

Communities Against Terrorism

Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities Related to Dive Shops

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

Individuals or groups who

- Are reluctant to provide relevant personal information required for a business purpose.
- Want to dive without taking a safety course or having a certification card.
- Ask for scuba certification lessons “quickly” and, if requested, without a reasonable explanation.
- Are inexperienced divers attempting to dive alone.
- Purchase underwater propulsion devices without knowledge of how they operate or familiarity with basic operations and controls.
- Exhibit behavior regarding dive tanks that is unusual or would otherwise arouse suspicion in a reasonable person.
- Want to dive in locations not usually associated with diving.
- Claim to be experienced divers but:
 - Exhibit unfamiliarity with common terminology.
 - Require basic instruction on operating diving equipment.
 - Are unable to support the claim with a diving logbook.
- Redirect basic lessons towards a specific or advanced topic.
- Appear uninterested in safety rules during training or appear willing to sacrifice safety to complete training faster.
- Display forged or altered identification.
- Display an inappropriate desire to get to a specific location or to the next stage of a class.
- Possess containers unrelated to normal water sports activities.
- Carry maps designating structures unrelated to water sports activities.
- Act secretly or exhibit guarded behavior in order to discourage communication and/or observation of activities.

Unusual or atypical inquiries regarding

- Security practices.
- Acquiring vehicles equipped for hauling fuel.

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

What Should I Do?

Be part of the solution

- ✓ Require valid ID from new customers.
- ✓ Keep records of purchases.
- ✓ Talk to customers, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses.
- ✓ Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles.
- ✓ Report any missing or stolen fuel, vehicles, or other equipment to law enforcement authorities.

Remember...

- ✓ If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.
- ✓ Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.
- ✓ Focus on behaviors and activities that are unusual or out of place for the situation.
- ✓ Individually, these activities could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate.

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 these 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 in this handout are by no means all-inclusive but have been compiled from a review of terrorist events over several years.