



NEW JERSEY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING

INDICATORS AND EXAMPLES



DEFINED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND POTENTIAL TERRORISM NEXUS ACTIVITY

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p>AVIATION ACTIVITY: Learning to operate or operating an aircraft, or interfering with the operation of an aircraft in a manner that poses a threat of harm to people or property and that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person. Such activity may or may not be a violation of federal aviation regulations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal air traffic control reported two cockpit illumination incidents involving an aircraft occurring at night and during the takeoff phase of flight. The reports revealed that the green laser beam in both incidents originated from the same geographic area, near a major airport along the NJ Turnpike. These findings indicate the likelihood of purposeful acts by the same individual. • A drone was observed hovering 100 feet above a municipal town hall. The drone abruptly flew toward a water treatment plant in the area of a bridge, and near a large surge tank located on the plant's property.
<p>CYBERATTACK: Compromising or attempting to compromise or disrupt an organization's information technology infrastructure.</p> <p>NOTE: Unless there is a nexus to terrorism, report a cyber incident in New Jersey to the NJCCIC at NJCCIC@cyber.nj.gov.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A financial company's server was taken down for several hours through a cyberattack. The attacker self-identified as a member of an extremist group. • A chief information officer reported the attempted intrusion of the State's computer network by a group that has claimed responsibility for a series of hacks and distributed denial-of-service attacks on government and corporate targets.
<p>EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED THREAT: Communicating a spoken or written threat to commit a crime that will result in death or bodily injury to another person or persons, or to damage or compromise a facility/ infrastructure or secured protected site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual called a courthouse and stated, "There is a bomb in the building." The clerk hung up the phone. The individual called again and stated, "There is a bomb. Everyone needs to run now." The bomb squad responded to conduct a sweep of the property. • A three-page letter was received at a middle school and forwarded to local police. The letter discusses the bullying of students and mentions that a "Parkland-like situation" will likely happen if the teachers do not take an active interest in the students' well-being and safety.
<p>MISREPRESENTATION: Presenting false information or misusing insignia, documents, and/or identification to misrepresent one's affiliation as a means of concealing possible illegal activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two individuals were operating a van with a US Government license plate in the parking lot of a hotel. Further investigation determined that the license plate was fictitious and displayed to create the appearance of a US Government fleet vehicle. • An individual used a stolen uniform from a private security company to gain access to the video-monitoring control room of a shopping mall. Once inside the room, the individual was caught trying to identify the locations of surveillance cameras throughout the entire mall.
<p>SABOTAGE/TAMPERING/VANDALISM: Damaging, manipulating, defacing, or destroying part of a facility/ infrastructure or secured protected site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A light rail authority reported the discovery of a track switch that had been wrapped in a length of chain in an attempt to derail a passenger train car. • An individual spray-painted hate symbols and graffiti on a historical statue in a county park.
<p>THEFT/LOSS/DIVERSION: Stealing or diverting something associated with a facility/infrastructure or secured protected site (e.g., badges, uniforms, identification, emergency vehicles, technology, or documents {classified or unclassified}), which are proprietary to the facility/infrastructure or secured protected site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A military facility reported a vehicle burglary and the theft of an employee's credentials, a secure ID token, and an encrypted thumb drive. • Two individuals broke into a law enforcement officer's residence and stole a safe containing two handguns, uniforms, and badges. The individuals then departed in the officer's vehicle, which was later found on fire behind a business.
<p>TRESPASSING (BREACH/INTRUSION ATTEMPT): Unauthorized personnel attempting to enter or actually entering a restricted area, secured protected site, or nonpublic area. Impersonation of authorized personnel (e.g., police/security officers, janitor, or other personnel).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual breached a security perimeter of an oil refinery. Security was alerted by an electronic alarm and the individual was observed on CCTV. The individual took a selfie in front of a "No Trespassing" sign and other parts of the facility. The individual departed prior to the arrival of security personnel. • An individual was arrested for forcibly entering a restricted area at a rail station. At the time of the arrest, the individual had a backpack containing camera equipment and spray-paint cans.



NEW JERSEY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING

INDICATORS AND EXAMPLES



POTENTIAL CRIMINAL OR NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DURING VETTING

