

[https://www.idahopress.com/eyeonboise/elected-officials-police-chiefs-on-leaked-oath-keepers-list/article\\_8452d8d2-3243-11ed-a408-6bd9e0c87c78.html](https://www.idahopress.com/eyeonboise/elected-officials-police-chiefs-on-leaked-oath-keepers-list/article_8452d8d2-3243-11ed-a408-6bd9e0c87c78.html)

## Elected officials, police chiefs on leaked Oath Keepers list...

Posted by Betsy  
Sep 11, 2022



State Rep. Chad Christensen, R-Iona, in a 2021 file photo.

File / Idaho Falls Post Register

The names of hundreds of U.S. law enforcement officers, elected officials and military members appear on the leaked membership rolls of a far-right extremist group that's accused of playing a key role in the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, according to a report released last week.

The Anti-Defamation League Center (ADL) on Extremism pored over more than 38,000 names on leaked Oath Keepers membership lists and identified more than 370 people it believes currently work in law enforcement agencies — including as police chiefs and sheriffs — and more than 100 people who are currently members of the military.

It also identified more than 80 people who were running for or served in public office as of early August. The membership information was compiled into a database published by the transparency collective Distributed Denial of Secrets.

ADL showed that Idaho State Representative Chad Christensen was listed in the Oath Keepers database as having a "liberty Tree" membership. Christensen lost his primary race in 2022.

The data raises fresh concerns about the presence of extremists in law enforcement and the military who are tasked with enforcing laws and protecting the U.S.

Elmore County Sheriff Mike Hollinshead told KTVB he never was a member of the Oath Keepers, but investigated the group in 2016 when he was running for sheriff. "In order to fully understand what the Oath Keepers stood for at the time, I put my information on their website and gained access," he said in a statement. "After a full assessment, I determined that the threat to democracy from the Oath Keepers was a real one, and something that I would have to take into consideration if I was blessed enough to become Sheriff."

You can read the [full story here at ktvb.com](#) from our Idaho Press news partner KTVB and the Associated Press, or look for it in today's Sunday/Monday print edition of the Idaho Press.

---

*Betsy Z. Russell is the Boise bureau chief and state capitol reporter for the Idaho Press and Adams Publishing Group. Follow her on Twitter at @BetsyZRussell.*

---

Betsy Russell