

TERRORIST INCIDENT

A Terrorist Incident is defined as a violent act, or an act dangerous to human life, in violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State, to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof in furtherance of political or social objectives.

A Terrorist Incident may take many forms and even though an unusual event or emergency may be related to terrorism, this connection may not be immediately known. For this reason, initial emergency actions should be based upon any Event-Specific Guidelines appropriate for the nature of the incident (i.e., Bomb Threat, Crime In Progress, Public Health Emergency, or Suspicious Activity).

Terrorist Weapon Categories:

In addition to the possibility that a terrorist incident may be carried out with the use of standard weapons, there are several other likely methods of attack. You may use the acronym **BNICE** to more easily remember these:

- **B** - Biological Weapons (i.e., Anthrax, Ricin, or Smallpox).
- **N** - Nuclear Weapons and Radiological Dispersal Devices.
- **I** - Incendiary Devices.
- **C** - Chemical Devices (i.e., Sarin, Mustard, or Chlorine).
- **E** - Explosive Devices.

Terrorism Indicators

There are a number of conditions that may indicate that a terrorist attack has occurred. While none by itself may provide conclusive evidence of an attack, their mere presence should be cause for increased awareness or possible alarm:

- Numerous sick or dead animals, fish, or birds.
- Absence of crops, wildlife, or insects common for the area, time of day, or time of year.
- Unauthorized, unscheduled spraying, or abandoned spray devices.
- Unusual vapor clouds or mists.
- Unusual, unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles.
- Packages that are leaking.
- Unusual materials or equipment.
- Small explosions or explosions that disperse liquids, mists, or gases.
- Unusual odors or tastes.
- Many casualties without signs of obvious injury.
- Persons exhibiting similar symptoms.
- Unusually large numbers of people seeking medical attention.

If a Terrorist Incident is Suspected:

- Remain calm.
- Take emergency actions as appropriate for the nature of the incident (Refer to Event-Specific Guidelines).
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has primary investigatory jurisdiction over all terrorist incidents. District Police will assume initial command of the incident and maintain this responsibility until properly relieved by the FBI.

Preparedness/Mitigation Efforts

To minimize the risk and impact of a Terrorist Incident within District facilities and/or buildings, it is critical to employ basic hazard mitigation practices. To assist in this effort:

- Remain alert to your surroundings at all times.
- Know how to quickly lock, unlock, and/or evacuate work areas.
- Keep all storage, office, and laboratory areas locked when they are not attended.
- Keep all rooms locked after normal hours and lock them immediately after cleaning.
- Learn how to recognize and properly report suspicious persons, activity, or packages.
- Keep adequate emergency supplies on hand.