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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2024 PRIDE MONTH ALERT

Threats Targeting LGBTQIA+ Community and Pride Events – June 2024

United States, May 28, 2024 — As Pride Month approaches, TSERA Special Police urges the public to remain vigilant. Recent intelligence from the FBI and Department of Homeland Security has identified potentially credible threats from terrorist groups targeting the LGBTQIA+ community during Pride Month celebrations. Hate-based extremist and terrorist groups, including Foreign Terrorist Organizations, have historically targeted LGBTQIA+ events, seeking to disrupt and inflict harm. These threats cause harm and spread fear throughout communities. While specific intelligence details remain confidential due to ongoing investigations, it is important for the public to remain vigilant and proactive.

These groups may target Pride Month events, exploiting increased gatherings. Foreign Terrorist Organizations have a history of promoting anti-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric and targeting related events. June 12 marks the anniversary of the Pulse Nightclub shooting, which was celebrated by ISIS, and carried out by a radicalized supporter. In June 2023, alleged ISIS sympathizers attempted to attack a Pride parade in Vienna, Austria.

TSERA Special Police asks the public and event-goers to stay alert and vigilant. Stay informed by monitoring local news, community boards, and official advisories. Recognize suspicious behavior and potential indicators of crime and terrorism. Be aware of unusual activities, circumstances, and individuals. Report unattended or out-of-place items like bags or packages, lunchboxes, crates, and similar items. Watch for individuals dressed unusually for the weather, or those wearing rigid or bulky clothing. Report anyone showing unusual interest in event locations, buildings, dates and times, or security measures. Report any threats of violence promptly, regardless of how they are received. During a recent threat analysis briefing, Community Policing Specialist and Agency Chief E. R. Blake of TSERA Special Police emphasized the importance of collective vigilance. "Safety and security are shared responsibilities that everyone must take seriously," Blake said. "Nothing substitutes for a community paying attention and looking out for each other."

If you see something, say something. Report suspicious situations to police or security officials, dial 911, and report specific threats to the FBI by calling 1-800-225-5324

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During Pride Month events, plan ahead by familiarizing yourself with event layouts and identifying escape routes. Establish a meeting point outside the event where you and your group can reunite if an emergency occurs or you become separated. Practice personal safety by limiting the consumption of alcohol or other intoxicants, leaving unnecessary valuables and jewelry at home, and using responsible transportation options such as a ride-share or a designated driver. Finally, connect with local LGBTQIA+ resources and centers. It is an opportunity to network, meet other community members, and learn about available resources.

Local, state, federal, and private-sector organizations are collaborating to ensure the safety and security of Pride Month celebrations, and your participation is crucial for success. Together, we can foster a safe and inclusive environment, allowing everyone to celebrate Pride Month with confidence and joy. By staying informed, remaining vigilant, and reporting suspicious activities, we can safeguard our communities and prevent potential threats.

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About TSERA Special Police

TSERA Special Police provides comprehensive law enforcement, intelligence, and protective security services. The agency delivers professional services through cooperative partnerships, mutual aid and emergency response agreements, and contractual agreements. Specializing in tailored methods which are intelligence-driven, results-based, and outcome-oriented; the agency delivers comprehensive services, solutions, and programs including law enforcement, public safety, crime prevention, court, judicial, intelligence, investigations, and protective security. TSERA Special Police serves as a trusted partner and service provider to mission-critical, high-risk, municipal, and community-based sectors, markets, and organizations.

To learn more about TSERA Special Police, please visit <https://tsera.org/>.

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<https://tsera.org/news/threats-targeting-lgbtqia-community-and-pride-events-june-2024/>

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