

Bowie City Police Department - General Orders



TITLE: HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY		NUMBER: 805
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AUTHORITY Chief John K. Nesky	ACCREDITATIONS STANDARDS 46.3.1 46.3.2 46.3.3	TOTAL PAGES 2
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I. POLICY

It is the policy of the City of Bowie Police Department to maintain a liaison with allied law enforcement agencies for all public safety issues including terrorism. The Department will strive to report suspicious activity and circumstances to the appropriate state and federal authorities. Further, the Department will help educate the public on issues surrounding terrorism.

II. LIAISONS

A. Through its efforts in obtaining grants, funding, training, equipment, and other resources, maintains liaisons with other departments in the area and region that are pertinent to exchanging preparedness, intelligence, and other resources regarding terrorism.

B. The Department regularly receives telephonic and teletype intelligence regarding terrorist activities and threats which is disseminated to the members of the Department and other affected agencies, departments, and/or personnel (CALEA 46.3.1).

III. REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

When an officer observes or is dispatched to suspicious activity that would indicate the possibility of terrorist activity the officer shall: (CALEA 46.3.2)

A. Investigate the circumstances thoroughly;

B. If the activity is confirmed to be suspicious the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC) shall be contacted immediately (800-492-8477).

C. All available information will be provided to the agent at the MCAC.

D. Document the contact on an incident report and Suspicious Activity Report (SAR), and forward to PGPD Fusion Center.

IV. PUBLIC AWARENESS TRAINING

The Department may provide terrorism awareness information to City residence. This information can be provided through: (CALEA 46.3.3)

- A. Town Hall meetings;
- B. The City cable channel; and,
- C. Brochures.

V. HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY SYSTEM

The Office of Homeland Security (OHS) developed the Homeland Security Advisory System to provide a comprehensive and effective tool for the dissemination of information regarding the risk of terrorist attacks to Federal, State and local authorities and the public.

A. The Homeland Security Advisory System will provide a framework for these systems allowing government officials and citizens to communicate the nature and degree of terrorist threats. This advisory system characterizes appropriate levels of vigilance, preparedness and readiness in a series of graduated Threat Conditions. The Protective Measures that correspond to each Threat Condition will help the government and citizens decide what action they should take to help counter and respond to terrorist activity.

B. A variety of factors may be used to assess the threat. Among these:

1. Is the threat credible?
2. Is the threat corroborated?
3. Is the threat specific and/or imminent?
4. How grave is the threat?

C. A unified system for public announcements of threat advisories and alerts will deter terrorist activity, notify law enforcement and local government officials of threats and provide them with their information necessary to respond to the threat. Threat Conditions characterize the risk of terrorist attack. Protective Measures are the steps that will be taken to reduce vulnerabilities. The National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) has established NTAS will consist of two types of advisories: Bulletins and Alerts. Individuals shall follow the guidance provided by state and local officials and to report suspicious activity. Where possible and applicable, NTAS advisories will include steps that individuals and communities can take to protect themselves from the threat as well as help detect or prevent an attack before it happens. Individuals should review the information contained in the Alert or Bulletin, and based upon the circumstances, take the recommended precautionary or preparedness measures.