

MISSION OF THE
UNITED STATES TO
AUSTRALIA

Consul's Corner

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- Upcoming Holidays
- Consular Outreach Programs
- Consular Contacts and Fee Information
- Notarial Information
- Passport Renewal by mail DS-82

KEY CONTACTS

Canberra Embassy

Please refer enquiries to
Sydney

Sydney Consulate

SydneyACS@state.gov

Melbourne Consulate

MelbourneACS@state.gov

Perth Consulate

PerthACS@state.gov

Brisbane

Virtual Consulate

<http://brisbane.usvpp.gov/brisbane>

Adelaide

Virtual Consulate

<http://adelaide.usvpp.gov/adelaide>

DECEMBER, 2008

And now a note from Western Australia...

Greetings from Western Australia. I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the new Consul in Perth, replacing Mark Prokop who retired from the Foreign Service. Mark loved this place so much that he is now one of the many Americans living permanently in Western Australia. We wish him the best in his retirement.

My wife (Kerrie) and 7-year-old daughter (Claire), and I arrived in late August. We have already found this to be a particularly fulfilling posting because my wife's grandmother was an Australian war bride who moved to Iowa after World War II. We completed the family circle when we landed in Sydney before coming to Perth and were entertained there by Kerrie's 90-year-old great aunt and other relatives. Needless to say, with this family connection in addition to the many current and historical ties between Australia and America, we already feel at home.

I come to Perth after serving as a consular officer at two very different places: Sofia, Bulgaria and Antananarivo, Madagascar. I was in Madagascar from January 2006 until May of this year and tell people I just waded across the Indian Ocean to get here! Of course, while both countries border the Indian Ocean, there is quite a difference between the first world of Australia and the developing world of Madagascar!

Upon further reflection of the gap between Australia and Madagascar, however, there isn't as much difference as one

would assume in the needs and interests of expatriate Americans and in the services we provide them. That's one thing I like about this career -- no matter where we are, we provide the same services to Americans and try to do so with the highest standards of customer service.

One example of the assistance we provide around the world has been in the news lately as US embassies and consulates assisted tens of thousands of U.S. citizens in registering to vote, requesting absentee ballots, and sending their ballots back to their home state. As an American overseas, I'm proud of the high turn-out of overseas voters in the recent election and am happy that we could assist many of you in Australia in casting your ballot back in the U.S.

Whether you come in for voting assistance, to apply for a new passport, to register the birth of a child, or to ask for our assistance in time of trouble, the other consular officers in Australia and I look forward to working with you. Please remember that no matter if you are in Australia, Madagascar, or somewhere else in the world and no matter what administration is in charge in Washington, a consular officer is nearby to serve you.



Neal appeared in a nationally televised game-show. He was in two episodes of "Jeopardy! College Championship" in 1995.
(Ask to see his autographed picture of Alex Trebek.)



History made in Elections

November 4 marked several historical milestones. The first African-American was elected to the office of the President and voters came out in record breaking numbers to cast their votes for that decision, including hundreds of thousands of absentee voters.

- Story continued on Page 2.

U.S. Consulates in Australia are open to the public Monday to Friday for American Citizens Services and Visa Applications. Please book an appointment online.

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History Made in Elections



Continued from page 1—

Millions of voters turned out on November 4 to vote in the recent Presidential election. So many planned to vote that there were fears the voting system would not be able to handle such a high volume of voters.

Voters abroad had thousands of inquiries about how to vote absentee. The U.S. Consulate-General in Sydney had so many people come to cast their vote that they not only had to order extra ballots, but subsequently almost ran out of these ballots due to the amount of people voting!

Many voters took advantage by printing out their ballot from the 'easiest website on the internet'; The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) website (screenshot below.) All those who wished to cast their vote through absentee means were able to in a timely manner. Using the site www.fvap.gov enables voters to register for an absentee ballot, find details about each individual state and their respective cut-off dates, and also allows them to print off an emergency write-in ballot.

It is never too early to register to vote for future elections, though they may be some time away. By registering for future elections everyone can be part of history, even if they live on the other side of the world!

DID YOU KNOW?
Two U.S. Astronauts voted from the International Space Station on November 4. Their votes were sent through encrypted ballot. A total of 6 outer-space votes have been cast since 1997



ELECTION DAY WATCH



Right: Barack Obama is declared President-Elect.



