

Excerpt: Terrorist Targeting of First Responders and the Role of the Firefighter Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO)¹⁷

Valued Access and Role of the Firefighter TLO: Firefighters' roles as a first responder and an emergency medical service allow for unique access to people and information, which can generate invaluable tips and leads. Because the presence and effectiveness of firefighters mitigate the impact of a terrorist incident involving massive human casualties, terrorists have historically conducted preoperational planning that target firefighting agencies in order to limit the effectiveness of their reaction capabilities.

The following case studies provide details on how and why terrorists have historically conducted targeting and preoperational planning on firefighting organizations. Additionally, this bulletin will address related terrorist techniques and activities that will help the Fire TLO identify and report terrorist related activity.

Case 1: Dhiren Barot—Preoperational Planning Involving Fire Departments

Dhiren Barot, a Kenyan immigrant to the United Kingdom (UK), was arrested in 2004 for plotting to attack the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington, D.C., and other U.S. and international targets. Dhiren Barot was a