

CODEBOOK

Version 8.8

Last Updated: 7/27/2023

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Introducing the Codebook

This document reflects the qualitative coding rules for The Prosecution Project (tPP). The Codebook outlines the variables that constitute tPP and defines the possible values for these variables. The Codebook is maintained by Dr. Michael Loadenthal and members of [tPP Leadership Team](#) (tPPLT). More information about the purpose of the project and case inclusion criteria can be found in the [tPP Manual](#).

Conditional formatting & Validation

A number of variables contain [conditional formatting](#) or [data validation](#). Cells that automatically highlight to be red or yellow after data entry indicate that the case is a duplicate (red), or that the data does not match Codebook formatting rules (yellow). Variables that are data validated contain drop down lists with all possible codes as option; they will not allow the input of anything not on the drop down list.

If you would like to cite this document, you may use (note Chicago only includes 7 authors, although more are listed in the bibliographic entry):

Loadenthal, Michael, Athena Chapekis, Lauren Donahoe, Alexandria Doty, Kathryn Blowers, et al. "The Prosecution Project Codebook (v. 8.8)." the Prosecution Project, October, 2023.

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A. DATE (e.g., 01/01/1998)¹ What date did the incident occur?

- Since there are multiple ways to date a case, refer to the hierarchical order based on the information available:
 1. Date of most recent (i.e. final) indictment
 2. Date of Criminal Complaint or other charging document
 3. Date defendant entered plea/plea accepted
 4. Date defendant was arrested/arraigned
 5. Date of attack/crime
 6. Date of conviction/sentence
 7. Unknown/unclear

B. DATE DESCRIPTOR What stage in the prosecution does this date describe?

- Indictment
 - This includes any dated document stating indicted charges including Waiver of Indictment, or the formal announcement of indictment/charging from DOJ or media.
 - Sometimes a defendant is indicted by a 'Bill of Information', often listed as 'Information,' which can be coded as an indictment.
 - If superseding indictment is issued, use date for newest/final indictment/announcement of charges.
 - In the event of a mistrial resulting in reindictment, use the date for the latest indictment which includes all charges (e.g., *USA v. Charles Harrison Barbee, Robbery Sherman Berry, Verne Jay Merrell*)
- Complaint
 - This is the date the defendant received an official Criminal Complaint, Criminal Information, Affidavit in Support of a Criminal Complaint, or Arrest Warrant
- Plea
 - This is the date the defendant enters a plea or the date that plea was accepted by the court.
- Arrest/arraignment
 - This is the date the defendant was arrested or arraigned.
- Crime/attack
 - This is the date the crime allegedly occurred.
- Conviction or Sentenced
 - This is the date the defendant was convicted.
- Unknown/unclear
 - A date is available, but it is not clear what stage of the process it represents.

¹ In the case that you do not have a specific date, use the first day of the month (e.g., 05/01/2010).

C. CASE ID The 8-digit M/D/Y value + the defendant's initials (e.g., 01011998_AA for a defendant indicted on January 1, 1998 with the name Amy Arsonist).

- For multiple prosecutions of the same person (e.g., state and federal cases), the individual will have multiple rows in the spreadsheet named accordingly (e.g., 01011992_JS, 02251998_JS). Defendants are given separate rows for each prosecution (e.g., Terry Nichols, James Alex Fields).
- If there are co-offenders:
 - In addition to the unique Case ID, add an ending which includes a group name in all caps (e.g., AETA4 for the AETA 4, MIMILITIA for the Michigan Militia, etc.) that reflects the case as a whole. Include a number after the group name to indicate the defendant's names order in the group. This is usually determined by the order they are listed in the indictment.
 - e.g., Andrew Stepanian and Kevin Kjonaas were both part of the group Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC):
 - 05262004_AS_SHAC1
 - 05262004_KK_SHAC2
 - If there is no obvious group acronym for the case, use the full last name of the first defendant on the indictment (or others if the group identifier is already in use), in this case Mousa Abu Marzook and Nadia Elashi:
 - 12172002_MAM_ELASHI1
 - 12172002_NE_ELASHI2
 - If the group name ends in a number (e.g., PROJECT7, NATO3, etc.), use a hyphen between the group name and individual number:
 - 05062004_DB_PROJECT7-1
 - 05062004_TB_PROJECT7-2
 - Group names should **NOT** include hyphens or underscores (except in the case listed directly above)
 - If an individual has co-offenders but all co-offenders are excluded from the data set (i.e., died before indictment, did not receive a felony charge, etc.) they should not have a group identifier with their Case ID

D. GROUP IDENTIFIER Did the defendant's case involve other co-offenders, co-conspirators, or co-defendants? I.e., Did the members intentionally work together to commit the crime?

- Check against the master list of group identifiers [here](#). Copy the exact name from the list, and if it is a new group, add the group identifier to the list. The group identifier can be a defendant's name, or a notable fact/location/acronym/etc. From the case. List group identifier (e.g., SMITH) in all capital letters, followed by a number (e.g., SMITH1, SMITH2...), one for each defendant in the group case

- **Note:** Protests, riots, and other large, collective actions present challenges for coding this variable. In general, protestors/rioters arrested at the same event would *not* require a group identifier and be coded individually. However, in cases where a single set of source documents describe numerous defendants, a Group Identifier can be used (e.g., DCUNREST-SWANN, J20). This avoids having to make redundant copies of the same documents filed under each defendant. If defendants are featured individually in news accounts, these documents can be filed in the Group folder with the defendant's Case ID.
- If there's no group/co-defendants, write 'No group'
 - If an individual has co-offenders but all co-offenders are excluded from the data set, write '**No group***' (e.g., *Dzhokhar Tsarnaev and Tamerlan Tsarnaev bombed the Boston marathon, but Tamerlan was killed in an altercation with police. So, only Dzhokhar would be included*)

E. FULL LEGAL NAME (e.g., *John Evan Smith Jr.*)²

- If an individual is included in the dataset multiple times, indicate this with a number following their full legal name (e.g., *Ramzi Yousef (1)*, *Ramzi Yousef (2)*).
- If an individual is unnamed, they should be **excluded**. These may be unnamed minors, adults whose names are redacted (e.g., cooperating witness), or adults with unknown identities (e.g., *John/Jane Doe*). Individuals named through non-identifiable labels (e.g., *by initials*, *my alphanumeric strings*) can be **included**.

F. FIRST NAME All parts of defendant's name *excluding* the family name (e.g., *John Evan Jr.*).

G. FAMILY NAME The defendant's surname (e.g., *Smith*).

- For Spanish-language names, following standard naming conventions based on the following example: Jose Juan Ramírez De Silva would be listed as, **First name:** Jose Juan Ramírez, **Family name:** De Silva.³
- For Arabic-language names, following standard naming conventions based on the following example: Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim Ali al-Badri al-Samarrai, **First name:** Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim Ali, **Family name:** al-Badri al-Samarrai. This will vary widely, and may require a bit of investigation to determine a defendant's family/tribal name (*i.e., last name*). Whenever possible, kunyas (*i.e., an adult name derived from their eldest child, such as Abu/Umm Nidal Father of/Mother*

² If the name the defendant identifies with and the name the government uses in official documents differ, (e.g., in the case of transgender defendants), we use the preferred name of the defendant and include any other names in Variable H.

³ These naming conventions vary widely across countries, economic classes, and time periods. These conventions are meant as guides and challenging names should be given a second examination and consult with a Leadership Team member if unsure.

of Nidal) should be coded under the Known Aliases variable, preserving First Name and Family Name for those assigned at birth or through marriage.

- In the case where a defendant does not have a family/last name, use the value "N/A" (e.g., 09092008_O_OBAIDULLAH2)

H. OTHER NAMES/ALIASES Is the defendant identified through any other names in the court records or other secondary sources (e.g., *Johnny McFacist*)?

- If an individual has no known aliases, the cell should be coded 'None'
- Misspellings and mis-ordered names should be recorded here as well (e.g. record 'Alicce' if it appears in a court record for defendant 'Alice'). This includes their nicknames (e.g., legal name Richard, referred to in news accounts as Dick, the latter would qualify as an Other Name).
- Include usernames, screen names, online personas, etc. common listed in affidavits
 - Note: When recording screen names, follow them with the name of the platform in parenthesis, for example: "ThisIsMyInsta (Instagram)"
- Whenever possible, kunyas (i.e., an Arabic-language name derived from the individual's eldest child, such as Abu/Umm Nidal, Father of/Mother of Nidal) can be listed as a Known Alias. For example, with the former head of the Islamic State, often referred to as Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (Father of Bakr of Baghdad), this name would be included as a Known Aliases, and his birth name, Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim Ali al-Badri al-Samarrai, used to populate prior variables: **First Name** and **Family Name**.
- Separate numerous entries with semicolons, for example: "FirstAlias; SecondAlias; ScreenName (Platform)"

I. CO-OFFENDERS Does the defendant have any co-offenders, co-conspirators, or co-defendants?⁴

- Yes
- No

J. REASON FOR INCLUSION Which of the criteria for inclusion does the case meet?

[Note: As this is a difficult variable to uniformly code, there is a **more complete protocol for determining Reason for Inclusion in the [Appendix](#) of this Codebook**]

- Obvious socio-political aim
 - This includes cases in which the crime has a stated or obvious socio-political aims (i.e., in furtherance of a political agenda) as determined through deductive investigation.
- Supports organized political violence

⁴ This includes legal co-defendants as well as individuals who commit a crime together, regardless of the date of the indictment or if the second individual is charged criminally.

