

If you **see** something, **say** something®

CIVIL RIGHTS & CIVIL LIBERTIES

The “If You See Something, Say Something®” campaign respects civil rights and liberties by emphasizing behavior rather than appearance in identifying suspicious activity. Remember: Factors such as race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or gender identity are not suspicious.

For that reason, the public should only report suspicious behavior and situations (e.g., an unattended backpack in a public place or someone trying to break into a restricted area), rather than beliefs, thoughts, ideas, expression, associations, or speech unrelated to terrorism or other criminal activity.

Only reports that document behavior reasonably indicative of criminal activity associated with terrorism will be shared with federal partners.



Protect your every day.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

202-727-9099

or **www.iWatchDC.org**

Call **9-1-1** in case of emergency

For more information about the campaign, visit
dhs.gov/see-something-say-something



“If You See Something, Say Something®” used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

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The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) **"If You See Something, Say Something®"** campaign is an initiative that raises public awareness on the signs of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, and how to report suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement. We all play a role in keeping our communities safe. **If you see something** that doesn't seem quite right, **say something**.



WHAT IS SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY?

Suspicious activity is any observed behavior that could indicate terrorism or other criminal activity.

Examples include:

- **Unusual items or situations:** A vehicle in an odd location, unattended luggage/package, open door/window that's normally closed and locked, etc.
- **Eliciting information:** Questioning individuals at a level beyond mere curiosity about particular facets of a facility's or building's purpose, operations, security, etc.
- **Observation/surveillance:** Unusual attention to facilities or buildings beyond a casual or professional interest. Extended loitering without explanation, particularly in concealed locations with optimal visibility of potential targets. Unusual, repeated, and/or prolonged observation of buildings (e.g., with a video camera or binoculars), taking notes and/or measurements, sketching floor plans.

Many of these activities could be innocent. Law enforcement professionals must examine suspicious behaviors in a larger context to determine whether there is reason to investigate. The activities above are not all-inclusive. They have been compiled from a review of terrorist events over several years.

WHO TO NOTIFY & WHAT TO REPORT

Report suspicious activity to a person in authority, such as local law enforcement. Don't be afraid to report something, even if you aren't sure it was serious.

• Who to tell:

- On the street, tell a police officer.
- On a bus, tell the driver.
- In a train or subway station, tell a security guard.

• What to tell them:

- **WHAT** did you observe? Be specific.
- **WHO** did you see?
- **WHEN** did you see it?
- **WHERE** did you see this occur?
- **WHY** is it suspicious?

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