






# Instructor Guide

## Lesson 1: SPOT Overview

**Purpose:** To provide Transportation Security Officers (TSO) with an introduction to the Screening of Passengers by Observation Techniques (SPOT) training program, including the purpose of SPOT, how SPOT augments the current screening procedures, and the four major steps of the SPOT process

**Lesson Time:** 2 hours

Instructor Materials	Participant Materials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructor Guide</li> <li>• Laptop</li> <li>• Projector and screen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participant Guide</li> <li>• Pen or pencil</li> <li>• SPOT Behavior Indicators Reference Guide</li> <li>• Handouts: What is SPOT?, Definitions, TSA 20 Layers of Security, Example: Unlawful Use of Race or Ethnicity, Example: Lawful Use of Discernible Traits, SPOT Process</li> </ul>

Icon	Description
	<b>Activity</b> identifies where activities take place during the delivery.
	<b>Facilitated Discussion</b> identifies where discussions led by the instructor take place during the course.
	<b>Reference</b> identifies materials for the participant to reference for more or specific information.
	<b>Click</b> identifies click-based animation. Look for the icon in the narrative to know when to advance to the next piece of information.
	<b>Question Mark</b> identifies where the instructor should ask questions.

**Slide 1: SPOT Overview**



Understanding the history, philosophy, and goals of the SPOT program will help you better grasp the concept of the program to identify high-risk passengers.

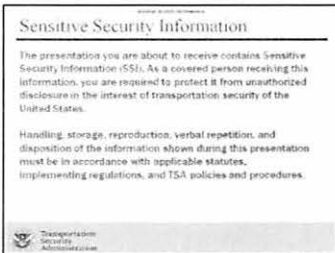
In this lesson, we will take a broad look at TSA’s SPOT program. We will define what SPOT is (and what it is not), what led to its creation, how it augments the current screening procedures, and the four major steps in the SPOT process.

**Teaching Point:** If possible, provide a personal example in which the SPOT program prevented potential illegal or terrorist activity.

**Teaching Point:** Instructors should hand out Participant Guides (PG) and the SPOT Behavior Indicator Reference Guides now, before proceeding to the next slide.

- Participants can take their guides home with them at night to study.
- Participants may not write in these guides.
- If instructors are able to accommodate study sessions, mention them now.

**Slide 2: SSI Statement**



*“The presentation you are about to receive contains Sensitive Security Information (SSI). As a covered person receiving this information, you are required to protect it from unauthorized disclosure in the interest of transportation security of the United States.*

*Handling, storage, reproduction, verbal repetition, and disposition of the information shown during this presentation must be in accordance with applicable statutes, implementing regulations, and TSA policies and procedures.”*

**Teaching Point:** the statement on this slide must be read aloud to the class or you may direct participants to read it to themselves.

**Slide 3: Activity: What is SPOT?**



**Teaching Point:** Distribute the "What is SPOT?" handout.



**Activity: What is SPOT?**

**Purpose:** To help determine what participants may already know about SPOT and to generate discussion about their perceptions

**Duration:** 15 minutes

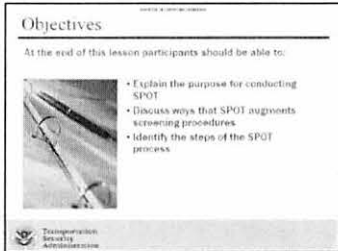


**Reference:** "What is SPOT?" handout

**Instructions:**

1. Refer participants to the "What is SPOT?" handout.
2. Ask participants to answer the questions in the handout in the spaces provided.
3. The answers will be discussed throughout this lesson with the use of the Instructor Guide (IG) and accompanying slides.

**Slide 4: Objectives**



**Teaching Point:** Ensure participants understand what will be taught. The class will revisit the objectives during the lesson summary.


At the end of this lesson, participants should be able to:

- Explain the purpose for conducting SPOT
- Discuss ways that SPOT augments screening procedures
- Identify the steps of the SPOT process

**Slide 5: History of SPOT Within TSA**

History of SPOT Within TSA

- Originally named PASS
- Collaborative effort
- Began with analysis of high-risk passengers
- First used by Massachusetts State Police
- Adapted for TSA in summer of 2003
- SPOT recognized as an official security program of the TSA in July 2006
- Uses unique scoring system



The program was originally called the Passenger Assessment Screening System (PASS). The name was changed to SPOT in September 2004.

PASS originated as a collaborative effort at Logan International Airport between the TSA, Massachusetts State Police, and Massachusetts Port Authority.

