



**Date Issued:** May 24, 2023 at 2:00 PM ET

**View as PDF:** [National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin - Issued May 24, 2023 at 2:00pm ET \(/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/23\\_0524\\_S1\\_NTAS-Bulletin-508.pdf\)](#)  
(pdf, 1 pages, 287.83 KB)

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## Summary of Terrorism-Related Threat to the United States

The United States remains in a heightened threat environment. Lone offenders and small groups motivated by a range of ideological beliefs and personal grievances continue to pose a persistent and lethal threat to the Homeland. Both domestic violent extremists (DVEs) and those associated with foreign terrorist organizations continue to attempt to motivate supporters to conduct attacks in the Homeland, including through violent extremist messaging and online calls for violence. In the coming months, factors that could mobilize individuals to commit violence include their perceptions of the 2024 general election cycle and legislative or judicial decisions pertaining to sociopolitical issues. Likely targets of potential violence include US critical infrastructure, faith-based institutions, individuals or events associated with the LGBTQIA+ community, schools, racial and ethnic minorities, and government facilities and personnel, including law enforcement.

### Duration

**Issued:** May 24, 2023 at 2:00 PM ET

**Expires:** November 24, 2023 at 2:00 PM ET

### Additional Information

- In May 2023, a now-deceased individual killed eight and injured seven others at an outlet mall in Allen, Texas. Law enforcement continues to investigate the motive behind the attack, but initial reporting suggests the attacker fixated on mass shootings and held views consistent with racially or ethnically motivated violent extremist (RMVE) and involuntary celibate violent extremist ideologies.
- In March 2023, a now-deceased individual shot and killed six people at a Christian elementary school in Nashville, Tennessee. Law enforcement continues to investigate the motive behind the attack and has indicated the individual studied other mass murderers.
- Also in March 2023, a RMVE driven by a belief in the superiority of the white race was arrested and charged with allegedly attempting to use an improvised incendiary device to burn down a church in Ohio that was planning to host a drag-themed event.
- In February 2023, two RMVEs driven by a belief in the superiority of the white race were arrested and are now awaiting trial for plotting an attack against electrical substations in Maryland. These arrests followed a series of recent attacks against electrical infrastructure, which some DVEs have praised and leveraged to call for more attacks on critical infrastructure.
- Since spring of 2022, alleged DVEs in Georgia have cited anarchist violent extremism, animal rights/environmental violent extremism, and anti-law enforcement sentiment to justify criminal activity in opposition to a planned public safety training facility in Atlanta. Criminal acts have included an alleged shooting and assaults targeting law enforcement and property damage targeting the facility, construction companies, and financial institutions for their perceived involvement with the planned facility.
- Meanwhile, foreign terrorists continue to use media to call for lone offender attacks in the West, condemn US foreign policy, and attempt to expand their reach and grow global support networks. Most recently, in January 2023, an individual from Maine who was inspired by a variety of foreign terrorist content was charged with federal crimes for an attack on New York City Police Department (NYPD) officers during New Year's Eve celebrations in Times Square.

# How We Are Responding

DHS works with partners across every level of government, in the private sector, and in local communities to keep Americans safe, including through the following examples of our resources and support:

- DHS and the FBI continue to share timely and actionable information and intelligence with the broadest audience possible. This includes sharing information and intelligence with our partners across every level of government and in the private sector. We conduct recurring threat briefings with private sector, state, local, tribal, territorial, and campus partners, including to inform security planning efforts. DHS remains committed to working with our partners to identify and [prevent all forms of targeted violence and terrorism](https://www.dhs.gov/CP3), and to support law enforcement efforts to keep our communities safe.
- DHS, in collaboration with its federal partners, launched the [Prevention Resource Finder \(PRF\) website](https://www.PreventionResourceFinder.gov) in March 2023. The PRF is a comprehensive web repository of federal resources available to help communities understand, mitigate, and protect themselves from targeted violence and terrorism.
- The [DHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/individuals-communities/faith) continues to engage a coalition of faith-based and community organizations, including members of the [Faith-based Security Advisory Council \(FBSAC\)](https://www.dhs.gov/faith-based-security-advisory-council), which DHS reconstituted in July 2022, to help build the capacity of faith-based and community organizations seeking to protect their places of worship and community spaces.
- [DHS's Office of Intelligence and Analysis \(I&A\)](https://www.dhs.gov/office-intelligence-and-analysis), the FBI, and the National Counterterrorism Center in 2021 jointly updated [behavioral indicators of U.S. extremist mobilization to violence](https://www.dni.gov/index.php/nctc-newsroom/nctc-resources/item/2272-u-s-violent-extremist-mobilization-indicators-2021). Further, I&A's [National Threat Evaluation and Reporting Program](https://www.dhs.gov/nter) continues to provide tools and [resources](https://www.dhs.gov/nter-resources) for federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial partners on preventing terrorism and targeted violence, including [online suspicious activity reporting training](https://www.dhs.gov/nationwide-sar-initiative-nsi/online-sar-training).
- DHS's Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Intermodal Security Training and Exercise Program (I-STEP) and Exercise Information System (EXIS<sup>®</sup>) work with government and private sector partners – including owners and operators of critical transportation infrastructure – to enhance security and reduce risks posed by acts of terrorism.
- [DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\)](https://www.cisa.gov/) works with government and private sector partners – including owners and operators of [critical infrastructure](https://www.cisa.gov/critical-infrastructure-sectors) and [public gathering places](https://www.cisa.gov/securing-public-gatherings) – to [enhance security and mitigate risks posed by acts of terrorism and targeted violence](https://www.cisa.gov/topics/physical-security) through its network of [Protective Security Advisors](https://www.cisa.gov/protective-security-advisors) and resources addressing [Active Shooter](https://www.cisa.gov/active-shooter-preparedness)s, [School Safety](https://www.cisa.gov/schools), [Bombing Prevention](https://www.cisa.gov/securing-public-gatherings), and [Soft Targets-Crowded Places](https://www.cisa.gov/securing-public-gatherings).
- DHS's [Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships \(CP3\)](https://www.dhs.gov/CP3) educates and trains stakeholders on how to identify indicators of radicalization to violence, where to seek help, and the resources that are available to prevent targeted violence and terrorism. In 2022, CP3 awarded about \$20 million in grants through its [Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention \(TVTP\) Grant Program](https://www.dhs.gov/tvtpgrants). To date, over 100 applicants and more than \$50M in grant funds have been requested for the FY23 grant cycle.
- In 2021 and 2022, DHS designated domestic violent extremism as a “National Priority Area” within its [Homeland Security Grant Program \(HSGP\)](https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/homeland-security), enabling our partners to access critical funds that help prevent, prepare for, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from related threats.
- In 2022, DHS's [Nonprofit Security Grant Program \(NSGP\)](https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/nonprofit-security) provided over \$250 million in funding to support target hardening and other physical security enhancements to non-profit organizations at high risk of terrorist attack.
- [SchoolSafety.gov](https://SchoolSafety.gov) consolidates school safety-related resources from across the government. Through this website, the K-12 academic community can also connect with school safety officials and develop school safety plans.

