

# GW EXTREMISM TRACKER

## TERRORISM IN THE UNITED STATES

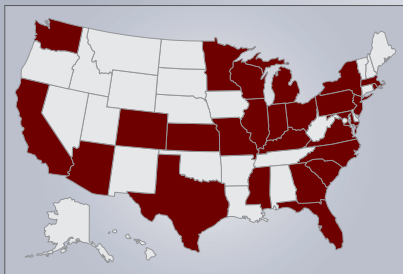
Program on Extremism  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**109** 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:

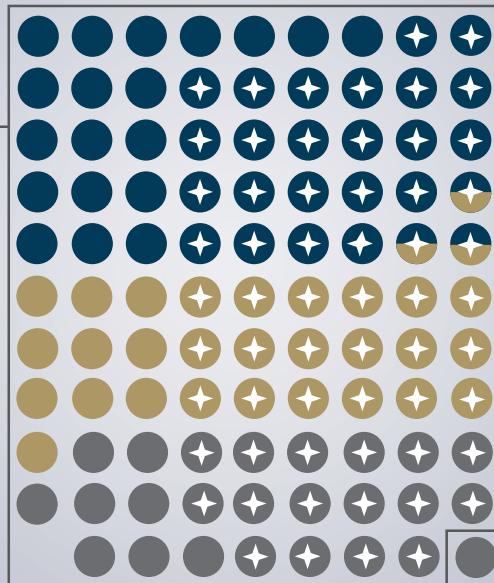
The average age of those charged is **27**

**89%** are male

Their activities were located in **26** states



The average length of sentence in years **12.1** **58** HAVE PLEADED OR BEEN FOUND GUILTY



**45%** 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.

**58%** were charged in an operation involving an informant and/or an undercover agent.

★ indicates law enforcement operation

### ISIS-Related Apprehensions/Charges

#### NELASH MOHAMED DAS

OCT. 3 24 MD

Nelash Mohamed Das, a 24-year-old legal permanent resident of Maryland, was charged with attempting to provide material support and resources to ISIS. The criminal complaint alleges that Das plotted to kill a U.S. military member on behalf of ISIS. It also states that, beginning in September 2015, he began to express support for the group via Twitter. Between August and September 2016, Das allegedly divulged to an FBI confidential human source (CHS) that he was looking for a list of targets ISIS had posted online the year before. According to Das, it

contained the identifying information of a specific military member from Prince Georges County, MD, whom he wished to kill. After the CHS provided Das with false information about another potential target, Das felt "ready" to carry out an attack. He was arrested on September 30, 2016, after arriving at the address supplied by the CHS. source: [Das Criminal Complaint](#), [DOJ Press Release](#), [Baltimore Sun](#)

#### JASON LUDKE & YOSVANY PADILLA-CONDE

OCT. 14 35 30 WI

Jason Ludke, 35, and Yosvany Padilla-Conde, 30, were charged in the same criminal complaint with

attempting to provide material support to ISIS, and aiding and abetting the attempt to provide material support, respectively. Ludke and Padilla-Conde, both Wisconsin residents, were arrested on October 5, 2016 as they prepared to cross the Texan border into Mexico, from where Ludke planned to “acquire aid” and “purchase papers” to travel on to ISIS-held territory. The investigation began in September 2016 when Ludke sent a friend request to an undercover FBI agent on an undisclosed media platform. He first inquired about “how to make ‘hijra’ (migration) away from ‘darul kufr’ (land of the infidel),” and the complaint alleges that both Ludke and Padilla-Conde told the undercover employee that they had pledged loyalty to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. source: [Ludke and Padilla-Conde Criminal Complaint](#), [Fox](#)

## MICHELLE MARIE BASTIAN\* & THOMAS ORVILLE BASTIAN

OCT. 18 49 39 AZ

Arizona residents Michelle Marie Bastian\*, 49, and Thomas Orville Bastian, 39, were indicted by a grand jury on six state terrorism charges. They are “accused of acting together” in a plot to “construct and set off an explosive device within the prison facility” in which Mr. Bastian is currently incarcerated. Mr. Bastian converted to Islam and pledged allegiance to ISIS while serving a life sentence for an unrelated murder conviction in 2008. During a sweep of his prison cell, corrections officials found copies of Dabiq and Inspire, the magazines distributed by ISIS and al-Qaeda, which Mrs. Bastian had smuggled into the facility disguised as legal papers. source: [Bastian et al. Indictment](#), [M. Bastian Probable Cause](#), [The Arizona Republic](#)