- This includes cases in which the crime serves to support organized political violence by an FTO, DTO, or HVE network, or is labeled as such by a State speech act, or determined through deductive investigation .
- State speech act
 - This includes cases in which the group, individual, or act is labeled as an FTO/DTO/terroris*⁵/HVE/extremis*⁶ through a State speech act.
 - For example, if a defendant is linked (through a speech act) to the broader 'white supremacy' **movement** that does not constitute State Speech, however, if that individual is labeled as being a member of a specific white supremacist extremist **organization** (e.g., Aryan Nations, Patriot Front) which has itself been labeled through State Speech, then that can meet the criteria.
 - This may include cases which the State claims are in furtherance of terrorism but have otherwise no obvious socio-political aims (e.g., 'fake licenses' cases) and NOT in furtherance of organized political violence.
 - A case does not meet the requirements for State Speech if it is labeled in another way (e.g., Hate Crime) by State authorities.
- Obvious socio-political aim AND Supports organized political violence
- Obvious socio-political aim AND State speech act (e.g., *Dylann Roof*)
- Supports organized political violence AND State speech act
- Obvious socio-political aim AND Supports organized political violence AND State speech act

K. NAME OF CASE What is the name of the court case (e.g., *United States of America v. John Evan Smith Jr.*)?

- For federal cases, the prosecution is the U.S. government (e.g., *United States of America*).
- For state cases, the prosecution is the state in which the legal proceedings occur (e.g., *State of Ohio*, *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*).
- For cases which are not federal or state, the prosecuting agent will vary from District Attorneys' offices, Sheriffs Departments, cities, municipal bodies, etc.
- For cases with a single defendant, write the entire full name of the defendant (e.g., *John Evan Smith Jr.*).
- Cases with multiple defendants:

⁵ "TERRORIS*" is meant to include the words "terrorist", "terrorism", "terroristic", "terrorizing" just as "EXTREMIS*" includes "extremist", "extremism." This would also include individuals who are charged with a crime entitled *terrorism*, *terrorists*, etc (e.g., Making Terroristic Threats).

⁶ If State speech defines the case solely in another way (e.g., as a hate crime or criminal act) this does NOT meet the conditions. The case can be included in tPP, as it would have obvious socio-political aims, but will NOT be considered 'included because of State speech' if the State defines it outside of the terrorism or extremist context. For example, the [Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting](#) where the terroristic crime is labeled as a hate crime making no reference to terrorism nor to extremism.

- For two - three defendants, include only the last names of the defendants (*e.g., United States of America v. Boggis, Bunce, & Bean*).
- For four or more defendants, include only the last name of the first defendant followed by a comma and “et al.” (*e.g., United States of America v. Boggis, et al.*).

L. JURISDICTION Under which jurisdiction was the case prosecuted?⁷

- Federal⁸
- Non-Federal (*e.g., city, county, state*)

M. LOCATION: COUNTRY In which country did the crime occur?

- Capitalize the country, spell it out correctly, and do not put a space after the country (*e.g., United States*).
- If the crime occurred in multiple countries, write “Multiple countries”
- If the exact location is unknown, write “Unknown”
- In the case of an Internet-based crime (*e.g. threats on various online sites*), use the country where the perpetrator was physically located while committing the crime.

N. LOCATION: STATE In which US state did the crime occur?

- Capitalize the state, spell it out correctly, and do not put a space after the state (*e.g., Ohio*).
- If the crime occurred outside the United States, write “Outside U.S.”
- If the crime occurred in multiple states, write “Multiple states”
- If the exact location is unknown, write “Unknown”
- In the case of an Internet-based crime (*e.g. threats on various online sites*), use the state where the perpetrator was physically located while committing the crime.

O. LOCATION: CITY: In which US city did the crime occur?

- Capitalize the city, spell it out correctly, and do not put a space after the city (*e.g., Cincinnati*).⁹
- If the crime occurred outside the United States, write “Outside U.S.”
- If the crime occurred in multiple cities, write “Multiple cities”
- If the exact location is unknown, write “Unknown”

⁷ If the defendant is prosecuted at the federal level as well as a state/non-federal level, make two separate entries, marking a number after the defendant's name in each row (*e.g., John Smith (1); John Smith (2)*) See Manual for details.

⁸ This includes cases prosecuted in [DC Superior Court](#) and prosecuted by federal agents (*e.g., J20, Brennen Marquise Sermon*). While there **is** a federal US District Court for the District of Columbia, cases can be prosecuted in *superior* court by federal attorneys from the US Attorney's Office and should be considered *federal* cases. This is due in part to DC's non-statehood status.

⁹ In the case of crimes occurring in New York City, NY, please list the city as the specific borough: Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, Brooklyn or Long Island.

- In the case of an Internet-based crime (e.g. threats on various online sites), use the city where the perpetrator ***was physically located*** while committing the crime.

P. PEOPLE VS. PROPERTY Did this crime intend to target human beings, material property, both, or neither?

- People
 - This includes crimes designed to injure or kill human beings. Property damage occurring must be incidental/collateral/accidental (e.g., *Boston Marathon, Pulse Nightclub*).
 - This includes crimes designed to intimidate or harass human beings. Property damage must be incidental (e.g., *cross burning*).
- Property
 - This includes crimes designed to damage/defend property with no or little risk to life. Any harm caused to human beings must be incidental (e.g., *abortion clinic after hours, home under construction, vandalism, tree sit*).
- People and property
 - This includes crimes designed to both damage property and kill individuals, property damage must be understood as intentional and not incidental (e.g., *9/11, 1993 WTC, indoor bombing where people are present*).
 - This includes crimes designed to intimidate or harass human beings through the use of intentional property damage (e.g., *graffiti containing threatening messages*).
- No direct target
 - This includes crimes which are not designed to harm people or property, but which serve to support political violence (i.e., *bank robbery or providing monetary/material support for terrorist groups*).
- Unspecified/unknown/undeveloped
 - This includes crimes that do not have a target (e.g., *immigration violations*).

Q. PHYSICAL TARGET What was the function of the physical target of the crime (i.e., where, not why)?

- FEDERAL SITE: This includes crimes which target a physical site owned by the United States government.
 - Federal site: non-military non-judicial (e.g., *White House, U.S. embassy/consulate, polling station, BATF*)
 - Federal site: military (e.g., *Army base*)
 - Federal site: judicial (e.g., *court house, US Marshall Service*)
 - Federal site: non-U.S. embassy or consulate

- STATE SITE: This includes crimes which target a physical site owned by a state government.
 - State site: non-military non-judicial (e.g., *state legislature, DMV*)
 - State site: judicial (e.g., *state court house*)
- MUNICIPAL SITE: This includes crimes which target a physical site owned by a local municipality.
 - Municipal: local law enforcement (e.g., *police station*)
 - Municipal: local rescue services (e.g., *fire stations, ambulance*)
- MASS TRANSPORTATION SITE: This includes crimes which target a physical site used for mass transportation, but do not include private modes of transport (e.g., *personal automobile*)
 - Mass transportation: air (e.g., *airplanes, airport, NOT airline office if offsite*)
 - Mass transportation: ground (e.g., *trains, train stations, bus, subway, elevated train, streetcar, tram*)
 - Mass transportation: water (e.g., *boat*)
 - Mass transportation: infrastructure (e.g., *bridge, highway (e.g., Lyman Faris)*)
- PRIVATE SITE: This includes crimes which target a physical site owned by private individuals.
 - Private site: business/corporate property (e.g., *World Trade Center, airline office, restaurant, construction sites if the property is owned by a developer, hotels, NGOs, local political offices*)
 - Private site: residential (e.g., *home, trailer park, apartment, private home under construction, retirement home (e.g., Mustafa Mohamed), personal automobile*)
- PUBLIC SITE: This includes crimes which target a physical site used for public purposes by the general public.
 - Public site: event (e.g., *parade, sports event, march, protest*)
 - Public: commercial space of recreation (e.g., *mall, movie theater, park, bar, nightclub, concert*)
 - Public: non-commercial space (e.g., *park, monument/statue, street/neighborhood*)
 - Religious/faith-based institutions (e.g., *church, mosque, temple, parochial/religious schools*)¹⁰.
 - Educational institution (e.g., *university, college, primary school, high school, excludes parochial/religious schools*).
 - Medical institution (e.g., *hospital, clinic, doctors office, including abortion-related*).

¹⁰ This would include, for example, vehicles parked at religious institutions which were targeted due to the presumed religious identity of their owners (e.g., Osama E. El Hannouny).

- Online (i.e., websites, data repository, other online locations such as *Hassan Abujihad released sensitive military information online*).
- Individual person(s)
 - This includes crimes which target an individual or group of individuals independent of their location at the time of the crime.¹¹
- Multiple types
 - This includes crimes which target multiple locations for different purposes (e.g., *Eric Robert Rudolph attacking both the Olympic games, a nightclub, and an abortion provider*).
- No direct target
 - This includes crimes which have no physical target (e.g., *document fraud, material support for terrorism*).
- Unspecified/unknown/undeveloped
 - This includes crimes in which a physical target is anticipated, but, at the time of arrest/indictment, unclear (e.g., *conspiracy cases*).

