**Chapter 33: Terrorism Awareness**

**Chief Concepts**

* Terrorism can be described as the unlawful use of violence or threats of violence to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof in order to further political or social objectives.
* This broad definition can include a wide range of acts committed by various groups for various purposes.
* The goal of terrorism is to instill fear in a population or group.
* Terrorism can occur in any community. Be aware of potential targets in your area.
* Terrorists can turn ordinary objects into weapons.
* Responding to a terrorist incident puts fire fighters and other emergency personnel at risk.
* A call for a terrorist incident may at first appear to be a routine incident.
* The possibility of a terrorist incident should be considered when responding to any location that has been identified as a potential terrorist target.
* When responding to a potential terror-related incident, fire fighters should establish a staging area at a safe distance from the scene and follow the direction of the IC.