

8 Thwarted Attacks Between 11/1/2003 and 5/12/2011

Date*	Location	Descriptions/References
11/1/2003	"Jewish targets in North America"	JamI Aql, a Hamas jihadist operative, was arrested before he could complete planned terror attacks targeting Jews in the U.S.—"New York is an easy place to find Jews"—and Canada. Aql underwent training as part of a Hamas scheme to murder a senior Israeli official in the U.S., and conduct potentially mass murderous shooting and bombing attacks on U.S. and Canadian Jewish communities. ²²⁻²⁵
10/7/2004	Nashville, Tennessee	Iraqi-born Nashville resident Hassan Al-Uqaily, who spoke of "going jihad," and "wanting blow up something," was arrested on charges of illegally possessing machine guns. Al-Uqaily expressed animosity towards the Jewish community, and discussed attacking Nashville vicinity Jewish targets. He was convicted and sentenced to four years and nine months in prison, to be deported upon release, "for purchasing machine guns and grenades to target two Jewish facilities in the Nashville area," the U.S. attorney's office stated. ²⁶⁻²⁹
7/5/2005	Los Angeles & Orange County, California	Cell members from Jami'at Al-Islam Al-Sahih (JIS), "The Association of Authentic Islam," a domestic jihad terror organization comprised of converts to Islam, established by Kevin James, aka "Shakyh Shahaab Murshid" (and multiple other Islamic aliases), was thwarted from carrying out terrorist attacks on El Al at Los Angeles Airport, the Israeli Consulate, and LA-area synagogues, when "this cell closer to going operational at the time than anyone since 9/11". Their leader, James, "preached the duty of JIS members to target for violent attack any enemies of Islam or 'infidels.' including Jewish and non-Jewish supporters of Israel." He also drafted a "JIS Protocol document, "which called for the establishment of an Islamic caliphate in the U.S. that followed Islamic law." JIS conducted surveillance, gathered weapons, and planned attacks on Los Angeles area synagogues, to coincide with the Jewish high holidays, particularly Yom Kippur, thus potentially maximizing the number of Jewish victims. Had the attack occurred, James prepared a press release to be issued after it which stated, "This incident is the first in a series of incidents to come in a plight to defend and propagate traditional Islam in its purity. We are not extremists, radicals, or terrorists. We are only servants of Allah." ³⁰⁻³³
6/2/2007	Queens, New York	Jihadist converts to Islam, spearheaded by Russell Defreitas, targeted fuel tanks and gas pipelines at JFK airport. Defreitas, who was "fighting the war for Islam," also expressed specific Antisemitic sentiments—in a reference to Israeli Jews, pronouncing he "wanted to get those bastards,"—and the plot included targeting a Jewish school and a Jewish neighborhood in the airport's vicinity. Subsequently it emerged Defreitas had planned to kill his "Jewish attorney", before the trial against him began. ³⁴⁻³⁵
5/19/2009	Riverdale, New York	Four converts to Islam—James Cromitie, Onta Williams, Laguerre Payen, and David Williams—were arrested for positioning what they believed were functional explosive devices in cars parked adjacent to the Riverdale Temple, and Riverdale Jewish Center. Their desire to "do jihad" had a particular Jew-hating animus, expressed by Cromitie subsequent to the 2008 Mumbai jihad terror attacks, which included targeting of Jews. Observing footage of the funeral of a Jewish Mumbai jihad terror victim, Cromitie opined, " <i>Look at the Jewish guy. You're not smiling no more, you [expletive]. I hate those bastards. I hate those [expletives], those [expletive] Jewish bastards. I'd like to get one of those. I'd like to get [destroy] a synagogue. Me. Yeah, personally.</i> " ³⁶⁻³⁸
5/30-6/1/2009	Little Rock, Arkansas Nashville, Tennessee	Convert to Islam Carlos Bledsoe, aka Abdulhakim Mujahid Muhammad, a declared votary of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, fired ten .22 caliber rounds at the home of Little Rock, AK Rabbi Eugene Levy (5/30/2009). Two days later (June 1, 2009), Muhammad tossed a firebomb at the home of Nashville Rabbi Saul Strosberg. Neither attack caused fatalities. Subsequently Muhammad confessed to plotting a much more extensive series of attacks focused upon Jews: not only murdering "three Zionist rabbis in Memphis, Little Rock, and Nashville," but also targeting "Zionist organizations in the Northeast" (i.e., researching potential sites in Memphis, Philadelphia, Louisville, Atlanta, and New York). Muhammad's lethal jihad—he wound up murdering Pvt William Long outside a Little Rock, AK Army recruiting station—in his own words: " <i>But the good thing is - Martyrs don't die! Allah says, 'Don't think of those who are killed for the sake of Allah as dead. Rather they are alive with their Lord and they have their provision!' (Koran 3:169; accurately cited and translated) And that's what I believe. The jihad lives on. May Allah accept my jihadi operations and grant me what he promises all of the ... (martyrs)</i> " ³⁹⁻⁴³
10/29/2010	Chicago, Illinois	Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) shipped two bombs, manufactured in Yemen from computer printer cartridges, and scheduled for delivery Saturday, November 1, 2010 (i.e., on a Jewish Sabbath), to two Chicago area synagogues, Congregation Or Chadash, and B'nai Zion. The devices were intercepted at East Midlands Airport, United Kingdom, October 29, 2010. Jihadist cleric and AQAP ideologue, Anwar Al-Awlaki, was believed to have been involved in the plot. AQAP explained the focus on Jews—"Zionists"—in the broader context of the global jihad against Israel: "we in AQAP will never forget Palestine." ⁴⁴⁻⁴⁷
5/12/2011	New York, NY	Jihadists Ahmed Ferhani and Mohamed Mamdouh were arrested by the New York Police Department while purchasing weapons and ammunition for a planned attack on a prominent Manhattan, New York synagogue. Disguised as Jews, the pair intended to conceal a bomb in the targeted synagogue. "Hell yeah, I would love to blow that (expletive) up," declared Mamdouh. Ferhani stated that the bombing would be a warning to the Jews, and opined further that he wished to blow up ten synagogues at once. As an alternative plan, if the bomb plot was unsuccessful, Ferhani and Mamdouh intended to bring guns into the synagogue, and massacre the Jews in attendance. ⁴⁸⁻⁵⁰