



Embassy of the United States of America
Maputo - Mozambique

Consular Section



Security Message for U.S. Citizens Carjackings

April 24, 2013

This security message is to alert U.S. citizens in Mozambique that there have been several reported incidents of carjackings between the Namaacha and Goba border crossing points and the city of Boane, near the border with Swaziland. Reports indicate the carjackers are wearing military style camouflage uniforms and stop vehicles on deserted stretches of road. The Mozambican police (PRM) confirm that there have been several reports of such incidents in these areas. The Matola PRM Chief has expressed his commitment to work with the relevant authorities to address the current threat.

Only the Mozambican police have the authority to establish checkpoints according to the Chief of Operations. There are two permanent checkpoints with mixed forces including, border patrol, customs, and regular police between the two border crossings and the city of Boane. Border patrol personnel wear a green uniform with dark green berets, customs authorities are in a dark blue trousers and a light blue shirt, with a dark blue berets, traffic police wear white shirts and dark trousers and dark cap, and the standard police force wear gray uniforms with gray caps.

Occasionally, police may establish another temporary checkpoint on the two roads from Namaacha or Goba. When this occurs, a legitimate checkpoint would consist of four uniformed policemen and would involve a visible police vehicle. In cases where a driver comes across a checkpoint involving fewer than four policemen and/or no vehicle, one should ensure windows and doors are closed and locked, slow down and assess the situation. If you have concerns or believe this is not a legitimate checkpoint, drive on and report the situation to the nearest police station.

You can get general Embassy updates by checking the website of the [U.S. Embassy in Maputo](#). 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](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. You can also download our free Smart Traveler App, available through [iTunes](#) and the [Android](#) marketplace, to have travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or for

callers from other countries, a 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).

If you are going to live in or travel to Mozambique, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program- STEP](#). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The U.S. Embassy is located in Maputo at 193 Avenida Kenneth Kaunda, telephone +258 21 49 2797. Non-emergency U.S. Citizens Services are offered via the online appointment system.

The after-hours telephone numbers for use in emergencies are +258 21 49 0723 and 21 49 2797. The Consular Section's e-mail address is consularmaputo@state.gov. The Embassy's web site is <http://maputo.usembassy.gov/>.