

Potential Indicators of Suspicious Activities Related to Grocery and Retail Stores

What Should I Consider Suspicious?

- Suspicious individuals wearing unseasonably bulky clothing that could conceal weapons
- Suspicious/unattended vehicles, particularly those parked adjacent to the establishment
- Attempts to test security and response procedures (opening emergency exits, setting off fire alarms, etc.)
- Written/verbal threats or vague/cryptic warning, including references to previous attack, attackers, or terrorist groups
- Website defacement or graffiti containing violent or hateful language
- Attempts to block exits
- Damage to security devices like cameras, perimeter fencing or lighting
- Individuals expressing interest in facility layout, infrastructure, security, or someone taking pictures or videos of the facility without reasonable explanation
- Individuals parking or loitering in the same area over a multi-day period without reasonable explanation
- Unusual attempts to gain access to areas restricted to the public
- Surveillance (note taking, use of binoculars, etc.) of camera systems or maps of key facilities
- Individuals who express unusual interest in the ethnic, religious make-up, or 'profile' of patrons or employees with no explanation
- Evidence suggesting that the building's HVAC system may have been tampered with
- Unusual odors or substances, oil-based stains, or other flammable material
- An unattended package or suspicious object

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

What Should I Consider Suspicious? (cont'd)

- ✓ Establish training programs, security procedures, and a threat alert system.
- ✓ Make note of suspicious statements, people and/or vehicles.
- ✓ Maintain an open line of communication with law enforcement.
- ✓ Know the delivery vehicles and staff who are routinely on the property.
- ✓ Check your inventory and report missing or stolen products.
- ✓ Report suspicious behavior.
- ✓ If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.

Ensuring domestic security is a community effort. By learning what to look for, you can make a positive contribution to domestic security.

Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others. In an emergency, call 911.

This information was adapted from indicators provided by the FDLE. For additional suspicious activity indicators, please visit the Florida See Something, Say Something website at www.fdle.state.fl.us.