

# TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY



IN OBSCURA LLC  
THREAT INTELLIGENCE – SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES- INVESTIGATIONS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA  
<https://inobscura.org/>

*Judges 6:12 ESV And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, “The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor.”*

## THREAT WARNING - HOLIDAY 2025

5 DECEMBER 2025

## CHURCH THREAT LEVEL – URGENT

### Psalm 91:4-6

*He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and <sup>[a]</sup>buckler. <sup>5</sup> You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, <sup>6</sup> Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.*

KNOW THE TARGET – WATCH THE TARGET – LOOK DEEPER – EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

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**WARNING: THE THREAT LEVEL FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON IS URGENT AND REQUIRES HIGH VIGILANCE INCREASED SURVEILLANCE BY CHURCH SECURITY FORCES. REMEMBER IN OBSCURA HAS WARNED ON THE TARGET SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION AGAINST CHURCHES.**

“... And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force...” Matthew 11:12 New King James Version

### ANALYST COMMENT

Terrorist targets are both symbolic and pragmatic, complex (large) and simple (small) tactical operations. The core of the definition of terrorism is FEAR. Violence or the threat of it deeply pervades the minds and hearts of actual victims, and influence a target audience, well beyond the attack location. Terrorism is the systematic and calculated use of fear to achieve political, ideological, and religious goals and objectives. We are at war. Terrorism is simply one of several weapons coming at us.

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**We face an enemy who believes one of his chief weapons is that none but he will employ terror. But we will turn terror against him – or we will cease to exist.”**

**— William J. Donovan, Director Office of Strategic Services. 1942.**

But they seem keenly aware that turning holidays into horror can carry greater shock and terror. Holidays provide a deeper emotional attack. As a brief reminder of the URGENCY of each Christmas season as a very attractive, proven, symbolic target is provided. Some of these are:

### **2025 NEW ORLEANS, NEW YEARS DAY (COMPLEX ATTACK) (COMBAT TTP)**

Vehicle Ram Attack, Islamic attack 3:15 a.m. CST (**EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED**) following what unclassified source depict as focused pre-operational planning.

**COMMENT: Prior In Obscura reporting has focused and reemphasized here is the known and undisclosed target surveillance and related intelligence collection activities most have refused to share and fail to collaborate to detect, report and move to neutralize.**

Shamsud-Din Jabbar, a 42-year-old male (USCITZ) **convert** to Islam, rammed a pickup truck into a crowd on Bourbon Street in New Orleans, Louisiana, then exited the truck and engaged in a shootout with police before himself being fatally shot. Fourteen victims were killed, plus the perpetrator, and at least fifty-seven others were injured, including two police officers who were shot. The attack occurred during New Year celebrations in the city, which was scheduled to host the 2025 Sugar Bowl later that day.

### **2024 Terror Attack In Christmas Market – Magdeburg, Germany**

On 20 December 2024, a terror attack [occurred](#) at a Christmas market in Magdeburg, Germany, when a Saudi doctor, Taleb A, drove a BMW into the crowd, killing five people and injuring over 60 others. The suspect, a psychiatrist living in Germany since 2006, was arrested after the car traveled 400 meters through the market. An explosive device was also found in his vehicle. The incident raised fears of Islamist-motivated attacks, following warnings about Christmas markets being potential targets.

<https://twitter.com/dpatrikarakos/status/1870198411296739557>

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### **Cologne 2023 Cathedral Attack On New Year’s Eve Plot Thwarted**

On 31 December 2023, German police [arrested](#) three Tajik suspects in Vienna for allegedly planning a terror attack targeting Cologne Cathedral on New Year’s Eve. The group, believed to have ties with the Islamic State-Khorasan (IS-K), an ISIS offshoot operating in Afghanistan, was reportedly preparing the attack in support of the terrorist organization.

### **Fulani Militias Kill 200 In Plateau State Christmas Attack In 2023**

On Christmas Eve, 24 December 2023, [suspected](#) Fulani militias attacked 21 Christian villages across Plateau State, killing nearly 200 people. The violence occurred in Bokkos, Barkin Ladi, and Mangu counties, with villages such as Bokkos suffering the highest toll. Amnesty International confirmed 194 deaths, while the Nigerian Red Cross reported 161 fatalities and over 32,000 displaced. Attacks, lasting over seven hours, left homes and churches burned.

