



Homeland  
Security

INTELLIGENCE NOTE

17 June 2020

## (U) Counterterrorism Mission Center

### (U//FOUO) Persistent and Heightened Threats Targeting Law Enforcement Likely to Continue

(U//FOUO) We assess that federal, state, and local law enforcement officers will face a persistent, and in some cases heightened, threat of targeted violence from a variety of violent threat actors despite overall protest-related violence decreasing significantly during the last week. Violent threats coupled with a perceived or real increase in hostile interactions with law enforcement also could spark additional violent acts against law enforcement personnel and facilities that we expect will vacillate during the coming months based on both local and national events. Violent threat actors who have carried out attacks against law enforcement, or threatened to do so, come from different ideological backgrounds and do not share any attributable characteristics other than a shared grievance against law enforcement.

- » (U) On 14 June, a California Highway Patrol (CHP) car was shot at seven times on I-880 in San Leandro, CA in a drive-by style shooting by individuals in a van. The two officers inside the car were uninjured and CHP detectives are investigating the shooting. Officers later located a van matching the description of the suspect vehicle, which contained multiple firearms, and the three occupants were detained. The driver was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer and shooting at an occupied vehicle, according to open source reporting. While at this time I&A lacks information on the potential ideological motivations of the subject, the tactics used in this attack resemble other examples of targeted violence noted over the last few weeks.
- » (U) Four law enforcement officers were shot and wounded over the course of two days—10-11 June—in Paso Robles, CA, and surrounding San Luis Obispo county when now-deceased Mason Lira allegedly ambushed a police officer in downtown Paso Robles and then fled the scene—causing a more than 24 hour manhunt—before shooting and wounding three responding officers. Lira is not believed to be affiliated with any established violent extremist ideology and we lack information to directly tie his activities directly to protest-related violence, but note that he harbored anti-police grievances, according to verified open source reporting.
- » (U//FOUO) On 9 June, Jon Routh<sup>USPER</sup> was arrested for allegedly ramming his car into a police officer outside the Springfield Missouri Police Department. During his arrest, Routh<sup>USPER</sup> reportedly stated, “you knew you had this coming,” and a follow-on investigation of his phone messages reportedly revealed he had hours earlier sent a message stating, “I’m going to run over a cop I think,” indicating that his actions were likely premeditated.
- » (U) Steven Carrillo<sup>USPER</sup>, an active duty Air Force staff sergeant, and Robert Justus<sup>USPER</sup>, are alleged to have ambushed two FPS officers, killing one and wounding the other, outside the United States Courthouse in Oakland, California on 29 May, when Carrillo opened fire on the officers from a van. Carrillo is also alleged to have ambushed and killed a Santa Cruz County Sheriff deputy and severely wounded another deputy when he engaged them with firearms and improvised explosive devices—likely pipe bombs—in Santa Cruz, California, a week later on 6 June. Carrillo, who was wounded during his attack, used his own blood to write terms “Boog” and “I became unreasonable” on a car prior to his detainment. “Boog” is likely associated with the Boogaloo movement, a term used by some violent extremists from a variety of movements who seek to incite a race

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war or the collapse of society, and the quote is associated with now-deceased, anti-government extremist Marvin Heemeyer, who is revered in Boogaloo activism seeking to overthrow the US government. Carrillo allegedly discussed using the ongoing lawful protest activities to shield his actions from detection, according to the criminal complaint.

- » (U//FOUO) We expect to see an increase in violent exploitation of otherwise lawful protests, as well as threats and targeted violence against law enforcement throughout the trial of the officers allegedly responsible for George Floyd's death, especially if the protestors and violent opportunists determine the court delivers an unfavorable outcome. In 2016, there were over 170 protests across the United States after a grand jury decided there was not enough evidence to indict the officer involved in Michael Brown's 2014 death in Ferguson, Missouri, according to news reports.

(U//FOUO) We assess that the widespread impact and duration of hostility and violence toward law enforcement following the death of George Floyd has uniquely mobilized a variety of threat actors from across the country compared to the civil unrest seen after the Ferguson, Missouri, incident in 2014—the last incident of sustained violence most analogous to the current situation. Though we have low confidence in our ability to forecast future violence stemming from civil unrest, we further assess that anarchist and anti-government extremists pose the most significant threat of targeted low-level, protest-related assaults against law enforcement based on the observed ideologies of recent attackers and the body of reporting of tactics noted by violent opportunists used over the last two weeks. However, a review of historic trends indicates other domestic terrorist groups have reciprocally radicalized in the past to conduct targeted incidents, and we remain concerned that more motivated domestic terrorists could continue to seek to use the cover of lawful protests to conduct violence.

- » (U//FOUO) While many of the individuals allegedly responsible for committing the recent violent attacks against law enforcement probably do not adhere to a specific violent extremist ideology, we have observed anarchist, anti-government, white supremacist, and black supremacist extremists (BSEs) and homegrown violent extremists seek to incite or participate in protest-related violence. On 3 June, an individual possibly inspired by foreign terrorism allegedly stabbed in the neck an NYPD officer who was stationed at an anti-looting post in Brooklyn, New York. Investigators believe the alleged attacker and responding officers exchanged gunfire, resulting in two officers shot in the hand and the alleged attacker in critical condition at a Brooklyn hospital after being shot multiple times. All three officers involved are in stable condition and expected to recover.
- » (U//FOUO) In the aftermath of the August 2014 officer-involved shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, there were six targeted attacks against law enforcement that the FBI assessed were in response to Brown's death. These targeted attacks were attributed primarily to BSEs for perceived police brutality and other officer-involved deaths.

*(U//FOUO) Online Threats to Law Enforcement*

*(U//FOUO) I&A Open Source collection indicates that a wide range of posts threatening law enforcement continue to be posted to monitored online forums—some of which is shared by ideologically motivated individuals. In such cases, this rhetoric may be constitutionally protected, but informs the present environment, in which there is an elevated risk of violence against law enforcement personnel. We have low confidence in our assessment of the motivation behind many of the online threats as we often lack additional insight as to whether the individuals posting these violent threats are ideologically or politically motivated or have other unknown motivations.*

**(U) DHS Definitions**

(U//FOUO) DHS defines **anarchist extremists** as groups or individuals who facilitate or engage in acts of unlawful violence as a means of changing the government and society in support of the belief that all forms of capitalism and corporate globalization should be opposed and that governing institutions are unnecessary and harmful to society.

(U//FOUO) DHS I&A defines **violent opportunists** as illicit actors who may or may not hold violent extremist ideological beliefs, but seek to exploit opportunities in non-violent protests to engage in unlawful violence against federal, state, or local government and law enforcement personnel or facilities, as well as other critical infrastructure, that either poses a danger to human life, threat of potential destruction of the critical infrastructure, or would be so disruptive as to endanger the minimal operations of state and local governments to respond. These actors may capitalize on violent extremist narratives often espoused by organized DVE movements, such as anarchist extremists or racially motivated violent extremists, to justify violent activities that may potentially destroy government critical infrastructure at the state, local and federal levels, and may attempt to incite others to violence to provide cover for their own illicit activities. Their primary motivations may be influenced by a variety of criminal objectives and goals.

(U//FOUO) DHS defines **radicalization** as the process through which an individual changes from a non-violent belief system to a belief system that includes the willingness to actively advocate, facilitate, or use unlawful violence as a method to effect societal or political change.

(U//FOUO) DHS defines **anti-government extremists** as groups or individuals who facilitate or engage in unlawful acts of violence directed at federal, state, or local law enforcement, other government officials, critical infrastructure or government facilities in order to affect the conduct of a government or influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, in response to their belief that their liberties are being taken away by the perceived unconstitutional or otherwise illegitimate actions of government officials or law enforcement. Some form of this belief is common to several violent extremist ideologies, including sovereign citizen extremism and militia extremism; anti-government extremists differ from these other categories in that they do not subscribe to these violent extremist ideologies in total, but often adapt elements of these ideologies, including the use of violence in furtherance of their ideology.

(U//FOUO) DHS defines **white supremacist extremists** as groups or individuals who facilitate or engage in acts of unlawful violence directed at the federal government, ethnic minorities, or Jewish persons in support of their belief that Caucasians are intellectually and morally superior to other races and their perception that the government is controlled by Jewish persons.

(U//FOUO) DHS defines a **homegrown violent extremist (HVE)** as a person of any citizenship who has lived and/or operated primarily in the United States or its territories who advocates, is engaged in, or is preparing to engage in ideologically-motivated terrorist activities (including providing support to terrorism) in furtherance of political or social objectives promoted by a foreign terrorist organization, but is acting independently of direction by a foreign terrorist organization. HVEs are distinct from traditional domestic terrorists who engage in unlawful acts of violence to intimidate civilian populations or attempt to influence domestic policy without direction from or influence from a foreign actor.

