

Our mission is working together as ONE DPS to provide a safe and secure Utah.

Keith D. Squires
Commissioner



Utah

Department of Public Safety

DPS in the News



To encourage everyone to drive safely and buckle up over the Thanksgiving holiday, the Highway Safety Office and UHP partnered with UDOT and Zero Fatalities. The groups hosted a press conference that featured a father whose life was saved when he chose to buckle up several years ago. [Click here to watch a KSL story about the event and the family.](#)



Eight Signs of Terrorism Video and CAP

Recent events underscore the fact that terrorism and crime remain a real and ever-present threat, not just globally, but nationally and locally. As part of our ongoing commitment to public safety and the citizens of Utah, DPS partnered with the Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL), Lt. Governor Spencer Cox, local law enforcement agencies and many others to proactively address these threats by creating a video and the Community Awareness Program (CAP). These are designed to educate citizens on how to properly recognize and report suspicious activity in a manner that reduces the likelihood of terrorist attacks and protects the civil liberties of our citizens.

The video is called "Eight Signs of Terrorism" and depicts eight specific behavioral indicators that everyone should be aware of. It is a general

and simple breakdown of what, as concerned citizens, we should be aware of, and provides a seamless visual display of examples of these eight signs which should be reported.

Upon release of the video in November, Commissioner Squires noted the following: "Sadly, we live in a day and age where criminals and terrorists can affiliate themselves through the Internet with radical extremist groups or ideologies and use these causes to support carrying out violent attacks on innocent citizens anywhere in the world. That is why it is imperative that we all work together and report suspicious activity when we see it."

The video is a key part of the CAP, which is an opportunity for law enforcement (LE) to not only learn basic behavioral indicators which
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Video and CAP Continued

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are associated with pre-operational terrorist planning, but to be trained to in turn train others to identify such behavior. The general concept is community outreach. In theory, LE will attend a train the trainer curriculum, and then be better prepared to train others of the importance of situational awareness.

Once they have the knowledge and skills to teach the CAP, the instructors will use visual materials and hands-on activities to help participants learn about criminal and terrorist activity. The CAP will help citizens understand what actions they can and should take when they see suspicious activity. Many citizens are confused as to what actions should be taken when suspicious activity is witnessed. The majority of the time, suspicious activity is not an emergency, and 911 seems out of the question. Those instructors who undergo this curriculum will empower the public, and leave them with no doubt and a positive idea of who to

contact in these types of situations.

The CAP is designed to build and strengthen LE and community partnerships. All Utah LE agencies will have access to the CAP and will have the opportunity to properly train citizens within their communities to be vigilant, aware, and prepared. The training curriculum will be available to LE agencies in January.

The initiative, which is led by DPS' Statewide Information and Analysis Center, is designed to involve all citizens in the efforts to keep everyone safe. Moving beyond the maxim of "See Something, Say Something," the program will help citizens take a more active role in being the eyes of the community. As Commissioner Squires notes in the video "when it comes to protecting Utah's communities, we work better when we work together."

[Click here to watch the "Eight Signs of Terrorism" video.](#)

-- John McClure

Large Quantity of White Heroin Identified in Utah

Initially, UHP troopers and investigators from the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) thought the substance recovered from a manufactured compartment in a vehicle was cocaine. It looked like it, was packaged like it and a narcotics field identification test kit even indicated it was cocaine.

But the chemistry section of the State Crime Lab recently identified the substance as a kilo of white heroin. Although small amounts of white heroin have been identified in Utah before, this is the first time that the laboratory has identified a large amount of it.

Typically, this form of heroin is seen only in the eastern part of the United States. In the western United States, most of the heroin available is a solid substance that is black in color, which is known as black tar, and may be sticky (like tar) or hard to the touch.

The presence of white heroin has numerous potential implications for public safety. The Drug Enforcement Agency notes that because heroin abusers do not know

the actual strength of the drug or its true contents, they are at a high risk of overdose or death. Compounding that risk is the fact that white heroin can be 10 to 100 times stronger than black tar heroin. The increased potency increases the chances that individuals can unknowingly overdose, especially if they are accustomed to using black tar heroin.

Figures tracked by the Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health indicate that heroin use in Utah is increasing. According to the Utah Department of Health, 119 Utahns died from heroin overdose in 2014 and Utah is now the fifth highest in the nation for prescription drug and heroin overdoses. White heroin could exacerbate the issue of heroin overdose in Utah.

SBI is continuing its investigation and the Crime Lab anticipates issuing an intelligence bulletin for law enforcement agencies regarding the identification of this large amount of white heroin.