

GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

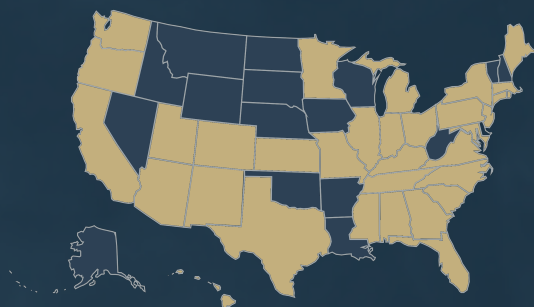
Program on Extremism

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



245 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 **33** states and the District of Columbia



90% are male

28 the average age of those charged.

198 have pleaded or were found guilty

13.5* 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.

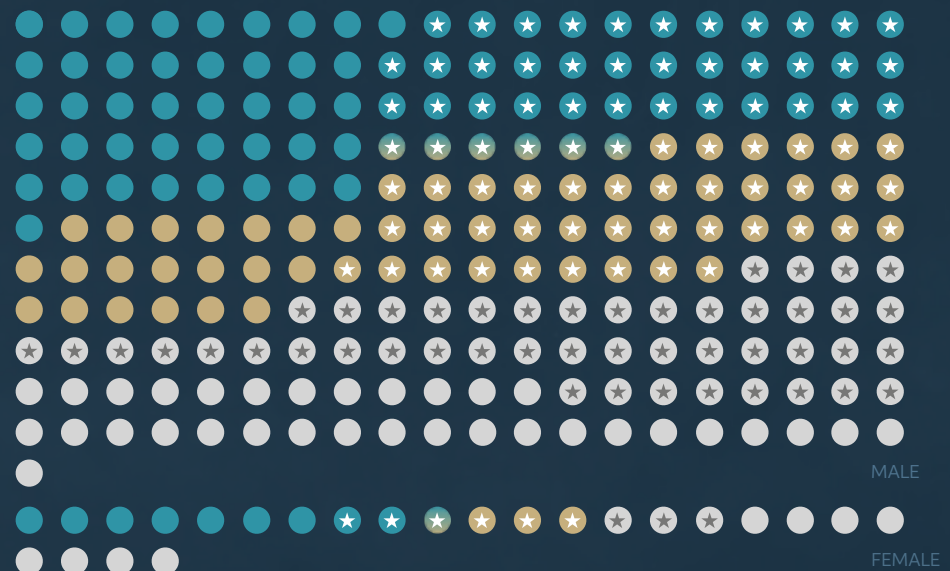
28%

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



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Attacks

TREVOR BICKFORD

DEC 31

19

Trevor Bickford, a 19-year-old resident from Wells, Maine, was charged in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office for the attempted assault and murder of police officers. On December 31, north of the secured area for the New Year's Eve celebration in Times Square, Bickford attacked two New York Police Department officers with the knife before a third officer shot him in the shoulder. According to news reports, Bickford had been added to a federal watch list only weeks before, after his mom warned local police and the FBI of his affinity for Islamist extremism. According to media sources, during interviews after his arrest, Bickford admitted he desired to travel to Afghanistan to fight with the Taliban before deciding to carry out an attack in New York.

[Sources: ABC, New York Times](#)

Arrests (Islamic State)

AWS MOHAMMED NASER

NOV 15

34



Aws Mohammed Naser, a 34-year-old Michigan resident, was charged in the Eastern District of Michigan for attempting to provide material support to IS and being a felon in possession of a destructive device.

[Sources: DOJ Press Release, Aws Mohammed Naser Indictment, Detroit News](#)

MOHAMMAD DAVID HASHIMI, ABDULLAH AT TAQI, KHALILULLAH YOUSUF & SEEMA RAHMAN

DEC 14



Mohammad David Hashimi, a 35-year-old resident of Potomac Falls, Virginia, **Abdullah At Taqi**, a 23-year-old resident of Queens, New York, **Khalilullah Yousuf**, a 34-year-old resident of Ontario, Canada, and **Seema Rahman**, a 25-year-old resident of Edison, New Jersey, were charged in the Eastern District of New York for providing material support to IS. Hashimi and Yousuf allegedly participated in an encrypted group chat that connected IS and other jihadist group supporters, where they discussed posting humanitarian donation links as a front for IS fundraising efforts. According to prosecutors, while talking to Taqi and a confidential informant online, an IS facilitator sent screenshots and videos of an IS flag alongside tactical gear, ammunition, and grenades as proof that the money would support IS. Between February 2021 and July 2022, Hashimi, Taqi, Yousuf, and Rahman allegedly raised and contributed over \$35,000 through PayPal, Bitcoin, and a GoFundMe page created by Yousef, which were then transferred to the IS facilitator. Hashimi, Taqi, and Rahman were arrested in Virginia, New York, and New Jersey respectively, while Yousuf was arrested by Canadian law enforcement officials.

