Soft Target Security Brief

Fortune Favors the Prepared | Intelligence Operations Division | Practitioner Edition

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⚠ PREPAREDNESS CONDITION 3 - BROWN SKY ⚠

Halloween (31-OCT) and Election Day (03-NOV) fall inside the next four days, with no NTAS advisory in force (DHS page re-checked 30-OCT). The High Holy Days passed without an attack on a US Jewish institution, but Yom Kippur produced a shooting at a synagogue door in Belleville, Ontario and the arrest of two Iranian nationals over an alleged chlorine-bomb plot against Heaton Park Synagogue, Manchester (STSB-002, STSB-003). **ANALYST NOTE: no PREP-CON change recommended; PREP-CON 3 matches the 30-OCT DTR. Review the Election Day posture in STSB-006.**

COMMUNICATIONS CONDITION: COMCON 4 - WATCH

Held at COMCON 4 in the 30-OCT DTR. See current-cycle DTR Full CYB-001 for status.

SEASONAL: HALLOWEEN, ELECTION DAY AND THE HOLIDAY SEASON - 4 DAYS OUT

Halloween is Saturday 31-OCT and the midterm Election Day is Tuesday 03-NOV. Both put large, unscreened crowds on public streets: parades, trunk-or-treat events and lines outside polling places. A driver allegedly sped toward the Freeport, Pennsylvania Halloween parade crowd on 28-OCT; no one was struck. After that the calendar runs straight into the holiday season: Veterans Day 11-NOV, Thanksgiving parades 26-NOV, Hanukkah from sundown 04-DEC, and Christmas markets and services through 25-DEC. Vehicle standoff at outdoor gatherings is the single most useful control across all of them.

ISSUE PARAMETERS

Publication (UTC)	30 OCT 2026 / 1600 UTC
Reporting Period	04-SEP through 30-OCT 2026 (Issue 12 - Issue 13 window, 56 days)
Issue	Vol. 1, Issue 13 | Supersedes Vol. 1, Issue 12 (04 Sep 2026)
SOP / Registry	SOP v5.65 Addendum | Master Source Registry v2.26 | ICD 203/206
NTAS Status	NO CURRENT ADVISORY (DHS page checked 30-OCT). The last bulletin (22-JUN-2025) expired 22-SEP-2025.

STANDING POSTURE - HOUSES OF WORSHIP / JEWISH INSTITUTIONS

The following mitigations remain in force regardless of whether a specific credible threat is identified:

• Vehicle standoff at all entrances and at every outdoor gathering - bollards, planters, parked vehicles or police presence at drop-off points and parade routes. A vehicle is the lowest-skill, highest-lethality tool available to a solo attacker.

• Armed or trained presence at the door during peak services. On Yom Kippur in Belleville, Ontario, a police officer posted outside the synagogue took the gunman's fire and no congregant was hurt.

• Child-area and youth-program access control - sign-in, adult escort and locked-door discipline. In Bend, Oregon (15-OCT) the shooter fired through locked doors; doors delay, they do not stop, so pair them with a lockdown drill.

• HVAC intake audit - air intakes mapped and access controlled. The Manchester defendants are alleged to have planned a homemade chlorine device.

• Mail and package intake protocol - screen all packages before they enter the interior. The Ogden, Utah defendant allegedly held six pipe bombs.

• Interior response drilling - drill the response to an armed intruder and to a person inside the sanctuary, not just the perimeter.

• FBI JTTF liaison - if your house of worship or JCC has no established FBI field office contact, set it up before the holiday season.

• Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) - FY2026 awards ($300M) funded just over 1,600 of more than 7,000 applications. Apply for FY2027 when the notice opens; guard hours and training are the near-term value.

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

Three things define your security calculus:
Yom Kippur produced attacks and plots against synagogues on two continents, not in the US. A gunman fired on the officer guarding Sons of Jacob Synagogue in Belleville, Ontario (20-SEP); UK police arrested two Iranian nationals over an alleged chlorine-bomb plot against Heaton Park Synagogue and the Manchester Jewish Museum (20-SEP); the Wuppertal synagogue was set alight (17-SEP). In the US, the FBI disrupted two plots with a synagogue element (Pittsburgh area, 12-SEP; Ogden, Utah, OCT). See STSB-003.
Iranian direction of proxy attacks is now formally attributed. The UK blamed the IRGC for the RAF Fairford plot and sanctioned two people (12-OCT), and 29 foreign ministers condemned Iran's attacks abroad, naming the HAYI-claimed attacks on Jewish sites. US authorities believe Al-Saadi is still directing plots from prison. See STSB-001 and STSB-002.
The next 60 days are crowd-heavy and NTAS is silent: Halloween, Election Day (03-NOV), Thanksgiving parades, Hanukkah and Christmas markets. The Bend, Oregon school shooting (15-OCT, 4 killed) and two homecoming mass shootings show the open-access gathering risk. See STSB-005 and STSB-006 (NEW).

