

# **U.S. COAST GUARD**

## **SECTOR SE NEW ENGLAND**

**Suspicious Activity Handout - May 2011**

The U.S. Coast Guard asks you to take part in

### **AMERICA'S WATERWAY WATCH**



<http://aww.aww-sp.com/>

#### **TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY CONTACT:**

**USCG SECTOR SE NEW ENGLAND  
COMMAND CENTER - 24 HOUR**

**1 – 508 – 457 – 3211**

or

**NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER**

**1 – 800 – 424 – 8802**

**For Immediate Danger  
to Life or Property, Dial**

**911**

As a person who spends much of your time on or near the water, you already know what is normal and what is not, and you are well suited to notice suspicious activities - activities that may indicate threats to our nation's homeland security. We urge you to adopt a heightened sense of sensitivity toward unusual events or individuals you may encounter in or around ports, docks, marinas, riversides, beaches, or waterfront communities.

If you observe suspicious behavior or activity, you should simply note the details and report the suspicious activity using the phone numbers listed. You are not expected to approach or challenge anyone acting in a suspicious manner.

When reporting suspicious activity, try to include as many details as you can, including but not limited to:

**S** - Size (Jot down the number of people, gender, ages, and physical descriptions)

**A** - Activity (Describe exactly what they are doing)

**L** - Location (Provide exact location)

**U** - Uniform (Describe what they are wearing, including shoes)

**T** - Time (Provide date, time, and duration of activity)

**E** - Equipment (Describe vehicle, make, color etc., license plate, camera, guns, etc)

- Vessel Name/Registration
- Photographs
- Video Surveillance
- Unscheduled Deliveries
- Size, Shape, and Description of suspicious packages
- Identification information (Driver's license, TWIC, mariner's document)
- Any other information regardless of how small or unrelated as it may seem.

Contact the U. S. Coast Guard Command Center or the National Response Center at the numbers listed above without delay.

## **INDICATORS OF SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation Counterterrorism Division has provided some examples of suspicious activity:

- Individuals looking to rent, lease, or operate vessels or dive equipment in a suspicious manner.
- When questioned, individual has a weak cover story that can fall apart under scrutiny.
- Taking notes or drawing diagrams of a facility or location.
- Taking successive photographs or video of a location, as opposed to one or two photos of a person in a particular scene.
- Individuals taking pictures with backdrops that do not make sense or that lack features of general tourist interest.
- Taking measurements (counting footsteps, measuring building entrances or perimeters, distances between security locations, or distances between cameras, etc.)
- Repetitive visits to the same location.
- Drive-by videotaping.
- Taking pictures or video of highways, roadways, on- and off-ramps, points of entry and egress, traffic patterns etc.
- Questioning security personnel or employees, focusing on sensitive subjects such as security information, hours of operation, etc.
- Individual produces identity document other than a good quality state issued driver license or identity card. Possesses multiple documents with different identifiers (DOB/SSN/Address etc)
- Activities conducted at unusual hours.
- Presence of new/unfamiliar cleaning crew, contractors, etc.
- Private vehicle attempts to enter a commercial vehicle delivery/loading dock area.
- Persons parking, standing, or loitering in the same area over a multiple-day period.
- Vehicle riding low, with tinted windows. License plate is out of state, poorly secured or missing a tag. Vehicle passenger compartment appears to have packages/cargo in interior covered by a blanket or tarp. Vehicle with out of date inspection or missing public VIN.