R. IDEOLOGICAL TARGET What characteristics of the target made it appealing to the defendant?

- GOVERNMENT: This includes targets chosen because of their affiliation (or presumed connection) with the U.S. government.
 - Government: federal (e.g., *White House*)
 - Government: state (e.g., *state capitol*)
 - Government: foreign/non-U.S. (e.g., *foreign embassy or consulate*)
 - Government: international (e.g., *UN*)
 - Government: military (e.g., *soldiers, base, recruiting station*)
 - Government: police (e.g., *officers, stations, vehicles*)
 - Government: first responders (i.e., *firefighters, EMTs, police, other public servants who are not federal employees*)
- INDUSTRY: This includes targets chosen because of their affiliation (or presumed connection) with a specific industry.
 - Industry: technology/research [not animal related] (e.g., *anti-technology, GMO facilities, or other controversial tech including nanotechnology, robots, 5G, etc.*)
 - Industry: animal products/food/research (e.g., *dairy, meat, fur, research/testing facility, breeder, farm*)
 - Industry: land development (e.g., *logging/construction sites*)
 - Industry: adult entertainment (e.g., *pornography store*)
 - Industry: abortion (e.g., *Planned Parenthood*)
 - Industry: private corporations (e.g., *Starbucks office*)

¹¹ For example, if a person was killed because they were an abortion provider inside of their church, the target is coded as INDIVIDUAL PERSON and not RELIGIOUS SITE.

- Industry: place of attacker's employment (*assuming this is the reason it was attacked*)
- RELIGIOUS: This includes targets chosen because of their affiliation (or presumed connection) with a religious institution (includes educational institutions if attacked due to religious affiliation).
 - Religious: Christian (e.g., *church, school, camp, Christian persons*)
 - Religious: Jewish (e.g., *synagogue, school, camp, Jewish persons*)
 - Religious: Muslim (e.g., *mosque, school, camp, Muslim persons*)
 - Religious: Sikh (e.g., *gurdwara, school, camp, Sikh persons*)
 - Religious: other/multiple (e.g., *a religious site of a different affiliation, multi-denominational religious site, multiple religious ideological targets*)
- IDENTITY: This includes targets chosen because of their connection (or presumed connection) to a particular identity-based community.
 - Identity: race/ethnicity
 - These crimes target the general public seeking to harm individuals of a specific race/ethnicity (e.g., *Dylann Roof targeting an AME church, placing IED in specific neighborhood where a race/ethnicity resides*);
 - AND/OR crimes which are part of a larger racial/ethnic conflicts (e.g., *white supremacist crimes*).
 - Identity: nationality
 - These crimes target the general public seeking to harm individuals of a specific nationality (e.g., *airplane hijacking where people are separated based on citizenship, placing IED in specific neighborhood where a nationality resides*);
 - AND/OR crimes which are part of a larger ethno-national separatist campaigns.
 - Identity: gender/sexuality
 - These crimes target the general public seeking to harm individuals of a specific sexuality (e.g., *targeting the PRIDE parade*) or gender (e.g., *incels*).
 - Identity: political affiliation
 - These crimes target the general public seeking to harm individuals of a specific political affiliation (e.g., *sending bomb threats to Democrats, the Congressional baseball shooting*).
 - Identity: other
 - These crimes target individuals due to their identity, but not based in racial, ethnic, national, gender, sexual or political bias. (e.g., *targeting someone due to their perceived mental illness or status as homeless*)
 - General public

- This includes targets chosen in order to harm the general public excluding targeting which is influenced by factors above (e.g., *nationality, religion, etc.*).
- Multiple motivations
 - This includes crimes in which one or more targets are chosen for multiple motivations.
- Unspecified
 - This includes crimes which have no clear ideological target (e.g., *document fraud, material support for terrorism*).

S. IDEOLOGICAL AFFILIATION What belief system, if any, motivated the defendant to commit the crime?¹²

- RIGHTIST: Though taking a variety of forms, a rightist position embraces values such as limited government/opposition to governmental authority, socially conservative thought, individual rights, authoritarianism, and (often) racial or ethnic supremacy
 - Rightist: identity-focused
 - This encompasses individuals who desire social-political change rooted in identity-based prejudice (i.e., [racists](#), [white supremacists](#), [skinheads](#), [anti-immigrant/xenophobic extremists](#), [anti-LGBTQ extremists](#), [misogynists](#));
 - AND/OR those who support white nationalist, accelerationist fascist, and/or identitarian ideologies (i.e., [neo-Confederate](#), [neo-Nazi](#), [alt-right](#), [identitarians](#), [eco-fascist](#), [O9A](#)).
 - Rightist: government-focused
 - This encompasses individuals who desire autonomy from the government (i.e., [Sovereign Citizens](#), [libertarians](#));
 - AND/OR those who act to prevent government overreach (i.e., [anti-tax extremists](#), [militias](#), [Patriots/Constitutionalists](#));
 - OR those which act as pro-government vigilantes and paramilitary forces (e.g., [Minutemen](#), [Oath Keepers](#), [United Constitutional Patriots](#), [AUC](#)).
 - Rightist: abortion-focused
 - This encompasses individuals who are opposed to abortion services. (e.g., [Army of God](#), [Operation Rescue](#)).
 - Rightist: unspecified
 - Only use this code for right wing individuals who can not be sorted into any of the above rightist categories (e.g., [Cesar Sayoc](#)).

¹² In order to determine ideological affiliation, one can examine State speech, self-identification (e.g., statement by defendant), or analysis and interpretation of motive and rationale as provided by secondary sources.

- LEFTIST: Though taking a variety of forms, a leftist position embraces values such as social equality, decentralized/horizontal government, socially progressive thought, and opposition to capitalism, imperialism, and colonialism.
 - Leftist: identity-focused
 - This encompasses individuals who desire social-political change rooted in identity-based prejudice (e.g., [anti-racists](#), [anti-fascists](#), [anti-technologists](#) e.g., [Theodore Kaczynski](#)).
 - Leftist: government-focused
 - This encompasses individuals who desire social-political change rooted in anti-capitalism (i.e., [Marxists](#), [communists](#), [anarcho-syndicalists](#), [democratic socialists](#));
 - AND/OR individuals who desire social-political change rooted in anti-statism (i.e., [anarchists](#), [insurrectionaries](#), [anti-authoritarians](#)).
 - Leftist: eco-animal focused
 - This encompasses individuals who desire social-political change rooted in animal rights (i.e., [animal liberationists](#), [hunt saboteurs](#));
 - AND/OR individuals who desire social-political change rooted in environmental rights (i.e., [earth liberationists](#), [eco-saboteurs](#)).
 - Leftist: unspecified
 - Only use this code for left wing individuals who can not be sorted into any of the above leftist categories.
 - Nationalist-separatist
 - This encompasses individuals who desire self-determination and/or sovereignty for their national, ethnic, or religious constituency (e.g., [Armenian/ASALA](#), [Basque/ETA](#), [Jewish Defense League](#), [Irish/IRA](#), [Moro/MILF](#), [Puerto Rican/FALN/FRB](#), [Sikh/KLF](#), [Tamil/LTTE](#), [Palestinian/PFLP/DFLP/HAMAS/PLJ](#)).
 - Salafi/Jihadist/Islamist (e.g., [Al Qaeda](#), [Islamic State](#), [Hezbollah](#))
 - This encompasses individuals who desire social-political change based in an interpretation of Islam as a political-religious framework.
 - Other
 - This encompasses individuals who desire social-political change with a clear ideological position not described above (i.e., [anti-police yet not leftist or rightist](#), [challenging specific national government/policy](#), [Black Hebrew Israelites](#), [other Black nationalists](#)) (e.g., [Mitchell Hapner](#), [Lamin Khalifa Fhimah](#), [Steve Kim](#), [Eid Elwirelwir](#), [Paul Anthony Ciancia](#), [Colin Ferguson](#)).
 - No affiliation/not a factor
 - This encompasses individuals who were not motivated by a desire for socio-political change and/or who possess an ideology which was not

a factor in motivating the crime (e.g., [Alfred Heinz Reumayr](#), [Michael Conrade Sibley](#), [Francois Guagni](#)).

- Unclear (e.g., [Rashid Baz](#), [Christopher Dörner](#))
 - This is only to be used when a defendant's ideology can not be discerned or is unable to be verified through competing accounts.

T. AFFILIATION WITH FTO Was the defendant affiliated with a Foreign Terrorist Organization as identified by the United States Department of State¹³ at the time of indictment?¹⁴

- Yes
- No¹⁵

U. GROUP AFFILIATION With what group, if any, did the defendant have a known connection¹⁶ at the time of the crime?¹⁷

- Include the full name of the group using proper capitalization. If the group has a commonly used acronym, include following the full group name. Do not include a space at the end (e.g., *Army of God* (AOG)).
- Check against the master list of known groups [here](#). Copy the exact name from the list (excluding any footnotes) and if it is not included, add it to the list.
- If there's no known group affiliation, write 'No known affiliation'
- If the individual is *known* to be a part of a group, but the official group name is not listed, write 'Unspecified affiliation'
- If the individual is involved in more than one group, list all groups in the cell separated by a comma

¹³ For the complete FTO list see: <https://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/other/des/123085.htm>. FTO designation only applies from the date of designation forward or until removal

¹⁴ For a list of delisted FTOs, see here <https://www.state.gov/foreign-terrorist-organizations/> and scroll down to "Delisted Foreign Terrorist Organizations." Defendants should be judged based on the status of the FTO **at the time of indictment**. For example, the FARC was considered an FTO 10/8/1997 - 12/1/2021 according to that list. If a defendant was indicted for a FARC-linked crime 11/31/21 it would be coded as FTO = YES. However, if the defendant was indicted for a FARC-affiliated crime 12/1/21 or anytime after, it would be coded as FTO = NO.