CURRENT ACTIVE THREATS - 30 OCT 2026

STSB-001 | KH-HAYI US network: US authorities believe Al-Saadi is still directing plots from prison; no trial date reported.	**BACKGROUND | UPDATED | 51**

WHY THIS CYCLE	**US authorities believe the jailed Kata'ib Hizballah commander is still directing plots through coded phone calls and money transfers (The National, 19/21-OCT). No outcome of the 09-SEP status conference has been reported.**
SUMMARY	Mohammad Baqer Saad Dawood al-Saadi remains in custody at MDC Brooklyn on the 8-count SDNY indictment covering a disrupted plot against a Manhattan synagogue and Jewish centers in Los Angeles and Scottsdale. On 26-AUG his lawyer asked for prisoner-of-war (combatant immunity) status for alleged service to the IRGC, while saying the court need not rule on it yet. No trial date, ruling or superseding indictment has been reported since. In October, The National reported US authorities believe he continues to direct plots from prison through coded calls and about $1M in transfers. Separately, a DNI memo reported by Axios and the New York Times (about 23-OCT) says Iran is in advanced stages of plotting against US personnel overseas.
SALUTE	**SIZE:** One named senior KH commander in federal custody. Plot scope: a Manhattan synagogue plus Jewish centers in Los Angeles and Scottsdale. Network scope: 20-plus attacks across Europe and Canada. Alleged prison-directed transfers: about $1M (reported). **ACTIVITY:** Defense POW-status filing 26-AUG. Reported continued direction of plots from custody (OCT). No reported docket ruling or trial date. **LOCATION:** SDNY (Judge Colleen McMahon); MDC Brooklyn. European nodes: Amsterdam, Paris, London, Skopje. **TIME:** Next court date not reported. Prosecutors indicated in June that trial could take up to a year to reach because of classified discovery. **EQUIPMENT:** Coded telephone communication and money transfers from custody (reported); no new weapons detail. **UNIT:** FBI New York JTTF; SDNY prosecutors; DOJ National Security Division. Defense: Andrew Dalack.
Analyst Assessment	**UPDATED: the case is quiet in court, but reporting now places the defendant as an active node, not only a historical one.** **LIKELIHOOD:** A further KH/HAYI-linked attempt against a US Jewish or pro-Israel soft target over the next 60 days: **ROUGHLY EVEN CHANCE.** **CONFIDENCE: MODERATE.** *Held. Reported direction from custody and the DNI memo raise concern; against that, no Iran-linked plot inside the US has been reported in the window and the US cell remains disrupted.* **CHANGE FROM PRIOR:** PRIOR (Issue 12, 04-SEP): NSTR; status conference 5 days out. CURRENT (Issue 13, 30-OCT): no reported court outcome; US authorities believe the defendant is directing plots from prison. Likelihood unchanged. **TRIPWIRES:** (1) Any new HAYI claim or KH-attributed attack; (2) a second US-based cell identified; (3) BOP special administrative measures or a custody change for al-Saadi; (4) a ruling on the POW motion or a trial date; (5) an Iranian state statement endorsing US targeting. **COLLECTION GAPS:** The SDNY docket after June; the evidence behind the prison-direction reporting; whether any US-based contact of the reported transfers has been identified.

