



California Anti-Terrorism Information Center  
Situation Unit  
(888) 834-8200

**LOW**

**Green – A low risk of an attack occurring exists. Routine security measures should be employed.**

**Critical Facilities**

**Protective Actions**

- Develop or update emergency response plans
- Develop business resumption plans
- Prepare employees for personal and business emergencies
- Develop a procedure for calling key personnel in an emergency
- Develop communications plan in an emergency for key personnel
- Develop and train employees on security procedures
- Develop and implement security procedures
- Budget for security

**Local Government**

**Protective Actions**

- Identify critical facilities that may need protection  
Such facilities include government, religious, and cultural facilities, transportation systems, business centers, critical infrastructure such as bridges, highways and dams. Assess for vulnerability and plan protection procedures based on the impact of losing the facility.
- Review and update emergency plans
- Establish contact with operators of critical facilities
- Conduct exercises to practice emergency plans
- Develop security plans for government buildings
- Provide emergency information to employees
- Conduct routine inventories of emergency supplies and medical kits
- Establish notification lists of key personnel
- When planning large scale events, hold meetings for information sharing and strategy formation to counter possible incidents
- Be alert for suspicious people and activities
- Budget for security measures

**Public Actions & Expectations**

- Participate freely in travel, work, and recreation activities
- Be prepared for disasters and emergencies. Refer to the American Red Cross brochures for emergency preparedness.
- Develop a family emergency plan
- Know how to turn off your water, power, and gas to your house
- Know what natural hazards are in your area and what measures to take to protect yourself and your family

## GUARDED

**Blue – A general risk of an attack exists. There are no credible, specific threats. Government agencies, local law enforcement, and impacted companies are asked to review emergency response plans and update if necessary.**

### **Critical Facilities Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Ensure that key leaders are familiar with emergency response and business resumption plans
- Review and conduct exercises that employ the plans
- Review and update the emergency calling list
- Review physical security procedures to prevent unauthorized entry or theft
  - Issue employee badges
  - Background checks on employees
  - Limit access and lock sensitive areas 24/7
  - Mark keys with “Do Not Duplicate”
  - Install surveillance cameras
  - Secure a backup power source
  - Install an alarm system
  - Provide physical escort services for all visitors to ensure they are not alone

### **Local Government Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Assess the threat exposure of each critical facility and develop protective measures
- Ensure that adequate communications systems are in place to coordinate with other law enforcement agencies, as necessary
- Review departmental emergency responsibilities with employees
- Review fire and evacuation plans with employees
- Review emergency call list and procedures for emergency mobilization
- Conduct emergency response training exercises
- Support Neighborhood Watch program to develop tips on possible subjects
- Remind citizens and employees to be alert for suspicious behaviors and to report them
- Review security for buildings and equipment to prevent theft and destruction
- Conduct training based on terrorist-based scenarios
- Evaluate information on the web and remove if it compromises security
- Encourage employees to have necessary immunizations

### **Public Actions & Expectations**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Maintain normal routine but be alert for suspicious activity and report it to local law enforcement
- Review family emergency plans
- Stock emergency preparedness kits with food, water, and other supplies
- Be aware of current events
- Update immunizations
- Volunteer to assist at emergency organizations

## ELEVATED

Yellow – A significant risk of an attack occurring exists. Increased surveillance of critical locations and facilities, including implementation of some emergency response plans.

### **Critical Facilities Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Announce to employees that the Threat Level is Elevated (Yellow)
- Review security assessments and revise as needed
- Identify and monitor government sources for warnings
- Test communication call roster for key personnel and update as necessary
- Require identification, visitor's badges, and escorts for visitors
- Review with employees security measures, including mail and delivery of packages
- Report suspicious activities to local law enforcement
- Review mail handling procedures with employees

### **Local Government Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Announce to employees and the public that the threat level is elevated
- Review security plans to critical facilities
- Assess potential terrorist targets and develop countermeasures
- Assign a priority for protection to each critical facility based on the consequence of its loss
- Review security for buildings and equipment, update if needed
- Require identification, sign in and escorts for building visitors
- Check buildings for unattended packages
- Monitor current news events and state (CATIC) and federal terrorist advisories
- Keep public informed on threats and advisories
- Conduct emergency plan exercises to ensure procedures are understood
- Disseminate information to appropriate private sector security managers as needed
- Conduct weekly radio checks
- Report suspicious activities to CATIC
- Review mail handling procedures with employees