## Resources to Stay Safe

### Stay Informed and Prepared

- [Be prepared](https://www.ready.gov/) for emergency situations and remain aware of circumstances that may place you at risk. Make note of your surroundings and the nearest security personnel.
- Keep yourself [safe online](https://www.cisa.gov/4-things-you-can-do-keep-yourself-cyber-safe) and maintain [digital and media literacy](https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/digital_media_literacy_1.pdf) to recognize and build resilience to false or misleading narratives.
- Review Department of Homeland Security (DHS) resources for how to better protect [businesses](https://www.cisa.gov/topics/physical-security), [houses of worship](https://www.cisa.gov/faith-based-organizations-houses-worship), and [schools](https://www.cisa.gov/schools), and ensure the [safety of public](https://www.cisa.gov/schools)

[gatherings](https://www.cisa.gov/securing-public-gatherings). (<https://www.cisa.gov/securing-public-gatherings>).

- Prepare for potential [active shooter](https://www.cisa.gov/active-shooter-preparedness) (<https://www.cisa.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>) incidents, [build counter-improvised explosive device capabilities, and enhance awareness of terrorist threats, to include bomb threats](https://www.cisa.gov/office-bombing-prevention-obp). (<https://www.cisa.gov/office-bombing-prevention-obp>).
- Learn more about [community-based resources](https://www.dhs.gov/CP3) (<https://www.dhs.gov/CP3>), including Community Awareness Briefings to help prevent individuals from radicalizing to violence.
- The [Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting \(SAR\) Initiative \(NSI\)](https://www.dhs.gov/nationwide-suspicious-activity-reporting-initiative) (<https://www.dhs.gov/nationwide-suspicious-activity-reporting-initiative>) is a collaborative effort by DHS, the FBI, and law enforcement partners to identify and report threats of terrorism and other related criminal activity.
- The [Power of Hello Campaign](https://www.cisa.gov/employee-vigilance-power-hello) (<https://www.cisa.gov/employee-vigilance-power-hello>) and [De-Escalation Series](https://www.cisa.gov/de-escalation-series) (<https://www.cisa.gov/de-escalation-series>) help you observe and evaluate suspicious behaviors, including information to mitigate potential risks, and obtain help when necessary.
- View webinars on [Building Partnerships](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnGTERNIEZo) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnGTERNIEZo>), and [Preventing Targeted Violence and Protecting the Safety and Security of Houses of Worship](https://www.fema.gov/event/preventing-targeted-violence-and-protecting-safety-and-security-houses-worship-through-faith). (<https://www.fema.gov/event/preventing-targeted-violence-and-protecting-safety-and-security-houses-worship-through-faith>).

## Report Potential Threats

- Listen to local authorities and public safety officials.
- [If You See Something, Say Something](https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something)<sup>®</sup> (<https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something>) [Report suspicious activity](https://www.dhs.gov/publication/suspicious-activity-reporting-indicators-and-behaviors) (<https://www.dhs.gov/publication/suspicious-activity-reporting-indicators-and-behaviors>) and threats of violence, including online threats, to local law enforcement, [FBI Field Offices](https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices), (<https://www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field-offices>), or your local [Fusion Center](https://www.dhs.gov/fusion-center-locations-and-contact-information). (<https://www.dhs.gov/fusion-center-locations-and-contact-information>). Call 911 in case of emergency.
- If you know someone who is struggling with mental health issues or may pose a danger to themselves or others, [seek help](https://www.samhsa.gov/). (<https://www.samhsa.gov/>).

### **If You See Something, Say Something<sup>®</sup>. Report suspicious activity to local law enforcement or call 911.**

The National Terrorism Advisory System provides Americans with alert information on homeland security threats. It is distributed by the Department of Homeland Security. More information is available at: [www.dhs.gov/advisories](http://www.dhs.gov/advisories) ([advisories](http://www.dhs.gov/advisories)). To receive mobile updates: [twitter.com/dhsgov](https://twitter.com/dhsgov) (<http://twitter.com/dhsgov>).

If You See Something, Say Something<sup>®</sup> used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.