

GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

Program on Extremism
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

178 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:

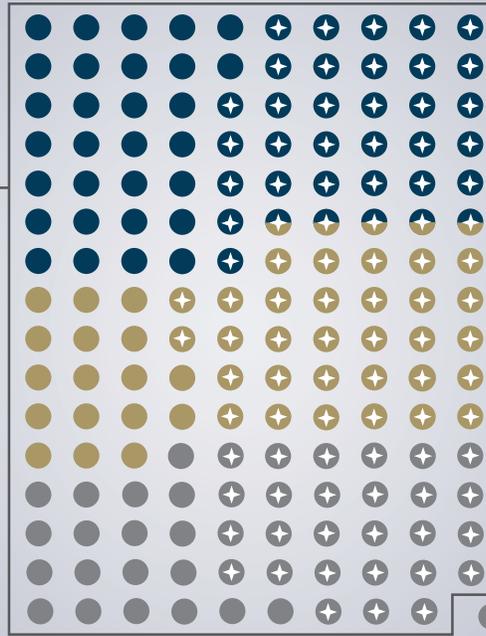
The average age of those charged is **28**

89% are male

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



The average length of sentence in years **13.5***



40% 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.

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

✦ indicates law enforcement operation

127 HAVE PLEADED OR BEEN FOUND GUILTY

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

Arrests (Islamic State)

KIM ANH VO

MAR 12 20 GA

Authorities arrested Kim Anh Vo, a 20-year-old resident of Hephzibah, Georgia, and charged her with one count of conspiring to provide material support to IS. According to the criminal complaint, Vo joined an online hacking group known as the United Cyber Caliphate. According to court documents, the United Cyber Caliphate pledged allegiance to IS and committed cyber intrusions on behalf of IS. In messages with other members of the group, Vo allegedly identified herself as a member of IS. Additionally, Vo allegedly worked to recruit others to join the group and assisted in the creation of pro-IS

content online. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Vo Criminal Complaint](#), [Washington Post](#), [AP News](#)

Apprehensions and Charges (Other Jihadist Groups)

JANY LEVEILLE, SIRAJ IBN WAHHAJ, HUIJRAH WAHHAJ, SUBHANAH WAHHAJ & LUCAS MORTON

MAR 13 36 40 38 36 41 NM

A federal grand jury in Albuquerque, New Mexico returned a superseding indictment charging Jany Leveille, 36, Siraj Ibn Wahhaj, 40, Hujrah Wahhaj, 38, Subhanah Wahhaj, 36, and Lucas Morton, 41, with federal offenses related to terrorism, kidnapping and

firearms violations. The group reportedly maintained a compound in Amalia, New Mexico and utilized it to prepare for attacks on the government and military. Members of the group are accused of gathering firearms and ammunition and transporting it across state lines, conducting firearms and tactical training, and attempting to recruit others to join them. The criminal complaint alleges that members of the group instructed individuals to “be prepared to engage in jihad, to die as martyrs, and to engage in violent acts, including killing Federal Bureau of Investigation employees, government officials, and military personnel.” The members of the group were originally arrested on August 3, 2018, and initially charged on September 11, 2018, with a conspiracy relating to the possession of firearms by an alien illegally and unlawfully in the United States. Sources: [Wahhaj et al Indictment](#), [DOJ Press Release](#), [Washington Post](#)

Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Groups)

GREGORY LEPSKY

MAR 1 22  NJ

A federal judge sentenced Gregory Lepsky, a 22-year-old former resident of Point Pleasant, New Jersey, to 16 years in prison for planning to construct and use a pressure cooker bomb in New York on behalf of IS. After his arrest due to an unrelated incident in his home, authorities searched his residence and found evidence of Lepsky’s intent to construct a bomb using a pressure cooker. During searches of Lepsky’s computers, law enforcement officers found evidence that Lepsky told others he intended to fight on behalf of IS. Lepsky admitted to law enforcement officers that he had read online how to make a pressure cooker bomb

and was going to detonate the pressure cooker in New York City. Lepsky pleaded guilty on March 13, 2018, to one count of attempting to provide material support to IS. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [NJ.com](#), [CBS](#)

MEDIHA “MEDY” SALKICEVIC

MAR 21 38  IL

Mediha “Medy” Salkicevic, a 38-year-old former resident of Schiller Park, Illinois, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to provide material support to IS. Salkicevic was charged on February 6, 2015, along with five other individuals, in relation to their conspiracy to provide material support to Abdullah Ramo Pazara, a naturalized U.S. citizen who left the United States to join IS in 2013. Salkicevic admitted to sending money via Paypal to a co-defendant, who then used the money to buy supplies to send to Pazara. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Marietta Daily Journal](#), [ABC](#)

ALEXANDER SAMUEL SMITH

MAR 21 31  NC

A jury convicted Alexander Samuel Smith, a 31-year-old former resident of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina on two counts of making false statements to federal law enforcement officers in an international terrorism case. Smith discussed with a confidential human source that he made reservations for an individual attempting to ultimately travel to Syria via Turkey to join IS. In a 2016 interview with FBI agents, Smith denied making those travel plans. Smith was arrested and charged on June 21, 2017. Sources: [Smith Guilty Verdict](#), [WSOCTV](#)