

OFFICIAL NOTICE

US Embassy natural disaster alert on the 9 October earthquake

When	2026-10-09
Where	Panama (La Pitaloza, Los Santos)
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Summary

The US Embassy in Panama City issued an alert after the magnitude 7.7 earthquake near La Pitaloza on 9 October 2026, warning of damaging aftershocks, tsunami threats along the coast and possible power and communication outages.

Full text (English)

Natural Disaster Alert - U.S. Embassy Panama City, Panama (9 October 2026). Location: approximately 14 kilometres (9 miles) southwest of Pitaloza Arriba in La Pitaloza, Panama. Event: a magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck in La Pitaloza at 12:56 local time on 9 October 2026. Aftershocks capable of causing damage may occur. The U.S. Tsunami Warning System has issued potential tsunami threats for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Peru, Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Nicaragua, Colombia and Ecuador. Strong and unusual currents and unpredictable surges may occur along the shore. U.S. citizens in the area should stay away from damaged structures and monitor local emergency broadcasts and official guidance. Actions to take: avoid damaged areas and do not enter damaged buildings; stay away from the coast; if near the coast, move to higher ground; follow official instructions from local authorities for recovery and assistance; be ready for power and communication outages. Assistance: U.S. Embassy Panama City +507-317-5000, Panama-ACS@state.gov; State Department Consular Affairs 888-407-4747 or 202-501-4444. Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) for security updates.