

Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens -- Public Demonstrations at the High Court, Jan. 9, 2012

U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur

January 6, 2012

The Malaysian media has reported that large demonstrations and counter-demonstrations are possible in Kuala Lumpur on Monday, January 9. Malaysia's opposition parties have announced plans to hold a "Free Anwar" rally at the High Court compound on Jalan Duta on Monday, January 9, and at least one other group has followed by announcing their own plans for a counter rally. Although the Royal Malaysian Police and rally organizers have agreed to a location, large crowds and as yet unknown police measures will have implications for traffic and public transport around Kuala Lumpur and especially in the High Court and Merdeka Square area.

Even demonstrations that are meant to be peaceful can become violent and unpredictable. You should avoid them if at all possible. Be alert and pay attention to what local news media are reporting.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy website, found at <http://malaysia.usembassy.gov/> or by following the Embassy's Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/usembassykl. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs website, www.travel.state.gov, 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.

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