The attempted assassination of Donald Trump at a 2024 campaign rally was only one in a series of violent or terroristic acts occurring at high-profile events worldwide. Just months after the Trump shooting, a terrorist with believed ISIS sympathies drove a pickup truck into a crowd of New Year's Eve revelers in New Orleans, killing 14 people.¹

Securing high-profile events from terrorism, mass shootings, and other acts of violence is an increasingly important and challenging process.

Improving event security with OSINT

Police and other law enforcement organizations need comprehensive security strategies for every type of high-profile event, from pop concerts to presidential campaign rallies. While traditional security measures — surveillance cameras, K-9 teams, the presence of uniformed and undercover officers — remain important, law enforcement also needs the type of pre-event threat awareness that only open-source intelligence (OSINT) can provide.

Using social media monitoring and other capabilities, Babel Street solutions can help law enforcement professionals better identify — and prevent — threats to high-profile events.

Safeguarding a political convention

Consider Babel Street's work with one American police force as an example. This organization was charged with securing a major political convention that was expected to draw more than 50,000 attendees and protesters.

Police needed a robust OSINT solution to spot potential mass shooters, terrorists and other criminals before the event started. The workflow implemented by Babel Street helped this law enforcement agency to:

Perform social media monitoring

Babel Street Insights social media monitoring capabilities helped law enforcement analysts search a broad array of platforms in near real-time. Searches focused on convention-related posts by potential bad actors.

As part of this effort, analysts employed Babel Street's multilingual sentiment analysis to determine the tone of communications and posts examined — an important step in gauging the danger presented by those posting.

Analysts also created instant alerts for immediate email notification when searches triggered new reporting in case action was needed. Analysts could share searches, documents, and other key findings within their organization, enabling a collaborative environment to accomplish a collective mission.



Figure 1: An Insights search showing search parameters and various refinements

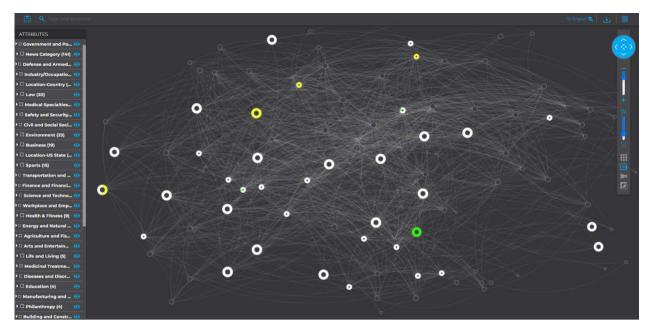


Figure 2: Anonymized output from Babel Street Synthesis showing connections within a social network

Find and map connections

After initial social media searches, investigators used Babel Street Insights Synthesis to find and map connections among potential bad actors. Synthesis rapidly mapped key relationships within social networks, precisely identifying those who wielded the most influence. Synthesis helped law enforcement delve deeper into those influencers' publicly available online profiles and activities and connect those profiles to real-world entities. These connections, hidden within massive datasets, would have otherwise gone undetected.

Deploy location intelligence

After searching top-web and dark web sites and mapping connections, law enforcement deployed Babel Street's location intelligence capabilities to filter and prioritize content from specific locations, focusing on areas near the convention venue and protest sites.

Deploying similar capabilities while the convention was in progress further helped secure political VIPs, delegates, and the venue itself.

Endnotes

¹Sarnoff, Leah, "FBI releases timeline of suspect Shamsud-Dim Jabbar's New Orleans attack," ABC News, January 2025, https://abcnews.go.com/US/fbi-releases-timeline-suspect-shamsud-dim-jabbars-new/story?id=117280639

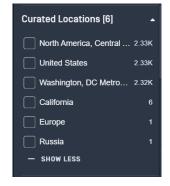


Figure 3: Showing the ability to filter results by location to narrow the search

Babel Street is the trusted technology partner for the world's most advanced identity intelligence and risk operations. The Babel Street Insights platform delivers advanced AI and data analytics solutions to close the Risk-Confidence Gap.

Babel Street provides unmatched, analysis-ready data regardless of language, proactive risk identification, 360-degree insights, high-speed automation, and seamless integration into existing systems. We empower government and commercial organizations to transform high-stakes identity and risk operations into a strategic advantage.

Learn more at babelstreet.com.

