

# NYPD

## Indicators of Terrorist Activity and Suspicious Behaviors





# Indicators of Terrorist Activity and Suspicious Behaviors



## Overview

- Hostile Surveillance
- Suicide Bomber
- Vehicle Borne Improvised Device (VBIED)



# Hostile Surveillance

## Pre-Incident Indicators

- Overt and covert use of surveillance at target location
- Avoidance of security personnel and security devices such as CCTV cameras
- Identified pattern of suspicious activity in and around target location
- Multiple suspicious individuals observed working together in different capacities
- Suspicious persons and vehicles present at target locations for extended periods without reason
- Persons not fitting into the surrounding environment:
  - Person engages in **innocuous behavior** such as reading on a park bench
  - **Standing in bus or taxi stops for extended periods** without using the conveyance
  - **New subject** at target locations **apparently disguised** as pan handlers, homeless, vendors, etc.
  - **Pace counting specific distances of the target location**
  - **Counting or timing the opening and closing of essential ingress/egress portals**
  - Individual **sketching facility making detailed notes**
  - Individual **photographing or videotaping security elements, positions, or critical elements of the target location**
  - Possession of **extraordinary equipment** such as night vision devices, listening devices, cameras, video equipment, etc



# Hostile Surveillance

## Pre-Incident Indicators

### Authority Testing

- Subject(s) engages in boundary probing
- Park vehicle in restricted area
- Unfamiliar with delivery procedures and protocols
- Increase in unattended packages and bags
- Noticeable increase in false alarms
- Makes unusual inquires about local sites
  - Attempting to penetrate facility using false credentials or cover story
  - Attempting to use company, organization, government, or fraudulent identification to gain access or information

### Suspicious Activity

- Avoidance of security personnel and security devices such as CCTV cameras
- Uses entrance that allow for avoidance of detection by authorities
- Staging of supplies which can include luggage, bags, and vehicles
- Standing in one location for a protracted period
- Park vehicles in isolated areas



# Suicide Bomber

## Imminent Threat Indicators

### ALERT

- Alone and nervous
- Loose and/or bulky clothing
- Exposed wires (possibly through sleeves)
- Rigid mid-section
- Tightened hands

### Behavioral

- Avoidance of security personnel and security devices such as CCTV cameras

### Suspicious Packages and Luggage on Person

- Holding of bag very close to body or not releasing strap
- Weight of bag is obvious
- Bag of accessory incompatible with person or place
- Identical luggage carried by several people
- Bags with obvious irregularities
- Holding luggage that is incompatible with surrounding



# VBIED

## Imminent Threat Indicators

### Behavioral

- Subject(s) engages in boundary probing
- Park vehicle in restricted area
- Unfamiliar with delivery procedures and protocols
- Increase in unattended packages and bags
- Noticeable increase in false alarms
- Makes unusual inquires about local sites
  - Attempting to penetrate facility using false credentials or cover story
  - Attempting to use company, organization, government, or fraudulent identification to gain access or information

### Vehicle Indicators

- Avoidance of security personnel and security devices such as CCTV cameras
- Uses entrance that allow for avoidance of detection by authorities
- Staging of supplies which can include luggage, bags, and vehicles
- Standing in one location for a protracted period
- Park vehicles in isolated areas