



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias  
Northern District of Georgia

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05/02/07

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan/>

CONTACT: Patrick Crosby

(404)581-6016

FAX (404)581-6160

## **MAN INDICTED FOR MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS REGARDING BOMB THREATS TO FEDERAL COURTHOUSE AND CDC**

Atlanta, GA - JOHN TARECK TANABE, 27, whose last known address was in Doraville, Georgia, has been indicted by a federal grand jury on two counts of making false statements to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, by telling authorities that there were plots to bomb both a federal courthouse and a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) facility in Atlanta.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "The indictment handed down today is the result of a coordinated effort by the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and the DeKalb County Police Department that resulted in the prompt investigation of the hoax threats. We must take all terrorist-type threats seriously and we will quickly and aggressively investigate and prosecute those responsible, including those who divert our attention and resources by making hoax threats."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias, the indictment and the criminal complaint affidavit: On March 8, 2007, TANABE called FEMA's nationwide emergency hotline and falsely reported that he had knowledge of a plan to bomb a federal building in Atlanta. TANABE said a black male known to TANABE as "Abdul" had placed two pounds of C-4 explosives on the second level of a parking garage across the street from a federal courthouse. TANABE further stated that the explosive was to be detonated by either cellular telephone or 100 yards of detonation cord. TANABE went on to state that he and "Abdul" had planted the explosives together, but that he now had decided to reveal the plot.

Then on March 29, 2007, TANABE called the FBI's Office in Atlanta and falsely reported that he had been approached earlier in the day by a Sunni Muslim male who was in the process of constructing several explosive devices with the intention of bombing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) facility on Buford Highway. TANABE further stated that he had spoken with the Sunni male earlier in the day in the vicinity of Buford Highway and that TANABE had been asked to make a detonator for the bomb.

Both threats reported by TANABE were fully investigated by the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and determined to be false hoax threats. At no time were the lives and safety of the public put in actual jeopardy.

TANABE faces a maximum sentence of five years in federal prison and a maximum fine of \$250,000 on each count of the indictment.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Federal Protective Service (ICE) and the FBI, along with the DeKalb County Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorney Bret R. Williams is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, or Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is [www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan).