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## TEN QUESTIONS TO ASSESS RISK

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In assessing possible risk, areas to explore may include:

1. What may have motivated the Person of Concern to make the statement/threat, or take the action, that caused him/her to come to your attention?
2. What has the Person of Concern communicated to anyone concerning his/her intentions to act in a harmful manner, either to himself/herself or others?
3. Has the Person of Concern shown an interest in targeted violence, perpetrators of targeted violence, weapons, extremist groups, or murder?
4. Has the Person of Concern engaged in attack-related behavior, including any menacing, harassing, and/or stalking type behavior?
5. Has the Person of Concern displayed indicators of depression, suicidal thoughts, mental illness involving bizarre behaviors, hallucinations, delusional ideas, feelings of persecution, etc. with any indications that the Person of Concern has acted on those beliefs?
6. How organized is the Person of Concern? Is he/she capable of developing and carrying out a plan?
7. Has the Person of Concern experienced any known recent "loss" and/or loss of status, and has this "loss" possibly led to feelings of desperation and despair?
8. Is there concern, or sense of "fear", among those who know the Person of Concern, that he/she might take action, based on inappropriate ideas?
9. What factors in the Person of Concern's life, and/or environment, might increase, or decrease, the likelihood of the Person of Concern, attempting to attack a target?
10. What internal, or external resources, could be useful to help manage this situation?

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Dr. Kenneth Wolf has conducted violence prevention and threat assessment trainings for a wider range of organizations and industries, including the United States Postal Service, UAW, municipalities, Fortune 500 Companies. He assists organizations with developing comprehensive workplace violence prevention programs, trains threat assessment teams, conducts active shooter survival training exercises and designs crisis recovery programs.