

17

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Friday, March 16, 2018

Wanted man gives LCSO chase

Terror Plot Dismantled

Ohio Man Sentenced for Providing Material Support to Terrorists



Brandon Deaton

Brandon Deaton, 27, N A Street Lenoir City, was charged with Felony Evading, Evading, Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, Poss. of Drug Para., Reckless Driving, Vandalism, Leaving the Scene of Accident Property Damage, and Assisting Other Agency. Deputy Z. Frye LCSO, stopped a Dodge at Laveview Road @ Beals Chapel for failure to maintain its lane of travel. The vehicle

(see Chase pg. 2)

Abdirahman Sheik Mohamud was a seemingly aimless young man. He had dropped out of high school, worked intermittent jobs, and spent time hanging out with friends and playing basketball in Columbus, Ohio.

Yet Mohamud, now 26, did have a

sinister goal for his life—to go to Syria and train to become a terrorist with the al-Nusrah Front, a group designated by the U.S. State Department as a foreign terrorist organization. And then he planned to return to the United States to conduct an attack

see Terror pg. 3

Former PTO President Stole Money Money Taken from Ridgeview Elementary PTO in Washington County

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office, working in conjunction with the Washington County Sheriff's Department, has completed an investigation resulting in the indictment of Anissa Moats, the former president of the Ridgeview Elementary PTO.

The investigation began after officials with the PTO and Ridgeview Elementary

reported questionable transactions in the PTO bank records.

Comptroller investigators determined that Moats stole at least \$9,625 from the PTO between January 2015 and July 2017. Moats stole the majority of this money by writing and transacting unauthorized PTO checks made payable to "cash" and by making over the counter cash withdrawals from

(see PTO pg. 4)

DUI plus 4 drug charges

Failure to stop leads to drug charges



Joe Hart

See DUI P.5



Christopher Sharp

see Meth p.4



Verse of the Day

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road,

when you lie down and when you get up. — Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Obituaries

See Inside

Wazzup

Hope everyone had a fantastic Spring Break!

Weather

Today: Cloudy and showers. High of 49F.

Tonight: Rain. Low of 39F.

Saturday: Storms in the AM. High of 63F.

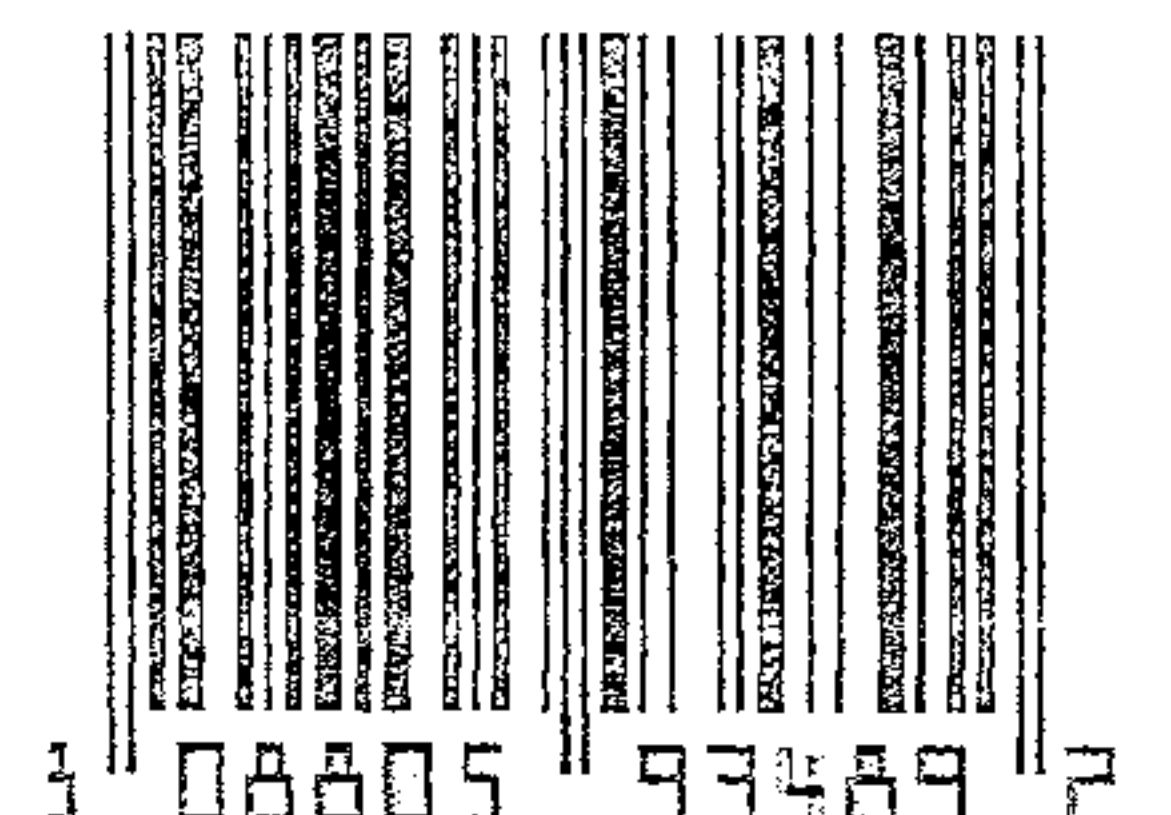
Saturday night: Rain. Low of 44F.

Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19-3/20

Insecurities about your ability to express your feelings today could attract a black storm cloud of despair. Fortunately your self-doubt won't last long because there are too many opportunities coming at you

(Continued on page 6)



Chase

crossed the center lane several times in a short amount of time. Deputy made contact with the driver who stated he didn't have a valid license. The driver was identified as Brandon Deaton, a check showed his license were re-

voked and was wanted out of Knoxville. While Deputy was in his vehicle Deaton started his vehicle and drove off from the traffic stop. Deputy the initiated a pursuit of the vehicle. The driver then slammed on his brakes almost causing Deputy to run into the rear of the vehicle. The vehicle then continued on Beals Chapel

Road with speed reaching 85-90 mph. The driver was driving in both lanes of travel. The driver then lost control and ran through a yard taking down a fence and then hit a tree at the intersection of Old Spears Road. The driver climbed out of the ve-

hicle and fled on foot. Deputy chased Deaton but was unable to catch him due to thick vegetation. K-9 was unable to track. Once the scene was cleared Deputy then went to the Pilot on Broadway to get fuel and observed Deaton

see Chase conc. pg. 4

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Terror

on American soil. But thanks to the multi-agency efforts of an FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force operating out of the FBI's Cincinnati Division, the attack never happened.

With an older brother already fighting in Syria, Mohamud—a naturalized U.S. citizen—used an Internet messaging service to coordinate a trip to Syria to join him in combat. Mohamud opened a bank account to collect funds for his brother, got a U.S. passport, bought a one-way ticket to Athens, Greece (with a layover in Istanbul, Turkey), and purchased an Internet-accessible tablet to take with him to the battlefield.

On April 8, 2014, weeks after he'd received his passport, Mohamud boarded his Athens-bound flight. But instead of getting on his connecting flight in Istanbul, he worked with individuals aligned with al-Nusrah who eventually helped get him into Syria.

Once in Syria, he trained with al-Nusrah on weapons, combat tactics, and general fitness. He also began researching potential plots for when he returned to the United States. Mohamud gave money to someone affiliated with al-Nusrah to give to his brother.

In June 2014, Mohamud's brother was killed

see Terror ctd. pg. 7

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*A person standing alone can be watched and detained, but two can stand together and conquer. These are great truths for a high-valued card in not easily broken. - Beatitudes 4:12

