

New York State Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services

Office of Counter Terrorism

OPERATION SAFEGUARD

POTENTIAL INDICATORS OF CRIMINAL OR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES RELATING TO HOTELS & LODGING

The following examples of activity relating to Hotels and Lodging Accommodations, though not fully inclusive, may be of *possible* concern to law enforcement:

- Guests who deny access to the housekeeping staff to perform routine room duties over a period of several consecutive days coupled with other extenuating or suspicious circumstances (possibly using connecting or adjoining rooms)
- Guests who permit housekeeping staff to enter rooms but who unusually supervise or rigorously monitor their actions coupled with other extenuating or suspicious circumstances
- Evidence that occupants or guests have intentionally changed their appearance, (i.e., shaving, hair cutting, hair dyes) or requests of staff for clogged drains due to large amounts of hair
- Identification offered for room reservations based on documents of questionable authenticity (i.e., misspellings on "official" papers, altered photos, P.O. Box address, no telephone number)
- Payment with a large sum of cash instead of a credit card to cover lodging bill (or any other unusual registration and reservation information)
- Room phone bills for overseas phone calls
- Reports of the thefts of guests' luggage or baggage containing sensitive documents such as passports or visas and other forms of identification
- An unusual number of visitors admitted by a guest; persons loitering on guest floors
- Unusual or excessive luggage, containers, tools, wires, etc. or discarded luggage by guests
- Unusual odors or substances, oil based stains or other flammable material
- A request at check-in for a specific room because of its view of another location building or other site that could be considered a potential target of terrorism
- Delivery of a suspicious parcel (i.e., unusual smell; delivered by hand by an unknown source, etc.)
- An unexpected departure after a reservation for an extended stay

Please remember that the conduct itself does not have to be criminal for you to report it to the NY State Toll-Free Tips line. It may be contacted 24-hours a day, seven days a week by calling: