



DEMONSTRATION NOTICE

**U.S. Embassy
La Paz, Bolivia**

February 17, 2011
1:11 pm

The U.S. Embassy in La Paz has received information about the following protests in various cities of Bolivia.

The labor organization COB has called for a national strike for Friday, Feb. 18, starting at 10:00, which the FEJUVE and others will be joining. They are planning a large protest that will begin from El Alto and end in Plaza Murillo in downtown La Paz. This protest will disrupt all public transportation because it is focused on the increase in transportation fees. Similar protests are planned in Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, Potosi and Oruro. Similar strikes may continue throughout the coming week; travelers should stay abreast of local press coverage in order to determine the best routes to avoid disruptions and delays.

The U.S. Embassy will continue to monitor the strikes and provide updates on any major disruptions when available.

These protests are not directed against the U.S. Embassy, U.S. Government or any U.S. citizen or entity and are not expected to be violent in nature. The U.S. Embassy reminds you 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 at <http://bolivia.usembassy.gov/demonotices.html>. 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 a Consular Agency in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. This agency 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.