



OFFICE of INTELLIGENCE and ANALYSIS  
INTELLIGENCE IN BRIEF

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PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY

**(U//FOUO) Attack at Public Safety Facility in Georgia Prompts More Calls for Violence Against Law Enforcement Nationwide**

(U//FOUO) On Wednesday, 18 January, an individual was killed after firing on law enforcement conducting security operations at the construction site of the 85-acre public safety facility in Atlanta. This is the first instance we have observed of individuals shooting law enforcement officers, following a spate of attacks since 2021 against targets associated with the construction of the facility. **Previous incidents associated with the facility over the past 18 months probably have been driven by anti-law enforcement sentiment and perceived environmental damages. Since the attack, suspected domestic violent extremists (DVEs) have cited the incident as justification for violence, potentially increasing the threat to law enforcement and construction and financial institutions associated with large-scale construction projects nationwide.**

- (U//FOUO) The shooting, which also left one law enforcement officer injured, represents an escalation of tactics used to oppose the construction of the facility. While the motive behind the attack remains under investigation, suspected DVEs have conducted assaults, arsons, sabotage, and other violent attacks in Georgia and at least 10 other states since May 2021.
- (U//FOUO) Since the shooting, an online call for “retaliation” and “reciprocal violence” was shared on a forum frequented by suspected DVEs, according to nongovernmental organization reporting. The statement called for a nationwide “Night of Rage” on 20 January in response to the death of the individual at the site, according to DHS reporting.
- (U//FOUO) We have previously seen online claims of retaliatory actions in response to law enforcement operations related to this facility. For example, on 1 January, an anonymous forum post claimed to have conducted an arson attack at a financial institution in Portland, Oregon following the December 2022 arrests of five individuals at the Atlanta construction site, according to DHS reporting. The statement claimed the arson attack was conducted “for revenge,” citing that the institution funds an organization associated with the facility in Atlanta.

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**Source, Reference, and Dissemination Information**


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<b>Source Summary Statement</b>	<i>(U//FOUO)</i> We have <b>moderate</b> confidence in our assessment that suspected DVEs have cited the incident as justification for violence, potentially increasing the threat to law enforcement and construction and financial institutions associated with large-scale construction projects nationwide. Our assessment is based on DHS reporting, open source media reporting, and a reliable nongovernmental organization. We would have higher confidence in our assessment if we saw additional acts of violence that are directly tied to the 18 January incident or additional reporting encouraging violence following the 18 January incident.
<b>Definitions</b>	<i>(U//FOUO)</i> <b>Domestic Violent Extremist (DVE):</b> An individual based and operating primarily within the United States or its territories without direction or inspiration from a foreign terrorist group or other foreign power who seeks to further political or social goals, wholly or in part, through unlawful acts of force or violence. The mere advocacy of political or social positions, political activism, use of strong rhetoric, or generalized philosophic embrace of violent tactics alone does not constitute extremism and is constitutionally protected. DVEs can fit within one or multiple categories of ideological motivation and can span a broad range of groups or movements. I&A utilizes this term synonymously with “domestic terrorist.”
<b>Reporting Suspicious Activity</b>	<p><i>(U)</i> <b>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.</b> 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 <a href="http://www.dhs.gov/nsi">www.dhs.gov/nsi</a>.</p> <p><i>(U)</i> <b>To report a computer security incident, either contact US-CERT at 888-282-0870, or go to <a href="https://forms.us-cert.gov/report/">https://forms.us-cert.gov/report/</a> and complete the US-CERT Incident Reporting System form.</b> The US-CERT Incident Reporting System provides a secure, web-enabled means of reporting computer security incidents to US-CERT. An incident is defined as a violation or imminent threat of violation of computer security policies, acceptable use policies, or standard computer security practices. In general, types of activity commonly recognized as violating typical security policies include attempts (either failed or successful) to gain unauthorized access to a system or its data, including personally identifiable information; unwanted disruption or denial of service; the unauthorized use of a system for processing or storing data; and changes to system hardware, firmware, or software without the owner’s knowledge, instruction, or consent.</p>
<b>Dissemination</b>	<i>(U)</i> Federal, state, local, tribal, territorial, and private sector security partners.
<b>Warning Notices &amp; Handling Caveats</b>	<p><i>(U)</i> <b>Warning:</b> This document is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with DHS policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid need to know without prior approval of an authorized DHS official. State and local homeland security officials may share this document with authorized critical infrastructure and key resource personnel and private sector security officials without further approval from DHS.</p> <p><i>(U)</i> All US person information has been minimized. For all other inquiries, please contact the Homeland Security Single Point of Service, Request for Information Office at <a href="mailto:DHS-SPS-RFI@hq.dhs.gov">DHS-SPS-RFI@hq.dhs.gov</a>, <a href="mailto:DHS-SPS-RFI@dhs.gov">DHS-SPS-RFI@dhs.gov</a>, <a href="mailto:DHS-SPS-RFI@dhs.ic.gov">DHS-SPS-RFI@dhs.ic.gov</a>.</p>

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Homeland Security

Office of Intelligence and Analysis
Customer Feedback Form

Product Title: (U//FOUO) Attack at Public Safety Facility in Georgia Prompts More Calls for Violence Against Law Enforce

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: Select One and function: Select One

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

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

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

Table with 7 columns: Very Satisfied, Somewhat Satisfied, Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied, Somewhat Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied, N/A. Rows include Product's overall usefulness, relevance to mission, timeliness, and responsiveness.

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

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

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?

Table with 7 columns: Strongly Agree, Agree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, N/A. Rows include statements about decision-making and intelligence information.

9. How did you obtain this product? Select One

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

To help us understand more about your organization so we can better tailor future products, please provide: Name, Organization, Contact Number, Position, State, Email



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