



FINANCE

DIOCESE OF SACRAMENTO

2110 Broadway • Sacramento, California 95818 • 916-733-0266 • FAX 916-733-0195

Memo

To: Pastors, Parochial Administrators, and School Administrators
From: Glen Faulkner – Parish Security Coordinator
Date: June 29, 2026
Re: CCIC 4th of July threat assessment

On June 24, the Central California Intelligence Center(CCIC) released its threat assessment covering the 2026 Independence Day holiday. The CCIC is part of a regional fusion center covering the Sacramento Diocese's footprint that works with public and private stakeholders to collect, analyze, and disseminate information with the goal of detecting, deterring, and disrupting terrorist attacks. The CCIC also offers training opportunities that I promote in weekly bulletins and performs vulnerability assessments for entities – including churches and schools - in the region.

The threat assessment's classification as "for official use only" prevents me from releasing it directly to parishes and schools, but I am allowed to distribute a summary of its conclusions.

CCIC analysts did not identify any specific, credible threat to any event or entity/organization. Notable points in the assessment include:

- This year's 4th of July holiday marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a historic event expected to generate far more public interest and participation than the holiday normally involves.
- Attackers have interest in targeting large gatherings – particularly at outdoor venues - since they offer more potential victims and greater media attention for their cause. The significant historical nature of this anniversary could also make related celebratory events attractive targets.
- Attack methodologies include gunfire, vehicle ramming attacks, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and – more recently – drones.
- CCIC analysts noted recent attacks, including the June 22 fatal shooting of two victims in Chico could inspire "copy-cat" shootings by attackers who identify with perpetrators of earlier assaults. Chico Police stated the suspect in last week's shooting was seeking a "...confined, populated location ..." to carry out a Columbine-style shooting.

The assessment includes links to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) Mass Gathering Security Planning Tool, Vehicle Ramming Self-Assessment Tool, and a Comprehensive Guide to Facility Security.

- <https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/mass-gathering-security-planning-tool>
- <https://www.cisa.gov/vehicle-ramming-self-assessment-tool>)
- <https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/ISC-Facility-Security-Plan-Guide-2015-508.pdf>

Organizations hosting celebrations and people attending these events should remain vigilant to suspicious activities and not hesitate to report these observations to law enforcement.