

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) Update



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The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) Bulletin, on December 16, 2015, formally updating the NTAS by adding a new form of advisory - the *NTAS "Bulletin"*. The Bulletins are an addition to the current *NTAS "Alerts"* and, when issued, will be sent out widely through social and mainstream media.

NTAS Bulletins

The *NTAS Bulletin* will provide broader or more general information about terrorism trends, events, and potential threats in those situations where additional precautions may be warranted, but where the circumstances do not indicate a threat against the United States of sufficient credibility, or specificity and credibility, to issue an Alert. The NTAS Bulletin will summarize the issue and why it is important for public awareness; outline U.S. Government counterterrorism efforts; and other recommendations to the public on how it can contribute to the overall counterterrorism effort.

NTAS Alerts

As before, when there is specific, credible information about a terrorist threat against the U.S., DHS will share an NTAS Alert with the American public when circumstances warrant doing so. The Alert may take one of two forms: **Elevated**, if we have credible threat information, but only general information about timing and target such that it is reasonable to recommend implementation of protective measures to thwart or mitigate against the attack, or **Imminent**, if we believe the threat is credible, specific, and impending in the very near term.

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What Can We Do? **Stay Vigilant**

In addition to the government’s distribution of advisory Bulletins and Alerts, through social and public media, Americans can go to <http://www.dhs.gov/alerts> to see the most recent advisories. Individuals should report suspicious activity to local law enforcement authorities. The “If You See Something, Say Something™” campaign across the United States encourages the public and leaders of communities to be vigilant for indicators of potential terrorist activity, and to follow the guidance provided by the advisory and/or state and local officials for information about threats in specific places or for identifying specific types of suspicious activity.