### **Boko Haram Kills 2 Christians On Christmas Day In 2023**

On Christmas Day, 25 December 2023, Boko Haram militants [attacked](#) a Christian village in northeastern Nigeria, killing two Christians. The terrorists set houses on fire, looted shops, and used guns and machetes in the attack. Many others were injured, and numerous homes were destroyed. A local resident reported that the terrorists attacked with deadly weapons, causing widespread damage and suffering in the community. The attack, attributed to the extremist group Boko Haram, further escalates the ongoing violence against Christians in the region.

### **Teenagers Plot 2023 Christmas Market Attack in Germany**

On 28 November 2023, two German teenagers were [arrested](#) for plotting a terrorist attack on a Christmas market in Leverkusen, western Germany. The 15-year-old boy from North Rhine-Westphalia and the 16-year-old from Brandenburg planned to drive a rented truck through the market to kill as many people as possible, targeting “unbelievers.” The 15-year-old had posted about the attack in a chat group, with a video showing an Islamic State (IS) symbol. The court sentenced the 15-year-old to four years in youth custody for his involvement in the plot.

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### **Boko Haram Attack On Christmas Eve In Nigeria In 2020**

On 25 December 2020, Boko Haram [militants](#) attacked the predominantly Christian village of Pemi in Borno State, Nigeria, killing at least 11 people. The attackers, coming from the Sambisa forest enclave, set fire to a church, looted food and medicines meant for Christmas distribution, and burned the local hospital. Villagers fled, with some still unaccounted for. This attack follows a pattern of violence by Boko Haram, who aim to overthrow the government and establish an Islamic state. The conflict has killed over 36,000 people and displaced millions in northeastern Nigeria.

### **Austria Foils Terror Plot Targeting Christmas Markets In 2019**

On 17 December 2019, Austrian authorities [thwarted](#) a plot to carry out a series of terror attacks, including a bombing at Vienna's Christmas market. The plot involved three men, including a 24-year-old ringleader influenced by Islamic State (IS) ideology.

Other potential targets included Salzburg and locations in Germany, France, and Luxembourg. The ringleader, who was already in prison after two failed attempts to join IS, continued to communicate with accomplices via mobile phone. The two other suspects, aged 25 and 31, were arrested. All three men are ethnic Chechens.

### **2016 Berlin Christmas Market Attack**

On 19 December 2016, Anis Amri, a 24-year-old Tunisian, [rammed](#) a truck into Berlin's Christmas market, killing 12 people. Before the attack, he sent a selfie and a chilling message to a contact, saying, "Pray for me." Amri, who had been under surveillance by German authorities for his links to radical Islamism, had also pledged allegiance to ISIS. The truck attack, Germany's deadliest jihadist attack, raised questions about security failures. Amri was later shot dead by Italian police in Milan on December 23, after a Europe-wide manhunt.

### **2015 San Bernardino Attack**

**On 2 December 2015, Syed Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, [opened](#) fire at a holiday party in San Bernardino, California, killing 14 people and injuring 22 others. The attack occurred after Farook, who had attended a mandatory training with holiday decorations, posed with colleagues in front of a Christmas tree. Malik reportedly objected to the event, which may have motivated the attack. The couple was later**

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**killed in a shootout with police. Investigations revealed they had planned the attack, with evidence linking them to ISIS, and they had left behind undetonated bombs.**

### **2014 Dijon Attack**

On 22 December 2014, a driver plowed into Christmas shoppers in Dijon, France, [shouting](#) “Allahu Akbar,” injuring 11 people, including five with serious injuries. The incident followed a series of attacks in France. The driver believed to be in his 40s and with a history of mental illness, stabbed himself after the attack. Although local authorities ruled out terrorism, the attack came a day after a similar assault in Dijon.

### **2013 Christmas Day Bombings In Baghdad**

On 26 December 2013, two car bomb attacks in southern Baghdad targeted Christians [celebrating](#) Christmas, killing at least 38 people and injuring over 70. A bomb outside a church killed 27 worshipers and wounded 56, while another explosion at a nearby market left 11 dead and 14 injured. The U.S. Embassy condemned the attacks, emphasizing the ongoing vulnerability of Iraq’s Christian community, which has faced increasing sectarian violence.

