



Emergency Message to U.S. Citizens: Nassau (Bahamas), Worldwide Caution

Threats

Western Hemisphere > Bahamas > Nassau

9/12/2012

U.S. Embassy Nassau
Wednesday, September 12, 2012

The U.S. Embassy would like to alert U.S. citizens to the terrorist attacks in Libya which took the lives of four Americans, including the U.S. Ambassador to Libya, Chris Stevens, on the anniversary of September 11th. A travel warning is in effect for Libya.

The U.S. Embassy is transmitting the following messages from President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and reminds American citizens of the worldwide caution and importance of being vigilant regarding personal security.

Statement by U.S. President Barack Obama

WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT

I strongly condemn the outrageous attack on our diplomatic facility in Benghazi, which took the lives of four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens. Right now, the American people have the families of those we lost in our thoughts and prayers. They exemplified America's commitment to freedom, justice, and partnership with nations and people around the globe, and stand in stark contrast to those who callously took their lives.

I have directed my Administration to provide all necessary resources to support the security of our personnel in Libya, and to increase security at our diplomatic posts around the globe. While the United States rejects efforts to denigrate the religious beliefs of others, we must all unequivocally oppose the kind of senseless violence that took the lives of these public servants.

On a personal note, Chris was a courageous and exemplary representative of the United States. Throughout the Libyan revolution, he selflessly served our country and the Libyan people at our mission in Benghazi. As Ambassador in Tripoli, he has supported Libya's transition to democracy.



His legacy will endure wherever human beings reach for liberty and justice. I am profoundly grateful for his service to my Administration, and deeply saddened by this loss.

The brave Americans we lost represent the extraordinary service and sacrifices that our civilians make every day around the globe. As we stand united with their families, let us now redouble our own efforts to carry their work forward.

Secretary's Remarks: Statement on the Death of American Personnel in Benghazi, Libya

Press Statement by Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State Washington, DC September 12, 2012

It is with profound sadness that I share the news of the death of four American personnel in Benghazi, Libya yesterday. Among them were United States Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens and Foreign Service Information Management Officer, Sean Smith. We are still making next of kin notifications for the other two individuals. Our hearts go out to all their families and colleagues.

A 21 year veteran of the Foreign Service, Ambassador Stevens died last night from injuries he sustained in the attack on our office in Benghazi.

I had the privilege of swearing in Chris for his post in Libya only a few months ago. He spoke eloquently about his passion for service, for diplomacy and for the Libyan people. This assignment was only the latest in his more than two decades of dedication to advancing closer ties with the people of the Middle East and North Africa which began as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Morocco. As the conflict in Libya unfolded, Chris was one of the first Americans on the ground in Benghazi. He risked his own life to lend the Libyan people a helping hand to build the foundation for a new, free nation. He spent every day since helping to finish the work that he started. Chris was committed to advancing America's values and interests, even when that meant putting himself in danger.

Sean Smith was a husband and a father of two, who joined the Department ten years ago. Like Chris, Sean was one of our best. Prior to arriving in Benghazi, he served in Baghdad, Pretoria, Montreal, and most recently The Hague.

All the Americans we lost in yesterday's attacks made the ultimate sacrifice. We condemn this vicious and violent attack that took their lives, which they had committed to helping the Libyan people reach for a better future.



America's diplomats and development experts stand on the front lines every day for our country. We are honored by the service of each and every one of them.

Worldwide Caution - July 18, 2012

The Department of State issued a Worldwide Caution on July 18, 2012, warning U.S. citizens throughout the world to maintain a high level of vigilance and to take appropriate measures to increase their security awareness. The Department of State remains concerned about the continued threat of terrorist attacks, demonstrations, and other violent actions against U.S. citizens and interests overseas. This new message replaces the Worldwide Caution dated January 24, 2012.

Emergencies Involving U.S. Citizens: For any emergencies involving U.S. citizens, please contact the U.S. Citizens Services Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located 42 Queen Street (across from the British Colonial Hilton Hotel), Nassau; telephone: 242-322-1181; after hours emergency telephone: 242-357-7004; ACS unit fax: 242-356-7174; e-mail: ACSNassau@state.gov; web page: <http://nassau.usembassy.gov>

For information on "What the Department of State Can and Can't Do in a Crisis," please visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs' Emergencies and Crisis link via <http://travel.state.gov>