



KENTON COUNTY EOP INCIDENT SPECIFIC PLAN HOMELAND SECURITY PLAN – APPENDIX 8

KENTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY – HOMELAND SECURITY PLAN

APPENDIX 8

HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY SYSTEM

The United States Department of Homeland Security has established the **National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS)** to provide a comprehensive and effective means to disseminate information regarding any credible risk of terrorist acts to Federal, State, and local authorities and to the American people.

The NTAS will communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector.

It recognizes that Americans all share responsibility for the nation's security, and should always be aware of the heightened risk of terrorist attack in the United States and what they should do.

National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) Alerts

After reviewing the available information, the Secretary of Homeland Security will decide, in coordination with other Federal entities, whether an NTAS Alert should be issued. NTAS Alerts will only be issued when credible information is available.

These alerts will include a clear statement that there is an **imminent threat** or **elevated threat**.

Imminent Threat Alert – Warns of a credible, specific, and impending terrorist threat against the United States.

Elevated Threat Alert – Warns of a credible terrorist threat against the United States.

Using available information, the alerts will provide a concise summary of the potential threat, information about actions being taken to ensure public safety, and recommended steps that individuals, communities, businesses, and governments can take to help prevent, mitigate, or respond to the threat.

The NTAS Alerts will be based on the nature of the threat: in some cases, alerts will be sent directly to law enforcement or affected areas of the private sector, while in others, alerts will be issued more broadly to the American people through both official and media channels.

Sunset Provision – An individual threat alert is issued for a specific time period and then automatically expires. It may be extended if new information becomes available or the threat evolves. NTAS Alerts contain a sunset provision indicating a specific date when the alert expires - there will not be a constant NTAS Alert or blanket warning that there is an overarching threat. If threat information changes for an alert, the Secretary of Homeland Security may announce an updated NTAS Alert. All changes, including the announcement that cancels an NTAS Alert, will be distributed the same way as the original alert.

See Tab 8-1 Sample NTAS Alert for clarification.