



Communities Against Terrorism

Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Hobby Shops

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

- Demonstrating unusual interest in remote-controlled aircraft.
- Demonstrating interest that does not seem genuine.
- Inquiring about remote controls and model aircraft payload capacity and maximum range.
- Inquiring about learning to fly expensive giant-scale aircraft without first learning to fly small-scale aircraft.
- Possessing little knowledge of activity for which the purchase is intended.
- Exhibiting unusual interest or specific interest in rocket motors or igniters.
- Demonstrating no interest or enthusiasm for the hobby or sport.
- Shoplifting or purchasing
 - Large quantity of model aircraft fuel.
 - Several large aircraft, engines, or transmitters.
 - Model rocket motor igniters without adequate knowledge.
 - Large quantity of paintball equipment and supplies with very little information about local paintball activities.
- Using cash for large transactions or a credit card in someone else's name.

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.

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
LOS ANGELES, CA
562-345-1100 (Joint Regional Intelligence Center
Hotline)**

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.
- ✓ 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 a review of terrorist events over several years.



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance

FBI Federal Bureau of Investigation



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Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities

Related to Hotels and Motels

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

- Guests who
 - Request specific room assignments or locations.
 - Use cash for large transactions or a credit card in someone else's name.
 - Arrive with unusual amounts of luggage.
 - Make unusual inquiries about local sites, including government, military, police, communications, and power facilities.
 - Refuse cleaning service over an extended time.
 - Use entrances and exits that avoid the lobby.
 - Abandon a room and leave behind clothing and toiletry items.
 - Do not leave their room.
 - Change their appearance.
 - Leave the property for several days and then return.
- Thefts of official vehicles, uniforms, identification, and access cards.
- Reports of guest rooms with
 - Burn marks or discoloration on the walls or door.
 - Unusual odors or liquids seeping from a guest room.
 - Unusual amounts of traffic.
- Discovery of unusual items in guest rooms or facility dumpsters
 - Fertilizer or agricultural products.
 - Chemicals or chemical containers.
 - Fuel or fuel containers.
 - Weapons, ammunition, and explosives.
 - Extremist training manuals or literature.
 - Fraudulent credit cards or documents.
- Parked vehicles in isolated areas.

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What Should I Do?

Be part of the solution.

- ✓ Report vehicles abandoned on the property to law enforcement authorities.
- ✓ 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.**

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Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Rental Trucks

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

- Reluctance to provide complete personal information when completing rental paperwork.
- Providing multiple names on rental paperwork.
- Inability to recall the name used to rent a vehicle.
- Using cash for large transactions or a personal credit card in someone else's name.
- Returned vehicles that contain
 - Unusual burn marks or odors.
 - Fertilizer or chemical residue.
 - Blueprints, photographs, or video of buildings and landmarks.
 - Extremist training manuals or literature.
 - Surveillance equipment.
 - Receipts for hazardous items.
 - Weapons and explosives.
 - Maps with sensitive locations marked.
- Inquiries about renting a truck with a wooden floor.
- Unusual questions regarding
 - A vehicle's dimensions, fuel capacity, or interior volume.
 - Local sites, including government, military, law enforcement, communications, and power facilities.
- Efforts to quickly collect deposits for vehicles reported as stolen.
- Reports of abandoned rental vehicles, particularly those near
 - Military bases.
 - Government buildings.
 - Power plants.
 - Shopping malls.
 - Stadiums.
 - Schools.
- Individuals surveilling the facility.

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What Should I Do?

Be part of the solution.

- ✓ Require a valid driver's license from all customers.
- ✓ Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles.
- ✓ Report any missing or stolen vehicles or license plates to law enforcement authorities.
- ✓ **If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.**

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Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Storage Facilities

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

- Failing to provide complete personal information when completing rental paperwork.
- Using cash to pay rental fees in advance.
- Failing to pay rent for a storage unit in a timely manner.
- Using a credit card in someone else's name.
- Inquiring about security and surveillance equipment utilized at the storage facility.
- Placing unusual items in storage units or facility dumpsters
 - Fertilizer or agricultural products.
 - Chemicals or chemical containers.
 - Fuel or fuel containers.
 - Weapons and ammunition.
 - Explosives.
- Disposing of tools or protective gloves, masks, or clothing.
- Discarding clothing or shoes in new condition.
- Entering and leaving storage facility at unusual times.
- Avoiding contact with rental facility personnel.
- Accessing the facility an unusual number of times.
- Requesting deliveries of chemicals and other items made directly to a storage unit.
- Leaving burn marks or discoloration on the walls or door of a storage unit.
- Storing items that emit unusual odors or leak liquids.

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