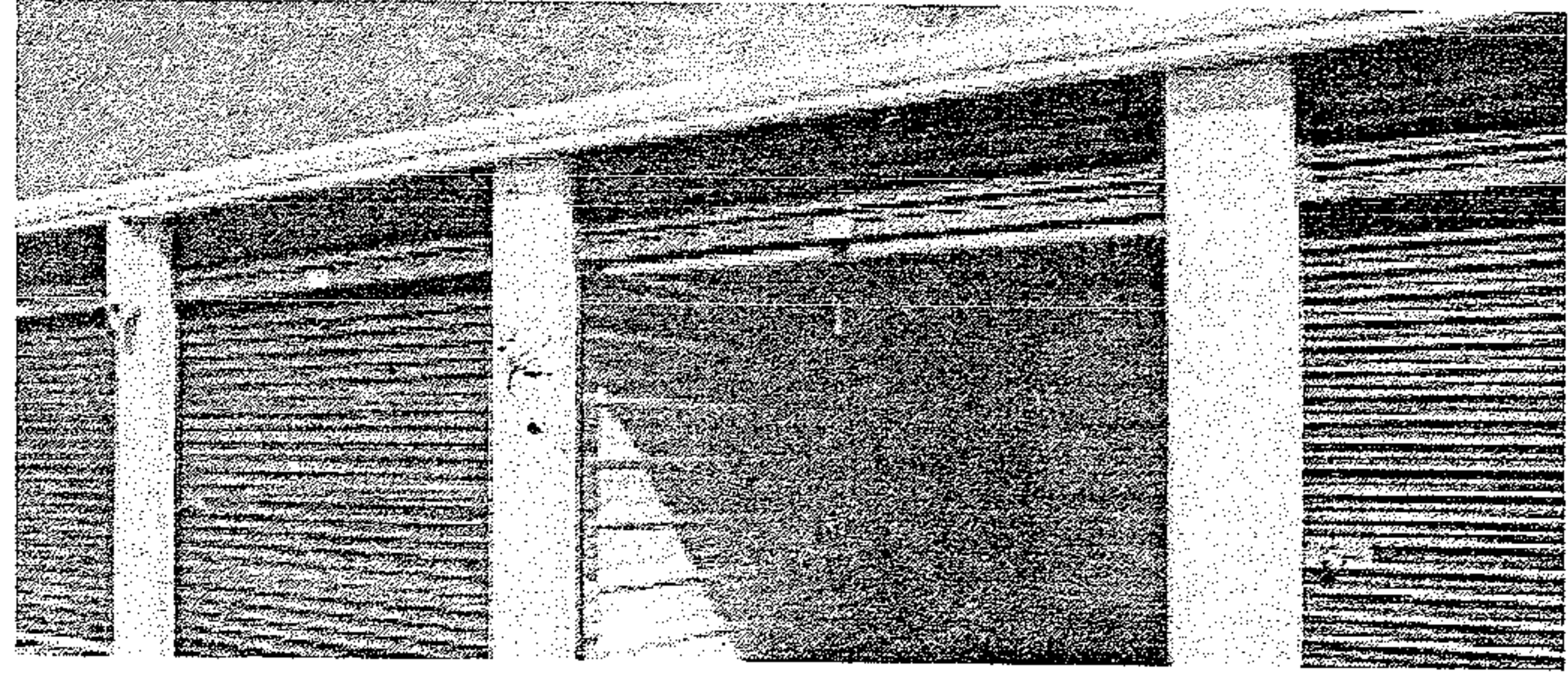
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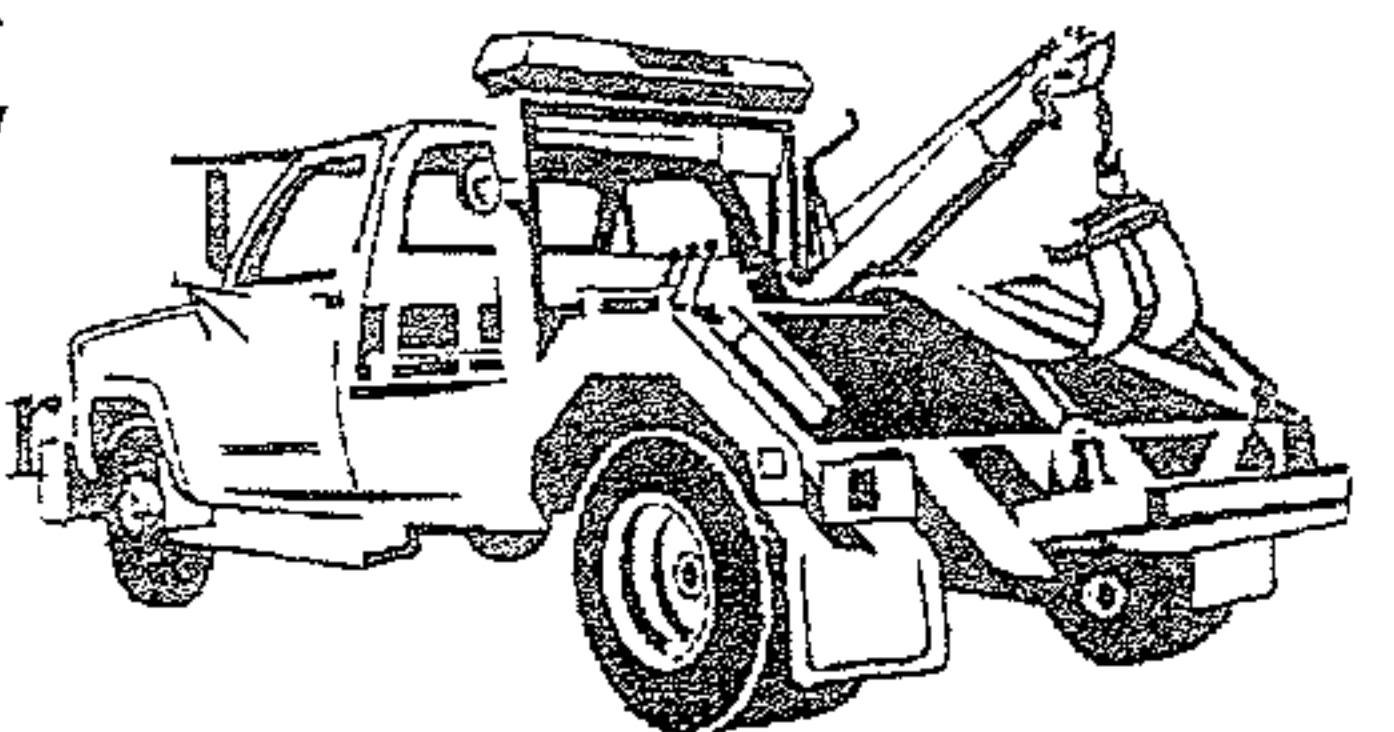
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Meth

