

DISORDER IN THE COURT

Incidents of Courthouse Violence

Listing of Court-Targeted Violence 2005-Present

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Incidents of Disorder in the Court

a general listing of court and judicial violence: assaults, knifings, murder-for-hire, suicides, bomb-plots, etc.

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by Steven K. Swensen

A Center for Judicial and Executive Security (CJES),
Judicial Counter-Violence Initiative (JCVI)



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Center for Judicial and Executive Security

Steven K. Swensen, Director

Steven K. Swensen founded the Center for Judicial and Executive Security, LLC in July 2009 after a distinguished career with the United States Marshals Service. Stationed in the District of Minnesota, Steve was assigned the duties and responsibilities as a Deputy U.S. Marshal, Supervisory Deputy U.S. Marshal, and Protective Intelligence Investigator. He has been singled out for his developing related subject-matter-expertise in the specialized fields of Courthouse/Judicial Security, Threat, Risk, and Emergency Management.

In June of 2010, under the CJES/JCVI, Steve completed the first of its kind Court-Targeted Acts of Violence (CTAV) study into courthouse/judicial shootings, bombings, and arson-attacks. CTAV researched and documented those incidents occurring during the 40-year period between 1970-2009.

Steve's complete biography can be found on www.CJESconsultants.com.

The Center for Judicial and Executive Security (CJES) is based out of Saint Paul, Minnesota. Relying on particularly advanced professional experiences, collaborations, and partnerships; CJES provides quality, comprehensive, cost-effective, innovative and creative security, threat, risk, and emergency management products, services, and solutions for judicial, government, executive, corporate, business, educational, and law enforcement officials and institutions. It is also a stated mission goal of CJES to raise security awareness and make readily available various general security, threat, risk, and emergency management informational materials, guidelines, and considerations. In furtherance of this, CJES internet-site users will be able to directly access certain items that will increase both theirs and others personal safety and security.

IN GRATITUDE

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the United States District Court, District of Minnesota. Without their valued support, assistance, guidance, and direction myself and others in the United States Marshals Service would not have been able to provide the appropriate heightened level of court and judicial security services we were able to achieve from 1986 - 2009; and I wouldn't have been so inspired to continue my research and studies in founding the Center for Judicial and Executive Security.

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This listing (dating from January 5, 2005 until December 22, 2011), which contains both actual and disrupted incidents of *Disorder in the Court*, was prepared to promote court/judicial security through threat/risk awareness. While the listing of 238-incidents is quite extensive, and likely one of if not the most comprehensive available, it should however not be considered all-inclusive – as to the total number of incidents occurring during the stated time frame. There certainly are others that to date I have not been able to document, and thus include within this document.

It is not only just those incidents that are tragically being carried out – reference CJES Judicial Counter-Violence Initiative (JCVI), Court-Targeted Acts of Violence (CTAV) Study statistics and findings – but also those that are continuously being deterred, prevented, and responded to that one/all must acknowledge and account for in order to develop and maintain optimal court/judicial security programs; and address potential liability-related issues. Although it is not possible to quantify the exact number of potential incidents that are being deterred by the conscientious efforts of dedicated personnel, there should be no mistaking that it certainly is a significant number.

It is important to note the distinct similarities between these type incidents and shootings, bombings, and arson-attacks. There can be no denying that with one-further ill-fated action on part of the threat source we could have had past incidents such as the Fulton County Courthouse Shootings, Hamilton County Courthouse Shooting, Roanoke County Courthouse Shootings, ... tragically repeated.

Attacks with edged weapons are also a heightened concern that is compounded when considering how readily accessible these weapons actually are. According to an Annual Report released by the Los Angeles County Superior Court; during 2008 officers at security screening stations detected and confiscated more than 50,000 knives, 21,000 razors, 8,200 handcuffs, and 114 stun guns from its 48-court facilities.

Case Study: On February 26, 2011 an official discovers an abandoned tool bag outside the McNamara Federal Building in Detroit, Michigan. It wasn't until March 18th however when the bag was run through a fluoroscope, and the Detroit Bomb Squad was called in, that an improvised explosive device (IED) was found inside it. Although this facility does not hold any court-related operations it nonetheless demonstrates the importance of establishing, implementing, and reinforcing (via training, reviews, notices, directives, etc.) clear court/judicial security policies and procedures. In this case, a suspicious item was detected but not appropriately followed up on, with the potential result – being severe.

Disorder in the Court re-emphasizes the critical operational values of: in-custody searches, weapon retention, intermediate weapons, prisoner security placement/positioning, the use of and limitations of restraints, securing evidence, security/mail screening, facility quality-control measures, incident displacement, surveys, assessments, protective intelligence/investigations, and threat management (i.e. threat source intent, ability, motive, mental health, history, behaviors, opportunity, inhibitors, ...).

As the CJES/JCVI/CTAV Study points out – *Court Security is not just Judicial Security, it also directly concerns and impacts Public Safety, Officer Safety, and Violence in the Workplace.*

