The FBI's Behavioral Threat Assessment Center (BTAC), Behavioral Analysis Unit 1 (BAU-1), Critical Incident Response Group (CIRG), offers the following behaviorally-focused immediate action recommendations for use in cases of attempted, interrupted and completed acts of targeted violence.

**Administrative**

(U) This product was prepared by members of BTAC. Observations, opinions, and suggestions contained herein are the result of the knowledge drawn from the personal investigative experience, educational background, specialized training, and research conducted by members of BTAC and others. Research and operational experience indicate there is no one demographic profile, including gender, for persons of concern. However, for ease of reading, only the singular male pronoun is used in this publication. **This list is not intended to serve as a substitute for a crisis response plan.**

(U) Rather, it serves as an investigative and operational tool which may assist in enhancing officer safety and identifying areas of interest concerning motivation behind an attack; it is neither intended nor suitable for inclusion in an evidentiary or testimonial document. This document may not be disseminated outside your agency without authorization by BTAC.

### Major Points

- **Other Scene Possibilities**
- Welfare checks to family
- Family/friends media warning
- Limited time for cooperation

- **Search Considerations**
- BTAC “Search Considerations” quick launch
- BTAC “Search Terms” quick launch
- Legacy tokens

- **On-site BTAC Consultation**
- BAU Threat Management Coordinator (TMC)
Other Scene Possibilities

- (U) Attacks may be preceded by homicidal violence against caretakers or loved ones. Therefore, appropriate welfare checks should be conducted once the attacker has been identified. This is also an opportunity to build rapport and sensitize caretakers to potential incoming media contact.
  - (U) The news media and others will seek out caretakers and loved ones of an attacker as soon as he is identified. It may be wise to provide contact information for victim-witness coordination (VWC) or other personnel, as program requirements dictate, to such individuals during a welfare check, and/or arrange for follow-up. Investigators may consider establishing relationships with key victims or witnesses to facilitate long term cooperation.
  - (U) Following a violent attack, there is often a limited period of time when law enforcement is able to successfully engage with family, friends or associates of the attacker to gather information. This period of cooperation typically follows the almost initial contact made by local law enforcement once the attacker has been identified. To the extent possible, investigators should prioritize and quickly conduct organized and structured follow-up interviews with family, friends and close associates to elicit important behavioral information which is often overlooked or under prioritized during the critical incident response. Oftentimes, family, friends and close associates are shocked, saddened, and alarmed by what their loved one has done. In some situations, these critical sources of information receive scrutiny from media and the public, often leading them to decline further law enforcement questioning after initial post-incident interviews. Reference BTAC "Interview of Associates" quick launch document for more information.

Search Considerations

- (U) Quickly secure items or locations to be searched; see BTAC “Search Considerations.”
- (U) After electronic devices have been identified and seized, see BTAC “Search Terms” for list of keyword searches for on-scene download and exploitation of these devices.
- (U) Remain alert for legacy tokens which may have been mailed, electronically mailed, or left behind. A legacy token is a communication or artifact, left by an attacker and intended to convey some meaning about the attacker and his motivations. A legacy token may be left behind at the site of an attack, within the attacker’s home or other area of control, or sent elsewhere such as to a media outlet or preselected individuals.
On-site BTAC Consultation

- (U) On-site BTAC consultation is often available for investigative, search, and interview strategy recommendations. If desired, request BTAC deployment through the local FBI office. The FBI representative within the incident command post, if any, can also facilitate communication between FBI assets and the primary law enforcement agency responsible for the investigation. In addition, each FBI field office has an assigned BAU Threat Management Coordinator (TMC). The TMC has received advanced training on threat assessment and threat management concepts and is well positioned to match the specialized services of the FBI's BTAC with the post-incident investigative needs at the affected field office. The BAU TMC will assist field office management, substantive investigative squads, crisis management coordinators in pursuing significant, but often fleeting, behavioral information and by ordinating and facilitating a potential BAU deployment to directly assist in the investigative response.

(U) The FBI’s Behavioral Threat Assessment Center (BTAC) is a national-level, multi-agency, multi-disciplinary Task Force focused on the prevention of terrorism and targeted violence through the application of behaviorally-based operational support, training and research. In this unique capacity, the BTAC provides investigative and operational support for the FBI’s most complex, concerning, and complicated international and domestic terrorism investigations. In addition, the BTAC provides threat assessment and threat management support to federal, state, local, tribal and campus law enforcement partners, as well as community stakeholders, working diligently across the United States on targeted violence prevention. Significant lines of effort on targeted violence prevention include persons/adults of concern, potential active shooters, school shootings/threats, stalking and workplace violence. The BTAC’s extensive and broad-ranging capabilities are enhanced through a cadre of BAU coordinators assigned to all 56 field offices across the United States.

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