

The Jewish Federation of Broward County is recommending that all Synagogues set aside time to review security procedures with the approach of the High Holy Days

This year, we have seen an increase in anti-Semitic behavior across the country and a few incidents in our area. As such, it is important during this period that individuals and congregations maintain a "heightened sense of awareness" of the global security threat environment and International / Domestic incidents that could potentially impact the safety of citizens overseas and here in the U.S., particularly during High Holy Day services and special events that draw large crowds.

SECURITY ALERT CHECKLIST

The following points serve as reminders for Security personnel and Administrators tasked with security responsibilities and will assist you in mitigating any vulnerability your facility or synagogue may have concerning security responsibilities for the High Holy Days:

- Review and/or establish a Crisis Team and assign areas of responsibility
- Review security plans and develop two levels of security; normal and high security operations

- Ensure current policies and procedures are being adhered to (i.e. ID, visitors, vendors, meetings)
- Update emergency communications plans for internal and external capabilities; contact lists and media protocols, group texts or other forms of communication
- Use a “layered” security paradigm to check people, things and vehicles at multiple locations
- Integrate your identification system with related policy and the access control system at check points for vehicles, people and packages and other items (i.e. food)
- Report suspicious activity to security officers and/or local police
- Develop evacuation protocols and have employees, students and volunteers practice them
- Establish at least two (2) relocation sites more than 1000 feet from your facility
- Review reunification protocols of children with parents/guardians at relocation sites and communicate same to parents in writing
- Review transportation plan and incorporate into evacuation and security plans
- Include secure in place and lockdown procedures in your plans
- Review security for mail and package delivery develop policies for restricting or relocating
- Develop a suspicious package and/or bomb threat procedures

- Review camera systems and proactively observe activity in and around your facility, maximize utilization of system and remote access capabilities
- Develop a medical emergency protocol and incorporate professionals from your facility and volunteers, train employees on First Aid procedures
- Train staff and volunteers on all emergency and security protocols
- Use Off Duty uniform police officers with marked police vehicles for security when events warrant, from your jurisdiction/city
- Invite FBI, State and Local Police to visit your facility
- Share security plans with them and allow them to conduct tactical training in your facility
- Review and train staff on evacuation routes and relocation sites
- Develop a reunification policy for children and parents/guardians
- Review security on food prep, storage and delivery
- Develop a Media Plan to communicate with the press and community during and after incident, establish an off-site location for large press briefings; assign a professional
- Conduct training of staff on all of the above, with briefings, table tops and walk thru exercises

*If you **SEE** something, **SAY** something!*

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