Over the course of the past 72 hours, several current and former government officials and prominent public figures across the United States have received multiple suspicious packages containing improvised explosive devices. There have been no reported injuries in connection with these packages. The packages have all shared the same characteristics including the use of a large manila envelope, computer generated address labels, and six United States Postal Service “Forever Flag” stamps. Each of the packages have also had the return address as Representative Debbie Wasserman Shultz with an address in Florida.

In light of these events, LA-SAFE is providing characteristics of suspicious packages and safe handling measures as the public plays a large part in the identification and reporting of suspicious activity.

Mailroom personnel and others coming in contact with packages and other shipped items should remain vigilant, looking for any of the following characteristics:

- Unexpected mail, foreign mail, and special deliveries
- Protruding wires
- Excessive or missing postage stamps
- Generic or incorrect titles
- Markings such as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “PERSONAL”
- Unusual mail from an unknown origin
- No return address
- Strange odors
- Ticking, vibration, or other sounds
- Oily stains or discoloration on package
- Excessive weight
- Excessive tape or string
- Misspelled, poorly typed, or nameless address

Any person coming in contact with a suspicious package should immediately contact local law enforcement personnel, and if necessary, their local bomb squad. In addition, Louisiana State Police Hazmat can be contacted at 877-925-6595.
UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Recommended safe handling procedures:
- Never touch or disturb any suspected bomb or explosive device
- Attempt to gather the following information:
  - Bomb or suspected bomb’s location
  - Are there any others, if so, where
  - The bomb or suspected bomb’s origin
  - Who made the discovery
  - Why was the package suspected of being a bomb or explosives
  - Has it been disturbed or moved, if so, in what manner
  - Detailed description of the object or package

To report suspicious activity, threats, or tips, please contact LA-SAFE at lafusion.center@la.gov, 800-434-8007, or online at http://www.lsp.org/suspicious.nsf/WebForm?OpenForm.

Sources:
“Mailed pipe bombs spread fear in several states, and officials say there may be more packages.” CNN. 25 October 2018.
“What we know about the explosives and suspicious packages delivered in New York, DC, LA.” ABC News. 25 October 2018.
“Suspicious Packages Sent to Time Warner Center, Clinton, and Obama.” CNN. 24 October 2018.
“Suspicious packages sent to top Democrats, CNN as election looms.” Reuters. 24 October 2018.


UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(U) Warning: This document is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with LA-SAFE policy relating to FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid need to know without prior approval of an authorized LA-SAFE official. State and local homeland security officials may share this document with authorized critical infrastructure and key resource personnel and private sector security officials without further approval from LA-SAFE.