Below: Consul-General Judith Fergin speaks on the historic day.



Above: On-lookers watch to see the count of votes.

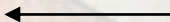


Distinguished guests and staff from the Consulate-General in Sydney watched the Election results live at the Intercontinental Hotel in Sydney. Guests ranged from high-ranking politicians to close friends and family, who all gathered to watch the festivities. Treats such as mini hot dogs and French Fries were a-plenty as the results, and soda, flowed in.



Above: Enjoying the festivities.

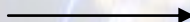
Left: Consular staff remain stoic and impartial during the party.



Below: Getting into the spirit of the day.



Right: Guests watch the counting begin as the polls close on the east coast. The results only hours away from this time.



PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE!

Register your trip at <https://travelregistration.state.gov/>

Travel registration is a free service provided by the U.S. government to U.S. citizens living in or traveling to a foreign country. Registering enables the Embassy or Consulate in that region to locate you and provide assistance during an emergency.

TRAVEL SMART!

For updated travel Information, including country specific information sheets and the latest travel warnings, visit <http://travel.state.gov>

NEED A GREEN CARD?

American citizens, including members of the Armed Forces, who reside in Australia may file immigrant visa petitions for immediate relatives (spouse, child, parent) at the Consulate-General in Sydney.

You will need to schedule an appointment.

To start this process email them at sydneypetitions@state.gov

If the petition is approved, your spouse/child/parent will need to complete all documentary requirements and have an interview with a consular officer before an immigrant visa is approved and issued.

For further information please visit: <http://sydney.usconsulate.gov/consular/immigrant.html>

THANKSGIVING DAY CELEBRATIONS

Staff of the Sydney Consulate-General celebrated Thanksgiving with a traditional feast of turkey, gravy and roast vegetables, not to mention a plethora of desserts which were devoured within minutes.

Our proverbial "father", Thurmond Borden (pictured right) started off by quoting the Thanksgiving proclamation as made by Connecticut Governor Wilbur Cross in 1936,

saying "Time out of mind at this turn of the seasons when the hardy oak leaves rustle in the wind and the frost gives a tang to the air and the dusk falls early and the friendly evenings lengthen under the heel of Orion" - turns out this part is not pertinent to us in Australia, beautiful imagery none the less as we all sweat the day away.

The day was enjoyed by all and the food even more so. As we look forward to the upcoming holiday season with full bellies we can only think about the words of Wilbur Cross in regards to the meaning of Thanksgiving; "...for the brotherly word and act; for honor held above price; for steadfast courage and zeal in the long, long search after truth; for liberty and for justice freely granted by each to his fellow and so as freely enjoyed; and for the crowning glory and mercy of peace upon our land; -- that we may humbly take heart of these blessings as we gather once again with solemn and festive rites to keep our Harvest Home."



**Country Consular
Coordinator
Thurmond Borden
carves it up!**



In 1947, the first Presidential pardon was ceremoniously given to a Turkey!

UPCOMING U.S. & AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Holiday Listing

- } **December 25, 2008**—Christmas Day
- } **December 26, 2008**—Boxing Day
- } **January 1, 2009**—New Year's Day
- } **January 19, 2009**—Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday
- } **January 26, 2009**—Australia Day
- } **February 16, 2009**—George Washington's Birthday
- } **March 2, 2009**—Labour Day (Perth only)
- } **March 9, 2009**—Labour Day (Melbourne only)
- } **March 9, 2009**—Canberra Day (Canberra only)
- } **April 10, 2009**—Good Friday
- } **April 13, 2009**—Easter Monday
- } **April 27, 2009**—ANZAC Day (Canberra, Perth & Sydney only)
- } **May 25, 2009**—Memorial Day
- } **June 1, 2009**—Foundation Day (Perth only)
- } **June 8, 2009**—Queen's Birthday (Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney only)
- } **July 3, 2009**—Independence Day

DECEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



FEBRUARY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



APRIL 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

MAY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



JUNE 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



CANBERRA

Santa's Reindeer Word Search Puzzle

Find the words about Santa's reindeer from the bottom in the Santa's Reindeer word search grid. The words can be forward or backward, vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Circle each letter separately, but keep in mind that letters in each Santa's reindeer word may be used in more than one word. When the Santa's Reindeer Word Search puzzle is complete, read the remaining letters left to right, top to bottom, to learn an interesting fact about Santa's Reindeer.