PASS was designed to identify high-risk passengers based on the behavior profiling concept used by Israeli security forces. This concept was merged with U.S. airport drug interdiction programs known as "walk and talks" that used interviews of passengers based on drug courier profiles to interdict drug smuggling. Behavior analysis, document analysis, and casual or brief conversations were refined and tested to meet US legal, political, and social standards as well as financial and resource limitations.

PASS has been used successfully by the Massachusetts State Police at Logan International Airport since March 2002. Over 1,200 police officers around the nation have received training, and the program is now being used in mass transit systems as well as airports.

In the summer of 2003, Massachusetts State Police teamed up with representatives from Logan International Airport and developed a prototype system suitable for use by TSA personnel at TSA checkpoints. Over the course of several months, this prototype was refined into the present TSA program through the collaborative efforts of the Massachusetts State Police and TSA.

SPOT was recognized as an official TSA security program in July 2006.

The major development was the introduction of a scoring system used to rate behaviors in order to justify SPOT Referral Screening or Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) intervention.

We will discuss the scoring system later in the course.

**Slide 6: SPOT Defined**

**SPOT Defined**

- SPOT is a behavior observation and analysis program that detects behaviors and activities that deviate from an established environmental baseline.
- Individuals whose behaviors meet or exceed predetermined thresholds are referred for additional screening or law enforcement intervention.
- TSA developed and implemented the SPOT program based on behavior pattern recognition techniques used by various government agencies and supported by scientific research.

Transportation Security Administration

**Reference:** "Definitions" handout**Ask:** What is SPOT?

**Answer:** As stated in the SPOT Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), "SPOT is a behavior observation and analysis program that detects behaviors and activities that deviate from an established environmental baseline. Individuals whose behaviors meet or exceed predetermined thresholds are referred for additional screening or law enforcement intervention. TSA developed and implemented the SPOT program based on behavior pattern recognition techniques used by various government agencies and supported by scientific research."

**Ask:** When can we stray from using this methodology?**Answer:** Never.

At no time should Behavior Detection Officers (BDO) stray from this methodology and use any form of racial or ethnic profiling. Racial profiling completely negates the use of SPOT by using someone's ethnic background and appearance as the decision base for additional screening.

The use of this type of profiling is illegal, morally wrong, and should never be used.

The terrorist profile is independent of race, ethnicity, and background. We have seen this many times before with various individuals who want to cause harm.

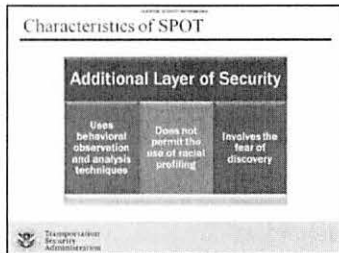
**Reference:** "What is SPOT?" handout

**Ask:** Refer to Knowledge Check #1. It states, "SPOT is a method used by trained security personnel that warrants the legal detention of individuals suspected of terrorism." Is this statement true or false?

**Answer:** It is false. A BDO has no authority to legally detain or arrest anyone. BDOs engage in voluntary encounters with individuals.

You will be observing individuals and looking for those who meet certain behavior criteria. While LEOs may further interview these individuals formally, BDOs never conduct formal interviews.

**Slide 7: Characteristics of SPOT**



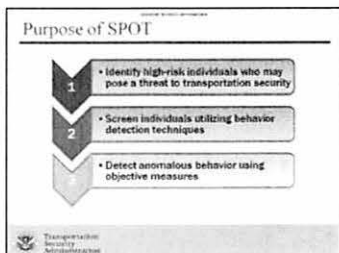
SPOT involves the fear of discovery. The theory supporting behavior detection holds that people have little control over behavior manifesting itself when they are trying to hide something or "get away" with something.

Behaviors will manifest themselves in various ways and in many instances, without the individual even being aware of it occurring. When these behaviors manifest themselves, we call it "leaking."

The fear of discovery often results in stress, fear, or anxiety, and behaviors will "leak" out in visible forms, both verbal and non-verbal.

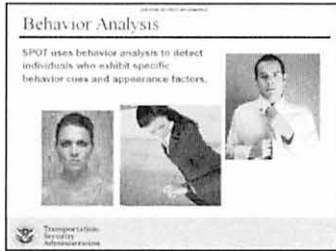
As BDOs, we look for this leaking to occur. It is the same for terrorists as it is for drug smugglers. As long as the situation is high-risk for that individual, he or she will suffer mental stress, fear, or anxiety.