ALT HYP	**ALT A: The network attempts another US or Western soft-target attack within 60 days, independent of the case. [roughly even chance]** *INDETERMINATE -- no new US attempt reported; Western Europe and the UK recorded Iran-linked plots in the window (STSB-002).* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Reported direction from custody; the IRGC-attributed Fairford plot and the Manchester case show active Iranian proxy tasking in the West. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** The most advanced known US cell is disrupted; no Iran-linked arrest inside the US in the window; NTAS has no advisory. **ALT B: Prison communications are cut off and the US strand of the network goes dormant. [roughly even chance]** *NOT OBSERVED -- no report of new custody restrictions.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Public reporting of the calls makes tighter custody measures likely; a cell without its commander loses direction. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** HAYI has used local criminal proxies who need little central direction; a dispersed network can act without the commander.
SOURCES	The National via Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center: mcac.maryland.gov | JNS (POW filing): jns.org | DOJ/SDNY: justice.gov/usao-sdny | Al Jazeera (DNI memo): aljazeera.com

STSB-002 | HAYI/Europe: no new claimed attack since July; UK formally blames the IRGC and sanctions two (12-OCT); threat level SEVERE.	**WATCH | UPDATED | 61**
WHY THIS CYCLE	**HAYI claimed no new attack for a fourth consecutive window, but the state behind the campaign is now named: the UK attributed the RAF Fairford plot to the IRGC, sanctioned two people and led a 29-nation statement naming the HAYI-claimed attacks on Jewish sites (12-OCT).**
SUMMARY	No HAYI-claimed attack on a Jewish target has been reported since the 13-JUL UK designations. On 12-OCT the UK sanctioned Ruhollah Bazghandi, head of IRGC counter-espionage operations, and a facilitator for the Zindashti criminal network used in plots against dissidents, and summoned Iran's ambassador. The Prime Minister told the Commons the 27-SEP RAF Fairford incident was "almost certainly directed by" the IRGC; seven men were arrested and two charged under the National Security Act, and the Crown says their handler is potentially connected to the HAYI-claimed April incident at the Israeli embassy. A joint statement of 29 foreign ministers (one account says 35) condemned Iran's violent attacks abroad. The UK national threat level remains SEVERE, unchanged since 30-APR.
SALUTE	**SIZE:** Designations of 13-JUL stand; two further UK sanctions 12-OCT. Fairford: seven arrests, two charged. CST H1 2026: 1,926 anti-Jewish incidents (+21%); no newer CST release. **ACTIVITY:** NSTR on a new HAYI claim. State attribution and sanctions (12-OCT); Fairford charges and remand (27-OCT). **LOCATION:** Greater London, Gloucestershire (RAF Fairford), Manchester. European nodes unchanged: Amsterdam, Paris, Rotterdam, Skopje, Belgium, Germany. **TIME:** Fairford arrests 27-SEP; sanctions and statement 12-OCT; Old Bailey hearing 20-NOV. **EQUIPMENT:** Fairford: petrol drums recovered, no explosives found. Documented HAYI method set: accelerant arson, edged weapons, vehicles. **UNIT:** UK FCDO (Foreign Secretary Ed Miliband); Counter Terrorism Policing; Metropolitan Police; CST.
Analyst Assessment	**HELD on activity, CHANGED on attribution. The quiet claim signature now sits alongside a formal UK finding that the IRGC directs proxy attacks in Britain.** **LIKELIHOOD:** Continued Iran-directed proxy activity against soft targets in Europe over the next 30 days: **LIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE:** **MODERATE.** *Held. The claim channel is silent, but Fairford and Manchester show Iranian tasking continued through the window.* **LIKELIHOOD:** An equivalent network-linked executed attack on US soil within the next 30 days: **UNLIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE:** **MODERATE.** *Unchanged.*

	CHANGE FROM PRIOR: PRIOR (Issue 12, 04-SEP): three quiet windows; threat level SEVERE. CURRENT (Issue 13, 30-OCT): four quiet windows; IRGC formally blamed for Fairford; two further sanctions; 29-nation statement. Likelihood unchanged. **TRIPWIRES:** (1) A chemical or mass-casualty escalation in Europe; (2) a new HAYI claim; (3) a UK threat-level change; (4) a first HAYI claim against a North American target; (5) new EU or UK designations; (6) Iranian retaliation against the sanctions. **COLLECTION GAPS:** Whether HAYI has shifted to unclaimed operations; the full Fairford evidence (hearing 20-NOV); exact signatories to the 12-OCT statement; Belgium's current OCAM level.
ALT HYP	**ALT A: The pause in claimed attacks reflects reduced directed tempo. [roughly even chance]** *PARTIALLY OBSERVED -- four windows without a claim.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** No claimed attack since July after a near-continuous cadence; designations and sanctions raise the cost of proxy recruitment. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** Fairford (27-SEP) and the Manchester case (20-SEP) show Iranian-linked operations continued without the HAYI label. **ALT B: Iran has moved from claimed arson to unclaimed, higher-consequence plots. [roughly even chance]** *PARTIALLY OBSERVED -- Fairford targeted a military base; Manchester allegedly involved a chlorine device.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Both window cases were unclaimed and more ambitious than the spring arsons; the UK attributes Fairford to the IRGC. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** Neither case produced an explosion or casualties; Fairford recovered no explosives; state direction of the Manchester case is not proven.
SOURCES	GOV.UK FCDO statement 12-OCT: gov.uk | Al Jazeera (Commons attribution): aljazeera.com | Jerusalem Post (joint statement): jpost.com | Counter Terrorism Policing (threat level): counterterrorism.police.uk | Thomaster Substack (Fairford hearing, unverified): thomaster.substack.com