¹⁵ If there is no definitive evidence or State speech claiming FTO affiliation, presume 'no'

¹⁶ Connection is meant to imply any evidence-based relationship between the defendant and a known/named group/network/moniker including but not limited to membership, providing or attempting to provide assistance or aid, communication with. Affiliation is determined by whatever the defendant and/or the government claims the affiliation to be, regardless of the evidence to support it. If government sources assign a group affiliation to a defendant, we record that affiliation even if the defendant denies it. If a defendant self-identifies with a group (e.g., 'I did this for ISIS,' 'I am a Proud Boy'), even if that claim is not repeated by the government, we record that as their Group Affiliation.

¹⁷ For this variable, involvement in a movement does not equate to being affiliated with a group. For example, the white supremacist movement or antifa **are not groups** themselves but individuals may be members of a specific group within that movement, such as the Aryan Nations, or Rose City Antifa.

- If the defendant has a known **prior** affiliation, but it is unclear if the affiliation still stands, such information should be noted in the Additional Details **and** Short Narrative variables but **not** in group affiliation

V. HATE CRIME: Was the crime designated as a hate crime or as being motivated by bias?¹⁸

- Yes¹⁹
 - This includes cases with **hate crime charges** (*The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr., Hate Crimes Prevention Act*);
 - cases **labeled** as bias motivation (by 'authorities' on the subject²⁰);
 - charges labeled as **civil rights violations** (*Interference with housing rights/fair housing act*);
 - cases with Hate Crime **enhancements**, as well as cases with language in government documents that clearly indicate such.²¹
- No²²

W. LEO INFORMANT Did the case involve law enforcement (e.g., FBI's undercover federal agent) misrepresenting themselves to defendants as co conspirators, or non-law enforcement officers (i.e., civilians) who were **tasked and paid** by law enforcement?²³

- Yes
- No²⁴

¹⁸ Actions which inhibit the exercise of things that are fundamental to who a person is (religion, race, etc.) are the focus of hate crime legislation. Assembly is not considered to be fundamental to who a person

¹⁹ Being a member of a white supremacist or similar organization does not automatically equate to a hate crime designation.

²⁰ For example, the Southern Poverty Law Center, Human Rights Campaign, etc. This means that if an individual scrapes a list of hate crimes by an NGO focused on bias/hate, we will code it as 'Hate Crime' = YES. For the purpose of determining expertise in this area, journalists would not be included. For example, if USA Today issued a list of hate crimes, this would **NOT** be sufficient to mark a case as 'Hate Crime' = YES

²¹ List of Federal hate crime laws: <https://www.justice.gov/crt/hate-crime-laws>

²² In cases where the hate crime charges are levied and then dropped, this can be coded as **hate crime = "no"**, if the hate crime was dropped because investigators/prosecutors determined that hate/bias **did not** motivate the crime. If hate crime charges were levied and then dropped for another reason, such as to solicit a plea bargain, this can be coded as **hate crime = yes** since this would indicate the bias-motive. Whether this value is yes/no should be based on the defendants' motive, not whether prosecutors decided to sustain that particular charge.

²³ In the case of confidential human sources, criminal/cooperating witness and criminal informants should be described in the short narrative and/or Additional Details, but LEO INFORMANT should be coded as 'no'

²⁴ If an informant is not mentioned (citizen, law enforcement, or other) in court documents or news reports then the assumption is there was no informant

X. PREVIOUS SIMILAR CRIME Has the defendant been charged or convicted of a previous crime motivated by the same belief system?²⁵

- Yes
- No

Y. CRIMINAL METHOD Through what means did the defendant carry out their crime?²⁶

- Firearms: civilian
 - This includes crimes which utilize small arms or personal firearms (e.g., *pistols, rifles, shotguns*) including but not limited to *AR/AK-style assault rifles, .50 caliber rifles, semi-automatic pistols, and other firearms legally available for purchase in the US without the acquisition of a [Federal Firearms License \(FFL\)](#).*
 - This includes crimes related to firearm possession, sale and manufacturing, modification, transport, importation, etc.
- Firearms: military
 - This includes crimes which utilize military-grade weapons and other technologies not available to the public (e.g., [Rocket-Propelled Grenade](#), [shoulder-fired missile](#), [fully automatic firearm/machine gun](#), [long range sniper rifle](#)).
 - This includes crimes related to military weapon possession, sale and manufacturing, modification, transport, importation, etc.
- Other weapons
 - This includes crimes which utilize sharp or blunt weapons (e.g., *knives, tools, bottles, bats, crowbars, hammers*), *personal defense weapons* (e.g., *pepper spray, mace, brass knuckles, tasers, baton*) or *weapons which are more unique and difficult to categorize* (e.g., *noose, stun cane*)
 - This includes commercially-available chemical weapons such as mace, pepper spray, and acids (e.g., battery acid/sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, nitric acid, lye) which can be thrown or sprayed in an aerosol.
- Unarmed assault

²⁵ This would also include instances wherein the defendant claims to have acted within the same manner prior, but for which there is no additional evidence (e.g., James F. Nerdrum who implied he had committed anti-abortion crimes in the past but was not charged).

²⁶ In determining what constitutes a primary versus secondary tactic, researchers are asked to determine which tactic had the greatest impact. This can be measured in terms of casualties, fatalities, financial loss, disruption to essential/public services, and the crime's public, communicative value (i.e. spectacle) to primary and secondary audiences (e.g., ethnic group). In the case of crimes occurring during the January 6 riot at the US Capitol, most defendants have 'Blockading' listed as the primary method *unless* they are said to have engaged in an assault—armed or unarmed—and that assault (i.e., 'Unarmed assault' or 'Other weapons') would thus constitute the primary, and 'Blockading' the secondary.

- This includes crimes which utilize physical violence without the use of a weapon (e.g., *punching, kicking, beating, fighting, grabbing clothing, spitting on someone*).
- Hostage-taking
 - This includes crimes which utilize carrying away (i.e., kidnapping) and/or confinement of people against their will (e.g., [Mora-Pestana kidnapping](#)).
- Armed intimidation/standoff
 - This includes crimes which utilize firearms and the threat of violent force in order to hold territory, repel incursion, demonstrate an armed presence, or maintain a standoff (i.e., [Bundy occupation](#), [Respect the Flag, Leith, North Dakota 'takeover'](#)).
- Blockading/unlawful assembly
 - This includes crimes which do not utilize weaponry in order to hold territory, repel incursion or maintain a standoff (e.g., *unarmed civil disobedience such as a road blockade*, or the [occupation at Standing Rock](#)).
 - This includes crimes in which individuals' presence at/participation in a protest results in arrest without the use of any additional method (e.g., *participating in a protest without carrying out vandalism or assault; common in Jan. 6 arrests and 2020 BLM arrests*)
- Explosives
 - This includes crimes which employ the detonation of an [Improvised Explosive Device/homemade](#)/commercial explosive devices (e.g., [C-4](#), [dynamite](#), [ANFO](#), [TATP](#), [urea nitrate](#)). This also includes intentional non-detonation of viable devices.
 - This includes crimes related to explosive possession, sale and manufacturing, transport, importation, etc.
- Arson
 - This includes crimes which employ the ignition of Improvised Incendiary Devices (e.g., *molotov cocktail, napalm, timed IID*), manual arson (i.e., *use of fire without IID, e.g., pouring accelerant on target and igniting*) and the intentional non-ignition of viable device.
 - This includes crimes related to incendiary device possession, sale and manufacturing, transport, importation, etc.
- Chemical or biological weapon deployment
 - This includes crimes which utilize the deployment of a CBRN (chemical, biological²⁷, radiological, nuclear) device.

²⁷ This would include attempts to infect people with Coronavirus/COVID-19/anthrax **only when** there is reasonable evidence that the individual was infected or believed themselves to be, or possessed or believed themselves to possess an active biological agent (e.g., live anthrax). If they **are not** infected, or reasonably believed to be, the criminal method would be 'Threat/harassment.'

- This includes crimes related to CBRN possession, sale and manufacturing, unsuccessful/attempted manufacturing transport, importation, etc.
- This excludes commercially-available chemical weapons such as mace or pepper spray.
- Threat/harassment
 - This includes written/verbal/electronic threats/doxxing/false claims/hoaxes/harassment/swatting to harm, harass, or intimidate persons or property through firearms, explosives/CBRN²⁸ and unspecified or vague means.
 - This includes crimes which may involve other means, but are *primarily* a threat/harassment. For example, although a cross burning is an act of arson, it should be coded as “Threat/Harassment” as it is primarily aimed at threatening rather than destroying property by fire.
 - Threat/harassment is appropriate to describe so-called “paper terrorism” tactics used by sovereign citizens and other rightists when, for example, they use FBI agents’ names to file liens.
- Vehicle ramming
 - This includes crimes which utilize a vehicle (*i.e., car, van, truck, etc.*) to cause damage to property or injury and/or death to individuals (e.g., [Mohammed Reza Taheri-azar](#), [Abdul Razak Ali Artan](#)).
- Vandalism/sabotage
 - This includes crimes which cause deliberate damage to property (e.g., *broken windows, graffiti, lock gluing, machinery damage, tree spiking, animal release/‘liberation’*).
- Providing material support
 - This includes crimes which serve to support a FTO, DTO, HVE network through money, personnel (e.g., trying to join or travel to join an organization, racketeering), weaponry, technical equipment (e.g., night vision, GPS), document fraud, or other means.²⁹
 - Includes crimes such as drug sales or financial fraud in which funds would be directed to support organized political violence.