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

December 22, 2011	A prisoner defendant assaulted a security officer during court proceedings and attempted to escape before being subdued by a taser fired by another court security officer at the Flathead District Court in Kalispell, Montana.
December 12, 2011	After having his bond revoked an uncuffed prisoner broke away from escorting officers and escaped from the Cheatham County Courthouse in Ashland, Tennessee.
December 8, 2011	After having his probation revoked a defendant fought with a court services officer and escaped from the Nesbett District Courthouse in Anchorage, Alaska.
October 27, 2011	A prisoner charged with the murder of a corrections officers had to be physically removed from a court proceeding after his outburst at District Court in Salt Lake City, Utah.
October 24, 2011	In full-restraints a prisoner defendant broke away from a deputy sheriff and attempted to attack his victims mother before he could be subdued during a hearing at the Allegheny County Courthouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
October 13, 2011	A prisoner attacked a deputy sheriff moving him from the transport garage him into a Santa Barbara County Courthouse in Santa Maria, California. The courthouse was placed in "lock-down" until the prisoner could be restrained.
October 12, 2011	A prisoner assaulted a deputy sheriff after a hearing on murder charges at a Cook County Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois. The deputy suffered a fractured eye socket in the attack.
October 9, 2011	A prisoner attempted suicide by hanging in a holding cell at the Lackawanna County Courthouse in Scranton, Pennsylvania.
September 28, 2011	A prisoner being transported from court attacked a transport officer and attempted to take her weapon before he could be subdued by other officers at the Mercer County Courthouse in Princeton, West Virginia.
September 14, 2011	A prisoner was stopped from escaping from court by deputy marshals who used a stun gun to bring him under control at the Shasta County Superior Court in Redding, California.
September 9, 2011	After slipping out of his handcuffs a prisoner charged with assault and escape ran out of the courtroom, fought with police officers, and escaped from Roma Municipal Court in Roma, Texas.
September 8, 2011	Two sheriff deputies were injured breaking up a domestic dispute following a child-custody hearing at the Family Court Law Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
September 1, 2011	After his hearing on attempted murder and sexual assault charges a prisoner over-powered a guard and used her as a human shield to escape from the District Court building in Annapolis, Maryland.
August 30, 2011	Being led out of court after his kidnapping/sexual assault conviction a prisoner defendant attempted to commit suicide by jumping over a 4 th floor railing at the Linn County Courthouse in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
August 16, 2011	After his bond was revoked a defendant fled from deputies and escaped from the Albany County Judicial Center in Albany, New York.
August 15, 2011	A prisoner threw an unknown substance in a transport deputies face and escaped from the St. Tammany Parish Justice Center in Covington, Louisiana.
August 8, 2011	A woman waiting to be cleared through security screening at the Milwaukee County Courthouse in Milwaukee, Wisconsin attacks a court reporter, who was authorized to bypass screening, before being subdued by security.
July 25, 2011	An on-bond defendant ran from the courtroom prior to his being sentenced, fought with judicial marshals in the main corridor, ran head-first into the glass exit doors, and fled from Derby Superior Court in Derby, Connecticut.
July 21, 2011	A woman was arrested for attempting to take a handgun into the Berrien County Courthouse in Benton Harbor, Michigan.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

July 19, 2011	Family members of a man accused of murdering his wife got into a shoving/wrestling argument with her family at the Durham County Courthouse in Durham, North Carolina before deputies intervened and separated the two sides.
July 19, 2011	A man wanted for failure to register as a sex offender was arrested and charged with forcibly resisting arrest by assaulting a deputy marshal at the U.S. Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
July 13, 2011	A prisoner convicted of killing a teenager in 2008 was assaulted by his victims family and friends while being escorted to a hearing at the Pierce County Courthouse in Tacoma, Washington. Officers had to subdue the attackers with tasers.
July 13, 2011	After being given 10-days in jail for contempt of court a woman attempts to attack the judge before being subdued by sheriff deputies at Wayne County Family Court in Monticello, Kentucky.
July 6, 2011	A number of juvenile prisoners attempted to take security officers hostage and escape from the Jackson County Youth Court in Pascagoula, Mississippi.
July 1, 2011	During a sentencing for manslaughter opposing family members fought with each other, injuring a police officer and pregnant woman, at the New Castle County Courthouse in Wilmington, Delaware.
June 29, 2011	Relatives of a man whose murder conviction was overturned fought with others outside a courtroom at the Lake County Courthouse in Waukegan, Illinois.
June 24, 2011	After escaping from a state prison work release program a suspect broke into the Geneva County Courthouse and stole money from the tax assessor's office in Geneva, Alabama
June 15, 2011	Expressing his frustration with the courts a man submits a manifesto to the local news media and fatally sets himself on fire on the steps of the Cheshire County Superior Courthouse in Keene, New Hampshire.
June 14, 2011	A man was arrested for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest in a confrontation with court officers that began in a courtroom and ended in a hallway at Harrison Town Court in Harrison, New York.
June 7, 2011	A woman was arrested at the security screening station at the Travis County Courthouse in Austin, Texas for attempting to smuggle in three double-edged six-inch knives hidden in her backpack.
June 6, 2011	A man assaults a companion of his ex-girlfriend, while she is obtaining a restraining order against him for stalking, before police can subdue him with tasers at the Lewis and Clark County Courthouse in Helena, Montana
May 26, 2011	A litigant in a civil case physically assaults an attorney outside the United States Courthouse in Youngstown, Ohio and then assaults a police officer attempting to arrest him.
May 24, 2011	A defendant being taken into custody jumps out of a courtroom window and escapes from Helena Municipal Court in Helena, Montana.
May 20, 2011	After being declared mentally incompetent a prisoner defendant becomes enraged and combative before being subdued with a taser by deputy sheriff's at the Brevard County Courthouse in Viera, Florida.
May 17, 2011	A man stabs his ex-girlfriend in a courthouse parking lot outside the Davidson County Courthouse in Lexington, North Carolina.
May 13, 2011	A man assaults two probation officers attempting to take him in to custody at the Lehigh County Courthouse in Allentown, Pennsylvania.
May 11, 2011	A prisoner being escorted from court attempted to escape by crashing through a glass door at the Rock Island County Courthouse in Rock Island, Illinois. A deputy sheriff, bailiff, and the prisoner were injured during the escape attempt.
May 9, 2011	A defense attorney is stabbed in the neck with a pencil by an in-custody defendant during proceedings at the Snohomish County Courthouse in Everett, Washington.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

