

Community Emergency Response Team



Terrorism

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Community Emergency Response Team

- 👤 Personal safety is ALWAYS the number one priority
- 👤 Show up prepared
 - > Wear appropriate clothing and footwear, have WATER
 - > Wear PPE – your personal protective equipment ...gloves, helmet, goggles, mask, boots, etc.
 - > Have at least one communications device: cell, radio, etc.
- 👤 Work as a team
- 👤 Size-up - maintain situational awareness
- 👤 The CERT goal is to do the **Greatest Good for the Greatest Number**
- 👤 *Hope for the best but plan for the worst!*

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Unit Objectives

- 👤 What is terrorism
- 👤 Targets, Tactics & Weapons
- 👤 What to do if involved in a terrorist attack
- 👤 How to counter terrorism
- 👤 How to prepare

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What is Terrorism?

The U.S. Department of Justice defines terrorism as:

- The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives

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What is terrorism?

- Recognizes the psychological impact it has on a society for many years
- Must be intended to coerce, intimidate, or convey some other message to a larger audience other than to the immediate victims
- Outside the precepts of international humanitarian law

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Long history in the United States



1916



NYC 1975



9/11/2001



Wall Street 1920 - 38 dea



Unibomber 1996



2015

286 Fatalities Between 2015 and 2019

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Some Terrorist Goals: Are Tactical

- 👤 Mass casualties
- 👤 Loss of critical resources
- 👤 Disruption of vital services
- 👤 Recruiting & fund raising



<https://www.theatlantic.com/photo/2013/04/photos-of-the-boston-marathon-bombing/100495/>

Attention to surroundings can defeat terrorist's tactical goals

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Some Terrorist Goals: Are Strategic

- 👤 Undermine confidence in the Government
- 👤 Disruption of the economy
- 👤 Geopolitical change
- 👤 Heightened fear and spreading of misinformation-
Social Amplification



Terrorists DO NOT achieve strategic goals if we do not over react

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Hazards in Contra Costa for which we prepare

<p>Natural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 👤 Fires 👤 Floods 👤 Earthquake 👤 Tsunami 👤 Disease 👤 Extreme Weather 	<p>Technological</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 👤 Hazardous Materials 👤 Planes 👤 Trains 👤 Refineries and Pipelines 👤 Cyber 
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Preparing for Hazards - Prepares for Terrorism

Natural <ul style="list-style-type: none">FiresFloodsDisease	Icons & "soft" targets <ul style="list-style-type: none">Public buildingsLarge public gatheringsParks, cafes	Technological <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hazardous MaterialsPlanesTrainsRefineriesCyber
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Terrorist Tactics and Weapons

- Improvised & Homemade Explosive Devices (IEDs)
- Firearms
- Vehicles
- Chemical (Toxic Industrial Chemicals-TICs)
- Biological
- Radiological
- Nuclear
- Cyber

Any may be used in complex coordinated attacks



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Eight Signs of Terrorism

- Surveillance
- Elicitation
- Tests of security
- Funding
- Acquiring supplies
- Impersonation or suspicious people
- Rehearsals and dry runs
- Deployment



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Potential Indicators of Terrorism

- 👤 Look for unusual/suspicious behavior – out of the ordinary events or items
 - Unattended bags or leaking packages
 - People not dressed for the situation
 - People taking pictures of security arrangements
- 👤 **If you see something, say something!**
 - Contact local law enforcement
 - Use the FBI Suspicious Activity Reporting Tip Line at <https://www.fbi.gov/tips>

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CBRNE Indicators

Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) Indicators

- 👤 Vapor clouds or mists that are unusual for the area or for the time of day
- 👤 Out of place and unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles
- 👤 Multiple victims exhibiting similar symptoms
- 👤 If you observe any indicators
 - Do not touch
 - Move away
 - Report it

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If You See Indicators

IF YOU FIND A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE:

- 👤 Do not touch it!
- 👤 Move away from the object
- 👤 Report it to authorities



Caution: Using cellular phones or two-way radios may detonate an explosive device!

