



**BJA** Bureau of Justice Assistance

**FBI** Federal Bureau of Investigation



# 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, police, 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.
  - 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.*

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### 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.

