

CERT Unit 8: Terrorism and CERT

Participant Manual

FEMA

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



CERT Unit 8: Terrorism and CERT

In this unit, you will learn about:

- **Terrorism:** Defining terrorism, including the goals and tactics of some terrorist groups, and detailing how to respond when an active shooter is in your vicinity.
- **Eight Signs of Terrorism:** The eight signs of terrorism and how to report suspicious activity.
- **Preparing for Your Neighborhood:** Steps to take to be prepared at home, work, and in your neighborhood.
- **Hazmat and CBRNE:** Identifying some basic guidelines during a Hazmat or CBRNE event.

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SECTION 1: UNIT 8 OVERVIEW

Unit Objectives

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

1. Define terrorism;
2. List the eight signs of terrorism and describe how to report suspicious activity;
3. Explain the role of a CERT volunteer during a terrorist incident; and
4. Describe activities to prepare for a terrorist incident at home, at work, and in the community.

SECTION 2: TERRORIST GOALS AND TACTICS

The U.S. Department of Justice's definition of terrorism:

> *"The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives."*

Terrorism may be perpetrated by foreign or domestic individuals or groups and although the results are similar, these groups may select different targets and use different tactics to achieve their goals.

Terrorist Goals

Terrorists use violence to influence government policy and to achieve specific objectives for their cause. Attacks are intended to undermine the public's sense of safety and their confidence in the government. Attackers seek to portray the government as ineffective, weak, and/or otherwise incapable.

Terrorist attacks are often perpetrated by ideological extremists who are prepared to die in what they consider a symbolic sacrifice or act of martyrdom. Attackers frequently exploit social media seeking to spread misinformation and broadcast their actions to audiences around the globe, with the desire of increasing fear while simultaneously bolstering their credibility and legitimacy with like-minded supporters.

New Tactics

Recently, terrorist attacks have trended away from large resource intensive plots such as the September 11 attacks to more decentralized, less sophisticated attacks like those in Paris, France in 2016. Attackers have favored smaller, less centrally controlled networks, using more simplistic and accessible means such as guns and homemade improvised explosive devices (IEDs). These components are easier to acquire, control, and conceal than large high-yield explosives, biological, radiological, or nuclear devices. Although there is always some risk from CBRNE type incidents and the United States remains vigilant against these threats, it is difficult to obtain and deploy these types of weapons.

Active Shooter

An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of targets. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to survivors.

Many recent terrorist attacks have included armed individuals with some training indiscriminately shooting civilians; although the motivations are different than a single active shooter, the results are similar: rapidly accumulating casualties in a contained space.

Improvised Explosive Devices

An IED attack is the use of a "homemade" bomb and/or destructive device to destroy, incapacitate, harass, or distract. Because they are improvised, IEDs can come in many forms, ranging from a small pipe bomb to a sophisticated device capable of causing massive damage and loss of life.

Terrorist networks both domestic and abroad have published numerous sets of instructions on how to make homemade explosives. IEDs consist of a variety of components that include an initiator, switch, main charge, power source, and a container. IEDs can be worn (belts, vests), carried (bags, backpacks, containers of all sizes/types), or transported in a vehicle; placed or thrown by a person; delivered in a package; or concealed on the roadside.

To gain a better understanding of the impact that IEDs can have, the table below illustrates the damage radius cause by various sizes and types of IEDs.

Image 8.1: IED Impact

Threat	Threat Description	Explosive Capacity	Building Evacuation Distance	Outdoor Evacuation Distance
	Small Package/letter	1 lb	40 ft	900 ft
	Pipe Bomb	5 lb	70 ft	1,200 ft
	FedEx Package	10 lb	90 ft	1,080 ft
	Vest/Container Bombs	20 lb	110 ft	1,700 ft
	Parcel Package	50 lb	150 ft	1,850 ft
	Compact Car	500 lb	320 ft	1,900 ft
	Full Size Car/Minivan	1,000 lb	400 ft	2,400 ft
	Van/SUV/Pickup Truck	4,000 lb	640 ft	3,800 ft
	Delivery Truck	10,000 lb	860 ft	5,100 ft

IEDs may be surrounded by or packed with additional materials or "enhancements" such as nails, glass, or metal fragments designed to increase the amount of shrapnel propelled by the explosion to maximize casualties. Enhancements may also include other elements such as hazardous materials. An IED can be initiated by a variety of methods depending on the intended target.

Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attacks

A complex coordinated terrorist attack is a synchronized attack, conducted by two or more semi-independent teams at multiple locations in close succession, initiated with little or no warning, using well trained attackers and employing one or more of the following: fire arms, explosives, and fire as a weapon.

As seen in Paris, France in 2016, attackers have coordinated their actions to hit multiple targets nearly simultaneously. When conducting these attacks, there may be pre-planned coordination as well as real-time coordination between attackers. These attacks can be extremely lethal in a relatively short period of time.

Cyber Attacks

Another type of terrorist weapon is deliberate, large-scale disruption of computer networks. This is known as cyberterrorism. To help guard against cyberterrorism, it is important that computer users implement appropriate security measures.

Cybersecurity involves protecting infrastructure by preventing, detecting, and responding to cyber incidents. Unlike physical threats that prompt immediate action—like stop, drop, and roll in the event of a fire—cyber threats are often difficult to identify and comprehend. Among these dangers are viruses erasing entire systems, intruders breaking into systems and altering files, intruders using your computer or device to attack others, or intruders stealing confidential information. The spectrum of cyber risks is limitless. Threats, some more serious and sophisticated than others, can have wide-ranging effects at the individual, community, organizational, and national levels.

- Organized cybercrime, state-sponsored hackers, and cyber espionage can pose national security risks to our country.
- Transportation, power, and other services may be disrupted by large-scale cyber incidents. The extent of the disruption will be determined by many factors such as the target and size of the incident.
- Vulnerability to data breach and loss increases if an organization's network is compromised. Information about a company, its employees, and its customers can be at risk.
- Individually-owned devices such as computers, tablets, mobile phones, and gaming systems that connect to the Internet are vulnerable to intrusion. Personal information may be at risk without proper security.

SECTION 3: PREPARING YOUR COMMUNITY

If You See Something, Say Something: Potential Indicators

We all have a responsibility to play an active role in keeping the country safe. The phrase, "If you see something, say something," took on additional power after the foiled Times Square bomb plot in New York City. On May 1, 2010, street vendors in Times Square noticed a smoking SUV with its blinkers on, engine running, and no one inside. They decided to say something to a police officer. Thousands of people cleared from the area while the bomb was dismantled.

Eight Signs of Terrorism

The presence of even a few signs may indicate the possibility of a terrorist attack. It is important to understand what these signs may look like as they are executed so you are able to identify them within your community. If you recognize one of these signs being acted out, it is important to contact your local law enforcement and effectively communicate the suspicious activity that you have identified. The FBI's Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) tip line (https://tips.fbi.gov/) is an avenue for reporting any suspicious activities.

Signs exhibited by potential terrorists (often in this order) include:

- **Surveillance:** The targeted area is being watched and studied carefully. This may include recording or monitoring activities.
- **Elicitation:** Information is gathered that is specific to the intended target. This may be by mail, phone, or in person.
- **Tests of Security:** Local security measures are tested and analyzed, including measuring reaction times to security breaches or attempts to penetrate security.
- **Funding:** Raising, transferring, and spending money, which may include selling drugs or stolen merchandise, human trafficking, and funneling money through businesses or charities.
- **Acquiring Supplies:** Necessary supplies are gathered to prepare the attack, including weapons/weapon components, transportation, and communications. Supplies may be purchased with cash only.
- **Impersonation or Suspicious People Who Do Not Belong:** People impersonating roles to gain access or information and people who don't fit in or don't seem to belong in the location.
- **Rehearsal and Dry Runs:** Groups or individuals will often map out routes, determine traffic flow and timing ahead of time, and can also operate test runs before the actual attack.
- **Deployment:** The final and most urgent phase when terrorists are deploying assets and getting into position. Attack is imminent.