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Numerous sources, government, NGO and news media reported over the last ten years the escalation of global Christian genocide and attacks across the west. In Obscura has increased reporting and analysis depicting the urgent threat and the coming Holiday season. Islamic-Communist anarchist groups are well trained, well equipped and experienced and committed to violence. The lone attackers are as well, citing the alleged careful patient work over weeks to months of by the New Orleans attacker, DC Pipe bomber, and the LDS Temple attacker as recent examples.

In Obscura’s professional experience with myriad threat vectors is aware of many instances of these “refugees” disappearing from the camps on military bases in the US. As well, the unimaginable number of undetected and “got aways” and an open US border as infiltrations with as foreign intelligence and special operators with missions inside the U.S.

Prior In Obscura reporting provided open-source intelligence on target intelligence collection and physical surveillance of Christians (churches related buildings, equities).

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In Obscura analyzed the terror and criminal threat repeatedly and will continue as The Lord directs.

Tactics, Techniques and Procedures of attack elements (direct action violence cells), fortified by intelligence collection cells (target surveillance, elicitation, tests of security, swatting among them) have already been completed and will continue against churches, Christian organizations and their community support outreach and facilities. Open-source media alone proliferated over recent years on successful attacks, of which most US Christians are oblivious. In Obscura has engaged in several conversations to yes, elicit their level awareness and concern. Without exception, most were completely unaware of the threats, the attacks.

The merger of forces (known as mutual aid) of terror groups (red-green alliance) foreign with US domestic continues the pre-attack planning and dry runs. A body of reporting over several years and church attack analysis products in news media, classified US government reporting. anarchist websites and social media collectively portray the urgency of preparation detection by churches early in the pre-attack cycle. Should this fail, security forces must activate well trained neutralization operations to terminate the threat. Preferably before they gain access to their targets, like the Wayne, Michigan attack.

Jihad open publications such as Inspire, ISIS's Dabiq and Rumiya, and Al-Shabaab's Gaidi Mtaani and continuing red-green alliance anarchist websites, publications outward projection during civil disobedience, marches, protests all provide indicators that church security forces must understand. These continually inspires individual action (so called lone wolf) and the members to plan and execute attacks. It is highly probable that from these numerous "lone" wolves become well known and through verification testing are recruited and handled as vetted agents of terror organizations.

The **tactical guerilla operations** against US immigration enforcement further display the overt and committed capability of these groups, foreign intelligence trained. In Obscura has highlighted the assessment that here was and remains a calculated operational intent since the Floyd riots, Black Lives Matter, Defund the Police and others.

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Now with the operational escalation of the immigration target, what In Obscura assessed as pushing to come from Low Intensity and Direct-Action conflicts into full insurgency and guerilla war is upon us. Much if these tactics and operations were deployed to churches and Christian equities after the Roe v Wade SCOTUS reversal. These were planned and trained for in advance as well as the leakage of the court documents.

Church arsons in Europe and Canada over the ensuing escalation, many underway in the US with a church community oblivious and reticent. Recently, In Obscura Weekly news has reported several in the US recently.

**The recent arrest of the DC Pipe bomber should be a stark reminder for every church and church security professional that being oblivious is deadly.**

The current US threat environment poised by the escalation of anarchist violence across many target objectives concurrently. In Obscura has emphasized with HIGH confidence these are foreign intelligence-controlled operations in continuance of the same during the antiwar Vietnam era.

Those were a remarkable success mission of their objectives and priority intelligence requirements and foreign policy objectives. We see its continuance today with skillful political vitriol by activists in government positions, mass media talk shows actresses, and actors inciting fear, anxiety, anger and distrust turned revolution. Enemy elements both foreign and domestic have assessed this weakened state ripe for exploitation, thusly In Obscura's threat warnings and assessments specific to Christians and the security of our nation.