²⁸ This would include threats to infect people with Coronavirus/COVID-19/anthrax **only when** there is reasonable evidence that the individual was not infected or did not themselves to be. If they **are** infected, or reasonably believe themselves to be, the means would be ‘Chemical or biological weapons deployment.’

²⁹ According to 18 USC § 2339A(b)(1), the term “material support or resources” means any property, tangible or intangible, or service, including currency or monetary instruments or financial securities, financial services, lodging, training, expert advice or assistance, safehouses, false documentation or identification, communications equipment, facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel (1 or more individuals who may be or include oneself), and transportation, except medicine or religious materials.

- Perjury/obstruction of justice³⁰
 - This includes crimes in which the defendant lies to officers of the court/law enforcement, or refuses to provide information when questioned in the course of a criminal investigation for a political end.
- Criminal violation not linked or motivated politically³¹
 - This includes crimes which have no implicit political message, motivation, or target (e.g., [Francois Guagni](#)).³²
- Unknown/unspecified/undeveloped
 - This includes crimes in which a specific tactic is anticipated, but, at the time of arrest/indictment, unclear (e.g., *conspiracy cases*).
- Uncategorized
 - This includes crimes in which the tactic does not fit into any of the above categories (e.g., *financial fraud, theft, scaling monument, murder for hire*).

Z. ADDITIONAL CRIMINAL METHOD Through what additional means, if any, did the defendant carry out their crime?

- **NOTE:** This variable is not meant to be a descriptor of criminal method. This is only for instances where the value “Various methods” would have been an appropriate code.³³ If more detail is needed for “Y: Criminal method”, this should be captured in the short narrative, *not* in “Z: Additional criminal method”.³⁴
- Firearms: civilian
- Firearms: military
- Other weapons
- Unarmed assault
- Hostage-taking
- Armed intimidation/standoff
- Blockading/unlawful assembly
- Explosives

³⁰ The purjury or obstruction of justice has to be furthering a political goal for this to be the criminal method, if the crime is not in furtherance of a political goal (regardless of whether or not it is perjury) than the criminal method is ‘criminal violation not linked or motivated politically’

³¹ If this is the criminal method, **the additional criminal method must be ‘No additional criminal method’** because all other options imply a political motive

³² This value can ONLY be used in cases in which the Reason for Inclusion is only “State speech”. If an individual has an obvious socio-political aim or is supporting organized political violence, their criminal method cannot be “not linked or motivated politically.” For instance, if an individual is a member of Atomwaffen and they are picked up on a firearms offense, their tactic is “firearms:civilian,” not “criminal violation not linked or motivated politically.”

³³ For example, if an individual was attempting to both bomb and shoot a mosque, the primary tactic would be “Explosives” and the secondary tactic would be “Firearms: civilian”

³⁴ For example, if someone threatens to bomb a site via social media, then their criminal method is “Threat/harassment” and their additional criminal method is “No additional criminal method.” To capture that the threat involved explosives, explain this in the short narrative.

- Arson
- Chemical or biological weapon deployment
- Threat/harassment
- Vehicle ramming
- Vandalism/sabotage
- Providing material support
- Perjury/obstruction of justice
- Various methods
 - This includes crimes in which various means are employed (e.g., *John Timothy Earnest (1)- arson and firearms*).
- Uncategorized
- No additional criminal method

AA. COMPLETION OF CRIME To what extent was the crime the defendant intended³⁵ carried through?

- Planned but not attempted
 - This includes crimes which were stopped in the planning stages and were never attempted (*i.e., conspiracy*).
 - *Example*: communicating with ISIS members online; researching how to build bombs; buying materials.
- Attempted
 - This includes crimes in which a substantial step³⁶ was taken toward carrying out the crime. These crimes passed the planning stages but were not carried through. Reasons for failure to carry through could include being stopped by police/bystanders, stopped by the defendant's own volition, and failure due to mistakes on the part of the defendant.
 - *Example*: stopped by police *before* boarding the plane to go to Syria³⁷; taking a built bomb to a target location, but the bomb fails to ignite/explode.
- Carried through

³⁵ For example, if a defendant intends to shoot a human target, but is arrested at the site while armed and charged with "illegal possession of a firearm". In this example, while the crime of "possession" could be said to have been completed, the defendant's aim was the shooting, and thus the case should be coded as "attempted" NOT "completed." In other words, even if the crime they were charged with was accomplished, if their larger plans were not, the crime should not be coded as "completed."

³⁶ "A substantial step goes beyond mere preparation to commit the crime. Simply discussing the crime or contemplating it with a friend is also not enough. Rather, the act must be such that it moves the defendant toward the successful completion of the crime, even though the crime is never fully executed" (justia.com)

³⁷ Note that the actual crime here would be physically boarding the plane to join ISIS, but the individual was stopped before that action could be carried out.

- This includes crimes which passed the planning stages, involved a substantial step toward carrying out the crime, AND were carried out to some, if not the full, extent.
- *Example:* successfully reaching Syria to join ISIS; bomb detonates (regardless of injuries/deaths).
- Threat
 - This includes cases in which the crime with which the defendant was charged is making a threat/threatening.
- Unknown
 - The completion of the crime was not made public or not able to be found.

BB. NUMBER KILLED How many people, if any, were killed as a result of the crime? (includes all deaths, both purposeful and accidental, as well as the perpetrator themselves)

- 0-##
- Unknown

CC. NUMBER INJURED How many people, if any, were injured as a result of the crime? (includes all injuries, both purposeful and accidental, as well as the perpetrator themselves)

- 0-##
- Unknown

DD. CHARGES What criminal charges were brought against the defendant?

- Copy all charges levied against the defendant, including those added in superseding indictments or those dropped prior to trial.
- To indicate charges dropped prior to trial, place an asterisk (*) preceding the dropped charge's numerical identification.³⁸
- Indicate if there are multiple counts of the same charge (*e.g., the defendant received seven counts of aggravated assault against a public servant*). Use brackets ([]) to indicate multiple counts of the same charge at the end of the charge.
- When available, include the statute numbers before the charge, removing words like section (*e.g., 18 U.S.C. §§ 1114(1) can be changed to 18:1114(1)*). More info: [here](#)
 - Note that while we take out the "U.S.C.", leave in abbreviations for state criminal codes such as 'O.R.C.' for Ohio Revised code.
- Place a semicolon (;) to separate each individual charge.
- If information on the charges is not available or if the charges are sealed, add a bracket at the beginning stating [Charges sealed] or [Data not available].

³⁸ Charges dropped as the result of a plea deal should also be indicated in this way (*i.e., an asterisk preceding charge*)

- If charges include misdemeanors, use brackets to indicate misdemeanor at the end of the charge.

For example:

For multiple charges each with a single count, one of which was dropped

18:844(e) Interstate Threats Involving Explosives; *18:876(c) Mailing Interstate Threats to Injure

For one charge with multiple counts, one of which was dropped³⁹

*18:844(e) Interstate Threats Involving Explosives; 18:844(e) Interstate Threats Involving Explosives [2 counts];

For multiple charges some with a multiple count

18:371.F Conspiracy to defraud the United States; 18:844I.F Explosives (except on vessels) [2 counts]; 18:924.C Firearms [4 counts]

For defendants with felonies and misdemeanors

18:922(k) Unlawful Possession of a Firearm; 18:3571 - Sentence of fine [misdemeanor]

EE. PLEA How did the defendant plead to the charges?⁴⁰

- Guilty: plea bargain/blind plea^{41,42}
 - This also includes cases in which the defendant pled guilty without a plea bargain in place (i.e., a normal guilty plea);
 - AND/OR the defendant pled guilty to a less serious charge, or to one or more of the charges, in return for the dismissal of other charges;
 - AND/OR that the defendant pled guilty to the original criminal charge in return for a more lenient sentence.
- Not guilty: blind plea
 - This is an initial plea of “not guilty” that denies any involvement of the defendant in the stated crime.
- Not guilty: special defense
 - This includes claims of defense by the defendant that mitigate their responsibility for the crime (e.g., *guilty by reason of insanity*, *self-defense*, *divine obligation*).
- No contest
 - This is a plea in which the defendant neither admits nor disputes a charge.
- Charged but not tried

³⁹ This example represents three total counts of the charge, with one being dropped. If necessary, this can be further clarified in Additional Details.

⁴⁰ If the plea is changed, this value should reflect the latest plea.

⁴¹ If the defendant took a non-cooperating plea deal, the non-cooperating aspect of the plea should be moved to the “Additional Sentencing” column.

⁴² If the defendant enters an Alford Plea, it is categorized as a guilty plea and this can be noted in the Short Narrative.

- This includes cases in which the individual is indicted but the individual does not enter a plea and is not taken to trial due to extenuating circumstances (i.e., charges dropped, death/suicide, fugitive status).
- Data not available
 - This includes cases in which the defendant's plea is not public / sealed or unable to be found through PACER or state court records.
- Pending
 - This includes cases in which the defendant has not yet entered a criminal plea but is expected to.