Although it is not the mission of CERT volunteers to keep constant watch for these signs, everyone should be alert to changes in their environment as a clue to a possible terrorist attack and report suspicious activities to appropriate authorities.

Potential Targets in Your Community

While hardened targets, such as government buildings, military installations, and infrastructure (e.g., power grids and dams) remain viable targets for certain groups, attacks have trended towards easier, less secure targets. Terrorists have frequently selected soft targets like schools, parks, large gathering spaces, cafés, and concert halls. Although differently motivated, active shooters in the United States have also selected less secure targets like malls, movie theatres, and universities. Smaller, less involved plots still generate high casualties and allow the attackers to achieve their objectives with fewer resources.

Preparedness

Terrorist attacks frequently occur without warning; however, being alert, reporting suspicious activities, and taking general preparedness steps, such as having a plan to communicate with loved ones, will help you if one does occur. If you believe a terrorist attack is imminent, call 9-1-1 and follow the instructions provided.

Exercise 8.1: Preparing for a Terrorism-Related Event

Purpose: As with all types of disasters and emergencies, preparation is key to planning for a terrorism-related event. Although it is often difficult to predict when such an event may occur, there are several steps that you can take today to be prepared.

Instructions:

1. Break into small table groups.
2. As a group, create a list of activities that CERT volunteers can do at home or work to better prepare for a terrorism related emergency. Be prepared to share your list with the rest of the class.

SECTION 4: ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATIONS

As introduced in Section 1, active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly.

How to Respond When an Active Shooter is in Your Vicinity

Quickly determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life. Remember that customers and clients are likely to follow the lead of employees and managers during an active shooter situation.

1. RUN

If there is an accessible escape path, attempt to evacuate the premises. Be sure to:

- Have an escape route and plan in mind ahead of time;
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow;
- Leave your belongings behind;
- Help others escape, if possible;
- Prevent individuals from entering an area where the active shooter may be, if possible;
- Keep your hands visible;
- Follow the instructions of any police officers; and
- Call 9-1-1 when you are safe.

2. HIDE

If evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide where the active shooter is less likely to find you. Your hiding place should:

- Be out of the active shooter's view;
- Provide protection if shots are fired in your direction (i.e., an office with a closed and locked door); and
- Not trap you or restrict your options for movement.

To prevent an active shooter from entering your hiding place:

- Lock the door; and
- Blockade the door with heavy furniture.

If the active shooter is nearby:

- Lock the door;
- Silence your cell phone and/or pager;
- Turn off any source of noise (e.g., radios, televisions);
- Hide behind large items (e.g., cabinets, desks); and
- Remain quiet.

If evacuation and hiding out are not possible:

- Remain calm;
- Dial 9 -1-1, if possible, to alert police to the active shooter's location; and
- If you cannot speak, leave the line open and allow the dispatcher to listen.

3. FIGHT

If you are unable to run, evacuate or hide and when your life is in imminent danger, you may attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:

- Taking decisive action;
- Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her;
- Throwing items and improvising weapons;
- Yelling; and
- Committing to your actions.

How to Respond When Law Enforcement Arrives

Law enforcement's purpose is to stop the active shooter as soon as possible. Officers will proceed directly to the shooting without stopping to render aid to the survivors.

- Officers may arrive in teams;
- Officers may wear street clothes, regular patrol uniforms, or external bulletproof vests, Kevlar helmets, and other tactical equipment;
- Officers may be armed with rifles, shotguns, and/or handguns; and
- Officers may shout commands and may push individuals to the ground for their safety.

How to react when law enforcement arrives:

- Try to remain calm;
- Follow officers' instructions;
- Put down any items in your hands (e.g., bags, jackets);
- Immediately raise hands and spread fingers;
- Keep hands visible at all times;
- Avoid making quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them;
- Avoid pointing, screaming, and/or yelling; and
- Do **not** stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating, just proceed in the direction from which officers are entering the premises.

