
The detainee’s initial periodic review hearing occurred on 26APR2016. The government reported him as an extremely compliant and non-violent detainee, with the few infractions consisting solely of disobedience to guard force. The government asserted that, at the time of his capture in December 2001, the detainee was a bodyguard to Osama Bin Laden and fleeing the battle of Tora Bora. ISN 27 consistently denies affiliation with Al Qaeda and insists he was in Afghanistan to teach Islamic law. (This explanation is viewed as suspect because it was a designated response in Al Qaeda counter-interrogation training.)

ISN 27 has undergone four file reviews on 26OCT2016, 12JUL2017, 17OCT2018, and 10APR2019. On both the 26OCT2016 and 10APR2019 file reviews, the Board determined that significant new information had been raised that cast doubt on whether the detainee’s continued detention was warranted, which resulted in two subsequent full review hearings on 15DEC2016 and 10DEC2019.

ISN 27 Uthman has distinguished himself by enthusiastic compliance with Board recommendations and statements of both contrition for mistakes and faith in the PRB system. He is the detainee at GTMO best positioned to be authorized for transfer or repatriation, though repatriation to Yemen remains unlikely.