FF. VERDICT What was the final verdict of the criminal case?⁴³

- Guilty
 - This includes criminal proceedings in which the judge or jury finds the defendant guilty on all counts .
- Not guilty
 - This includes criminal proceedings in which the judge or jury finds the defendant not guilty on all counts.
- Guilty on some charges/not guilty on others
 - This includes criminal proceedings in which the judge or jury finds the defendant guilty on only some of the charges brought to trial
- Charged but not tried
 - This includes cases in which the indictment is dropped prior to trial or criminal proceedings cannot continue due to extenuating circumstances (*i.e., death/suicide, fugitive status*).
- Pending/Hung jury/mistrial
 - This includes criminal proceedings that are not yet resolved (*i.e., ongoing court cases,, defendants found incompetent to stand trial*).
 - This includes criminal proceedings in which the jury was unable to reach a consensus or in which the trial must be forfeited for other legal reasons.
 - This value should serve as a **temporary placeholder** while awaiting a final case verdict.
- Data not available
 - This includes criminal proceedings in which the outcome of the trial is not public / sealed or unable to be found in PACER or state court records.

⁴³ The 'verdict' variable only measures charges which were taken to trial. If a charge was dropped prior to jury/judge consideration, that charge is not included in the coding of this variable. The 'verdict' only considers charges that went to trial, not those which were dropped/dismissed.

GG. LENGTH OF PRISON SENTENCE How many months was the defendant sentenced to serve in prison?⁴⁴

- Number of months (e.g., 10 years = '120')⁴⁵
 - If the defendant is given less than a month, calculate the decimal to the nearest hundredth and use that (e.g., 2 days would be 2/30=.06666666, thus round to .07)
 - If a defendant is given a sentence range, for example, 18-24 months, use the higher number, in this case, 24 months
 - If a defendant is given a deferred sentence, for example 24 months of incarceration if they fail to complete 24 months of supervised release, then we assume the defendant will meet the conditions of their agreement.⁴⁶
 - If a defendant is sentenced to time served, this should be noted in additional details and the sentence is coded as the number of months the defendant spent in jail/prison.⁴⁷
- X
 - This is used when the defendant is given a life or death sentence.
 - In the case where a defendant is given additional prison time along with a life or death sentence, include the additional prison time here.
 - e.g., a sentence of life plus 30 months would still have '30' coded for prison sentence
- Pending
 - This is used when the outcome of a trial is not yet available, but is expected to be released within a reasonable time frame.
- #
 - This is used for sentences that are non-existent because the defendant is a fugitive or was charged but not tried.
- Data not available
 - This is used when the outcome of the trial is not public/sealed or unable to be found in PACER or state court records.

HH. LIFE SENTENCE How many life sentences did the defendant receive?

⁴⁴ For sentences that are served concurrently, the sentence length is the length of the longest sentence. For non-concurrent sentencing, defendants' prison sentences should reflect the sum total of time sentenced.

⁴⁵ If the defendant is sentenced to home confinement, community service, or any other non-prison/jail confinement, these months are **not** included. For example, if a defendant received "12 months home confinement, 24 months community service, 36 months of supervised release, and \$2,000 restitution," **Length of Prison Sentence** would be recorded as 0.

⁴⁶ In the case where a defendant's sentence is based upon the successful completion of a program (e.g., supervised release, mental health program), this case should be added to the Updates Calendar to be checked at the scheduled completion of sentence.

⁴⁷ This should be calculated through determining the number of months between arrests warrant execution and the time the sentence is delivered.

- Number of life sentences
- Pending
- #
 - This is used for sentences that are unknown because the defendant is a fugitive or was charged but not tried.
- Data not available
 - This is used when the outcome of the trial is not public / sealed or unable to be found in PACER or state court records.

II. DEATH SENTENCE How many death sentences did the defendant receive?

- Number of death sentences
- Pending
- #
 - This is used for sentences that are unknown because the defendant is a fugitive or was charged but not tried.
- Data not available
 - This is used when the outcome of the trial is not public / sealed or unable to be found in PACER or state court records.

JJ. ADDITIONAL DETAILS What notable, additional, or atypical charges or conditions were associated with the defendant in order of importance?

- Open response, common codes include:
 - arrest by federal agents (e.g., FBI, ATF, ICE, DHS, etc.)
 - investigative cooperation with multiple agencies
 - arrest as part of a national, named operation
 - prosecution through specialized statutes (e.g., *FACE*, *RICO*, *AETA*, etc.)
 - sentencing enhancement (e.g., *terrorism enhancement*, *firearms enhancement*, *hate crime*, etc.)
 - plea bargain details (e.g., *non-cooperating plea bargains*, *not guilty by means of insanity*)
 - incarceration in specialized location (e.g., *Communication Management Unit (CMU)*, *black site*, *military prison*, *Guantanamo Bay*, etc.)
 - pardon, deportation or denaturalization, fugitive, sealed court records, restitution, probation, time served, etc.
- If there is nothing to add, write "N/A"

KK. AGE How old was the defendant at the time of indictment?⁴⁸

- Age in years including those under the age of 18 if the exact age is known (e.g., *23 years old* = '23')

⁴⁸ If unable to find the date of indictment, use the hierarchical order in variable **A** in determining the date at which to report the defendant's age.

- #
 - This is used if the age of the defendant is unknown.
- 17
 - This is used to denote that the defendant is a minor (under the age of 18) if the exact age is unknown.

LL. GENDER What was the defendant's gender at the time of indictment?⁴⁹

- Male
- Female
- Gender non-conforming⁵⁰
- Unknown/unclear

MM. 'OTHER' STATUS: Given the standards of an 'average American jury' in terms of (perceived or actual) ethnicity, religion and/or citizenship, is the defendant understood to be different from 'an average American'?

- Othered
 - The defendant is marked as othered if they meet or appear to meet any of the following criteria:
 - i. Does the defendant have a name (including chosen name/alias) not readily understood as European?
 - ii. Is the defendant Muslim or a Muslim convert?
 - iii. Is the defendant an immigrant from a non-Western/European country?
 - iv. Is the defendant non-white racially as an 'average person' would read them (i.e., not passing as white)?
 - v. Does the defendant have highly visible, immutable (i.e., permanent) body modifications that would be regarded as disfiguring (e.g., extensive facial tattooing)?
- Non-othered
 - This is used if the defendant is marked as white, non-foreign born, Judeo-Christian and a non-jihadist (i.e., can pass as a white, American-born, Christian).
- Unknown
 - This should only be used when there is insufficient demographic data available to determine other status.

NN. RACIAL/ ETHNIC GROUP What is the defendant's race/ethnicity?⁵¹

⁴⁹ If unable to find the date of indictment, use the hierarchical order in variable **A** in determining the date at which to report the defendant's gender.

⁵⁰ This value can be used when the defendant's gender identity and the gender they are labeled with in official government records do not match (e.g., in the case of transgender defendants).

⁵¹ If the individual is incarcerated in a federal facility, you can use <https://www.bop.gov/inmateloc/> to locate their race. If it is a non-federal case, you may be able to get the same type of information through their booking information which is often public.

- White/Caucasian
- Black/African/African American
- Latino/Hispanic
- Asian/South Asian
- Middle Eastern/North African (*i.e., Arab, Persian, Kurdish, Bedouin*)
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Biracial/Multiracial
- Unknown

OO. RELIGION What religion, if any, did the defendant associate with at the time of indictment, and if that is unavailable, the time of the crime?^{52 53}

- Buddhist
- Christian
- Jewish
- Hindu
- Muslim
- Sikh
- Non-religious
- Unknown⁵⁴
- Other (*e.g., Wallace Stanley Kennett*)

PP. VETERAN STATUS Does the defendant have prior military experience (recognized by the United States), and if so, what is their status?

- Active duty
- Reserve/national guard (reserve components)
- Former Active duty
- Former reserve components
- Former active duty and reserve components
- Former active duty and current reserve components
- Former/current member of non-U.S. military
- Civilian

QQ. COMBAT VETERAN If the defendant is a veteran, did they fight in a war or extended armed conflict?

- Yes
- No

⁵² This variable is intended to be a measure of demographics, not necessarily motivation. If the information is available, include the defendants' religion even if it does not motivate the crime.

⁵³ If unable to find the date of indictment, use the hierarchical order in variable **A** in determining the date at which to report the defendant's religion.

⁵⁴ If the information on a defendant's religion is not easily found in news reports and it is not mentioned in court proceedings, the defendant should be coded as "Unknown."

➤ Unknown

RR. SERVICE CLASSIFICATION: what branch of the military did the individual serve in? Did they serve as a police officer?

- Include all branches served in separated by a comma and indicate their status by adding (current) or (former) after the branch. If an individual is retired from one or more branches but actively serving in another indicate such by adding (current) and (former) to the respective branches
 - Army
 - Navy
 - Air Force
 - Marine Corps
 - Coast Guard
 - National Guard⁵⁵
 - Army Reserve
 - Navy Reserve
 - Marine Corps Reserve
 - Air Force Reserve
 - Coast Guard Reserve
 - Unknown Branch
 - Police⁵⁶
 - N/A⁵⁷

For Example

- 07032016_MBJ: Army (former), National Guard (former)
- 12012013_KMN: Army (former), National Guard (current)

SS. CITIZENSHIP STATUS What citizenship status does the defendant hold in the US?^{58, 59}

- U.S. citizen^{60, 61}
 - This includes individuals with dual citizenship⁶²
- U.S. permanent resident

⁵⁵ This includes army national guard, air national guard, and any state national guard (Ex: Texas national guard)

⁵⁶ Military police (MPs) should be listed by their military branch and not coded as 'police'

⁵⁷ If service classification is unavailable, note in the short narrative how it is known they served in the military. For example "They were a Gulf War Veteran"

⁵⁸ The purpose of this variable is to determine what rights and protections the defendant is entitled to in the US.

