

# The Bulletin

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Lottery results can now be found on the second page of Sports.

# LOCAL, STATE & REGION

## Judge delays Islamic State support case in Portland

BY ANDREW SELSKY

Associated Press

SALEM — A federal judge this week granted the lawyer for a man charged with helping the Islamic State group maintain an online presence almost a year to prepare for a complicated trial involving classified information.

Hawazen Sameer Mothafar, whose trial had been scheduled to begin Tuesday in Portland, allegedly produced and disseminated Islamic State propaganda and recruiting material through social media platforms. Working from a Portland suburb, Mothafar also distributed online articles that described how to kill and maim with a knife and that encouraged attacks, the indictment says.

*The case underscores the Islamic State's focus on a "digital caliphate" to try to inspire attacks around the world.*

Mothafar has pleaded not guilty to charges of providing material support to a designated terrorist organization and conspiring to provide that support.

Mark Ahlemeyer, Mothafar's attorney, told the judge he needed time to determine what evidence will be presented, what pretrial motions he would file and how much investigating his team needs to do, adding that he assumed it would involve international

travel.

Judge Marco Hernandez, speaking Tuesday in a conference call with the federal prosecutor and Ahlemeyer, set a new trial date of Nov. 1. He noted the case is complicated because of its international aspects, the requirements of classified discovery and other issues.

The case underscores the Islamic State's focus on a "digital caliphate" to try to inspire attacks around the world. By late 2017, the group had lost most of the territory it seized in Iraq and Syria, and its self-declared caliphate along with it.

"While the Islamic State has lost swaths of territory, it has survived, is conducting significant numbers of attacks, and is

leveraging the digital caliphate to promote its narrative," Maxwell Markusen of the Center for Strategic and International Studies wrote in November 2018.

Mothafar, who lived in the Portland suburb of Troutdale, is accused of editing and producing material for al Anfal, a newspaper that "advocates violent jihad" and receives its orders from Islamic State's central media office, known as Diwan, the indictment says.

The indictment alleges Mothafar tried to access information on piloting a drone to carry "an object" for an operative for al-Qaida's North African branch who is in prison in Mauritania. What that object purportedly was, federal offi-

cial would not say.

That operative, Saleck Ould Cheikh Mohamedou, was convicted of attempting to assassinate then Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, according to the U.S. State Department.

Mothafar, who uses a wheelchair and is not in jail due to being considered a low flight risk, waived his right to be present at Tuesday's hearing via video link, Ahlemeyer said.

Jill Sanborn, assistant director of the FBI's Counterterrorism Division, said when Mothafar was charged in November that "we will aggressively pursue anyone who conspires with or provides material support to a foreign terrorist organization."

## TODAY

Today is Thursday, Jan. 7, the seventh day of 2021. There are 358 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 7, 1789, America held its first presidential election as voters chose electors who, a month later, selected George Washington to be the nation's first chief executive.

In 1927, commercial transatlantic telephone service was inaugurated between New York and London.

In 1942, Japanese forces began besieging American and Filipino troops in Bataan during World War II. (The fall of Bataan three months later was followed by the notorious Death March.)

In 1953, President Truman announced in his State of the Union message to Congress that the United States had developed a hydrogen bomb.

In 1959, the United States recognized the new government of Cuba, six days after Fidel Castro led the overthrow of Fulgencio Batista.

In 1972, Lewis F. Powell, Jr. and William H. Rehnquist were sworn in as the 99th and 100th members of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1979, Vietnamese forces captured the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge government.

In 1989, Emperor Hirohito of Japan died in

Tokyo at age 87; he was succeeded by his son, Crown Prince Akihito.

In 1999, for the second time in history, an impeached American president went on trial before the Senate. President Bill Clinton faced charges of perjury and obstruction of justice; he was acquitted.

In 2004, President George W. Bush proposed legal status, at least temporarily, for millions of immigrants improperly working in the U.S.

In 2006, U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, facing corruption charges, stepped down as House majority leader. (DeLay was found guilty in Nov. 2010 of illegally funneling corporate money to Texas candidates; his conviction was eventually overturned.)

In 2015, masked gunmen stormed the Paris offices of Charlie Hebdo, a French newspaper that had caricatured the Prophet Mohammad, methodically killing 12 people, including the editor, before escaping in a car. (Two suspects were killed two days later.)

In 2019, Amazon eclipsed Microsoft as the most valuable publicly traded company in the U.S. For the first time in more than 25 years, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was absent from oral arguments as she recuperated from cancer surgery.

Ten years ago: A package addressed to Homeland Security Secretary Janet Na-

politano ignited at a Washington postal facility, a day after fiery packages sent to Maryland's governor and state transportation secretary burned the fingers of workers who opened them.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama tore into the National Rifle Association during a televised town hall meeting in Fairfax, Virginia, as he dismissed what he called a "conspiracy" alleging that the federal government — and Obama in particular — wanted to seize all firearms as a precursor to imposing martial law.

