



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Bogota (Colombia), Car Bomb Explosion

Bombing; Terrorism

Western Hemisphere > Colombia > Bogota

5/15/2012

This message informs U.S. citizens in Bogota of an explosion that occurred May 15 at the intersection of Calle 74 and Avenida Caracas. Local media report that approximately five people were killed and 31 injured in the attack, which apparently targeted a former Colombian interior minister and involved a passing bus. Colombian authorities discovered and dismantled another explosive device earlier on May 15, but it has not been determined whether the two incidents are connected. Colombian National Police are investigating, and the Embassy will provide further information to update the U.S. citizen community as necessary.

At this time we are unaware of any specific information targeting the U.S. Embassy, U.S. citizens, or any affiliated entities. We remind all members of the U.S. citizen community that Bogota remains a high threat for terrorism and criminal activity. Random criminal violence can occur at any location and at any time of the day. We encourage all U.S. citizens to maintain a high level of situational awareness.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy website, found [here](#). 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 outside the United States and Canada, by calling the 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 are encouraged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the embassy/consulates to contact them in case of emergency. Stay up to date by bookmarking our Bureau of Consular Affairs website, which contains the current Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts as well as the Worldwide Caution. Follow us on Twitter and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on Facebook, and download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips.

You can contact the American Citizen Services Unit at the U.S. Embassy in Bogota, Colombia, via e-mail at acsbogota@state.gov or by telephone at (571) 275-2000. The U.S. Embassy is located at Carrera 45, # 24B-27, Bogota, D.C., Colombia and is open to the public by appointment on Monday through Thursday from 09:00 to 11:30. You can schedule a non-emergency appointment by visiting [this website](#).



The Embassy operates a Consular Agency in Barranquilla, Colombia which also provides assistance to U.S. citizens. The Barranquilla Consular Agency is located Calle 77B No. 57-141, suite 511. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to noon, Monday through Friday. No appointment is necessary.