

**Consular Warden Message – March 18, 2009**  
**U.S. Embassy Dakar**

The U.S. Embassy in Dakar is issuing this Warden Message to inform U.S. citizens of possible travel restrictions and the potential for violence in association with Senegal's upcoming local elections.

Senegal will hold local elections on Sunday, March 22, 2009. In the past, the Government of Senegal has imposed certain restrictions on travel and assembly immediately before, during, and after elections, including a ban on travel between regions and a prohibition of clothing which signals support for an individual candidate, or, by virtue of its colors, displays an obvious party affiliation. During past elections curfews have also been imposed. American citizens are encouraged to monitor government press announcements and media outlets throughout this period to learn of specific restrictions on movement and conduct.

The news media may report unofficial results on Sunday evening, and official results are likely to be announced a few days after the elections. Once results are announced, either formally or informally, there may be political rallies and demonstrations throughout Senegal. In the past, these events have sometimes turned violent, as have some campaign-related events. Due to the potential for violence before, on, and shortly after Sunday, March 22, American citizens should avoid any large crowds, particularly political gatherings and street demonstrations, and maintain heightened security awareness at all times.

**Other Information:**

For additional information on travel to Senegal, see the U.S. Department of State's [Country Specific Information for Senegal](#). Americans living or traveling in Senegal or Guinea-Bissau are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy in Dakar through the State Department's [travel registration](#) website. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the [U.S. Embassy in Dakar](#). By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy to contact them in case of emergency.

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) 33-829-2100; for after-hours emergencies use: (221) 76-383-9566.