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p>ACQUISITION OF EXPERTISE (TRAINING): Attempts to obtain or conduct training or otherwise obtain knowledge or skills in security concepts, military weapons or tactics, or other unusual capabilities in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual reported that a family member is attempting to travel overseas to acquire training and expertise in firearms use, self-defense, and survival training. • A gun shop owner reported that an individual under the age of 21 had brought multiple groups of students into the gun shop to rent weapons to shoot. They desired to shoot assault rifles and handguns and asked questions about how to evade state and federal laws on weapon possession and transport.
<p>ELICITING INFORMATION: Questioning individuals or otherwise soliciting information at a level beyond mere curiosity about a public or private event or particular facets of a facility's or building's purpose, operations, security procedures, etc., in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A tour bus company servicing a national monument reported that an individual asked a driver many unusual and probing questions about fuel capacity, fuel locations, and fuel frequency. The driver became concerned about the intent of the questioning. The individual was not a passenger. • An individual questioned an employee at a shopping center about how much security was on the property. When questioned by security personnel, the individual changed their questions, asked about renting a wheelchair, and then left without being identified. Security personnel reported that the individual seemed very nervous and that their explanations were not credible.
<p>FINANCING: Providing direct financial support to operations teams and contacts or building operations teams and contacts; compiling personnel data, banking data, or travel data in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An individual reported that a former business associate was recently asked to participate in an ISIS-related operation by providing money to buy equipment. The funding for the operation was reportedly linked to the illegal production of drugs. • An individual reported that his co-worker may be involved in the illegal transfer of motor vehicles. The vehicles are said to be shipped illegally overseas. Some of the proceeds from the shipments may be used as a donation to extremist organizations.
<p>MATERIAL ACQUISITION/STORAGE: Acquisition and/or storage of unusual quantities of materials such as cell phones, pagers, radio control toy servos or controllers; fuel, chemicals, or toxic materials; and timers or other triggering devices, in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A garden center owner reported an individual wanted to purchase large amounts of urea and ammonium sulfate. The owner did not carry these items and became concerned when the individual said they were purchasing the items for their parent, and when questioned, abruptly departed. • A citizen reported that his neighbor had been stockpiling large amounts of gasoline in plastic containers in a shed on their property. The fire department and HazMat teams determined the storage was a public safety hazard and ordered its removal. The individual attempted to pay their bill in cash to avoid any paperwork.
<p>OBSERVATION/SURVEILLANCE: Demonstrating unusual or prolonged interest in facilities, buildings, or infrastructure beyond mere casual (e.g., tourists) or professional (e.g., engineers) interest and in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person. Examples include observation through binoculars, taking notes, attempting to measure distances, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mall security observed an individual following a security vehicle in the parking lot. The individual continued to follow the security vehicle despite various evading maneuvers. He was approached by police after entering the mall and was found to be carrying several knives. • An individual entered a religious facility during services, began moving from pew to pew, and appeared to be using their cell phone to take notes. The individual had been to services two months prior and acted in a disturbing manner that alarmed members of the congregation.



NEW JERSEY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING

INDICATORS AND EXAMPLES



POTENTIAL CRIMINAL OR NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DURING VETTING

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p>PHOTOGRAPHING/VIDEOTAPING: Taking pictures or video of persons, facilities, buildings, or infrastructure in an unusual or surreptitious manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person. Examples include taking pictures or video of infrequently used access points, the superstructure of a bridge, personnel performing security functions (e.g., patrols, badge/vehicle checking), security-related equipment (e.g., perimeter fencing, security cameras), etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A citizen told police that they saw an unknown person crouched in the back of an SUV with the hatchback half open. This person was videotaping a National Guard readiness center. The vehicle was parked on the side of the road, but sped away when the citizen approached. • An individual was observed using their cell phone to take photographs and videos in the lobby of a religious facility. Additionally, the individual asked congregants for permission to post pictures of their prayer book using social media. The facility houses both prayer services and a religious school.
<p>RECRUITING: Attempting to recruit or radicalize others by providing tradecraft advice or distributing propaganda materials in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A van was parked on a street with an advertisement on the vehicle deemed to be anti-American and anti-Christian, including a sign that declared World War III would begin. There was also a website listed on the advertisement, which appeared to contain information on ISIS recruiting. • A missing juvenile had been communicating with overseas groups via social media. There was a concern that extremist influences might be involved. The juvenile left his residence with two cell phones, cash, and was said to have suicidal tendencies. The information was provided by the juvenile's parent.
<p>TESTING OR PROBING OF SECURITY: Deliberate interactions with, or challenges to, installations, personnel, or systems that reveal physical, personnel, or cybersecurity capabilities in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An unattended backpack with visible wires was observed inside a train station. Police were notified and dispatched to the scene, at which time a search of the building was conducted. • An individual discharged a fire extinguisher in a stairwell of a hotel and set off the building's fire alarm. The individual was observed entering the hotel minutes before the alarm sounded, again exiting from the stairwell around the same time as the alarm, and then in the lobby before leaving the hotel.
<p>WEAPONS DISCOVERY: Collection or discovery of unusual amounts or types of weapons, including explosives, chemicals, and other destructive materials, or evidence, detonations or other residue, wounds, or chemical burns, that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After responding to a domestic violence incident, pursuant to a court-authorized search warrant, police located and secured a wide array of firearms and ammunition from a residence. Additionally, two hand grenades were determined to be inert by bomb technicians. • A search of a contractor's vehicle at a security checkpoint in a power plant led to the discovery of a .32-caliber pistol, a .22-caliber long rifle with matching magazine, and 250 rounds of .22-caliber ammunition. The handgun was wrapped in a shirt and the rifle was hidden in a towel in separate parts.

REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN NEW JERSEY: Suspicious activity with a possible nexus to terrorism should be reported immediately, per existing county protocols. Activity can also be reported 24/7 to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness CTWatch Unit at 866-4SAFE-NJ (866-472-3365) or tips@njohsp.gov. For more information on New Jersey's SAR program, please visit www.njohsp.gov/njsars.

NATIONWIDE SAR INITIATIVE (NSI) RESOURCES: This summary was prepared with material from the Nationwide SAR Initiative found at <https://nsi.ncirc.gov>.

SAR DEFINITIONS AND THRESHOLDS: Per NSI requirements, SARs must be based on "observed behavior reasonably indicative of pre-operational planning related to terrorism or other criminal activity." Race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, and sexual orientation are not factors creating suspicion, but these attributes may be documented to support suspect description for identification purposes.