Information to provide to law enforcement or 9-1-1 operator:

- Location of the active shooter(s);
- Number of shooters, if more than one;
- Physical description of shooter(s);
- Number and type of weapons held by the shooter(s); and
- Number of potential targets at the location.

The first officers to arrive to the scene will not stop to help injured persons. Expect rescue teams comprised of additional officers and emergency medical personnel to follow the initial officers. These rescue teams will treat and remove any injured persons. They may also call upon able-bodied individuals to assist in removing the wounded from the premises.

Once you have reached a safe location or an assembly point, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control, and all witnesses have

been identified and questioned. Do not leave until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.

SECTION 5: UNTIL HELP ARRIVES

CERT volunteers are NOT equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents. CERT volunteers should in no way activate or respond to an incident in their community.

However, while highly unlikely, it is possible that you may find yourself in a situation that you believe to be a terrorist attack. In this rare circumstance, CERT volunteers have a developed skillset to provide care until help arrives.

Like in any other situation, volunteers should follow the direction of law enforcement and first responders. You should be mindful of your limits and recognize that your safety is your top priority. Stay safe. Do not put yourself at risk but save lives if you can.

If you are willing and able to assist, remember the most important life-saving interventions, recognize what the stress of the situation can do to you, and understand the physical impact of being in a potential terrorist situation.

Treating Others

If you believe you are able to help those around you, focus on the lifesaving interventions that were covered in Unit 3.

- **Stop Bleeding:** The average person has approximately five liters of blood. Severe blood loss can result in irreversible shock. This means that if you lose about half of your body's blood supply, no matter what anyone does to try to save you, death is unavoidable. You must get bleeding under control as soon as possible. The first way to control severe bleeding is through applying direct pressure. For more information on controlling bleeding, please refer to page 3-4 of the Unit 3 Participant Manual.
- **Maintain Body Temperature:** It is important to maintain the patient's body temperature. If necessary, place a blanket or other material under and/or over the patient to provide protection from extreme ground temperatures (hot or cold). People with very serious injuries are more susceptible to hypothermia, which can increase the risk of death. For more information on maintaining body temperature, please refer to page 3-5 of the Unit 3 Participant Manual.
- **Opening the Airway:** Positioning an injured patient to keep their airway open and clear is critical to saving their life. The best position for the body is one in which the chest can expand fully and the airway is not at risk of being obstructed. In other words, the best position is one in which the tongue cannot flop back into the individual's throat and one in which blood or fluid does not end up in the lungs (aspirated), particularly in the case with someone with facial trauma. There are different ways to position an injured patient to keep their airway open depending on if the patient is conscious or unconscious. For more information on opening the airway, please refer to page 3-7 of the Unit 3 Participant Manual.
- **Providing Comfort:** CERT volunteers can be of great value to injured and emotional patient simply by offering comfort and support. No special skills are needed—just a calm and reassuring presence. For more information on providing comfort, please refer to page 3-9 of the Unit 3 Participant Manual.

You must make the best decisions possible with the information that you have at hand. Even if an incident turns out not to be terrorist related, you have made the right decision if you have done the most good for the greatest number and have not been injured.

Recognizing Stress

Before you step forward to help it is important to recognize how the stress of the situation may affect you. In any life-threatening situation, you will feel fear and this fear will impact your mind and body. It is important for you to be aware of what may happen, so you can recognize these responses as a normal part of your body's response to stress. It is normal to experience certain physical and psychological changes. Recognize that:

- Fear is typically at its peak once we comprehend the danger of the situation;
- Fear has profound effects on the mind and body; and
- Fear can influence action.