Christopher Sharp, 24, Hoffman Drive Lenoir City, was charged with MFG/Del/Sale or Poss. of Meth, and Poss. of Drug Para. Investigator Jamie Ketner LCSO conducted a traffic stop on Broadway on a black vehicle, after the vehicle failed to come to a complete stop at the stop sign on North C Street. The driver was identified and the passenger Christopher Sharp. Driver gave consent to search the vehicle. While Inv. Stanley was talking with Sharp he advised he had meth in his bag in the front passenger floorboard. Inv. Stanley searched the black bag and located a leopard print sunglasses case which contained a set of scales \$50.00 dollars, 3 separate baggies with approx. 1.4 grams of a crystal substance which field tested positive for meth, a cut straw with crystal residue. A red bag was located which contained a pill bottle with a small multi color glass pipe with marijuana residue inside a gray sock which contained a glass pipe burnt on bottom. Sharp was placed under arrest.

PTO

the bank. The theft amount also includes \$360 of PTO funds that were spent at local businesses for personal purchases. Investigators found that Moats purchased cig-

arettes, a swimming pool mat, and other items for her personal use.

Moats concealed the theft by failing to turn over PTO bank statements and other crucial financial information to the PTO treasurer and other PTO officers.

On August 21, 2017, Moats delivered a \$10,000 check payable to Washington County Schools as an apparent restitution payment. In December 2017, she admitted to Comptroller investigators that she obtained and used PTO funds for her personal benefit.

In February 2018, Anissa Moats was indicted by the Washington County Grand Jury on one count of theft over \$2,500.

"Tennessee school support organizations are required to establish methods for safeguarding funds," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "These methods should include separating financial duties between multiple people, requiring two signatures on checks, and adequately documenting all purchases and withdrawals. I am pleased to note that Ridgeview PTO officials have said they have corrected these problems."

Chase ctd. from pg. 4

leaving the Pilot on foot. Deaton was taken into custody and stated he had gotten a ride from two individuals from the scene and had dropped him off at the Pilot. Inventory of Deaton vehicle Deputy located a capped syringe.

