**HOMELAND SECURITY RESPONSE GUIDE**

**Recommended Emergency Action Steps**

**For Individuals and Families**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED EMERGENCY ACTION STEPS</th>
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| SEVERE     | • Expect delays, searches of bags and traffic. Expect restrictions and restricted access to public buildings.  
• Monitor the news and the Emergency Alert System radio/TV stations. Avoid passing unsubstantiated information and rumors  
• Contact business to determine status of work day.  
• Avoid crowded public areas and gathering. Do not travel in areas affected by the attack or is an expected terrorist target.  
• Keep emergency supplies accessible. Be prepared to evacuate your home or shelter in place on order of local authorities. |
| HIGH       | • Continue normal activities but expect delays, baggage searches and restrictions as a result of heightened security at public facilities.  
• Avoid leaving luggage unattended; avoid and report unattended luggage.  
• Exercise caution when traveling.  
• Continue to monitor and local events, as well as local government threat advisories.  
• Avoid leaving unattended packages or brief cases in public areas.  
• Inventory emergency supply kits and discuss emergency plans with family, reevaluate meeting location based on threat.  
• Maintain close contact with your family and neighbors to ensure their safety and emotional welfare.  
• Report suspicious persons taking photographs of critical facilities, asking detailed questions about physical security or dressed inappropriately for weather conditions (such as a suicide bomber). Report these activities immediately to local law enforcement by calling 9-1-1. |
| ELEVATED   | • Continue normal activities, but report suspicious activities to the local law enforcement agencies.  
• Take a first aid or Community Emergency Response Team class.  
• Network with your family, neighbors and community for mutual support during a terrorist attack.  
• Check telephone numbers and e-mail addresses in your personal communication plan and update as necessary. |
| GUARDED    | • Continue normal activities but be watchful for suspicious activities. Report criminal activity to local law enforcement.  
• Increase family emergency preparedness by purchasing supplies, food and storing water, review family emergency plans.  
• Develop emergency communication plan with family, friends, and neighbors.  
• Monitor local and national news for terrorist alerts.  
• Update immunizations. |
| LOW        | • Obtain a copy of the Family Emergency Preparedness Guide from the Ohio Department of Public Safety or from your local fire department/local law enforcement agency.  
• Access the Department of Homeland Security’s www.ready.gov Web site for information on developing a disaster supplies kit and emergency communications plan with family/friends/neighbors.  
• Contact the Ohio Citizen Corps Council to explore volunteer opportunities in your community.  
• Be prepared for disasters and family emergencies.  
• Support the efforts for your local first responders (fire fighters, law enforcement, and emergency medical services).  
• Know what natural hazards are prevalent in your area and what measures you can take to protect your family.  
• Have first aid kits stocked. |