

OPERATION SAFEGUARD

POTENTIAL INDICATORS OF CRIMINAL OR TERRORIST ACTIVITIES RELATING TO RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

The following examples of activity relating to Religious Institutions, though not fully inclusive, may be of *possible* concern to law enforcement:

Suspicious Individuals:

- Unusual inquiries about the congregation from individuals who do not seem to be of the same faith or denomination
- Actions that suggest that an individual, present for a religious service, is unfamiliar with the rite or customs of the service (i.e., kneeling instead of remaining standing during a specified portion of the prayer service or not responding along with the congregation)
- Individuals found loitering in areas where there is access to the HVAC system or other physical plant systems (i.e., air intake vents; electrical breaker switch boxes) related to building operations

Suspicious Activities:

- Evidence suggesting that the building's HVAC system (i.e., heating, ventilation, air conditioning access rooms or panels) may possibly have been tampered with
- Unusual odors or substances, oil based stains or other flammable material
- Parking of a suspicious vehicle, such as a truck, in front of the building when normally such vehicles are not parked in that location
- The discovery of an unattended package or suspicious object

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:

**1-866-SAFE-NYS
1-866-723-3697**