[Sources: DOJ Press Release, Brooklyn Eagle](#)

Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Jihadist Groups)

JAMES BRADLEY & ARWA MUTHANA

SEP 09 21  NY SEP 12 30  NY

James Bradley, a 21-year-old resident of the Bronx, New York, and **Arwa Muthana**, a 30-year-old-resident of Hoover, Alabama, pleaded guilty in the Southern District of New York for providing material support to IS. Bradley and Muthana admitted that they attempted to board a cargo ship in the U.S. in order to travel to the Middle East to join the group. In engaging in their preparations, Bradley met with an undercover law enforcement officer to first discuss a potential terrorist attack against the U.S. Military Academy at West Point or another university in the area where Bradley knew military recruits to be training. After making numerous alleged plans to travel to join IS, he paid an undercover police officer to gain passage on a cargo ship they believed was traveling to Yemen with the ultimate intention of joining IS. Prior to their arrest, Bradley and Muthana distributed IS materials and propaganda online, including videos of IS fighters and terror attacks. Bradley and Muthana were arrested at a seaport in Newark, New Jersey, while attempting to board the cargo ship.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, NBC

DZENAN CAMOVIC,

SEP 28 22  NY

Dzenan Camovic, a 22-year-old resident of Brooklyn, New York, was sentenced in the Eastern District of New York to 360 months in prison for robbing, unlawful possession of, and use of a firearm. In June 2020, Camovic attacked New York Police Department officers. He stabbed an officer in the neck with a

knife before lunging at a second officer and attempting to stab him. He then returned back to the first officer, took control of his firearm, and fired at responding officers before he was taken into custody. In addition, evidence introduced in court proceedings showed Camovic possessed various IS propaganda. He pleaded guilty in March 2022.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, NBC

ASHIQUAL ALAM

OCT 13 26  NY

Ashiquil Alam, a 26-year-old resident of Queens, New York, was sentenced in the Eastern District of New York to 60 months in prison for knowingly receiving a firearm with an obliterated serial number. Alam expressed a desire to purchase firearms and explosives in order to conduct an attack on behalf of IS. In these conversations, he identified two potential targets, Times Square, New York, or Washington, D.C., and conducted surveillance in New York in preparation of a potential attack. Alam discussed purchasing firearms with an undercover law enforcement officer, stating he was interested in purchasing two illegal guns. He was arrested in June 2019, shortly after purchasing the weapons.

Sources: Ashiquil Alam Judgment, New York Times

ABDULLAHI AHMED ABDULLAHI

OCT 17 37  CA

Abdullahi Ahmed Abdullahi, 37-year-old resident of Alberta, Canada, was sentenced in the Southern District of California to 240 months in prison for conspiring to provide material support to IS. Abdullahi, who pleaded guilty in December 2021, admitted to providing both money and personnel to support IS. From November 2013, through March 2014, Abdullahi aided six individuals in North America in traveling to Syria to join IS.

Abdullahi admitted that he robbed a jewelry store in Edmonton, Alberta, in 2014 in order to raise funds for the travel efforts. Additionally, Abdullahi admitted to wiring money to IS intermediaries in Gaziantep, Turkey, in order to further support his co-conspirators. Abdullahi was arrested by Canadian authorities in September 2017, and extradited to the U.S. in October 2019.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Government Sentencing Memorandum, Abdullahi Ahmed Abdullahi Judgment

KHALED MIAH

OCT18 29 PA

Khaled Miah, a 29-year-old Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania resident was sentenced in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania to 72 months in prison for threatening communications and impeding and obstructing an FBI investigation. According to evidence introduced at trial, Miah used numerous social media accounts in December 2020, to make threats directed at individual FBI agents who were investigating him, as well as threats against the FBI generally. A law enforcement review of Miah's electronic devices revealed IS propaganda videos, extensive research on the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings and the 2016 Orlando Pulse nightclub shooting. Miah's devices also included several self-recorded videos in which he consumed IS propaganda and praised the organization. A jury found Miah guilty of five counts of making interstate threatening communications, one count of influencing, impeding, or retaliating against a federal law enforcement officer, and one count of destruction of records in a federal investigation.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Khaled Miah Judgment, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

