White Paper:

Threats Within – A Comparative Analysis of Domestic Extremism in the U.S.

Cover Page

Threats Within
A Comparative Analysis of Violent Activity and Legal Outcomes Among Antifa, Proud Boys, Oath Keepers, and Three Percenters

Prepared by: Shawn Havens
Date: September 25, 2025
For: The Arrogant Independent | Policy & Public Safety Division

Executive Summary

This white paper compares four major U.S.-based extremist or protest-aligned groups—Antifa, Proud Boys, Oath Keepers, and Three Percenters—with a focus on violent incidents, legal outcomes, organizational structure, and relative threat levels. Using FBI, DOJ, and CSIS datasets, it reveals major disparities in how violence is executed, coordinated, and prosecuted.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction

Domestic extremism has re-emerged as a leading threat to U.S. national security. While political narratives often frame one side or the other, this report takes a **fact-based, nonpartisan approach** to compare the **actual impact** of each group.

2. Methodology

Data was sourced from:

- FBI Domestic Terrorism Briefs (2022–2024)
- DOJ case filings for January 6 and civil unrest prosecutions
- CSIS extremism tracker
- ADL & SPLC hate group registries

Incidents were categorized by:

- Violence type (property vs. personal)
- Coordination level
- Fatalities
- Federal felony convictions

3. Organizational Profiles

3.1 Antifa

- **Ideology**: Anti-fascist, anti-capitalist, anarchist
- **Structure**: Decentralized, cell-based
- **Known for**: Street clashes, property damage, resisting far-right rallies

3.2 Proud Boys

- **Ideology**: Nationalist, anti-left, pro-Western chauvinism
- **Structure**: Hierarchical chapters
- **Known for**: Brawls, political targeting, participation in Capitol riot

3.3 Oath Keepers

- **Ideology**: Anti-government, pro-constitution, veteran-heavy
- **Structure**: Organized militia with command elements
- **Known for**: Armed standoffs, Capitol insurrection plotting

3.4 Three Percenters

- **Ideology**: Revolutionary libertarianism, anti-government
- **Structure**: Loosely affiliated cells
- **Known for**: Armed ambushes, government assassination plots

4. Incident Analysis

Group	Fatalities	Major Conspiracies	Assault Cases	Vandalism Events	Planned Attacks
Antifa	1	0	120+	600+	0
Proud Boys	5+	6+	300+	80+	2
Oath Keepers	1	4+	150+	40+	3+
Three Percenters	4	3	90+	20+	4+

(Source: DOJ, ADL, CSIS, 2023–2024)

5. Legal Prosecution Outcomes

Group	Federal Convictions	Seditious Conspiracy	Terror Charges	Sentence Avg.
Antifa	~40 (mostly misdemeanors)	0	0	6 months or less
Proud Boys	70+	6	0	8–15 years
Oath Keepers	40+	11	0	7–18 years
Three Percenters	25+	0	0	4–10 years

6. Comparative Threat Assessment

Category	Antifa	Proud Boys	Oath Keepers	Three Percenters
Centralized Leadership	❌	✅	✅	❌
Armed Coordination	❌	✅ (light)	✅ (tactical)	✅ (rural)
Federal Charges	Few	Extensive	Extensive	Moderate
Public Violence	High (street)	High (street/political)	Moderate	Low
Lethality	Low	Moderate-High	Moderate	Moderate
Digital Recruiting Risk	Low	Medium	High	High

7. Recommendations and Policy Implications

See earlier response above for detailed section. Summary table below:

Policy Area	Recommendation
Legal Consistency	Apply uniform prosecution criteria to all violent extremist groups

Community Prevention	Fund rural deradicalization and veteran outreach
Law Enforcement Tools	Close militia loopholes, enhance digital coordination
Public Norms	Promote media consistency, civic literacy on peaceful protest boundaries
Civil Liberties	Preserve peaceful assembly rights and build oversight into surveillance tools

8. Conclusion

Domestic extremist threats exist across ideological lines. While Antifa primarily causes disorder and vandalism, the Proud Boys, Oath Keepers, and Three Percenters show coordinated planning, lethality, and seditious activity. Effective response must rise above political tribalism and focus on behavior, not beliefs.

9. References

[See full APA 7 reference list posted or embedded in document]