

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Importance:

E&Y VCC Communications <noreply@everbridge.net>

07 November 2020 03:55

Komal Churania

VCC Alert - Pennsylvania, United States Alert: Foiled Plot to Attack Philadelphia Vote-Counting Center Reflects Risk of Political Violence

High



# Philadelphia, PA, United States: Foiled Plot to Attack Philadelphia Vote-Counting Center Reflects Risk of Political Violence

2 Asset(s) Potentially Affected by this Other Security event.

Distance from alert to nearest asset: 1.2 km

On Friday, media sources reported that authorities arrested two men outside the Philadelphia Convention Centre, where the counting of ballots cast in the November 3 presidential election remains underway. According to reports, police were reportedly acting on a tip that a group of potentially armed individuals driving in a silver Hummer from out of state were on their way to the Convention Center area. An unoccupied silver Hummer was spotted near the Convention Center and, according to local news outlets, was decorated with stickers promoting the QAnon movement. Police sources said officers on bicycles stopped two men shortly thereafter and found them each to be in possession of a firearm. A subsequent search identified the Hummer as theirs and turned up another firearm in the vehicle, while also revealing that the pair did not have a license to carry firearms in Philadelphia. The men were taken into custody and weapons charges have been filed against them. QAnon is a far-right conspiracy theory that the FBI has labeled as a domestic terror threat.

Assessment: The men s intentions were not immediately clear, and the FBI and Philadelphia Police are continuing to investigate. Regardless, the episode highlights the threat of politically motivated violence and unrest amid escalating tensions over the election process, notably the counting of ballots. With the race having yet to be called, public anxiety will continue to build until a winner is declared. This is likely to manifest in further, perhaps larger and more widespread, protest activity and other public gatherings by supporters of both candidates, and potentially acts of violence by extremist and other hardline factions as well. Urban centers in so-called battleground states, notably Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania, stand to be the most susceptible to unrest, with ballot processing sites and local municipality buildings serving as likely venues. Although there have been some

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Severity:	Severe
Alert Location:	Philadelphia, PA, United States
Alert State:	
Alert Country:	Pennsylvania
	United States
Event Time:	11-06-2020 22:24:25 TO 11-07-2020 22:24:25
Last Updated:	11-06-2020 22:24:36
Source:	RIMC 2020 US Election