ALLISON FLUKE-EKREN

NOV01 42 VA

Allison Fluke-Ekren, a former resident of Kansas, was sentenced in the Eastern District of Virginia to 20 years in prison for organizing and leading an all-female military battalion in Syria on behalf of IS. After leaving the United States in 2008 and living in Egypt and Libya, Fluke-Ekren traveled to Turkey and then to Syria for the purpose of committing or supporting terrorism on behalf of IS. During her time in Syria, Fluke-Ekren took on a leadership role in a military battalion comprised solely of female IS members. Fluke-Ekren became the leader and organizer for the battalion, which she taught physical and medical training, as well as Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device driving courses. Fluke-Ekren trained more than 100 IS women and children in the use of AK-47 assault rifles, grenades, and explosive suicide belts. Fluke-Ekren was apprehended in Syria and transferred into FBI custody in January 2022, then pleaded guilty in June 2022.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, Allison Fluke-Ekren Judgment, Washington Post

MUSTAFA MOUSAB ALOWEMER

NOV09 24 PA

Mustafa Mousab Alowemer, a 24-year-old from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, was sentenced in the Western District of Pennsylvania to 208 months in prison for attempting to provide material support to IS and plotting to bomb a Pittsburgh church using an explosive device. Alowemer met numerous times with undercover FBI officers while planning the bombing and distributed bomb making instructional materials with the intent to support IS. Alowemer stated that he was motivated to commit the attack to support IS and that he wanted to take revenge for "our ISIS brothers in Nigeria." In furtherance of the

plot, Alowemer distributed instructional documents related to the construction of explosive devices, and purchased nails and acetone for use in the construction of an improvised explosive device. Alowemer met with undercover FBI employees to discuss details of the plot, during which he provided satellite maps with identifying markings and a handwritten plan outlining the details of his plot to deliver the improvised explosive device to the church in a backpack. Alowemer was arrested in June 2019, during a final planning with the undercover FBI employees. Alowemer pleaded guilty in September 2021.

Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Mustafa Mousab Alowemer Judgment](#), [CBS News](#)

THOMAS OSADZINSKI

NOV17 24  IL

Thomas Osadzinski, a 24-year-old resident of Chicago, Illinois, was sentenced to 90 months in prison in the Northern District of Illinois for attempting to provide material support to IS. Evidence presented at the trial indicated that Osadzinski designed, used, and taught a computer program script to allow IS to disseminate its propaganda online more conveniently. The computer script, the prosecutors noted, would automatically copy and preserve IS media once it was posted online, allowing for the content to be accessed by IS supporters even in the event of content moderation by a social media platform. Osadzinski was arrested on November 18, 2019 after he shared the computer script with undercover law enforcement officers that he believed to be IS supporters. Osadzinski was convicted by trial on October 18, 2021.

Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Thomas Osadzinski Judgment](#), [Chicago Sun Times](#)

ELVIN HUNTER BGORN WILLIAMS

NOV29 22  WA

Elvin Hunter Bgorn Williams, a 22-year-old resident of Seattle, Washington, was sentenced in the Western District of Washington to 48 months in prison for providing material support to IS. Williams was arrested on May 28, 2021 at the departure gate at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport while attempting to board a flight to Egypt to join IS. Prior to his arrest, Williams admitted that he posted a video online of himself pledging allegiance to Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurashi, the former leader of IS, in November 2020. In February 2021, he 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. He also began telling family members he was a member of IS, and that he was planning on traveling to join the terrorist group. Williams pleaded guilty on March 14, 2022.

Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Elvin Williams Judgment](#), [Fox News](#)

AHMAD KHALIL ELSHAZLY

NOV30 25  CT

Ahmad Khalil Elshazly, a 25-year-old resident of West Haven, Connecticut, pleaded guilty in the District of Connecticut to attempting to provide material support to IS. In numerous conversations, Elshazly expressed a desire to travel to Syria to fight on behalf of IS, and pledged allegiance to IS. In December 2019, he paid \$500 to an individual he believed to be an IS smuggler who would assist his travel efforts to Turkey, where he hoped to connect with IS members and ultimately cross into Syria to join IS. Elshazly was arrested in December 2019, when attempting to board a boat he believed would ultimately take him to Turkey.

Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Hartford Courant](#)

PARVEG AHMED



Parveg Ahmed, a 27-year-old resident of Queens, New York, was sentenced in the Eastern District of New York to 144 months in prison for providing material support to IS. Ahmed flew to Saudi Arabia in June 2017, and subsequently attempted to travel to Syria to join IS. Ahmed was apprehended while attempting to enter Syria. Ahmed was subsequently deported to the United States and taken into custody upon arriving at John F. Kennedy International Airport. A law enforcement review of Ahmed's computer revealed recordings by famed jihadist preachers Anwar al-Awlaki and Abdullah el-Faisal. Prior to his travel attempt, Ahmed had repeatedly expressed online support for IS. Ahmed pleaded guilty on June 20, 2018.

Sources: DOJ Press Release, New York Times