

Pre Attack INDicators (PAINs)

Few mass killing attacks are preceded by direct threat.



Minimizing door-to-door distance from vehicle (parking in fire lane)

Repeated comments and/or prayer

Tunnel-vision / 1,000 yard stare

Repeated entries/exits to area

Nervousness and/or Muttering

Difficulty making decisions

Low familiarity with area

Trouble communicating

Mental Discomfort



While threats should never be ignored, they should be viewed more as a promise than a guarantee.

Threats are typically issued to obtain a desired response such as fear rather than forecast imminent danger.



Oversized, loose fitting, or clothes not appropriate for weather/event

Keeping hands in pockets and otherwise concealing hands

Repositioning weapon (confirmation touch)

Blading (turning body to protect weapon)

Oversized torso or bulky jacket/vest

Undue attention to carried objects

Adjusting waistband or clothing

Small bulges near waist or hip

Favoring one side (strong side)



Preventing an attack requires the observation of subtle Pre Attack INDicators (PAINs); not just waiting for direct threats.