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**COUNTERTERRORISM DIVISION
GUANTANAMO DETAINEE PROSECUTION SECTION
9/11 PROSECUTION UNIT
15 September 2010**

(U) ALLEGED SARASOTA LINK TO 9/11 HIJACKERS

(U) The FBI found no evidence that connected the family members mentioned in the Miami Herald article to any of the 9/11 hijackers, nor was any connection found between the family and the 9/11 plot.

BACKGROUND

(U) In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, among the large volume of calls received by the FBI from the public to report on suspicious activity, the FBI received at least three calls regarding the alleged abrupt departure before 9/11 of the residents of 4224 Escondito Circle, Sarasota, FL. One of the callers, the local Postal Inspector, advised that mail was piling up at the house and that the family did not leave a forwarding address. Interviews of the Postal Inspector and the property manager of the gated

community in which this residence was located identified the residents of the house to [1] [redacted] b6 -2,3
[2] [redacted] and his wife [3] [redacted] and the owner of the house to be [4] [redacted] b7C -2,3
(father of [5] [redacted])

(U) [6] [redacted] and her mother [7] [redacted] were interviewed in July 2002, after FBI Tampa learned that they had returned to the United States (note: this information was obtained from the then-security officer of the gated community, who is quoted in the Herald article) [8] [redacted] b6 -3
advised that she and her family left the United States in late August/early September 2001 on a planned b7C -3
departure. She denied that they had fled, advised that her husband had found employment in Saudi Arabia, and provided a contact telephone number for them in Saudi Arabia.

INVESTIGATION

(U) The FBI's PENTTBOM investigation found no evidence of any contact between the hijackers and [9] [redacted] family, to include telephone, email, or financial contact. The FBI also found no evidence b6 -2
of hijacker vehicles having visited the [10] [redacted] residence (note: the FBI appears not to have obtained b7C -2
the vehicle entry records of the gated community, given the lack of connection to the hijackers).

(U) All known telephone numbers for the [11] [redacted] family were searched through available databases b6 -2
with negative results. The numbers also were specifically searched against call records from all b7C -2
telephones and calling cards used by the hijackers, again with negative results.

OTHER INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. [12] [redacted] aka [13] [redacted] b6 -3
b7C -3

(U) In 2002, there was reporting that a "family member" [14] [redacted] known as [redacted] b6 -2,3
[16] [redacted] aka [17] [redacted] was a flight student at Huffman b7C -2,3

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Venice, Florida. Hijackers Mohamed Atta and Marwan Al-Shehhi attended Huffman Aviation [1] [redacted]
[3] [redacted] was interviewed multiple times after 9/11 and identified Atta and Al-Shehhi as individuals [2] [redacted] b6 -2,3
[redacted] flight training at Huffman. However, investigation did not reveal any other connection b7C -2,3
[6] [redacted] between [4] [redacted] and the hijackers and the 9/11 plot. In addition [5] [redacted] denied knowing
[redacted] [redacted] There is no further information to substantiate the claim that [7] [redacted]
[8] [redacted] as a relative of the [9] [redacted] family.

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