

GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

Program on Extremism
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

177 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**

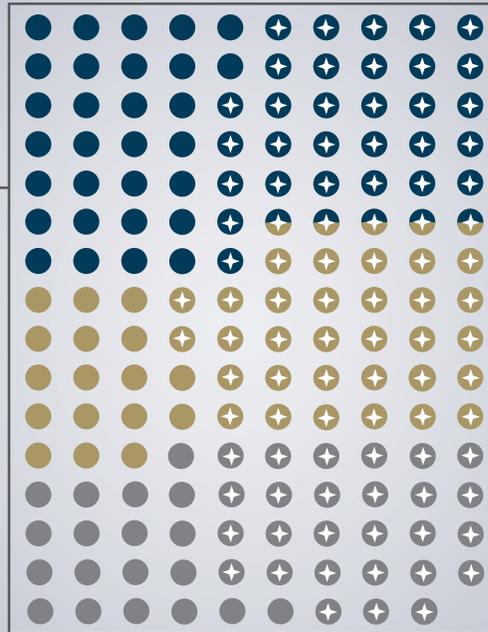
90% are male

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



The average length of sentence in years **13.4*** **125** 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.

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

Apprehensions/Charges for Other Jihadist Groups

HAJI ABDUL SATAR ABDUL MANAF

FEB 6

53

Federal law enforcement arrested Haji Abdul Satar Abdul Manaf, a 53-year-old citizen of Afghanistan, following his extradition from Estonia. Manaf is charged with attempting to import heroin into the United States and engaging in narco-terrorism for the benefit of the Taliban and the Haqqani Network. According to the indictment, Manaf planned to import heroin with the approval of the Taliban and provided payment to the Taliban to ensure its safe transport within Afghanistan. Furthermore, the indictment alleges Manaf conspired to import the heroin into the United States with the knowledge that some of the proceeds would go to

the Taliban. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Manaf Arrest Warrant](#), [Indictment](#), [ABC News](#)

JESUS WILFREDO ENCARNACION

FEB 8

29



Authorities arrested Jesus Wilfredo Encarnacion, a 29-year-old resident of New York City, as he attempted to board a flight at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport for Pakistan. Prosecutors believe that Encarnacion intended to join the Pakistan-based militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). Beginning in November 2018, Encarnacion discussed his plans to travel overseas and join LeT with multiple individuals,

including an undercover FBI employee, using an on-line instant messenger. Additionally, Encarnacion allegedly expressed his desire to commit terrorist attacks in the United States. Encarnacion is charged with one count of attempting to provide material support to LeT and one count of conspiring to provide material support to LeT. [Sources: DOJ Press Release, Encarnacion Complaint, ABC News](#)

MICHAEL KYLE SEWELL

FEB 8 18 TX

Michael Kyle Sewell, an 18-year-old resident of Arlington, Texas, was arrested for conspiring to provide material support and resources to the Pakistan-based militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). According to the criminal complaint, Sewell communicated with individuals on social media applications and expressed to them a desire to travel overseas and fight for LeT. Sewell then allegedly attempted to recruit an unnamed co-conspirator to join LeT, by connecting him with an undercover FBI employee whom Sewell believed to be a LeT facilitator. [Sources: DOJ Press Release, Sewell Criminal Complaint, Dallas News](#)

DEMETRIUS NATHANIEL PITTS

FEB 13 49 OH

A superseding indictment charged Demetrius Nathaniel Pitts, a 49-year-old resident of Maple Heights, Ohio, with attempting to provide material support to al Qaeda, making threats against the President of the United States, making threats against the family of the President, and making false statements to law enforcement. Pitts was previously indicted on one count of attempting to provide material support to al Qaeda. He has been in custody since his arrest on July 1, 2018 for allegedly planning a terrorist attack on a Fourth of July parade in Cleveland. The superseding indictment claims that on June 15, 2018, Pitts made a threat to kidnap and inflict bodily harm against the President and the President's family. [Sources: DOJ Press Release, Cleveland.com, Fox 8](#)

Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Groups)

ERICK JAMAL HENDRICKS

FEB 4 38 NC

Erick Jamal Hendricks, a 38-year-old former resident of Charlotte, North Carolina, was sentenced to 15 years in prison for conspiracy to provide material support to IS. Hendricks was convicted last year on charges that he attempted to recruit individuals to commit terror attacks in the United States on behalf of IS. To do so, Hendricks communicated with individuals on social media applications and in person, in an effort to create U.S.-based sleeper cells of IS supporters and sympathizers who could be trained to carry out domestic attacks. [Sources: DOJ Press Release, Newsweek, Cleveland.com](#)

ARMIN HARCEVIC

FEB 25 41 MO

Armin Harcevic, 41, a former resident of St. Louis, Missouri, pleaded guilty to one count of providing material support to IS. He was arrested in February 2015 with five other individuals, and subsequently charged with conspiracy to provide material support to IS. As part of the conspiracy, Harcevic sent money to individuals who were collecting funds and buying supplies to be shipped to Abdullah Ramo Pazara, a U.S. citizen who left Missouri in 2013 to join IS. [Sources: St. Louis Post-Dispatch, KMOV, KSDK](#)

AMER SINAN ALHAGGAGI

FEB 26 23 CA

A federal judge sentenced Amer Sinan Alhaggagi, a 23-year-old former resident of Oakland, California, to 188 months in prison for attempting to provide material support to IS and identity theft. Alhaggagi created Twitter, Facebook, and Google accounts for individuals whom he knew to be IS sympathizers. Alhaggagi also expressed a desire to commit a terrorist attack in the United States on behalf of IS. When Alhaggagi was arrested on November 29, 2016, he was in possession of a device used to create counterfeit credit

cards and admitted to making online purchases using a credit card in someone else's name. Alhaggagi pleaded guilty to one count of attempting to provide material support to IS, one count of possessing an identity theft device, one count of unauthorized identity theft, and one count of aggravated identity theft on July 18, 2018. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [NBC Bay Area](#), [San Francisco Chronicle](#)

JASON LUDKE



A federal judge sentenced Jason Ludke, a 38-year-old former resident of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to 7 years in prison for conspiring to provide material support to IS. Ludke admitted to recording a video of himself pledging his allegiance to IS, and admitted that he and another individual intended to obtain travel documents and join IS overseas. Ludke and his co-conspirator were arrested while traveling from Wisconsin to Mexico, where they intended to travel onward to

join IS. On October 25, 2018, Ludke pleaded guilty to conspiring to provide material support to IS. sources: [Ludke Government Sentencing Memorandum](#), [Ludke Defense Sentencing Memorandum](#), [WISN](#), [Journal Sentinel](#)

TAYYAB TAHIR ISMAIL



Tayyab Tahir Ismail, a 33-year-old former resident of Pembroke Pines, Florida, pleaded guilty to distributing information pertaining to explosives, destructive devices, and weapons of mass destruction. From July 16, 2018 through September 17, 2018, Ismail shared documents, instructional guides, and videos detailing how to construct explosive devices in pro-IS chat rooms. Ismail admitted he posted the information with the intent that chat room members would utilize it to commit a crime with a weapon of mass destruction. Sources: [Ismail Factual Basis for Plea](#), [DOJ Press Release](#), [Miami Herald](#)