## MARLONN HICKS

OCT. 28 30 IN

Marlonn Hicks, 30, of Indiana, pleaded guilty to distributing information regarding the manufacture and use of explosives, with the intent that the information be used for and in furtherance of a crime of violence. Unsealed court records indicate that Hicks was charged on October 19, 2016, for allegedly com-

municating with multiple individuals he believed to be like-minded, but all of whom were cooperating with the government. He initially expressed to them his desire to travel to ISIS-held territory, but following the Orlando terror attack, he decided he would rather carry out an attack in the U.S. During these online communications, he “sent a government source a document containing detailed instructions on how to make explosives,” and made clear that he intended the attack to be carried in the name of, and in support of, ISIS. source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Hicks Information](#), [Hicks Plea Agreement](#)

## Legal Proceedings (ISIS & Other Groups)

MAHIN KHAN OCT. 10 18 AZ

Mahin Khan, 18, of Arizona, pleaded guilty to terrorism, conspiracy to commit terrorism, and conspiracy to commit misconduct involving weapons. Khan was arrested in July 2016 on charges involving a conspiracy to target Motor Vehicle Division office buildings in Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. Court documents reveal that investigators found correspondence between Khan and an unnamed person, whom he thought to be an ISIS fighter, where he “requests weapons” and a “recipe for a pressure cooker bomb.” According to the affidavit in support of Khan’s arrest warrant, he allegedly told an individual, whom he believed to be a member of Tehrik-i-Taliban (TTP), that he was an “ISIL and TTP supporter.” His sentencing is scheduled for November 4, 2016. source: [NBC, Arizona Attorney General Press Release](#)

TERRENCE MCNEIL OCT. 16 25 OH

Terrence McNeil was handed a superseding indictment with nine more counts of solicitation of a crime of violence and threatening military personnel, bringing his total number of charges to 12. According to the original affidavit in support of a criminal complaint, the 25-year-old Ohio resident first pledged support for ISIS in a June 2015 Tumblr post. He also operated several Twitter accounts and

*\*Not included in ISIS in America numbers.*

one Facebook account through which he disseminated pro-ISIS propaganda and praised terrorist attacks such as the Boston Marathon bombing and 9/11. He also posted online the addresses of dozens of U.S. service members, encouraging his social media followers to take the “final step” and kill them.

Source: [ABC](#), [McNeil Affidavit](#), [McNeil Superseding Indictment](#)

## HARIS QAMAR

OCT. 17

25



Twenty-five-year-old Virginian Haris Qamar pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to ISIS. According to the statement of facts, Qamar operated more than 60 pro-ISIS Twitter accounts, each of which included the phrase “newerajihadi” in the account name. Qamar also intended to travel to Syria in order to “die a shaheed [martyr],” even purchasing plane tickets to Turkey before realizing that his parents had confiscated his passport. Unable to travel, Qamar then bought several gift cards at the request of a cooperating witness (CW) and messaged their codes to the CW’s “cousin,” whom Qamar believed to be a Syria-based ISIS fighter. In reality, the codes were sent to the FBI. Qamar was arrested on July 8, 2016. Source: [Qamar Statement of Facts](#), [DOJ Press Release](#)

## OMAR FARAJ SAEED AL HARDAN

OCT. 17

24



Omar Faraj Saeed Al Hardan, a 24-year-old Iraqi refugee residing in Texas, pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to ISIS. As part of his plea deal, Al Hardan admitted that, beginning in June 2014 and continuing throughout 2015, he befriended a confidential human source (CHS) with whom he discussed traveling overseas to support ISIS. He also told the CHS that he wanted to be trained in building remote detonators for improvised explosive devices. At the time of his arrest, Al Hardan was in possession of electronic equipment that could be used to make bombs and was allegedly plotting to attack a local shopping mall. Source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [CBS/AP](#)