T	H	E	N	A	M	H	E	S	O	F	T	S	F	E
A	N	T	A	N	S	P	R	E	H	S	A	D	L	E
D	A	N	C	E	R	L	I	G	A	H	T	O	Y	R
E	S	P	I	Z	R	O	O	F	T	O	P	S	A	N
D	E	R	E	T	R	D	H	A	D	H	U	F	R	I
S	R	A	E	I	S	U	T	A	T	P	L	P	C	E
E	A	N	R	L	E	R	D	R	C	I	L	N	T	V
B	A	C	P	B	T	O	O	E	O	M	S	C	I	A
U	L	E	L	E	D	N	A	V	M	I	L	X	C	S
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	E	V	E	I	T	F
R	U	R	O	M	S	A	I	N	T	N	I	T	N	I
A	C	P	H	O	L	A	L	A	C	I	G	A	M	S
G	P	R	I	I	N	T	E	D	I	N	H	E	I	G
U	H	T	E	D	O	N	N	E	R	E	N	T	W	E
S	T	O	R	R	A	C	N	T	Y	T	H	R	E	E

ANTLERS	DANCER	NORTH POLE
ARCTIC	DASHER	PRANCER
BLITZEN	DONNER	PULL SLEIGH
CARROTS	FAST	ROOF TOPS
CHRISTMAS EVE	FLY	RUDOLPH
COMET	MAGICAL	SUGAR CUBES
CUPID		VIXEN

MELBOURNE

The American Citizen Services Unit conducts periodic trips to Adelaide, Darwin, and Hobart to provide passport, registration, and other citizenship services that cannot be performed through the mail. We most recently conducted such visits to Adelaide and Hobart in September. While we are committed to trying to provide this service on a quarterly basis, budgetary restrictions and other constraints may delay these visits. If you wish to register for notices of when a consular officer may be coming to one of these towns for consular outreach, please email us at MelbourneACS@state.gov. The visits are also advertised on our Web site, <http://usembassy-australia.state.gov>.

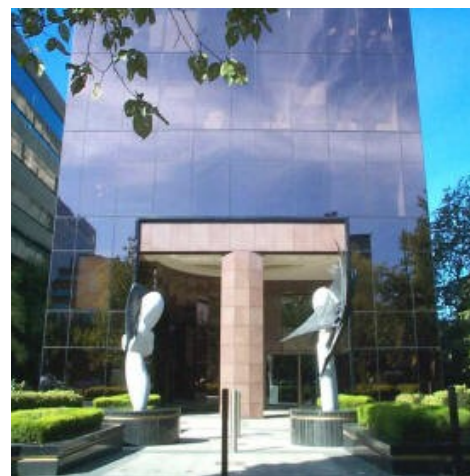


Photo of the U.S. Consulate in Melbourne

Marine Corps Ball—November 7, 2008



It was Marine Ball Friday no need to feel morose,
as we waited for our counters to close.

Cheap travel to Canberra courtesy of Tiger Air,
never has that crew met Consular ladies with such flair.

We arrived and cringed about the rain,
having to hold onto our hems would have been a pain.

As the sword sliced through the cake I pondered,
as single folks eyes seemed to have wandered.

The ceremonial events proceeded,
followed by a top up, which by then was needed.

There were bare feet on the dance floor
and Julia's dancing had the crowd yelling for an encore.

A swell time was had by all, even if the last drinks call may have resulted in a brawl
It was the Marine Ball after all.



Above: Ladies of the Consular section.



Left: (L to R) Misty, Danielle, Te and Justin.

By Teuila Reid

PERTH

Greetings from U.S. Consulate Perth, Western Australia

A roundup of recent activities from US Consulate, Perth

July 2008

On Friday July 25, Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice made a brief private visit to Perth at the request of the Federal Foreign Affairs Minister, Steven Smith. Consulate staff were given the opportunity to meet Secretary Rice at a 'meet and greet' held at the Hyatt Hotel, Perth.



October 2008

New Consular Co-ordinator, Thurmond Borden, visits Perth.

