



**NTAS**  
National Terrorism Advisory System  
[www.DHS.gov/alerts](http://www.DHS.gov/alerts)

## NTAS PROCESS

This section summarizes the NTAS Alert process and provides amplifying information regarding relevant activities or coordination that may involve DHS stakeholders. This process is designed to work 24 hours a day, seven days a week and reflects the reality that threat information is typically perishable and will change over time. As a result, this process must be agile and must facilitate timely coordination, recommendations, decision making, and action.

The NTAS process is triggered by a threat of a terrorist attack, or an actual attack, with potential for follow on attacks. This initial threat information may come from the intelligence community (IC); Federal, State, or local law enforcement (LE), the private sector; critical infrastructure or key resources (CI-KR) sectors or other sources. Depending on the specificity and credibility of a given threat, DHS may choose to convene its senior leaders at a meeting of the Counterterrorism Advisory Board (CTAB). In addition, based on the unique facts and circumstances of a threat, select members of the interagency, as well as other homeland security stakeholders, may be asked to provide input to the CTAB when it convenes to discuss matters related to NTAS.

After the CTAB convenes, DHS leaders and other appropriate Federal entities will discuss whether or not to recommend issuing an NTAS Alert as well as the scope of the potential alert. This recommendation will be forwarded to the DHS Secretary.

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. While it is intended for NTAS Alerts to be disseminated near simultaneously to all appropriate homeland security partners and stakeholders, the sequencing of dissemination will be based on the nature of the threat.

NTAS Alerts will have an expiration date or “sunset provision,” meaning that individual threat alerts will be issued with a specified end date.

After the alert is issued, any recommended actions and/or protective measures will be implemented and their effects will be periodically assessed until a determination is made to modify, extend, or end the alert.