# Unit 9: Police Science and Terrorism

## UNIT INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

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## UNIT INTRODUCTION

This module will focus on basic police science skills for CERT deployments. Traffic management will be an important role CERT members will play. It can also be the most dangerous. You will learn proper traffic management techniques to keep you, your team members, and pedestrians safe. Terrorism is a man-made disaster that New Yorkers know all too well. Your level of awareness to terrorist targets and plans will make you notice things a little more closely on a daily basis.

## UNIT OBJECTIVES

- Understand the role of CERT in traffic management situations and keeping a safe perimeter.
- Practice safe traffic management techniques with a partner.
- Raise awareness to terrorist thinking and how you can be more cognizant of what is going on around you and what you can do when something just doesn't seem right.
- Understand a CERT team's role and CERT in action.

## UNIT REVIEW

Everything you have learned so far may be affected by a terrorist attack. Use this knowledge and your strength of being a New Yorker to be aware and keep yourself and city safe.

## LOOKING FORWARD

Fasten your seatbelts! Next week everything you have learned in the last nine weeks comes together for your disaster simulation. You and your fellow team members will need to review ICS and all the different units to make your experience as successful as possible.

New York City OEM CERT Community Emergency Response Team

# Police Science: Traffic Management

**Key Points**

- Traffic management is an approved role for CERT.
- By providing traffic management CERT supports the NYPD and NYPD Auxiliary units.
- Traffic management is one of the most dangerous CERT roles, so learning proper techniques and practicing is vital.

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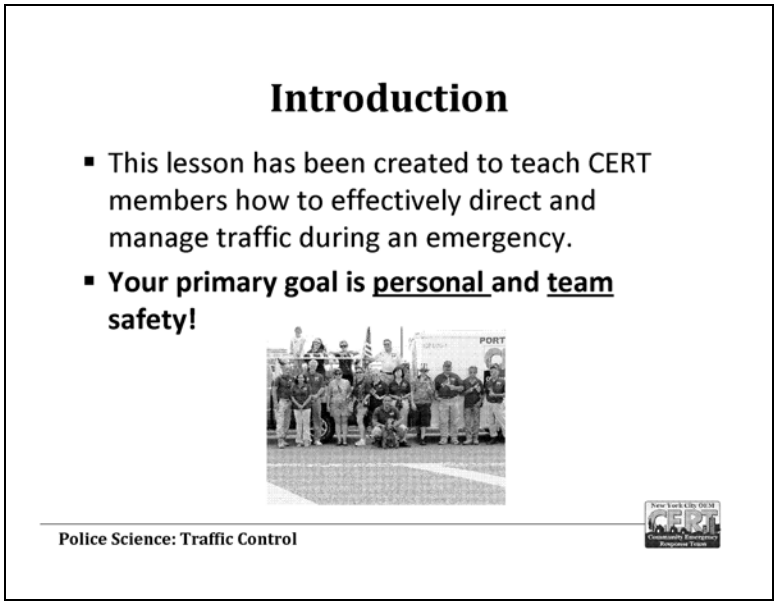


**Key Points**

- Safety is your number one priority!
- Being alert at all times and paying attention will keep you and your teammates safe from harm.
- Practice, practice, practice. You can practice as a team both indoors and out!

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## Traffic Management is serious business and at times has proven to be deadly.

More police officers are injured in traffic-related accidents than any other work category.

For 13 years in a row, more officers died in traffic accidents than in shootings or any other cause of death. *National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, June 2011.*

Police Science: Traffic Control

**Key Points**

- In the US, 73 officers died in the line of duty in 2010, up from 51 in 2009.
- The number of officers killed in traffic-related incidents decreased 17 percent during the first half of 2011, from 42 to 35. Traffic-related incidents (automobile, motorcycle crashes, and instances in which officers are struck while outside their police vehicles) remain the leading cause of death among law enforcement officers in the United States, a trend that began in 1998.

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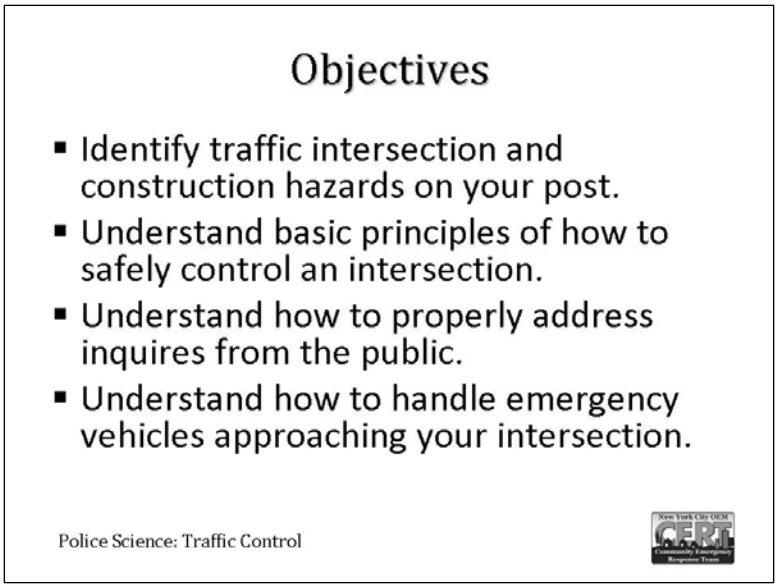


**Key Points**

- The objectives for this unit teach you the basics of traffic management and the basic equipment you need.
- You will also learn how to handle specific scenarios involving motorist and pedestrian inquiries and how to expedite emergency vehicle traffic safely.

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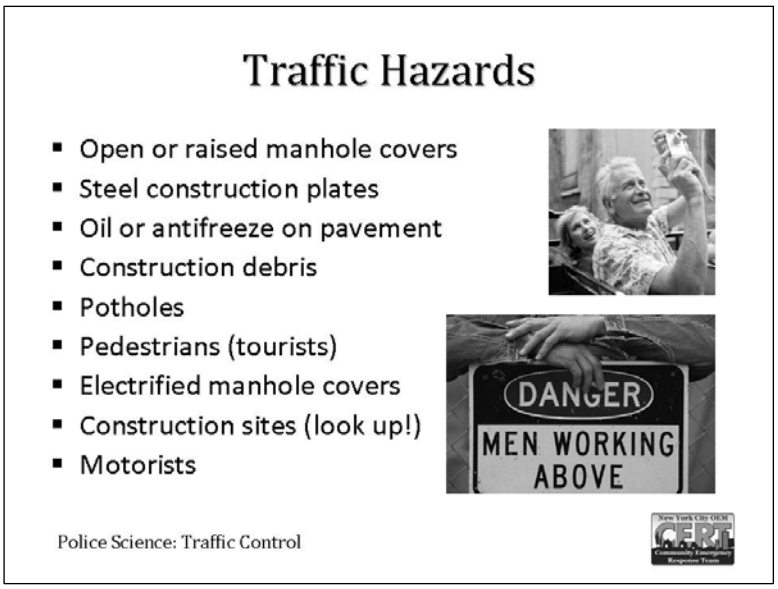


**Key Points**

- You must be aware of everything around you prior to starting to direct traffic.
- Use your senses- look and listen to see if there are things that may affect your response.
- Take note of potential hazards, notice traffic patterns, etc.

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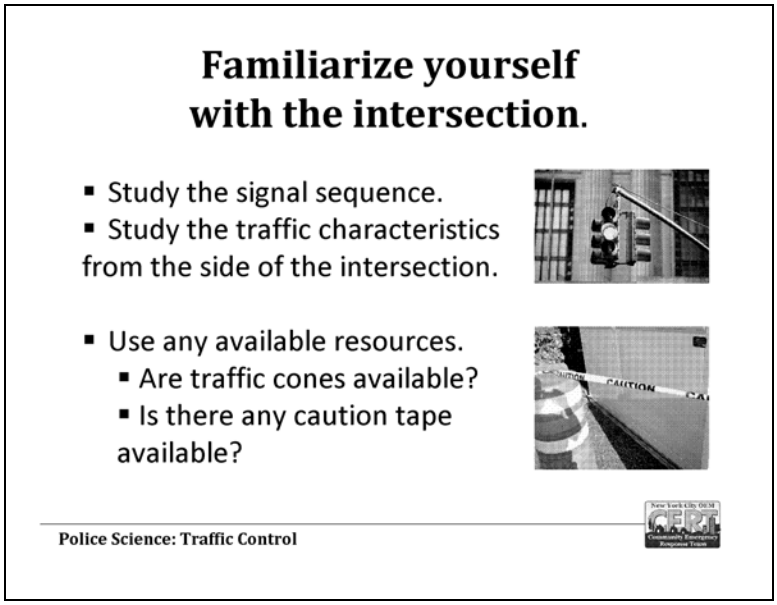


**Key Points**

- Check to see if the traffic lights at the intersections are working.
- Notice the amount of time it takes for the light to change.
- Use the lights to your advantage while directing traffic.
- Before you begin, check to see if there is anything in the area or team resources that might assist you (traffic cones, etc.).

