



Investigators conducted secret search of Mehanna's home in Sudbury in 2006

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Tarek Mehanna – Booking Photo
The Boston Globe on October 28, 2011 released the following:

“By Milton J. Valencia and Martin Finucane, Globe Staff

Investigators secretly searched the Sudbury home of alleged terror supporter Tarek Mehanna in August 2006, while Mehanna and his family were on vacation in Egypt, a state trooper testified today in Mehanna's federal trial.

Trooper Thomas Sarrouf, who was assigned to the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, was the first witness called in the high-profile trial in US District Court in Boston.

He said a team of investigators found a number of documents promoting jihad in Afghanistan and Iraq. He said investigators also found videos depicting “jihadist scenes, combat scenes, in areas of conflict around the globe.”

Defense attorney Janice Bassil, who cross-examined the trooper, called the operation, which was authorized by a secret intelligence court, a “sneak and peek” and questioned the quality of the search.

Mehanna, an Egyptian-American with a degree from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy who was born in Pennsylvania and grew up in Sudbury, faces charges that include conspiring to support a terror



organization, providing support to terrorists, conspiracy to kill in a foreign country, and lying to a federal agent. He faces a maximum possible sentence of life in prison.

Prosecutors say that after unsuccessfully trying to enlist as a terrorist, Mehanna decided to become the “media wing” of Al Qaeda in Iraq, distributing materials he hoped would incite violence via the Internet.

Defense attorneys say Mehanna was neither a member of Al Qaeda nor a terrorist. He was an American citizen who was critical of US foreign policy and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq — and simply exercising his constitutional right

to free speech.

After Sarrouf testified, a second prosecution witness, Kevin Swindon, a computer expert for the FBI, testified about participating in the search, saying he scanned a computer, as well as CDs and DVDs for evidence.”

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Douglas McNabb and other members of the U.S. law firm practice and write and/or report extensively on matters involving Federal Criminal Defense, INTERPOL Red Notice Removal, International Extradition and OFAC SDN Sanctions Removal.

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