



THREAT CHECKLIST

Organizations, their leadership, and security staff can conduct a quick assessment of communicated threats to understand their urgency and determine immediate actions.

Type of Threat

Direct Threat: Identifies a specific act against a specific target (person/facility) and is delivered in a straightforward, clear, and explicit manner: *“I am going to hurt, or assault, _____.” Or “I am going to damage, _____.”*

Action – Call 9-1-1

Conditional Threat: Warns that a violent act will happen unless certain demands or terms are met: *“If you don’t give me what I want, I will blow up your building.”*

Action – Call 9-1-1

Veiled Threat: Strongly implies but does not explicitly threaten violence. *“He is going to pay for this”* clearly hints at a possible violent act but leaves it to the potential victim to interpret the message and give a definite meaning.

Action – Call 9-1-1

Levels of Threat

HIGH LEVEL

[Direct Threat] A threat that appears to pose an imminent and serious danger to the safety of others.

“At eight o’clock tomorrow morning, I intend to shoot the principal. That’s when he is in the office by himself. I have a 9mm. Believe me, I know what I am doing. I am sick and tired of the way he runs this school.”

- Direct, specific and plausible
- Threat suggests concrete steps have been taken toward carrying it out, for example, statements indicating that the threatener has acquired or practiced with a weapon or has had the victim under surveillance.

MEDIUM LEVEL

[Conditional Threat] A threat that could be carried out, although it may not appear entirely realistic.

“We would be better off without Jews around anymore and someone should get you.”

- Threat is more direct and more concrete than a low-level threat
- Wording suggests person has given some thought to how the act will be carried out.
- General indication of a possible place and time (but not a detailed plan)
- Strong indication the person has taken preparatory steps; veiled reference or ambiguous evidence pointing to that possibility, e.g. - an allusion to a movie that shows the planning of a violent act, or a vague, statement about the availability of weapons.

LOW LEVEL

[Veiled Threat] A threat that poses minimal risk to persons or property.

“If you don’t pay me one million dollars, I will blow up your building.”

- Threat is vague and indirect
- Information within the threat is inconsistent, implausible or lacks detail
- Threat lacks realism – the person is unlikely to have the means to carry out the threat
- Content suggests person is unlikely to carry it out

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In some cases, the distinction between the levels of threat may not be as obvious, and there will be overlap between the categories. Generally, obtaining additional information about either the threat or the threatener will help in clarifying any confusion. What is important is that individuals are able to recognize, report, and act on threats, and management addresses all threats appropriately and in a timely manner.

To report a threatening or suspicious call, notify SCN only after law enforcement and/or local reporting authority.

**Contact SCN Duty Desk at 844.SCN.DESK
or email dutydesk@securecommunitynetwork.org**

THREATENING/HARASSING PHONE CALLS



This quick reference checklist is designed to help employees and decision makers respond to a threat or harassment in an orderly and controlled manner with the first responders and other stakeholders. Threats may be received by phone, email, social media, in person, or by vandalism/graffiti. Act quickly but remain calm and obtain information with the checklist on this sheet, if possible. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Date of Call:	Time Call Received:
Phone Number:	Time Call Ended:

If a threat is received by phone:

1. Remain calm.
2. Listen carefully. Remain professional.
3. Try to learn as much information as you can.
4. If possible, write a note to a colleague to notify law enforcement or, as soon as the caller hangs up, immediately notify them yourself.
5. If the call is harassment (e.g., not making a threat), tell the caller they are prohibited from calling the organization and to not call again.
6. If your phone has a display, copy the number and/or letters on the window display.
7. Complete the Communicated Threat Checklist immediately. Write down as much detail as you can remember. Try to get exact words.
8. Notify 9-1-1, your Security and SCN Duty Desk.

