



Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Lilongwe (Malawi), Protest Activity

Riots/Civil Unrest

Africa > Malawi > Lilongwe

9/14/2016

The U.S. Embassy has received reports of multiple protests along Chidzanja Road and in the area of Kamuzu Central Hospital. These protests appear to be in support of the strike by Malawian teachers. These protests are impeding the flow of traffic on the road and protestors have thrown debris at passing cars. Malawi Police Service officers have, and are continuing, to disperse protests with tear gas.

The U.S. Embassy has instructed its staff to avoid the area around Kamuzu Central Hospital and Chidzanja Road, as these protests may spontaneously form and disperse throughout the day. The U.S. Embassy recommends U.S. citizens also avoid the area around Kamuzu Central Hospital and Chidzanja Road for the remainder of the day.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Please review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Malawi enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for Malawi. For additional information, refer to the "Traveler's Checklist" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other

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countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Lilongwe is located at on Kenyatta Drive, Area 40, Plot 24, Lilongwe 3, and is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Telephone 1-733-166. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance outside of business hours, the emergency after-hours number for the U.S. Embassy is 01-773-166, ext. 3443 (if in Malawi) or 011-265-1-773-166, ext. 3442 (if in the U.S.). Please state that you are a U.S. Citizen, your name, your passport number, and the type of emergency that you are facing. The security personnel will then forward your call to the appropriate person to assist you.

In the event that the land line is malfunctioning, please call the following mobile number 0999-591-024 and 0888-734-826 (if in Malawi) or 011-265-999-591-024 and 011-265-888-734-826 (if in the U.S.).

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