

## **TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY**



**IN OBSCURA LLC**  
**THREAT INTELLIGENCE – SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES- INVESTIGATIONS**  
**ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**  
<https://inobscura.org/>

*Judges 6:12 ESV And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor.”*

### **THREAT LEVEL ELEVATED (URGENT)**

#### **TERROR ATTACK US LOS ANGELES FEDERAL BUILDING IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE (IED)**

##### **SYNOPSIS**

On 1 Dec 2025, a lone male on foot threw two Molotov Cocktails at the front entrance of the Los Angeles Federal Building. This the male also set fire to his apartment.

##### **ATTACKS**

Jose Francisco Joel, age 54, hereinafter referred to as SUBJECT, set his Koreatown apartment on fire and then threw two Molotov Cocktails at the front entrance to the US Federal Building, 300 North Los Angeles Street. However, HE neglected to ignite the external fuses (rags). He approached the target while screaming anti-ICE statements. SUBJECT has a very extensive criminal history.

That day HE also set fire to his apartment in Koreatown. Media photos below contained in court documents shows a photo and pillow emblazoned with the image of Cuban revolutionary Che Guevara inside Jovel’s home. He did this after receiving an eviction notice (NFI).

According to an affidavit filed with the complaint, SUBJECT arrived at the Federal Building, with multiple shopping bags. While standing at the base of the stairs outside the building’s main entrance, HE reached into one of the bags on his bicycle’s handlebars and then threw a Molotov cocktail through the building’s sliding door, which was open at the time, and is marked as an employee entrance. He threw the second Molotov cocktail through the then-open door of the Federal Building’s public entrance, where a line of members of the public were waiting to go through security to enter the building.

several federal agencies, including United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Search upon arrest officers seized five other Molotov cocktails.

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SUBJECT has a criminal history spanning nearly four decades. During HIS arrest HE continued to scream anti-ICE sentiment, that he wanted to blow up the building and “spray down” all of the officers and allegedly stated “this is a terrorist attack anyways, you’re separating families,” and “I attacked your bitch ass and you didn’t do nothing.”

LA Fire officials confirmed that there was a fire at SUBJECT’S home. HE told investigators he set on fire because he was “frustrated” with the building’s management before he attacked the federal building. According to an FBI affidavit filed with his criminal complaint in the United States Attorney’s Office for the Central District. NOTE: This complaint has not been released for public review as of writing this In Obscura report.

### **ANALYST COMMENTS**

Before any discussion on this, Los Angeles is in tactical terms a RED ZONE, defined as where enemy contact is assured. Knowing the threat environment where you operate as a church security professional is crucial. This alone determines the intensity of your officer tactical survival and the innocent people we are charged with protecting with our lives. The security guards posted at that entry point I assure you are well aware of the threat environment and deal with it daily.

The criticality of this very same attack at churches and Christian related equity in the U.S. is unfortunately historic fact. We MUST always be aware of the deadly reality. Using open-source media pending USDOJ release of case related Criminal Complaint and Affidavit(s), much intelligence is gained for the proactive security countermeasures:

Bicycle. This affords some cover for action and target access. As it arrives its appearance can be visually disarming, and cause security to look away just long enough as a distraction. This bicycle could afford rapid access to the target, attack deployment, and then rapid exfiltration in the moment. From there discarding it in a dumpster, switching to a stolen vehicle with stolen plates or quick access to a metro rail, complicates an investigation.

Two shopping bags. SUBJECT arrived with them and dismounts. From them that attack is deployed twice, one for each entry door thrown inside. Security should have been on HIM as he arrived, dismounted, and approached the entry point. This is all known as alerting behavior. While there is always a line of people at that federal building, especially in early morning, this also can obscure movement to target and blind spots.

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Then in the attack, provide multiple challenges to not only apprehend but for employment of deadly force in a crowded environment then thrust into a panic. Much like a full sanctuary or a church event outside on the campus or in a park. A larger number of victims could also be attractive for the attacker and might include suicide detonation. This federal building as many are routine places for homeless and activists to loiter. Do NOT forget historic successful attacks, these vital sources of learning how attacks can come.

Remember, like a church, there is welcome public access. The most critical moment in threat neutralization is before access. Security MUST be adept at the recognition of alerting behaviors. This is part of the In Obscura passionate proactive stance in church security. This includes the inclusion of intelligence collection and analysis, and knowledge of what I call the Human Domain. This is all before the pre-attack cycle becomes an unexpected catastrophe. Knowledge of the area in which the church is located. What is normal, what is not and what is an anomalous activity. Suspicious behavior is key in determining risk in everyday life and in church security. Add to this the trained capabilities to move to and neutralize danger. Again, the goal here is constant observation, monitoring of activity and determining risk. Unattended items, clothing inappropriate for the weather, backpacks and here, SUBJECT was carrying shopping bags.

### **SOURCES**

**Koreatown Man Charged with Throwing Two Molotov Cocktails Inside Federal Building in Downtown Los Angeles**

US Attorneys Office, Central California, Tuesday, December 2, 2025 US Attorney  
<https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/koreatown-man-charged-throwing-two-molotov-cocktails-inside-federal-building-downtown>

**‘I Attacked Your Bitch Ass,’ K-Town Man Told Federal Agents After Alleged Firebombing Federal prosecutors have charged Jose Franciso Jovel, who lives in Koreatown, with hurling two Molotov cocktails fashioned out of instant coffee containers at a DTLA federal building, Michele McPhee, LA Magazine**

<https://lamag.com/crimeinla/i-attacked-your-bitch-ass-k-town-man-told-federal-agents-after-alleged-firebombing/>

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F.A. United States Attorney Bill Essayli @USAttyEssayli

Jose Francisco Jovel, 54, is charged with throwing two Molotov cocktails into our downtown Los Angeles Federal Building. This building houses our U.S. Attorney's Office, ICE, and is where illegal immigrants are processed. Jovel was targeting our immigration enforcement operations and wanted to send a political message.

Thankfully, the devices did not ignite and no one was injured. Jovel was immediately arrested. Federal officers seized Jovel's belongings and discovered five other Molotov cocktails.

Jovel is charged with attempted malicious damage of federal property, and faces a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison and up to 20 years' imprisonment. This is an ongoing investigation and we'll be looking at adding additional charges.

This case exemplifies how misleading and hateful rhetoric against federal law enforcement can and does result in violence. Irresponsible rhetoric by politicians and activists have real-world consequences. It must stop.



5:58 PM · Dec 2, 2025 · 104.6K Views

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<https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/traffic-light-protocol-tlp-definitions-and-usagg>

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[Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) Definitions

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 <b>TLP:AMBER</b> Limited disclosure, recipients can only spread this on a need-to-know basis within their organization and its clients. Note that <b>TLP:AMBER+STRICT</b> restricts sharing to the organization only.	Sources may use TLP:AMBER when information requires support to be effectively acted upon, yet carries risk to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved.	Recipients may share TLP:AMBER information with members of their own organization and its clients, but only on a need-to-know basis to protect their organization and its clients and prevent further harm. Note: if the source wants to restrict sharing to the organization only, they must specify TLP:AMBER+STRICT.
 <b>TLP:GREEN</b> Limited disclosure, recipients can spread this within their community.	Sources may use TLP:GREEN when information is useful to increase awareness within their wider community.	Recipients may share TLP:GREEN information with peers and partner organizations within their community, but not via publicly accessible channels. TLP:GREEN information may not be shared outside of the community. Note: when “community” is not defined, assume the cybersecurity/defense community.
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