

# **Communities Against Terrorism**

### 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, law enforcement, 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, including hydrogen peroxide bottles.
  - Fuel or fuel containers.
  - Weapons, ammunition, and explosives.
  - Extremist training manuals or literature.
  - Fraudulent credit cards or documents.
- Parked vehicles in isolated areas.

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.

- ✓ 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.

## 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.