



## **Alleged Al-Qaeda Member Extradited to U.S. To Face Charges in Terrorism Conspiracy**

Nizar Trabelsi, a Tunisian national, was extradited to the U.S. this month to face charges stemming from a conspiracy to carry out a suicide bomb attack against Americans in Europe. Trabelsi was arrested in Belgium on Sept. 13, 2001, before he carried out the planned attack. After 12 years in custody there he was extradited and transported to face charges in the U.S. Trabelsi was indicted in 2006 by a grand jury in D.C. and a superseding indictment was filed the following year. The indictment alleges that in 2001, Trabelsi personally met with Osama bin Laden to volunteer for a suicide bomb attack against U.S. interests. Preparations unfolded over the next several months, with Trabelsi allegedly obtaining chemicals in Europe and subsequently joining others to scout a potential target: a military facility that was used by the U.S. Air Force. If convicted, Trabelsi faces a maximum sentence of life in prison. [Read more.](#)

## **Fairfax Woman Convicted of Sex Trafficking a 15-Year-Old Girl**

This month, Stephanie Chapman, of Fairfax, Va., was convicted on charges of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of a child, sex trafficking of a child, and interstate transportation of a minor for the purposes of prostitution. Between Feb. and Mar. 12, 2013, Chapman and her boyfriend, Ronnie Holmes, met a 15-year-old girl and recruited her to be a prostitute for them. During that time, they took sexually suggestive photographs of the girl, sent the photographs to potential customers, posted the photographs on Backpage.com, drove the girl to meet with customers at locations in Virginia, Maryland, and D.C., and took half of the money paid to the girl after she engaged in sex with customers for money. Chapman faces a maximum penalty of life in prison, with a mandatory minimum term of ten years of imprisonment, when she is sentenced in January 2014.



## **Former Corrections Officer Sentenced to 37 Months in Prison on Bribery Charge**

Jonathan Womble, a former corrections officer at the D.C. jail, was sentenced this month to 37 months in prison on a charge of conspiracy to commit bribery for accepting \$400 in cash in return for smuggling drugs and other contraband into the facility. This WFO investigation revealed that an inmate was working with co-conspirators outside the jail to assemble, deliver, receive, and distribute narcotics intended for inmates at the jail, and that they were paying an individual to get the drugs into the facility. In Jan. 2013, Womble met with one of the co-conspirators and received a bag which contained a powdery substance consistent with heroin and marijuana. The bag also contained a cellphone, a cellphone charger and \$400 in cash. Womble understood that the cash was in exchange for smuggling the items to the inmate in the jail, which he did two days later. In Feb. 2013, multiple bags of marijuana were discovered and intercepted inside Womble's locker including marijuana that had been provided to Womble by a person who wanted it delivered to another inmate. Womble is among four corrections employees convicted of bribery since Dec. 2012.

## **Members of Anonymous Indicted for Conspiracy to Launch Cyber-Attacks Against Websites**

Last month, thirteen members of the Internet group Anonymous based in the U.S. were indicted on charges related to conspiracy to intentionally cause damage to protected computers. The indictment stems from the defendants' participation in a worldwide campaign of cyber-attacks against websites, dubbed "Operation Payback," which targeted governmental entities, trade associations, individuals, law firms, and financial institutions which Anonymous claimed opposed its stated philosophy of making all information free for all, regardless of copyright laws or national security considerations. Anonymous members engage in a coordinated series of cyber-attack against victim websites in an effort to shut them down. Members launched Distributed Denial of Service ("DDoS") attacks to flood victim websites with huge amounts of irrelevant internet traffic to cause damage and loss to victims. The defendants coordinated the timing and target of the attacks through dedicated channels to inflict damage onto the victim websites, publicized attacks through social media, and monitored the damage inflicted.

## **Former Teacher Sentenced for Receiving Child Pornography**

John Solano, a former teacher from D.C., was sentenced this month to five years in prison for receiving child pornography. Solano, who was then a teacher at McKinley Tech High School in Northeast, D.C., engaged in inappropriate sexual communications with several current and former students. Specifically, in Dec. 2012, Solano engaged in inappropriate and sexually explicit text message communications with a 16-year-old

student. During the course of that correspondence, at Solano's request, the student sent and Solano received images of child pornography.

---

**FBI Washington Field Office**

**601 4th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20535    Web: [washingtondc.fbi.gov](http://washingtondc.fbi.gov)    Twitter: @FBIWFO    (202) 278-2000**

---