



U.S. Consulate General, Johannesburg

Warden Message – August 26, 2009

VIOLENT STREET CLASHES IN PRETORIA

Local press and broadcast media are reporting running street clashes this afternoon between South African police and several thousand soldiers in the vicinity of the Union Buildings in Pretoria with violence spilling over into surrounding streets. According to these reports, shots have been fired and a few cars have been set alight.

The U.S. Consulate General advises that American citizens avoid downtown Pretoria at this time including the vicinity of the US Embassy. Clashes associated with the soldiers' protest action could spread to other parts of the greater Pretoria area. American citizens should remain alert and are advised to monitor local broadcast media for updates on the strike.

The Embassy reminds Americans that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. American citizens are therefore urged to avoid areas of demonstration or planned demonstrations.

As the Department of State continues to develop information on any potential security threats to U.S. citizens overseas, it shares credible threat information through its consular information program documents, available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>. 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. 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 either online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov> or by phone or in person directly with the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria or the Consulates General in Johannesburg, Cape Town, or Durban. 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. Please note the following contact information:

U.S. Embassy to the Republic of South Africa

877 Pretorius Street

Arcadia, Pretoria

Tel 012 431-4000 (+27 12-431-4000)

Fax 012 431-5504 (+27 12-431-5504)

<http://usembassy.state.gov/pretoria/>.

U.S. Consulate General, Johannesburg

(Covering Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, North West, and Free State provinces)

1 Sandton Drive (cnr. of Rivonia)
Sandhurst, Johannesburg
Tel: 011-290-3000 (outside South Africa: +27 11-290-3000)
After-hours emergencies: 079-111-1684 (outside South Africa: +27 79-111-1684).

U.S. Consulate General, Cape Town

(Covering Western Cape, Eastern Cape, and Northern Cape provinces)

2 Reddam Avenue

Westlake, Cape Town

Tel: 021-702-7300 (outside South Africa: +27 702-7300)

After hours emergencies: 079-111-0391 (outside South Africa: +27 79-111-0391)

U.S. Consulate General, Durban

(Covering KwaZulu-Natal Province)

Old Mutual Building, 31st floor

303 West Street

Tel 031 305-7600 (+27 31-305-7600)

After hours emergencies: 079-111-1445 (outside South Africa: +27 079-111-1445).