

- When speaking about atrocities by the United States against Muslims, Ciccolo told FBI agents: “...you guy are responsible. You guys have some of that responsibility for these atrocities;” and “the atrocities against the Muslim people need to stop. That’s, you know, leave us alone.”

The Court should find that the § 3A1.4 terrorism enhancement applies because the parties agreed to its application in the plea agreement and the defendant has pleaded guilty to two federal crimes of terrorism.

C. Nature and Circumstances of the Offense

At the time of the defendant’s crimes, ISIS posed a grave threat to the United States. Just days after the defendant’s arrest, then FBI Director James Comey commented publicly that the FBI had thwarted “attacks tied to the July Fourth holiday,” and “arrested more than 10 people inspired by online recruiting by [ISIS].” *See* July 9, 2015 testimony of FBI Director James Comey testimony before Senate Judiciary Committee, summarized in <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/fbi-director-we-disrupted-efforts-to-kill-people-around-july-4-holiday/>, last visited Aug. 28, 2018.

Indeed, the defendant knew of this threat to the United States at the time he committed his crimes. The defendant downloaded several issues of ISIS’s propaganda magazine, *Dabiq*, including Issue 4, which states:

In the Words of the Enemy: On Tuesday, September 16, 2014, the American crusader and Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel testified before the US Senate Armed Services Committee in support of the crusade – headed by Barack Obama – against the Islamic State. Hagel [said] ‘ISIL¹ poses a real threat to all countries in the Middle East, our European allies and to America.... While ISIL clearly poses an immediate threat to American citizens in Iraq and our interests in the Middle East, we also know that thousands of foreign fighters, including Europeans and more than 100 Americans have travelled to Syria. With passports that give them relative freedom of movement, these fighters can exploit ISIL’s safe haven to plan,

¹ISIL was an acronym the government used to collectively refer to ISIS prior to 2017. “ISIL” is an abbreviation of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

August 31, 2018

I hereby certify that the foregoing was filed by ECF and will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic Filing.

/s/ Deepika Bains Shukla

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