



RESTAURANTS

BusinessSafe is based on the idea that certain businesses and industries may be exploited by terrorists who portray themselves as honest customers seeking to purchase, lease or somehow appropriate certain materials, licenses and/or services to covertly further a terrorist plot.

The following are general indicators of potential terrorist planning or activities. Alone, each indicator can result from legitimate recreational or commercial activities or criminal activity not related to terrorism; however, multiple indicators combined with other information may possibly suggest a terrorist threat.

- Physical surveillance, which may include note taking or the use of binoculars, cameras or maps near key facilities.
- Attempts to gain sensitive information regarding key facilities or personnel through personal contact or by telephone, mail or e-mail.
- Attempts to penetrate or test physical security and response procedures at key facilities.
- Attempts to improperly acquire explosives, weapons, ammunition, dangerous chemicals, flight manuals or other materials which could be used in a terrorist attack.
- Suspicious or improper attempts to acquire official vehicles, uniforms, badges, access cards or identification for key facilities.
- Presence of individuals who do not appear to belong in the workplace, business establishment or near a key facility.
- Behavior which appears to denote planning for terrorist activity, such as mapping out routes, playing out scenarios, monitoring key facilities and timing traffic flow or signals.
- Stockpiling suspicious materials or abandoning potential containers for explosives (e.g., vehicles or suitcases).

The following examples of activity relating to Restaurants, though not fully inclusive, may be of **possible** concern to law enforcement:

- Individuals bringing or attempting to bring unusual packages into the premises.
- Unusual inquiries made by individuals regarding specific events scheduled at your restaurant or regarding your clientele (i.e., questions about the guest list, the purpose of the event [i.e., fundraising dinner], the type of security in place, etc.).
- Specific inquiries made by an unknown third party concerning the table reservations of another individual.
- Overheard conversations in which individuals or patrons make unusual or alarming statements.

- Evidence of possible food tampering to wholesale goods and food items supplied to the restaurant.
- Individuals videotaping or photographing the premises for no apparent reason.
- Individuals loitering outside or inside the restaurant for an extended period of time for no apparent reason (i.e., taking notes, watching patrons enter and exit, etc.).
- Suspicious vehicles parked outside your restaurant.
- The appearance of different street vendors in the sidewalk area outside the restaurant.

Your impressions and assessment based upon your professional business experience are extremely valuable and should help guide you in determining if a customer request, a fact pattern, or set of circumstances is unusual.

Please remember that the conduct of an individual will not necessarily be criminal in nature. Suspicious incidents should be reported immediately to your local law enforcement agency, Crime Stoppers, or your regional FDLE office. You may also email a tip regarding a suspicious incident utilizing the link on the [BusinessSafe homepage](#).

For all emergencies, call “911.”