**Slide 8: Purpose of SPOT**



Our main goals as BDOs are to:

- Identify high-risk individuals who may pose a threat to transportation security
- Screen individuals utilizing behavior detection techniques
- Detect anomalous behavior using objective measure

**Slide 9: Behavior Analysis**

SPOT uses behavior analysis to detect individuals who exhibit specific behavior cues and appearance factors. BDOs focus on the following:

- Behavior and appearance, excluding race, religion, and ethnicity
- Accessible property viewed in relationship to the location and its physical layout
- Individual's interactions with other individuals

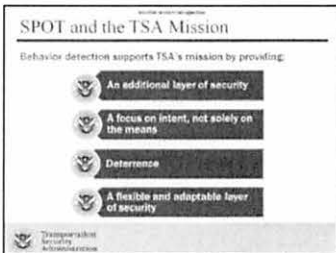


**Reference:** "What is SPOT?" handout



**Ask:** Refer to Knowledge Check #2. It states, "SPOT uses behavior analysis to detect individuals who exhibit specific behavior cues and appearance factors." Is this statement true or false?

**Answer:** This statement is true.

**Slide 10: SPOT and the TSA Mission**

**Teaching Point:** This slide is click-based. Ask the question and solicit answers before clicking to reveal the slide bullets. Ensure that participant have addressed these points.



**Facilitated Discussion:** Lead a discussion on the benefits of SPOT and how it supports the TSA mission.



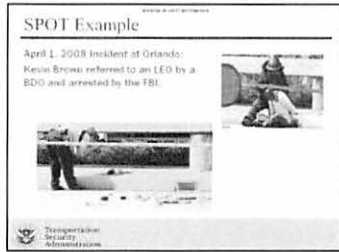
**Ask:** What are the benefits of SPOT and how does it support TSA's overall mission?



**Answer:** Answers should include that SPOT:

- Provides an additional layer of security
- Focuses more on intent, rather than on means
- Provides visible deterrence
- Is a flexible, mobile, and adaptive layer of security



**Slide 11: SPOT Example**

**Teaching Point:** Emphasize that the BDO's primary function is not to find illegal substances. Rather, the job is to identify persons exhibiting behavior cues and appearance factors who may need additional security screening.

On April 1, 2008, Behavior Detection Program Manager Cleveland Laycock of TSA Orlando spotted a passenger carrying a backpack and behaving suspiciously. The man, later identified as 32-year-old Kevin Brown, was pacing back and forth and had approached the ticket counter several times.

Brown was exhibiting signs that indicate stress, fear, or deception. Within a few seconds, Laycock alerted his team.

Watching from the ticketing area next to the front door of the airport and hundreds of yards from the nearest checkpoint, a team of BDOs, including Jose Zengotita, tracked Brown for about two hours. Immediately after Brown checked his luggage, Zengotita moved in to inspect the bag's contents. Working with Bomb Appraisal Officer (BAO) David Platt, they discovered explosive components - enough to build an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

As the passenger approached the main terminal under Zengotita's watchful eye, Orlando police intercepted him. He was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and charged with carrying a weapon or explosive on an aircraft; all without closing a single checkpoint or delaying more than Brown's flight.

**Slide 12: The Terrorist Threat**

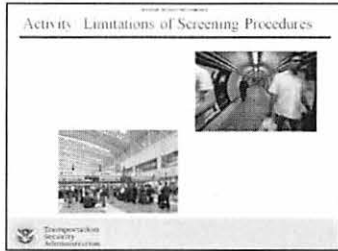
The most obvious rationale for SPOT is to combat the terrorist presence.

**“The ability to detect broader and more diverse terrorist plotting in this environment will challenge current U.S. defensive efforts and the tools we use to detect and disrupt plots. It will also require greater understanding of how suspect activities at the local level relate to strategic threat information and how to best identify indicators of terrorist activity in the midst of legitimate interactions.”**

- “The Terrorist Threat to the US Homeland,” National Intelligence Estimate from the National Intelligence Council, July 2007



**Slide 13: Activity: Limitations of Screening Procedures**



**Activity: Limitations of Screening Procedures**

**Purpose:** To determine what are the limitations of current screening procedures

**Duration:** 10 minutes total; 3 minutes in breakout groups and 5 minutes to debrief as a class

**Materials:** Flipchart, markers

**Instructions:**

1. Divide class into four groups and ask the following question:



**Ask:** What are at least three limitations of the current screening procedures in detecting potential terrorist activity?

2. Instruct participants they have three minutes to record their answers on a flipchart.
3. After three minutes, reconvene the class. Ask for each group to read their answers the question.

