Anti-Terrorism Study Guide

I. Introduction to Anti-Terrorism

- **Purpose**: Introduce law enforcement officers to the ongoing threat of terrorism and their role as the first line of defense.
- **Key Objectives**:
    1. **Identify terrorist-related threats**, targets, and vulnerabilities in your jurisdiction.
    2. **Recognize terrorism threats specific to North Carolina**.
    3. **Understand the National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS)** and its two types of alerts.
    4. **Report indicators** of potential terrorist attacks.

II. Defining Terrorism

- **Terrorism**: No single definition, but generally involves unlawful use of violence to intimidate or coerce governments or societies for political, religious, or ideological purposes.
    - **International Terrorism**: Acts that transcend national borders and threaten human life.
    - **Domestic Terrorism**: Violent acts within the U.S. intended to intimidate the civilian population or influence government policies.

III. Key Anti-Terrorism Concepts

- **Modern vs. Historical Terrorism**: Though terrorism has existed for millennia, modern terrorism includes advanced methods, global communication, and often religious or ideological motivations.
- **North Carolina Terrorism Statute** (G.S. 14-10.1): Defines terrorism as an act of violence intended to intimidate civilians or influence government activities.

IV. Identifying and Responding to Terrorist Threats

- **Potential Targets in North Carolina**:
    - **Agriculture**: North Carolina is a major producer of sweet potatoes, tobacco, and other crops, making it vulnerable to attacks on food supply chains.
    - **Military Installations**: Large military presence in NC (e.g., Fort Bragg). Attacks could impair national security.
    - **Critical Infrastructure**: Airports, interstate highways (I-95, I-85), and ports (Wilmington, Morehead City) are key vulnerabilities.
    - **Nuclear Power Plants**: North Carolina's four nuclear plants are potential high-impact targets.
- **Terrorism Indicators**:
    - Suspicious behaviors like surveillance, testing security, or stockpiling materials.
    - Unusual interest in sensitive infrastructure like power plants or airports.

V. National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS)

- Replaced the previous color-coded threat system with two types of alerts:
    1. **Bulletins**: General information on trends and threats.
    2. **Alerts**: Specific warnings about potential threats.
        - **Elevated Alert**: A credible terrorist threat.
        - **Imminent Alert**: A specific, immediate threat.

VI. Community Policing and Terrorism Prevention

- **Proactive and Preventive**: Terrorism prevention aligns with community policing goals of interacting with the community to address concerns before they become incidents.
- **Citizen Role**: Encouraged to report suspicious activities through campaigns like "If You See Something, Say Something."

VII. Reporting and Intelligence Sharing

- **Fusion Centers**: Collaborative hubs where local, state, and federal agencies share intelligence and prevent terrorist attacks.
    - **North Carolina Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAAC)**: NC's designated fusion center for terrorism intelligence.

VIII. Law Enforcement's Role

- Every officer has a responsibility in detecting and preventing terrorism.
- **Information and Intelligence Gathering**:
    - Engage in community policing to gather relevant intelligence.
    - Identify and monitor suspicious activities in vulnerable sectors.