

Consular Warden Message
U.S. Embassy – Dakar
December 30, 2008

This Warden Message is being issued to inform American citizens in Senegal of the heightened security situation in the Kedougou region following demonstrations that took place there on December 22, 2008. During these demonstrations, two people were reportedly killed and several public buildings were burned. Police and military units in the area have been heavily reinforced, and numerous arrests have been reported. The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is not aware of any further violence since December 22. However, the Embassy urges American citizens in the Kedougou region to remain vigilant and to exercise extreme caution. Safety precautions should include maintaining good situational awareness, avoiding crowds and demonstrations, and keeping a low profile. Americans should ensure that their travel documents and visas are valid at all times. The Embassy wishes to remind American citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and quickly escalate into violence. The area around any demonstration should therefore be avoided.

Americans living or traveling in Senegal are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, where they can obtain up-to-date information on travel and security within Senegal. Registration may be done online, and can be done in advance of travel at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>. Americans without internet access may register directly with the U.S. Embassy in Dakar, Senegal. By registering, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency. Additional Country Specific Information may be found at the Department of State website http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1013.html.

For the latest security information, Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Alerts, Travel Warnings, and health-information resources can be found. Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free within the U.S. and Canada, or, for callers in other areas, by calling a regular toll line at 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).

The U.S. Embassy is located at Avenue Jean XXIII, Dakar; the mailing address is B.P. 49, Dakar, Senegal. The telephone number is (221) 33 829-2313; after-hours (221) 33 829-2209. The U.S. Embassy website is <http://dakar.usembassy.gov>.