**Answer:** Answers should include:

- A threat to the facility may not be through a checkpoint.
- A weapon may be constructed in the sterile area or fashioned from available materials. The terrorist may be involved in surveillance or a planning activity.
- Passenger risk evaluation at airports is based on limited data and intelligence, Selectee lists, and No Fly lists.
- Prohibited item detection rates cannot be expected to be 100%.
- The detection of nonmetallic weapons and explosives carried by a person or in carry-on bags is limited.
- The FBI has compiled a database of 90 easily concealable knives, including knives of nonmetal composites, that can escape detection by magnetometers and x-ray machines.



**Ask:** How can SPOT help to mitigate these limitations?

**Answer:** By using behavior analysis, document analysis, and brief conversations there is an opportunity to detect persons exhibiting behavior cues and appearance factors without regard to the presence of a weapon and without regard to the nature of the activities being carried out.

**Slide 14: Multi-layer Protection**



**Teaching Point:** This slide points out where SPOT falls in the 20 layers of security.

SPOT and BDOs afford us another layer of protection.



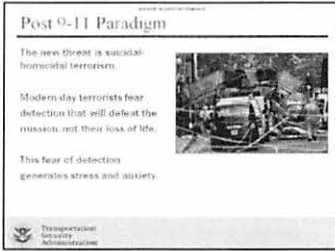
**Reference:** "TSA 20 Layers of Security" handout




**Ask:** Can anyone name some of the other layers of protection that TSA provides?

**Answer:** Answers should include those items noted on the handout.

**Slide 15: Post 9-11 Paradigm**





 **Reference:** “Definitions” handout – see term “Post 9-11 paradigm”

The post 9-11 paradigm threat is suicidal-homicidal terrorism.

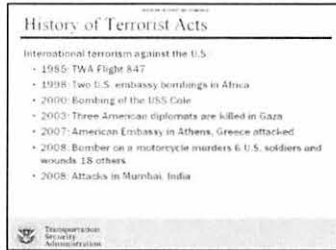
Typically, modern-day terrorists fear detection that will defeat the mission, not their loss of life.

This fear of detection generates stress and anxiety. These are manifested through physical and physiological reactions that are detectable by trained observers.

 **Reference:** “What is SPOT?” handout

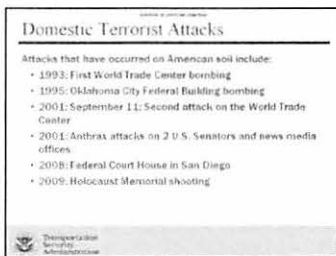
 **Ask:** Refer to Knowledge Check #3 in the “What is SPOT?” handout. It states, “Because terrorists fear a failed mission, they will likely display signs of stress.” Is this statement true or false?

**Answer:** This statement is true.

**Slide 16: History of Terrorist Acts**

International terrorism against the US did not start with the attacks of September 11, 2001.

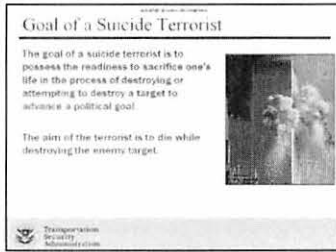
- 1985: TWA Flight 847: Terrorists Imad Mughniyah, Hasan Izz-Al-Din, and Ali Atwa hijacked TWA Flight 847. During the incident, U.S. Navy diver Robert Dean Stethem was shot and dumped on the tarmac of Beirut International Airport.
- 1998: Two U.S. embassy bombings in Africa (Tanzania and Kenya)
- 2000: Bombing of the USS Cole
- 2003: Three American diplomats killed by a roadside bomb targeting their convoy in Gaza.
- 2007: American Embassy in Athens, Greece attacked
- 2008: Motorcycle bomber murders six US soldiers and wounds 18 others
- 2008: Attacks in Mumbai, India, on two hotels, a hospital, a train station, and a cinema killing 190 and wounding over 300

**Slide 17: Domestic Terrorist Attacks**

Attacks that have occurred on American soil include:

- 1993: First World Trade Center bombing
- 1995: Oklahoma City Federal Building bombing
- 2001: September 11: Second attack on the World Trade Center
- 2001: Anthrax attacks on two US Senators and news media offices
- 2008: Federal Court House in San Diego
- 2009: Holocaust Memorial shooting

**Slide 18: Goal of a Suicide Terrorist**

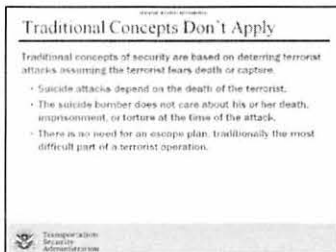


The goal of a suicide terrorist is to possess the readiness to sacrifice one's life in the process of destroying or attempting to destroy a target to advance a political goal.

