

Mustafa Javed Ali

Summary

Over twenty years professional experience in national security strategy, policy, operations, and analysis— including 16 years of federal government service focused on counterterrorism (CT). During government delivered high-impact results leading large teams, overseeing organizational change, managing complex projects, and providing support to senior officials during real-world crisis events. Extensive experience post-government designing and developing academic curriculum, mentoring and coaching students, engaging on-campus stakeholders, and providing frequent media commentary.

Academic Experience

Sep 18 –

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

*Towsley Policymaker In-Residence, Ford School of Public Policy
(*Associate Professor of Practice, Fall 2021)*

- Design and lead graduate and undergraduate courses on counterterrorism, cyber security, national security law and policy, and domestic terrorism.
- Organize, convene, and moderated University-wide panels with experts on different national security topics.
- Provide commentary to local, state, national, and international media outlets and platforms.

Jan 20 – May 2021

Georgetown University

Washington, DC

Adjunct Professor, Security Studies Program

- Designed and developed graduate courses on counterterrorism.

Professional Experience

Aug 18 – May 2019

RAND Corporation

Arlington, VA

Senior Behavioral Scientist

- Guided and led internally funded research projects on US intelligence capabilities and overseas foreign fighter detention.
- Delivered high-profile national security presentations on behalf of the corporation to key stakeholders and internal supporters.
- Participated in management and oversight of multi-million-dollar research portfolio in Cyber and Intelligence Policy Center.

Feb 07 – Jul 18

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, DC

Senior National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism

- Served as senior FBI subject matter expert and liaison on CT issues to the US Intelligence Community (IC) and Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI).
- Provided CT analytic support to senior FBI leadership during real-world threat events.
- Coordinated engagement with outside CT experts--including academia, think-tanks, private sector, and state and local governments.

Mar 17 – Mar 18

National Security Council

Washington, DC

Senior Director for Counterterrorism(On detail from FBI)*

- Developed CT policy recommendations and options for the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and CT and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.
- Participated in National Security Council policy meetings up to the Principals Committee on CT and related national security issues.
- Reported to the Special Assistant to the President for CT and managed day-to-day activities of CT Directorate staff, including personnel selection and development, budget, and resource allocation.

May 13 – Mar 17

National Counterterrorism Center

Washington, DC

Director, Office of National Intelligence Management(On detail from FBI)*

- Served as Director/NCTC's senior representative to the IC, White House policymakers, US military warfighters, and foreign liaison on CT mission management issues including intelligence capabilities, resources, priorities, and budgets.
- Managed all aspects of Office activity regarding substantive mission focus, organizational structure, staffing profile, and internal business process and culture.
- Participated in corporate leadership and management fora regarding workforce development, promotion boards and selection panels, strategic planning, budget, and resource allocation.

Sep 10 – Feb 13

National Intelligence Council

Washington, DC

Deputy National Intelligence Officer, Office of Transnational Threats(On detail from FBI)*

- Managed long-term, strategic analytic projects with US IC on numerous CT issues.
- Provided analytic support on CT issues to senior executives in US IC and National Security Council.
- Fostered relationships with public policy and academic experts through NIC-sponsored outreach program.

Jul 03 – Feb 07

Department of Homeland Security

Washington, DC

Senior Intelligence Officer, Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A)

- Provided CT analytic support to senior DHS leadership during real-world threat events.
- Delivered terrorism threat briefs to non-IC US government, state and local government, and private sector audiences.
- Guided and led office-level analysis on Homeland security threats.

May 02 – Jul 03

Defense Intelligence Agency

Washington, DC

Intelligence Officer, Joint Intelligence Task Force - Combating Terrorism

- Provided CT analytic support for senior Department of Defense leadership on pre- and post-war Iraq CT issues.
- Provided tactical and operational analytic support to Middle East-focused CT missions and operations.

Jul 1998 – Mar 02

Research Planning, Inc.

Falls Church, VA

Senior Research Associate

- Provided support to nation-wide domestic training program regarding state and local government preparedness for simulated mass-casualty terrorism scenarios.
- Provided support to National Security Council-led exercise program to evaluate national-level preparedness and emergency response protocols for simulated terrorism and other crisis scenarios.

Media Appearances

- Conducted dozens of interviews with media on complex security topics, including print and on-air commentary with 60 Minutes, ABC, BBC, CBS, CNN, Fox, MSNBC, NPR, Detroit Free Press, New York Times, and Washington Post and written opinion pieces in The Hill, Cipher Brief, CNN.com, Detroit News, and Newsweek.
- Co-Creator and Executive Producer of “The Burn Bag Podcast,” started in July 2020 and focused on thoughtful interviews timely with key thinkers, practitioners, and leaders on national security issues.

Professional Affiliations

May 2020 -

Detroit Country Day High School

Beverly Hills, MI

Alumni Council Board

Dec 2019 -

New America Foundation

Washington, DC

International Security Program Fellow

July 2019 -

Atlantic Council

Washington, DC

Project Contributor

Education

May 1997	American University <i>M.A., International Relations</i>	Washington, DC
May 1993	University of Detroit <i>J.D.</i>	Detroit, MI
May 1990	University of Michigan <i>B.A., Political Science</i>	Ann Arbor, MI