





## **Communities Against Terrorism** 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.

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 new customers.
- ✓ 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.

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This project was supported by Grant Number 2007-MU-BX-K002, awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Each indictor listed above, is 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.