STSB-003 | Jewish institutions: the High Holy Days passed without a US attack; Yom Kippur shooting in Ontario, chlorine-bomb plot in Manchester, two US plots disrupted.	**FLASH | UPDATED | 70**
WHY THIS CYCLE	**The September convergence passed without an attack on a US Jewish institution. Abroad, Yom Kippur brought a shooting at a synagogue door in Belleville, Ontario and an alleged chlorine-bomb plot against Heaton Park Synagogue, Manchester. In the US, the FBI disrupted an ISIS-inspired plot near Pittsburgh with a synagogue element and charged an Ogden, Utah man holding six pipe bombs who posted "I wanna blow up a synagogue".**
SUMMARY	No attack on a US synagogue, JCC or Jewish school was reported over Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur or Sukkot; the 9/11 anniversary and UNGA week passed without a terrorism incident in New York. The threat surfaced elsewhere. On 20-SEP Sean Ward fired a shotgun at the officer guarding Sons of Jacob Synagogue in Belleville during Yom Kippur services; up to 30 shots were exchanged, no congregant was hurt, and police declared it a hate-motivated attack on the Jewish community. The same evening UK counter-terrorism police arrested two Iranian nationals in Manchester; prosecutors say they targeted Heaton Park Hebrew Synagogue, the site of the 2025 Yom Kippur attack, and the Manchester Jewish Museum with a homemade chlorine device, and trial is set for 15-JUN-2027. On 17-SEP flammable liquid was set alight on the steps of the Wuppertal synagogue. In the US: Jonathan Hunter Kramer, 21, was arrested near Pittsburgh on 12-SEP in an ISIS-inspired plot (rifle, about 190 rounds, knives); the complaint says he suggested poisoning food in synagogues. Skyler Rose, 22, of Ogden, Utah was indicted in October for possessing six pipe bombs and attempting a hate crime. In Manhattan, a woman was charged on 21-OCT with hate-crime assaults on two men in Jewish religious dress, and the Central Synagogue defendant was indicted by the state on 09-SEP.
SALUTE	**SIZE:** Window incidents and plots: 1 shooting (Belleville), 1 arson (Wuppertal), 1 chlorine-device plot (Manchester), 2 US plots disrupted (Kramer, Rose), 1 street assault case (Manhattan). Casualties: the Belleville officer wounded; the gunman died.

