Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Special Events Venues

Each indicator listed below may be, by itself, lawful conduct or behavior and may also constitute the exercise of rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. In addition, there may be a wholly innocent explanation for conduct or behavior that appears suspicious in nature. For this reason, no single indicator should be the sole basis for law enforcement action. The totality of behavioral indicators and other relevant circumstances should be evaluated when considering any law enforcement response or action.

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

People Who:

- Are unauthorized individuals entering restricted areas that require authorization or credential access at the venue site
- Are unauthorized visitors in their uniform on their days off attempting to gain access in restricted venue sites
- Make threatening comments/threats of violence against the US or individuals
- Allow access badge sharing at security gates and doors
- Are overly interested in entry points, peak days and hours of operation, security personnel, surveillance assets (including cameras), access controls such as alarms, barriers, doors, gates, or locks
- Wearing outergarments not appropriate for the weather/seasons

Job Specific Indicators: Venue Employees

- Access abuse or repeatedly found outside of duty areas, especially within facility
- Overly willing to run sensitive routes and pick-ups
- Employee arrives or leaves with unusual items or bags
- Exhibit unusual or suspicious behavior
- Illegally/unnecessarily, not related to job duty, obtained/possessed blueprints of the venue/building

In-Venue Providers- Food Service, Vendors, Cleaners, Security, Maintenance

- Seek additional access or are encountered outside of duty areas
- Steal official vehicles, uniforms, identification, and access cards
- Make unusual inquiries about sterile side security procedures

Outside–Venue Providers - Taxi, Limo, Shuttle, and Buses

- Overly willing to run sensitive routes and pick-ups
- Seek additional access or are encountered outside of duty areas
- Park for extended time or in restricted area, possibly to observe security responses
- Conduct surveillance of persons or vehicles passing through secured areas who are making or attempting to make unusual deliveries

Note: There may be a legitimate and lawful reason why these indicators are observed. Some of the activities, taken individually, could be innocent. We are asking you to determine when that is not the case so that the circumstances may 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. It is important to remember that just because someone’s speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different does not mean that he or she is suspicious.

What Should I Do?

Be part of the solution.

✓ Require valid ID from all employees, contractors and visitors.
✓ Maintain employment and dismissal records. Report all dismissals and separations to credential office promptly.
✓ 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.

CONTACT: FBI Chicago Division
Joint Terrorism Task Force
312-421-6700

Ask to speak to the JTTF Supervisor or Special Event Coordinator

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