

## **CONSULAR NEWS SENEGAL & GUINEA BISSAU**

**U.S. Embassy Dakar, Senegal  
January 2006**

### **New Warden System Software**

The Consular Section has just received new software that will help us organize our American warden system. Like everything new, it has some kinks and some of you received multiple copies of the same Warden Messages a few weeks ago. We apologize for the inconvenience and are working to make sure that will not happen again!

### **New Laws in Senegal**

Two new laws have recently gone into effect in Senegal. The first prohibits the use of cell phones while driving, unless the driver is using "hands-free" headphones and microphone. The fine for violating this law is 12,000 FCFA. Local police are aggressively enforcing this law. Once the police officer stops the vehicle, the driver is issued an attestation and the police officer confiscates the driver's license or diplomatic ID card until the fine is paid.

The second requires helmets for all bicycle, moped, scooter and motorcycle drivers/riders and passengers. It is unknown at this time what the fine for violating this law will be.

### **Paris-Dakar Rally**

The Paris-Dakar Rally is scheduled to end in Dakar on or about 13-16 January. Please be aware that this event draws many participants and tourists to Dakar, and crowds will form around the finish line and associated events.

### **Crime Watch**

On November 9 during the day, a female American had her money stolen from her purse while traveling on public transportation in the Kedougou area.

On November 12 around 3:00 a.m., a man entered the house of a female American living in the Tambacounda area. The man fled when confronted and nothing was stolen.

On November 14 during the day, a female American had her wallet stolen from her pocket while using a cybercafe in Thies.

### **Consular Hours**

Routine American citizen services are available Monday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Please come to window number two.

Emergency American citizen services are available during U.S. Embassy normal working hours. For an after-hours emergency involving an American citizen, please call 637-9566.

### **Have You Left Senegal or Guinea-Bissau?**

If you have left Senegal or Guinea-Bissau, please e-mail us at [consulardakar@state.gov](mailto:consulardakar@state.gov) so we can remove your name from the warden registration database. If you would like to remain on the newsletter mailing list, please indicate this in your e-mail.