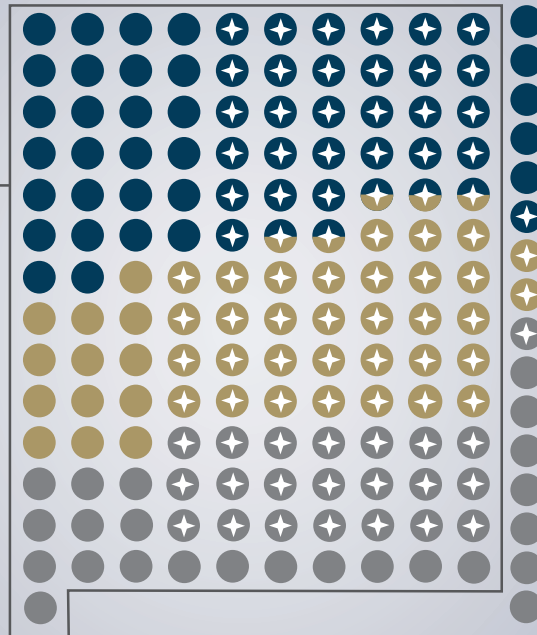
90% are male

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



The average length of sentence in years **13.6** * **95** HAVE PLEADED OR BEEN FOUND GUILTY

* Uses 470 months for life sentences per the practice of the U.S. Sentencing Commission¹



41% were accused of attempting to travel or successfully traveled abroad.

33% were accused of being involved in plots to carry out attacks on U.S. soil.

57% were charged in an operation involving an informant and/or an undercover agent.

★ indicates law enforcement operation

Islamic State–Related Apprehensions/Charges

ABDULLAHI AHMED ABDULLAHI

JAN 3

33

The U.S. unsealed charges filed in January 2016 against 33-year old Canadian resident Abdullahi Ahmed Abdullahi. Abdullahi, who previously resided in San Diego, California and Minneapolis, Minnesota, was charged with two counts of providing material support to IS and one count of aiding and abetting. The indictment alleges that between 2013 and 2014, Abdullahi and Douglas McCain trained with firearms and raised funds for IS foreign fighters in Syria, in-

cluding the financing of their own travel to Syria. The conspiracy reportedly included 14 individuals in the U.S., Canada, Turkey, and Syria. The co-conspirators exhorted others to finance IS by “commit[ing] crimes against the kuffar [non-Muslims]”: Abdullahi allegedly robbed a jewelry store in Edmonton, Canada to garner funds for the plot. As a result of Abdullahi’s efforts, Douglas McCain and four other co-conspirators traveled to Syria and joined IS between November 2013 and November 2014. An extradition hearing for Abdullahi is scheduled for May 2018. *Sources: DOJ Press Release, Abdullahi Indictment*

Apprehensions/Charges for Other Jihadist Groups

CHRISTIAN GANCZARSKI

JAN 17

51

Christian Ganczarski was charged in a superseding indictment with conspiracy to kill U.S. nationals overseas, conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists, and providing material support to terrorists. Ganczarski, a 51-year-old German citizen, was allegedly a close associate of senior figures in al-Qaeda, including Usama bin Laden, Muhammad Atef (Abu Hafs al-Masri), Saif al-Adel, and Khalid Sheikh Mohammed. Between 1999 and 2001, Ganczarski traveled on multiple occasions to Afghanistan and Pakistan, where he assisted al-Qaeda by providing technical support. He was arrested in France in 2003 for his role in a 2002 bombing of a synagogue in Tunisia, and is currently incarcerated in France facing extradition to the U.S. After being informed of the U.S. extradition request, Ganczarski stabbed four French correctional officers. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Ganczarski Superseding Indictment](#), [New York Times](#)

Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Groups)

MARCHELLO DSAUN MCCAIN

JAN 12

35



Marchello Dsaun McCain, a 35-year-old resident of San Diego, California, was sentenced to ten years in prison after pleading guilty to federal firearms charges and making false statements to Federal Bureau of Investigation-Joint Terrorism Taskforce (FBI-JTTF) agents. In March 2014, Marchello's brother Douglas traveled to Syria and joined IS. During interviews with JTTF agents following Douglas' departure, McCain lied about his knowledge of the intent of his brother's overseas travel and the methods he used to finance his journey. Agents also found Marchello McCain (a convicted felon) in possession of a cache of weapons, including stolen firearms. He pleaded guilty to the firearms charges in January 2016, and to the false

statements charge in September 2016. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [McCain Indictment](#), [McCain Superseding Indictment](#)

