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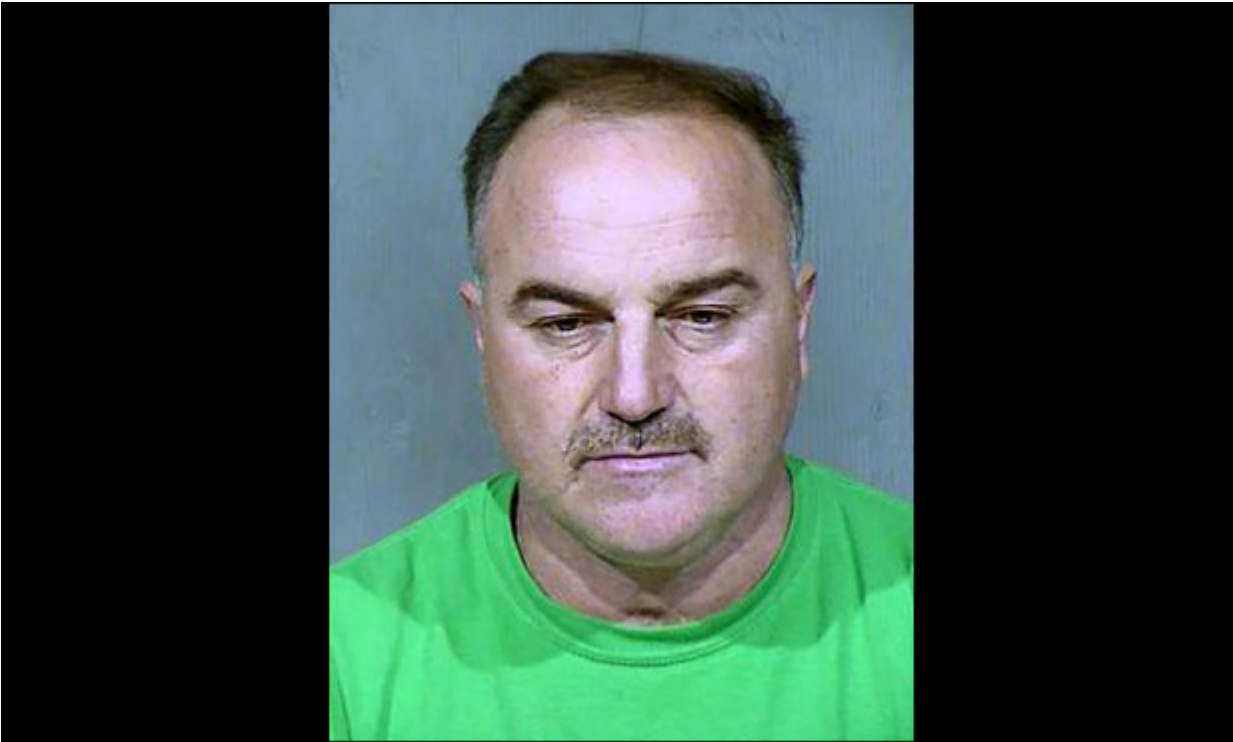
[ARIZONA NEWS](#)

Arizona judge rules Iraqi man involved in 2006 killings will remain jailed

Sep 28, 2020, 6:00 PM

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Ali Yousif Ahmed Al-Nouri (Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Photo)
(Maricopa County Sheriff's Office Photo)

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BY [ASSOCIATED PRESS](#)

PHOENIX (AP) — A judge in Arizona has ruled that an Iraqi immigrant arrested on charges of participating in the 2006 killings of two police officers in Iraq will remain jailed until his extradition case concludes.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Michael Morrissey concluded Ali Yousif Ahmed Al-Nouri is at risk of fleeing and poses a danger to the community, citing the serious nature of the charges, the life or death sentence Ahmed would face if convicted in Iraq, and his ties to people living in foreign countries.

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vulnerable to being infected with the coronavirus at the detention center in Florence, Arizona, where he is being held.

Ahmed, an Iraqi native who came to the United States as a refugee in 2009 and has since become a U.S. citizen, is accused of leading an al-Qaida group that fatally shot the officers on the streets of the Iraqi city of Fallujah. He has denied involvement in the killings and membership to a terror group.

After settling in Arizona, Ahmed worked as a military cultural adviser, traveling to bases in other states to help personnel as they prepared to deploy to the Middle East to fight the Islamic State, his attorney said. He operated a driving school in Phoenix until his arrest in late January as part of an extradition request made by the Iraqi government.

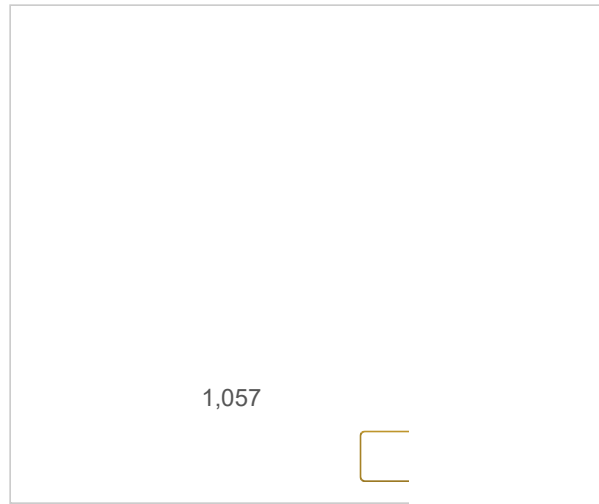
Prosecutors had argued that Ahmed left Iraq after the killings to avoid prosecution and questioned his credibility, saying he gave conflicting explanations about how he suffered gunshot wounds while in Iraq. They could not determine why he spent time in a Syrian prison before moving to the United States.

Ahmed's attorney, Ahmed's lawyer, Jami Johnson, has said in court records there has never been a successful extradition of anyone to Iraq in the more than 80 years that the extradition treaty between the United States and Iraq has been in place.

The United States government is also trying to extradite Omar Abdulsattar Ameen, an Iraqi refugee in Sacramento who was arrested in 2018 on allegations that he killed an Iraqi police officer while fighting for the

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Another attacker then killed police Lt. Issam Ahmed Hussein. The witness later identified Ahmed, who was not wearing a mask, as the group's leader, according to court records.

Four months later, Iraqi authorities say Ahmed and other men fatally shot Officer Khalid Ibrahim Mohammad as the officer sat outside a store. A witness recognized Ahmed, whose mask had fallen off, as one of the assailants, according to court records.



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Arizona News

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[Explosion rocks Chandler strip mall, destroys roof](#)

Emergency crews responded to an explosion that collapsed the roof at a Chandler strip mall on Thursday morning.

11 hours ago

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[Arizona reports 3,621 new COVID-19 cases, 13 additional deaths Thursday](#)

Arizona health officials on Thursday reported 3,621 new COVID-19 cases and 13 additional deaths from the disease.

11 hours ago

Kevin Stone

[AG Brnovich says Maricopa County must comply with audit subpoenas](#)

Arizona Attorney General Mark Brnovich on Thursday threatened to withhold state funding if Maricopa County doesn't turn over everything listed in the state Senate's election audit subpoenas.

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[Teddy Bear Day, charity drive coming to downtown Glendale on 9/11](#)

An annual teddy bear drive in Glendale will be held Sept. 11 to benefit children experiencing traumatic situations.

1 day ago

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[Bird electric scooters land in Goodyear, available at 4 locations](#)

Residents in Goodyear have a new transportation option after Bird electric scooters landed in the West Valley city on Tuesday.

1 day ago



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