### **Public Actions & Expectations**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Continue normal activities but be alert for suspicious activities and report them to law enforcement
- Become active in your Neighborhood Watch program
- Suspicious activities include photographing government buildings, bridges, dams, water systems, power systems, interstate highway nodes, asking detailed questions about security at these critical facilities
- Check emergency kits and restock as necessary

## HIGH

**Orange – High risk of an attack occurring exists. There are credible threats but no specific target identified. Increase security at critical facilities and locations. A security force combined of federal, state, and local law enforcement in coordination with the military.**

### **Critical Facilities**

#### **Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Announce that threat is High and explain expectations
- Monitor current events
- Check to ensure appropriate security measures are functioning
- Remind employees to report suspicious circumstances
- Search all personal bags, parcels, and people if necessary
- Restrict parking near building
- Inspect all deliveries and consider off-site location for deliveries
- Remind employees of searches and resulting delays

### **Local Government**

#### **Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Announce threat condition high to employees and public
- Discuss actions to be taken and activate emergency plans, if needed
- Close or restrict access to government buildings, critical facilities, and infrastructure
- Erect barricades to deny access to underground parking and to protect critical buildings
- Pre-screen building visitors, call to confirm the visit and require sign in and escorts to location
- Remove trash containers and mailboxes close to government buildings
- Instruct employees to be watchful for suspicious packages and other items received in the mail
- Post armed security patrol at dams, bridges, public utilities, and critical facilities
- Test communication plans.
- Verify all deliveries

### **Public Actions & Expectations**

Continue all precautions from lower threat condition

- Maintain normal activities but expect delays in heightened security areas
- Continue to monitor current events
- Report to law enforcement all suspicious persons, activities, and items
- Avoid leaving items unattended in public places
- Keep emergency kits handy
- Rehearse emergency plans with family members
- Take personal security precautions and monitor your surroundings
- Know where family members are, if possible
- Maintain contact with family, friends, and neighbors to ensure their welfare and safety

## SEVERE

**Red – Severe risk of attack occurring or an attack has already occurred. A credible, specific threat to a facility or location may be declared. This level may require deployment of specialized teams, closing of government and public facilities, and monitoring of transportation systems.**

### **Critical Facilities Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat conditions

- Announce threat level severe and explain expected measures to employees
- Deploy personnel as needed to protect facility
- Close facility or restrict entry to emergency personnel only
- Restrict or close parking close to the facility
- Maintain a skeleton crew of employees
- Maintain close contact with law enforcement
- Provide security in the facility's parking lots
- Immediately report suspicious activity to law enforcement
- Restrict or suspend all deliveries and mail to the facility
- Essential deliveries should be sent to an off-site location for inspection

### **Local Government Protective Actions**

Continue all precautions from lower threat conditions

- Announce threat level severe; explain expected measures to employees and public
- Deny access to critical facilities
- Close government and public buildings, as necessary
- Inspect undercarriages and interiors of vehicles entering parking lots near protected facilities
- Deploy equipment and personnel to critical facilities
- Coordinate protection of critical facilities with armed forces
- Cancel or delay employee travel and leave
- Control release of information to the media
- Provide security to personnel repairing or restoring damaged facilities and systems
- Update employees and public regularly

### **Public Actions & Expectations**

Continue all precautions from lower threat conditions

- Report suspicious activities to law enforcement, for immediate response call 911
- Suspicious activities include persons photographing critical facilities, asking detailed questions about security of a facility or dressing inappropriately for weather conditions
- Expect delays for searches of bags and parcels at public facilities
- Expect traffic delays and restrictions
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times to avoid being a victim of a terrorist attack or a crime
- Avoid crowded public areas or gatherings
- Do not travel into an area affected by a terrorist attack or an area that is a target of an attack
- Check emergency supplies, restock if necessary, and place in a handy place
- Keep vehicle fuel tank full
- Be prepared to evacuate if it is ordered
- Monitor news reports and Emergency Alert System radio/TV stations
- Avoid passing on unsubstantiated information