

# GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

## TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

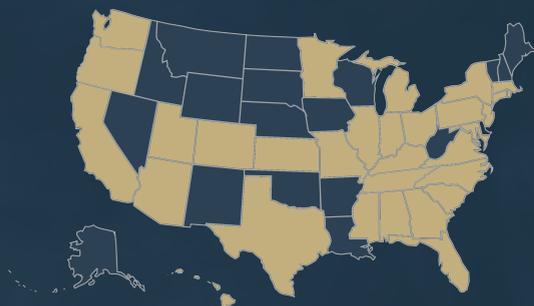
Program on Extremism

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



**229** 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:

Their activities were located in **32** states and the District of Columbia



**90%** are male

**28** the average age of those charged.

**166** have pleaded or were found guilty

**13.4\*** the average length of sentence in years.

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

**39%**

were accused of attempting to travel or successfully traveled abroad.

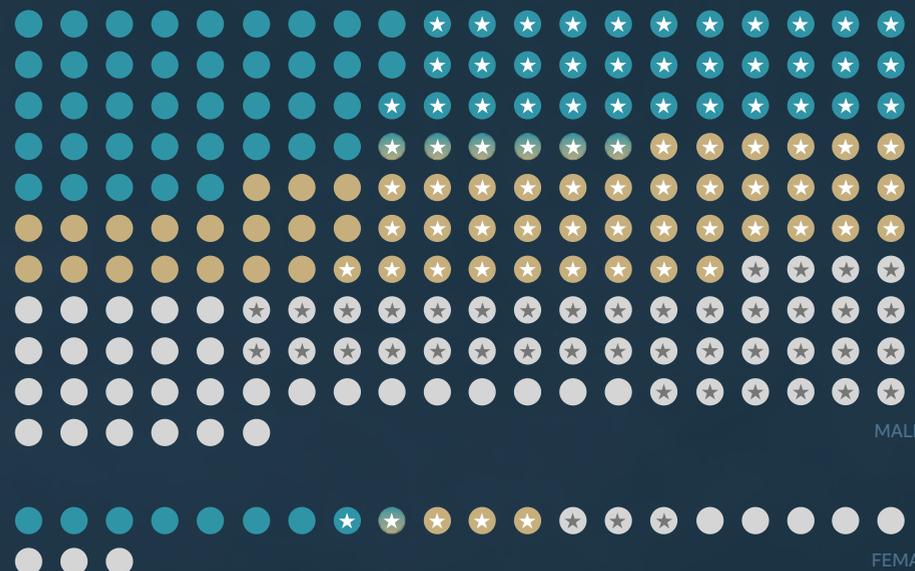
**30%**

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



### Acknowledgement

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### Disclaimer

The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

## IS Arrests

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### ELVIN HUNTER BGORN WILLIAMS

MAY 28 20  WA

**Elvin Hunter Bgorn Williams**, a 20-year-old resident of Seattle, Washington, was arrested at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, and charged in the Western District of Washington with providing material support to IS. According to the complaint, Williams pledged allegiance to Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Quarashi, the current leader of IS, in November 2020. In February 2021, Williams allegedly began communicating with two FBI confidential human sources (CHS), whom Williams believed to be IS recruiters who would facilitate his travel to Egypt to fight with IS. In furtherance of his travel efforts, Williams allegedly tendered an application to IS and applied for a U.S. passport. Upon receipt of his passport on May 6, 2021, Williams allegedly sent the purported IS recruiters a photograph of his passport and purchased an airline ticket from Seattle, via Amsterdam and Paris, to Cairo, Egypt. Williams was arrested at the departure gate while preparing to board the flight.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Williams Complaint, King5

## Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Jihadist Groups)

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### JIHAD ALI

MAY 4 21  FL

**Jihad Ali**, a 21-year-old U.S. citizen born in New York, pleaded guilty in the Southern District of Florida to conspiring to provide material support and resources to IS. According to the facts set forth in the proffer, Ali and his family traveled from Trinidad and Tobago to Brazil and subsequently to Turkey in March 2015,

with the intention of joining IS in Syria. After crossing the Turkey-Syria border, Ali attended IS military and religious training, and later fought on behalf of the group against U.S.-led coalition forces. Ali eventually became a manager of supplies for an IS battalion, before surrendering to the Syrian Democratic Forces in Baghuz, Syria in March 2019. Ali and his father Emraan were subsequently transferred into U.S. custody and repatriated to the United States in September 2020.

Sources: Ali Proffer, Ali Plea Agreement, Newsday

### ZACHARY CLARK

MAY 12 42  NY

**Zachary Clark**, a 42-year-old resident of Brooklyn, New York, was sentenced to 20 years in prison for attempting to provide material support to IS. In pleading guilty in August 2020, Clark admitted to pledging allegiance to IS on two separate occasions, disseminating IS propaganda in channels on encrypted platforms, including calls for supporters based in the United States to commit attacks on behalf of the group. In addition to other forms of propaganda, Clark distributed a number of instructional materials outlining how to select and surveil targets for an attack, how to plan an operation, and how to avoid attracting the attention of law enforcement. Clark was arrested in August 2019.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Clark Government Sentencing Memorandum, Clark Judgment, NBC New York

### ROMEO XAVIER LANGHORNE

MAY 13 31  FL

**Romeo Xavier Langhorne**, a 31-year-old resident of St. Augustine, Florida, pleaded guilty in the Middle District of Florida to attempting to provide material support to IS. According to the plea agreement, Langhorne pledged

allegiance to IS in 2014, and reaffirmed his support for IS on social media accounts in 2018 and 2019. Langhorne posted IS-produced videos to his YouTube account, and communicated with individuals in chat rooms regarding his desire to create a video to demonstrate how to make and use a deadly explosive – triacetone triperoxide (TATP). In February 2019, Langhorne communicated with an FBI undercover employee (UCE) who Langhorne believed to be working on behalf of IS. Langhorne detailed his plans to distribute the instructional TATP video to fellow IS adherents. The UCE subsequently produced a video based on Langhorne’s instructions (with an inert chemical formula for TATP) which Langhorne distributed by uploading it to a video-sharing website. Langhorne was arrested in November 2019.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Langhorne Plea Agreement, First Coast News

## **DAMON MICHAEL JOSEPH**



**Damon Michael Joseph**, a 23-year-old resident of Holland, Ohio, pleaded guilty in the Northern District of Ohio to attempting to provide material support to IS and attempting to commit a hate crime. Beginning in 2018, Joseph communicated online with undercover FBI agents, during which he stated his support of IS and produced propaganda he believed was to be used for IS recruitment efforts. In December 2018, Joseph shared with an undercover agent his plans to attack a synagogue, targeting “Jews who support [sic] state of Israel.” Joseph identified synagogues in the greater Toledo area, specifically stated he wanted to kill a rabbi, and conducted research to determine when the Jewish sabbath was, so that more people would be present. Authorities arrested Joseph once he took possession of firearms (which had been rendered inoperable) from an undercover FBI agent.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Cleveland.com