



Photo Processing, Camera and Video Equipment Sales

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:

- Specific customer requests for the processing of film by machine only, with a clear concern expressed by a customer that store employees or other persons not see the resulting developed photographs
- Efforts made by a customer to obtain the identity of all store employees who may have seen any developed photos
- Processing of film of various landmarks or sensitive locations, or segments thereof, none of which appear to have any aesthetic value making them attractive to photograph (e.g., the under girding beams of a bridge, the complex of transformers of an electrical plant, the arrangement of traffic signals and pedestrian areas, the amount and location of lighting, etc.)
- Purchase of expensive photography/video equipment with panoramic capability
- Processing of film that repeatedly shows landmarks or sensitive locations from a variety of angles, offering a panoramic coverage of the object photographed. (Note: The al Qaeda Training Manual, in the chapter called Espionage – Information Gathering Using Covert Methods – offers the following instruction in the surveillance of an intended target. It is preferable to photograph the area as a whole first, then the street of the desired location. If possible, panoramic pictures should be taken. That is, the collection of views should be continuous in such a way that all pictures are taken from one location and that the ending of one picture is the beginning of the next...The brother/photographer should use a modern camera that can photograph at night or from a distance, and only the lens of the camera should be visible.”)

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.