

Beat: News

St. Louis man admits threatening to blow up a St. Louis synagogue

Cody Steven Rush

St. Louis, Missouri, 11.08.2022, 05:54 Time

USPA NEWS - A man from St. Louis on Monday admitted threatening to blow up a St. Louis synagogue in 2021. Cody Steven Rush admitted calling the St. Louis office of the FBI on Nov. 5, 2021 and saying, "I'm going to blow up a church."

Rush gave his name and identified his target as the Central Reform Congregation in St. Louis. Rush said he would take action the next morning, when people were inside. Rush said he hated Jewish people. He called back later and again threatened to attack the synagogue "while they are in service." Asked if had anything else he wanted to say, Rush said, "Yeah, that I hate them with rage."

In a third call, Rush gave his location, which was on the same street as the CRC. When authorities called Rush back, he again made threats.

Officers with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, the St. Louis County Police Department and the FBI found Rush, who told them, "I am feeling suicidal and homicidal. I just feel like killing Jews." He was arrested without incident.

Rush, 30, pleaded guilty Monday in front of U.S. District Judge Henry E. Autrey to use of a telephone and instrument of interstate commerce to make a threat. The charge carries a potential sentence of up to 10 years in prison. He is scheduled to be sentenced Nov. 8.

The case was investigated by the FBI, the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and the St. Louis County Police Department.

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Wendy writes for the United States Press Agency and is a former columnist with the Fulton County Expositor, Wauseon, Ohio.

Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Missouri press release August 8, 2022

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-21428/st-louis-man-admits-threatening-to-blow-up-a-st-louis-synagogue.html>

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V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDSStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Wendy Westhoven

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