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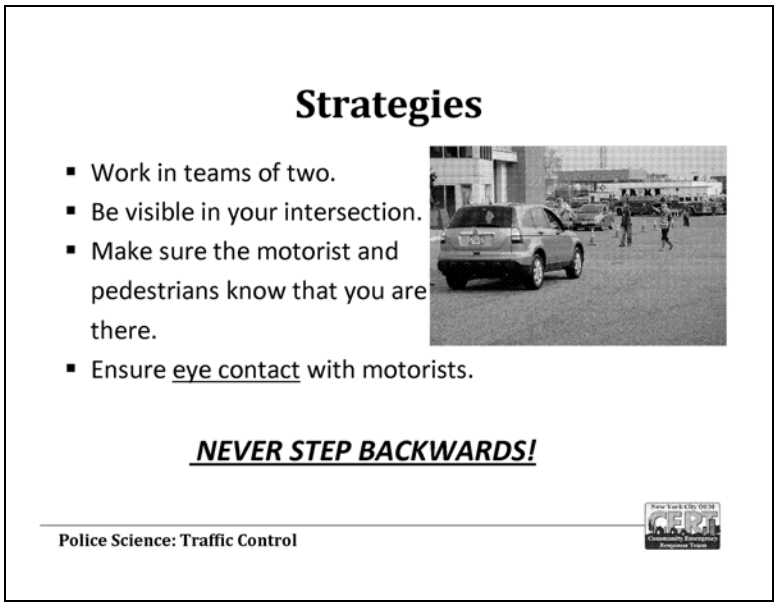


**Key Points**

- ALWAYS WORK IN PAIRS. ALWAYS HAVE A PARTNER. NEVER MANAGE TRAFFIC ALONE!
- Wear your NYC CERT reflective vest and other mandatory uniform.
- Always look at the drivers and pedestrians in the eye while you are directing them. Looking away is dangerous for you and others in traffic.
- NEVER step backwards while directing traffic. Your partner should also be keeping an eye out for you.

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**Key Points**

- Wear noticeable CERT gear for all types of weather or scenarios.
- White gloves allow motorists and pedestrians to see the movement and direction of your hands and the direction in which they need to go.
- If the weather is bad, make sure your reflective vest is on top of a coat or raincoat.

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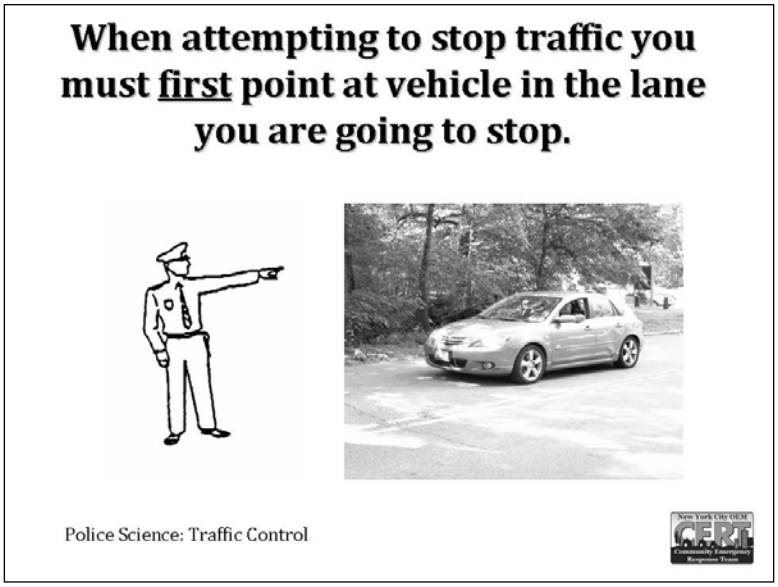


**Key Points**

- Make sure your movements are exaggerated so motorists and pedestrians can see you.
- Your hand and arm movements need to be seen through windshields and from all different heights.
- You may think you look silly, but it will keep you safe!

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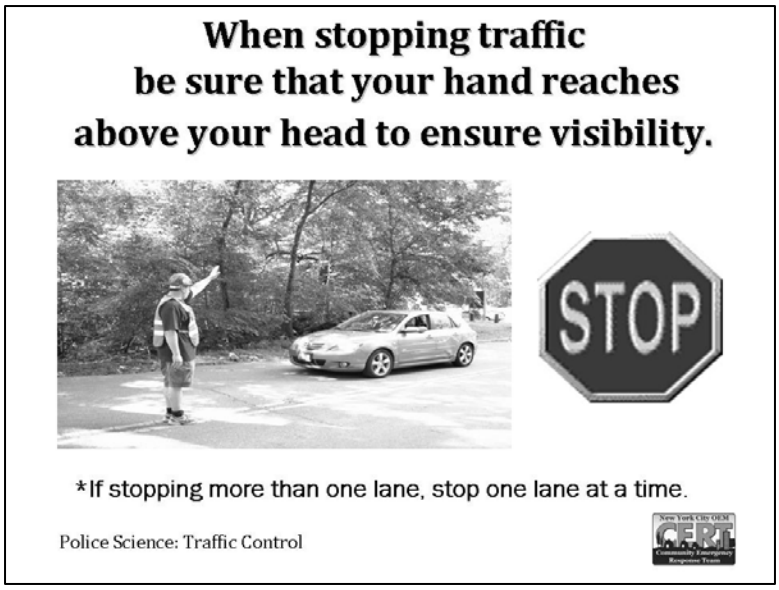


**Key Points**

- Use your hands to point, your whistle to get attention, and your arms to gesture a direction.
- Always make sure the lane of traffic can see you and your partner before it begins to move.

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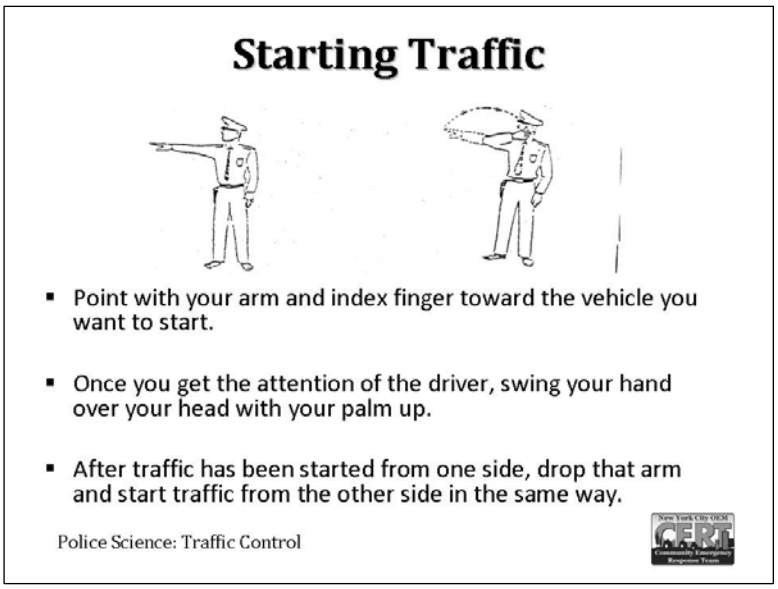


**Key Points**

- Keep using exaggerated movements to make sure all directives can be seen clearly.
- Use a whistle to accentuate the movements.
- Start traffic moving slowly, in case you need to quickly stop it again.

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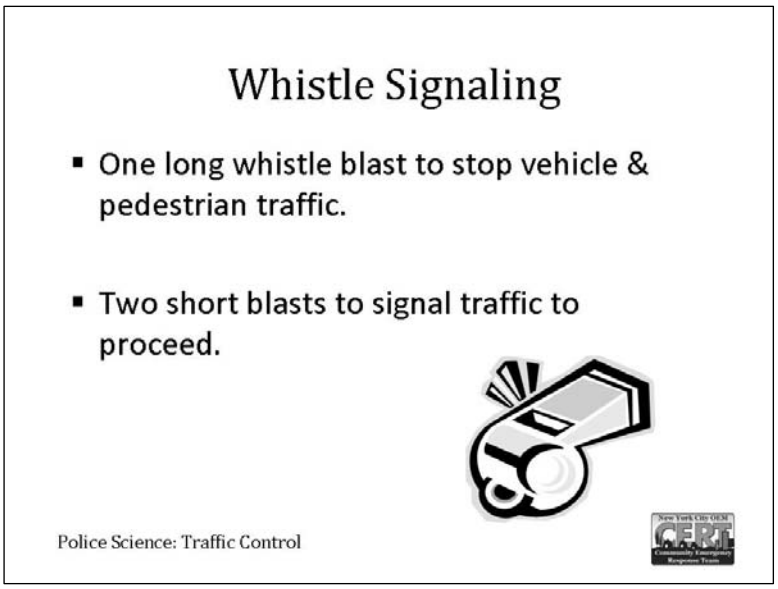


**Key Points**

- When using a whistle and blasting commands, you must also use your hands and arms so the motorists and pedestrians know what to do and what direction to go.
- You must use your diaphragm to get enough air to blow the whistle. If you don't, you may become winded or dizzy and be unable to continue.

