



**BJA**  
Bureau of  
Justice Assistance

# CAT

Communities Against Terrorism

**FBI**  
Federal Bureau  
of Investigation



**POTENTIAL  
INDICATORS**  
of Terrorist Activities related to

## Farm Supply Stores

*What should I consider suspicious?*

*What should I do?*

### SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE

- New customer who is not from local area.
- Acting nervous or impatient.
- Possessing little knowledge of crops, soil composition, field size, application methods, or fertilizers.

### SUSPICIOUS PURCHASING ACTIVITY

- Refusing to provide address where fertilizer will be used or delivered.
- Purchasing large quantity of pesticides, combustibles, or fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate out of season or with cash.
- Appearing to be interested only in ammonium nitrate; displaying no interest in alternative fertilizers or fertilizer combinations.
- Seeking chemicals with weight in excess of fertilizer distributor capacity.
- Making suspicious inquiries regarding equipment (e.g., tank size, spray range).
- Asking about acquiring vehicles equipped for spraying or hauling (e.g., crop dusters, crop sprayers, fuel tankers).
- Failing to state legitimate agricultural use for product.
- Storing agricultural supplies in unusual containers.
- Using a rental vehicle or a vehicle with an out-of-state or temporary license plate to transport items such as fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate (particularly 34-0-0) or other combustible materials in large proportions.
- Using cash for large transactions or a credit card in someone else's name.

### BE PART OF THE SOLUTION.

- Require valid ID from all new customers.
- Keep records of purchases.
- Talk to customers, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses.
- Watch for people and actions that are out of place.
- Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles.
- If something seems wrong, notify law enforcement authorities.

### DO NOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR SAFETY OR THE SAFETY OF OTHERS.

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

To report suspicious activity, please call  
1-877-OHS-INTEL (877-647-4683) or by logging onto  
[HTTP://HOMELANDSECURITY.OHIO.GOV](http://HOMELANDSECURITY.OHIO.GOV).  
In the event of an emergency, please dial 911.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT JUST BECAUSE A PERSON'S SPEECH, ACTIONS, BELIEFS, APPEARANCE, OR WAY OF LIFE IS **DIFFERENT**; IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT PERSON IS **SUSPICIOUS**.



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Some of the indicators listed above are, by themselves, lawful conduct or behavior and may also constitute the exercise of rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. In addition, there may be a wholly innocent explanation for conduct or behavior that appears suspicious in nature. For this reason, the totality of behavioral indicators and other relevant circumstances should be evaluated when considering any law enforcement response or action.