Obituaries

Oscar Johnson Jr age 77 of Lenoir City passed away Sunday, March 11, 2018. He was a member and Deacon of Hickory Creek Community Missionary Baptist Church. Oscar retired from Plexco/Chevron in Knoxville. Preceded in death by his parents, Oscar Johnson Sr. and Edith Galyon Johnson; sisters, Rachel Keener and Golda Faye Currier, and brother, George (Peanut) Johnson. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Lula Pilkington Johnson; children, Tony Lynn Johnson (Tracie), Wesley Johnson (Heather) all of Lenoir City; 4 grandchildren: Antony Johnson, Danika Johnson, Tylor Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Andrew Davis and Christina Adcock; 3 great-grandchildren, Nevaeh Williams, Jace and Nathaniel Adcock; sister, Neomia Lane; several nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14th at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 7 p.m. with

Rev. Kenneth Johnson and Rev. Travis Morgan officiating. Family and friends will gather at the funeral home by 10:30 Thursday morning and proceed to Loudon Co. Memorial Gardens for 11 a.m. graveside services. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

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DUI

Joe Hart, 52, Yarnell Road Knoxville, was charged with MFG/Del/Sale or Poss. of Meth, DUI, Simple Possession, and Violation of Implied Consent.

Deputy Pesterfield LCSO, witnessed a green Chevrolet S10 traveling on Highway 70 W. Deputy witnessed the vehicle cross the double yellow line multiple times. The vehicle approached the intersection of Highway 70 and 321. The vehicle merged into the turn lane and did not use a turn signal. Deputy performed a traffic stop on the vehicle on Highway 321 at Cut Thru. Upon contact with the driver Deputy identified him as Mr. Joe Hart.

While speaking with Mr. Hart Deputy noticed a strong odor of what he believed to be marijuana coming from inside the vehicle. Deputy asked Mr. Hart to step out of the vehicle to which he complied. Deputy asked Mr. Hart where the marijuana was located to which he stated it was in a pill bottle inside the vehicle. Mr. Hart upon being asked stated there was also meth inside the vehicle. Upon search of the vehicle Deputy did locate a pill bottle containing a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana weighing approximately 1.6 GM. Inside the pill bottle Deputy also located two clear baggies containing a white crys-


tal substance believed to be methamphetamine weighing approximately 0.8 GM. While speaking with Mr. Hart Deputy noticed he had dilated pupils and slowed slurred speech. Deputy asked Mr. Hart when the last time he used marijuana was to which he stated a couple hours before he stopped him. Mr. Hart did also possess 3 unopened suboxone strips in his wallet that he could not produce a perscription for. Deputy asked Mr. Hart to perform field sobriety to which he did. Mr. Hart performed poorly on all field sobriety

he performed. Deputy then read Mr. Hart the implied consent form to which he did refuse to supply a blood sample. At this time Deputy placed Mr. Hart in custody for Driving under the influence, Poss. of Sch. 2 meth, Poss Sch. 6 marijuana, and violation of implied consent. All the above actions did occur in Loudon County TN.

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Public Notice

The Loudon County Jail Construction Committee will have a special called meeting March 19th at 6:00 at the County Office building discuss and recommend a contractor for jail expansion with County Commission workshop to follow .

Public Notice

The Loudon County Commission will have a special called meeting on March 19th at the County Office building immediately following the Commission workshop to discuss and approve construction contractor for the jail expansion.

see Terror con. pg. 3

while fighting in Syria. Just a few days later, Mohamed returned to the United States and began attempting to recruit like-minded individuals and gather weapons. His goal was to kill U.S.-based troops or government employees, according to court documents.

"One of the greatest threats is when a person who has been trained by an overseas terror group comes back to the United States," said Special Agent Stephen Flowers, who investigated the case as part of the FBI Cincinnati's Joint

Terrorism Task Force. "He aligned himself with a group that presents a great risk to us domestically."



Investigators also knew that Mohamed kept in touch with those al-Nusra-aligned individuals who helped get him into Syria, even after he returned to Ohio.

During an interview with the FBI in February 2015, he lied, telling agents he had never left Istanbul and had not ever gone to Syria. He was arrested shortly thereafter.

Last year, Mohamed pleaded guilty to providing material support to a

terrorist organization and to making false statements to the FBI. In January, he was sentenced to 22 years in federal prison.

"A case like this is the reason I joined the FBI—to protect Americans so they can live their lives safely," said Special Agent Ingrid Schmidt, who also worked on the investigation. "Knowing that somebody who wanted to do harm to the U.S. is off the streets and can no longer do those things ... it feels good to play a role in the bigger mission of the FBI."

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