



MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

TERRORISM AWARENESS

HOMELAND SECURITY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Be Our Eyes And Ears

No government can ensure the complete safety and security of the community, without the support of the citizens it serves. Only with your help, has the Miami-Dade Police Department been able to achieve major reductions in serious crimes by targeting criminal behavior you reported in your neighborhoods. We urge you to continue this highly successful partnership in the fight against domestic and international terrorism, and continue to Be Our Eyes and Ears! Although it is the intent of the terrorist to instill fear in you, it is your vigilance that the terrorist fears most.

Awareness

Terrorists are trained to blend in and assimilate to their surroundings. Most terrorist acts are well organized and well planned. Agencies at all levels of government are now sharing information with each other. They are finding that reports of similar suspicious activities are coming from widely diverse sources in communities across the country. Comparing these reports has enabled law enforcement and intelligence authorities to develop a more complete understanding of the methods and practices used by terrorist organizations.

In an effort to promote the reporting of suspicious incidents, we have prepared this summary, to inform our citizens of indicators, characteristics, and behaviors that may reveal possible terrorist activity. Any single indicator described below is not cause for alarm. The totality of circumstances MUST be considered when making your decision to file a report with your local authorities. Prompt reporting of suspicious activities may prevent a terrorist attack.

Indicators of Possible Terrorist Activities

- Unusual or extended interest in public utilities, large public gatherings, transportation centers, government buildings and other possible terrorist targets.
- Unusual requests for information, particularly about security or procedures for at-risk buildings or activities.
- Suspicious activity, especially when connected with a high risk or symbolic target.
- Fraudulent/conflicting ID or documents.

- Unusual rentals, purchases, deliveries, or thefts, particularly of poisonous or flammable chemicals, explosives, weapons or vehicles (including planes or boats).
- Terrorists will conduct training, surveillance and "dry runs" prior to the commission of a terrorist act.

Characteristics of Terrorist Surveillance

Terrorists conduct surveillance to determine a target's suitability for attack by assessing the capabilities of existing security and discerning weaknesses in the facility. After identifying weaknesses, they plan their attack at the point of greatest vulnerability.

Successful surveillance detection efforts require immediate reporting of incidents similar to the following:

- Multiple sightings of the same suspicious person, vehicle, or activity, separated by time, distance, or direction.
- Individuals who stay at bus or train stops for extended periods while buses and trains come and go.
- Individuals who order food at a restaurant and leave before the food arrives or who order without eating.
- Individuals sitting in a parked car for an extended period of time.
- Individuals who don't fit into the surrounding environment because they are wearing improper attire for the location or season.
- Individuals drawing pictures or taking notes in an area not normally of interest to a tourist or showing unusual interest in or photographing security cameras, guard locations, or watching security reaction drills and procedures.
- Individuals who exhibit suspicious behavior, such as staring or quickly looking away from individuals or vehicles as they enter or leave facilities or parking areas

Terrorists may also employ aggressive surveillance techniques, such as making false phone threats, approaching security checkpoints to ask for directions, or "innocently" attempting to smuggle non-lethal contraband through checkpoints.

Indicators and Behaviors of Potential Suicide Bombers:

- Clothing is out of sync with the weather, suspect's social position (he appears well groomed but is wearing sloppy clothing), or location (wearing a coat inside a building.)
- Clothing is loose.
- Suspect may be carrying heavy luggage, bag, or wearing a backpack.
- Pale face from recent shaving of beard.

- Eyes appear to be focused and vigilant.
- Does not respond to authoritative voice commands or direct salutation from a distance.
- Behavior is consistent with no future, e.g. individual purchases a one-way ticket or is unconcerned about receipts for purchases, or receiving change.
- Suspect is walking with deliberation, but not running.

Indicators of Potential Threats From Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) believes that a truck bombing by terrorists may be preempted if the general public remains alert for certain indicators. DHS has no specific information to indicate that a truck bombing of any kind is currently being planned in the United States.

The existence of any one of the following indicators does not in and of itself suggest terrorist activity. Each incident should be carefully assessed together with other information present to judge whether there is cause for further investigation:

- Theft of explosives, blasting caps, or fuses, or certain chemicals used in the manufacture of explosives.
- Rental of self-storage space for the purpose of storing chemicals or mixing apparatus.
- Delivery of chemicals directly from the manufacturer to a self-storage facility or unusual deliveries of chemicals to residential or rural addresses.
- Chemical fires, toxic odors, brightly colored stains, or rusted metal fixtures in apartments, hotel/motel rooms, or self-storage units.
- Modification of truck or van with heavy duty springs to handle heavier loads.
- Small test explosions in rural wooded areas.
- Treatment of chemical burns or missing hands/fingers.
- Untreated chemical burns or missing hands/fingers.

Getting and Giving A Description

Person:

Sex, Race
 Age (approximate)
 Height
 Weight
 Build (medium, heavy set, thin, etc.)
 Hair (color, length, including facial hair)
 Complexion (light, dark, ruddy, olive.)
 Peculiarities (scars, tattoos, missing limbs)

Clothing (from head to toe, style, defects)
Weapons (if any)
Method of escape (direction, vehicle, etc.)

Vehicle

License Plate (most important)
Year, make, model & color
Body type (2 door, 4 door, van, SUV, etc.)
Passengers (number of people in vehicle)
Damage or anything unusual (logos, etc.)

To Report Suspicious Activity

Emergencies: 911

Miami-Dade Non-Emergencies: (305) 4-POLICE or call your local police department

Miami-Dade Homeland Security 24-hour Tips Line: 1-866-58-ALERT

FBI - Miami Division: (305) 944-9101

Florida Department of Law Enforcement: 786-336-1000

Southeast Florida Domestic Security Task Force: 1-800-226-3023

For additional information and current updates, please see the Miami-Dade County Homeland Security Website at www.miamidade.gov/homeland.