



# DEMONSTRATION NOTICE

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

November 17, 2012

The U.S. Embassy in La Paz has received information about the following demonstrations:

The indefinite blockade in Colomi, on the road between Cochabamba and Santa Cruz, continues despite Bolivian National Police intervention during which people became very aggressive and burned a police vehicle. Fourteen people were reported wounded.

A large demonstration may occur in Oruro to protest the current rules for the National Census Day (November 21, 2012), including a general strike and blockades. The final decision will be made this afternoon.

In Santa Cruz, transportation and small business owners will meet with Government authorities on November 16. The announced strikes and blockades for next Tuesday, November 20 will depend on the results of this negotiation.

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, found [here](#). Up-to-date information on security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, for callers outside the United States and Canada, by calling the regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). U.S. citizens without internet access may enroll directly at the nearest U.S. Embassy or U.S. Consulate. By enrolling, U.S. citizens make it easier for the embassy/consulates to contact them in case of emergency. Stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts as well as the Worldwide Caution. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

You can contact the American Citizen Services Unit at the U.S. Embassy in La Paz, Bolivia, via e-mail at [consularlapaz@state.gov](mailto: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 <http://bolivia.usembassy.gov/>.

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 - Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.). The Cochabamba Consular Agency is located on Edificio Saal, Avenida Pando 1122, 1st Floor. You can contact the Cochabamba Consular Agency by telephone at 591-4-411-6313, during regular business hours (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.). If you wish to visit the Consular Agencies for a non-emergency matter, please schedule an appointment through this website.