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Shelter-in-Place Procedures

- 👤 Shut off ventilation systems
- 👤 Go to your shelter-in-place room
- 👤 Use precut plastic sheeting to cover air openings
- 👤 Tape sheeting over doors, windows, vents
- 👤 Use duct tape to seal other areas
- 👤 Listen to a battery-powered radio
- 👤 Ventilate room once contaminants are gone

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Until Help Arrives

- 👤 CERT volunteers are NOT equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents
- 👤 If you find yourself in a situation that you believe to be a terrorist attack, focus on the most lifesaving interventions:
 - Move those in grave danger to a safe place
 - Open airway
 - Stop bleeding
 - Prevent shock
- 👤 Consider the impacts of stress & fear on yourself and others
- 👤 Be alert to the possibility of a second coordinated attack

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Basic Personal Decontamination Procedures

- 👤 Leave the immediate contaminated area
- 👤 Take decontamination action
 - Remove everything
 - Wash hands before using them to shower
 - Shower or flush with cool water
 - Blot dry
- 👤 Report for professional decontamination

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What Professional Responders Will Do

- **Follow size-up steps**
 - What is going on?
 - How bad is the situation and how much worse could it get?
 - Is there a possibility of a secondary attack?
 - What measures can be taken to control the incident safely?
 - What resources will be needed?

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Active Shooter

- **Run**
 - If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises
- **Hide**
 - If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you
- **Fight**
 - If you are unable to run, evacuate or hide and when your life is in imminent danger, you may attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter

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Active Shooter



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Preparing for Terrorism – Sound Familiar?


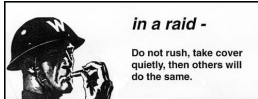
- 👤 Assemble a disaster supply kit
- 👤 Identify a safe room and meeting place outside of the home or workplace
- 👤 Develop a family communication plan
- 👤 Learn shelter-in-place procedures
- 👤 Stay informed: Only use authoritative & official sources of information



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What Else Might CERTs Do?

- 👤 Fear is contagious, but so is confidence: Stay Calm
- 👤 Studies show social amplification can be mitigated by:
 - Trust in authorities
 - Accurate, consistent information even if the answer is "we're not sure but stay tuned"
 - CERTs may be an avenue for disseminating authorized, accurate information

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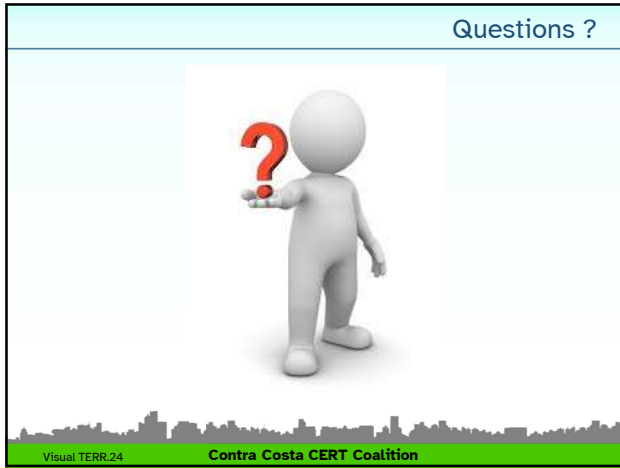
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Takeaways

- 👤 When terrorists attack, their goals are to:
 - Create mass casualties
 - Disrupt critical resources, vital services, and the economy
 - Cause widespread fear
 - **STAY CALM**
- 👤 Terrorism is old but some tactics are new
 - Active Shooter
 - Vehicles
 - Improvised Explosive Devices
 - Complex Coordinated Attacks
 - Cyber Attacks
 - **BE ALERT: If you see something Say Something**
- 👤 CERT volunteers are NOT equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents

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