



U.S. Embassy, Manila, Philippines

Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Reminder of Worldwide Caution

December 5, 2016

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO U.S. CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD. THANK YOU.

The U.S. Embassy in Manila wishes to remind all U.S. citizens residing in, or traveling to the Philippines of the most recent Department of State [Worldwide Caution](#), dated September 9, 2016, which indicates there is an ongoing threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens and interests abroad, including the Philippines.

The recent discovery of an improvised explosive device (IED) near the U.S. Embassy in Manila serves as a timely reminder of the recurring threat that terrorism and political violence pose in the Philippines. Fortunately, no one was injured during this incident, but it certainly underscores the importance of maintaining a strong sense of personal security.

The U.S. citizen community should remember that terrorists have proven time and again their preference for “soft targets,” or places that offer inherent vulnerabilities, ease of access, and the potential availability of a large number of unprotected people. Places like sporting events, hotels, clubs and restaurants, places of worship, schools, public areas, and shopping malls have all been targeted by terrorist organizations worldwide.

With this information comes the reminder for U.S. citizens to elevate your level of security awareness. It is imperative that you enhance your personal sense of vigilance and remain alert and cognizant of your surroundings and of those around you. If you see something suspicious, you should report it immediately to the nearest law enforcement or security official.

For further information:

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the [Philippines Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines, located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, at +(63) (2) 301-2000, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +(63) (2) 301-2000.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).