The aim of the terrorist is to die while destroying the enemy target.

Because suicide terrorists may be present anywhere in the airport, it is critical to recognize behaviors that require an automatic LEO notification.

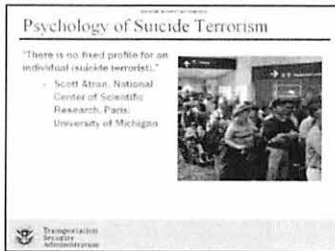
**Slide 19: Traditional Concepts Don't Apply**




Traditional concepts of security are based on deterring terrorist attacks assuming the terrorist fears death or capture. However, suicide attacks depend on the death of the terrorist.

The suicide bomber does not care about his or her death, imprisonment, or torture at the time of the attack. Because of this, there is no need for an escape plan, traditionally the most difficult part of a terrorist operation. Suicide bombers want to have a large impact on human life or infrastructure and are willing to die in order to do so.

The airport environment would be a prime location. Strikes do not necessarily have to be on an airplane. A suicide terrorist attack could occur by disabling an air traffic control tower or other airport operations. Once the tower is down, the radar is down, and the airport can no longer guide planes. Large target equals a large yield.

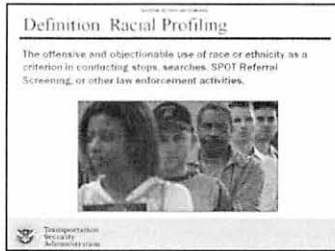
**Slide 20: Psychology of Suicide Terrorism**

 **Reference:** “Definitions” handout – see term “Three elements that impact a suicide terrorist’s success”

There is no such thing as a typical terrorist. Terrorists are children, men, women, young, old, and from all walks of life. Their success depends on three main elements:

- **Secrecy**  
Terrorists and terrorist cells rely on secrecy. When fewer people are aware of the mission, there is a greater chance of success.
- **Reconnaissance and surveillance**  
It is critical for the suicide terrorist to know the environment. They survey the area where they plan to conduct the mission.
  - Suicide bombers go so far as to build reconstructions of the location (mock-ups) in order to recreate the actual target or access points. Knowing the environment allows terrorists to learn the existing security routine and find weaknesses.
- **Extensive rehearsals and “dry runs”**  
Reconnaissance and surveillance pave the way for “dry runs” at the targeted location. Example: Richard Reid made several dry runs from London Heathrow to Boston.



**Slide 21: Definition: Racial Profiling**

**Reference:** “Definitions” handout – see term “Racial profiling”

Racial profiling is the offensive and objectionable use of race or ethnicity as a criterion in conducting stops, searches, SPOT Referral Screening, or other law enforcement activities.

– Department of Homeland Security’s Commitment to Race Neutrality in Law Enforcement Activities, June 1, 2004

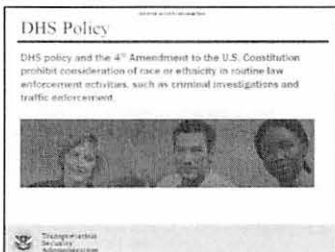


**Reference:** “What is SPOT?” handout



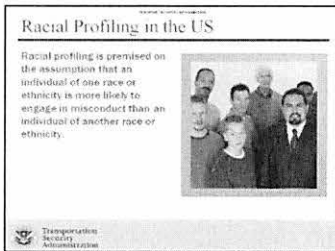
**Ask:** Refer to Knowledge Check #4 in the “What is SPOT?” handout. It states, “Racial profiling concerns the offensive and objectionable use of race or ethnicity as a criterion in conducting stops, searches, and other law enforcement activities.” Is this statement true or false?

**Answer:** This statement is true.

**Slide 22: DHS Policy**

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) policy and the 4th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibit consideration of race or ethnicity in routine law enforcement activities, such as criminal investigations and traffic enforcement.

**Slide 23: Racial Profiling in the US**



Racial profiling is premised on the assumption that an individual of one race or ethnicity is more likely to engage in misconduct than an individual of another race or ethnicity.



**Reference:** "What is SPOT?" handout

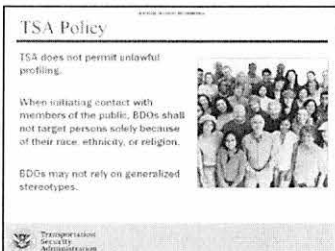
**Teaching Point:** Emphasize that a terrorist can be a member of any race, ethnicity, or national origin. Terrorists do not fit any specific profile.



