



Utah Department of Public Safety
Statewide Information & Analysis Center



UNCLASSIFIED

SIAC@utah.gov Phone: 801-965-3838 Fax: 801-969-0808

SIAC Product 2019-###

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

(U) Protecting Faith Based Communities from Targeted Violence

Release: 0900 hours, 25 September 2019

(U) Summary

(U) Faith-based communities are urged to take a proactive role in maintaining the safety of their communities and congregations. The Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS), including the Statewide Information and Analysis Center (SIAC), is dedicated to the mission of *Keeping Utah Safe*. Working with Utah's diverse communities, federal, state, local and tribal law-enforcement agencies hope to prevent targeted violence, before it escalates into an emergency.

***If You See Something, Say Something.*¹**

If it is an emergency or immediate threat to life, please call 9-1-1 to report to local law enforcement.

If you witness suspicious or unusual activity, please report via email: sars@utah.gov, or call the Utah Public Safety Tip Line: 1-833-DPS-SAFE (1-833-377-7233).

(U) What is “normal” to you?

(U) Pay attention to your surroundings and stay alert. Based on the knowledge of your community and congregations, your business and professional experiences, your impressions and assessments are invaluable in assessing what is out of the ordinary, or unusual, in your place of worship, neighborhoods and communities. Is someone or something out of place? Is someone behaving erratically or suspiciously?

(U) What Information to Report

(U) You may not be able to gather all of this information, but thinking about it now will help equip you to do your best, should the situation arise. Please consider the following list when reporting suspicious events or unusual behavior to law enforcement:

- What are they doing?
 - Why is this suspicious to YOU?
- Who is it? Do you know their name?
 - Description: height, build (tall, short, stout, skinny...), hair color, clothing, etc.
 - Vehicle: make and model, color, sedan/SUV/truck, 4-door, 2-door, dings or scratches, etc.
 - Can you take a photo? (ONLY if safe to do so).
- Where did this occur?
 - Do you know the address?
 - Is it a business or residence? ...public park? etc.
- When? (Please note date and time, if possible)

Attention: "Receipt of this information constitutes acceptance of all terms and conditions regarding its use, handling, storage, further dissemination or destruction. At a minimum, recipient acknowledges a commitment to comply with all applicable laws protecting privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties in the collection, use, analysis, retention, destruction, sharing and disclosure of information."

Handling Notice: Recipients are reminded that Utah Statewide Information and Analysis Center intelligence products may contain sensitive information meant for use primarily within the law enforcement and homeland security communities. Such products shall not be released in either written or oral form to the media, the general public, or other personnel who do not have a valid need-to-know without prior approval from an authorized Statewide Information and Analysis Center official. Unlawful dissemination of this information may adversely impact ongoing investigations, and thereby compromise law enforcement officers' safety and the safety and welfare of the public.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(U) Below are just a few examples of activities or circumstances you might observe in a friend, family member, acquaintance or stranger, which may be considered unusual and reportable:

- Inquiries about your congregation and service times from someone who doesn't seem to be of your faith.
(Eliciting Information)
- Behavior during your religious service indicating an individual isn't familiar with your rites/customs, for example: kneeling/standing at unusual times during prayers, not responding with congregation, not wearing customary clothing, etc.
(Misrepresentation)
- Individuals photographing or videotaping buildings, security features, etc.
(Surveillance/Photography)
- Individuals attempting to gain access or loitering in secure areas, or near HVAC systems, such as heating and ventilation access rooms/panels, circuit breakers, or other building utilities.
(Testing or Probing Security, Breach/Attempted Intrusion, Sabotage)
- Increased vandalism or defacing of houses of worship (please report criminally, as well).
(Expressed or Implied Threats, Vandalism)
- An individual justifies previous terrorist attacks using religious or political reasoning; or cites the same justification for future attacks. They may even defend harming innocent bystanders to spread a message.
(Possible indicator of mobilization to violence)
- An individual is attempting to recruit you or others to commit violence or provide financial support for their cause.
(Recruiting/Indicator of mobilization to violence)

(U) Please report the following to law enforcement, immediately:

- Unusual odors or substances, unknown to you or maintenance personnel, in familiar gathering places.
- Unusual vehicles parked nearby or blocking access areas.
- Unattended packages or objects.

(U) Please note, these lists are not all-inclusive and are intended to encourage you to think of your congregations and communities. Be sure to consider unusual behavior; information gathered should not be based solely on the political, religious, or social views, associations or activities of an individual or group.

¹ "If You See Something, Say Something" used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority