



Houses of Worship

As described in the accompanying letter, *Business Owners Against Terrorism* is based on the idea that certain legitimate businesses and industries may be exploited by terrorists who portray themselves as honest customers seeking to purchase, lease, or somehow appropriate certain material, licenses and/or services to covertly further a terrorist plot.

The following examples of activity relating to your specific business, though not fully inclusive, may be of **possible** concern to law enforcement:

- Unusual inquiries about the congregation from individuals who do not seem to be of that faith or denomination
- Actions that suggest that an individual, present for a religious service, is unfamiliar with the rite/customs of the service (e.g., kneeling instead of remaining standing during a specified portion of the prayer service or not responding along with the congregation)
- Individuals photographing or videotaping the building interior/exterior
- Evidence suggesting that the building's HVAC system (e.g., heating, ventilation, air conditioning access rooms/panels) may possibly have been tampered with
- Individuals found loitering in areas where there is access to the HVAC system or other physical plant systems (e.g., ground-level air intake vents; electrical breaker switch boxes) related to building operations
- Unusual odors or substances unknown to you, oil based stains or other flammable material
- Parking of a suspicious vehicle, such as a truck, in front of the building when normally such vehicles are not parked in that location
- The discovery of an unattended package or object

Your impressions and assessment, based upon your professional/business experience, are extremely valuable and should help guide you in determining if a customer request, a fact pattern or set of circumstances is unusual.

The conduct of an individual will not necessarily be criminal in nature. Please remember if you suspect something, do not take direct action, confront the individual, or reveal your suspicions. Record as many details as possible about the suspect/vehicle/locations and report them to the Orange County Sheriff's Office Intelligence Unit at 407-504-6764 or email Intel@ocfl.net.