

Volume 4, Issue 8

August 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.

Stories

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FB-ISAO Newsletter

Ten Year Anniversary - Oak Creek Gurdwara Mass Shooting



On 05 August 2012, a threat actor entered the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin outside of Milwaukee and started to open fire on congregants who were gathering for services. Those inside ran for cover or hid while trying to call for police. In total, six people

were killed and three others were wounded. The threat actor committed suicide when police arrived. The threat actor is an American white supremacist and Army veteran from Cudahy, Wisconsin. Apart from the shooter, all of those killed were members of the Sikh faith. 05 August 2022 marked the 10-year anniversary of the attack and is a reminder that religious groups of all types have been targets of attacks, which is especially important considering the release of extremist and accelerationist materials over the past several years.

Sikhism is the world’s fifth most popular religion and is a monotheistic faith that believes in equality and service to others. There are 25 million Sikhs around the world of which about 700,000 live in the United States. Most Sikhs are in India. There are many Sikh organizations that seek to educate on Sikhism. Many of those organizations are also advocates for the Sikh community. One of those organizations is Saldef. Saldef is commemorating the attack at the Gurdwara at Oak Creek, Wisconsin in several different ways to include a call for action and a remembrance event.

Attacks against people of faith are not uncommon and can range in scale from vandalism and harassment all the way through the kind of attack that took place at the Gurdwara on 05 August 2012 as well as many others to include the attack at the Tree of Life Synagogue on 27 October 2018. And unfortunately, there is extensive history behind these events, which makes it all the more important for organizations to plan and prepare for all potential risk and then use a risk-based approach to determine appropriate security measures. The 2019 FBI Hate Based Statistics noted that of the 1,715 victims of anti-religious hate crimes: 60.2 percent were victims of crimes motivated by offenders’ anti-Jewish bias. [Continue reading...](#)

- 60.2 percent were victims of crimes motivated by offenders’ anti-Jewish bias.
- 13.2 percent were victims of anti-Islamic (Muslim) bias.
- 3.8 percent were victims of anti-Catholic bias.
- 3.8 percent were victims of anti-Other Christian bias.
- 3.5 percent were victims of anti-Sikh bias.
- 2.9 percent were victims of anti-Eastern Orthodox (Russian, Greek, Other) bias.
- 2.6 percent were victims of bias against groups of varying religions (anti-multiple religions, group).

FB-ISAO Advisory Board

Get to Know the Board of Advisors

Contact Us

Company Name

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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

Community Meeting	11 August 2022
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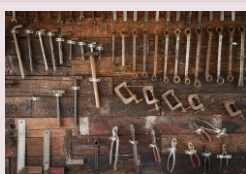
Yikes - Data Breaches and Data Leaks!

American Marriage Ministries (AMM), a wedding officiant training company, acknowledged a data exposure incident. This alone is noteworthy, but for AMM, it marks the second event in less than a year. AMM is a non-denominational church based in Seattle that trains and ordains people to officiate weddings. The first incident was in December of 2021 and might have exposed an incomplete list of AMM minister names and dates of birth being accessible on the internet. The second incident was identified by security researchers with WebsitePlanet who released a report that said they found an unsecured Amazon bucket containing a large amount of data from the church, without any password protection or encryption controls in place

On 22 July 2022 CyberScoop revealed a data leak that involved more than 74 gigabytes (GB) of data that was connected to an evangelical organization believed to be a conservative religious group called Liberty Council. The hacktivists are believed to be aligned to the Pro-Choice movement. This represents an example of how abortion rights groups and supporters can leverage available resource to rally against the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn the controversial Roe v. Wade decision.

Below are some considerations to protect data:

- Evaluate the risk of third parties / MSPs
- Monitor all network access
- Identify and categorize all sensitive data
- Secure all endpoints
- Encrypt all data
- Evaluate all permissions
- Monitor the security posture of all vendors



Spotlight: The FB-ISAO Resource Pages

The Faith-Based Information Sharing and Analysis Organization (FB-ISAO) maintains a robust all-hazards library of resources. The resources are ones that faith-based organizations can use to build their preparedness programs as well as to learn about the all hazards threat environment. The resource library is broken out topically as follows:

- Physical Threat
- Preparedness
- Cybersecurity
- Insider Threat
- Domestic Terrorism Threat
- Health and Natural Disaster
- Preparedness Videos and Training
- Resources for Schools
- COVID-19 and Pandemic Resources
- Domestic Terrorism Threat

The resource is available [here](#).