

Terrorism Quick Reference Card

California Department of Consumer Affairs

TERRORISM QUICK REFERENCE CARD

Security officers should be aware of suspicious factors that may indicate a possible terrorist threat. These factors should be considered collectively in assessing a possible threat. This quick reference guide is intended to provide practical information for you but may not encompass every threat or circumstance. Follow your post orders to contact someone for assistance or information.

SUSPICIOUS FACTORS TO CONSIDER

1. Possible Suicide Bomber Indicators—A.L.E.R.T.

- A. Alone and nervous
- B. Loose and/or bulky clothing (may not fit weather conditions)
- C. Exposed wires (possibly through sleeve)
- D. Rigid mid-section (explosive device or may be carrying a rifle)
- E. Tightened hands (may hold detonation device)

2. Passport History

- A. Recent travel overseas to countries that sponsor terrorism
- B. Multiple passports with different countries/names (caution: suspect may have dual citizenship)
- C. Altered passport numbers or photo substitutions; pages have been removed

3. Other Identification—Suspicious Characteristics

- A. No current or fixed address; fraudulent/altered: Social Security cards, visas, licenses, etc; multiple IDs with names spelled differently
- B. International drivers' ID
 - 1. There are no international or UN drivers' licenses—they are called permits
 - 2. Official international drivers' permits are valid for one year from entry into the U.S., they are paper-gray in color, not laminated, and are only valid for foreign nationals to operate in the U.S.

4. Employment/School/Training

- A. No obvious signs of employment
- B. Possess student visa but not English proficient
- C. An indication of military type training in weapons or self-defense

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5. Unusual Items in Vehicles/Residences

- A. Training manuals; flight, scuba, explosive, military, or extremist literature
- B. Blueprints (subject may have no affiliation with architecture)
- C. Photographs/diagrams of specific high profile targets or infrastructures; to include entrances/exits of buildings, bridges, power/water plants, routes, security cameras, subway/sewer, and underground systems
- D. Photos/pictures of known terrorists
- E. Numerous prepaid calling cards and/or cell phones
- F. Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) unit
- G. Multiple hotel receipts
- H. Financial records indicating overseas wire transfers
- I. Rental vehicles (cash transactions on receipts; living locally but renting)

6. Potential Props

- A. Baby stroller or shopping cart
- B. Suspicious bag/backpack, golf bag
- C. Bulky vest or belt

7. Hotel/motel visits

- A. Unusual requests, such as:
 - 1. Refusal of maid service
 - 2. Asking for a specific view of bridges, airports, military/government installation (for observation purposes)
 - 3. Electronic surveillance equipment in room
- B. Suspicious or unusual items left behind
- C. Use of lobby or other pay phone instead of room phone

8. Recruitment techniques

CAUTION: the following factors, which may constitute activity protected by the United States Constitution, should only be considered in the context of other suspicious activity and not be the sole basis for security officer action.

- A. Public demonstrations and rallies
- B. Information about new groups forming
- C. Posters, fliers, and underground publications

9. Thefts, Purchases, or Discovery of:

- A. Weapons/explosive materials
- B. Camera/surveillance equipment
- C. Vehicles (to include rentals—fraudulent name; or failure to return vehicle)
- D. Radios: short-wave, two-way and scanners
- E. Identity documents (State IDs, passports, etc.)
- F. Unauthorized uniforms