

GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

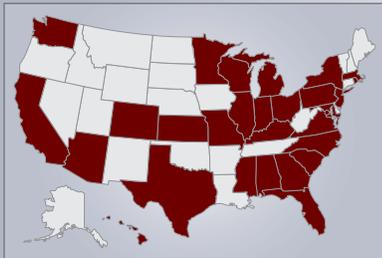
Program on Extremism
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

160 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:

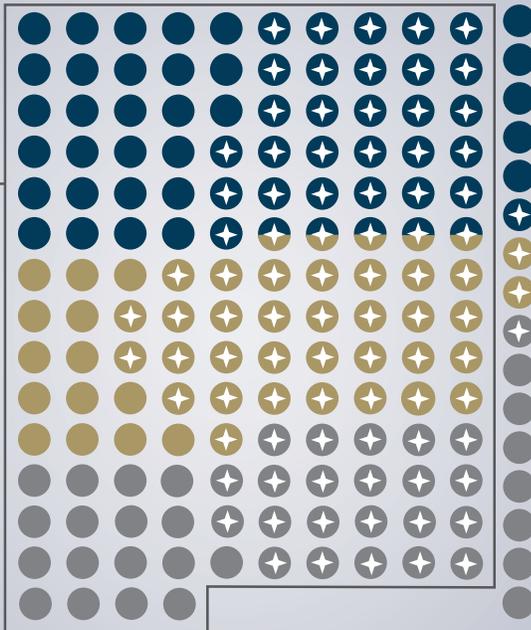
The average age of those charged is **28**

90% are male

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



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



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.

56% were charged in an operation involving an informant and/or an undercover agent.

★ indicates law enforcement operation

105 HAVE PLEADED OR BEEN FOUND GUILTY

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

Islamic State–Related Apprehensions/Charges

AZIZ SAYYED

MAR 6 23 AL

Federal prosecutors charged Aziz Sayyed, a 23-year-old Huntsville, Alabama resident, with attempting to provide material support to IS. On March 8, 2018, Sayyed pleaded guilty to the one-count federal indictment; he previously faced state-level terrorism charges in Alabama. In June 2017, Sayyed met an FBI undercover employee, whom he believed to be an IS member. During this meeting, Sayyed discussed an attack on police or military targets in Alabama, as well as acquiring materials necessary for synthesizing the explosive compound TATP. Two

days after the meeting, on June 15, 2017, Sayyed was arrested. Sources: [Sayyed Information](#), [Sayyed Plea Agreement](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

COREY JOHNSON

MAR 13 17 FL

Seventeen-year-old Corey Johnson was charged with first-degree murder and two counts of attempted first-degree murder in the state of Florida after he stabbed two 13-year-old boys and their mother, resulting in the death of one of the boys. At the time of the attack, Johnson was the subject of a joint inves-

tigation involving the FBI due to his alleged support for IS and online connections he made with group members. In January 2017, a foreign counterintelligence service reportedly told the FBI that Johnson had posted threats against a primary school in the United Kingdom. After conducting an interview, FBI agents advised Johnson to “cease all social media activities related to IS and any other terrorist organizations;” when he did not comply, the FBI considered bringing federal charges against Johnson. *Sources:* [CNN](#), [ABC News](#), [Washington Post](#)

Apprehensions/Charges for Other Jihadist Groups

AMOR FTOUHI

MAR 21

50



A superseding indictment charged Amor Ftouhi, a 50-year-old Montreal, Canada resident, with committing an act of terrorism transcending international boundaries. In June 2017, Ftouhi stabbed a police officer at Flint, Michigan’s Bishop International Airport. The officer survived, and after Ftouhi was arrested, he allegedly told investigators that he conducted the attack in retaliation for the killings of Muslims in Syria and Afghanistan and claimed to be inspired by the ideology of al-Qaeda and Usama bin Laden. *Sources:* [DOJ Press Release](#), [Canadian Press](#)

Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Groups)

ALI MUHAMMAD BROWN

MAR 6

33



Ali Muhammad Brown pleaded guilty in New Jersey of the June 2014 killing of Brendan Tevlin. Brown, a 33-year-old former resident of New Jersey and Seattle, Washington, also admitted in court that he murdered three others in Washington state during a 2014 killing spree. Following his arrest, Brown told investigators that he viewed the killings as retaliation for the killings of Muslims in Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Brown has a previous 2005 conviction for bank fraud, and FBI officials believed he intended to send the proceeds to jihadist groups in Somalia. Despite admitting his role in the killings in open court, Brown

has not yet formally pleaded guilty to the first-degree murder charges he faces in Washington. *Sources:* [NBC News](#), [NJ.com](#)