Physical Impact

Explosions create a high-pressure blast that sends debris flying and lifts people off the ground. The type of injuries and the number of people hurt will vary depending on: the physical environment and the size of the blast, the amount of shielding between people and the blast, fires or structural damage that result from the explosion, and whether the explosion occurs in a closed space or an open area. Injuries common to explosions include:

- Overpressure damage to the lungs, ears, abdomen, and other pressure sensitive organs. Blast lung injury, a condition caused by the extreme pressure of an explosion, is the leading cause of illness and death for initial survivors of an explosion.
- Fragmentation injuries caused by projectiles thrown by the blast—material from the bomb, shrapnel, or flying debris that penetrates the body and causes damage.
- Impact injuries are caused when the blast throws a person into another object causing serious injuries, including fractures, amputation, and trauma to the head and neck.
- Thermal injuries caused by burns to the skin, mouth, sinuses, and lungs.
- Other injuries including exposure to toxic substances, crush injuries, and aggravation of pre-existing conditions (e.g., asthma, congestive heart failure).

Remember life-saving interventions for controlling bleeding, maintaining body temperature, and opening airways that were taught in Unit 3: Disaster Medical Operations Part 1.

Secondary Attacks

Terrorist attacks, especially those involving explosives, may include a secondary wave targeting those who are providing care to the injured. Be highly aware of your surroundings and move away from danger as soon as you are able. If you can do so, take others with you.

A bomb explosion can cause secondary explosions if gasoline, natural gas, or other flammable material is ignited. Secondary hazards that result can include fire with possibly toxic smoke, disruption of electric power, ruptured natural gas lines and water mains, and debris. There can be loss of traffic control in the blast area with possible traffic accidents involving fleeing citizens.

What Professional Responders Will Do

There are several measures that you can expect professional responders to take when they arrive at the scene of a terrorist incident.

Size-up

The first step that professional responders will take when they arrive at the scene is to conduct a thorough size-up. They will follow steps that are very similar to those that CERTs take to determine:

- What is going on;
- How bad the situation is and how much worse it could get;
- What measures can be taken to control the incident safely; and
- What resources will be needed.

Establish Zones

CERTs can expect professional responders to treat some terrorist incidents the same as hazardous materials incidents. As such, the next step that they will take is to establish three incident zones.

1. The **Hot Zone** is referred to as the incident scene and the contaminated area around the scene.
2. The **Warm Zone** in a decontamination situation would be upwind (and upstream if the contaminant is waterborne) from the Hot Zone and is used to isolate survivors during decontamination. In a non-decontamination situation, such as a terrorist attack, the warm zone will be the area immediately outside of the incident scene.
3. The **Cold Zone** is located beyond the Warm Zone. Survivors will be evacuated to the Cold Zone and kept there until professional responders authorize them to leave.

SECTION 6: HAZMAT AND CBRNE

It is highly unlikely that CERT volunteers will find themselves working within a Hazmat or CBRNE incident. However, there are some basic guidelines that can be noted for these types of incidents.

Basic HAZMAT Decontamination Procedures

The objective of decontamination is to remove harmful chemicals or particles of radioactive dirt or dust that have come in contact with the skin or clothes.

- Leave the contaminated area immediately. Depending on the circumstances, go inside, go outside, or go upwind, uphill, or upstream from the contaminant. (Seek a distance of at least 1,000 to 1,500 feet.)
- Take decontamination action. Seconds count! The goal is to limit the time that the agent is in contact with the skin.
  - Remove everything from the body, including jewelry. Cut off clothing that would normally be removed over the head to reduce the probability of inhaling or ingesting the agent. Seal your clothes in a plastic bag.
  - Wash hands before using them to shower. If no shower is available, improvise with water from faucets or bottled water.
  - Flush the entire body, including the eyes, underarms, and groin area, with copious amounts of cool water. Hot water opens the pores of the skin and can promote absorption of the contaminant. Using copious amounts of water is important because some chemicals react to small amounts of water.

If soap is immediately available, mix the soap with water for decontamination. Avoid scrubbing with soap because scrubbing can rub the chemical into the skin rather than remove it.

Wash hair with soap or shampoo or rinse with water if soap is not available. Do not use conditioner as that can bind radioactive materials to your hair and make it difficult to remove.

If hosing someone else off or pouring water from a container, avoid both physical contact with the person and with the runoff.

The water used for decontamination must be contained and covered or drained outside of the shelter area to avoid shelter contamination.