**Ask:** Refer to Knowledge Check #5 in the "What is SPOT?" handout. It states, "Terrorists are easily identified by their appearance." Is this statement true or false?

**Answer:** This statement is false.

**Slide 24: TSA Policy**



TSA does not permit unlawful profiling.

When initiating contact with members of the public, BDOs shall not target persons solely because of their race, ethnicity, or religion.

BDOs may not rely on generalized stereotypes.

**Slide 25: Unlawful Use of Race or Ethnicity**



Example: A male passenger approaches the TSA security checkpoint at the airport. He appears to be a Sikh and is wearing a traditional head covering, called a *pagri*. He properly submits his carry-on bag for screening and passes through the Walk-through Metal Detector (WTMD) properly. The x-ray inspection of the carry-on reveals nothing amiss, the man does not activate the WTMD, and all required additional screening measures for his head covering are completed. There is nothing suspicious about his activities or appearance. In the absence of any threat warning, a TSO may not order the man to undergo further inspection.

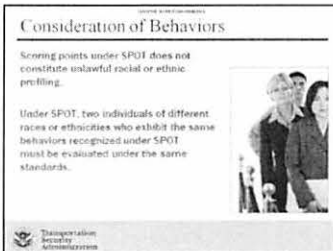


**Facilitated Discussion:** Facilitate a discussion to ensure participants are clear on what constitutes profiling, and that profiling is never used in the SPOT Program.



**Reference:** "Example: Unlawful Use of Race or Ethnicity" handout

**Slide 26: Consideration of Behaviors**



Scoring points under SPOT does not constitute unlawful racial or ethnic profiling.

Under SPOT, two individuals of different races or ethnicities who exhibit the same behaviors recognized under SPOT must be evaluated under the same standards.

**Teaching Point:** Explain that the only exception to this is the rare occasion when current threat intelligence has caused the Federal Security Director (FSD) to direct otherwise. The next slide will give an example of when the FSD may direct otherwise.

**Slide 27: Lawful Use of Discernible Traits**



Example: US intelligence sources report that five male terrorists, all approximately 30 years old, from a particular ethnic group are planning to use commercial jetliners as weapons by hijacking them at an airport somewhere in Northern California.

Intelligence sources further report that this may occur during the next two to three days and in an attempt to conceal weapons and their actual intent, the men will be dressed and carrying accessible property to appear to be traveling on a hiking vacation.

Before allowing men meeting that description to board commercial airplanes in Northern California airports during the next two to three days, TSA personnel and other Federal and State authorities may subject them to heightened scrutiny.

Remember: BDOs shall not consider race or ethnicity as a factor unless there is specific threat information issued by the FSD authorizing the consideration of race or ethnicity as one factor in the evaluation process and the threat information is based on current intelligence.



**Facilitated Discussion:** Facilitate a discussion to ensure participants are clear on when they may receive such guidance from the FSD, what constitutes profiling, and that profiling is never used in the SPOT Program.



**Reference:** “Example: Lawful Use of Discernible Traits” handout

**Slide 28: Terrorists Transcend Stereotypes**



Today's terrorists are all races, ethnicities, ages, and genders.

There is no such thing as a "typical" terrorist. If we believe that terrorists fit a specific profile, we will overlook those who do not meet that profile.

Terrorists have included exploited children. Palestinian terrorists used an 11-year-old boy to smuggle a bomb through a roadblock in the West Bank in March 2004.

In the US, domestic terrorism has accounted for more incidents than international terrorism. Such incidents involved individuals such as Timothy McVeigh (Oklahoma City bombing), Ted Kaczynski (the Unabomber), and Eric Rudolph (medical clinic and Olympic Park bomber).

(Top left corner, 1st picture) – Timothy McVeigh – Oklahoma City bombing (Former U.S. Army, Bronze Star recipient): McVeigh constructed a 5,000-pound ammonium nitrate and fuel oil device in the back of a Ryder Truck. On April 19, 1995, he drove the truck to the front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and detonated it. The attack killed 168 people and wounded 850.

(Top, 2nd picture from left) – Hussan Abdo (hoo-sahn ab-doe) – Suicide bomber attempt at border crossing: This 14-year-old Palestinian boy attempted to enter Hawara checkpoint in the West Bank of Israel carrying an explosive vest. Soldiers noticed something under his clothing, and the explosive was removed and safely detonated.