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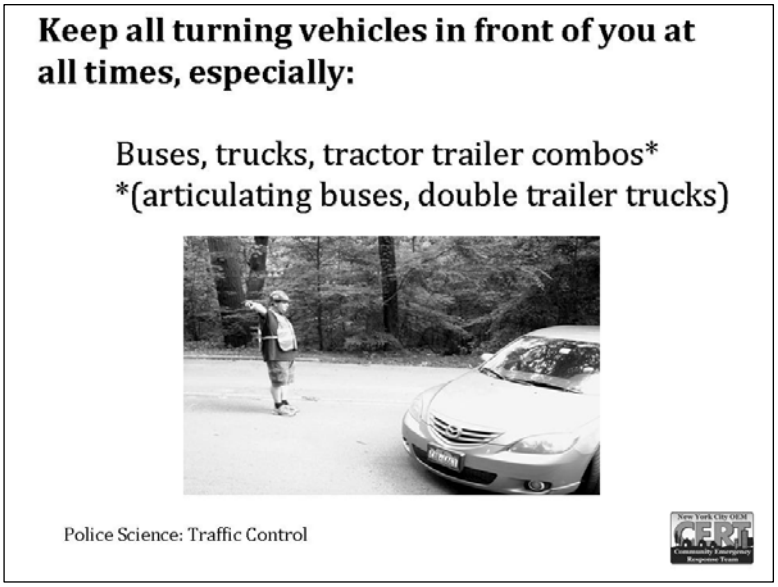


**Key Points**

- All turning traffic must always be kept in front of you and your partner so you can see traffic and the traffic can see you.
- Large and extra large vehicles (trucks, SUVs, etc.) must be able to see you from their higher driver's seat.
- Articulating buses and tractor trailer combinations have extra lengths to consider when turning. Both will be discussed in more detail during this unit.

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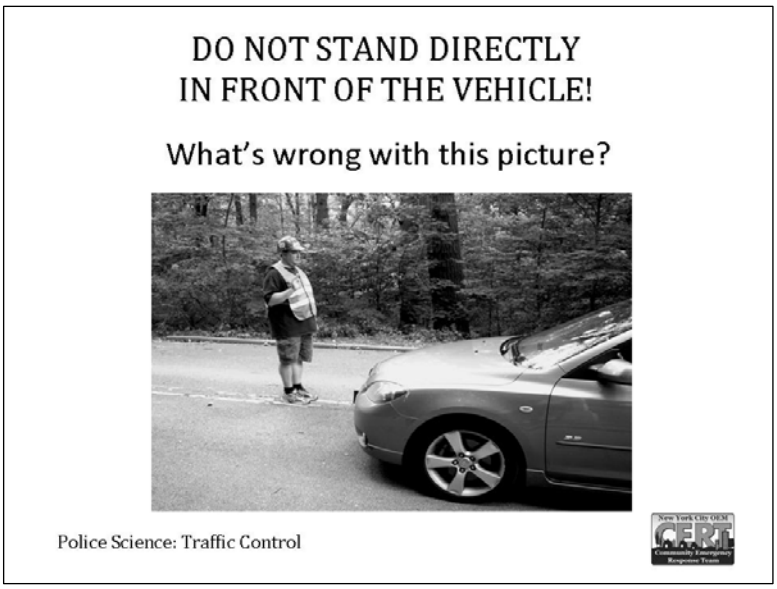


**Key Points**

- Standing directly in front of a vehicle may get you injured.
- Before directing traffic, scout which position will give you the safest visibility.
- Directing traffic may seem like an easy thing to do, but there are a lot of things to think about before you and your team members go into the streets.

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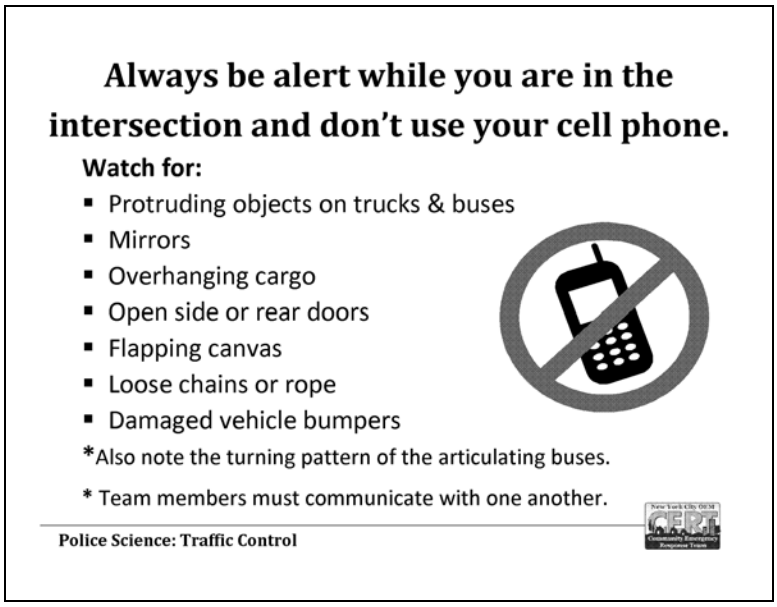


**Key Points**

- Always be alert.
- Do not talk to your partner about anything other than your traffic controlling job.
- While directing traffic, do not use a radio or phone to talk to other team members. Rely on your partner or another team member to communicate.
- Your team may use runners to get information from one intersection to another.
- NEVER use your cell phone to talk or text while you are directing traffic.

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Police Science: Traffic Control

**Key Points**

- Be aware of trucks and the materials they are hauling.
- Items may fall off and injure you, your partner, other motorists, and pedestrians.

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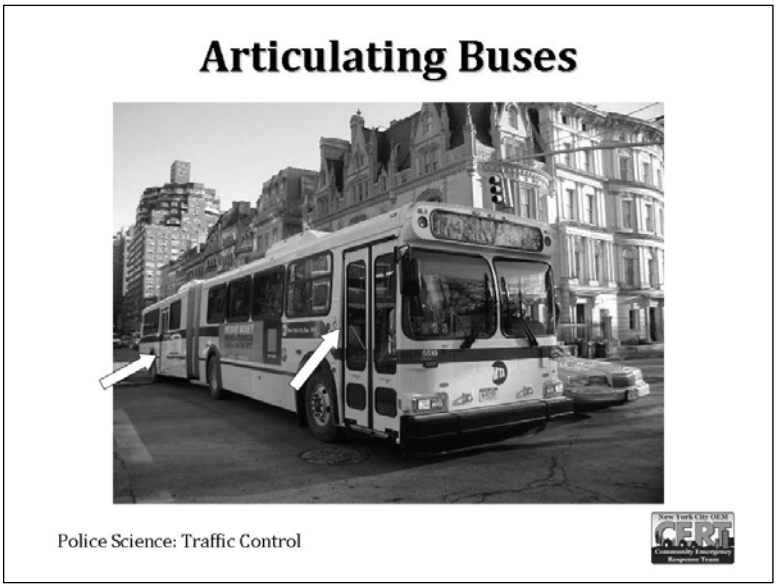


**Key Points**

- *Articulating buses, also known as tandem buses, bendy buses, or accordion buses, are a type of bus with an increased passenger capacity. Found almost exclusively in public transportation use, these buses are approximately 18 m (60 ft), while regular buses are 11 to 14 m (35-45 ft). To make them nimble enough to safely navigate streets at their increased length, they are fitted with an extra axle (set of wheels) and a joint usually located slightly behind the midpoint of the bus, behind the second axle.
- These buses need extra room to turn due to their extra length.
- Do not turn your back or look away from any bus. You may not be able to see the second half of the bus until it is too late to move out of the way.
- Be aware that other vehicles may try to pass an articulating bus to speed ahead.