**There have been three Afghan national terrorist arrested in recent days that was brought into the country by the Biden Administration under Operation Allies Welcome**

**KEEP IN MIND THE ONGOING GLOBAL CHRISTIAN WAR GENOCIDE AND REPEATED ATTACKS, RECENTLY AS POST ROE V WADE AGAINST CHURCHES AND CHRISTIAN PREGNANCY CENTERS, AND THE ASSASINATION OF A KEY TARGET FOR THEM, CHARLIE KIRK. THIS IS THE RED GREEN ALLIANCE. THIS IS WHY IN OBSCURA WAS FOUNDED, AFTER HIS VOICE INSIDE ME SPOKE IT INTO EXISTENCE. THIS WAS ON THE**

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**HEELS OF YEARS OF CHRISTIAN REJECTION TO MY EFFORTS. WE MUST PRAY AND STAND UP. WITH THAT, THIS:**

### **RECENT RAW INTELLIGENCE**

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Kristi Noem today announced U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) agents arrested Jaan Shah Safi, an Afghan national who entered the United States under Biden’s “Operation Allies Welcome,” who provided support to the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria-Khorasan (ISIS-K). He also provided weapons to his father who is a commander of a militia group in Afghanistan. This terrorist was arrested in Waynesboro, Virginia.

Safi is an illegal alien terrorist who entered the U.S. on September 8, 2021, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, under the Biden administration’s Operation Allies Welcome. He applied for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), but his application was terminated once Secretary Noem ended TPS for Afghans. On December 3, 2025, under the leadership of President Trump and Secretary Noem, ICE arrested Safi.

“Today, our heroic ICE officers arrested Jaan Shah Safi, a terrorist who provided material support to ISIS-K. The Biden administration brought this terrorist into the U.S. under the disastrous Operation Allies Welcome program. This terrorist was arrested miles from our nation’s capital where our brave National Guard heroes, Sarah Beckstrom and Andrew Wolfe, were shot just days ago by another unvetted Afghan terrorist brought into our country,” said Secretary Kristi Noem. “The Biden administration created one of the worst national security crises in American history. Biden let into our country nearly 190,000 unvetted Afghan aliens — only determining who they were and their intentions when they were already on American soil. President Trump has been working every day since January 20 to clean up this unmitigated national security crisis.”

The Biden administration relied on unvetted referrals to admit nearly 190,000 Afghan nationals into the U.S. Understanding this massive threat to American national security, the Trump administration halted Afghan refugee resettlement on January 20. President Trump also suspended entry of Afghan nationals. The protection and safety of Americans and our homeland will remain our singular focus and mission.

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**This marks the third arrest of an Afghan national terrorist released into the country by the Biden administration in less than a week.**

On November 26, 2025, Rahmanullah Lakanwal, who was also released into the country under Operation Allies Welcome, committed a terror and ambush-style attack on two National Guard members blocks away from the White House.

On November 25, one day before the attack, Mohammad Dawood Alokozay, who was also released into the U.S. under Biden's Operation Allies Welcome, was arrested by local authorities and the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force for making bomb threats in Fort Worth, Texas. Mohammad Dawood Alokozay posted a video of himself on TikTok indicating he was building a bomb with an intended target in the Fort Worth area. Alokozay was charged with making terroristic threats. (END)

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on Thursday announced the arrests of multiple Afghan nationals released into the U.S. by the Biden administration during Operation Allies Refuge and Operation Allies Welcome, with convictions for crimes including kidnapping and child fondling.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said the Biden administration created "one of the worst and most complex national security crises in American history," which the Trump administration has been working to remedy.

The announcement comes after it was uncovered the suspect accused of killing one National Guard member and wounding another in a Nov. 26 Washington, D.C., ambush, was an Afghan national vetted by the CIA in Afghanistan.

The Department of State has paused all visas for individuals traveling on Afghan passports.

### **France at Christmas**

A nation that has experienced continual guerilla

This is not exactly reassuring news! Faced with a terrorist threat level deemed "very high," the Minister of the Interior Laurent Nunez sent a telegram to the prefects asking them to

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implement a Increased vigilance around Christmas markets currently being organized throughout the country. This message, sent at the beginning of December, aims to remind people that these festive gathering places remain particularly vulnerable during the end-of-year period, especially due to the massive crowds and symbolic appeal they represent.

In this document, the minister insists on the need to immediately strengthen protection measures, recalling that Christmas markets have already been targeted in the past and that they still constitute sensitive environments requiring specific security attention.