May 7, 2011	A defendant bites a deputy and runs out of the courthouse after being taken into custody during a court appearance at the Quincy District Courthouse, Quincy, Massachusetts.
May 5, 2011	The Palm Beach County Courthouse in West Palm Beach, Florida was closed for several hours after pepper spray left in an "Amnesty" box detonated.
May 5, 2011	A convicted murderer attempting to escape during his sentencing fought with five officers before being subdued at the Bronx Courthouse in New York, New York.
May 2, 2011	After refusing to remove a hood from the top of his head a man punched a deputy sheriff in the face at the Craighead County Courthouse in Jonesboro, Arkansas.
April 20, 2011	After being sentenced to 7-months for eluding police a prisoner attempts to escape again , before being caught and arrested by police, by breaking a window at the Wyandotte County Courthouse in Kansas City, Kansas.
April 31, 2011	After being sentenced in court to life in prison for murder, an in-custody defendant assaults the district attorney during proceedings at the Oklahoma County Courthouse in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
April 27, 2011	After being convicted of credit card theft an in-custody defendant attempted to escape before being subdued with a taser by sheriff's deputies at the Augusta County Courthouse in Staunton, Virginia.
April 21, 2011	A man who became enraged during a court hearing was tasered by deputy sheriff's at the Bucks County Courthouse in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.
April 21, 2011	During family court at the Bergen County Courthouse in Hackensack, New Jersey a man becomes enraged and assaults a companion of his ex-wife. One responding officer suffers a leg injury during the incident.
April 15, 2011	A man convicted of assault attacks deputy sheriff's before being subdued at the Chester County Criminal Justice Center in West Chester, Pennsylvania.
April 15, 2011	A prisoner defendant becomes enraged and uses a microphone as a weapon before being subdued by sheriff deputies at the Shelby County Courthouse in Memphis, Tennessee.
April 15, 2011	During a conference on their divorce a man savagely beats his wife in a judges chamber at the Broward County Circuit Court in Plantation, Florida.
April 15, 2011	A man just acquitted of charges he threatened his ex-girlfriend immediately assaults her right outside the Dauphin County Courthouse in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
March 25, 2011	A prisoner escapes from the Lincoln County Courthouse in Charlestown, West Virginia by using the chain links of his handcuffs to choke a transport officer.
March 22, 2011	A Nevada court officer was injured during a physical confrontation with a woman being brought into custody following a mental health hearing at the Clark County Courthouse in Las Vegas, Nevada.
March 22, 2011	A prisoner refusing to leave his courthouse holding cell spit at and struck deputies before being subdued with a taser gun at the Polk County Courthouse in Bartow, Florida.
March 21, 2011	A man was arrested and charged with assaulting court officers at the Nassau County First District Court in Hempstead, New York.
March 16, 2011	After his sentencing for murder and robbery a prisoner defendant and his family began fighting with correctional officers and bailiffs in court at the New Castle County Courthouse in Wilmington, Delaware.
March 16, 2011	A man was arrested for attempting to bring a handgun into a domestic abuse hearing at the Cumberland County Courthouse in Portland, Maine.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

March 10, 2011	Five members of a militia and sovereign citizen group were arrested in Fairbanks, Alaska for plotting to kidnap and/or kill Alaska State Troopers and a Fairbanks judge.
March 8, 2011	Depressed over being unemployed and financial issues a man commits suicide by jumping from the clock tower at the Santa Barbara County Courthouse in Santa Barbara, California.
February 17, 2011	A criminal defense lawyer and deputy sheriff pulled a woman, attempting to commit suicide, off a ledge at the York County Courthouse in York, Pennsylvania.
February 11, 2011	About to be sentenced at the El Paso County Courthouse in Colorado Springs, Colorado on fraud charges, an on-bond defendant runs from the courthouse and commits suicide by jumping off the roof of an adjacent building.
February 10, 2011	A man who became disorderly during a plea hearing was tasered by security officers at the Marathon County Courthouse in Wausau, Wisconsin.
February 7, 2011	An ex-boyfriend, and 4-others, assault and murder his ex-girlfriend as she exits Philadelphia Traffic Court in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
February 4, 2011	After being convicted of child molestation an on-bond defendant pulls out a gun at the Adams County Courthouse in Hettinger, North Dakota; but before he can fire it he is subdued by an Assistant Attorney General.
January 31, 2011	A prisoner defendant accused of murder stands up, urinates in his hand, and throws urine around the courtroom before being subdued with "pepper-spray" by sheriff deputies at the Southwest Justice Center in French Valley, California.
January 14, 2011	A prisoner attempts to escape from the Lake County Courthouse, Waukegan, Illinois by running out of the courtroom and jumping through a 2 nd floor window.
January 14, 2011	Entering through the exit doors of the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Florida; a man facing divorce, foreclosure, domestic violence and contempt charges pulls out a gun in the courthouse and threatens to kill himself.
January 5, 2011	During a break in testimony a murder victims family attacks a prisoner defendant at the Wayne County Courthouse in Wayne, West Virginia.
January 2, 2011	A man was arrested for attempting to enter the Allegheny County Courthouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with a flare-gun strapped to his ankle.
December 28, 2010	Relatives of a murdered 19-month-old child attempt to assault an in-custody defendant, who was charged with killing her, at the Renville County Courthouse in Olivia, Minnesota.
December 28, 2010	An in-custody defendant hangs himself in a holding cell at the Salem District Court in Salem, Massachusetts.
December 15, 2010	Multiple family members "brawl" with each other, requiring several police and court officers to break it up, outside the Roxbury District Courthouse in Boston, Massachusetts.
December 14, 2010	A woman with a knife makes it through security screening and threatens to stab people before being subdued at the Bossier Parish Courthouse in Benton, Louisiana.
December 14, 2010	A man was arrested for sexually assaulting a woman in a courthouse elevator at the Manatee Judicial Complex in Bradenton, Florida.
December 9, 2010	After being ordered taken into custody for parole violation, a man assaults a deputy sheriff and escapes from a courtroom at the Fremont County Courthouse in Canon City, Colorado.
December 8, 2010	After being placed under arrest and handcuffed a suspect attempted to escape by forcibly resisting deputies and running down the stairs at the Bartholomew County Courthouse in Columbus, Indiana.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

