



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance

FBI Federal Bureau of Investigation



Communities Against Terrorism

Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities

Related to Wholesale Distributors- Beauty/Drug

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

Suspicious People Who:

- Have burn marks on customer's hands, arms, or face
- Are Missing hand / fingers, bright colored stains on clothing, strange odors
- Significantly alters appearance from visit to visit (shaving beard, changing hair color, style of dress, etc)
- Only chemicals and no other beauty supplies purchased
- Customer does not work at or own a salon
- Preoccupation with the concentration levels of Hydrogen Peroxide or Acetone
- Asks about boiling or making liquid more concentrated
- Comments involving radical theology, vague or cryptic warnings, anti-U.S. sentiments
- Travels illogical distance to store, uses lookout or is picked-up
- Nervous/suspicious behavior, evasive or vague about intended use of products

Purchase Activities Include:

- Requests for large quantities of Hydrogen Peroxide or Acetone
- Numerous smaller purchases of Hydrogen Peroxide or Acetone (consumer-grade HP is 3-6%)
- Requests for higher concentrations or information on how to do that themselves
- Quantity desired inconsistent with use; illogical explanation for supplies
- Purchase of storage containers (glass jars or plastic buckets), mixing utensils, and/or rubber gloves, in conjunction with Hydrogen Peroxide/Acetone

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 new customers.
- ✓ Keep records of purchases.
- ✓ Talk to customers, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses.
- ✓ 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 a review of terrorist events over several years.

