

Volume 4, Issue 7

July 2022

[FB-ISAO Current Threat Level](#)

FB-ISAO Physical Threat Level: **Guarded**

FB-ISAO has assessed the general Physical Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as “SEVERE.” As per FB-ISAO’s definitions of the Physical Threat Levels, “SEVERE” means that an event is highly likely.

Please note that the Pandemic Threat Level has been lowered to [Guarded](#).

FB-ISAO Cyber Threat Level: **Guarded**

FB-ISAO has assessed the general Cyber Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as “GUARDED.” As per FB-ISAO’s definitions of the Cyber Threat Levels, “GUARDED” means FB-ISAO is unaware of any specific events, but a general risk of incidents exists.

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FB-ISAO Newsletter

Vehicle Ramming - a Threat to Faith-Based Organizations

By Sadie-Anne Jones, Analyst, [Gate 15](#)

On 08 June 2022, a man drove his vehicle into a group of students in Berlin, Germany. [The attack](#) resulted in the death of a teacher and the injury of 14 students. [The incident](#) happened close to the site “where 12 people were [killed](#) in a terrorist attack in 2016 when a truck was deliberately driven into a crowd of people at a Christmas market.” While vehicle ramming is often used in terrorist attacks, it has also become a tool of lone-wolf assailants who seek to inflict harm on certain individuals and communities. Vehicle Ramming attacks require minimum capability such as a car or truck, often have few or no observable factors, due to the element of surprise, and can have a devastating impact on special events and crowded places.

Although vehicle ramming incidents account for only [5% of attacks against houses of worship in the United States](#), when they do occur, they can be extremely destructive to both life and property. [A report by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\)](#) states that “attacks of this nature require minimal capability but can have a devastating impact in crowded places with low levels of visible security.” For houses of worship, this issue is particularly concerning due to the crowds who frequently flock to congregate and the low levels of security that are often available. In light of this, it is important to understand personal and group risk associated with this issue.

Below are a few examples of hate crimes involving vehicle ramming incidents against religious organizations and individuals.

- In April 2022, several attacks – including the attack of a person using a vehicle – took place in New Jersey. The attacks were allegedly motivated by antisemitism.
- In September 2021, a man crashed his car into a synagogue in Los Angeles, California. The attack came shortly after the man had been witnessed yelling antisemitic threats at people there.
- In July 2020, an attack against a Catholic church in Florida occurred in which a man rammed his vehicle into the occupied building and then proceeded to set it on fire.
- In April 2020, a man rammed his vehicle into the car of a Muslim woman. The woman had been harassed with Islamophobic threats by the man earlier that day.

Faith-Based Organizations are encouraged to use CISA’s [Vehicle Ramming Self-Assessment Tool](#) to evaluate their individual risk for vehicle ramming attacks. **Susan Schneider, Branch Chief, Active Assailant Security Office of Security Programs, Infrastructure Security Division at CISA** said, “What users have really liked about the tool is the report it generates. It is intended to not be a finished report but allows the user to add photos, additional information, and other area-specific considerations to the report for security planning.” [Read the entire post here.](#)

FB-ISAO Advisory Board

Get to Know the Board of Advisors

Contact Us

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Not Yet a Member of FB-ISAO?

[How to join...](#)

Not Yet on FB-ISAO Slack - You Need to Be!

[Write to membership](#)

Upcoming FB-ISAO Events

Cyber Road Show	12 July 2022
Monthly Threat Brief	26 July 2022
Fire As A Weapon	27 July 2022
Community Meeting	11 August 2022



A Little of a LOT!

Is your Faith-Based Organization's website 'leaking'? Houses of Worship aspire to present a warm, welcoming environment both physically and on-line. Typically, this includes information about our clergy, board, families, facilities, youth groups, activities, and schedules, with bright photos of attractive people - especially children - engaged in worship and enjoying community.

The Monthly Threat Brief will be held on 26 July at 12:30pm ET. Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/354469486777> . If you are not yet a member of FB-ISAO, sign-up for one of our [membership programs](#). July is membership month with deep discounts on membership. See next item!

It's membership month at the [Faith-Based Information Sharing and Analysis Organization](#) which means now is the perfect time to get rolling in a new direction by joining our growing list of faith-based organizations and partners from across the United States that have already connected to a better way! Visit our [membership page](#) for more information and to choose the membership program that is right for you and your faith-based organization. **If you are an Affiliate member or a Champion, consider upgrading your membership.**

Take the plunge! During the month of July, we are offering a 50% discount on our membership programs. You can use the promo code: HOTJULY (Note that the code is case sensitive.)



Spotlight: The FB-ISAO Board of Directors

The Faith-Based Information Sharing and Analysis Organization (FB-ISAO) is governed by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for strategic direction and oversight of general business operations which includes fiscal oversight. The Board of Directors is made of five volunteer members (listed below in alphabetical order by last name.) Officers of the Board of Directors are President, Vice-President, and Treasurer. Elections are held yearly.

[Andy Jabbour](#) is co-founder and Managing Director of The Gate 15 Company, and founder and Board Member, Cannabis Information Sharing & Analysis Organization (ISAO).

[Boykin Jordan](#) is a seasoned leader with a demonstrated history of success in the information technology and services industry.

[Vince Polley](#) is an IT/e-commerce lawyer, and mediator/arbitrator for complex IT disputes.

[Mayya Saab](#) is the Executive Director of the Faith-Based Information Sharing and Analysis Organization.

[Ben Taylor](#) is the Executive Director at Cannabis Information Sharing & Analysis Organization (ISAO).