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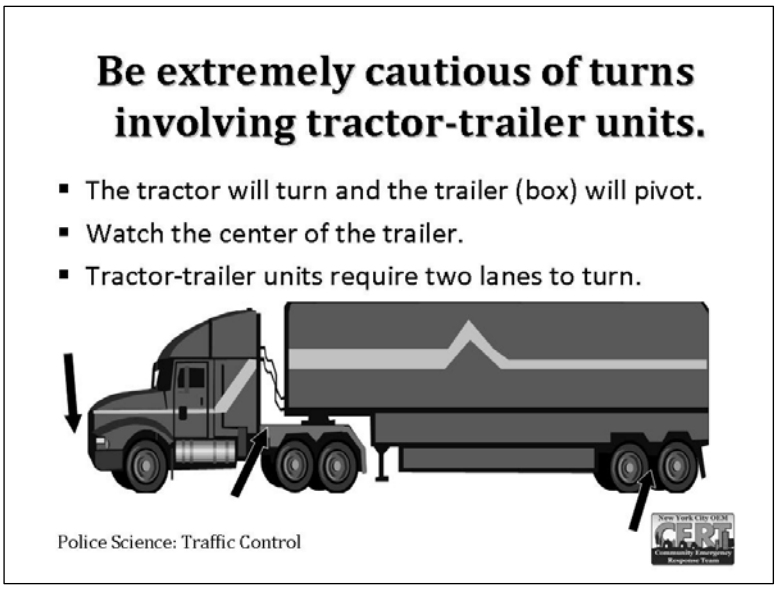


**Key Points**

- You will need to take extra precautions with tractor trailers, especially if they need to turn a corner.
- You may need to have a third or fourth person to assist you to shut down the other lane of traffic.

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**Key Points**

- Emergency vehicles should be using lights and sirens, but some may not use them, or you may not hear them due to other traffic noise or weather.
- Even if they are not using lights or sirens, they may still be going at faster speeds.
- Some emergency vehicles may not stop or slow down for you. Do not attempt to stop them.

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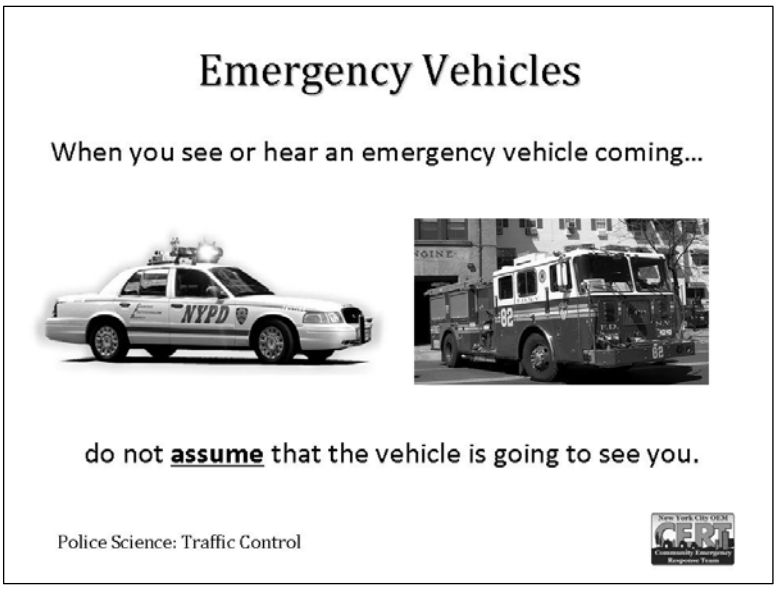


**Key Points**

- Keep yourself, your partner, and other motorists and pedestrians safe if you hear or see an emergency vehicle coming towards you or through your traffic pattern.
- Motion other traffic and pedestrians to stop.
- Step out of the way if they do not slow down or stop.

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## Addressing Inquires from the Public

- A motorist seeking information or directions should be moved out of the intersection.
- If the desired information is extremely brief, you may deliver it in the intersection.
- Get the motorist or pedestrian out of the intersection as quickly as possible.
- Do not confront a road raged motorist.
- Call police for assistance. Dial 911.

Police Science: Traffic Control

**Key Points**

- Most people will want information and will calm down once they know what is going on.
- You job is not to calm motorists down. It is to get them through the area in the safest manner possible.
- If someone becomes angry, or you feel threatened, call 911 for help.

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## Transfer of Command

**You must communicate to arriving emergency units:**

- Locations of closures (document them)
- The number of closures
- Direction of traffic flow at the closure
- Traffic personnel must communicate with each other.

Police Science: Traffic Control

**Key Points**

- Transfer of command will also take place if someone else from your team or another CERT team comes to relieve you.
- You may be asked to brief your CERT lead. This may be a team chief from another CERT team.
- Only give information that is vital. The transfer of information should be completed in a quick and efficient manner.
- Do not transfer command where you are posted to direct traffic. Transfer it in a safe area, out of the way.

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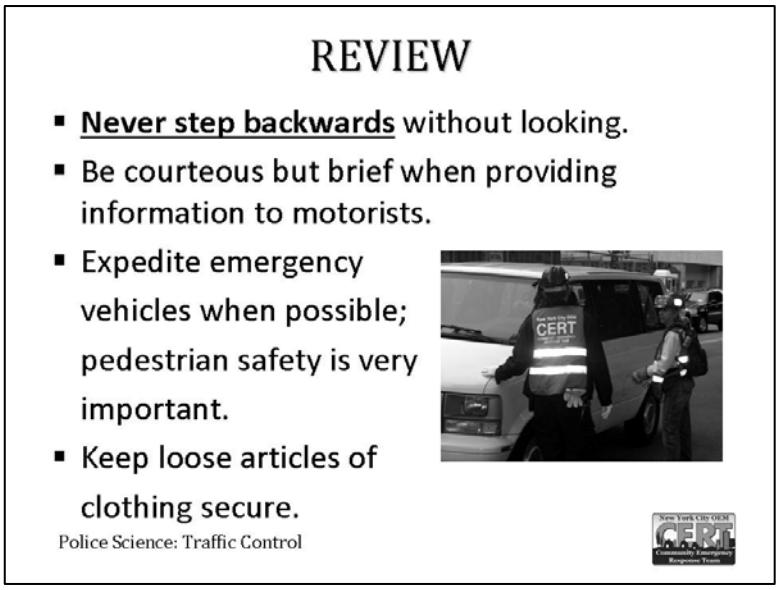


**Key Points**

- If you are unsure of your abilities, practice with your team members during a meeting, or with your precinct's community affairs officers.
- Traffic management can be practiced indoors or out.
- Signaling can be practiced at anytime.
- OEM and the NYPD also offer post-training traffic management classes in the five boroughs.

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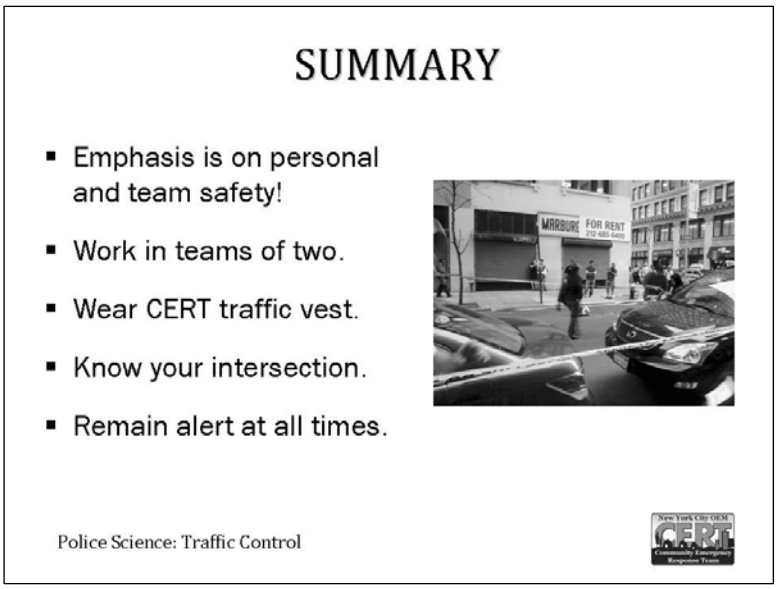


**Key Points**

- Personal and team safety must not be overlooked. This is your number one priority.
- Review your objectives.
- Make sure all of your equipment is in your response bag and ready to go.

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**Key Points**

- Terrorism is a real threat found daily around the world.
- The acts of September 11, 2001 changed the way New York City, the United States, and the world views and responds to threats and acts of terrorism.

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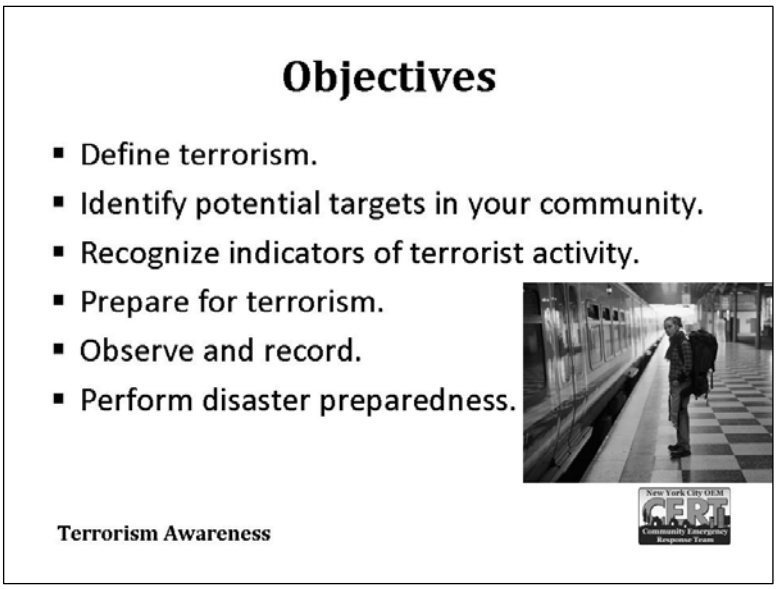


**Key Points**

- The objectives for this unit are for educational purposes and personal awareness.
- By knowing how terrorism may present itself in NYC, you can be prepared both as a New York City resident and as a member of NYC CERT.