December 6, 2010	A Level III sex offender appearing on gun and assault charges escaped, leading to a major law enforcement officer manhunt, from Salem District Court in Salem, Massachusetts.
November 30, 2010	An inmate on work release commits suicide by jumping out of a 11 th story window at the King County Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.
November 29, 2010	A brother of a stabbing victim assault 2-friends of the accused murderers in a courthouse bathroom during an arraignment proceeding being held at Chelsea District Court in Chelsea, Massachusetts.
November 26, 2010	During undercover operations FBI agents arrest a suspect who believed he was detonating a bomb at the Pioneer Courthouse Square in Portland, Oregon. Located within the square is the Federal Pioneer Courthouse where United States Court of Appeals Judges for the 9 th Circuit house chambers and hold federal court proceedings.
November 11, 2010	A defense attorney was arrested for attempting to enter the Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center in Fort Worth, Texas with a handgun.
October 29, 2010	Two women were arrested for fighting, with deputies and police intervening and having to clear the courtroom, at the Black Hawk County Courthouse in Waterloo, Iowa.
October 21, 2010	A man was arrested for attempting to bring a handgun through the security screening checkpoint at the Fayette County Courthouse in Oelwein, Iowa.
October 19, 2010	A prisoner facing a potential life sentence escaped from the Parish Courthouse in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
October 13, 2010	On trial for murder a prisoner defendant (fitted with a security leg brace) assaulted a deputy sheriff and attempted to escape before being subdued by responding officers at the Duval County Courthouse in Jacksonville, Florida.
October 13, 2010	An in-custody juvenile, restrained in leg irons and handcuffs, breaks free from detention officers and leaps to his death from the 3 rd floor of the Hendricks County Courthouse in Danville, Indiana.
September 29, 2010	A state prison inmate is charged with planning the murder-for-hire of the Dakota County Attorney, and his sentencing judge, at the Dakota County Courthouse in Hastings, Minnesota.
September 21, 2010	A man wanted on failure to pay child support fought with a deputy sheriff attempting to arrest him at the Willacy County Courthouse in Raymondville, Texas. He wasn't able to be restrained until responding officers arrived.
September 14, 2010	A witness attacked a murder defendant, and a man from the gallery jumped the witness, before deputies could intervene at a hearing at the Travis County Courthouse in Austin, Texas.
September 10, 2010	A Perry County District Judge is repeatedly stabbed in a Hazard, Kentucky restaurant, by a suspect she had issued a restraining order against in a 2004 domestic violence case. Patrons come to the judges aid preventing serious injury.
September 1, 2010	A woman was arrested for attempting to bring a handgun and a stun gun (disguised as a cell phone) into the Fulton County Courthouse in Atlanta, Georgia.
August 31, 2010	After being taken into custody a prisoner slipped out of his handcuffs and escaped from bailiffs at the Bexar County Courthouse in San Antonio, Texas.
August 24, 2010	A prisoner in a murder case attacked the deputy prosecutor before being tackled by responding deputies using tasers to subdue him at the Grays Harbor County Courthouse in Montesano, Washington.
August 23, 2010	A man facing foreclosure of his home was arrested at the Cook County Courthouse (Daley Center) in Chicago, Illinois for attempting to bring a handgun to his court hearing.
August 16, 2010	During his revocation hearing a defendant was ordered held without bond when he bit a deputy U.S. Marshal who was taking him into custody at the United States Courthouse in Boston, Massachusetts.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