## ALEXANDER E. BLAIR

OCT. 18

29

KS

A U.S. District Judge sentenced Alexander E. Blair, 29, of Kansas, to 15 months in prison and two years supervised release, following completion of his sentence. In May 2016, Blair pleaded guilty to attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction and attempted destruction of government property. He admitted to conspiring with John T. Booker, a 21-year-old Kansas resident who pleaded guilty to plotting a terrorist attack targeting the Fort Riley military base in Topeka, Kansas, in the name of ISIS. He also loaned \$100 to Booker, who planned to use the money to rent a storage locker “for bomb-making materials.” Source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Topeka Capital-Journal](#)

## MUHANAD BADAWI

OCT. 19

25



California resident Muhanad Badawi, 25, was sentenced to 30 years followed by lifetime supervised release for conspiring with Nader Elhuzayel to provide material support to ISIS. A federal jury convicted Badawi and Elhuzayel, also a 25-year-old Californian, in June 2016. Badawi also bought Elhuzayel a plane ticket to Israel with a layover in Turkey, for which he was found guilty of one count of aiding and abetting Elhuzayel and one count of financial aid fraud. Source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [AP](#)

## JOSHUA RAY VAN HAFTEN

OCT. 20

34



Joshua Ray Van Haften, 34, of Wisconsin, pleaded guilty to attempting to provide material support to ISIS. According to the government’s evidence, Van Haften “traveled to Turkey in 2014 and attempted to cross into Syria.” He also posted an online oath of loyalty to ISIS, stating that the only thing that mattered to him was joining his brothers for the “war against America [sic] liars.” He was in Turkish custody from October 2014 until April 8, 2015, when he was flown back to the U.S. and arrested at Chicago’s O’Hare Airport. He remains in federal custody, and his sen-

tencing is scheduled for February 2017. Source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Reuters](#)

## MAHMOUD AMIN MOHAMED ELHASSAN

OCT. 24 25  VA

Mahmoud Amin Mohamed Elhassan, 25, pleaded guilty to providing material support to ISIS by aiding and abetting Joseph Hassan Farrokh's "attempt to provide himself" to ISIS. A Sudanese national residing in Virginia, Elhassan admitted to introducing Farrokh to an individual whom he believed could facilitate the latter's travel to ISIS-held territory in Syria. In his guilty plea affidavit, he further admitted that he drove Farrokh to Richmond, VA, and dropped him off a mile away from the airport. When questioned by FBI agents later that same day about Farrokh, he made false statements in order to "hinder the government's investigation of Farrokh's travel." He and Farrokh were arrested on January 15, 2016. Source: [Elhassan Guilty Plea Affidavit](#)

## MUNA OSMAN JAMA & HINDA OSMAN DHIRANE

OCT. 25 36 46  VA  WA

Following a bench trial, a district judge found Muna Osman Jama, 36, and Hinda Osman Dhirane, 46,

guilty of conspiracy to provide material support to al-Shabaab. Jama, of Virginia, and Dhirane, of Washington, sent money to "financiers of al-Shabaab in Somalia and Kenya" in addition to organizing a "Group of Fifteen," in which they "recruited, solicited, and advised" women from eight countries as to how to send funds to the terrorist organization. Jama established an online chatroom through which she tracked monthly payments, interacted with the women, and discussed private information about al-Shabaab activities. Source: [DOJ Press Release](#)

## MOHAMED BAILOR JALLOH

OCT. 27 27  VA

Virginia resident and former Army National Guard member Mohamed Bailor Jalloh, 27, pleaded guilty to one count of attempting to provide material support to ISIS. Jalloh first came under FBI scrutiny in March 2016, when a now deceased member of ISIS "brokered" an online introduction between Jalloh and an individual in the U.S. later revealed to be a confidential human source (CHS). According to the complaint, Jalloh expressed to the CHS an interest in joining ISIS in Libya and carrying out a terrorist attack "on U.S. soil" during the month of Ramadan. Jalloh was arrested in July 2016 after purchasing an assault rifle that the FBI had rendered inoperable. His sentencing is scheduled for February 2017. Source: [DOJ Press Release](#), [Jalloh Criminal Complaint](#)