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## Terrorism Definition

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

-U.S. Department of Justice

Terrorism Awareness

**Key Points**

- While there are many definitions of terrorism, the above, from the U.S. Department of Justice, concentrates on the legal aspect of committing the act of terrorism.

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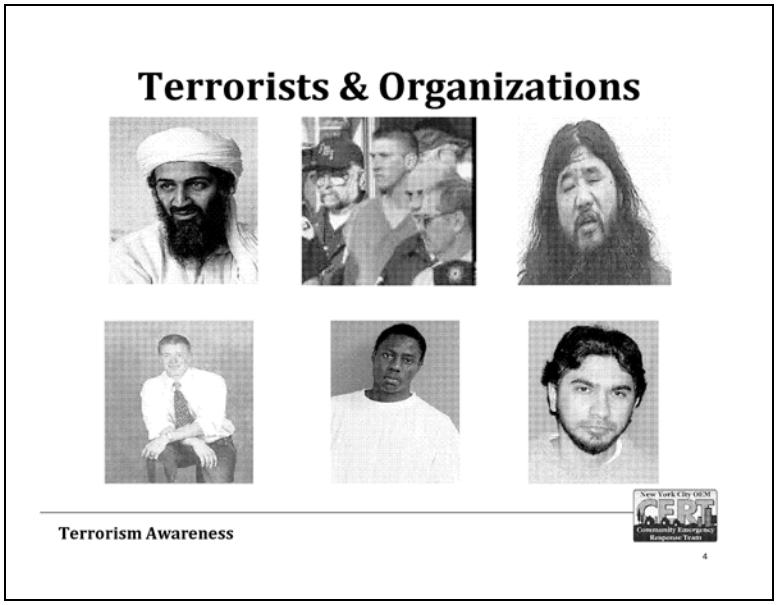


**Key Points**

- Terrorists and terrorist organizations can be of any race or religion. They can be of any socio-economic class or from any country. There is no one type of person to look for when looking for a terrorist.
- Osama Bin Laden, leader of Al-Queda, World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks, 2001
- Timothy McVeigh, Oklahoma City Bombing, 1995
- Shoko Asahara, founder of Aum Shinrikyo, Sarin attack in Japanese subway, 1995
- Lucas John Helder, 21 year old college student, pipe bomb spree covering 5 mid-western states, 2002.
- Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, 23 year old, attempted to detonate plastic explosives hidden in his underwear while on board a Northwest airplane.
- Faisal Shahzad is a Pakistani American who attempted the May 1, 2010, Time Square car bombing.

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## Characteristics of Terrorist Operations

- Attacks are often well-planned out.
- Use the smallest organizational element possible.
- Follow strict security measures.
- Targets areas that are undefended or have a weak security profile.
- Tend to employ secondary and/or multiple attacks.

Terrorism Awareness

**Key Points**

- Terrorist operations are usually planned years in advance.
- The smallest organizational element may be one or two persons used to carry out an attack, not a large group.
- The smallest organizational element and strict security measures make it difficult to detect an impending attack.
- Security measures are often tested prior to the attack to expose the target's weaknesses.
- Secondary attacks usually occur about 20 minutes after the initial attack and are often placed in the path of the first responders.

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**Key Points**

- The goal of most terrorist is to expose the vulnerability of the target.
- This can be done in a variety of ways such as:
  - Mass casualties;
  - Loss of critical resources; and
  - Economic disruption.
- The September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon accomplished all three listed above and changed the way we live forever.

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**Key Points**

- A hard target is a building, piece of critical infrastructure (i.e. dam, power plant, utility company, etc.) or other commercial or non-commercial entity that has rigid security measures in place, including barriers, cameras, guards, etc.; ex. The Statue of Liberty or Grand Central Station.
- A soft target is less visible and will have less security measures; ex. shopping malls.
- A shopping center is the most vulnerable place listed for the following reasons:
    - Inferior security (smaller staff with limited training);
    - No restrictions for entry; and
    - Multiple access points.

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**Key Points**

- All these six attacks occurred within the United States.
- Two attacks occurred at the World Trade Center eight years apart. This shows the patience and careful planning of the terrorists.
- Many attacks were carried out by American-born citizens such as Timothy McVeigh (Oklahoma City), Eric Robert Rudolph (1996 Olympic Park Bomber) and Dr. Bruce Ivins, (anthrax attacks).
- What did each of these targets stand for to Americans?
- Were the terrorists successful in carrying out their goals?
- What were the short-and-long term effects of these attacks on the United States?

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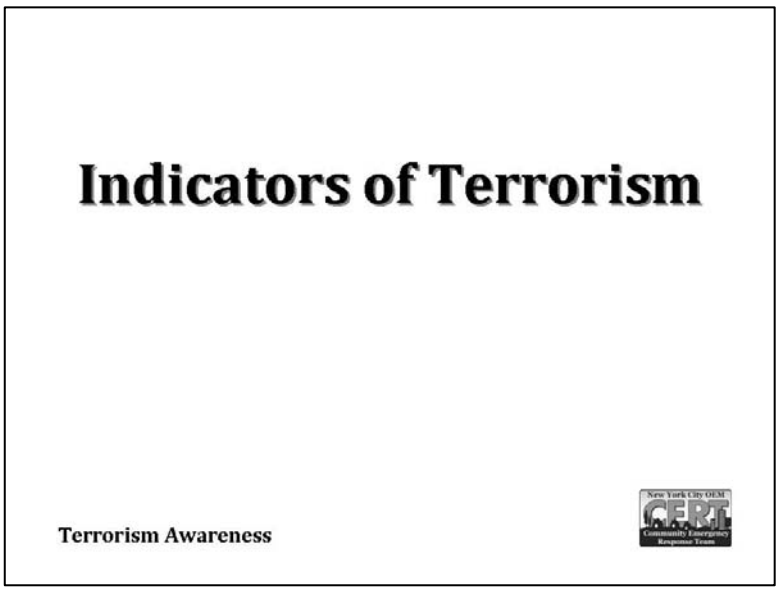


**Key Points**

- We will discuss CERT roles at a possible terrorist incident.
- What are things to look for in regards to terrorism or a terrorist attack?
- What might your role be in a terrorist attack?

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**Key Points**

- Use the acronym B-NICE to remember the five types of weapons.
- Biological weapons usually will not have an immediate effect on victims and may not be detected until after the release.
- Nuclear weapons are difficult to attain and an unlikely method of attack.
- Incendiary weapons are an inexpensive method to instill panic and fear. One example is a Molotov cocktail.
- Chemical weapons have an immediate effect on victims and will produce similar symptoms on all victims.
- Explosives are the most common choice of terrorist weapon. They are an inexpensive method of doing extensive damage to both victims and structure.

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**Key Points**

- Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) are one type of terrorist weapon.
- IEDs are often seen as a choice of terrorist attack.
- We will also discuss possible limited CERT actions at a potential improvised explosive device incident.

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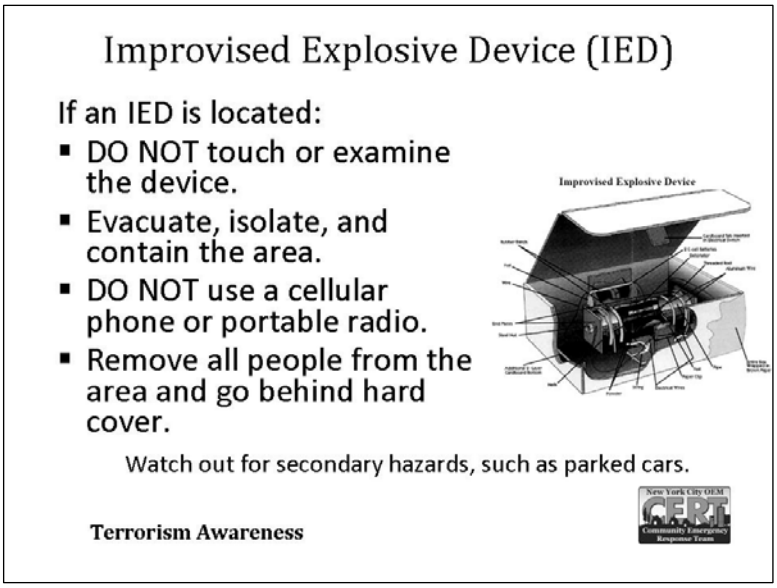


**Key Points**

- Never touch a potential IED. It may be designed to detonate when it is lifted or moved.
- IEDs can also be detonated by a timed device such as a clock or cell phone. They can also be detonated using a remote control such as a garage door opener which may allow the terrorist to target first and second responders.
- Cellular phones and portable radios should not be used by people within 500 feet of a suspected device.
- Due to the high potential of the presence of a secondary device, all people should be evacuated from the area immediately.

