(U//FOUO) The FBI’s Behavioral Threat Assessment Center (BTAC), Behavioral Analysis Unit 1 (BAU-1), Critical Incident Response Group (CIRG), offers the following general search suggestions for use in cases where there is a concern for future targeted violence as the items recovered may reveal risk factors and behavioral warning signs, as well as buffers and mitigators, relative to a concern for future targeted violence. These search considerations are also valid for use in cases of attempted, interrupted and completed acts of targeted violence and terrorism; items recovered will be relevant to a behavioral threat assessment and inquiry into the question of motive. The expected context for this material is in relation to searches of the subject’s home and other locations under the subject’s direct control.

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. This list is not a substitute for a thorough, well-planned investigation, and should not be considered all-inclusive.

(U) The investigative and operational recommendations herein may assist identifying possible areas of interest concerning the motivation behind potential, planned violence; 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.

(U) Prior to entering the residence or other area controlled by the subject, such as a vehicle, bedroom or other living spaces, storage container or facility, investigators should remain alert to the possibility of hazardous devices on site.

- (U) All weapons to including but not limited to firearms, knives, ammunition (spent and unspent), explosive devices or components and any variations thereof.
- (U) All computer, network device, electronic device, cellphone and/or other storage media, including but not limited to those designed to create, store, or process data, audio, video and still imagery, those designed to facilitate communications, those designed to facilitate gaming, and other electronic media
- (U) Volatile computer data such as active information temporarily reflecting a computer's current state including registries, caches, physical and virtual memory, network connections, network shares, running processes, encrypted removable media (e.g., flash/hard drives, CDs, floppy disks, etc.), and printing activity. Collected volatile data may contain such information as opened files, connections to other computers, passwords used for encryption, the presence of antiforensic tools, or the presence of programs loaded in memory that would otherwise go unnoticed. Volatile data and its corresponding evidentiary
value are lost when a computer is powered off and unplugged, such as when it is transported for collection and/or analysis

- (U) Belongings, whether physical or digital, that may have been staged for the purpose of law enforcement discovery (e.g., cueing a movie to a specific scene on a computer, displaying of clothing identified during police pursuit, etc.)

- (U) Medical and mental health records pertaining to the subject, as well as medications including prescription, non-prescription, natural supplements, illegal substances, and drug paraphernalia

- (U) School or employment records pertaining to the subject, including but not limited to attendance, disciplinary or counseling referrals and records, notes of interactions

- (U) Artwork, writings, journals or notes indicating leakage of homicidal/suicidal violence by the subject, or by his/her loved ones which are about the subject

- (U) Social media and communication applications activity via preservation letters and potential subsequent search warrants

- (U) Books, articles, literature, movies or other written materials or communications pertaining to past school shootings, campus attacks or other mass casualty events, conspiracy theories, extremist or hate groups, warfare, special forces/commandos or survivalist lifestyles (not including general military history or general history materials), religious systems or suggestive of hyper religiosity, or law enforcement response to active shooters.

- (U) Any materials pertaining to strength training, tactical training, or other physical development activities, firearms possession or practice, gun club membership or shooting range use, firearms and ammunition generally, interest in or acquisition of components for improvised explosive devices, personal protective gear

- (U) Materials pertaining to potential attack locations, suggestive of pre-attack surveillance, security probing, or practice runs, such as maps, diagrams, printouts of target location web pages, and other indicia of pre-attack logistical preparation

- (U) Materials pertaining to the context and character of relationships within the subject's family, both past and present

- (U) Evidence of any plan by the subject's family or close friends to disrupt or significantly change the status quo, such as finances, travel, school or work, or other incidents or circumstances affecting daily life

- (U) Evidence of disruption or significant change to the life circumstances of the subject, including travel, personal relationships, financial crisis, school or work, or other incidents or circumstances affecting daily life
• (U) Communications to/from individuals with whom the subject appears to have maintained a consistent relationship
• (U) Materials pertaining to the subject’s membership in any organizations, whether online/virtual or those involving in-person interactions
• (U) Government or academic research pertaining to targeted violence
• (U) Legal material/case law pertaining to historical cases of targeted violence
• (U) Evidence of rental, ownership, control or other use of a storage unit or locker, recent use of hotel or other temporary quarters, any other evidence of a staging or concealment location