

(U//~~FOUO~~) Indicators and Implications for Post-Election DVE Activity

Scenario 1 – Most likely

(U//~~FOUO~~) In response to a disputed election, DVEs are very willing to take action, but their capabilities to do so remain low, largely due to disorganization and law enforcement pressure.

(U) Indicators:

[Empty box for indicators]

(U) Implications:

[Empty box for implications]

Scenario 2 – Less Likely

(U//~~FOUO~~) DVEs are very willing to take action and very capable of carrying out a wide array of violent activity.

(U) Indicators:

[Empty box for indicators]

(U) Implications:

[Empty box for implications]

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(U) Willingness of DVEs High

(U) DVE Capability Low

Scenario 3 – Least likely

(U//~~FOUO~~) DVEs have low willingness to take action in response to a disputed election result, and those who are interested lack the capability to carry out anything beyond a simple attack.

(U) Indicators:

[Empty box for indicators]

(U) Implications:

[Empty box for implications]

(U) DVE Capability High

Scenario 4 – Less Likely

(U//~~FOUO~~) In the lead-up to the election, DVE groups are very capable, but they have low willingness to carry out near-term attacks in response to election dispute.

(U) Indicators:

[Empty box for indicators]

(U) Implications:

[Empty box for implications]

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(U) Willingness of DVEs Low

(U) Alternative Analysis: Potential Scenarios for Reactions of Domestic Violent Extremists to a Disputed 2020 US Presidential Election Result

(U//~~LES~~) An alternative analysis exercise by FBI Boston identified four potential scenarios for domestic violent extremist (DVE) reactions in the event of a disputed 2020 US presidential election result and assessed the scenario of “High Willingness to Take Action, Low Capability” as the most plausible.^a The exercise concluded that DVEs’ capabilities and willingness to take action likely would drive their reactions to a disputed election result, compounded with underlying grievances related to COVID-19 mitigation measures and racial justice tensions. Under this alternative analysis, law enforcement preemption and lack of coordination between DVEs likely would hinder widespread violence, though DVEs engaging in uncoordinated acts of violence remain a threat. In August 2020, FBI noted that a few DVEs across the ideological spectrum had [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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(U) Prepared by Bureau Intelligence Council, Counterterrorism Division, and Boston Field Office; with contributions from FBI [redacted]

^a (U) For Additional Information refer to [redacted]

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