

Boston man sentenced for hiring assassin to kill former wife and her boyfriend

Defendant agreed to pay \$4,000 per murder.

“BOSTON – A Boston man was sentenced yesterday for trying to hire a contract killer to murder his ex-wife and her boyfriend.

Mohammed Chowdhury, 47, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Leo T. Sorokin to 92 months of incarceration followed by three years of supervised release. In January 2024, Chowdhury pleaded guilty to two counts of use of interstate commerce facilities in the commission of murder-for-hire.

“Mr. Chowdhury literally thought he could get away with murder,” said Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy. “Mr. Chowdhury’s disturbing conduct – in combination with the misogyny and dehumanization he expressed in trying to carry out this plot – speak volumes about how dangerous he is. This case represents the most extreme form of domestic violence and we will use all tools at our disposal to protect women in abusive relationships.”

“Anyone willing to hire a hitman to kill a once beloved family member and her new boyfriend is clearly a danger to the community,” said Jodi Cohen, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division. “Thankfully, the FBI Boston’s Violent Crimes Task Force was able to thwart this deadly and horrific plot. Violent criminals like Mohammed Chowdhury need to be locked up, for everyone’s safety, and today’s sentence ensures he won’t be able to harm anyone for a significant period of time.”



Massachusetts Department of Justice photo.

In November 2022, an individual notified law enforcement that Chowdhury was soliciting assistance in having his ex-wife murdered. The individual said that Chowdhury had paid someone to conduct the murder for hire, but that they took the money and did not follow through with Chowdhury's request. Chowdhury subsequently told the individual that he needed the murder done as soon as possible and that he would get the money to do so, even robbing a store if necessary to obtain the funds. The individual provided Chowdhury's phone number to law enforcement, who thereafter used an undercover agent posing as a contract killer, to communicate with Chowdhury about his murder for hire plot.

On numerous occasions in December 2022 and January 2023,

Chowdhury met with undercover agents posing as the contract killer and their associates, to seek help with killing his ex-wife and her new boyfriend, whom she left him for. During these meetings and communications, Chowdhury explained that his ex-wife would not let him see his children; described his frustration with his ex-wife's westernization and independent thinking; and expressed that he wanted the undercover agents to rob and beat his ex-wife and her boyfriend so that he would not be a suspect. Chowdhury asked, "So how we gonna disappear his, uh, body?" and stated, "No evidence. No evidence. No evidence from like, you know, that, uh, I did something, you know?" Chowdhury provided the undercover agents with photographs of his ex-wife and her boyfriend, where they lived, where they worked and their work schedules. Chowdhury ultimately agreed to pay \$4,000 per murder, with a deposit of \$500.

Image of defendant meeting with undercover agent

Chowdhury met with the undercover agents on Jan. 17, 2023, provided the \$500 deposit and confirmed that he wanted the murders committed. Chowdhury was then immediately taken into federal custody.

According to court records, in October 2019, Chowdhury was charged in Boston Municipal Court – Roxbury Division with violating an Abuse Prevention Order prohibiting him from abusing, contacting, or coming within a certain distance of his ex-wife. Chowdhury pleaded to sufficient facts and received a continuance without a finding.

Acting U.S. Attorney Levy and FBI SAC Cohen made the announcement today. The Boston Police Department provided valuable assistance with the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Luke A. Goldworm and John T. Dawley of the Criminal Division prosecuted the case."-Massachusetts Department of Justice,

Massachusetts State Police arrest members of burglary ring that targeted Indians, South East Asians

“The four men arrested this morning during a series of raids in Rhode Island – who are members of an organized burglary ring that victimized more than 40 homes in recent years – decided not to fight rendition.

This afternoon, Massachusetts State Troopers took custody of the four men and transported them to MSP Barracks in Millbury and Dartmouth. They are being booked and will be held in the Middlesex County House of Correction, most likely until their arraignments in Middlesex Superior Court next week.

JOVAN LEMON, 29, of Providence, R.I., his brother PAUL LEMON, 30, of Warwick, R.I., their father PAUL MILLER, 46, of Woonsocket, R.I., and STEVEN BERDUGO, 28, of Providence, R.I., were arrested this morning in connection with 43 burglaries and break-ins across 25 towns in Massachusetts between 2018 and 2024. Their criminal enterprise mainly targeted homes of people of Indian or Southeast Asian descent, often striking when they knew families would not be home and stealing large amounts of gems, jewelry, and currency.

The total value of all the stolen property has been estimated to exceed \$4 million.

“The defendants in this case were very sophisticated. They targeted victims based on their ethnicity and then gathered information about their targets in order to strike when

families were not at home. They were disciplined in concealing their identity, avoiding alarms and minimizing cell phone use before, during and after the breaks and using Wi-Fi jammers. Despite these challenges and the complicated nature and breadth of this investigation, law enforcement collaboratively and persistently worked to today begin the process of holding these four defendants accountable,” said District Attorney Marian Ryan.

Lieutenant Colonel Mark Cyr, commander of the Massachusetts State Police Division of Homeland Security, added: “The theft crew we arrested today stole countless items of great monetary, emotional, and cultural value from families in multiple states, and did so by violating the sanctity of their homes. Such brazen criminal actions will not be tolerated in our communities. This investigation highlights the dedication of our law enforcement partners to work collaboratively to take down complex criminal networks.”

Their arrests were the result of a painstaking investigation by the Massachusetts State Police Fusion Center, including its MACrimeNet intelligence sharing program, the State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office, dozens of city and town police departments, Rhode Island and Connecticut State Police, and US Marshals. The defendants were indicted earlier this week, and are being prosecuted by the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office.”- Massachusetts State Police.

New Bedford Fire Department,

Police, EMS respond to partial pier collapse

NEW BEDFORD, Mass.: On Friday afternoon, the New Bedford Fire Department raced to a reported pier collapse on Antonio L. Costa Avenue. Fortunately, there have were no reports of injuries or that anyone was dumped into the water.

In October of 2023, there was collapse of a 225' by 36' section of bulkhead/pier which you can read about