



BUSINESS TIP

Dive Shops

TERRORISM INTERVENTION PROGRAM

What should I consider suspicious?

Suspicious People:

- New customer who is reluctant to provide complete personal information
- Customer who has not taken a safety course or without a certification card
- Small groups asking for scuba certification lessons "quickly"
- An inexperienced diver trying to dive alone

Suspicious Activities:

- Using cash for expensive transactions or a credit card in someone else's name
- Renting watercraft for an extended period
- Purchasing more than one motorized underwater propelling device
- Exhibiting unusual behavior regarding dive tanks
- Wanting to dive in locations not normally associated with diving, or in restricted areas
- Claiming to be an experienced boater/diver but:
 - Exhibiting unfamiliarity with common terminology
 - Requiring instruction on operating watercraft and/or diving equipment
 - Unable to support the claim with a diving logbook
- During training:
 - Appearing uninterested in safety rules or sacrificing safety to complete training faster
 - Displaying aggressive desire to get to a specific location or to the next stage of the class
 - Trying to redirect basic lessons towards a specific or an advanced topic
 - Asking about technical or specialty training (e.g., enclosed spaces, night diving, underwater navigation, underwater welding, mixed gas diving) without being able to explain their objective
- Possessing:
 - Containers unrelated to normal water sports activities
 - Maps designating structures unrelated to water sports activities
 - Forged or altered identification
- Acting secretive or exhibiting guarded behavior (discouraging communication and/or observation of activities)
- Inquiring about:
 - Local dams or companies along waterways
 - "Rebreathing" equipment or certification to utilize rebreathing equipment for extremely deep dives or extended dive times

It is important to remember that just because someone's speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different, it does not mean that he or she is suspicious. Some of the activities, taken individually, could be innocent and must be examined by law enforcement professionals in a larger context to determine whether there is a basis to investigate.

What should I do?

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING AN EMERGENCY OR A CRIME IN PROGRESS, CONTACT 911. IF YOU OR YOUR BUSINESS WERE THE VICTIM OF A CRIME, CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICE DEPARTMENT.

A partnership between the business community and law enforcement is essential to the success of anti-terrorism efforts.

You can support this partnership.

- Require valid ID from all new customers
- Keep records of purchases
- Talk to customers, ask questions, and listen to and observe their responses
- Watch for people and actions that are out of place
- Make note of suspicious statements, people, and/or vehicles

Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others.

Your impressions and assessment, based on 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.

In addition to reporting suspicious activity to your local police department, you are encouraged to contact the Pennsylvania State Police Tip Line. This will enhance the statewide situational awareness and can potentially aid in the prevention of future terrorist acts through early identification and intervention.

To report suspicious activities to the PSP Tip Line at any time, call or email:

1-888-292-1919
sp-intelligence@state.pa.us