FARUQ KHALIL MUHAMMED ‘ISA

MAR 6

50

Faruq Khalil Muhammed ‘Isa, a fifty-year-old Canadian citizen, pleaded guilty to providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization. In 2009, Muhammed ‘Isa helped orchestrate a suicide vehicle-based improvised explosive device (SVBIED) attack on a convoy of U.S. military personnel as they left Forward Operating Base Marez in Mosul, Iraq. The attack resulted in the deaths of five U.S. soldiers. Following a joint U.S.-Canadian-Tunisian operation, Muhammed ‘Isa was arrested in Canada in 2011 after being indicted in the Eastern District of New York. In 2015, Canadian authorities extradited him to the U.S. to face criminal proceedings. *Sources:* [DOJ Press Release](#), [BBC](#), [Reuters](#)

MUHANAD MAHMOUD AL FAREKH

MAR 13

32



Muhanad Mahmoud al Farekh, a 32-year-old U.S. citizen born in Houston, Texas, was sentenced to 45 years in federal prison. A jury in New York found al Farekh guilty of multiple charges, including conspiracy to murder U.S. military personnel, conspiracy to use a weapon of mass destruction, and providing material support to al-Qaeda. In 2007, Farekh, while studying in Canada, traveled to Pakistan to participate in an al-Qaeda-administered training camp. He assisted in the construction of an explosive device that was used in a 2009 attack on U.S. military personnel at Forward Operating Base Chapman in Khost, Afghanistan. *Sources:* [DOJ Press Release](#), [Reuters](#), [Washington Post](#)

GREGORY LEPSKY

MAR 13

20



Twenty-year-old Gregory Lepsky, from Point Pleasant, New Jersey, pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to IS. Local police arrested Lepsky after another incident in his family’s home on February 21, 2017. During a search, police uncovered several of the materials used in constructing pressure cooker bombs, bombmaking instructions, and

social media communications detailing Lepsky's desire to conduct an attack on behalf of IS. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [AP](#), [NBC Philadelphia](#)

VICENTE SOLANO

MAR 14

53



Vicente Solano, a 53-year-old resident of Miami, Florida, and a citizen of Honduras, pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to IS. During a series of conversations with a confidential human source, Solano expressed interest in conducting an attack on the United States and joining IS. Solano later planned to detonate an explosive device in a mall in Miami, and sent videos to the source, in which he made pro-IS statements. Prior to the attack, he attained a device from an FBI undercover employee that was rendered inert, and while attempting to place and detonate the device he was taken into custody. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [AP](#)

ERICK JAMAL HENDRICKS

MAR 20

37



A jury in Akron, Ohio convicted Erick Jamal Hendricks, a 37-year-old resident of Charlotte, North Carolina, of conspiring and attempting to provide material support to IS. Hendricks attempted to recruit several individuals in multiple states to join IS by committing terrorist attacks on behalf of the group. He communicated with multiple people involved in IS-related activity in the U.S., including Elton Simpson, one of the perpetrators of the jihadist-inspired attack on the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland, Texas on May 3, 2015. Hendricks directed a FBI undercover employee to meet with Simpson in Garland and participate in the attack. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [New York Times](#), [Charlotte Observer](#)

NOOR ZAHI SALMAN

MAR 30

30



Noor Zahi Salman was acquitted of obstruction of justice and aiding and abetting her husband, Omar Mateen, the perpetrator of the 2016 Pulse Nightclub shooting. Prosecutors alleged that Salman, 30,

"knowingly misled the F.B.I. agents and Fort Pierce, Florida police officers who interviewed her" for 12 hours after the attack, in which 49 people were killed. The indictment accused her of "aided and abetting" Mateen by accompanying him on trips to get ammunition and to Orlando, during which time he "apparently scouted his target." Sources: [New York Times](#), [CNN](#), [ABC News](#)

MOHAMED ELSHINAWY

MAR 30

30



Mohamed Elshinawy was sentenced to 20 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to conspiracy to provide material support to IS, providing or attempting to provide material support to IS, and making false statements in a terrorism-related case. According to the plea agreement, Elshinawy conspired with IS supporters overseas to provide resources to the terrorist organization, including personnel, communications, and financial support. Elshinawy also received more than \$8,000 from a foreign company for the purposes of planning and conducting an attack in the United States. He made false statements to the FBI regarding these transactions and their purposes. Sources: [New York Times](#), [Wall Street Journal](#), [Washington Post](#)

Attacks

COREY JOHNSON

MAR 13

17



A 17-year-old in Florida stabbed three people while attending a sleepover at a friend's house, leaving one dead. The attacker, Corey Johnson, claimed he attacked Elaine Simon and her two 13-year-old sons, Johnson and Jovani Brand, after one of the sons reportedly made fun of him while he was praying. At the time of the attack, Johnson was the subject of a joint investigation involving the FBI due to his alleged support for IS and online connections he made with group members. Sources: [CNN](#), [ABC News](#), [Washington Post](#)