



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
CITY OF CHICAGO

November 13, 2018

Dear Liquor Licensee:

Given the recent tragedy at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks, California, please find the attached Situational Awareness Bulletin from the Chicago Police Department regarding bars, restaurants and nightclubs. The bulletin contains useful information regarding potential indicators of suspicious activity and potential threats that should be brought to the attention of law enforcement immediately by calling 911.

Please share this information with your staff and use it to enhance your existing security and emergency plans.

Sincerely,

Shannon K. Trotter  
Local Liquor Control Commissioner

cc: Commander Karen Konow, CPD Vice Control  
Rosa Escareno, Commissioner, BACP



### Bars, Restaurants and Nightclubs

This Situational Awareness Bulletin provides information to assist in deterring, preventing, or disrupting incidents such as the one that recently occurred at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks, California. This information is provided to assist in the enhancement of and review of existing protective plans and measures. As always, should you observe suspicious activity or behavior it is imperative that it be brought to the attention of law enforcement so they can assess your report – call 911 immediately.

#### **Potential Indicators of pre-operational surveillance or attack planning include:**

Unusual, repeated, or prolonged interest in or surveillance of facility;

Interest in security measures and assets, including staffing levels, attention to or avoidance of surveillance cameras, emergency doors or evacuation procedures, and access controls, such as alarms, barriers, doors, gates, or locks;

Suspicious actions, such as making hoax emergency calls or repeated bomb threats to provoke and observe responses by security or law enforcement officers;

Suspicious interest in entry points, peak days, and hours of operations, security personnel, surveillance assets (including cameras), and access controls such as alarms, barriers, doors, gates, or locks;

Out-of-place or unusual items in trash or other areas, such as empty or used packaging or materials that could be used to create explosives;

Attempts to access sensitive or restricted areas of the facility;

Attempts to elicit information from building maintenance or security personnel;

Loitering, parking, or standing in same location for an unusual period of time or on multiple occasions with no reasonable explanation;

Discreet or unusual use of still cameras, video recorders, note taking, or use of sketching materials, consistent with pre-operational surveillance;

Significant changes in physical appearance or attempts to disguise appearance between repeated visits; and

Garments not appropriate for weather, seasons, or location.



# Crime Prevention & Information Center

## Situational Awareness Bulletin

### Protective Measures options for consideration:

Train security personnel to watch for suspicious or unattended vehicles on or near facilities; watch for repeated visitors or outsiders who have no apparent business in non-public areas; watch for abandoned parcels, suitcases, backpacks, and packages and any unusual activities;

Consider establishing safe areas within the facility for assembly and refuge during crises;

Consider installing closed-circuit television systems, intruder detection systems, and lighting to cover key areas;

Ensure that emergency communications equipment is present and operable. practice emergency communications plans and systems;

Ensure personnel receive training on active shooter, threat awareness, emergency communication, response actions, and reporting of suspicious activity; and

Be vigilant of secondary devices, specifically at anticipated evacuation routes.

### Additional Resources

Chicago Police Department's Public and Private Partnership Information Sharing Platform

<http://www.preparedchicago.com>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Active Shooter Resources

<http://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>

U.S. Department of Homeland Security Securing Soft Targets and Crowded Places Resources

<https://www.dhs.gov/publication/securing-soft-targets-and-crowded-places>

Suspicious Activity Reporting Public Awareness Video

[https://nsi.ncirc.gov/training\\_publicawarenessvideo.aspx](https://nsi.ncirc.gov/training_publicawarenessvideo.aspx)

**If You See Something...Say Something**  
**Call 911 Immediately**