August 3, 2010	The victims and defendants family brawl during the sentencing of a 13-year-old boy for murder at the Kent County Courthouse in Grand Rapids, Michigan.
July 22, 2010	A man stripped off all of his clothes and tried to forcibly take an arresting deputies firearm at the Dallas County Courthouse in Dallas, Texas.
July 14, 2010	A murder victims and prisoner defendant family members fought with each other during a hearing at the Youngstown Municipal Court in Youngstown, Ohio. It took multiple responding officers to finally bring order.
July 9, 2010	After his conviction for murder a handcuffed prisoner assaults the prosecuting attorney outside a courtroom at the Dubuque County Courthouse in Dubuque, Iowa.
July 8, 2010	After being ordered into custody a defendant knocked over a deputy sheriff in the courtroom and then fought with another deputy in the courthouse lobby before escaping from District Court in Newport News, Virginia
July 2, 2010	After being sentenced in court to two-years custody an on-bond defendant attempted to escape, with the assistance of his girlfriend, by assaulting a deputy sheriff at the Blackwell-Thurman Criminal Justice Center in Austin, Texas.
June 22, 2010	During a bond revocation hearing a defendant shoved aside a court officer and assaulted a bystander while escaping from the Hillsborough County Courthouse in Nashua, New Hampshire
June 17, 2010	Appearing in court on charges of sexually assaulting a child a prisoner broke free from deputies and attempted to escape from the courtroom before being subdued by responding officers at a Cook County Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
June 3, 2010	After a court appearance an assistant public defender assaults a prosecutor and resists his being arrested at the Cook County Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
May 27, 2010	The family of a gang member just convicted in court for murder, assault juror members leaving Riverside County Superior Court in Riverside, California.
May 25, 2010	Appearing at the courthouse for violating an order of protection in a domestic case, a suspect sexually abuses a 3-year-old girl in the probation office at the Cook County Domestic Violence Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
May 17, 2010	Three deputies were injured while removing a disgruntled prisoner from a holding cell at a Cook County Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
May 14, 2010	A man becomes belligerent and assaults two-deputies when they confront him sitting outside a judges chambers at the Marion County Courthouse in Fairmont, West Virginia.
May 4, 2010	A Georgia militia member is arrested by the FBI in Tennessee for his plot to arrest state, local, and federal officials and violently disrupt trial proceedings at the Monroe County Courthouse in Madisonville, Tennessee.
April 29, 2010	An in-custody defendant repeatedly stabs himself in court with a pen before being subdued by deputies at the Allegheny County Courthouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
April 27, 2010	Two court deputies were assaulted, by relatives of a man killed during a car crashing involving Chicago PD, after a hearing at the Cook County Criminal Courts Building in Chicago, Illinois.
April 20, 2010	A Georgia militia supporter and Tennessee man were arrested for plotting to incite a riot, make citizen arrests of a sitting grand jury, and take over the Monroe County Courthouse in Madisonville, Tennessee.
April 16, 2010	As he was being sentenced to life in prisoner without parole for murder a prisoner defendant struggles with deputies before being subdued with "pepper-spray" at the Milwaukee County Courthouse in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
March 28, 2010	An improvised explosive device is found outside the United States Courthouse in Spokane, Washington.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

March 26, 2010	A suspect is arrested for plotting to blow up the Monroe County Courthouse in Woodsville, Ohio. Blasting caps, IEDs, weapons, ammunition, and chemical compounds used to manufacture explosives were seized at his home.
March 16, 2010	A man with a history of making threats against court officials was arrested for attempting to smuggle in multiple hunting knives at the Cook County (Daley Center) Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
March 13, 2010	A man commits suicide by jumping off of a 11 th floor emergency exit/balcony at the Orange County Superior Court in Santa Ana, California. The man had no known pending court cases.
March 11, 2010	A man was arrested for attempting to bring in a handgun to a murder trial being held at the Volusia County Courthouse in DeLand, Florida.
March 4, 2010	A man assaults federal law enforcement officers and threatens to commit murder at the United States Courthouse in Kansas City, Missouri.
March 3, 2010	In court on minor traffic charges a defendant becomes unruly, is charged with contempt, assaults eight officers, escapes from the Montcalm County Courthouse, and is arrested after a high-speed violent chase in Stanton, Michigan.
January 15, 2010	A prisoner defendant attacked Raleigh police officers before being quickly subdued during his armed robbery trial at the Wake County Courthouse in Raleigh, North Carolina.
January 15, 2010	In court on a bond violation a man attempts to escape from deputies by running from the courtroom and then through a connecting skyways ballistic-resistant window at the Lake County Courthouse in Waukegan, Illinois.
January 12, 2010	A man was arrested at the Washington County Justice Courthouse in Hillsboro, Oregon for attempting to bring a handgun into a courtroom. A detective had spotted the suspect dropping/picking up his weapon outside the courthouse.
December 30, 2009	After a verdict was read convicting him of murder a prisoner defendant attacks his attorney before being subdued by sheriff's deputies at the Los Angeles County Courthouse in Los Angeles, California
December 7, 2009	A lawyer was arrested for entering the Fulton County Courthouse in Atlanta, Georgia with a handgun concealed in his briefcase.
November 18, 2009	A security officer for the Derry District Court in Derry, New Hampshire turns himself into authorities on charges of sexually assaulting two women in a courthouse conference room.
November 12, 2009	After being sentenced to prison on a probation violation, a sex offender slits his throat and stabs a deputy sheriff in court with an "exacto" knife at the Cleveland County Courthouse in Norman, Oklahoma.
November 11, 2009	An on-bond defendant takes out a knife at the Cleveland County Courthouse in Norman, Oklahoma and stabs himself in the throat. A responding deputies hands are severely cut while attempting to subdue the defendant.
November 7, 2009	An improvised incendiary device is hurled through a window into a courtroom at the Dorchester District Court in Dorchester, Massachusetts.
November 6, 2009	A man intentionally drives his car into the main lobby of the Burke County Courthouse in Morgantown, North Carolina. The man had an upcoming court date on drunk driving charges.
November 5, 2009	A suspect is arrested and charged with putting together bombing materials in a plot to blow up the Pike County Courthouse in Petersburg, Indiana.
November 4, 2009	Immediately prior to a child custody hearing a father brutally attacked the child's mother in a courtroom at Owen Circuit Court in Spencer, Indiana. He was finally subdued/restrained by the prosecutors office investigator.
November 3, 2009	A Holland deputy attorney was arrested for assaulting a woman in a courthouse bathroom during plea negotiations taking place inside the Holland 58 th District Courthouse in Holland, Michigan.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