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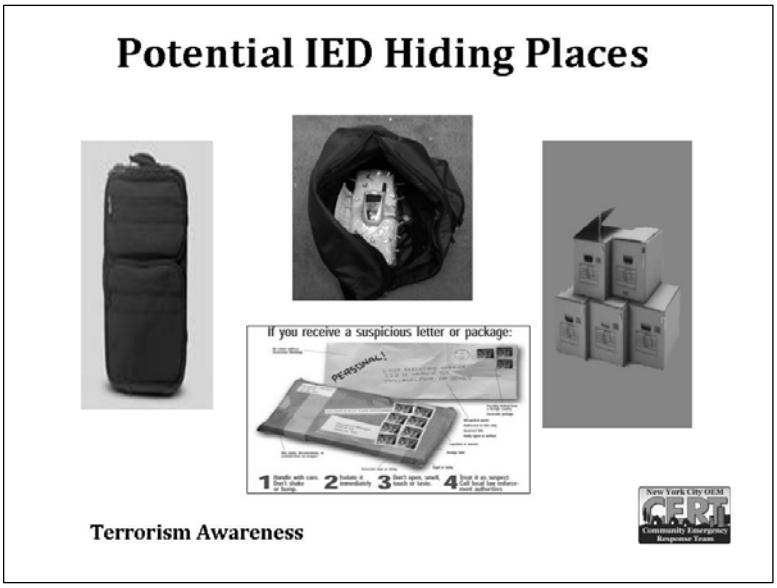


**Key Points**

- Just about anything and anyplace can be used as a potential hiding place for an IED.
- NYC CERT members should consider the possibility of IEDs being placed in:
    - Mail packages, letters, or mailboxes;
    - Desks or storage containers of any kind;
    - Utility closets or boiler rooms;
    - A ceiling with removable panels;
    - Any area that is hidden by drapes or curtains;
    - Restrooms and public hallways; and
    - Trash receptacles.
- Familiarization with some of the more common hiding locations will help NYC CERT members to be more aware and alert in preparing for the initial attack, as well as being alert to the possibility of a secondary device and where it may be concealed.

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**Key Points**

- NYC CERT trained members should never attempt to approach or investigate a report of a suspicious package.
- A NYC CERT member should consider:
  - Call 911 and start the emergency response system.
  - Limit access to the area.
  - Attempt to evacuate the area.
  - Update OEM or 911 as to changing conditions, if any.

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**Key Points**

- The bombing in Manchester, England demonstrates the amount of devastation and damage a vehicle IED can deliver. There was warning of the impending detonation; therefore the area was evacuated prior to the explosion.
- In Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995, home-grown terrorist Timothy McVeigh drove a massive homemade bomb concealed in a rental truck. He parked the car outside the targeted building and walked to another car and drove away. The bomb exploded at approximately 9:00 AM heavily damaging the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. A total of 168 people were killed, including 19 children, and more than 500 were injured. The bombing remained the deadliest terrorist assault on U.S. soil until the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C., in 2001.
- A vehicle can be used to easily deliver large quantities of powerful explosives to targets with precision and relatively low costs when you consider the damage that can be inflicted.
- There is also no sophisticated knowledge or training that is required to deliver this type of IED, and it can be detonated remotely.
- Vehicle explosions offer high visibility and drama.

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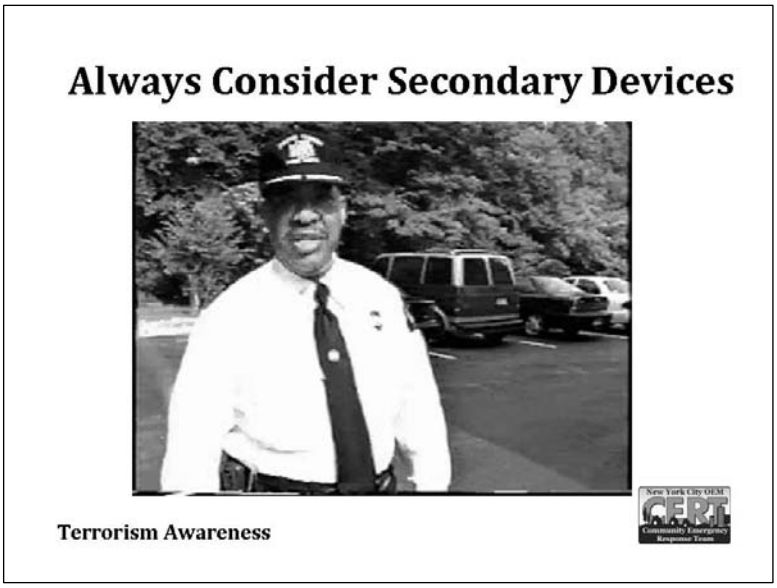


**Key Points**

- NYC CERT members should always consider the possibility of a secondary device.
- Terrorists may use secondary explosive devices to kill and injure emergency personnel that are responding to an initial attack.
- An example of a secondary device was the bombing of the Sandy Springs Abortion Clinic in Georgia in 1997. First responders arrived on the scene of an obvious explosion. They were on the scene for about an hour when a second blast occurred destroying the fire chief's vehicle and injuring six additional victims, including a firefighter, an FBI agent, an ATF agent, and bystanders who were too close to the scene.
- Secondary devices most often detonate approximately 20 minutes after the initial explosion. These devices can be concealed almost anywhere, including on victims. It is likely that these devices will be placed along the route of first responders.
- NYC CERT members should be aware of the importance of distance and shielding. NYC CERT members will work under the direction of first responders and never take action on their own.

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**Key Points**

- The role of NYC CERT and your role as a citizen of the United States are to be vigilant in preparing for terrorism.
- As is always the case, preparedness is the first step to surviving a disaster and proper planning will allow NYC CERT to offer the greatest amount of assistance to the greatest number of people during a disaster.
- Preparing loved ones, neighbors, and others in your community about terrorism awareness will also increase the role of NYC CERT.

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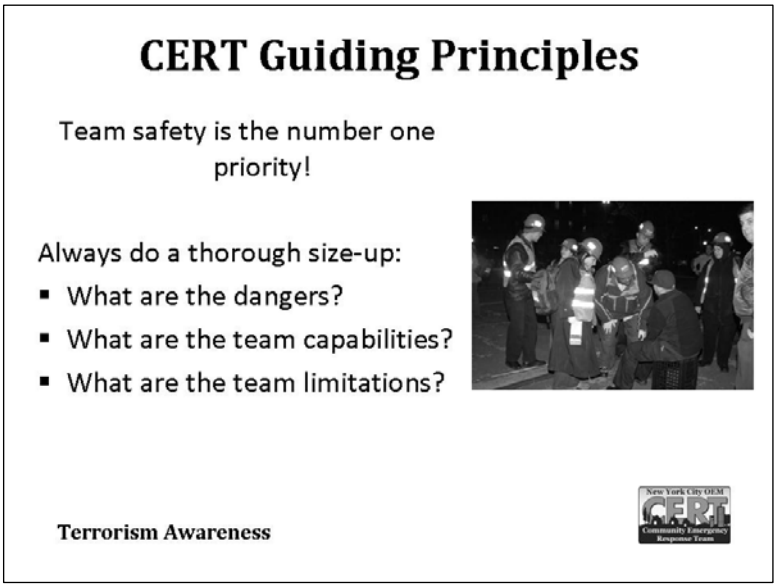


**Key Points**

- The most important principle for each and every NYC CERT member to understand is safety is always our top priority and ensuring team safety is everyone's responsibility.
- As evidenced by the events on September 11, 2001, the recovery from a major terrorist event may take weeks, months, or more.
- In a long term recovery operation, the scene may be determined safe enough for CERT members to operate under the direction of OEM.
- CERT will only be tasked with responsibilities which are within the scope of your training.