⁵⁹ In the instance that an individual is denaturalized, code for their original citizenship prior to denaturalization and note the denaturalization in the "additional sentencing" variable.

⁶⁰ If information on the individual's citizenship status is not referenced in news sources and/or court proceedings, the default status of the individual can be presumed as "U.S. citizen."

⁶¹ US citizens include US nationals from American Samoa and Swains Island, see:

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5026/text>

⁶² US Naturalization Processes:

<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/educators/naturalization-information>

US Naturalization Oath:

<https://www.uscis.gov/us-citizenship/naturalization-test/naturalization-oath-allegiance-united-states-america>

- Residing in U.S. on visa
- Residing in U.S. as refugee
- Foreign national (*i.e., citizen of a non-U.S. country*)
- Unknown

TT. SHORT NARRATIVE Please provide a short narrative of the case which provides the reader with enough information that they can understand why the case is included, what transpired, and the basic facts of the defendant's prosecution. Make sure to include the defendants' name(s), motive, means, target and a summary of the charges. Aim to include the 'who, what, when, where and why' of the case in a short paragraph of approximately 4 sentences.

- A general template: In **YEAR**, in **CITY/PLACE, NAME, AGE**, was charged with **CHARGES** / convicted with CHARGES. This was carried out through TACTIC which targeted TARGET and was motivated by MOTIVE.
 - The narrative is precisely the time to NOT use values such as 'other', 'multiple', 'various', etc. Those values are used in validated cells. Here, specifics should be used. For example, 'multiple' should be explained as 'two buildings were targeted with arson and a third with graffiti vandalism', etc.

For example:

In 2019, in Conway, South Carolina, Bobby Paul Edwards, 54, was convicted of one count of forced labor when he hired a black man to work in his kitchen and spent 5 years enslaving, physically beating, and threatening this employee who had intellectual disabilities. It was carried out through Edward using violence, threats, isolation, and intimidation in order to target this individual black man and was motivated by racial bias.

UU. NAME OF CODER(S) What are the names of the individuals who coded this case?

- Separate names with a comma

VV. SOURCE DESCRIPTION From what source(s) did you draw your information?

include all sources that are saved in 'source files' separated by a coma.

- Charging documents
 - Indictment, Criminal Complaint, Criminal Information, Affidavit, Arrest Warrant
- Court documents
 - Plea Agreement, Sentencing Memorandum, Judgements, Dockets, PACER summary, Motions, Orders, Petition, Arrest record, Docket.
- News articles
 - national/international
- Local news articles

- State Government Offices
 - State District Attorney Office, State Courts, State/Municipal Police/Sheriff Reports
- Governmental reports and release
 - FBI, OPA, ICE, DOJ
- Databases
 - GTD - Global Terrorism Database
 - IPT - Investigative Project on Terrorism
 - ADL - Anti-Defamation League
 - Counter Extremism Project
 - Trial and Terror Database
 - National Security Division List of Prosecutions
 - SPLC - Southern Poverty Law Center
 - Terrorism Report Card
 - Federal Bureau of Prisons' (e.g., Inmate Locator)
- Academic articles
 - Academic Journal, Scholarly article, Encyclopedia
- Books
- Other
 - Email, Newsletter, Social Media

-- VARIABLE WW IS FOUND ONLY IN THE PENDING CASES AND U//FOUO DATA SHEETS --

WW. AUDITED Has the case been audited?

XX. DATE OF LAST REVIEW Automated; tracks the most recent date of revision for the case.

-- VARIABLES YY THROUGH BBB ARE FOUND ONLY IN THE CASE STARTERS DATA SHEET --

YY. CASE STARTER READY Is the case starter complete and ready to be coded?

ZZ. CLAIMED Is the case currently being coded by someone?

AAA. COMPLETED Is the case fully coded and ready for migration?

BBB. QUESTIONABLE INCLUSION Is the inclusion of the case questionable based on the project's outlined inclusion criteria?

CCC. TAGS⁶³ This variable is an open response variable used to track related cases. In order to code it, **you must review all of the preexisting tags in the Tag Library** and see

⁶³ A complete list of tags that are currently in use can be found [here](#).

if any of the tags should be added, separated by a comma. New tags can be offered at monthly meetings for discussion before addition.

Appendix: Revisions and Addition History

This Codebook version supersedes prior versions. The following changes⁶⁴ have been made to the variables/values⁶⁵ :

Changes made April 2023

- 04/13/23: Changed criminal method 'Blockading' to 'Blockading/unlawful assembly'

Changes made September 2022

- 09/78/22: Added [] wording for misdemeanor charges, added example underneath description

Changes made January 2022

- 01/28/22: Clarification for FTO delisting added as footnote.

Changes made November 2021

- 11/19/2021: "Christian identity" removed as a option for the Religion variable
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 11/19/2021: Veteran status changed to reflect data that will be available when coding
- 11/19/2021: Variable "Service classification" added to reflect what military branches individuals served in and if they were a police officer

Changes made October 2021

- 10/21/21: Clarification written for how 'time served' affects length of sentence.
- 10/2/21: Added the value "Unknown" to the 'Other' Status variable

Changes made June 2021

- 06/28/2021: Changed group variable from "Did the case involve co-defendants" to "Did the case involve other co-offenders, co-conspirators, or co-defendants."

Changes made April 2021

- 04/22/2021: Added information for the variable Tag to provide instructions directing pre/coders to the newly established Tag Library document.

Changes made February 2021

- 02/26/2021: The variable "Date of last 'pending' review" was modified to "Date of last review"

⁶⁴ Changes refer to modifications to the Codebook that changes the way in which a variable is coded or entered, not modifications that provide clarifications to codes.

⁶⁵ All changes to the Codebook and when they occurred started being tracked August 2019.

- 02/26/2021: Added the value "Other than honorable discharge" to the Veteran Status variable
- 02/03/2021: The variable Date Descriptor has an additional value added, 'Complaint', defined as "Date of Criminal Complaint or other charging document"

Changes made January 2021

- 01/29/2021: The variable 'informant' has been modified to 'LEO Informant'.
- 01/29/2021: Modified the Gender value 'Non-binary/gender non-conforming' to 'Gender non-conforming'.
- 01/29/2021: Modified the Group Affiliation variable to account for prior affiliations.

Changes made September 2020

- 09/18/20: Modified the option of the Jurisdiction variable "State" to "Non-Federal"

Changes made July 2020

- 07/24/20: Modified the name of variable "Known aliases" to "Other names/aliases" as we are often capturing misspelled names and other anomalies we need to locate source documents.
- 07/24/20: Modified the name of variable "Additional sentencing details" to simply "Additional details" as we are often capturing notable facts not related to sentencing.

Changes made June 2020

- 06/13/2020: Modified the variables and descriptions for Primary/Secondary tactic, renaming them 'Criminal Method' and 'Additional Criminal Method', providing clarification for when the latter should be used. Changed version from 6.0 to 6.1 to reflect this new approach to means/tactic.

Changes made May 2020

- 05/31/2020: Add the procedure for Coding Reason for Inclusion to an Appendix below this revision history (formerly this was a part of the tPP Team Manual)
- 05/20/2020: Added the variable of Secondary Tactic. The variable 'tactic' became 'Primary Tactic' and the option 'various methods' was removed
- 05/20/2020: Changed the option of 'Providing material/financial support to terrorist organization' to 'Providing material support' in the tactic variable
- 05/18/2020: Variable 'Audited' and 'Date of Last "Pending" Review' added
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 05/18/2020: Removed the option 'Unknown' from the variable 'Affiliation with FTO'
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 05/18/2020: Removed the options 'Unknown' and 'Presumed but not Documented' from the variable 'Informant'
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 05/10/2020: The Codebook series 5 is retired and version 6 begun in preparation for the Summer term.

Changes made April 2020

- 04/08/2020: The variable 'informant' was changed to indicate and clarify a more broadly-defined definition.
- 04/06/2020: In coding ideological target, a parenthetical clarification was added to all categories indicating that such codes included actual ideological linkages as well as *presumed* connections.

Changes made March 2020

- 03/26/2020: Removed the tactic of 'Animal release' and merged it as a means of 'Sabotage/vandalism.'
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 03/26/2020: Important clarification added to the tactic of 'Threat/harassment' and 'Chemical or biological weapon deployment' to address both cases of NON-infected COVID-19 people threatening to infect others, and infected people using the virus as a biological weapon.

Changes made February 2020

- 02/24/2020: Clarification added to the variable length of prison sentence so there is a procedure for coding deferred sentences.
- 02/19/2020: Changes in how Name of case is coded; now only the full name of a defendant is used for non group cases and for group cases only last names are used.
- 02/12/2020: Clarifications were made under length of prison sentence so that sentences such as life plus 30 are accurately coded.

Changes made January 2020

- 01/23/2020: Final review conducted by Steering Team members in preparation for the Spring 2020 semester. New version issued as 5.0.

Changes made December 2019

- 12/02/2019: Footnotes added to clarify that 'US citizens' (under the citizenship variable) include citizens of American Samoa.

Changes made November 2019

- 11/19/2019: The 'Charges' variable was updated to create a more standardized system of reporting charges levied against defendants.
- 11/12/2019: Added value "Identity: other" to variable "ideological target" in order to accommodate cases where the victim was targeted due to perceived mental illness and homelessness status.
- 11/04/2019: In the variable 'Tactic', 'Other' was changed to 'Uncategorized' in order to avoid confusion with 'Other weapons'.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.