October 29, 2009	After a hearing on their divorce case a husband is stabbed by his wife's boyfriend outside the Arapahoe County District Courthouse in Littleton, Colorado.
October 28, 2009	A man refusing to produce identification assaults a court security officer at the United States Courthouse in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
October 1, 2009	Deputy sheriff's were required to "pepper-spray" a defendant who refused to be taken into custody after being convicted of armed robbery during trial at the Dane County Courthouse in Madison, Wisconsin.
September 23, 2009	A suspect attempts to detonate a Truck Bomb at the United States Courthouse in Springfield, Illinois. The FBI prevents this attack, via undercover operations, using an inert improvised explosive device that couldn't be detonated.
August 27, 2009	The father of a defendant being sentenced for staging her own abduction assaults two news photographers right outside a courtroom at the Bucks County Courthouse in Doylestown, Pennsylvania.
August 20, 2009	A woman demanding to see the district attorney is arrested for having a firearm in the Cleveland County Courthouse in Norman, Oklahoma.
July 23, 2009	A janitor at the United States Courthouse in Las Vegas, Nevada locks a female co-worker in a courthouse bathroom and sexually assaults her.
July 22, 2009	A prisoner defendant becomes outraged in court, knocks over the defense table, and attempts to attack prosecutors before being subdued by sheriff deputies with tasers at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Louisville, Kentucky.
July 20, 2009	A man assaults a deputy sheriff before he can be subdued with a taser at the Lancaster County Courthouse in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
July 15, 2009	After being sentenced to prison for aggravated battery a prisoner hangs himself in a holding cell at the Kane County Judicial Center in St. Charles, Illinois.
July 13, 2009	After sentencing of a man convicted of murdering the son of the interim Police Chief for the Flint Police Department, a brawl erupts between family members outside a courtroom at the Genesee County Circuit Court in Flint, Michigan.
June 29, 2009	A woman is arrested at a courthouse security screening checkpoint after attempting to bring a handgun into the Cook County Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
June 27, 2009	During his arraignment at Oriskany Village Court in Oriskany, New York a handcuffed prisoner jumped up from his seat and ran through a door to the parking lot where he was then subdued by responding deputies.
June 26, 2009	A murder victims father jumps over a rail and attempts to assault a prisoner defendant before being subdued by deputies at 68 th District Court in Flint, Michigan.
June 22, 2009	After being order taken into custody a man assaults a corrections officer and escapes from the Williams County Courthouse in Williston, North Dakota.
May 21, 2009	During a probation revocation hearing at the United States Courthouse in McAllen, Texas a federal prisoner pulls out a razor blade and slashes the face and neck of a Deputy U.S. Marshal.
May 18, 2009	Gang members start a fight outside a court proceeding on gang-related murder charges, after police show up to arrest a man on an outstanding warrant, at the King County Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.
May 17, 2009	An improvised incendiary device is discovered outside of the United States Courthouse in Sacramento, California. Two suspects are subsequently arrested and charged with the incident.
May 11, 2009	Judicial marshals stop a woman with multiple pending criminal cases from committing suicide by hanging herself at the New London Courthouse in Norwich, Connecticut.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

April 14, 2009	A juvenile defendant violently attacks his court-appointed lawyer during a hearing held at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
March 6, 2009	A man was arrested at a Cook County Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois for attempting to smuggle a handgun through the courthouse security screening checkpoint.
February 17, 2009	Serving a life sentence with no chance of parole (for raping a 9-year-old child) a prisoner picks his handcuffs and escapes from a holding area at Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix, Arizona.
February 9, 2009	Officials discover a pipe bomb outside the Washington County Courthouse in Hillsboro, Oregon.
February 7, 2009	A prisoner attempting to escape from the Macomb County Courthouse in Mount Clemens, Michigan is found in a judges car trunk. The vehicle had been left unlocked and the prisoner used the interior trunk release button to get in.
January 26, 2009	A mistrial is declared at San Diego Superior Court in San Diego, California after an on-bond defendant smears human feces on the face of his attorney and then throws more at jurors.
January 22, 2009	A man carrying an edged weapon assaults deputies at the main entrance screening station before he can be subdued at the 86 th District Court in Traverse City, Michigan.
November 17, 2008	A woman who had just obtained a temporary restraining order is stabbed to death by her husband right outside the District Courthouse in Baltimore, Maryland.
November 13, 2008	While attempting to get a restraining order against his son a man is stabbed to death by his son at the Portsmouth General District Court in Portsmouth, Virginia.
November 3, 2008	During a mental competency hearing a prisoner escapes from the courtroom before being caught by a deputy who used her taser to subdue him at the Sangamon County Court Complex in Springfield, Illinois.
October 22, 2008	A federal prisoner is subdued with a taser gun after he becomes violent in court and begins fighting with Deputy U.S. Marshals at the United States Courthouse in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
October 21, 2008	A man was arrested for attempting to smuggle a handgun through the security screening checkpoint at a Dallas County Courthouse in Dallas, Texas.
October 9, 2008	Family members of a murder victim rush the judges bench before being subdued by sheriff deputies using pepper spray at the Travis County 147 th District Court in Austin, Texas.
October 2, 2008	Both a man and juvenile male (who was tasered) were arrested for witness tampering and assault on police officers during a hearing on drive-by shooting charges being held at the Scott M. Matheson Courthouse in Salt Lake City, Utah.
October 2, 2008	A man violently attacks a deputy prosecutor during a sentencing hearing in Muncie City Court, Muncie, Indiana.
September 17, 2008	On trial for murder a prisoner escapes from the Jefferson County Courthouse in Bessemer, Alabama after overpowering a sheriffs bailiff and taking his .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol.
September 17, 2008	Just prior to a scheduled hearing an on-bond defendant assaulted his attorney in a hallway at the Jefferson County Courthouse in Madison, Indiana.
August 25, 2008	Two brothers brutally beat relatives of the defendant, who was accused of murdering their brother, outside a court hearing at the Allen County Courthouse in Fort Wayne, Indiana.
July 14, 2008	A prisoner assaults a deputy sheriff in court and attempts to escape from the Dallas County Courthouse in Dallas, Texas. A defense attorney, also a reserve police officer, then wrestles/holds the suspect for responding deputies.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

