

WMD STATUTES

18 USC 175, BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS ANTI-TERRORISM STATUTE OF 1989 (BWAT):

unlawful for any person to knowingly develop, produce, stockpile, transfer, acquire, retain, or possess a biological agent toxin, or a delivery system for use as a weapon.

18 USC 229, CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION ACT OF 1998:

unlawful for any person to knowingly develop, produce, or otherwise acquire, transfer, directly or indirectly, receive, stockpile, own, possess, use or threaten to use any chemical weapon.

18 USC 831:

unlawful to intentionally receive, possess, use, transfer, alter, dispose, disperse any nuclear material or nuclear by-product.

18 USC 2332a:

unlawful for any person who legal authority to use, possess, or attempt or conspire to use a weapon of mass destruction (requires an interstate effect).

18 USC 842:

unlawful to teach or demonstrate the making of or use of a WMD with the intent of furthering a crime of violence.

18 USC 1365:

tampering with consumer production that affects interstate commerce.

18 USC 1038, STOP TERRORIST AND MILITARY HOAXES ACT:

unlawful for individuals to engage in any conduct with intent to convey false or misleading information under circumstances where such information may reasonably be believed that an activity has taken, is taking, or will take place that would constitute a violation of various terrorist-related statutes.

YOUR LOCAL FBI FIELD OFFICES

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U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation



WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMD)

a pocket guide

WHAT IS A WMD?

- Any explosive or incendiary device: bomb, grenade, rocket, missile, mine, or other device with a charge of more than four ounces.
 - Any weapon that is designed or intended to cause death or serious bodily injury through the release, dissemination, or impact of toxic or poisonous chemicals.
 - Any weapon involving a disease organism.
 - Any weapon that is designed to release radiation at a level dangerous to human life.
- Recognize these universally accepted symbols but **do not expect to see them on a WMD device.**



FBI RESPONSIBILITY



To identify, prevent, disrupt, investigate, and resolve all acts or suspected acts of WMD terrorism occurring within the U.S. or against U.S. citizens or interests abroad.

The FBI is the lead for the investigative, intelligence and overall law enforcement activities related to a terrorist threat or incident.

The Department of Homeland Security is responsible for coordinating the overall Federal response to an incident of National Significance, which includes a terrorist incident.

Should you have any questions regarding WMD matters, please call the nearest FBI Division and ask to speak with the WMD Coordinator.

WMD INCIDENTS

Effects from the use or threatened use of a WMD range from minimal impact to mass casualties with damage to buildings and property. The nature and scale of a WMD attack (e.g., biological agent) may not be recognizable until there are multiple casualties which may initially appear as natural in origin. Most biological and chemical agents are easily concealed and not detectable by equipment used to identify explosives and firearms.

Upon receipt of a threat of WMD terrorism within the United States (or an actual incident), the FBI conducts a formal threat credibility assessment in support of investigative operations with assistance from interagency experts. This capability is available 24/7 and is conducted to determine whether the potential threat is credible, to ensure the safety of responders and to develop an appropriate operational and investigative response. The Special Agent WMD Coordinator in the local FBI field office is the primary point of contact to initiate the threat assessment process.