- 11/01/19: The variable 'Veteran status' was amended to *officially* exclude individuals involved only in non state military activity from holding veteran statuses.

Changes made October 2019

- 10/31/2019: In the variable 'Tactic', 'Blade or blunt weapon' was changed to 'Other weapons' in order to include mace, tasers, and nooses.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 10/29/2019: The variable 'Veteran Status' was updated by removing the variable 'Unknown', unless otherwise stated a defendant is considered a civilian.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 10/28/2019: Codebook version 4.0 published including new appendix (revisions and addition history) and introduction.
- 10/18/2019: The variable 'Source Descriptions' was updated to include a list of possible codes rather than it being an open ended variable.
- 10/15/2019: The procedures for how source documents are labeled and field was updated
 - New procedures can be found in the [tPP Manual](#)
- 10/14/2019: In the variable 'Group Affiliation', 'No affiliation' was changed to 'No known affiliation'.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.

Changes made September 2019

- 09/21/2019: FTO's names in the data set and group affiliation masterlist were updated to match the corresponding state department identification.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 09/18/2019: The variable 'Hate Crime' was added.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 09/09/2019: The variable 'Case ID' was modified to include a defendant's group Identifier.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.
- 09/09/2019: The variable 'Group Identifier' was added.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.

Changes made August 2019

- 08/30/2019: In the variable 'Tactic', 'Threat/harassment' was added.
 - All changes were applied retroactively to the entire dataset.

Coding 'Reason for Inclusion'

The variable 'reason for inclusion' is particularly tricky to uniformly code for. It is an important variable for the creation of comparative data sets and to determine why a particular case is a part of tPP. In order to produce standardized results, tPP researchers in Fall 2019 created a procedure for coding this variable. This procedure does not need to be followed step by step, but for cases in which determining reason for inclusion is difficult, this procedure should be the standard. Below are a set of standardized steps which can be used to determine if a case meets the three core criteria in this variable:

[Criteria 1 of 3] Obvious Socio-Political Aim: The defendant(s) had an obvious social and/or political aim behind their crime if they are acting to advance a specific ideological agenda. This is asking if any ideological biases were implicitly or explicitly involved in the attack. Ways to test for this include:

1. Identifying **if** there is an ideological affiliation (refer to **S: Ideological affiliation**) motivating the crime
2. Identifying **if** there was an ideological target of the crime (refer to **R: Ideological target**)
3. If one is still unsure if a case should be included, one can look for the following indications of socio-political aim:
 1. Statements of motive (i.e. dedicating an attack to the Caliphate, seeking to incite a race war, the use of racial slurs, providing material or financial support to an organization such as an FTO, DTO, or HAVE)
 2. Ideologically-based symbols used at the crime (i.e., swastikas, an ALF/ELF graffiti tag, insignias on clothing, etc.)
 3. Manifestos or online statements of ideological motives (e.g. Unabomber)

Caveats to be watchful of when coding for obvious socio-political aim:

- If an individual is acting in furtherance of the goals of an organization (e.g. FTO, DTO, HVE network) **but** this action is motivated by financial gain and not ideology, this is **not** marked as "obvious socio-political aim."
- If the defendant has an obvious socio-political ideological affiliation, but this affiliation is unrelated to the crime itself, it is not included (e.g., a Neo-Nazi getting into a bar fight, a member of AQAP soliciting prostitution, etc.)
- State speech acts of terrorism or hate crimes are insufficient on their own to prove obvious socio-political aim.

[Criteria 2 of 3] Supports organized political violence: This includes cases in which the crime serves to support organized political violence by an FTO, DTO, or HVE network, or is labeled as such by State speech act, or determined through deductive investigation.

1. Identify **if** a group affiliation (*refer to U: Group affiliation*) motivated the crime
 - a. "in support of;" "in furtherance of;" "participant in group's movement to"
 - b. This includes individuals self-proclaimed to an organized group/network or individuals who attempted to contact a group/network, regardless of success.
 - i. E.g. If the defendant uses a moniker (symbol meant to stand for their association with a specific FTO, DTO, HVE network/organization)
 - c. If a defendant claimed to idolize ISIS/ISIL and then they robbed a bank, their crime would not necessarily be motivated by their ideology therefore it should not be categorized as supporting organized political violence, since the ideology did motivate the crime.
2. Does the DOJ mention that the crime serves the interests of a FTO, DTO, HVE network/organization.
 - a. You can use the highlighted string below:⁶⁶
 - i. `site:justice.gov "First Name Last Name" AND "organization" OR "network" OR "group", searching the DOJ for the defendant in general, etc.`
 - ii. Search the GTD. If the incident exists, is it associated with a known group?
 - iii. Google: "defendant name" AND "network" OR "organization" OR "terrorist organization" OR "group" OR "cell"
3. Is there **language in source documents** indicating that act serves the interest of FTO, DTO, HVE network/organization.
 - a. Do any of the court records (e.g. indictment, complaint, plea) or secondary source material (e.g. FBI report, media account) include **statements by the defendant or State** that the crime was motivated by a desire to aid/support or association between a known and named FTO, DTO, HVE network, moniker, or campaign/movement?
 - b. If defendant has no direct affiliation with an FTO, DTO HVE network/organization, but there is evidence of the defendant committing the act "for/in the name of/in honor of" an organization (NOT an ideology), it is considered supporting organized political violence

Caveats to be watchful of when coding for organized political violence:

- If no link can be made between actions and the group itself (e.g., selling drugs independently, the money not going back to an organization) it **does not meet the requirements** to be called supporting organized political violence.
- **Non-ideological crime** used to **fund or otherwise support an organization** (even if it is as little as 2 people) **can** meet the "supports organized political violence" criteria. (*i.e. cigarette smuggling for Hizballah, selling drugs for the Aryan Brotherhood*).

⁶⁶ These strings have to be precise. The word 'site' can not be capitalized or it will not function. There is also no space between the operator (site:) and the domain (justice.gov).

[Criteria 3 of 3] State speech act: This includes cases in which the group or individual is labeled as an FTO/DTO/terrorist/HVE/act of terrorism/ideological extremism⁶⁷ through a State speech act.

1. Identify if language appears in federal statements (*i.e. statements from individuals/groups in the executive, legislative, or judicial branches*) (e.g. DOJ/OPA press releases, judge/USAO statements, etc.) or affidavits by federal law enforcement that:
 - a. labels the individual as being a terrorist or extremist, and/or
 - b. labels the crime as terrorism, terroristic, an act of terror, or extremism and/or
 - c. identifies the individual as being a part of or supporting an FTO (*refer to T: Affiliation with FTO*)

You can test do an initial test for State speech on the DOJ's website using these stings:

- `site:justice.gov "Full Name" AND "terror*" OR "extremis*"`
- `site:justice.gov LASTNAME AND "terror*" OR "extremis*"`
 - If there is mention of the defendant/case, are any of these words used to describe them: "terrorist", "terrorism", (including counterterrorism, domestic terrorism, terrorist organization....), "extremist," "extremism" (including violent extremism, domestic extremist...)

NOTE: Labeling by individual police representatives or individual officers does not meet this requirement.

2. Check the content of legal/court documents
 - a. Check charges for terrorism charges (e.g: providing material support to terrorist organization, charges of conspiracy to commit an act of international terrorism, etc.).
 - b. Search all court documents (e.g., indictment, sentencing, plea, etc.) for a connection between the defendant and the words "terrorist/ism", "extremist/ism." If found, this may indicate a State speech act.
 - c. If the investigating documents mention the defendant's affiliation with an FTO, this constitutes State Speech (this would be the same if the defendant is labeled as being a part of a DTO or HVE Network as identified by the FBI).
 - i. *NOTE: If the individual has not been named through a State speech act, but the group they have been labeled as a member of (for example Aryan Nations) has been labeled through a State speech act as an FTO,*

⁶⁷ If State speech defines the case solely in another way (e.g. as a hate crime or criminal act) this does NOT meet the conditions. The case can be included in tPP, as it would have obvious socio-political aims, but will NOT be considered 'included because of State speech' if the State defines it outside of the terrorism or extremist context. For example, the [Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting](#) where the terroristic crime is labeled as a hate crime making no reference to terrorism nor to extremism.

DTO, terrorist group, HVE, act of terrorism, ideological extremist group, etc. they can be considered to meet the standards for State speech act.

3. Did the government **assign an investigative body dealing specifically with terror or extremism** to investigate the crime (e.g., *FBI Counterterrorism Unit, Joint Terrorism Task Force, state police counterterrorism divisions, etc.*)?
4. **Search major news outlet articles** for evidence of defendant/case being labeled as terrorist by federal or state government offices,
 - a. Even if the charging or court documents do not list that the defendant(s) were charged with terrorism/terroristic acts, it can still be considered State Speech (e.g. *Abuali Kellogg Cereal Case*).

NOTE: This may include cases which the State claims are in furtherance of terrorism but have otherwise no obvious socio-political aims (e.g. 'fake licenses' cases) and NOT in furtherance of organized political violence. A crime may also be labeled under State speech act if the defendant is involved with an FTO but does not complete a violent crime if and only if the reason for indictment is based on their known membership in an FTO (e.g. case 03192003_HYJ).

Caveats to be watchful of when coding for organized political violence:

- If the government, state authorities, or DOJ labels the act through another label (i.e. Hate Crime), this does not meet the requirements to constitute a State speech act.
- If the news article, indictment or any other criminal records include the crime was a "hate crime", then the case does not meet the requirements to be labeled a State speech act.