	ACTIVITY: Attacks at the door and on the steps, not inside; plots disrupted before execution. US holidays passed without an attack. **LOCATION:** Belleville, Ontario; Manchester and Salford/Liverpool, UK; Wuppertal, Germany; Cranberry Township, PA; Ogden, UT; Midtown Manhattan. **TIME:** Wuppertal 17-SEP; Belleville and Manchester arrests 20-SEP (Yom Kippur); Kramer 12-SEP; Rose indicted about 21-23-OCT; Manhattan assaults 21-OCT. Hanukkah begins at sundown 04-DEC. **EQUIPMENT:** Shotgun (Belleville); accelerant (Wuppertal); homemade chlorine device and IED components sought (Manchester, alleged); rifle and knives (Kramer); six pipe bombs and two rifles (Rose). **UNIT:** FBI Pittsburgh and Salt Lake City; Belleville Police and the SIU; Counter Terrorism Policing North West; German federal and state prosecutors; NYPD Hate Crime Task Force; Manhattan DA.
Analyst Assessment	**GRADED: the convergence passed without a directed attack on a US Jewish institution (Issue 12 ALT A observed). CHANGED: the dominant pattern in the window was armed or device plots against synagogues abroad timed to Yom Kippur, and US disruptions of lone actors with a synagogue element.** **LIKELIHOOD:** A directed, network-linked mass-casualty attack on a US Jewish institution over the next 60 days, including Hanukkah: **UNLIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE: MODERATE.** *No Iran-linked plot inside the US was reported in the window and no credible threat has been named by DHS or the FBI. The Manchester case shows a chemical-device plot against a synagogue reached the arrest stage abroad.* **LIKELIHOOD:** A lone-actor attack or disrupted plot against a US Jewish institution over the next 60 days: **LIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE: MODERATE.** *Two US plots with a synagogue element were disrupted in seven weeks, and public Hanukkah menorah lightings are open-access events.* **CHANGE FROM PRIOR:** PRIOR (Issue 12, 04-SEP): convergence 7 days out; interior breach at Central Synagogue. CURRENT (Issue 13, 30-OCT): convergence passed without a US attack; Yom Kippur attacks and plots abroad; two US plots disrupted. Directed-attack likelihood held at UNLIKELY; lone-actor judgment added. **TRIPWIRES:** (1) Any attack or plot naming Hanukkah or public menorah lightings; (2) a US plot linked to Iran or HAYI; (3) a chemical-device plot in North America; (4) reinstatement of an NTAS advisory; (5) a DHS or FBI holiday-season bulletin naming Jewish institutions. **COLLECTION GAPS:** Non-public DHS or FBI bulletins to the Jewish community; whether Kramer and Rose had contacts beyond online material; the identity of the overseas contact in the Manchester case; current Secure Community Network guidance for Hanukkah.
ALT HYP	**ALT A: The holiday season passes without a successful attack on a US Jewish institution. [likely]** *OBSERVED for the High Holy Days -- no US attack; two plots disrupted.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Security posture held through the High Holy Days; disruptions show FBI coverage of online lone actors; the Belleville officer stopped the attack at the door. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** Disrupted plots are near-misses, not proof of safety; open-air Hanukkah events have no access control. **ALT B: Iran-linked actors attempt a chemical or explosive attack on a Western Jewish institution within 60 days. [unlikely]** *NOT OBSERVED since the 20-SEP Manchester arrests.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** The Manchester case alleges exactly this method and target; the UK attributes other proxy operations to the IRGC. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** Both Manchester defendants are in custody and trial is set; no comparable plot reported elsewhere; state direction is not proven.
SOURCES	CP24, PBS (Belleville): cp24.com, pbs.org | ITV News, Times of Israel, Jewish News (Manchester): itv.com, timesofisrael.com, jewishnews.co.uk | epd / Jerusalem Post (Wuppertal): evangelisch.de, jpost.com | CBS Pittsburgh, Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh (Kramer): cbsnews.com, jewishpgh.org | JTA (Rose): jta.org | Gothamist (Montes): gothamist.com | Fox 5 NY (Manhattan assaults): fox5ny.com