Blot dry using an absorbent cloth. Do not rub the skin! Put on clean clothes.

As soon as possible, emergency responders will set up mass decontamination capabilities. For radiological events, stations for radiation monitoring and blood tests will also be set up to determine levels of exposure and what next steps to take to protect health.

CBRNE

CBRNE stands for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosive. These events have the capability to cause mass casualties and cause great public

unrest. The anthrax letter attacks in 2001 are an example of how effective and disrupting a CBRNE attack could be. The threat of CBRNE attacks has become less likely as terrorists have moved on to new tactics, as discussed earlier in this unit.

A CBRNE incident differs from a hazardous material incident in both scope (i.e., CBRNE can be a mass casualty situation) and intent. CBRNE incidents are responded to under the assumption that they are intentional and malicious.

CBRNE Indicators

It is important to be alert to changes in the environment as a clue to a possible terrorist attack.

While bombs and explosions have obvious immediate effects, biological or chemical attacks may not be as immediately noticeable. Indicators that a biological or chemical attack has occurred or is underway could include:

- Vapor clouds or mists that are unusual for the area or for the time of day.
- Out of place and unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles. Items that are out of place and unattended could signal a possible terrorist attack. This could include chemical or biological agents as well as explosives.

If you observe any of these indicators of a terrorist incident, you should:

- Not touch it;
- Move away from the object or area; and
- Report it to authorities immediately.

Nuclear Attack

A nuclear weapon is an explosive device that derives its destructive force from nuclear reaction. All nuclear devices cause deadly effects when exploded, including blinding light, intense heat, initial nuclear radiation, blast, fires started by the heat pulse, secondary fires caused by the destruction, and widespread radioactive material that can contaminate the air, water, and ground surfaces for miles around.

A nuclear device can range from a weapon carried by an intercontinental ballistic missile launched by a hostile nation or terrorist organization, to a small portable nuclear device transported by an individual.

In the very unlikely event you believe you are in a nuclear attack or exposed to radiation, there are three factors that significantly affect your safety after the incident: time, distance, and shielding. A critical protective action in a radiological or nuclear event is to get inside as quickly as possible, stay inside, and stay tuned to local radio or television stations for further guidance.

- **Stay Inside (time):** Limiting the amount of time in the area of an incident is important to limit exposure to radioactive fallout resulting from the explosion. Remain inside until you receive notification from authorities that it is safe to leave the building. In most cases, be prepared to shelter inside for a few days. However, sheltering may be necessary for as long as a month.

- **Go Deep Inside (distance/shielding):** It is important to find adequate shelter quickly to avoid radioactive fallout resulting from the explosion. Get inside as soon as possible and go to the farthest interior room or to a basement. Flat roofs collect fallout particles, so the top floor is not a good choice, nor is a floor adjacent to a neighboring flat roof. The more distance between you and the fallout particles, the better.

If you are outside when the event occurs, do not look at the flash or fire ball. It can blind you. Take cover behind anything that will offer protection, lie flat, and cover your head. If the explosion is some distance away, it could take 30 seconds or more for the blast wave to hit. Get inside as soon as you can.

Shelter-in-Place

You may receive direction from law enforcement to shelter-in-place. Depending on the nature of the threat (if it is chemical or biological), this may involve sealing yourself into a room. Procedures for sheltering in place during a chemical or biological attack include:

- Shut off the ventilation system and latch all doors and windows to reduce airflow from the outside.
- Go to your shelter-in-place room (where your precut plastic, duct tape, radio, and other supplies should be stored).
- Use precut plastic sheeting to cover openings where air can enter the room, including doors, windows, vents, electrical outlets, and telephone outlets. When cut, the sheeting should extend several inches beyond the dimensions of the door or window to allow room to duct tape the sheeting to the walls and floor.
- Tape the plastic sheeting around all doors and windows using duct tape to ensure a good seal.
- Seal with duct tape other areas where air can come in, such as under doors and areas where pipes enter the home. Air can be blocked by placing towels or other soft objects in areas where air could enter, then securing them with duct tape.
- Chemicals used in an attack will be carried on the wind and will dissipate over time. You will generally not need to stay in a sealed room for more than a few hours. Monitor Emergency Alert System broadcasts to know when it is safe to leave the safe room.
- After contaminants have cleared, open windows and vents and turn on fans to provide ventilation.

