

**CIAC****Colorado Information
Analysis Center**

Department of Public Safety

23 March 2020**20-26339**

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS BULLETIN

(U//FOUO) Load Safety and Security of Commercial Motor Vehicles

(U//FOUO) The Colorado Information Analysis Center (CIAC) has prepared this Situational Awareness Bulletin to provide information to law enforcement and public safety partners regarding the safe loading and security of commercial motor vehicles..

(U) Natural and man-made disasters, or other complex emergencies, have the potential to cause significant disruption to the transportation infrastructure and the U.S. supply chain. The recent Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has resulted in public fear and panic, to include the perceived shortages of goods available through retailers or through other distributors. The public health sector, specifically hospitals and medical offices, have seen an uptick in the theft of medical supplies and equipment, while “panic buying” has resulted in temporary shortages of goods across the nation as retailers struggle to replenish high-demand products.¹ The perceived limited supply of goods could potentially lead to increased risks towards transportation assets.^{2,3}

(U) With commercial motor vehicles being vulnerable targets for theft, several safety precautions have been identified to help mitigate the potential threat.⁴

- (U) Employers should take internal measures to ensure the safety and prevention of potential threats:
 - (U) Screen and perform background checks of employees and contractors.
 - (U) Increase use of quality seals and padlocks.
 - (U) Enforce a “no-stop” policy when possible.
- (U) Drivers should be trained to adhere to company security measures and policies.
 - (U) Learn and keep to fixed driving routes and know of alternative safe routes.
 - (U) Designate predetermined checkpoints.
 - (U) Be aware of safe areas if they believe they are being targeted.
 - (U) Park in secure areas with ample lighting.
 - (U) Know what type of cargo that is being delivered, especially in the cases of hazardous materials and high value cargo.

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- (U) Notify the proper personnel in regards to route changes.
- (U) Ensure that the power unit and trailer are locked and secure at all times.
- (U) Stops should only be done in designated areas where there are other trucks parked.
- (U) Never pick up hitchhikers.
- (U) Keep license plate and vehicle identification number (VIN) information for the power unit and the trailer on their person at all times.

(U) A safe working environment is also paramount to the continuity of an effective supply chain.⁵

- (U) During the loading and unloading of commercial vehicles, warehouse employees and drivers should be alert of their surroundings at all times. The area should be well lit and free of any unnecessary foot or vehicular traffic.
- (U) There is a high potential for carbon monoxide poisoning while loading and unloading materials. Proper installation of carbon monoxide alarms, proper ventilation, and reducing the amount of time vehicles are spent idling are the best ways to combat carbon monoxide poisoning.
- (U) Improperly secured cargo can shift during transport, creating a hazard to the driver and others on the roadway, as well as warehouse workers when accessing the cargo load.

(U) The following are methods that can be used to report suspicious activity or any issues related to the load safety and security of commercial motor vehicles:

- (U) The Colorado State Patrol at 303-239-4501 (24/7).
- (U) Local law enforcement agencies (if imminent threat call 911).

(U) Source Summary Statement

(U//FOUO) Information utilized in this Situational Awareness Bulletin was derived from open source reporting. When possible, open source information has been corroborated through other law enforcement and government sources. Information in this bulletin is not considered fully evaluated or finished intelligence.

(U) Consumer: CO Law Enforcement
CO Fire/EMS
CO Emergency Managers
CO State Agencies
Federal Partners

(U) For questions or comments regarding this Situational Awareness Bulletin, please contact the Colorado Information Analysis Center by email at cdps_ciac@state.co.us or at 877-509-2422.

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CIAC Survey

(U) Please take a moment to complete this survey and help evaluate the quality, value, and relevance of our intelligence product. Your response will help us serve you more effectively and efficiently in the future. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

[Click here to take survey.](#)

(U) This report addresses the following CIAC Standing Information Needs: CIAC SIN-11, CIAC SIN-24, and HSEC-N/A.

(U) Endnotes

¹ (U); Cristina Farr; CNBC; "People Are Stealing Hand Sanitizer and Surgical Masks from Doctors' Offices because of Coronavirus Fears"; 10 MAR 2020; Accessed 19 MAR 2020; <https://www.cnbc.com/2020/03/10/people-stealing-hand-sanitizer-and-surgical-masks-from-doctor-offices.html>; Overall document classification is (U); News source.

² (U); Binu Jacob, Anthony Mawson, Marinelle Payton, & John Guignard; National Center for Biotechnology Information; "Disaster Mythology and Fact: Hurricane Katrina and Social Attachment"; SEP-OCT 2008; Accessed 19 MAR 2020; <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2496928/>; Overall document classification is (U); Publication.

³ (U); Jamie Doward, Simon English, & Mark Townsend; The Guardian; "America's Ordeal"; 03 SEP 2005; Accessed 19 MAR 2020; <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2005/sep/04/hurricanekatrina.usa>; Overall document classification is (U); News Source.

⁴ (U); Texas Department of Insurance; "Truck Hijacking Prevention Factsheet"; SEP 2007; Accessed 19 MAR 2020; <https://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fsprotecttrucks.pdf>; Overall document classification is (U); Publication.

⁵ (U); Work-Fit; Vehicle Loading and Unloading: Keeping Your Workers Safe; 19 NOV 2019; Accessed 18 MAR 2020; <https://www.work-fit.com/blog/vehicle-loading-and-unloading-keeping-your-workers-safe> (U);

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