



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Asuncion (Paraguay), Protests and Roadblock

Riots/Civil Unrest

Western Hemisphere > Paraguay > Asuncion

6/27/2012

The U.S. Embassy advises U.S. citizens that road closures and protests are possible throughout Paraguay beginning Wednesday, June 27. Members of "Frente Guazu" are threatening to initiate protests due to the recent political events in Paraguay. Major routes and bridges could be blocked intermittently. News media report that route closures will occur in the Department of Paraguari, in the towns of Caapucu, Mbuyapey, La Colmena, Quiindy, Ybycui, Carapegua, Yaguaron along the route from Paraguari to Villarrica, in the Department of Misiones, in the town of Cruce Santa Maria, and along Route 1. You should anticipate congestion and longer travel times. These demonstrations are expected to continue through the weekend.

The situation remains fluid, and the eventual dimension and details of the anticipated protests remain uncertain at this time. While there are currently no anticipated road closures in Asuncion, you should consider avoiding the downtown area for the next few days. Information about the location and other details of protest activity is available from a variety of sources, including the local media.

U.S. citizens are strongly urged to avoid any large gatherings or events where crowds have congregated. While demonstrations and protests are generally peaceful in Paraguay, they can turn violent quickly. If you find yourself near a demonstration or protest, leave the area immediately.

U.S. citizens who travel to or reside in Paraguay are encouraged to enroll in the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By enrolling, you make it easier for the U.S. Embassy or Consulate to contact you in case of an emergency. U.S. Embassy Asuncion contact information:

Tel: 011-595 21-213-715,

After hours: 011-595 21-213-715 extension 2210

Fax: 595-21-228-603

E-mail: ParaguayACS@state.gov

U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the U.S. Embassy's website. Also, 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. You can also download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App to have travel information at your fingertips. The U.S. Embassy also encourages U.S. citizens to review "A Safe Trip Abroad," which includes valuable security information for those living and traveling abroad. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444, during regular business hours.