June 25, 2008	Two women accomplices, one a state employee, helped a prisoner escape while he and other prisoners were being brought into Salem District Court in Salem, Massachusetts.
June 19, 2008	A suspect being arrested for violating a protection order assaults a deputy sheriff attempting to arrest him at the Lancaster County Courthouse in Lincoln, Nebraska.
June 9, 2008	Just prior to his being sentenced for a double killing a prisoner violently attacks his attorney in court at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
May 13, 2008	After being found guilty of murder a prisoner violently attacks a deputy sheriff and attempts to get his firearm at the Calhoun County Justice Center in Battle Creek, Michigan.
May 8, 2008	A prisoner is seriously injured while attempting to escape from court by jumping through a 3 rd story window at the Denver City and County Building, Denver, Colorado.
May 1, 2008	A prisoner is subdued by deputies using tasers after he attempts to escape from court at the Dale County Courthouse in Ozark, Alabama.
April 4, 2008	A handcuffed prisoner grabs a court security officer and jumps out a courtroom window at Malden District Court in Malden, Massachusetts. While the prisoner is immediately apprehended the officer is seriously injured.
March 27, 2008	A man commits suicide by jumping from the 4 th floor balcony at D.C. Superior Court in Washington D.C.
March 12, 2008	A federal prison inmate and accomplices are charged with a murder-for-hire plot against a United States District Judge in McAllen, Texas.
March 11, 2008	Just prior to his sentencing a federal prisoner attempts with a razor blade to cut the throat of an Assistant U.S. Attorney in a courtroom at the United States Courthouse in New York, New York.
March 4, 2008	After his conviction for child molestation an on-bond defendant commits suicide by jumping off the 9 th story balcony at Orange County Superior Court in Santa Ana, California.
February 27, 2008	A man charged with auto theft injured two deputies who were attempting to take him into custody at the Sacramento Superior Court in Sacramento, California.
February 25, 2008	The brother of a prisoner defendant fought with sheriff deputies before being subdued with pepper spray during a sentencing hearing held at the Ninth Judicial District Court in Kalamazoo, Michigan.
February 12, 2008	In court for the sentencing of her son a woman assaults another woman outside the court hearing at the Washington County Courthouse in Hagerstown, Maryland.
February 5, 2008	A prisoner assaults his attorney during a hearing at the Scott County Courthouse in Georgetown, Kentucky.
February 1, 2008	The bomb squad safely detonates a pipe bomb found outside the Erie County Courthouse in Erie, Pennsylvania.
December 7, 2007	A suspect is arrested and charged with plotting to bomb the Westmoreland County Courthouse in Greensbury, Pennsylvania.
December 5, 2007	During his trial on charges of raping a child a prisoner violently smashes a computer and topples a 200-pound table before being subdued by responding deputies at the Seminole County Courthouse in Sanford, Florida.
September 4, 2007	A federal court security officer discovers a firearm in a bike pouch outside the United States Courthouse in Cleveland, Ohio and then subdues a federal probationer attempting to get it back.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

August 30, 2007	After his civil suit is dismissed by the United States District Court a suspect goes to the housing complex where he used to live/work and critically shoots co-workers. He then goes back to the Bronx Courthouse in New York and surrenders himself and his handgun to court security officers.
August 22, 2007	After setting off the magnetometer alarm, and then a hand-held metal detector, a man assaults a court security officer at the United States Courthouse in the Southern District of New York.
August 12, 2007	Distraught victim family members attack an in-custody defendant, accused of murdering 4-women, at the County Courthouse in Springfield, Massachusetts
August 2, 2007	A gang member assaults another gang member and is arrested for disorderly conduct and interfering with a police officer during a hearing at Canby Municipal Court in Canby, Oregon.
July 9, 2007	While in detention at Clinton District Court in Clinton, Massachusetts a prisoner assaults a court security officer.
July 5, 2007	A defense attorney is arrested for attempting to carry a handgun into the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
June 30, 2007	Sheriff deputies take away a handgun from an on-bond defendant awaiting sentencing at the Craighead County Courthouse in Jonesboro, Arkansas.
June 27, 2007	After his rape conviction an on-bond defendant retrieves a shotgun from his car and tries to shoot a detective outside the Montmorency County Courthouse in Atlanta, Michigan.
June 22, 2007	After being ordered to pay \$4,000 in attorney fees over a disputed traffic accident, a civil litigant attempts to push an insurance companies attorney over a 4 th floor balcony at the Tippecanoe County Courthouse in Lafayette, Indiana.
June 1, 2007	A state prisoner accused of killing a correctional officer during a hospital detail attempted to escape from his trial at the Howard County Circuit Court in Ellicott City, Maryland before being tackled by multiple sheriff's deputies and guards.
May 21, 2007	An accused cop-shooter assaults a juror during trial proceedings at the Suffolk Superior Court in Boston, Massachusetts.
April 5, 2007	A murder defendant assaults a deputy sheriff in a courthouse holding cell at the Berks County Courthouse in Reading, Pennsylvania.
February 28, 2007	A rape suspect stabs his attorney with a 6" edged weapon during jury selection Norfolk County Superior Court in Dedham, Massachusetts.
February 15, 2007	A County Probate/Juvenile Court Judge is physically assaulted during recess of a hearing for non-support at the Darke County Courthouse in Greenville, Ohio.
January 30, 2007	At his federal sentencing a prisoner fights with U.S. Marshals at the United States Courthouse in Jackson, Mississippi. During the assault a deputies firearm falls onto the floor and is picked up by Adams public defender.
January 23, 2007	Appearing in court on trespassing charges a man becomes enraged and fights off deputies before being subdued with "pepper-spray" at the Brevard County Courthouse in Viera, Florida.
December 7, 2006	A defendant is assaulted, by her victims (killed in a drunk driving crash) relatives, on the steps of the Westborough District Court in Westborough, Massachusetts.
November 17, 2006	A prisoner defendant restrained in handcuffs is repeatedly punched in court by his victims relatives at the Trumbull County Courthouse in Warren, Ohio.
November 2, 2006	A 39-year-old woman jumps to her death from the roof of the Criminal Justice Center in Los Angeles, California.