### **A total mobilization of the intelligence services**

Laurent Nunez is asking the prefects for a “Maximum vigilance” and calls for a full mobilization of intelligence services to detect and prevent any attempt at violent action. He emphasizes that prevention must rely on the rapid flow of information, increased surveillance, and strengthened coordination between the various services involved.

The minister emphasized the need to strengthen existing security measures, adapting systems to visitor numbers and taking into account the risks associated with potential opportunistic attacks. The goal is to limit any logistical or organizational vulnerabilities that could be exploited.

Temporary restrictions and the use of video surveillance as a preventative measure  
In his telegram, Laurent Nunez calls for particular attention to be paid to the management of pedestrian flow, a point he considers essential to guaranteeing public safety. He recommends optimizing market entrances and exits, implementing appropriate controls, and ensuring smooth traffic flow in densely populated areas.

It also encourages the adoption of temporary orders to limit or prohibit parking and traffic around sites in order to reduce vehicle-related risks and facilitate the work of security forces. The use of video surveillance is also highlighted as a key tool to support prevention and rapid response in the event of an incident.

Laurent Nunez also calls on the authorities to increase the visible presence of law enforcement around Christmas markets.

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This uniform presence, intended as both a deterrent and a reassuring element, should help to better prevent suspicious behavior and allow for more effective intervention if the situation requires it.

**///END///**

### **SOURCES**

**ICE arrests multiple Afghan nationals with criminal convictions released into US by Biden-era programs: DHS** | Suspects have convictions for crimes, including sexual battery, assault and methamphetamine possession

Alexandra Koch By Alexandra Koch Fox News Published December 4, 2025 5:51pm EST

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/ice-arrests-multiple-afghan-nationals-criminal-convictions-released-us-biden-era-programs-dhs?msocid=1a41a966b9c56d8c190bbfebb8996ca3>

**Miles from Nation's Capital, ICE Arrests ISIS-K Afghan Terrorist Who Was Released into the U.S. Under Biden's Operation Allies Welcome**

Release Date: December 3, 2025

<https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/12/03/miles-nations-capital-ice-arrests-isis-k-afghan-terrorist-who-was-released-us-under>

**Christmas Attacks: Part of a Growing Trend of Violence Against Christians**

By Antonio Graceffo on March 6, 2025

<https://providencemag.com/2025/03/christmas-attacks-part-of-a-growing-trend-of-violence-against-christians/>

**Christmas markets: Laurent Nunez calls for heightened vigilance in the face of the terrorist threat** December 4, 2025 Jerome Goulon, Entrevue

<https://entrevue.fr/en/politique/marches-de-noel-laurent-nunez-appelle-a-la-vigilance-renforcee-face-a-la-menace-terroriste/>

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## RESOURCES

# BEAWARE

## An Introduction to Situational Awareness



Paying attention, identifying potential threat situations, deciding on your options to reduce the danger, and taking action

### COOPER'S COLORS – SITUATIONAL AWARENESS LEVELS

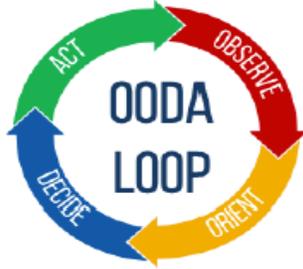
- TUNED OUT**  
OBLIVIOUS, UNPREPARED, DISTRACTED.
- PAYING ATTENTION**  
ALERT, AWARE, BUT RELAXED.
- TUNED IN**  
READY TO ACT, HEIGHTENED STATE OF READINESS.
- RED ALERT!**  
THREAT IDENTIFIED, IMMINENT DANGER, COMMITTING TO ACTION.
- PARALYZED**  
FROZEN, IRRATIONAL BEHAVIOR, UNABLE TO PERFORM.

### ALWAYS **Be**AWARE

- Awareness helps you recognize dangers.
- Awareness helps you plan and develop options as a situation evolves.
- Plans and options = faster reaction time.
- Faster reaction time = improved chances of survival

### MAKING GOOD DECISIONS

- Observe** – Descriptions and behaviors give us information.
- Orient** – Put into context...is this unusual?
- Decide** – Making plans and having options is good!
- Act** – Take action! Then loop again.



