



Sky Diving/Hang Gliding/Paragliding Schools

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:

- Application to your school by a student who submits identification documents of questionable authenticity (e.g., home address is represented by a P.O. Box; no telephone number, misspellings on “official documents” different names on driver’s license and passport, etc). Any attempt to obscure true identity
- An unexplained withdrawal by a student just before official completion of a training/certification program requisite to skydiving /hang glider operation
- An unusual disinterest displayed by a student during the explanation of safety procedures (e.g., emergency scenarios and techniques)
- A request to purchase parachute equipment/gear by someone who does not appear knowledgeable or skilled in skydiving
- Unusual interest or excessive questions about the nature of the drop zone/DZ (e.g., its proximity to sensitive locations)
- Unusual questions about how much additional weight can be carried during hang gliding/paragliding flights
- A request to parachute from a higher altitude than normally used for recreational jumps
- Strange behavior by an individual toward fellow students (e.g., remaining isolated from the group; not actively participating in training discussions or lending encouragement to peers; maintaining a distinct business-like behavior instead of that of a sport enthusiast, etc.)
- Information that suggests that an individual received paramilitary training overseas

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.