On Friday morning October 10, Consulate staff organized an ACS 'outreach' for members of the local American Community to come and meet Thurmond and our new Consular Officer, Neal Vermillion. Forty guests enjoyed hearing about Thurmond's travels within the Foreign Service and heard from Neal all the latest information about voting and related consular issues.

In the afternoon of October 10, Consul General Chern hosted a 'meet and greet' at his residence for some of Perth's Travel Agents to discuss the new ESTA Program. Thurmond Borden provided very valuable information which was well received by those in attendance.



November 2008

Wednesday November 5, 2008

Americans and Australians Join to Watch Election Results

Under red, white and blue streamers and balloons, approximately 400 guests joined Consul General Ken Chern and Associate Professor David Denmark from the University of Western Australia, to watch the vote totals come in for U.S. presidential election at a special Election Watch event held at the Hyatt Hotel, Perth. Associate Professor David Denmark and Consul General Chern provided regular updates and trends as they unfolded. The event was very successful and well enjoyed by all who attended.

SYDNEY

Outreach—A whirlwind tour

A total of 220 passports, 68 Consular Report of Birth Abroad, and 5 Social Security Administration interviews were administered during this most recent trip to Queensland.

Like scenes from the Amazing Race, staff from the Consulate General in Sydney were rushing around attempting to complete various tasks to win One Million Dollars. Ok, so that money bit is not true, but they still had to complete a lot of tasks!

The Outreach was split into two parts. The first was spent by Vice Consul Chris Kjelland in Northern New South Wales, who spent three days visiting incarcerated Americans, ensuring their health and well-being. Chris also visited the religious community known as 'Danthonia' where he took in numerous passport applications before jetting back to Sydney.

The following week Chris flew out with Consular Assistant Lisa Youssef to Brisbane for a four-day venture. They visited incarcerated Americans, and assisted Americans with other

consular services.

The second day Chris hosted an election watch party with the results flowing in, Members of Parliament, business and community leaders and members of the Diplomatic Corps all joined in eagerly watching the results.

There was no time to rest as the next day saw U.S. passport applicants sweep through MacArthur Chambers in a paper-work fury that would make any bureaucrat's heart swell. Overall there were 180 appointments during the one-day event and through the efficiency and logistical prowess of Lisa and the wielding of the pen by Chris the day flew by without any complications.

The next two days were spent visiting more incarcerated Americans and meeting with airlines to discuss new U.S.

travel regulations and standards. Chris also met with young Australians from the University of Queensland who are preparing for exchange programs in the United States.

All-in-all the Consular staff enjoyed their whirlwind trip to Brisbane and northern New South Wales, but were happy to come back to the less hectic, small, quiet, country town of Sydney.

The Consulate General in Sydney is looking to tentatively schedule another outreach to Brisbane early 2009. If you are interested in scheduling an appointment for this trip please email queenslandacs@state.gov and we'll be in touch with you shortly!

(Right) A young American insists on signing their own application.

(Below) The MacArthur Chamber where the outreach was held..



HELPFUL HINTS FOR TRAVEL

- Always make a copy of your current U.S. Passport and keep it in a secure place, separate from your actual passport, just in case something happens to it. Scan and email it to yourself!
- Register your travels with the State Department so that local Consulates in areas of your travel can contact you in the event of an emergency <http://travel.state.gov>
- Don't advertise the fact that you're an American. Sadly, contrary to popular belief, not everyone likes us. Sometimes it's better to fly under the radar.
- Have fun and be safe! Know that the Consulates and Embassies are there to serve you and may be able to assist you in times of need.



Notarial Services

Notarial Services can be performed at the Consulates General by appointment only, or alternatively can be performed by an Australian Notary Public.

Due to high demand for Notarial Services, we are not able to provide them on an emergency, or walk-in basis.

You must come in person and:

Bring valid government-issued photo ID. A passport is best.
Bring your documents to be notarized. You must understand your documents as we are not allowed to explain the contents to you.

You must have filled-in the document with the appropriate names, places and dates. However, **DO NOT** sign your document – you will sign at the Consulate in front of the notary.

If your document requires witnesses in addition to the notary, you must supply these witnesses. Our staff cannot serve as witnesses.

You must have all pages of a document with you. Ensure that documents are organized and clearly marked as to which parts require notarization, and which documents should be attached to each other.

You must pay the appropriate fee.

