



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Djibouti City (Djibouti), Demonstration Planned

Riots/Civil Unrest

Africa > Djibouti > Djibouti

2/17/2012

Embassy Djibouti would like to alert U.S. citizens of a potential opposition rally being planned on Saturday, February 18, in the vicinity of Hasan Gouled Stadium in Djibouti City, Djibouti. The Embassy is hearing from a variety of sources that political parties may gather to commemorate last year's large rally, which ended in localized civil unrest and the death of at least two people. The event is planned to commence at 1400 (2:00 PM) and end at 1800 (6:00 PM).

U.S. citizens should avoid large crowds and in particular, avoid the area of Hasan Gouled Stadium this Saturday between 1400 and 1800. Also, be mindful that if this rally does take place, and large numbers of people attend, the area in proximity to the shipwreck traffic circle (near Ambouli) could be a focal point for rock throwing and unrest as well. Saturday would be a good day to use Siesta Beach Road as your primary means of getting around Djibouti.

If you inadvertently end up in the midst of, or close to an event such as this, extricate yourself as quickly and safely as possible and maintain a low profile (don't take out your cell phone camera to capture the moment). Keep your fully charged cell phone with you at all times and most importantly, use common sense. If you see a problem, avoid it. If you get injured or your vehicle gets damaged while you're in it, drive through the problem, get to a safe area and contact local authorities.

If you witness any suspicious activity, please dial 18 to report it to the police. We will continue to notify U.S. citizens of any specific and credible security threats that cannot be countered.

If you live in or travel to Djibouti, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.



You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the U.S. Embassy Djibouti Website. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warning, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States, or for callers from other countries, 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).

You can also download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy is located at Lot number 350-B, Lotissement Haramous, Djibouti City. The mailing address is B.P. 185, Lot number 350-B, Lotissement Haramous, Djibouti, Republic of Djibouti. U.S. citizens may contact the U.S. Embassy during regular work hours, Sundays - Thursdays 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. by dialing (253) 453-000. For after hours emergencies involving U.S. citizens dial (253) 453-010 or (253) 877-229.