

Security Message for U.S. Citizens

Demonstrations Planned from July 30-August 1

The U.S. Embassy alerts U.S. citizens that there are multiple demonstrations scheduled from July 30th to August 1st in downtown Asuncion. The first demonstration is scheduled to begin at 10:00 am on July 30th. Around 4,000 teachers are expected to gather in front of the Pantheon and will march toward the Ministerio de Hacienda. They are requesting an increase in the education budget. The second demonstration is scheduled to start at 8:30 am on July 31st in Asuncion. Students will be demonstrating in support of the Student Union Law that is being discussed in Congress. They will also be requesting increased accountability of FONACIDE funds. Expect crowds downtown as they will march from Plaza Uruguay toward Congress. Another demonstration is scheduled to begin at 5:00 pm in Asuncion. A group is organizing a protest downtown demanding the release of Edelio Morinigo. They are also planning a remembrance for the victims of the Ycua Bolanos fire. Expect crowds starting at 1700 hrs in front of the Pantheon. They are expected to march from the Pantheon toward the Metropolitan Cathedral and then to the Presidential Palace.

Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational *and* escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Review your personal security plans; remain aware of your surroundings, including local events; and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security and follow instructions of local authorities.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Paraguay enroll in the [State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's [website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for Paraguay](#). For additional information, refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call [1-888-407-4747](tel:1-888-407-4747) toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or [1-202-501-4444](tel:1-202-501-4444) from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free Smart Traveler App, available through [iTunes](#) and the [Android market](#), to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Asuncion is located at 1776 Mariscal Lopez Avenue.

U.S. Embassy Asuncion contact information:

Tel: [011-595 21-213-715](tel:011-595-21-213-715)

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