(Top, 3rd picture from left) – Reem Raiyshi (reem rah-ee shee) – Border crossing suicide bomber: Raiyshi blew herself up along with four Israelis at the Erez crossing between the Gaza Strip and Israel. She was the first female bomber used by the militant group Hamas. The Associated Press, citing Israeli security officials, reported that Raiyshi was an adulteress forced to carry out the attack to restore her family's honor. Palestinian security officials said her husband drove her to Erez to carry out the attack.



(Top, 4th picture from left) – Saeed Alghamdi (sah-**eed** al-**gam-dee**) – September 11, 2001, attack (Flight 93): Alghamdi was one of the terrorists involved in the hijacking of United Airlines Flight 93. Alghamdi may have been at the airplane controls according to cockpit transcripts that were later released.

(Center, 1st picture on left) – Hanadi Jaradat (hah-**nah-dee jah-ra-dat**) – Maxim restaurant suicide bombing: On October 4, 2003, Jaradat entered the Maxim restaurant in Haifa strapped with explosives, killing 72 people. Jaradat was a participant lawyer and belonged to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

(Center, 2nd picture from left) – Jose Padilla – Dirty bomb suspect: Padilla, also known as Abdullah Al Muhajir (ab-**doo-lah moo-hah-jeer**), is accused of being part of a plot to build and set off a dirty bomb (a conventional bomb laced with radioactive material). Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, purported mastermind of the September 11, 2001, attacks and al-Qaida's operational planner and organizer, allegedly suggested to Jose Padilla to target up to three high-rise buildings that use natural gas with a radiological dirty bomb. On May 8, 2002, Padilla was arrested after arriving at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport after an overseas trip, carrying \$10,526, a cell phone, and e-mail addresses for al-Qaida operatives.

(Center, 3rd picture from left) – Richard Reid – Shoe bomber: On December 22, 2001, Richard Reid attempted to ignite explosives in his shoes on American Airlines Flight 63 from Paris to Miami. A passenger complained of a smoke smell, and a flight attendant investigated and found Reid alone near a window attempting to light a fuse that led to his shoe. Reid was subdued and the flight was redirected to Boston where he was taken into custody by authorities.

(Center, 4th picture from left) – Ted Kaczynski – Unabomber: Kaczynski conducted 16 attacks that injured 29 and killed 3 people from 1978 to 1996, and he evaded identification from 1978 to 2005. The FBI called Kaczynski the Unabomber (University and Airline Bomber) because of the involvement of his first two attacks against a plane and college professor. They also called him the Junkyard Bomber because of the material he used.





(Bottom, 1st picture) – Eric Robert Rudolph – Olympic Park bomber: Of the bombings committed by Rudolph, the most notorious was the Centennial Olympic Park bombing in Atlanta on July 27, 1996, during the Summer Olympics. The blast killed spectator Alice Hawthorne and wounded 111 others. According to Rudolph, his reason for the attacks was political. Rudolph has also confessed to the bombings of an abortion clinic in the Atlanta suburb of Sandy Springs on January 16, 1997; a gay and lesbian nightclub called the Otherside Lounge in Atlanta on February 21, 1997, injuring five; and an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Alabama, on January 29, 1998, killing officer Robert Sanderson and critically injuring nurse Emily Lyons. Rudolph was associated with the white supremacist Christian Identity movement.

(Bottom, 2nd picture from left) – John Phillip Walker Lindh – "The American Taliban": Lindh is an American citizen who was captured during the 2001 invasion of Afghanistan while fighting for the Taliban. Lindh grew up in Maryland and lived in California. At around age 16, he officially converted to Islam and began regularly attending mosques in Mill Valley and later San Francisco. In 1998, he traveled to Yemen for about ten months to learn Arabic so that he would be able to read the Qur'an in its original language. He returned to the US in 1999 and lived with his family for about eight months before returning to Yemen in February 2000. From there he left for Pakistan to study at an austere madrasa (Islamic school). Lindh entered Afghanistan in the spring of 2001.

(Bottom, 3rd picture from left) – Osama bin Muhammad bin Awad bin Laden: Bin Laden is a militant Islamist and often believed to be one of the founders of al-Qaeda. He issued what he called a Fatwa. The Fatwa told Muslims to kill civilians and military personnel from the US and allied countries until they withdraw support for Israel and military forces from Islamic countries. He has been indicted in U.S. Federal court for his alleged involvement in the 1998 U.S. embassy bombings in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and Nairobi, Kenya, and is on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list. He has also been linked to the 2000 USS Cole bombing, the Bali nightclub bombings, the Madrid bombings, as well as bombings in the Jordanian capital of Amman and in Egypt's Sinai peninsula. Although bin Laden has not been indicted for the September 11, 2001, attacks, some claim that he funded and directed them.