WHY THIS CYCLE	**The 10-SEP anniversary passed without an incident or arrest at Utah Valley University. On 23-OCT the judge heard three hours of argument and set no trial date; the next hearing is 09-NOV.**
SUMMARY	Utah marked the first anniversary of Charlie Kirk's killing on 10-SEP with a Governor-declared Charlie Kirk Day; UVU cancelled classes and added security, a memorial event was held at the UCCU Center, and a small protest of about 40-50 people passed without arrests. In the capital case against Tyler Robinson, Judge Tony Graf heard arguments on 23-OCT: prosecutors proposed a trial from 31-JAN-2028 lasting about 17 weeks, the defense asked for no earlier than the second half of 2029, and the Kirk family asked for October 2027. No date was set; a ruling is possible at the 09-NOV hearing. The President criticized the judge publicly.
SALUTE	**SIZE:** One defendant, capital murder charge. Anniversary memorial and protest at UVU; protest about 40-50 people. **ACTIVITY:** 10-SEP anniversary without incident; 23-OCT trial-date hearing without a ruling. **LOCATION:** Utah Valley University, Orem; Utah state court, Provo. **TIME:** Next hearing 09-NOV-2026, 1 p.m. Proposed trial windows run from October 2027 to late 2029. **EQUIPMENT:** No change: a bolt-action rifle fired from an unscreened rooftop outside the event perimeter. **UNIT:** Utah County Attorney's Office; Judge Tony Graf; UVU police.
Analyst Assessment	**The anniversary risk window closed without incident. The tactical lesson - unscreened elevated sightlines at outdoor events - applies to Election Day rallies and holiday parades.** **LIKELIHOOD:** A copycat standoff-style attack on an outdoor political or public event over the next 60 days: **UNLIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE: LOW.** *No specific threat tied to the case; the anniversary passed quietly. Election-period rallies (STSB-006) keep the attack surface open.* **CHANGE FROM PRIOR:** PRIOR (Issue 12, 04-SEP): anniversary 6 days out; trial cleared 01-SEP. CURRENT (Issue 13, 30-OCT): anniversary passed without incident; no trial date. Likelihood unchanged. **TRIPWIRES:** (1) A trial-date ruling on 09-NOV; (2) any rooftop or standoff incident at an outdoor event; (3) a credible threat against a trial participant; (4) public pressure on the court escalating into threats. **COLLECTION GAPS:** Whether threats against the judge or court staff have been reported; security planning for a multi-month trial.
ALT HYP	**ALT A: The case proceeds through pretrial without related violence. [likely]** *OBSERVED to date -- anniversary and hearing passed without incident.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** The 10-SEP anniversary and the 23-OCT hearing passed quietly; no copycat activity reported. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** Public attacks on the judge raise the temperature around the court; a long pretrial period gives more focal dates. **ALT B: The trial-date fight becomes a focal point for threats against court participants. [unlikely]** *NOT OBSERVED.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** The President publicly criticized the judge; the case is highly polarized. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** No threat reporting found; Utah courts have run the hearings without incident.
SOURCES	Fox 13: fox13now.com | KSL: ksl.com | CNN: cnn.com/2026/10/23 | Newsweek: newsweek.com

STSB-005 | Schools and open-access gatherings: Bend, Oregon elementary school shooting (15-OCT, 4 killed); two homecoming mass shootings; vehicle toward a Halloween parade crowd (28-OCT).	**WATCH | NEW | 58**
WHY THIS CYCLE	**Three attacks on open-access gatherings and one school in four weeks, ahead of Halloween, Thanksgiving parades and holiday markets.**

SUMMARY	On 15-OCT a 16-year-old shot through locked doors at Silver Rail Elementary in Bend, Oregon, killing three children and a teacher and critically injuring two others; a person who followed him inside shot him, and he died. On 04-OCT a shooting at a homecoming block party in Vienna, Georgia killed 2 and injured 35, some struck by cars while fleeing. On 24-OCT a fight near FAMU's stadium in Tallahassee after the homecoming game ended in gunfire that injured 12, six of them juveniles; a 15-year-old was arrested. On 28-OCT a driver allegedly sped toward crowds before the Freeport, Pennsylvania Halloween parade; no one was struck and he was charged with DUI and fleeing. None of these is linked to terrorism.
SALUTE	**SIZE:** Bend: 4 killed, 2 critical. Vienna GA: 2 killed, 35 injured, more than 50 rounds. Tallahassee: 12 injured. Freeport PA: no injuries. **ACTIVITY:** School attack through locked doors; crowd shootings at homecoming events; vehicle driven toward a parade crowd. **LOCATION:** Bend, OR; Vienna, GA; Tallahassee, FL; Freeport, PA. **TIME:** 04-OCT, 15-OCT, 24-OCT, 28-OCT. Next: Halloween 31-OCT; Thanksgiving parades 26-NOV; holiday markets late NOV-DEC. **EQUIPMENT:** Pump shotgun reported at Bend (single anonymous source); handguns at the homecoming events; a private vehicle at Freeport. **UNIT:** Bend Police; Dooly County Sheriff; Tallahassee Police; Pennsylvania State Police.
Analyst Assessment	**NEW ENTRY: tracked for tactical relevance to the holiday season, not for attribution.** **LIKELIHOOD:** A mass-casualty shooting or vehicle incident at a US open-access public gathering over the next 60 days: **LIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE: MODERATE.** *Three such incidents occurred in four weeks; the holiday calendar adds parades, markets and crowded services.* **LIKELIHOOD:** A deliberate vehicle-ramming attack at a US holiday parade or market over the next 60 days: **UNLIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE: LOW.** *No specific threat reported; the Freeport case appears reckless rather than deliberate. FBI/NYPD holiday bulletins in prior years flagged vehicle ramming.* **CHANGE FROM PRIOR:** New entry this cycle - no prior-issue baseline. **TRIPWIRES:** (1) A DHS or FBI bulletin on holiday gatherings; (2) any deliberate ramming at a parade or market in the US or Europe; (3) a copycat school threat wave after Bend; (4) specific online calls targeting US holiday events. **COLLECTION GAPS:** The Bend shooter's motive and weapon source; whether any of the homecoming shootings involved planning; local parade security plans.
ALT HYP	**ALT A: Incidents remain interpersonal or individual, with no terrorist motive. [likely]** *OBSERVED in the window -- all four cases are non-terrorist.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Fights and disputes drove both homecoming shootings; the Freeport driver was charged with DUI. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** The Bend motive is not public; lone-actor attacks can look interpersonal at first. **ALT B: A terrorist or ideologically motivated actor targets a holiday gathering. [unlikely]** *NOT OBSERVED in the US in the window.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** The Dutch AIVD flagged online threats of an attack in Europe around Christmas; Christmas markets have been attacked before (Berlin 2016, Magdeburg 2024). ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** No US-specific holiday threat reported; no NTAS advisory.
SOURCES	AP via AJC (Bend): ajc.com | WTOC (Vienna GA): 12onyourside.com | NBC (Tallahassee): nbcconnecticut.com | WPXI (Freeport): wpxi.com | Arutz Sheva (AIVD): israelnationalnews.com

