# GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

## Program on Extremism THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN CHARGED IN THE U.S. ON OFFENSES RELATED to the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) since March 2014, when the first arrests occurred. Of those:

The average age of those charged is

26

**89%** are male

Their activities were located in



The average length of sentence in years

**HAVE PLEADED OR BEEN FOUND GUILTY** 

were accused of attempting to travel or successfully traveled abroad

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were accused of being involved in plots to carry out attacks on U.S. soil.

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

→ indicates law enforcement operation

## **ISIS-Related Apprehensions/Charges**

#### **ERICK JAMAL HENDRICKS**







Erick Jamal Hendricks, 35, was arrested for conspiring to provide material support to ISIS via his role as a U.S.based recruiter for the organization. The North Carolina resident is being prosecuted in Ohio, where the majority of his communications with an undercover FBI officer took place. Hendricks had allegedly reached out to Elton Simpson, one of the Garland, TX shooters, shortly before the shooting, though it remains unclear whether Hendricks knew of Simpson's plans. Conversations detailed in the court document allege that Hendricks had been trying to gather a group of recruits located in the U.S. to carry out a terrorist attack, and that he spoke

with an FBI informant about U.S.-based sleeper cells that would carry out attacks in the homeland. He is currently in federal custody. source: DOJ Press Release, Hendricks Affidavit in Support of a Criminal Complaint, Washington Post

## MOHAMED AMIIN ALI ROBLE







Twenty-year-old Mohamed Amiin Ali Roble of Minnesota was charged with conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. Roble flew to Istanbul in December 2014, a month after four of his associates attempted to travel to Syria but were stopped at New York City's JFK airport

by federal law enforcement officers. His return flight was scheduled for June 2015, but he never returned. The complaint alleges that conversations recorded by a confidential human source (CHS) mention Roble living in Syria, fighting for ISIS alongside his uncle, Abdi Nur. When Roble was 18, he collected approximately \$91,654 in court settlements after surviving a bridge collapse in Minneapolis. The affidavit alleges that Roble withdrew a little over \$47,000 of these funds while in Turkey, a sum consistent with reports by the same CHS that Roble is allegedly financially supporting himself and members of ISIS. He is the eleventh man from the Minnesotan group of Somali ISIS supporters to be charged. source: DOJ Press Release, Roble Criminal Complaint and Affidavit, Chicago Tribune

## **Apprehensions/Charges Related to Other Jihadist Groups**

#### SEBASTIAN GREGERSON







Sebastian Gregerson, a 29-year-old resident of Michigan, was arrested after buying explosives from an undercover FBI officer. A criminal complaint charged Gregerson, who went by the alias Abdurrahman Bin Mikaayl, with unregistered possession of a destructive device and unlicensed receipt of explosive materials. Gregerson allegedly began building up an arsenal of weapons in early 2015, and a Facebook account allegedly linked to Gregerson expressed support for jihadist groups. source: Gregerson Criminal Complaint, The Detroit News

## **Legal Proceedings (ISIS and Other Groups)**

## CHRISTOPHER CORNELL







Christopher Cornell, 22, pleaded guilty to charges of attempting to kill government employees, possession of a firearm, and attempting to provide material support to ISIS. The Ohio resident was originally charged in

January 2015, after he plotted and attempted to travel to Washington, D.C. and attack the U.S. Capitol during President Obama's State of the Union address. He admitted in court to thoroughly researching weapons, potential targets, and ISIL prior to planning the attack. His sentencing hearing has not yet been scheduled. Source: DOJ Press Release, The Hill

#### **IMRAN RABBANI**







Imran Rabbani, who was arrested in June 2015 after he and Munther Omar Saleh charged at an undercover officer, was sentenced to 20 months to be followed by three years of supervised release. The 19-year-old New Yorker allegedly financially supported Saleh's efforts to acquire the materials needed to build a pressure cooker bomb, according to a sentencing letter submitted by the U.S. Attorney. The document also alleges that Rabbani and Saleh engaged in numerous discussions about their admiration for ISIS, stating that "Islamic State is everywhere." In a letter he wrote to the federal court judge, he explained how his life has changed "drastically" since his arrest, and that he plans to return to college upon release. The judge opted for a lighter sentence in hopes that he turn his life around and be "cautious" of whom he befriends. Source: Rabbani Letter to Judge Brodie, Rabbani Sentencing, NY Post

## **JAELYN DELSHAUN YOUNG**







A U.S. District judge sentenced Mississippi resident Jaelyn Delshaun Young to 12 years in prison and 15 years of supervised release for conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. The 20-year-old was arrested in August 2015 as she and her former fiancé, Muhammad Oda Dakhlalla, attempted to board a flight to Turkey in the first leg of a journey they hoped would land them in Syria. Young received a harsher sentence than Dakhlalla, as prosecutors agreed that she had "prodded" Dakhklalla into the plan. They allege that it was Young's idea to disguise the trip as a honeymoon, and that she had made the contacts and necessary arrangements for travel. During her sentencing trial, Young broke down and expressed remorse for her actions. source: DOJ

Press Release, Fox News

#### **EMANUEL LUTCHMAN**







Emanuel Lutchman, 26, of New York, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS. Lutchman was arrested in December 2015, before he could carry out a planned machete attack on a Rochester, NY restaurant on New Year's Eve. According to the plea agreement, Lutchman wanted to prove himself to now-deceased ISIS member "Abu Issa Al-Amriki" in order to gain membership into ISIS. Lutchman also operated two Facebook accounts that espoused ISIS propaganda. His sentencing hearing is scheduled for November 15, 2016. Source: Lutchman Plea Agreement, DOJ Press Release

#### **ROBERT BLAKE JACKSON**







Florida resident Robert Blake Jackson was indicted on charges of making false statements in a federal investigation. The document alleges that between 2014 and 2015, Jackson used a Facebook account under the alias "Abdur Rashid Bin Jackson" to express support for various terrorist groups, including ISIS. During an interview with the FBI, Jackson allegedly lied about the content of his Facebook posts, stating that he had never posted any pro-ISIS content. However, records of Jackson's Internet activity showed violent online comments, searches for Anwar al-Awlaki lectures, and a Facebook post with an explicit desire to assist ISIS. Source: Jackson Indictment, DOJ Press Release

### **JUSTIN SULLIVAN**







A new indictment filed against Justin Sullivan alleges that the 19-year-old communicated with British-born ISIS leader Junaid Hussain via email in June 2015. The correspondence lasted just ten days, but included Sullivan's alleged promises to record videos of his terrorist attacks for ISIS to incorporate in their online recruiting

campaigns. Two days after Sullivan emailed Hussain with ideas for a video to accompany his impending attack, the FBI arrested him at his North Carolina residence. He was previously indicted for murdering and robbing his neighbor, John Baily Clarke, to obtain money for an assault rifle. Sullivan is the first American arrested on ISIS-related charges to face the death penalty. Source: Sullivan Indictment, Charlotte Observer

#### MUHAMMAD ODA DAKHLALLA

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Muhammad Oda Dakhlalla, 23, received an 8-year sentence to be followed by 15 years of supervised release for conspiring to provide material support to ISIS. The Mississippi State University graduate, along with former fiancée Jaelyn Delshaun Young, was arrested in August 2015 at a Mississippi airport as they attempted to board the first in a series of flights that would take them to Istanbul. The couple pleaded guilty earlier this year, in March. During his sentencing, Dakhlalla claimed he was misled by ISIS propaganda videos and did not realize how "sick and twisted" they were until he was jailed. During the sentencing hearing, he thanked the FBI agents who arrested him for saving his life. source: