



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Cotonou (Benin), Recent Robberies in Cotonou

Burglary

Africa > Benin > Cotonou

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U.S. Embassy Cotonou released the following Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens on October 11, 2011:

U.S. citizens should be aware of recent robberies occurring in the Haie Vive neighborhood. In the past four months, at least four incidents have occurred. All incidents so far follow the same pattern. Attacks take place on the weekends in the late evening/early morning hours. Each incident has involved 1-2 armed individuals on motorcycles who stop and rob pedestrians in the street.

All of these attacks have occurred while the victims are on foot; there have been no incidents with individuals in their vehicles or in their residences during these attacks.

U.S. citizens are encouraged to remain alert at all times particularly during the early morning hours when most of these attacks are occurring. If confronted by armed individuals, remain calm and comply with their demands. It is advisable to always travel in groups after dark when possible.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Alerts, Travel Warnings, and health-information resources can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the United States and Canada or, for callers in other areas by calling a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens living or traveling to Benin are encouraged to enroll with the Embassy through the Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) website, so they can obtain updated information on travel and security within Benin. Citizens without Internet access may enroll directly with the Embassy. In using STEP, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency.

The Embassy is located at Rue Caporal Bernard Anani in Cotonou. The Embassy's mailing address is B.P. 2012, Cotonou, Benin. Telephone: The 24-hour telephone numbers are (229) 21-30-06-50, 21-30-05-13, and 21-30-17-92. Facsimile: (229) 21-30-66-82. Additional



local information, including recent warden messages, is available on the U.S. Embassy Cotonou web site.