

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019

Note: A copy of the superseding indictment can be found <u>here</u>.

# FEDERAL GRAND JURY RETURNS SUPERSEDING INDICTMENT AGAINST FIVE AMALIA, NEW MEXICO COMPOUND DEFENDANTS

## Defendants Charged with Conspiring to Provide Material Support in Preparation for Attacks on Federal Officials and Other Offenses

WASHINGTON – A federal grand jury sitting in Albuquerque, New Mexico returned a superseding indictment on March 13 charging Jany Leveille, 36, Siraj Ibn Wahhaj, 40, Hujrah Wahhaj, 38, Subhanah Wahhaj, 36, and Lucas Morton, 41, with federal offenses related to terrorism, kidnapping and firearms violations. The announcement was made by Assistant Attorney General John C. Demers for the National Security Division, U.S. Attorney John C. Anderson for the District of New Mexico, Assistant Director Michael McGarrity of the FBI's Counterterrorism Division and Special Agent in Charge James Langenberg of the FBI's Albuquerque Field Office.

These defendants were previously charged by indictment on Sept. 11, 2018, with a conspiracy relating to the possession of firearms and ammunition by an alien illegally and unlawfully in the United States. The original indictment also charged Leveille with possessing firearms and ammunition as an alien illegally and unlawfully in the United States.

The superseding indictment charges all of the defendants with participating in a conspiracy from October 2017 to August 2018 to provide material support and resources, including currency, training, weapons, and personnel, knowing and intending that they were to be used in preparation for and in carrying out attacks to kill officers and employees of the United States, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2339A.

"The indictment alleges that the defendants conspired to provide material support in preparation for violent attacks against federal law enforcement officers and members of the military," said Assistant Attorney General Demers. "Advancing beliefs through terror and violence has no place in America, and the National Security Division continues to make protecting against terrorism its top priority." "The superseding indictment alleges a conspiracy to stage deadly attacks on American soil," said U.S. Attorney John C. Anderson. "These allegations remind us of the dangers of terrorism that continue to confront our nation, and the allegation concerning the death of a young child only underscores the importance of prompt and effective intervention by law enforcement. I commend our law enforcement partners for their ongoing diligence and outstanding work in identifying and disabling imminent threats of targeted violence."

"The defendants in this case allegedly were preparing for deadly attacks and their targets included law enforcement and military personnel, the very people who are committed to protecting all of us," said Assistant Director McGarrity. "We will continue to work with our law enforcement partners to uncover and put a stop to acts of terrorism."

"During this lengthy and complex investigation, the safety of the community as well as that of the children at the Amalia compound has been our priority," said Special Agent in Charge Langenberg. "Cases such as these sometimes take a while, but the FBI will never give up until justice is done."

As alleged in the superseding indictment, these defendants conspired to provide material support in preparation for violent attacks against officers and employees of the United States. According to the superseding indictment, Siraj Ibn Wahhaj and Hujrah Wahhaj gathered firearms and ammunition, and all of the defendants transported people, firearms, and ammunition across state lines and constructed a training compound where they stored firearms and ammunition. The superseding indictment further alleges that Siraj Ibn Wahhaj and Morton constructed and maintained a firing range at the compound where they engaged in firearms and tactical training for other compound occupants, and that Leveille and Morton attempted to recruit others to their cause.

The superseding indictment also charges Leveille, Siraj Ibn Wahhaj, and Morton with conspiring to attack and kill officers and employees of the United States, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1117. It was a part and an object of the conspiracy that the defendants would kill officers and employees of the United States, specifically, Federal Bureau of Investigation employees, government officials, and military personnel.

The superseding indictment also charges Leveille, Hujrah Wahhaj, Subhanah Wahhaj, and Morton with kidnapping and conspiracy to commit kidnapping. According to the superseding indictment, they kidnapped a child under the age of eighteen in Georgia and transported the child to New Mexico, where they concealed and held the child, resulting in the child's death.

The superseding indictment also includes the charges from the original indictment. All of the defendants are currently in custody awaiting trial.

Indictments are only accusations. Defendants are presumed innocent unless

#### proven guilty in a court of law.

The Albuquerque Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated this case, with the assistance of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Taos County Sheriff's Office, and the Eighth Judicial District Attorney's Office. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorneys George C. Kraehe and Kimberly A. Brawley and Trial Attorneys Troy A. Edwards, Jr. and David Cora of the National Security Division's Counterterrorism Section.

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