(U//FOUO) DHS defines **domestic terrorism** as any act of unlawful violence that is dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources committed by a group or individual based and operating entirely within the United States or its territories without direction or inspiration from a foreign terrorist group. This act is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any state or other subdivision of the United States and appears to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population, to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping. A domestic terrorist differs from a homegrown violent extremist in that the former is not inspired by and does not take direction from a foreign terrorist group or other foreign power.

(U//FOUO) DHS defines **black supremacist extremists (BSE)** as groups or individuals who facilitate or engage in acts of unlawful violence as a means to oppose racial integration and/or to eliminate non-black people and Jewish people.

**(U) Report Suspicious Activity**

**(U) To report suspicious activity, law enforcement, Fire-EMS, private security personnel, and emergency managers should follow established protocols; all other personnel should call 911 or contact local law enforcement.**

Suspicious activity reports (SARs) will be forwarded to the appropriate fusion center and FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force for further action. For more information on the Nationwide SAR Initiative, visit <http://nsi.ncirc.gov/resources.aspx>.

*(U//FOUO) Prepared by the DHS Intelligence Enterprise (DHS IE) Counterterrorism Mission Center (CTMC). Coordinated with DHS IE Current and Emerging Threats Center (CETC), DHS IE Cyber Mission Center (CYMC), Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD), CISA Intel, ICE HSI-Intel, TSA OIA, and USCG.*

**(U) Tracked by:** HSEC-8.1, HSEC-8.2, HSEC-8.3, HSEC-8.5, HSEC-8.6.2.10, HSEC-8.8

**(U) Source Summary Statement**

(U//FOUO) We have **medium confidence** in our assessment that targeted violence against law enforcement as well as DHS CBP and ICE officers will likely persist beyond current demonstrations. We base our assessment on open source reporting and available court documents, which we deem to be credible and reliable. Our confidence in our assessment would change if we observed a marked decrease in targeted violent attacks against law enforcement. Additional reports of violence against law enforcement to further corroborate known incidents and the motivations of individuals involved would increase our confidence in our assessment.

(U//FOUO) We have **low confidence** in our assessment regarding the future trajectory of violent, targeted attacks against law enforcement. We base our assessment on news media and DHS field and open source reporting of recent events targeting federal, state, and local law enforcement. The Ferguson, MO, violent protests and previous targeting of law enforcement is used as historical context to inform the current situation and projected future. While we deem DHS reporting to be reliable and credible considering the rapidly evolving nature of the current security environment for law enforcement, we have low confidence in our ability to accurately predict future instances of violence.



Product Title:

All survey responses are completely anonymous. No personally identifiable information is captured unless you voluntarily offer personal or contact information in any of the comment fields. Additionally, your responses are combined with those of many others and summarized in a report to further protect your anonymity.

**1. Please select partner type: \_\_\_\_\_ and function: \_\_\_\_\_**

**2. What is the highest level of intelligence information that you receive?**

**3. Please complete the following sentence: "I focus most of my time on:"**

**4. Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following:**

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N/A
Product's overall usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's relevance to your mission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's timeliness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Product's responsiveness to your intelligence needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**5. How do you plan to use this product in support of your mission? (Check all that apply.)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drive planning and preparedness efforts, training, and/or emergency response operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiate a law enforcement investigation       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Observe, identify, and/or disrupt threats   | <input type="checkbox"/> Intiate your own regional-specific analysis    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Share with partners   | <input type="checkbox"/> Intiate your own topic-specific analysis       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allocate resources (e.g. equipment and personnel)                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop long-term homeland security strategies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reprioritize organizational focus   | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not plan to use                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Author or adjust policies and guidelines  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="text"/>                    |

**6. To further understand your response to question #5, please provide specific details about situations in which you might use this product.**

**7. What did this product not address that you anticipated it would?**

**8. To what extent do you agree with the following two statements?**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
This product will enable me to make better decisions regarding this topic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
This product provided me with intelligence information I did not find elsewhere.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**9. How did you obtain this product?**

**10. Would you be willing to participate in a follow-up conversation about your feedback?**

To help us understand more about your organization so we can better tailor future products, please provide:

Name: <input type="text"/>	Position: <input type="text"/>
Organization: <input type="text"/>	State: <input type="text"/>
Contact Number: <input type="text"/>	Email: <input type="text"/>



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