

## Preventing the Worst

Preventing insider threats or terrorist attacks involves much more than physical security measures. Recognizing indicators of high-risk behavior (such as criminal activity or associating with violent groups) that may lead to an escalation of violence, and addressing those issues, may reduce the potential for violent acts committed against the Army community.

Unit leaders, medical service providers, and the Army protection community must communicate effectively to develop a complete and accurate picture of an individual's propensity for future violence.

- Antiterrorism & Protection Professionals
- Law Enforcement
- Medical Providers
- Commanders and Leaders (particularly first line supervisors)
- Soldiers and Civilians

## The Violence Spectrum

- Small-scale violence or antisocial behavior (such as simple assault, harming animals) may indicate a propensity for violence.
- Individuals who defend violent extremism, regardless of political or religious affiliation, should be monitored closely.
- High-risk indicators overlap, and the potential effects of those behaviors should not be treated in isolation (e.g., suicidal tendencies could lead to an active shooter situation, individuals exhibiting high-risk behavior may be vulnerable to extremist/terrorist group radicalization).
- Health promotion/risk reduction monitoring and treatment programs may help detect indicators and reduce possibilities of violence.

<https://west.esps.disa.mil/army/sites/APP/OPMG/OPS/antiterror/ATEP/default.aspx>



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Always Ready, Always Alert  
Because someone is depending on you



# Leaders Guide

## Preventing the Escalation of Violence

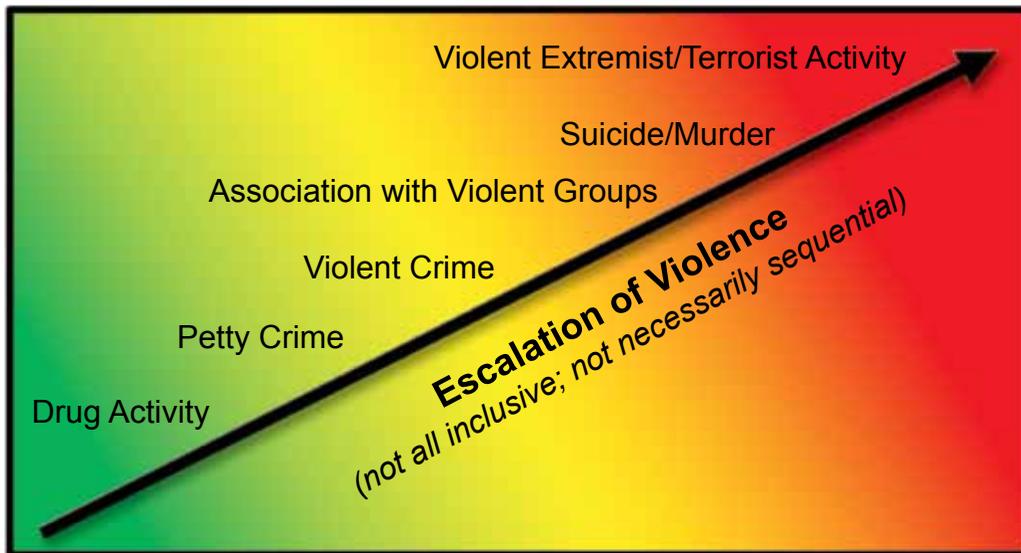


Observe • Detect • Report • Mitigate



## The Violence Spectrum

By mitigating lower-impact, higher-frequency violence (particularly high-impact criminal acts) Army leaders may be able to prevent an escalation of violence.



## Recognizing Signs of High-Risk Behavior

Indicators of high-risk behavior may include the following:

- Lack of positive identification within community
- Involvement across the violence spectrum
- Participation in lower-impact criminal activity or rule-breaking
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Diagnosis of a mental health disorder, including depression
- Increased severe mood swings and noticeably unstable or emotional responses
- Increase in unsolicited comments about violence, firearms, and other dangerous weapons or violent crimes
- Defense of extremist or radicalized views
- Unusual accumulation of weapons, training manuals or other dangerous supplies
- Unusual, unexplained selling or giving-away of personal possessions

## Risk Reduction Supports Antiterrorism

### Unity of Effort

By approaching violence-prevention comprehensively, medical service providers, supervisors/leaders, and protection personnel can work together to detect indicators of possible future violent or extreme behavior.

When indicators of potential violent behavior overlap with indicators of suicidal tendency, a synergistic effort between these elements should lead to information sharing, cross-talk, and standardized processes to aid in identifying personnel who may present an insider threat or have a potential for terrorist-related activity.

Personnel that are identified within this realm warrant further investigation by leadership and possibly law enforcement.

### Monitoring Behavior

★ Commanders are empowered with numerous tools and authorities to take steps to promote the general welfare of Soldiers under their command. Examples:

- Organizational Inspection Programs
- Health and Welfare Inspections
- Urinalysis
- Privately Owned Weapon Registration
- Commander's Disciplinary Action
- Commander's Risk Indicator Dashboard
- Family Readiness and Feedback

★ Detection of high-risk behavior requires a multidisciplinary approach. Administrative tools that commanders use to improve unit readiness may have a secondary and positive risk reduction benefit to help counter insider threat or terrorist activity.

★ Individuals participating in medical treatment programs and services, such as drug abuse prevention, family advocacy, and behavioral health programs, should also be screened for violent and extremist behavior, including a propensity toward violent and extremist activity.

**Report high-risk behavior to unit leadership or law enforcement**