ABDIRAHMAN SHEIK MOHAMUD

JAN 22

25



Twenty-five-year-old Columbus, Ohio, resident Abdirahman Sheik Mohamud was sentenced to 22 years in federal prison. Mohamud traveled to Syria in April 2014, and joined Jabhat al-Nusra, participating in weapons and fitness training at a camp administered by the group. A leader in Jabhat al-Nusra instructed Mohamud to return to the U.S. and commit an attack on behalf of the organization. In June 2014, Mohamud re-entered the U.S. He was in the planning stages of an attack on U.S. military personnel when he was arrested in February 2015. He pleaded guilty to providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization and making false statements to the FBI involving international terrorism in June 2017. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Washington Post](#)

ARAFAT NAGI

JAN 22

47



Arafat Nagi pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to IS. Nagi is a 47-year-old resident of Lackawanna, New York who made two separate trips to Turkey to attempt to join jihadist groups in Syria, once in October 2012 and again in July 2014. Prior to both trips, Nagi purchased military equipment. A concerned community member alerted the FBI that Nagi continued to espouse jihadist viewpoints following his return to the U.S., and had declared allegiance to Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of IS. Nagi was indicted in July 2015. Sources: [Reuters](#), [AP](#), [The Buffalo News](#)

DERRICK THOMPSON

JAN 22

31



Derrick Thompson, 31, was sentenced to a year in prison in Arizona's Maricopa County Superior Court.

He pleaded guilty on January 12 to state charges of assisting a criminal syndicate and solicitation to commit misconduct involving weapons. Thompson was arrested in late 2016 after repeatedly expressing support for IS and searching for weapons to purchase online. Sources: [AZCentral](#), [ABC 15](#)

WASIL FAROOQUI



Roanoke, Virginia resident Wasil Farooqui was sentenced to 16 years in prison after pleading guilty to a 2016 double-stabbing of a couple in their home in Roanoke. Federal investigators could not find explicit links between Farooqui and any specific jihadist group but noted that the attack was likely inspired by jihadism. Sources: [Washington Post](#), [The Roanoke Times](#), [WDBJ-7](#)

MAHAD ABDIAZIZ ABDIRAHAM



Mahad Abdiaziz Abdiraham pleaded guilty to two counts of assault. On November 12, 2017, the 20-year-old Minneapolis, Minnesota resident stabbed two men in the Mall of America, resulting in non-life-threatening injuries. During the plea hearing, Abdiraham claimed that he committed the attack on behalf of IS in his statement, arguing that he planned the attack in response to “call for jihad by the Chief of Believer[s], Abu-bakr Al-baghdadi, may Allah protect him, and by the Mujahiden [warriors] of the Islamic State.” Sources: [Abdiraham Complaint](#), [Star Tribune](#)

JOSHUA CUMMINGS



Thirty-eight-year-old Denver, Colorado, resident Joshua Cummings was convicted of first-degree murder by trial. The charge carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. On January 31, 2017, Cummings murdered Denver transit security guard Scott Von Lanken, and was arrested shortly thereafter. Cummings, a convert to Islam and former Army soldier, told investigators that he had pledged allegiance to IS. The Muslim community in Denver referred Cummings to the Department of Homeland Security in December 2016 after he made concerning statements at an area mosque. Sources: [CBS](#), [The Denver Post](#)

Attacks

TNUZA JAMAL HASSAN



A former student of St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota, allegedly set a fire in a university dormitory to protest U.S. military actions in Iraq and Afghanistan. Nineteen-year-old Tnuza Jamal Hassan was charged on January 19 with first-degree arson. The complaint alleges that Hassan previously sent letters to her roommates containing “radical ideas” regarding the defense of Muslims and support for the Caliphate. She also reportedly told investigators that “you guys are lucky that I don’t know how to build a bomb because I would have done that.” The fires did not cause any injuries or deaths. Sources: [MPR News](#), [ABC](#)