Volume 7, Issue 4 April 2025

TLP:CLEAR

FB-ISAO Current Threat Level

FB-ISAO Physical Threat Level:

Elevated

FB-ISAO has assessed the general Physical Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as "ELEVATED." As per FB-ISAO's definitions of the Physical Threat Levels, "ELEVATED" means FB-ISAO is unaware of any specific events, but there is a concern that an event is more likely than normal.

FB-ISAO Cyber Threat Level:

Elevated

FB-ISAO has assessed the general Cyber Threat Level for US Faith-Based Organizations as "ELEVATED." As per FB-ISAO's definitions of the Cyber Threat Levels, "ELEVATED" means FB-ISAO is unaware of any specific events, but there is a concern that an event is more likely than normal.

Stories

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FB-ISAO Newsletter

Update to the Threat Level Statement

On 31 March, the FB-ISAO issued an update to the threat level statement. Although no change was made to the threat level which remains at "ELEVATED", the FB-ISAO Threat and Incident Response Working Group provided some additional context, "We continue to have concerns over the widespread acts of hostility and open threats to faith-based organizations based on their religious identity and political beliefs - (including antisemitism, islamophobia, anti-Christian, anti-Hindu and anti-Sikh sentiment, etc.), which can be heightened in this period of major holidays for many religions around the world."

Physical Threat Level: ELEVATED

ELEVATED

Cyber Threat Level: ELEVATED

ELEVATED

Religiously targeted acts of violence such as arson, vandalism, and low-level attacks including swatting and bomb threats continue to occur. Globally, there has also been a renewed proliferation of vehicle ramming attacks, several surrounding religious events and celebrations. With the change of the U.S. Presidential Administration, we have seen new authority for ICE agents to enter houses of worship, protestors be detained (sometimes under vague allegations), and a federal government workforce put on edge, which includes a scale back of personnel who were charged with protecting the homeland. In this environment we've seen increased threats to prominent figures such as judges and corporate executives, support to those who have conducted attacks, and public rhetoric approving of acts of violence, which all suggest an increasing acceptance across society of violence to solve issues.

FB-ISAO threat levels are defined as:

CRITICAL: An event is underway or expected imminently

SEVERE: An event is highly likely

EFB-ISAO is unaware of any specific threats, but there is concern that an event is more likely than normal

GUARDED: FB-ISAO is unaware of any specific events, but a general risk of incidents exists

Read the March 31, 2025, Threat Level Statement.

FB-ISAO Advisory Board

Get to Know the Board of Advisors

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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

Visit the <u>events page</u> for a complete listing of FB-ISAO events.



Members Inform Our Products

Discovering what information is being said about you or your organization online can be helpful in assessing risk and potential threats. In addition, threat actors routinely search online for any information that could be used to support their hostile event planning. Therefore, it is important for organizations to carry out a review. The Weekly Advisory of 19 March 2025 is a how-to resource. I encourage members to take a look at the product and to follow the guidance to set-up their own social media sweeps for general awareness of mentions of your organization on social media. Further, the guidance can be used for evaluating information about your organization's public facing website and social media platforms to ensure that there is no information that could be used by threat actors to facilitate an attack.

To a large extent, the steps can be set up once but will require periodic review of key words so that the searches are kept current. Most everything related to your security program requires periodic review and so folding the review of your social media sweeps would fall into that category.

This product was informed by one of our members and developed by the Chair of the Cybersecurity Threat Intelligence Working Group.



To get a copy of the product you must be a member! join FB-ISAO.



Spotlight: Upcoming FB-ISAO Engagements

The team will be out and about! Here's where you'll find us!

- ➤ Anne Arundel County 2025 Protecting Our Houses of Worship Seminar (participating virtually.) This interdenominational series will include three monthly virtual sessions and a final in-person session, with Active Shooter training and an Active Attacker Tabletop Exercise. Email oemoutreach@aacounty.org to register.
- ➤ May 8, 2025, Safety/Security Seminar for the Birmingham, Al. area. For more information, call Robin at 800-803-5201, ext. 103. We will support this event by submitting an informational video.
- ➤ <u>Civil Defense Summit</u> in June 2025. We will be presenting, inperson, on Overlooked & Unprotected: Securing the Nonprofits that Constitute Critical Infrastructure. Hope to see you there!