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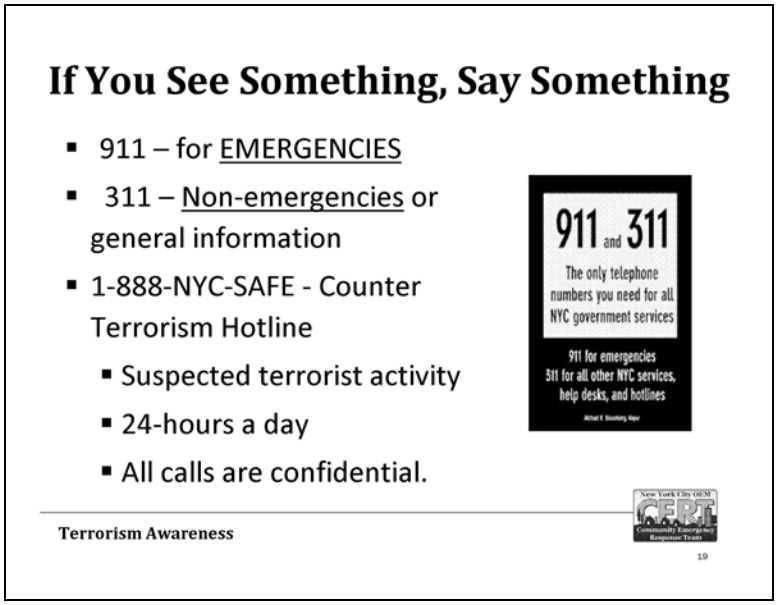


**Key Points**

- New York City and the MTA have a security awareness campaign known as "See Something, Say Something".
- This campaign is meant to reinforce the efforts of the MTA and police to keep New Yorkers safe. The goal is for all citizens to join the police and the MTA as the eyes and ears of the transportation system. Commuters are asked to:
    - Be alert to unattended packages.
    - Be wary of suspicious behavior.
    - Take notice of people in bulky or inappropriate clothing.
    - Report exposed wiring or other irregularities.
    - Report anyone tampering with surveillance cameras or entering unauthorized areas.
- After the train bombings in Madrid, officials stated that several passengers interviewed remembered seeing the unattended knapsacks that turned out to contain the bombs, but they did not alert anyone.
- NYC CERT members should be suspicious of anything that is left unattended whether they are using mass transit or in any aspect of your daily activities. With this heightened level of awareness and an understanding of how to report this suspicious activity, NYC CERT members will be working to combat terrorism in our city.

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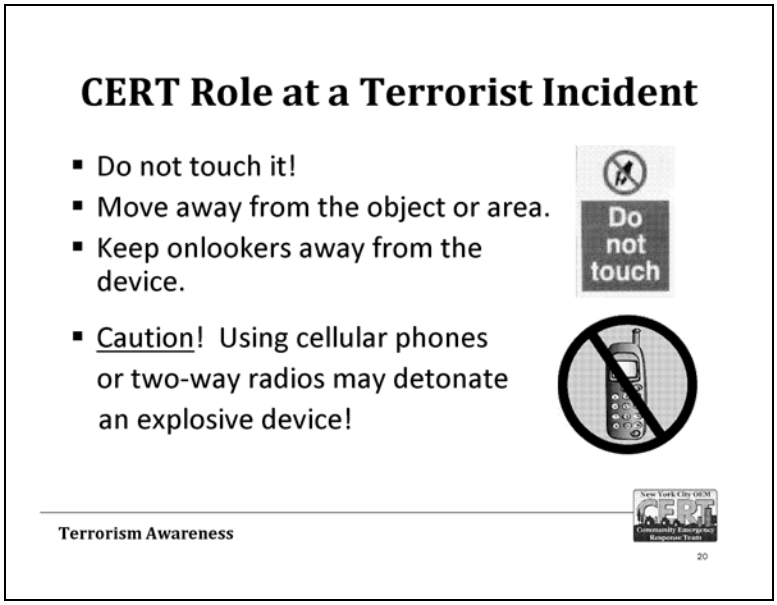


**Key Points**

- As we discussed, the role of NYC CERT members at a terrorist event will most likely be limited. This is not a traditional CERT response, and members should be aware that a terrorist incident or a suspected terrorist incident is a STOP sign for NYC CERT members to respond.
- It will be the responsibility of OEM and other first responders to secure the scene and determine whether or not CERT may be deployed, as it is for any CERT deployment.
- If a terrorist incident is suspected, CERT members should attempt to take in the entire area during their size-up and move as quickly as possible to a safe location.
- NYC CERT members should remember:
    - Do not touch any suspected device or package.
    - Move away from the object or area.
    - Keep onlookers away.
    - Report findings to authorities immediately.

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## Observation and Recording

- DO NOT become personally involved.
- Examine the entire situation before taking action.
  - Be cautious of secondary devices.
- Look for signs of a release or exposure.
- Obtain or verify information from victims.
- Record as many details as possible:
  - Number of victims
  - Symptoms
  - Devices used for release

Terrorism Awareness

**Key Points**

- Observe what is happening before your eyes and believe that it is real. Take a look at the big picture before you react. Keep in mind that terrorists will deploy secondary and tertiary devices to inflict further damage to those that respond to aid the initial victims.
- Observe the area for signs of release or exposure to chemicals. Gather as much information as possible from victims. Try to verify from victims what happened or what they witnessed by asking them basic questions.
- Document as much information as you can concerning victims and the signs and symptoms they are displaying. Try to determine the type of device used in the attack so emergency responders can operate accordingly.

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**Key Points**

- Since it is very difficult to immediately determine what the overall threat is at a terrorist incident, the best formula for safety is time – distance – shielding. Each element of this formula will protect you, but all three are required for complete protection.
- Time:
  - Limit the time you are exposed to the contaminated area. This will minimize your exposure to whatever threat the terrorist deployed in the attack.
- Distance:
  - Move yourself to an area that minimizes or removes the threat of injury or death. In case of explosions, many victims are killed because of the blast effect. The energy of the explosion is enough to kill people if they are too close to the source.
- Shielding :
  - Get to an area of cover such as behind a substantial wall or building. You often hear experts say "if you can see the bomb, the bomb can see you". That means that you could be seriously injured or killed if you don't provide cover for yourself.

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## What to Do if Exposed

- Leave the contaminated area immediately.
- Report to a casualty collection point:
  - Once contaminated you are now a victim.
- Report for decontamination:
  - Clothing removal?
  - Showers?
  - Examined medically?

CERT members and victims should remain on scene until they are evaluated by trained personnel.

Terrorism Awareness

**Key Points**

- If you have been exposed to some type of contaminant at an incident, you need to remove yourself from the immediate area as quickly as possible. You need to protect yourself by getting to a casualty collection point or let EMS know that you feel you have been contaminated and need treatment.
- Before getting treatment from EMS, you must be decontaminated so you do not cross contaminate others that are assisting other victims. Decontamination may simply consist of removing your outer layer of clothing or be as complex as showering and scrubbing the substance from your skin.
- Once you have been decontaminated, you will be medically examined for signs and symptoms of exposure. EMS will monitor your condition, provide medication if necessary, and counsel you on the effects of the exposure.
- NYC CERT members and all exposed victims should remain on scene until they are evaluated by EMS. Many times a simple decontamination of removing the outer layer of clothing will remove up to 90% of the exposure. You do not want to cross contaminate everyone you come in contact with as you travel and bring the contaminants into your home. Get evaluated.

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**Key Points**

- When first responders arrive, identify yourself as a NYC CERT member and provide the information you have gathered to the emergency responders.
- Provide the facts you know; do not speculate. Inform the emergency responders what you witnessed and information other witnesses provided.
- Inform the emergency responders if you took any actions to close streets or set up a casualty collection point and what those locations are.
- Ask the emergency responders if you can be of any further assistance. They may give you an assignment or have you standby for further orders.