To be able to execute these procedures during an actual event, requires that you:

- Store precut plastic sheeting in your identified shelter-in-place room.
- Assemble and store food, water, and a battery-operated radio in the shelter-in-place room.
- Practice sealing the room.
- Establish shelter-in-place procedures wherever you spend significant amounts of time at home, at work, and/or at school.

As a rule of thumb, 10 square feet of floor space per person will provide sufficient air to prevent carbon dioxide buildup for up to 5 hours, assuming a normal breathing rate while resting.

If the threat is a violent individual(s), shelter-in-place may be referred to as a lockout and you may be asked to lock yourself into a safe space by doing the following:

- Lock exterior doors.
- Clear hallways, restrooms, and other rooms that cannot be secured.
- Move all persons away from windows. Secure and cover windows, if able.
- Make only essential communications and avoid any broadcasts about the movement, location, or status of law enforcement in the area.
- Once the threat has subsided, law enforcement announces, “all clear” and operations can return to normal.

UNIT 8 SUMMARY

The key points from this unit are:

- The definition of terrorism, as defined by the Department of Justice, is the "unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives." Terrorism may be perpetrated by foreign or domestic individuals or groups.
- When terrorists attack, their goals are to:
  - Create mass casualties;
  - Disrupt critical resources, vital services, and the economy; and
  - Cause fear.
- Terrorists have moved away from large, resource-intensive plots to complex, coordinated attacks like those in Paris, France in 2016.
- New tactics include active shooter events and detonating improvised explosive devices, sometimes occurring simultaneously in coordinated attacks. In addition, an evolving terrorist tactic is cyberterrorism.
- An Active Shooter is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area; in most cases, active shooters use firearms(s) and there is no pattern or method to their selection of targets. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to survivors.
- Run, Hide, Fight is the best way to respond if an active shooter is in your vicinity.
- An IED attack is the use of a "homemade" bomb and/or destructive device to destroy, incapacitate, harass, or distract. Because they are improvised, IEDs can come in many forms, ranging from a small pipe bomb to a sophisticated device capable of causing massive damage and loss of life.
- CERT volunteers, along with the public, play a critical role in identifying suspicious activities occurring within the community. There are typically eight signs of terrorism that signal potential terrorist activity. If identified and communicated correctly to local law enforcement, suspicious activities surrounding the potential possibility of a terrorist attack can be stopped. The eight signs of terrorism are:
  - Surveillance;
  - Elicitation;
  - Tests of security;
  - Funding;
  - Acquiring supplies;
  - Impersonation or suspicious people who don't belong;
  - Rehearsal and dry runs; and
  - Deployment.
- Terrorist attacks frequently occur without warning; however, being alert, reporting suspicious activities, and taking general preparedness steps, such as having a plan to communicate with loved ones, will help you if one does occur. If you

believe a terrorist attack is imminent, call 9-1-1 and follow the instructions provided.

- CERT volunteers are NOT equipped or trained to response to terrorist incidents. CERT volunteers should in no way activate or respond to an incident in their community.
- While highly unlikely, it is possible that you may find yourself in a situation that you believe is a terrorist attack. Like in any other situation, be mindful of your limits and recognize that your safety is your top priority. Stay safe. Do not put yourself at risk but save lives if you can.
- It is important to be alert to changes in the environment as a clue to possible CBRNE attack.
  - Vapor clouds or mists that are unusual for the area or for the time of day.
  - Out of place and unattended packages, boxes, or vehicles. Items that are out of place and unattended could signal a possible terrorist attack. This could include chemical or biological agents as well as explosives.
- If you observe any of these indicators:
  - Do **not** touch it;
  - Move away from the area; and
  - Report it to authorities immediately.

Homework Assignment

Review the materials to be presented in the next session.