



U.S. Consulate General, Durban

Warden Message – Political Intolerance in KZN

April 21, 2009

This warden message is being issued to inform American citizens traveling throughout KwaZulu-Natal Province (KZN) of potential political violence during and immediately following the South African elections on April 22. Specialized South Africa Government security units have been deployed throughout KZN to monitor the security situation. Election officials are confident that the early deployment of 23,000 police officials will ensure that the election proceeds without any major incidents.

American citizens should consult local officials and media for updates on the situation in KZN during the elections. The Consulate General recommends that any American citizen travelling through rural parts of KZN exercise caution. Known trouble spots include:

- Nongoma
- Pongola
- Eshowe
- Umlazi
- Macambini
- Escourt
- Ladysmith
- Bergville
- Greytown
- Mahlabathini
- Ulundi
- KwaGamalakhe
- Jozini
- KwaDukuza
- uMsinga

Recent flooding in the Nongoma/Ulundi area may also disrupt voting as damage to polling stations may force voters to travel out of their voting districts.

Americans traveling abroad should regularly monitor the [U.S. Embassy's website](#) the U.S. Department of State's, [Bureau of Consular Affairs' website](#), where the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information can be found. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 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.

All Americans in South Africa are urged to register online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui>. Registering gives U.S. citizens access to updated information on travel and security within South Africa and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions:
The U.S. Embassy is located at 877 Pretorius Street, Arcadia in Pretoria, telephone 012-431-4000, fax 012-431-5504. The U.S. Embassy web site is <http://southafrica.usembassy.gov>.

The U.S. Consulate General in Johannesburg provides consular services for Americans in Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West, and Free State provinces. The Consulate General in Johannesburg is located at 1 Sandton Drive, Sandhurst, 2196, Johannesburg; telephone 011-290-3000, fax 011-884-0396, and after hours emergency 079-111-1684.

The Consulate General in Cape Town is located at 2 Reddam Avenue, Westlake, Cape Town; telephone 021-702-7300, fax 021-702-7493, and after hours emergency 079-111-0391. Its consular jurisdiction includes Western Cape, Eastern Cape, and Northern Cape provinces.

The Consulate General in Durban is located at the Old Mutual Building, 31st Floor, 303 Dr. Pixley KaSeme (formerly West) Street; telephone 031-305-7600, fax 031-305-7691, and after hours emergency 079-111-1445. Its consular jurisdiction is KwaZulu-Natal Province.