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

October 16, 2006	After his guilty verdict a prisoner defendant violently attacks an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney at the Fauquier County Circuit Court in Warrenton, Virginia.
September 6, 2006	After being removed from court for verbally confronting the presiding judge an in-custody juvenile violently assaults a deputy sheriff before being confronted by the same judge at the Harris County Court Annex in Baytown, Texas.
August 11, 2006	Pipe bombs were discovered at the Puyallup Municipal Court in Puyallup, Washington. On August 17, 2006 two more pipebombs were placed at the courthouse with one detonating causing minor damage.
July 10, 2006	After his request for a new lawyer and mistrial are denied a prisoner violently assaults his attorney at the St. Louis County Courthouse in Duluth, Minnesota.
June 26, 2006	A man intends to attack a government employee by bringing a knife into the United States Courthouse in Charleston, West Virginia.
April 28, 2006	A prisoner defendant armed with an edged weapons takes a deputy sheriff hostage before surrendering himself at the Pulaski County Courthouse in Little Rock, Arkansas.
April 4, 2006	A suspect is arrested and charged with plotting to blow up the Rice County Courthouse in Faribault, Minnesota. The suspect was apparently angered over his being prosecuted in 2004 for drug-related charges.
January 19, 2006	One murder defendant attempts to stab his defense attorney and another attempts to wrestle away a court officers gun at the Kings County Criminal Courthouse in Brooklyn, New York.
January 13, 2006	A prisoner defendant is sentenced to life in prison for his plot to blow up the United States Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
November 28, 2005	A prisoner defendant stabs a deputy sheriff multiple times while awaiting transport from the Tracy Municipal Courthouse in Tracy, California.
October 24, 2005	A federal prisoner sends a mail bomb to the United States Courthouse in Richmond, Virginia.
September 14, 2005	During his arraignment on assault charges a man violently assaults a police officer and court officer at Plymouth District Court in Plymouth, Massachusetts.
August 15, 2005	Four prisoners escaped from the courthouse after one of them overpowered a security officer and took his handgun at the 50 th District Courts Building in Pontiac, Michigan.
July 26, 2005	A federal prisoner violently attacks both of his lawyers during proceedings before being subdued by deputies at the United States Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
July 12, 2005	A federal prisoner smuggles a knife into a courthouse holding cell and stabs another in-custody defendant at the United States Courthouse in Salt Lake City, Utah.
June 22, 2005	A prisoner defendant attempts to escape by running from a courtroom, jumping off a 2 nd floor balcony, and breaking through a metal detector at the Campbell County Courthouse in Newport, Kentucky.
June 7, 2005	A federal prisoner is arrested for soliciting and setting up a murder-for-hire plot against a United States District Judge in London, Kentucky.
June 7, 2005	During his sentencing for plotting to kill a federal judge, prosecutor, and IRS agent; an in-custody defendant attempts to attack the presiding judge at the United States Courthouse in Boise, Idaho.
April 19, 2005	A suspect was arrested for mailing letters containing "white-powder" and threatening to bomb the federal courthouse and "massacre" federal judges in the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn, New York

DISORDER IN THE COURT 2005-2011 INCIDENTS

April 8, 2005	A federal prisoner is indicted at the United States Courthouse in Lexington, Kentucky for plotting to kill a Federal Judge and prosecutor.
April 2005	A woman sent 14 threatening letters, each containing a single rat-poisoned baked cookie or piece of candy, to all nine U.S. Supreme Court Justices. She was subsequently arrested and sentenced in October 2006 to 15-years in prison.
March 28, 2005	A prisoner defendant attacks his attorney for the second time in a month during a court appearance at the United States Courthouse in Knoxville, Kentucky.
March 25, 2005	A suspect is arrested for soliciting the murder of the Pinellas County (St. Petersburg, Florida) Circuit Judge presiding over the Terri Schiavo "right-to-life" case.
March 22, 2005	A woman was arrested for attempting to smuggle in a handgun through the security screening checkpoint at the Cook County (Daley Center) Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
March 16, 2005	A man attacks his ex-wife, and threatens to kill her and his divorce attorney (making direct reference to the Judge Lefkow case), outside a courtroom at the Lake County Courthouse in Waukegan, Illinois.
March 14, 2005	A prisoner defendant in a murder trial slashes his attorney's arm with an edged weapon prior to a hearing at the San Fernando District Courthouse in San Fernando, California.
February 22, 2005	A convicted felon involved in a legal dispute with the City of Chicago is arrested for attempting to smuggle a handgun into the Cook County (Daley Center) Courthouse in Chicago, Illinois.
February 13, 2005	An improvised explosive device hidden inside a duffle bag is found outside the Placer County Courthouse in Auburn, California.
January 5, 2005	An evidence bag containing ammunition had a bullet discharge from its casing, just missing a court reporter, during court proceedings at the United States Superior Court in Washington D.C.