One year ago: A magnitude 6.4 earthquake, the strongest to hit Puerto Rico in more than 100 years, killed one person, injured nine others and knocked out power across the U.S. territory.

Today's Birthdays: Magazine publisher Jann Wenner is 75. Singer Kenny Loggins is 73. Singer-songwriter Marshall Chapman is 72. Actor Erin Gray is 71. Actor David Caruso is 65. Talk show host Katie Couric is 64. Country singer David Lee Murphy is 62. Rock musician Kathy Valentine is 62. Actor David Marciano is 61. Sen. John Thune, R-S.D., is 60. Actor Hallie Todd is 59. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., is 58. Actor Nicolas Cage is 57. Actor Jeremy Renner is 50. Country singer-musician John Rich is 47.

— Associated Press

## LOCAL BRIEFING

### Vehicle chase ends in police shooting in Madras; no serious injuries reported

A police pursuit Wednesday afternoon ended with officers firing at a Madras man, though no one was seriously injured.

Jordan Abbe, 30, sustained minor injuries and was treated and released at St. Charles Madras before being taken to the Jefferson County jail.

The incident took place around noon on Oak Street in downtown Madras.

Abbe is being held on suspicion of attempted second-degree assault, attempted assault on a police officer, attempting to elude an officer, unlawful use of a weapon and reckless driving.

Oregon State Police is the agency investigating the use of lethal force.

A spokesperson with the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office said Wednesday evening she did not have information about the identity of the officer or officers involved.



Abbe

— Bulletin staff report

## STATE BRIEFING

### Kayse Jama, Somali refugee, wins appointment to Oregon Senate

Kayse Jama, co-founder and executive director of a nonprofit that advocates for immigrants, people of color and low-income families and children, won appointment to the Oregon Senate on Wednesday.

He will represent a long, narrow district spanning east Portland and northern Clackamas County along Interstate 205.

Nine of 10 commissioners from Multnomah and Clackamas counties indicated they viewed Jama as the strongest of three nominees for the position put forward by the Democratic Party. The others were nurse and former nurses union head Adrienne Enghouse and Democratic Party of Oregon Operations Director Candy Emmons.

Newly elected Clackamas County Commissioner Mark Shull was the lone commissioner who favored a different choice.

Ultimately, all 10 unanimously voted to appoint Jama to the Senate seat vacated Dec. 31 by Oregon's new secretary of state, Shemia Fagan. All 10 said they were greatly impressed by all three nominees and thought each had the

policy chops, lived experience and other credentials to serve as a state senator.

Jama will be the third Black member of the 2021 Oregon Senate, along with Lew Frederick of Portland and James Manning Jr. of Eugene, and the chamber's lone immigrant and naturalized citizen.

### Man accused of pepper-spraying police at Oregon Capitol last month

A Portland man is accused of pepper-spraying six Salem and state police officers while breaking into the Oregon State Capitol during a protest against COVID-19 restrictions.

Chandler Pappas, 27, sprayed a line of officers in the face on Dec. 21, Marion County Deputy District Attorney Drew Anderson said Tuesday.

Anderson said Pappas was armed with an AR-15 and the incident was caught on cameras worn by officers.

Pappas allegedly posted on Twitter afterward saying he was not sorry for what he did, Anderson said. Pappas is being held in the Marion County jail on \$250,000 bail.

Pappas was one of several men taken into custody that day for alleged violent behavior during a protest decrying COVID-related closures during a special legislative session.

Pappas faces six counts of assaulting a police officer, as well as a burglary and



Abigail Dollins/Statesman-Journal file

Protesters spray irritant toward police as they attempt to get into the Oregon State Capitol during a special session of the Legislature in Salem on Dec. 21. State police had declared an unlawful assembly. Police have since arrested a man accused of pepper-spraying police. It wasn't clear from news reports whether this photo is related, though it is from the same day.

riot charge.

Pappas is a supporter of Patriot Prayer, a right-wing group based in Washington state. In October, Pappas led a group into Portland where they removed a makeshift metal elk that had been propped up by protesters last summer to make a political statement.

According to a probable cause statement, on Dec. 21, Pappas allegedly pepper-sprayed Salem police detective Anthony Burke, officers Jeffrey Lucenti, Vincent Salazar, Roger Hibbeler, and

David Smith, and Oregon State Police Trooper Logan Denney.

After Pappas allegedly sprayed the officers, they retreated into the Capitol building, which was closed because of the coronavirus pandemic. Burke said Pappas and others forcefully entered the building vestibule while police stood by the doors leading into the main lobby to keep protesters out. Pappas allegedly started kicking the doors that were latched with handcuffs.

— Bulletin wire reports