<p>Ask the Caller: What are you trying to accomplish, do you want to hurt, assault or damage someone or something (<i>Bomb/Assault/etc.</i>)?</p>
How will it happen?
When will it happen?
Where will it happen? (<i>Outside? Inside? What Room?</i>)
Who will do this? (<i>Name? Description?</i>)
Why will this happen? (<i>What is the reason or motivation?</i>)

Listen for Details about the Caller:

Sex: Male Female Unknown

Age: Child Teenage Adult Elderly

Accent: Yes *[Describe]* _____ None

Demeanor: Calm Angry Irrational

Threat Language: Coherent Incoherent Well-Spoken
 Profane Message Read Message Pre-recorded

Background Noise: Household Office Street Music
 Factory/Industrial Other: _____

IN-PERSON THREATS



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Date Threat Made:	Time Threat Made:
Threat Made By:	Person/Entity Threatened:

If a threat is made in person:

1. Remain calm.
2. Listen carefully. Remain professional. Be polite and show interest.
3. Maintain or gain distance, think about barriers between you and threat.
4. Watch for signs of impending violence.
5. Try to keep the person talking to learn more information.
6. If possible, write a note to a colleague to call law enforcement or, as soon as possible, notify them yourself.
7. Complete the Communicated Threat Checklist immediately. Write down as much detail as you can remember. Try to get exact words.
8. Immediately upon termination of the conversation, notify law enforcement with information.
9. Notify your Security and SCN Duty Desk.

<p>Ask the Person: What are you trying to accomplish, do you want to hurt, assault or damage someone or something (<i>Bomb/Assault/etc.</i>)?</p>
How will it happen?
When will it happen?
Where will it happen? (<i>Outside? Inside? What Room?</i>)
Who will do this? (<i>Name? Description?</i>)
Why will this happen? (<i>What is the reason or motivation?</i>)

Tell the Person:

“You have the leave the premises and do not come back.”
“If you do not leave Law Enforcement/Security will be called.”

Listen for Details about the Caller:

Sex:	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
Age:	<input type="checkbox"/> Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage	<input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly
Accent:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>[Describe]</i> _____		<input type="checkbox"/> None
Demeanor:	<input type="checkbox"/> Calm	<input type="checkbox"/> Angry	<input type="checkbox"/> Irrational
Threat Language:	<input type="checkbox"/> Coherent	<input type="checkbox"/> Incoherent	<input type="checkbox"/> Well-Spoken
	<input type="checkbox"/> Profane	<input type="checkbox"/> Message Read	<input type="checkbox"/> Message Pre-recorded
How did threat arrive:	<input type="checkbox"/> Foot	<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle	License Plate: _____

THREATENING/HARASSING EMAIL OR SOCIAL MEDIA



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Date of Email or Post:	Time of Email or Post:
Email Address or Social Media Account Where Received:	Email or Social Media Account of Sender/Poster:

If a threat is received by email or social media:

1. Remain calm.
2. Do not delete the email, message or post.
3. Note the date, time and email or social media account where it was received.
4. Note the email address or social media account of the sender
5. Complete the Communicated Threat Checklist immediately. Write down as much detail as possible. Print the message or post and attach to the Communicated Threat Checklist. Save or archive the original if possible.
6. Consider Screenshot of message
7. Notify law enforcement immediately with information.
8. Notify your Security and SCN Duty Desk.

THREATENING/HARASSING VANDALISM OR GRAFFITI



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Date Discovered:	Time Discovered:
Name of Person Who Discovered Damage:	

If a threat is made through graffiti or vandalism:

1. Remain calm.
2. Note the date and time of discovery.
3. Photograph the graffiti or vandalism.
4. Complete the Communicated Threat Checklist immediately. Write down as much detail as possible.
5. Notify law enforcement immediately with information.
6. Notify your Security and SCN Duty Desk and security

THREATENING/HARASSING LETTER OR NOTE



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Date Received:	Time Received:
Addressed Where Received:	Name/Address of Sender:
Delivery Method (USPS, FedEx, UPS, Other):	

If a threat is received by mail or delivery service:

1. Remain calm.
2. Handle as little as possible. If need to handle letter/package try to use gloves, etc.
3. Note the date, time and means of delivery.
4. Note the addresses of sender and recipient.
5. Save all wrapping or packaging.
6. Photograph the letter/package.
7. Complete the Communicated Threat Checklist immediately. Write down as much detail as possible.
8. Notify law enforcement immediately with information.
9. Notify your Security and SCN Duty Desk.