

Demonstration Notice

January 26, 2011

The U.S. Embassy in La Paz has received information about the following non-violent demonstrations in the city of La Paz:

On January 26, 2011, there is likely to be a demonstration to protest the U.S. and other governments' positions concerning the Government of Bolivia's request to amend a 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, to permit the chewing of coca leaves. The U.S. opposes the change. The demonstration is expected to start at midday in Plaza Villarroel in Miraflores and may include a march to the United States Embassy on Avenida Arce in Sopocacchi. The number of demonstrators is estimated at 1,500 to 2,000.

While we anticipate that the demonstration will be peaceful, there is always the possibility that the situation could change. If you park your vehicles outside of the Embassy compound, we cannot give any assurance that they will not be damaged and you should make plans accordingly.

U.S. citizens are reminded that demonstrations and road blockades are not unusual in Bolivia, and even though they might be intended to be peaceful they can turn confrontational between security forces, demonstrators, and bystanders, and escalate into violence. You should avoid them if at all possible. If you find yourself in the vicinity of a large gathering, you should leave the area immediately for your own safety. Be alert and aware of your surroundings and pay attention to what the local news media has to say. Please note that the police have limited capabilities outside major cities and communication is poor.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy website, found [here](#). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#) where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, we have a call center for updates--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.

You can contact the American Citizen Services Unit at the U.S. Embassy in La Paz, Bolivia, via e-mail at consularlapaz@state.gov or by telephone at 591-2-216-8246 during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or 591-715-33713 after hours and on weekends. The U.S. Embassy is located at 2780 Arce Avenue in La Paz, Bolivia, and is open to the public by appointment on Monday through Thursday from 08:00 to 12:30, and Thursdays from 14:00 to 16:00. You can schedule a non-emergency appointment by visiting this [website](#).

The Embassy operates two Consular Agencies in the cities of Santa Cruz and Cochabamba, Bolivia. These agencies can also provide assistance to U.S. citizens. The Santa Cruz Consular Agency is located on Roque Aguilera Avenue #146 (3rd ring). You can contact the Santa Cruz Consular Agency by telephone at 591-3-351-3477 during regular business hours (Monday and

Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.). If you wish to visit the Consular Agency for a non-emergency matter, please schedule an appointment through this [website](#). The Cochabamba Consular Agency is temporarily closed.