

Two Individuals Charged with Material Support Offenses Involving al Qaeda, al Qaeda in Iraq/al Nusrah Front, and al Shabaab

U.S. Attorney's Office August 08, 2013 Southern District of Florida (313) 226-9100

MIAMI—Wifredo A. Ferrer, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida; John P. Carlin, Acting Assistant Attorney General for National Security; Michael B. Steinbach, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Miami Field Office; and the members of the South Florida Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), announce that today two individuals, one a U.S. citizen, made their initial appearance in federal court in Miami on an indictment returned in the Southern District of Florida.

The 15-count indictment charges Gufran Ahmed Kauser Mohammed, 30, a naturalized U.S. citizen and resident of Dammam, Saudi Arabia, and Mohamed Hussein Said, 25, a Kenyan national and resident of Nairobi and Mombasa, with conspiring to provide, and attempting to provide, material support to three separately designated foreign terrorist organizations: al Qaeda, al Qaeda in Iraq/al Nusrah Front (AQI/al Nusrah Front), and al Shabaab. If convicted, each defendant faces a possible statutory maximum sentence of up to 15 years in prison for each count of the indictment.

The indictment alleges that Mohammed and Said conspired to provide money and recruits to al Qaeda, AQI/al Nusrah Front in Syria and al Shabaab in Somalia. The charges allege that Mohammed sent a series of wire transfers to Said for the purpose of supporting al Shabaab, and to an individual whom he believed was a fundraiser, recruiter, and supplier for al Qaeda and AQI/al Nusrah Front for the purpose of supporting al Qaeda and AQI/al Nusrah Front. In addition, Mohammed and Said agreed to support al Qaeda and AQI/al Nusrah Front by recruiting and moving experienced al Shabaab fighters to the conflict in Syria.

U.S. Attorney Ferrer commended the investigative efforts of the FBI, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Miami-Dade Police Department, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations, and the South Florida Joint Terrorism Task Force. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Brian Frazier and Ricardo Del Toro and Trial Attorney Jolie Zimmerman from the Counterterrorism Section of the Justice Department's National Security Division.

An indictment is only an accusation and a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.