



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JAMES R. O'NEILL, DISTRICT ATTORNEY
PRESS RELEASE
08/31/2026**

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA vs SARAH SANTIAGO

North Carolina Woman Indicted in Connection to Islamic Center of San Diego Shooting

Winston-Salem, North Carolina– Forsyth County District Attorney Jim O'Neill announced a North Carolina Grand Jury indicted 17-year-old Sarah Lindsey Santiago as an adult for the following state charges:

Three Counts of First-Degree Murder
One Count of Conspiracy to Commit First-Degree Murder

According to the indictment returned on August 31, 2026, Santiago with malice and aforethought did aid and abet Caleb Vazquez and Cain Clark in the killing and murder of three people at the Islamic Center of San Diego on May 18, 2026, by agreeing and planning prior to the attack to: live stream the attacks, disseminate the recording publicly and then release the manifesto authored by attackers to justify the attack.

The FBI Charlotte Joint Terrorism Task Force Greensboro Resident Agency, the Winston-Salem Police Department, FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force in San Diego and San Diego Police Department, with assistance from the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office, are investigating the case.

A copy of the indictment can be found online <https://www.nccourts.gov/ecourts>

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Public Affairs Officer