(Bottom, 4th picture from left) – Terry Nichols – Oklahoma City bombing; Nichols grew up on a family farm in Lapeer, Michigan. He was convicted of being an accomplice of Timothy McVeigh, the man convicted of murder in the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) on April 19, 1995, which claimed 168 lives.

**Slide 29: Female Terrorists**



DHS and FBI experts say women are being utilized with increasing frequency, possibly because of their advantage in accessing targets and sensitivities to searching women in many areas of the world.

Russian Plane Bombings (Volga Avia Express Flight 1303 and Sibir Airlines Flight 1047) - August 24, 2004

Two female terrorists, Amanta Nagayeva (Ah-man-tah nah-gah-yay-vah) and Satsita Dzhebirkhanova (sot-see-tah dush-burk-a-nova), each boarded the aircrafts in Moscow. It is believed that they were able to smuggle explosives onboard without detection or that they detonated explosives pre-placed on the plane by an insider.

Slide 30: Conducting SPOT



**Reference:** “Definitions” handout – see term “Four steps in SPOT process”

In future lessons we will look in detail at the steps in conducting SPOT. Briefly, the basic steps in the SPOT process are:

- **Establish the environmental baseline**  
The first step in the SPOT process is to establish an environmental baseline at the checkpoint:
  - Determining what the typical behaviors and appearances are that you will expect to see at this time and place
  - Observing for anomalies
- **Behavior observation and analysis**  
After determining the environmental baseline, you will begin to observe individuals, looking for behaviors that deviate from the baseline. Depending on the results of your observations, you may need to continue your analysis of these behaviors, which is the next step.
- **Walk The Line (WTL)**  
BDOs conduct the WTL procedure, typically in the Travel Document Checker (TDC) queue, by engaging individuals in brief verbal exchanges and remaining mobile while their partners conduct behavior observation.
- **Referral process**  
Observed behavior cues and appearance factors that reach a certain threshold are resolved through a combination of the following:
  - Engaging in Casual Conversation (CC) to verify the trip story while observing for additional behavior cues and appearance factors
  - Reviewing the individual’s ID and travel documents
  - Observing for unusual items in baggage
  - Resolution

If an individual’s behavior escalates beyond a predetermined threshold, LEOs must be notified.

BDOs must complete a SPOT Referral Report to document all relevant information regarding each SPOT Referral Screening. If the referral results in an LEO notification, the BDO must ensure completion of the Incident Report.

**Slide 31: Steps in the SPOT Process: Review**



Here is another way to look at the main steps in the SPOT process.

It shows the cyclical nature of SPOT. Once a referral has been completed, the process starts over again.

Each of these steps is critical to the success of SPOT. The BDO attempts to resolve observed behaviors, cues, and appearance factors. An LEO is called if a certain threshold is met. We will go into more detail for each of these steps in future lessons.



**Reference:** "SPOT Process" handout

**Slide 32: Summary**



**Teaching Point:** To maintain participant interest, summarize the lesson by asking a series of open-ended questions rather than reading the objectives verbatim. Suggested questions are listed at right and identified by the ? icon.

Participants should now be able to:

- Explain the purpose of SPOT
- Discuss ways that SPOT augments screening procedures
- Identify the steps of the SPOT process

**Ask:** What is the purpose of SPOT?

**Answer:** The purpose of SPOT is to identify high-risk individuals who may pose a threat to transportation security using behavioral indicators. SPOT is a layer of security focused on identifying individuals who warrant further screening based on behaviors that deviate from an established environmental baseline.

**Ask:** How does SPOT augment the other layers of security?

**Answer:** By focusing more on *intent* than on means, SPOT provides visible deterrence, and it is a flexible, mobile, and adaptive layer of security.

**Ask:** What are the steps in the SPOT process?

**Answer:** The steps are:

1. Establish the environmental baseline
2. Behavior observation and analysis
3. WTL
4. Referral process

**Slide 33: Questions**



**Ask:** What questions do you have before we move to the next lesson?

**Answer:** Provide participants with the appropriate answers. Make use of the Parking Lot if unable to answer a question.

**Teaching Point:** Remember, if instructors do not know the answer to a question at this time, add it to the Parking Lot. Instructors may wish to hold some questions when the answers will be covered in a later lesson. Be sure to remove questions from the Parking Lot when they are answered.