

## **U.S. Embassy Nouakchott Holiday Security Notice**

With the holidays approaching, the U.S. Embassy would like to take the opportunity to remind American Citizens in Mauritania of the importance of continuing daily security habits and practices.

The Embassy encourages all Americans to review their security practices and recommends reviewing the following habits and practices.

### **Daily Security Habits and Practices:**

- Do you vary your times and routes to and from work?
- Do you keep your doors locked and windows closed in your residence and in your vehicle?
- Do you have a spare key to your residence?
- Do you check the interior and exterior of your vehicle prior to getting into your vehicle? Is there anything that is irregular?
- Do you see anything out of the ordinary like dead animals in or around your residence?
- Do you maintain a low personal profile by not doing anything that draws attention to yourself?
- Do you identify and report to local authorities vehicles or persons possibly involved in surveillance of your activities?
- Are you alert to what is going on around you?
- Are your colleagues and family aware of your daily plans and do they know how to reach you?
- Know the emergency action plans and develop your own emergency plan for your residence.
- Schedules that are the most predictable leave you the most vulnerable. Be as unpredictable as possible in both your work and social schedules.
- Always be aware of your surroundings. Report all suspicious activity to local authorities.
- In traffic, always attempt to leave space in which to maneuver. Always leave yourself an exit. Be prepared to take evasive action at any time. Keep at least a quarter tank of gas at all times.
- Always lock your vehicle doors the moment you get into your vehicle to mitigate carjacking.

- If you are being followed or harassed by another driver, try to find the nearest police station, hotel, or other public facility to call the police. Never lead the person back to your home or stop and get out.
- Whenever possible, do not have a set day and time for shopping, errands and personal needs. Be unpredictable.
- Never give out your personal information such as family member and household staff names, addresses and telephone numbers in an open setting or to strangers.
- Ensure all of your family members understand security measures.

U.S. Embassy Nouakchott wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.