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.*

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 a review of terrorist events over several years.