

U.S. Mission Ecuador
Security Message for U.S. Citizens

Demonstrations in Guayaquil on December 3, 2015

U.S. Mission Ecuador informs U.S. citizens living and traveling in Ecuador that in addition to the demonstrations in Quito announced on December 2, pro-government and opposition groups are planning to hold demonstrations in Guayaquil on December 3, 2015, to coincide with government discussions regarding constitutional amendments. Transportation delays and detours throughout the city, especially in the downtown area can be expected.

Demonstrations could continue throughout Ecuador beyond December 3, 2015, and recent demonstrations have occurred without advance notice, except on social media, and caused significant disruptions. We advise U.S. citizens to remain alert and informed via local news sources regarding areas where demonstrations may be occurring and to avoid the areas near the demonstrations. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Review your personal security plans and remain aware of your surroundings.

Be aware that many recent demonstrations have occurred without advance notice, except on social media, caused significant disruptions, and spread to other parts of the city and the country with short notice. 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 Ecuador enroll in the Department of State's **Smart Traveler Enrollment Program**. 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 Ecuador**. For additional information, please refer to our "**Traveler's Checklist**" page. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

Contact information:

U.S. Embassy Quito
Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro.
Phone (593-2) 398-5000
ACSQuito@state.gov
<http://ecuador.usembassy.gov/>

U.S. Consulate General Guayaquil
Avenida Jose Rodriguez Bonin and Calle Santa Ana, San Eduardo
Phone (593-4) 371-7000
ACSGuayaquil@state.gov
<http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/>

Dialing instructions within Ecuador:

- Within the same city and from a land line use the last seven digits.
- For calls from a mobile phone and for intercity telephone calls add the city code preceded by a 0.

Dialing instructions from the United States:

- Add the 011 prefix for an international long distance line.

For after-hours emergencies, call the phone numbers listed above for assistance.