

JOHN GUANDOLO

- [John Guandolo](#) is a retired Marine Corps officer and **former FBI Special Agent who worked on counterterrorism** issues after 9/11. He is the **founder of a law enforcement training organization** called [Understanding the Threat](#) (UTT).
- Guandolo is the **author of [Raising a Jihadi Generation: Understanding the Muslim Brotherhood Movement in America](#)**, which purports to chronicle the “Muslim Brotherhood’s strategic plan to overthrow the United States.” A self-described “handbook for law enforcement, intelligence and military professionals,” **Raising a Jihadi Generation has been endorsed by individuals who espouse anti-Muslim positions**, such as former U.S. attorney [Andrew McCarthy](#).
- Despite Guandolo’s claims of expertise, as [reported](#) in The Intercept, **Guandolo “does not speak Arabic...and has no scholarly expertise in Islam.”**
- Guandolo **resigned from the FBI in 2008 amid investigations by the FBI over alleged sexual improprieties with fellow federal agents, as well as with a testifying witness** whom he was tasked to protect during a federal anti-corruption case, which Guandolo later admitted to. **Guandolo also solicited a \$75,000 donation from the witness for a “counter-terrorism organization.”**
- Despite the circumstances of his departure from the FBI, Guandolo has become **“a prominent figure in...a cottage industry of ex-national security professionals exploiting fear of terrorism for cash,”** as [reported](#) by The Intercept.
- In 2012, Guandolo **founded UTT**, which the Center for New Community (CNC) [identifies](#) as **“one of the most active outfits seeking to indoctrinate state and local law enforcement with anti-Muslim bias through trainings often presented as legitimate courses” -- and often paid for with taxpayer money.** [According to CNC](#), these trainings are “steeped in anti-Muslim conspiracy theories and vilify Muslim community members.”
- In June 2017, Guandolo [physically assaulted](#) a sheriff from Minnesota at a National Sheriffs’ Association (NSA) expo in Reno, Nevada, for which Guandolo was a presenter. Guandolo had previously written about the sheriff he assaulted, [claiming](#) that he “works with jihadis in the community” due to the presence of mosques in his county and for refusing briefings from UTT. A few days after the altercation, the NSA [published](#) a letter retracting its support for UTT.
- In February 2011, **Guandolo appeared on ACT’s “ACT for America Show” with [Brigitte Gabriel](#)**, whom the Center for American Progress (CAP) [identifies](#) as a leading activist in the “Islamophobia network.” On the show, **Guandolo claimed: “Nearly every single Muslim organization in North America is controlled by the Muslim Brotherhood or a derivative group, and that they seek to impose Islamic law in furtherance of establishing an Islamic state here.”**
- In November 2013, ACT for America established the **“[Thin Blue Line Project](#),”** which [describes](#) itself as “a one-stop shop for American Law Enforcement for the Jihadi Threat.” [According to](#) the SPLC, **Guandolo “helped [ACT] build the project.”** One of the prominent [features](#) of the website is its **“Radicalization Map Locator,”** which lists **“the addresses of every Muslim Student Association (MSA) in the country as well as a number of mosques and Islamic institutions.”**
- As [reported](#) in November 2014 by [World Net Daily](#) (WND), **Guandolo “helped draft the anti-Brotherhood bill,”** which Rep. Michele Bachmann [introduced](#) as HR 5194 to designate the [Muslim Brotherhood](#) a “foreign terrorist entity.”
- In December 2015, **Guandolo spoke with [Steve Bannon](#) on Breitbart radio** and made the claim that “the U.S. government currently is exclusively working with Hamas/Muslim Brotherhood entities.” He also **claimed that Muslim Student Associations on U.S. college campuses seek to “recruit jihadis on college campuses.”**
- In 2007, the [Center for Security Policy](#) (CSP), [described](#) by SPLC as an anti-Muslim hate group, [awarded](#) John Guandolo the “Defender of the Homeland Award.” **Guandolo has also appeared on CSP’s Secure Freedom Radio with [Frank Gaffney](#), and in 2010 he co-authored a CSP report, “[Shariah: The Threat to America](#),”** which recommends barring those who

JOHN GUANDOLO

“espouse or support shariah” from serving in the government or the armed forces, and suggests that imams and mosques that advocate for [sharia](#) in the US be prosecuted for “promoting seditious activity.”

- In September 2016, Guandolo [spoke](#) on VCY America’s [“Crosstalk,”](#) where he claimed there is an intentional, coordinated effort among Muslims across the country to manage hotels, “buy up Quick Marts and fuel stations like 7-Elevens that have an adjacent gas station,” and [work in airports](#) in order to “prepar[e] for a jihad here in the United States.”
- Guandolo has also [worked](#) with the **The Social Contract Press (TSCP), a group that SPLC identifies as a white nationalist and anti-immigrant group.** TSCP’s publication, The Social Contract, [called for](#) a ban on all Muslim immigration to the U.S.
- In February 2013, Guandolo [claimed](#) that then-CIA Director nominee, **John Brennan, converted to Islam.** He alleged that Brennan had “interwoven his life professionally and personally with individuals that we know are terrorists.” Guandolo has [repeated](#) these claims on Jihad Watch with [Robert Spencer.](#)
- In October 2016, Guandolo testified at an Oklahoma state House [interim study](#) on “Radical Islam, Shariah Law, the Muslim Brotherhood and the Radicalization Process,” along with Chris Gaubatz and [Frank Gaffney,](#) at the invitation of state lawmaker [John Bennett.](#) Bennett has [referred](#) to Islam as “a cancer in our nation that needs to be cut out.”
- In April 2010 during a law enforcement training in Columbus, Ohio, **Guandolo suggested that a local college professor was a terrorist, which resulted in the professor’s termination from a state-held position.** In a resulting defamation lawsuit against Guandolo, the American Freedom Law Center (AFLC) [represented](#) him.
- In a December 2015 radio interview, Guandolo [alleged](#) that Muslim organizations in the U.S. “share the same ideology as ISIS.”
- The Associated Press [reported](#) that in November 2011, Guandolo **claimed that mosques “do not have a First Amendment right to do anything.”**
- Guandolo has **referenced or repeated debunked myths about Muslim “no-go zones,” “civilization jihad,”** and that [80% of mosques](#) in the U.S. are [“Muslim Brotherhood mosques.”](#)
- In June 2016 on World Net Daily, Guandolo [claimed](#) that “dozens of jihadis” were engaged in “multiple operations” with “socialist and Marxist groups,” such as the racial justice movement Black Lives Matter.

IMPACT: John Guandolo conducts anti-Muslim law enforcement trainings throughout the United States, propagates anti-Muslim conspiracy theories about Muslim Brotherhood infiltration in the U.S. government, and has worked closely with anti-Muslim organizations like the Center for Security Policy and ACT for America.