STSB-006 | Election period: armed man lunged at Ohio candidate (06-SEP); FBI election-worker threat PSAs (15-OCT); Election Day 03-NOV with no NTAS advisory.	**WATCH | NEW | 60**
WHY THIS CYCLE	**Election Day is 03-NOV. Candidates have been attacked at public events, and the FBI has issued public warnings on threats to election workers.**

SUMMARY	On 06-SEP at the Canfield Fair, Ohio, Patrick Havas, 38, lunged at Democratic gubernatorial candidate Amy Acton at the county party booth, knocking down volunteers; he was carrying two handguns and was charged with assault and disorderly conduct. On 15-OCT the FBI issued three public service announcements on threats to election workers, election crimes and election-themed scams. Minnesota candidates are limiting solo campaigning and hiring security in the first statewide election since the Hortman assassination. DOJ told a court that FBI and ICE personnel will not monitor polling places on 03-NOV.
SALUTE	**SIZE:** One armed assault on a candidate (Ohio). Three FBI PSAs. Polling places nationwide on 03-NOV. **ACTIVITY:** Assault at a campaign booth; federal warnings on election-worker threats; candidate security increases. **LOCATION:** Canfield, OH; Minnesota; polling places and election offices nationwide. **TIME:** Election Day 03-NOV; canvass and certification through late NOV. **EQUIPMENT:** Two handguns and a Taser or brass knuckles reported at Canfield (accounts differ). **UNIT:** FBI; DOJ; state and county election officials; local police.
Analyst Assessment	**NEW ENTRY: Election Day polling places and election offices are soft targets for a single day of high exposure.** **LIKELIHOOD:** A violent incident at a US polling place or election office on or around 03-NOV: **ROUGHLY EVEN CHANCE.** **CONFIDENCE: LOW.** *Thousands of sites with open access and heightened tension; most past election days produced isolated disturbances rather than mass violence.* **LIKELIHOOD:** A mass-casualty attack at a polling place: **VERY UNLIKELY.** **CONFIDENCE: MODERATE.** *No specific threat reported; no NTAS advisory.* **CHANGE FROM PRIOR:** New entry this cycle - no prior-issue baseline. **TRIPWIRES:** (1) Armed intimidation at a polling site; (2) a swatting or bomb-threat wave against election offices; (3) an attack on a candidate or official; (4) post-election protests at certification sites. **COLLECTION GAPS:** Non-public FBI/DHS election threat assessments; local polling-place security staffing; the reported shooting outside the Republican Party of Virginia headquarters (single unconfirmed report, not used).
ALT HYP	**ALT A: Election Day passes with isolated disturbances only. [likely]** *NOT YET OBSERVABLE -- 4 days out.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Federal and local preparation; past election days mostly saw isolated incidents. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** The Canfield assault shows armed individuals approaching candidates in open settings. **ALT B: Post-election disputes produce threats or violence at certification sites. [roughly even chance]** *NOT YET OBSERVABLE.* ✓ **Supporting Evidence:** Close races and contested counts have drawn threats to officials before. ✕ **Ruling-Out Evidence:** Midterm certification is decentralized and lower profile than a presidential count.
SOURCES	Al Jazeera (Canfield): aljazeera.com | FBI IC3 PSAs 15-OCT: ic3.gov | MPR News: mprnews.org | Newsweek (DOJ poll monitors): newsweek.com

