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INFORMATION RELEASE

Elevated Homeland Security Level

Friday - February 7, 2002

The Office of Homeland Security has increased the National Alert Level from "ELEVATED" to "HIGH." A HIGH condition is assigned when there is a high risk of terrorist attacks.

The increased security level is reported as a precautionary measure against threats to U.S. interests. Although no direct threats to establishments in our area have been received, officials have noted in intelligence reports that al Qaeda leaders have emphasized planning for attacks on lightly secured targets such as apartment buildings and hotels.

Officials are NOT recommending that events be canceled, nor is it recommended that individuals change work or travel plans. The following guidance is offered as precautionary only and is not in response to any specific threat to our area:

- Exercise caution when traveling and expect possible delays due to increased security.
- Review emergency plans with family members
- Ensure your communication plan is understood and practiced by all family members
- Check on neighbors who are elderly or have special needs and review emergency plans with them
- Businesses should determine the need to restrict access and/or provide additional security as needed
- Businesses should contact employees, vendors and suppliers to review and confirm their emergency response procedures

Repeating: No specific threats have been received on any establishments in our area, however businesses are advised to remain vigilant in their security measures.

Remain Alert to suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities.

Crime Stoppers 234-2020
Chatham County Police Department 652-6500
Savannah Police Department 232-4141
Chatham Emergency Management Agency 201-4500

Log on to <http://cema.chathamcounty.org> for more information.

This is an *Information Release* only and should not be confused with a *Situation Report*.

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