

## U.S. Embassy Manama

### Demonstration Notice 60 – December 15, 2014

Spontaneous demonstrations continue to take place in Bahrain from time to time in response to world events or regional and local developments.

**With National Day on Tuesday, December 16, we expect increases in demonstration and protest activity near economic centers from Tuesday through Thursday, December 18. The following specific advisories are in effect:**

**On Tuesday, December 16 and Wednesday, December 17, violent opposition groups have called for demonstrations under the slogan of, “Martyr’s Day” in the center of Manama near the Souq. Anticipate that Ras Ruman and Hoorah will also be affected. Demonstrations have been announced for all restricted zones as well.**

**We strongly advise you to avoid non-essential travel in the Manama City area (Yellow Oval).**

**As always, please use caution as you drive and plan for additional time to arrive at your destination. We also urge you to monitor media coverage of local events and be aware of your surroundings. RSO will provide updates as necessary.**

Improvised Explosive Device (IED) usage throughout the country continues to take place primarily in the restricted areas and against police forces. Additional IED attacks remain likely. The IEDs have been secreted into areas along certain neighborhood streets and common streets throughout the restricted areas. Avoid areas where the MOI’s security forces are gathered due to the threat of likely pending anti-Government of Bahrain (GOB) activities. Do not attempt to drive through or otherwise remove debris strewn across roadways. Use caution and alter your daily routes of travel to avoid known problem areas.

**There have been no direct attacks on U.S. citizens to date.** We recommend that you continually exercise the appropriate level of security awareness in regards to anti-U.S. activity or events. Spontaneous and, at times, violent anti-government of Bahrain protests continue to occur, particularly at night and on weekends. These protests have included blockades of major highways with burning debris and the establishment of unofficial checkpoints. Protestors have thrown rocks and Molotov cocktails and used homemade weapons to include improvised explosive devices and shotgun like projectile launchers. To counter these acts the Ministry of Interior will utilize crowd control measures, such as tear gas, stun grenades, and birdshot. Violent clashes between security forces and protestors can make travel in and around Bahrain dangerous without advance warning. The Ministry of Interior maintains official checkpoints in certain areas. We remind U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) where the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Country Specific Information](#), [Travel Warnings](#), and [Travel Alerts](#) can be found. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. In addition to information on the internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, from other countries, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, Eastern Time (except U.S. federal holidays). The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The Embassy's website, <http://bahrain.usembassy.gov>, includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and Demonstration Notices. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#). The Consular Section can be reached at [ManamaConsular@state.gov](mailto:ManamaConsular@state.gov).

**The U.S. Embassy is located at:**

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