CONTEXTUAL BASELINE - ANTISEMITIC AND HOUSE-OF-WORSHIP THREAT ENVIRONMENT

FBI 2025 Hate Crime Statistics - Released August 2026
• 1,528 antisemitic hate crime incidents in 2025 - 63% of all religiously motivated hate crimes; down from 1,938 in 2024 but the third-highest year on record. No newer federal release.
ADL 2025 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents - Released 06-MAY-2026

• 6,274 incidents in 2025 (down 33%), 203 physical assaults (the highest ADL has recorded), 32 with a deadly weapon (up 39%). No newer audit.

United Kingdom - Community Security Trust, H1 2026

• 1,926 anti-Jewish incidents January-June 2026, up 21%. UK national threat level SEVERE, unchanged since 30-APR-2026.

Other Houses of Worship

• 23-OCT, Karak, Jordan: gunmen fired on a funeral at St George's Greek Orthodox Church, killing 8 and injuring 40; accounts of the attackers' fate conflict. An IS editorial reportedly urged copycat attacks on Jews and Christians (unverified).

• 17-SEP, Germany: an Iraqi man was arrested on suspicion of preparing an attack; a church in Bremen was reportedly the first target.

• 25-OCT, Baltimore: arson heavily damaged a mosque on Harford Road; a man was charged with second-degree arson.

• 29-OCT, Milan: a 22-year-old accelerationist was arrested on suspicion of preparing attacks on a synagogue and a mosque.

Federal Funding

• FY2026 NSGP: $300M awarded (28-SEP) to just over 1,600 of more than 7,000 applicants. FY2027: the House DHS bill carries $315M against Senate requests of $750M and advocates' $1B.

NTAS STATUS NOTE:

No current NTAS advisory is in force; the DHS page lists none. Its absence should not be read as a green indicator. The FBI issued election-worker threat PSAs on 15-OCT; no holiday-season bulletin has been published.

CALENDAR HORIZON - NEXT 60 DAYS

Key dates for STSB tracking:

• 31 OCT 2026: Halloween (Saturday). Parades and trunk-or-treat events. See STSB-005.
• 03 NOV 2026: US midterm Election Day. See STSB-006.
• 08 NOV 2026: UK Remembrance Sunday.
• 09 NOV 2026: Kristallnacht anniversary commemorations (Germany, Austria). Robinson trial-date hearing, Utah. See STSB-004.
• 11 NOV 2026: Veterans Day.
• 13 NOV 2026: 11th anniversary of the Paris attacks.
• 20 NOV 2026: RAF Fairford defendants at the Old Bailey. See STSB-002.
• 26 NOV 2026: Thanksgiving; Macy's parade and other city parades.
• Late NOV - 24 DEC 2026: European Christmas markets open; AIVD-flagged online threats of an attack in Europe around Christmas.
• 04-12 DEC 2026: Hanukkah, from sundown 04-DEC. Public menorah lightings are open-access events.
• 14 DEC 2026: first anniversary of the Bondi Hanukkah attack, Australia.
• 19-20 DEC 2026: anniversaries of the Berlin (2016) and Magdeburg (2024) Christmas market attacks.
• 24-25 DEC 2026: Christmas services.

ANALYTICAL STANDARDS & SOURCING

This product is produced in conformance with ICD 203 (Analytic Standards) and ICD 206 (Sourcing Requirements). Likelihood and confidence are stated as separate dimensions on every forward-looking judgment. Likelihood uses the estimative ladder (almost no chance, very unlikely, unlikely, roughly even chance, likely, very likely, almost certain); confidence is HIGH, MODERATE, or LOW. Every scored entry carries a minimum of two alternative hypotheses with supporting and disconfirming evidence.

Analytical standards: fortunefavorstheprepared.com/analytical-standards | **Source registry:** fortunefavorstheprepared.com/dtr-source-registry