

# GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

## TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

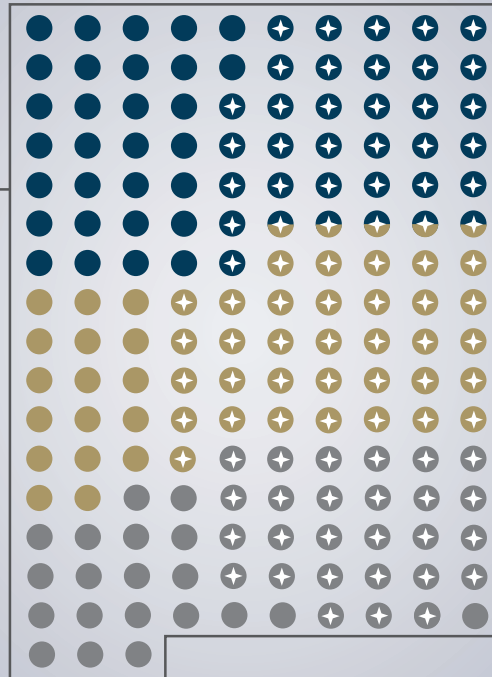
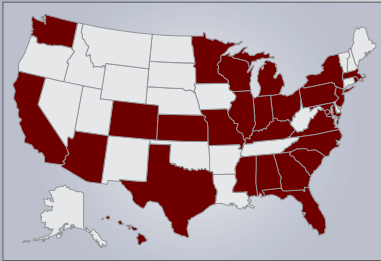
Program on Extremism  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**182** 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



**40%** 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.

**57%** were charged in an operation involving an informant and/or an undercover agent.  
★ indicates law enforcement operation

**132** PLEAD OR WERE FOUND GUILTY

THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF SENTENCE IN YEARS IS **13.6\***

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

### Apprehensions and Charges (Jihadist Groups Other than IS)

#### ABDIRIZAK JAGI RAGHE WEHELIE

MAY 6 66 VA

Abdirizak Jagi Raghe Wehelie, a 66-year-old former resident of Burke, Virginia, was arrested and charged with making false statements to government officials and obstruction of a federal investigation related to terrorism. Wehelie, a linguist for the FBI, translated communications captured by court-authorized surveillance. In one such case, a suspect under investigation for their involvement with Al-Shabaab left a voicemail message on Wehelie's mobile phone. Wehelie allegedly failed to identify his own voice in

the recording to the FBI, instead labeling his own voice as an unidentified male. Additionally, he made several misleading and false statements when questioned by FBI investigators. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Twin Cities](#), [Wehelie Indictment](#), [Wehelie Superseding Indictment](#)

#### JONATHAN XIE

MAY 22 20 NJ

Jonathan Xie, a 20-year-old resident of Somerset County, New Jersey, was arrested for attempting to provide material support to Hamas. Xie is charged with two counts of attempting to provide material support to Hamas, two counts of making false statements, and one count of transmitting a threat in interstate commerce. According to the criminal complaint,

Xie sent \$100 to an individual in Gaza whom Xie believed to be a member of Hamas. Additionally, Xie is accused of making false statements in a U.S. Army application, in which he claimed he never associated with anyone involved in activities to further terrorism. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Criminal Complaint](#), [NBC News](#)

## Legal Proceedings (IS & Other Groups)

### SEDINA UNKIC HODZIC

MAY 1 39  MO

Sedina Unkic Hodzic, a 39-year-old former resident of St. Louis County, Missouri, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to provide material support to IS and one count of providing material support to IS. Hodzic was arrested and charged on February 6, 2015 in relation to a conspiracy with five other individuals to provide material support to Abdullah Ramo Pazara. Pazara was a naturalized U.S. citizen who left the United States to join IS in 2013. Hodzic and her co-conspirators obtained money from other members of the conspiracy, used the funds to purchase supplies, and transferred those supplies to Pazara. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#), [KSDK](#)

### SAID AZZAM MOHAMAD RAHIM

MAY 6 42  TX

A federal jury convicted Said Azzam Mohamad Rahim, a 42-year-old former resident of Dallas, Texas, on eight terror charges. He was convicted of one count of conspiracy to provide material support to IS, one count of attempting to provide material support to IS, and six counts of making false statements involving international terrorism to federal authorities. Rahim moderated a social media channel on a push-to-talk direct messaging application used to recruit fighters for IS and promote violence on behalf of IS. While moderating the channel, Rahim praised

terrorist attacks and encouraged others to commit attacks. Rahim was arrested on March 5, 2017 at the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, where he was attempting to board a flight to Amman, Jordan. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Times Record News](#), [Dallas News](#)

### MICHAEL KYLE SEWELL

MAY 8 18  TX

Michael Kyle Sewell, an 18-year-old former resident of Fort Worth, Texas, pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to provide material support to Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). Sewell was arrested and charged on February 8, 2019, with conspiring to provide material support and resources to the Pakistan-based militant group LeT. According to the criminal complaint, Sewell communicated with individuals online and expressed 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](#), [CBS Local](#), [Dallas News](#)

### ALI KOURANI

MAY 17 34  NY

Ali Kourani, a 34-year-old former resident of the Bronx, New York, was found guilty by a federal jury on eight counts of an indictment stemming from his involvement with Hezbollah. Kourani provided and conspired to provide material support—including funds, goods, and services—to Hezbollah. Additionally, he received and conspired to receive weapons training from the organization and made false statements on his 2008 application for naturalization in the United States. He attended Hezbollah military-style training camps in Lebanon and was trained and deployed to the United States to plan and execute acts of terrorism. Sources: [DOJ Press Release](#), [U.S. News](#), [Fox News](#)