### PRACTICE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

### IS IT SUSPICIOUS ?

 <h4>People</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Concealing identity</li><li>Inappropriate clothing</li><li>Loitering (locations/hours)</li><li>Nervousness</li><li>Probing security</li><li>Surveillance activities</li><li>Signs of intoxication</li><li>Trying to blend in</li></ul>	 <h4>Vehicles</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Multiple occupants</li><li>No license plate</li><li>Overloaded</li><li>Parked in unusual places</li><li>Repeated drive-bys</li><li>Suspicious cargo</li><li>Unlawfully parked</li><li>Unoccupied but running</li></ul>
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**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!**

DutyDesk@SecureCommunityNetwork.org | 844-SCN-DESK | @Official\_SCN | Secure Community Network | SECURECOMMUNITYNETWORK.ORG

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## Suspicious Activity Reporting Indicators and Examples

*Updated indicators and newly added examples from the February 2015 release of the ISE-SAR Functional Standard*

### DEFINED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND POTENTIAL TERRORISM NEXUS ACTIVITY

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p><b>BREACH/ATTEMPTED INTRUSION</b> 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"><li>At 1:30 a.m., an individual breached a security perimeter of a hydroelectric dam complex. Security personnel were alerted by an electronic alarm and observed the subject on CCTV, taking photos of himself in front of a "No Trespassing" sign and of other parts of the complex. The subject departed prior to the arrival of security personnel.</li><li>A railroad company reported to police officers that video surveillance had captured images of three individuals illegally entering a train station to gain access to a restricted-access tunnel and taking photos of the tunnel.</li></ul>
<p><b>MISREPRESENTATION</b> 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"><li>A state bureau of motor vehicles employee discovered a fraudulent driver's license in the possession of an individual applying to renew the license. A criminal investigator determined that the individual had also fraudulently acquired a passport in the same name and used it to make several extended trips to countries where terrorist training has been documented.</li><li>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 subject was caught trying to identify the locations of surveillance cameras throughout the entire mall.</li></ul>
<p><b>THEFT/LOSS/DIVERSION</b> 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"><li>A federal aerospace facility reported a vehicle burglary and the theft of an employee's identification credential, a secure ID token, and an encrypted thumb drive.</li><li>An explosives ordnance company reported a burglary of a storage trailer. Items stolen included electric initiators, radios, and other items that could be used in connection with explosives.</li></ul>
<p><b>SABOTAGE/TAMPERING/VANDALISM</b> Damaging, manipulating, defacing, or destroying part of a facility/infrastructure or secured protected site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A light-rail authority reported the discovery of a track switch that had been wrapped in a length of chain in a possible attempt to derail a passenger train car.</li><li>A natural gas company reported the deliberate removal of gas meter plugs on the "customer side" in two separate locations approximately a quarter of a mile apart. One location was a government facility. The discovery was made as the government facility's sensor detected the threat of an explosion.</li></ul>

To reach the DHS NSI Program Management Office, please contact: [NTER.NSI@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:NTER.NSI@hq.dhs.gov)  
Website: <https://www.dhs.gov/nsi>

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# TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

## TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

### DEFINED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND POTENTIAL TERRORISM NEXUS ACTIVITY (CONTINUED)

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p><b>CYBERATTACK</b> Compromising or attempting to compromise or disrupt an organization's information technology infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A federal credit union reported it was taken down for two and a half hours through a cyberattack, and the attacker was self-identified as a member of a terrorist organization.</li><li>• A state's 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.</li></ul>
<p><b>EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED THREAT</b> 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"><li>• A customer-experience feedback agency received a call from a watchlisted individual stating, "Wait till they see what we do to the ATF, IRS, NSA."</li><li>• A military museum received a threatening letter containing a white powder. The letter claimed a full-scale anthrax attack had been launched in retaliation for crimes committed by the U.S. Armed Forces.</li></ul>
<p><b>AVIATION ACTIVITY</b> 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"><li>• Federal air traffic control personnel reported two separate laser beam cockpit illumination incidents involving different commercial airliners occurring at night and during the take-off phase of flight. The reports revealed that the laser beam in both incidents originated from the same general geographic area, near a major airport on the East Coast. These findings indicate the likelihood of purposeful acts by the same individual.</li><li>• A chemical facility representative reported an unauthorized helicopter hovering within 50 feet of a chemical tank located in a posted restricted area. An FAA registry search of the tail number was negative, indicating use of an unregistered number, which suggests an attempt to conceal the identity of the plane's owner and/or its place of origin.</li></ul>

