

***BUSINESSSAFE***  
**PHARMACIES**

*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 Pharmacies, though not fully inclusive, may be of *possible* concern to law enforcement:

- An unusual request for purchase of a particular pharmaceutical compound that would generally not be used independent of mixing with additional substances and that may be potentially harmful or used to incapacitate people.
- Suspicious inquiries regarding certain types of over-the-counter drugs and their potential harmful effects.
- The unexplained loss or theft of items from your pharmaceutical inventory which are intended to serve as antidotes in the event of a biological or chemical attack (i.e., auto injectors of Atropine, Ciprofloxacin pills, etc.).
- The unexplained loss or theft of items from your pharmaceutical inventory that could possibly be combined with other easily obtained items and thus present a danger to the public.

- The unexplained loss or theft or mass purchases of pseudo-ephedrine products that may be indicative of methamphetamine labs, the profit of which may potentially be used to facilitate terrorism or terrorism activities.
- “Surveillance of Sales as an Attack Indicator”: A dramatic spike in the purchase of a particular over-the-counter medicine (i.e., cold syrup, to determine if people might be self medicating to fight off flu-like symptoms which may in fact be caused by bio-terror agents).

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 FDLE Office of Domestic Security homepage.

For all emergencies, call “911.”