



Recognizing Potential Terrorist Activity



VIRGINIA HOSPITAL
& HEALTHCARE
ASSOCIATION

An alliance of hospitals and health delivery systems

The Virginia Fusion Center analyzes and shares homeland security information with federal, state, and local partners in the public and private sectors. The Virginia Fusion Center and Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association encourage healthcare professionals to report information that may help prevent terrorism and identify potential terrorists and criminals.



Privacy Protection

The Virginia Fusion Center (VFC) has participated in the development of the Nationwide SAR Initiative since its inception and is proud to have developed a strong internal privacy program, including policies, practices, and training to protect not only lives and livelihoods, but also civil rights and civil liberties. To learn more about the VFC privacy policies, please visit:

<http://www.vsp.state.va.us/FusionCenter>



Suspicious Activity Reporting

Certain activities at or near healthcare and other facilities may indicate terrorist planning efforts. Suspicious activities that should be reported to law enforcement, commonly referred to as the 7 signs of terrorism, include:

- **Surveillance**

May include drawing diagrams, note taking, or vision-enhancing devices to monitor or record facilities and activities

- **Elicitation**

Attempts to obtain information on the people, procedures, or security of a facility

- **Tests of security**

Attempts to breach security measures or assess response times

- **Acquiring supplies**

Gathering harmful chemicals, infected materials, or other supplies to conduct later attacks

- **Suspicious persons**

Person(s) who do not appear to belong in a given setting due to unusual behavior

- **Dry or test runs**

Preparatory behaviors, such as practice runs or route mapping

- **Deploying assets**

Placing people and supplies into location to commit the attack

1-877-4VA-TIPS or www.vsp.state.va.us

Importance of Virginia's Healthcare and Public Health Sector



The systems, networks, services, facilities, functions, and roles needed to prevent disease and disability, treat patients, foster public health, and respond to public health emergencies span all levels of government and the private sector and touch every citizen of the United States.

Ensuring a resilient healthcare and public health system capable of withstanding disruption and poised to protect lives and health during emergencies is vital for Virginia's safety and security.

Economic Importance

The criticality of the healthcare and public health sector extends well beyond health and life safety functions; hospitals and health systems also have a significant economic impact on their localities. They are the largest employers in some areas and support other businesses by purchasing goods and services.

According to 2010 data collected by VHHA:

- \$14.8 billion spent on payroll, operating, and capitol project expenses was circulated through the Virginia economy and generated an additional \$12.9 billion in spending.
- VHHA members employ more than 129,000 jobs across the Commonwealth in hospitals, ambulatory care centers and nursing homes, and indirect support roles.
- Health care jobs are not ordinary jobs—they typically require advanced education and training, are not easily outsourced, and provide better-than average pay.

Reporting Tips:

- **Notify your dispatch center or Call 911 if immediate police response is needed**

and

- **Call the Virginia Fusion Center at 1-877-4VA-TIPS**

or

- **Report online at www.vsp.state.va.us**

Reporting Suspicious Activity

Prompt and detailed reporting of suspicious activities may prevent a terrorist attack or criminal activity.

When reporting suspicious activity, provide:

- Brief description of the activity
- Physical description of the person(s) and vehicle(s) involved
- Current location or direction of travel of those involved

To receive intelligence products from the VFC, please complete and return a Non-Disclosure Agreement.

To access the secure VFC library through HSIN-VA, request an account through hsin.va@vsp.virginia.gov.