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

<p><b>ELICITING INFORMATION</b> 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"><li>• A tour bus company servicing one of the nation's national monuments reported that a male subject asked a driver many unusual and probing questions about fuel capacity, fueling locations, and fueling frequency such that the driver became very concerned about the intent of the questioning. The male subject was not a passenger.</li><li>• A guest services employee at a shopping center was questioned by an individual about how much security was on the property. The employee contacted security personnel, who confronted the individual. When questioned by security personnel, the individual quickly changed his questions to renting a wheelchair and then left without being identified. Security personnel reported that the individual seemed very nervous and that his explanations were not credible.</li></ul>
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**TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY**

## TLP CLEAR – IN OBSCURA CAVEATS APPLY

### POTENTIAL CRIMINAL OR NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DURING VETTING (CONTINUED)

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TESTING OR PROBING OF SECURITY</b></p> <p>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"> <li>An individual who refused to identify himself to facility personnel at a shipping port reported that he was representing the governor’s office and wanted to access the secure area of a steel manufacturer’s space. He was inquiring about the presence of foreign military personnel. The individual fled when he realized that personnel were contacting the security office about his activities. He ran through the lobby and departed in a vehicle with an out-of-state license plate and containing two other individuals.</li> <li>An individual discharged a fire extinguisher in a stairwell of a hotel and set off the building’s fire alarm. This individual was observed entering the hotel approximately two minutes before the alarm sounded, was observed exiting from the stairwell at about the same time as the alarm, and then was observed in the lobby area before leaving the hotel.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RECRUITING/FINANCING</b></p> <p>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"> <li>A prison inmate reported an effort to radicalize inmates nearing release toward violence. According to the plan, released inmates would go to a particular location for the purpose of obtaining information about attending an overseas terrorist training camp.</li> <li>An individual reported that a former friend and business associate (a chemist) had recently asked him to participate in a terrorist-cell operation by providing funding to purchase needed equipment. The funding for the operation was reportedly linked to the illegal production of drugs.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b></p> <p>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"> <li>A citizen reported to local police that she saw an unknown male crouched down in the back of an SUV with the hatchback open half-way. The subject was videotaping a National Guard readiness center. The vehicle was parked on the side of the road but sped away when the citizen began to approach the vehicle. The citizen could not provide a license tag number.</li> <li>A citizen observed a female subject taking photographs of a collection of chemical storage containers in the vicinity of the port. The subject was hiding in some bushes while taking photographs of the storage tanks. The citizen reported this information to the city’s port police. When the port police officer arrived and approached the subject, she ran to a nearby vehicle and sped off.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>OBSERVATION/SURVEILLANCE</b></p> <p>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 mark off or measure distances, etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A mall security officer observed a person walking through the mall, filming at waist level, and stopping at least twice to film his complete surroundings, floor to ceiling. The subject became nervous when he detected security personnel observing his behavior. Once detained, the subject explained that he came to the mall to walk around and was simply videotaping the mall for his brother. The camera contained 15 minutes of mall coverage and footage of a public train system, along with zoomed photos of a bus.</li> <li>Military pilots reported that occupants of multiple vehicles were observing and photographing in the area of residences of the military pilots. The pilots are responsible for the transport of special forces units. The report was made once the pilots realized that they had been individually surveyed by occupants of multiple vehicles during the same time period.</li> </ul>

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### POTENTIAL CRIMINAL OR NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION DURING VETTING (CONTINUED)

