

Security Awareness

Personnel may attempt to gain information about facilities and activities to identify patterns and routines, assess vulnerabilities, target selection and choose the time, place, and means of an attack. A possible indicator of unauthorized surveillance is a person drawing a diagram, taking detailed photographs or video of

- Camera locations
- Access points
- Perimeter fence
- Location of personnel
- Traffic patterns
- Buildings
- Roadways

Suspicious activity is best described as activity that is unusual or out of place for a particular environment. Examples are:

- person exiting from a vehicle's trunk
- a person running in the container field
- briefcase or suitcase left unattended (suspicious packages) at a fuel point
- evidence of stowaways discovered within shipping containers.

Maritime Security Levels (MARSEC Levels)

Security levels layered to properly handle security threats. As the MARSEC Level increases, the security measures at the port increase. Example, there will be an increase in vehicle screenings and restrictions to visitors, depending on the MARSEC Level. Signs at access points advise of the current MARSEC Level.



MARSEC Level 1 – minimum appropriate security measures in place at all times

MARSEC Level 2 – additional measures to Level 1 for heightened risk

MARSEC Level 3 – further specific protective measures above Levels 1 & 2 for a probable or imminent threat

Facility Security Officers

Savannah – Capt. G. Buck

Alternate – Sgt. D. Eller

Brunswick – Capt. A. Morrison

Alternate – Sgt. D. Collum

Georgia Ports Authority

TWIC Escorting and Security Awareness Training Pamphlet



Emergency 912-964-3911

Report any suspicious activity immediately to the Georgia Ports Authority Police Department.

Port Police (Savannah):

Dispatch: 912-963-5588

Port Police (Brunswick):

Dispatch: 912- 262-2390

TWIC Escorting

All persons entering any GPA terminal must possess a valid Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC) or be escorted throughout the duration of their visit by an approved GPA user who possesses both a TWIC and valid GPA Credential.

Persons must have a legitimate business need and have permission to enter GPA property. All persons are required to maintain possession of a valid form of photo identification that complies with federal law while on the terminal.

Visitors needing escorted access to any GPA terminal shall arrange for an authorized escort in advance pursuant to the GPA visitor/escort policy.

All visitors' requests submitted through the GPA Visitor/Escort System must be approved by GPA prior to entry.

All visitors and escorts must agree to abide by the provisions outlined within the GPA TWIC Policy prior to entry.

An approved visitor with a TWIC will not need an escort and may proceed directly to the gate for visitor pass issuance.

Persons without a GPA Credential will not be permitted entry to GPA terminals more than five (5) times in one year.

Authorized visitors may be granted access with a visitor pass up to five (5) times in one year before authorization to enter is permanently denied.

TWIC Escorting

A visitor requiring escort shall not go to any GPA access gate(s) to meet, await or look for their escort. All non-TWIC visitors must report to the terminal visitor parking area. Signs will be posted identifying the parking areas. Visitor parking areas are located at the following locations:

Garden City Terminal – Visitor parking areas are located in close proximity of Gate 1(M-F, 0600 -1900) and Gate 5 (24 hours).

Ocean Terminal – Visitor parking area is located in close proximity of Gate 2 (24 hours).

Colonel's Island – Visitor parking area is located in close proximity of Gate 1 within ILA parking lot (24 hours).

Mayor's Point – Visitor parking area is located at the Administrative Building parking lot. (M-F, 0800-1700).

Visitors will be issued a visitor/escort pass at the gate by Port Police. The visitor will surrender the pass to Port Police when exiting the terminal.

A visitor without a TWIC must have a continuous side by side escort. A side by side escort, for the purposes of TWIC escorting, is defined as "continuous physical proximity to and visual contact with the escorted individual in order to enable the TWIC holder to witness the escorted individual's actions." The side by side escort requirement must be conducted in strict compliance with federal law.

The escort must contact the Georgia Ports Authority Police Department immediately if he/she loses contact with his/her visitor or the visitor is observed engaging in unlawful or suspicious activity.

TWIC Escorting

Any sponsor providing a TWIC escort is responsible for the actions of both their visitor and the escort.

Any escort who fails to perform satisfactorily may be required to leave the terminal and may be disqualified from conducting escorts in the future. Furthermore, said person shall be liable for the payment of any fine levied by the United States Coast Guard (USCG).

While on the terminal all TWIC holders must be able to present a valid TWIC within ten (10) minutes to the USCG or GPA Police. Persons unable to produce a valid TWIC will be escorted off the terminal and may be subject to criminal prosecution. Furthermore, said person shall be liable for the payment of any fine levied by the USCG.

GPA may, in its sole discretion, ban any person for any period of time for violation of the federal laws or GPA rules and regulations.

Those persons who violate access control procedures may be subject to arrest, prosecution and/or loss of terminal access privileges.

One authorized TWIC holder may escort up to five (5) non-TWIC visitors within the restricted area of the terminal.

As a general rule, visitors without a TWIC will not be permitted to operate a motorized vehicle on GPA terminals. Special circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

No pedestrian traffic is allowed on GPA terminals except for those locations specifically authorized by GPA.