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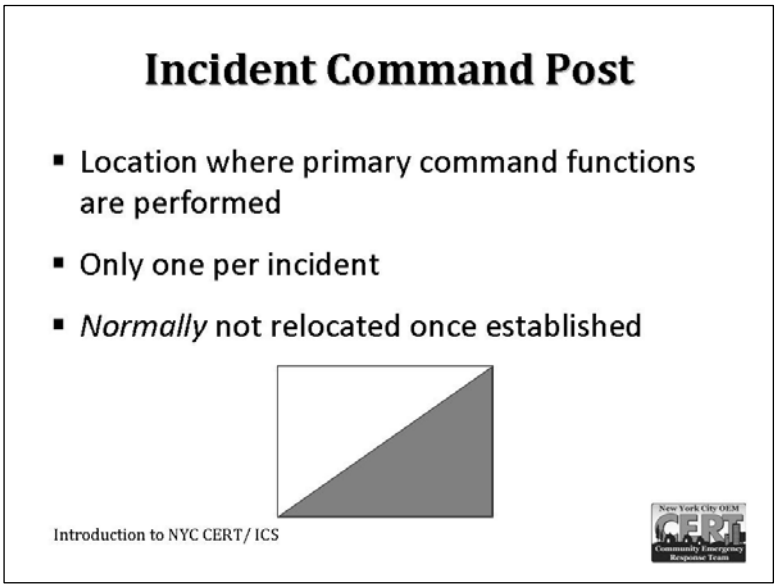


**Key Points**

- The Incident Command Post is identified by the symbol above.
- CERT lead should always remain at the Command Post
- The CERT lead may be reassigned as first responders arrive on scene.
- NYC CERT teams should be guided by the OEM citywide incident coordinator (CIC) on scene.
- A single command post provides a coordination of resources from one location and limits duplication of services by coordinating with other agencies

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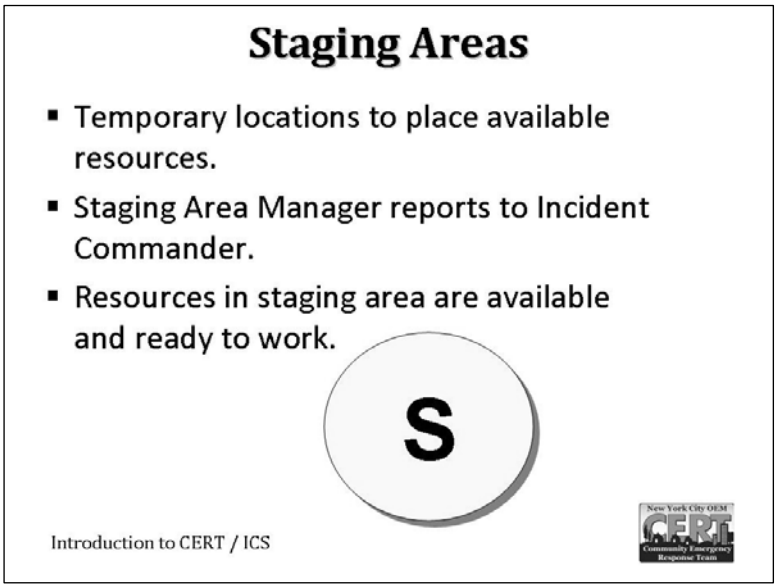


**Key Points**

- The CERT staging areas will be managed by the NYC CERT staging area manager.
- It should be located at a remote location away from the incident so resources are not depleted prior to use.
- The staging area manager reports directly to CERT lead until the operations section lead is established.
- CERT lead should consider initially staging personnel for relief and monitor changing conditions.
- Once a staging area is established NYC CERT members should report to the staging area manager, not the command post.

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**Key Points**

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## LESSONS LEARNED

- Understand the role of CERT in traffic control situations and keeping a safe perimeter.
- Practice safe traffic control techniques with a partner.
- Raise awareness of the terrorist mindset and how you can be more cognizant of what is going on around you and what you can do when something just doesn't seem right.

## COMMUNITY AWARENESS

- What lessons were learned in this unit that you might bring to your community?

- What is a message you might stress, learned this week, during a Ready NY presentation?

## PREPARING FOR YOUR FINAL WEEK

This is your last unit before the disaster simulation. The ideas and awareness you received during the terrorism part of this unit may come into play during your exercise. Practice your traffic safety and know the techniques of how to properly and safely block off traffic and deal with angry drivers.

## EVALUATION

Please fill out the evaluation for Unit 9 in the back of the binder. When completed, please hand in to your OEM Liaison.

## UNIT RESOURCES

NYC CERTs are not equipped or trained to respond to terrorist incidents. It is not in a response role where you and your team members will play an important part in keeping your community safe from terrorists. By preparing your family and neighbors, CERT can do the most good.

There are ways to prepare for a terrorist incident. Some of the steps for preparing for a terrorist incident are the same as for natural hazards but a few require special planning.

The steps to take to prepare for a terrorist attack include:

- Assembling a disaster supply kit. Disaster supplies for terrorist incidents are the same as for other hazards and should definitely include a battery-powered radio with extra batteries and a cordless or cellular telephone. Those who live in high-risk areas (such as those who live within the 10-mile emergency planning zone around a nuclear facility) will be provided with additional information by their local emergency management agencies.
- Identifying a safe room in the home or workplace and a meeting place outside of the home or workplace. Because the public will not know in advance whether to evacuate or shelter in place, it is necessary to plan for both. Because many chemicals are heavier than air, a safe room in the house should be on the main level or second level (not in the basement) and should have as few doors and windows as possible. A meeting place outside of the home should be outside of the area and upwind from the incident.
- Develop a family communication plan. Depending on the family members' locations at the time of an attack, it may not be possible to get to the meeting place. Identifying an out-of-state or out-of-area contact or other communication plan will facilitate communication and the knowledge that family members are safe.

- All of the above pertain to your team as well. Make sure you make the same arrangements for your team so that you can maintain communication and help support your community during a disaster.

Remember that:

- Team safety is the number one priority. All CERT members owe it to themselves and their loved ones not to become victims while trying to help others.
- Always do a thorough size-up and stop, look, listen, and think before taking any action. Consider:
    - Dangers, both evident and possible.
    - Team capabilities, including how many CERT members are available, the training that they have had, and the equipment that is available at the scene.
    - Team limitations.

**NYC CERT protocols for Terrorist Incidents**

- As with hazardous materials, terrorist incidents are a stop sign for CERT members.
- Take in the whole area during the size-up. If any of the indicators of a terrorist incident are present, do not proceed with the response.

If terrorism using a weapon of mass destruction is suspected, CERT teams will be very limited in what they can do. Professional responders will need specialized equipment and personnel to respond to a terrorist incident.
If you observe any of the indicators of a terrorist incident, you should:

- Not touch it!
- Move away from the object or area.
- Report it to authorities immediately.
- Cellular phones and two-way radios create static electricity and may detonate explosive devices. CERT members should always report suspected explosive devices via landline.

**Self-Care during Terrorist Incidents**

It is important to know what actions to take in a terrorist incident.
There are three factors that significantly affect safety at a terrorist incident:

- Time: limiting the amount of time in the area of an incident limits exposure.
- Distance: evacuate the area. Professional responders suggest maintaining distance of between 1,000 and 1,500 feet from the incident. Move upwind and uphill from the incident site.
- Shielding: the shielding provided by a sturdy building or even a wall can increase protection from contamination, radiation, or blast effects.

Time, distance, and shielding requirements are based on an initial size-up of the situation. If you are inside a building that is not damaged and you are not in immediate danger, you should listen to Emergency Alert System (EAS) broadcasts for information about whether to evacuate or shelter in place.

CERT members can expect professional responders to treat terrorist incidents much the same as hazardous materials incidents. As such, the next step that they will take is to establish three incident zones to minimize the risk of spreading contamination from the incident site.

- The hot zone includes the incident scene and the contaminated area around the scene. If the incident is outdoors, the hot zone will spread downwind, taking wind speed into consideration.
- The warm zone is upwind from the hot zone and is used to isolate victims during decontamination. It is called the warm zone because the evacuees can carry or spread a contaminant into this area. Professional responders will hold those who require decontamination in the warm zone until decontamination is complete so that contaminants do not spread.
- The cold zone is located upwind and beyond the warm zone. Those who are not contaminated or who have been decontaminated will be evacuated to the cold zone and kept there until professional responders authorize them to leave.

If there are any reason to believe that chemical or radiological contamination has occurred in your area put distance between you and the agent. If exposed to a chemical agent or radiation, use basic decontamination procedures.

Be sure to heed the points listed below:

- Leave the contaminated area immediately (at least 1,000 to 1,500 feet upwind and uphill) to limit the time of exposure and reduce contamination levels.
- 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 the agent.
    - Wash hands before using them to shower.
    - 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 reduce the layer of protective skin, thus increasing absorption of the contaminant.
    - If working with a buddy, work together to decontaminate each other. If hosing someone else off, avoid physical contact with both the person and the runoff.
    - Blot dry using an absorbent cloth. Do not rub the skin! Put on clean clothes.
- Report for decontamination as soon as possible. Professional responders will be setting up decontamination stations somewhere around the site.

**Treating Others**

The first priority for CERT teams is personal safety. CERT members should take <u>self-protective</u> measures only. You should <u>not</u> attempt to treat victims in the contaminated area. CERT members can tell people who are leaving the area about using basic decontamination procedures and waiting for responders.

**What First Responders Will Do**

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

The first step that first responders will take is to conduct a thorough size-up. They will follow steps that are very similar to those that CERT members may take to determine:

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

**Reporting Possible Incidents**

- 911 – for EMERGENCIES!
    - All crimes in progress.
    - If immediate Police, Fire, or EMS response is needed!

- 311 – Non-emergencies or information on City services.
    - Alternate side parking rules in effect
    - Garbage collection schedule
    - No heat / hot water complaints
    - Other general information

- 1-888-NYC-SAFE – Counter-terrorism hotline
    - Report suspected terrorist activity, 24 hours a day.
    - All calls are confidential.