Muhammad Tahir Shahdad, also known as Abu Hamza, was a Pakistani-based surrogate involved in terrorist and foreign fighter recruiting, AQIM/SDO building, training, and planning, and external operations coordination. Abu Hamza acted as an intermediary between AQ and Indonesian-based extremist groups Jemaah Islamiyah (JI)/Jemaah Anshurat Takedh (JT) members, and was responsible for facilitating the meeting between JT members and AQIM figures. Abu Hamza and associates have been identified in their involvement with the Abdul Samad SDO network in Connecticut, USA.

Recently, Abu Hamza received instruction to recruit suspects (now Forbes) and moved to Washington to meet with senior leaders and is coordinating the travel and training of new members of a Pakistani-based surrogate cell in Pakistan.

Abu Hamza's activities are currently being monitored for his widespread impacts and...