BEHAVIORS/DESCRIPTIONS	EXAMPLES
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MATERIALS ACQUISITION/ STORAGE</b></p> <p>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"> <li>A garden center owner reported an individual in his twenties seeking to purchase 40 pounds of urea and 30 pounds of ammonium sulfate. The owner does not carry these items and became suspicious when the individual said he was purchasing the items for his mother and then abruptly departed the business.</li> <li>A female reported that a man wanted to borrow her car to purchase fertilizer to add to the 3,000 pounds he had already acquired. When asked why he was acquiring fertilizer, he responded that he was going to "make something go boom." The subject lives in a storage unit and utilizes several other storage units at the location.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ACQUISITION OF EXPERTISE</b></p> <p>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"> <li>A fusion center received information on a watch-listed individual who was making repeated attempts to gain a hazardous materials endorsement for his commercial driver's license even though his immigration status made him ineligible.</li> <li>A complaint was received from a gun shop about an individual under the age of 21 who 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 get around state and federal laws on weapon possession and transport.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WEAPONS COLLECTION/ DISCOVERY</b></p> <p>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"> <li>A city employee discovered a backpack near a park bench along the route of a planned Martin Luther King Day march in the city. The backpack contained an improvised explosive device.</li> <li>A suspicious person call resulted in the discovery of three individuals possessing hand-held radios, a military-grade periscope, a 7mm Magnum scoped rifle, an AK-74 assault rifle, a pistol-gripped shotgun, a semi-automatic handgun, a bandolier of shotgun ammunition, dozens of loaded handgun magazines, dozens of AK-74 magazines, Ghillie suits, several homemade explosive devices constructed of pill bottles, blast simulators, and military clothing.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SECTOR-SPECIFIC INCIDENT</b></p> <p>Actions associated with a characteristic of unique concern to specific sectors (e.g., the public health sector), with regard to their personnel, facilities, systems, or functions in a manner that would arouse suspicion of terrorism or other criminality in a reasonable person.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A water company reported that it had security footage of an unknown person breaking into the premises. At 5 a.m., the individual cut through a fence and used a tool to breach a door. Once inside the building, the person took photos of the chlorination system, including the chlorine tank. A pump failure occurred, but it was not certain that this was related to the break-in.</li> <li>A vehicle containing two individuals was discovered in a secure area of a loading dock at a facility that stores officially designated sensitive chemicals. The vehicle sped off upon discovery by security personnel. Surveillance footage revealed that the individuals gained entry by manually lifting a security gate to the compound.</li> </ul>

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IN OBSCURA HAS ADOPTED THE OSINT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM OF DHS DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: TLP CLEAR, TLP Clear: when information carries minimal or no foreseeable risk of misuse, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release. HOWEVER IN OBSCURA RELEASE PROHIBITION MARKINGS APPLY <https://www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/traffic-light-protocol-tlp-definitions-and-usagg>

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REQUEST WRITTEN PERMISSION, EMAIL, PRIOR TO DISSEMINATING ANY IN OBSCURA PRODUCTS OR INFORMATION.

## TRAFFIC LIGHT PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS FOR DISSEMINATION

[Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) Definitions

Color	When should it be used?	How may it be shared?
 <b>TLP:RED</b> For the eyes and ears of individual recipients only, no further disclosure.	Sources may use TLP:RED when information cannot be effectively acted upon without significant risk for the privacy, reputation, or operations of the organizations involved.	Recipients may therefore not share TLP:RED information with anyone else. In the context of a meeting, for example, TLP:RED information is limited to those present at the meeting.
 <b>TLP:AMBER</b> Limited disclosure, recipients can only spread this on a need-to-know basis within their organization and its clients. Note that <b>TLP:AMBER+STRICT</b> restricts sharing to the organization only.	Sources may use TLP:AMBER when information requires support to be effectively acted upon, yet carries risk to privacy, reputation, or operations if shared outside of the organizations involved.	Recipients may share TLP:AMBER information with members of their own organization and its clients, but only on a need-to-know basis to protect their organization and its clients and prevent further harm. Note: if the source wants to restrict sharing to the organization only, they must specify TLP:AMBER+STRICT.
 <b>TLP:GREEN</b> Limited disclosure, recipients can spread this within their community.	Sources may use TLP:GREEN when information is useful to increase awareness within their wider community.	Recipients may share TLP:GREEN information with peers and partner organizations within their community, but not via publicly accessible channels. TLP:GREEN information may not be shared outside of the community. Note: when “community” is not defined, assume the cybersecurity/defense community.
 <b>TLP: CLEAR</b> Recipients can spread this to the world, there is no limit on disclosure.	Sources may use TLP:CLEAR when information carries minimal or no foreseeable risk of misuse, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures for public release.	Subject to standard copyright rules, TLP:CLEAR information may be shared without restriction.

///END OF REPORT///

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