During the initial stages of planning an attack, terrorists may record or monitor activities of their possible target in order to determine the target’s strengths and weaknesses. This may include: the use of a still or video, camera, homemade diagrams, notebooks, maps or blueprints of the target location, and binoculars, or other vision enhancing devices.

2. Elicitation:
Elicitation is the process of seeking information. Suspected terrorists may attempt to gain information by telephone, mail, fax, or in person. Special attention should be paid to those who make unusual inquiries about a specific critical infrastructure, like a maritime port or a military installation.

3. Tests of Security:
Testing security is also known as probing. This technique involves attempts to measure reaction and response times to security breaches. Terrorists may use this time to gather information on a possible target by driving past, and possibly even penetrating, sensitive or secured areas to assess the response time of emergency responders like police or security officers.

4. Acquiring Supplies:
Terrorists may need to acquire various supplies and equipments by purchasing or stealing large amounts of explosives, weapons or ammunition. Acquiring supplies may also include obtaining law enforcement equipment and identification, military uniforms, flight passes, badges or manuals. Although Delaware is a predominately agricultural state, citizens have to watch out for individuals making unusually large purchases of fertilizer, this may be a pre-incident indicator.

5. Suspicious Persons Out of Place:
This can be someone in the workplace, building, neighborhood, or business who seem suspicious because of their behavior. This person may, or may not, have contact with other individuals. Pay particularly special attention to any unusual questions they may ask.

6. Dry Run/Trial Run:
This stage usually involves placing persons from the terrorist organization into various positions and moving them as if they were executing the plan without actually committing the terrorist act.

7. Deploying Assets:
This is the stage where the players get into position to commit the terrorist act they are planning. During this stage, terrorist may place people, equipment, and supplies at, or near, their target. This could be the last chance to notify authorities before a terrorist event occurs.

*If you see something, say something.*

If you see any of the previously listed signs of terrorism, please call the Delaware Anti-Terrorism Tip Line by dialing 1-800-FORCE-1-2 (1-800-367-2312).