## Rental Properties

### What should I consider suspicious?

**SUSPICIOUS PURCHASING ACTIVITY**
- Use cash for large transactions or a credit card in someone else’s name.
- Make unusual inquiries about local sites, including government, military, law enforcement, communications, and power facilities.
- Refuse maintenance or service over an extended time.
- Use entrances and exits that avoid the lobby.
- Abandon a property.
- Do not appear to be using a property for its intended purpose.
- Receive an unusual number of package deliveries.

**SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES**
- Reports of:
  - Burn marks or discoloration on walls or doors.
  - Unusual odors or liquids seeping from a property.
  - Unusual amounts of traffic.
  - Parked vehicles in isolated areas.
- Unknown persons asking for directions to sensitive areas on a property, including utility and security rooms.
- Properties that contain furniture or surveillance equipment that is inconsistent with the intended use.
- Discovery of unusual items at a property or dumpsters:
  - Fertilizer or agricultural products.
  - Chemicals or chemical containers.
  - Fuel or fuel containers.
  - Weapons, ammunition, and explosives.
  - Extremist training manuals or literature.
- Unusual requests for schematics or blueprints of a property.
- Locks being replaced without permission.
- Modifications to a property that are designed to conceal storage areas.

### What should I do?

**BE PART OF THE SOLUTION.**
- Require valid ID from all new renters.
- Keep records of transactions.
- Talk to renters, 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.

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To report suspicious activity, please call 1-877-OHS-INTEL (877-647-4683) or by logging onto HTTP://HOMELANDSECURITY.OHIO.GOV.

In the event of an emergency, please dial 911.

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It is important to remember that just because a person’s speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different, it does not mean that person is suspicious.

Some of the indicators listed above are, by themselves, 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, the totality of behavioral indicators and other relevant circumstances should be evaluated when considering any law enforcement response or action.

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