

Gwinnett County is an international community, and while diversity enriches us, it also provides members of terrorist cells the opportunity to easily blend in with everyone else.

There are two types of terrorism in the United States: Domestic and International. Both are a danger to everyone, and effectively combating terrorism in all its forms requires everyone's help. Your eyes and ears play a crucial role in Gwinnett County's efforts to keep our community safe.

Stay vigilant and prepared. If you see something and it concerns you, report it to the Gwinnett County Police Department, no matter how small of a thing it may seem to be. Remember, homeland security starts with you!

What exactly constitutes suspicious behavior? Unusual or suspicious activity takes many forms and usually involves a combination of actions. Many situations reported to the police do not involve criminal activity, but instead indicate the potential for criminal or terrorist planning or surveillance. The New York State Police developed the "Seven Signs of Terrorism" list:

Know the Seven Signs of Terrorism

1. Surveillance: Recording or monitoring activities, taking pictures, making drawings
2. Suspicious Questioning: Attempts to gain information about operations, staffing, and security
3. Tests of Security: Any attempts to measure reacting times to entering restricted areas
4. Acquiring Supplies: Obtaining explosives, weapons, uniforms, badges, credentials, etc.
5. Suspicious Persons Out of Place: This may include people who are in places they should not be, as well as people who do not fit in to the daily routine of your neighborhood or community
6. Dry or Trial Run: Putting people into position and moving them around without actually committing a terrorist act
7. Deploying Assets: People and supplies getting into position to commit the act

Early recognition and reporting of potential terrorist activity is the first line of defense against those who intend to harm the citizens of Gwinnett County and its assets.

If You Observe Suspicious Activity


1. Do not take direct action
2. Do not confront the individual
3. Do not reveal your suspicions
4. Do record as many details as possible
5. Do notify appropriate authorities as soon as possible

Describing Suspicious Behavior

1. Who did you observe?
2. What did you see?
3. Where did you see it?
4. When did you see it?
5. Why is it suspicious?

Specific Activity To Look For

1. Unattended packages
2. Suspicious carry-on items such as large backpacks, gym bags, and luggage weighed more than normal
3. Videotaping of mass transit equipment, transportation facilities, security procedures and infrastructure. Deliberate recording and/or sketching of mass transit operations
4. Suspicious activity of loitering around transportation facilities. Consecutive round trips on the same transit route
5. Individuals walking around the facility, independent of each other, taking notes ostensibly on operations and meeting as a group after their observations are recorded to compare notes
6. An individual who seems unaware of his/her surroundings and is fixated on a particular object or location
7. Evasive answers to common questions regarding destinations; deliberate attempts to avoid contact with others or to draw attention
8. Loose fitting clothing, large sweatshirt, vest, or jacket in hot weather conditions. Clothing that is disproportionate to the body type of the person

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9. Questioning of crew members regarding schedules, passenger capacities, onboard safety procedures and equipment
 10. Attempts to abandon a vehicle in or near a transit parking facility
 11. Placing backpacks or suitcases in a different compartment than the one being occupied
 12. Leaving bags unattended in public areas to observe security response procedures and times
 13. Attempting to gain employment with a mass transit system without the appropriate background and/or qualifications

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) funded the State and Local Anti-Terrorism Training Program (SLATT). As a result of this effort the following Potential Indicators of Terrorist Activities were developed:

1. Bulk Fuel Distributors
2. Construction Sites
3. Dive/boat Shops
4. Farm Supply Stores
5. Financial Institutions
6. General Aviation Airports
7. Hobby Shops
8. Home Improvement and Large Retail Stores
9. Hotels and motels
10. Peroxide-based Explosives
11. Rental Cars
12. Rental Properties
13. Rental Trucks
14. Shopping Malls and Centers
15. Storage Facilities

The Gwinnett County Police Department is concerned about possible Terrorism or Terrorist-related activities and works with the Joint Terrorism Task Force to address concerns. We encourage residents to report any suspicious activities to one of the following:

- If you believe the threat is immediate, call 911

Other resources include:

Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) <http://www.gema.ga.gov>

Once you go to this site there is a red button marked "Report Suspicious Activity." You will be able to report suspicious activity directly to the Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC). Remember if you believe there is an immediate threat call 911.

- Federal Bureau of Investigation Tip Line 404.679.9000, email Atlanta@ic.fbi.gov
- Gwinnett County Police Department Tip line 770.962.6272, email gcpdetips@gwinnettcountry.com