

See No Islam, Hear No Islam

Benjamin Weingarten writes in [settlement](#) with representatives of the Muslim community, the NYPD has agreed to purge materials critical to understanding the threat to New York City from domestic Islamic terrorism. The plaintiffs in *Raza v. City of New York* and *Handschu v. Special Services Division* charged that the NYPD had targeted Muslims for surveillance solely because of their religious affiliation. Among other things, the settlement stipulates that the NYPD must remove from its website a comprehensive 2007 report authored by senior analysts Mitchell D. Silber and Arvin Bhatt.

[Time](#) noted in 2007. “The Council on American-Islamic Relations said it cast suspicion on all U.S. Muslims, even though the report repeatedly stresses that there is no obvious way to profile would-be terrorists.” What did they find so objectionable? According to the [reportedly](#) told investigators while in custody that he “follows Allah, and that is the reason he was called upon to do this.” Further, according to Philadelphia police captain Richard Ross, Archer “believed that the police defend laws that are contrary to the teachings of the Quran.” In 2012, Archer allegedly traveled to and spent several months in Egypt. According to his mother, he was a devout Muslim who had practiced the faith for an extended period of time. Despite Archer’s words and actions, and the reports of Philadelphia law enforcement officers involved in the investigation, the city’s mayor [exact profile that Silber and Bhatt sketched](#) in their report—as do most examples in recent memory of American jihadists. Religious ideology is not incidental to jihad; it’s central. For Islamists, jihad is an intrinsic part of a pious Muslim’s religious duties. All Muslims are not jihadists, but all jihadists are self-identified Muslims. Yet, New York mayor Bill de Blasio appears willing to pursue the [Judicial Watch](#), a similar purge of materials

linking Islamic ideology to jihad has already occurred at the federal level, with apparently disastrous consequences, given the