



# PERSONAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS



DEFEND TODAY,  
SECURE TOMORROW

## INTRODUCTION

In recent months, the U.S. has experienced civil unrest across various jurisdictions. Due to continued sociopolitical issues, there remains a potential for further unrest. Domestic terrorists and other violent extremist actors may continue to leverage peaceful protests to attempt to incite hate, destroy critical infrastructure, and inflict bodily harm. Extremist actors have also used rhetoric to attempt to threaten high-profile individuals associated with the management and operation of critical infrastructure. To reduce risk, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) recommends that individuals, particularly those with higher profile status, implement basic security measures to increase personal safety.

## BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS

Critical Infrastructure owners and their personnel can reduce the probability of becoming a victim of an attack by remaining vigilant and reporting suspicious behavior that individuals may exhibit, including:

-  Loitering at a location without a reasonable explanation
-  Expressing or implying threats of violence
-  Prolonging interest in or taking pictures of people or infrastructure in an unusual or covert manner
-  Unauthorized people trying to enter a restricted area or impersonating authorized personnel
-  Avoiding security personnel or systems
-  Placing an object or package, either in a concealed or blatant manner, that has unexplainable wires or other bomb-like components, and abandoning it or leaving the area

## PERSONAL SECURITY MEASURES

Applying basic security measures can enhance the protection of critical infrastructure and mitigate threats to personal safety.

-  Creating a personal or family emergency action plan
-  Heading to nearest police station if being followed
-  Changing daily routine, particularly routes to and from work
-  Avoiding suspicious packages, and recognizing potential indicators of a suspected explosive device to notify law enforcement
-  Letting a trusted person know where you are going, particularly if outside of daily functions
-  Keeping hands free as carrying items may result in further vulnerabilities
-  Exercising caution when using underground and enclosed parking
-  Avoiding text messaging or lengthy cell phone use while walking alone
-  Staying in well-lit public areas and avoiding isolated streets
-  Being extra alert and knowing who and what are in the vicinity
-  Identifying scheduled local demonstrations to avoid large crowds
-  Asking for help – contact security for escort to vehicle
-  Hiding personally identifiable information while in public areas
-  Trusting instincts and being assertive in decision-making; calling police, if necessary
-  Carrying simple to use protective tools such as pepper spray

Please visit [cisa.gov/hometownsecurity](https://cisa.gov/hometownsecurity) for additional resources.

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