



Communities Against Terrorism

Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities

Related to Mass Transportation

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

Related to Individual Appearance, General Behavior, and Communications:

- Significantly alters appearance from visit to visit (shaving beard, changing hair color, style of dress, etc)
- Burns on body, missing finger(s) or hand, bloody clothing, bleached body hair or bright colored stains on clothing; switch or wires concealed in hand, clothing or backpack
- Passing anonymous threats (telephone/e-mail) to facilities in conjunction with suspected surveillance incidents
- Acting nervous or suspicious, possibly mumbling to themselves, heavy sweating
- Monitoring personnel or vehicles entering/leaving facilities or parking areas
- Behaving as if using a hidden camera (panning a briefcase/bag over a particular area or constantly adjusting angle or height of an item)
- Discreetly using cameras, video recorders, binoculars, or note taking and sketching
- Unusual comments made regarding anti-U.S., radical theology, vague or cryptic warnings
- Questioning security/facility personnel through personal contact, telephone, mail, or e-mail

Related to Passenger Activities or Interests in Security:

- Multiple people arriving together, splitting up; may continue to communicate via cell phone
- Unusual or prolonged interest in the following:
 - Security measures or personnel
 - Security cameras
 - Entry points and access controls
 - Perimeter barriers (fences/walls)
 - Unattended train or bus
- Parking vehicles in restricted zones or purposely placing objects in sensitive or vulnerable areas to observe security responses
- Attempting to acquire official vehicles, uniforms, badges, access cards, or identification credentials for key facilities (report such losses and deactivate access cards immediately)
- Observing security reaction drills or procedures (may leave an unattended package to probe)

It is important to remember that just because someone's speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different; it does not mean that he or she is suspicious.

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What Should I Do?

Be part of the solution.

- ✓ Require valid ID from all customers.
- ✓ Keep records of purchases.
- ✓ Talk to customers, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses.
- ✓ Watch for people and actions that are out of place.
- ✓ Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles.
- ✓ **If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.**

Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.

Preventing terrorism is a community effort. By learning what to look for, you can make a positive contribution in the fight against terrorism. **The partnership between the community and law enforcement is essential to the success of anti-terrorism efforts.**

Some of the activities, taken individually, could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate. The activities outlined on this handout are by no means all-inclusive but have been compiled from review of terrorist events over several years.

