



Suspicious Activity Indicators

You may observe activity around the facility or inside the workplace that you consider “suspicious.” Generally, we look at *observable behaviors* to identify suspicious activity and do not rely on factors such as race, national origin, creed, or other innate factors. Being able to articulate the suspicious behaviors will help to better define why the behavior is suspicious.

It is important to note that many innocent behaviors may appear to be unusual or odd but do not pose a threat. While one particular action may strongly indicate suspicious behavior, we usually look for patterns or clusters to give a better indication of potential threat. For example, a person may simply be waiting for a friend and is looking at their cell phone to pass time, or perhaps they take a picture of an architectural feature. This in and of itself may be innocent behavior, but when you see a pattern of several Suspicion Indicators, it may be appropriate to make notification.

“Suspicion Indicators” might include, but are not limited to, the following examples:

- Active searching - Looking into parked vehicles, storage areas, loading dock areas, or appearing to conceal themselves in landscaping areas or when people walk by, appearing to “select a target,” etc.
- Barred individuals loitering in the area – former or suspended employees, barred clients, individuals identified as making inappropriate contact or communications, etc. who are loitering in the area or repeatedly return after being instructed not to be on or near the premises.
- Elicitation – asking questions about security features or procedures, personal information, etc.
- Attempting to gain access to unauthorized areas – Acting “Lost” or like they belong in the area (but do not have the proper identification), attempting to by-pass locked areas, “talking their way in” to an unauthorized area, impersonating service providers, otherwise probing security, etc.
- Information Gathering – Loitering in an area for prolonged times or on multiple occasions with no discernable purpose other than to observe patterns of activities. For example, watching to see what times employees come and go, what doors they use, what vehicles they drive, taking notes that appear to be related to activities at the facility, observing evacuation routes and rally points related to fire alarms, etc.
- Photography – Taking pictures of features other than architectural attractions such as security screening areas, parking lots, entrance and exit doors, loading docks and other service areas, critical infrastructure, etc. especially if they are attempting to do it secretly or in an evasive manner.
- Suspicious Vehicles – occupied vehicles that appear to be conducting surveillance as identified above
- Multiple sightings over time and distance – Especially when it relates to a facility activity (e.g. end of the business day, truck deliveries, etc.)

If you observe articulable Suspicious Activity, notify a supervisor in accordance with your local Emergency Action Plan. If you believe that there is a potential for imminent criminal activity, immediately contact your local law enforcement. Utilize the “*Communicated Threat Worksheet*” to document information for law enforcement follow up.