

Fides Insurance Group / Office of Risk Management
RISK ALERT
No. 2022-04

RE: FBI and DHS Issue Advisory Alert

January 21, 2022

In the wake of the recent hostage situation at a Jewish synagogue in Texas, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Homeland Security have issued a warning to houses of worship, who are at increased risk of attack by violent extremists. The FBI and DHS are advising houses of worship to be mindful and vigilant of security protocols and to evaluate their security measures for mass gatherings.

Precautions to Take Now

- Review your current protocols and procedures with your Parish Safety Committee and ensure every staff and volunteer is aware of your safety plan. For a copy of our Parish Safety and Security Guide in English, Spanish, or Portuguese, please contact doreen_rearden@rcab.org.
- Review the Department of Homeland Security's [resources for faith-based events and houses of worship](#).
- Be mindful of [suspicious activity](#) and contact law enforcement with any concerning behavior you might witness.
- Contact the Office of Risk Management if you have any questions about your parish's safety and security plan and review the Parish Safety Guide that you should have received in the mail. If your parish did not receive a Parish Safety Guide, contact Doreen Rearden to request one.
- If you are interested in attending a [Parish Safety Training](#), please contact the Office of Risk Management. The training program helps parishes begin the process of developing a parish safety plan and provides violent intruder response training specifically geared to houses of worship.

If you have any questions regarding your parish safety plan or procedures, please contact the Office of Risk Management at 617-913-2017 or Doreen_Rearden@rcab.org.