Please note: We can only perform Notarial services on documents that are to be used in the United States.



Notaries Public (also called "notaries," "notarial officers," or "public notaries") hold an office which can trace its origins back to ancient Rome, when they were called *scribae*, *tabellius* or *notarius*. They are the oldest continuing branch of the legal profession.

TYPES OF NOTARIALS PROVIDED

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Please complete the form before you come to our office, but **DO NOT** sign the form.

Affidavit

An affidavit is a sworn statement made by you. We cannot advise you on the specific language needed in your Affidavit, please consult a lawyer or other legal advisor for that type of assistance before coming to us to notarize the document.

Sworn Statement

An administration of oath is used on documents that require a sworn affidavit

Acknowledgement of Execution

An Acknowledgement of Execution is used for legal agreements, business documents, etc. It is also used when more than two signatures are required, but not all of the parties who must sign the document are present. We can only acknowledge [notarize] the signatures of those present to sign the document in front of us and verify that they have signed the document.

NOTE:

Unfortunately, consular officers are not authorized to provide a signature guarantee/medallion guarantee service.

For an Apostille you will have to contact the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
www.dfat.gov.au

You can locate a local Notary Public through the yellow pages

PASSPORT RENEWAL BY MAIL

To be eligible to apply by mail you **MUST** answer YES to ALL three requirements below.

1. You can submit your most recent passport which has not been damaged;
2. You were at least 16 years old when that passport was issued;
3. That passport was issued **less** than 15 years ago.

If you **do** meet the above requirements you should follow the checklist below. When completing the application please

type or print legibly in black ink. Please print out and submit only one-sided pages of the application. If you are applying for a new passport to correct an error in your identifying data (e.g. spelling of name, date or place of birth) and the error was caused by a printing error by Passport Services, there will be no fee. You will be issued a new passport with a new number and a new issue date, but you will be given the same expiration date of the replaced passport. Please submit all documents **via mail** to

the Consulate General serving your area, their addresses are below.

Please allow 2-3 weeks for processing of your passport. If you are travelling immediately please schedule an appointment through your Consulates' website (details on the page 13)



PASSPORT BY MAIL CHECK-LIST

Please submit the following by mail:

- Fully completed passport application—Form **DS-82** (See pages 11 & 12)
- Most recent U.S. passport
- Two U.S. passport photographs— Specifications pictured *right* →
- Self-addressed Express Post Platinum or Registered Post envelope for return of passports
- Applicable Fee—See bottom of this page and Page 13 for details
- If applicable—documentation to support name change or other data change

You are now ready to submit your application! Please address your envelope to the Consulate serving your area:

For residents of ACT, New South Wales and Queensland

**Consulate General of the United States
Sydney**

American Citizen Services
Level 59, MLC Centre
19-29 Martin Place
Sydney, NSW 2000

For residents of South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory

**Consulate General of the United States
Melbourne**

American Citizen Services
553 St. Kilda Road
Melbourne, VIC 3004

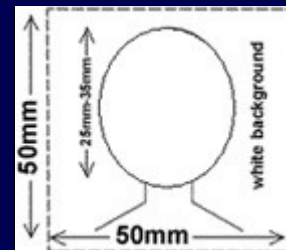
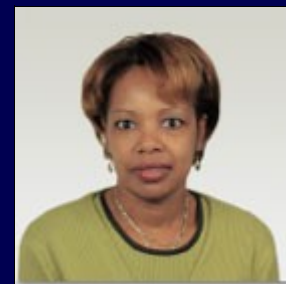
For residents of Western Australia

Consulate General of the United States Perth

American Citizen Services
4th Floor
16 St. George's Terrace
Perth, WA 6000

Photo Guidelines

Two identical color photographs required 50mm × 50mm (2" × 2"); headsize chin to top of head minimum 25mm (1"), maximum 35mm (1 3/8").



Examples may not print to size

The current fee for renewal by mail is \$75.00 U.S. Dollars



APPLICATION FOR A U.S. PASSPORT BY MAIL

OMB APPROVAL NO. 1405-0020
EXPIRATION DATE: 12-31-2010
ESTIMATED BURDEN: 40 MIN

Attention: see WARNING on page two of instructions

Please select the document (or documents) for which you are applying:

U.S. Passport Book U.S. Passport Card

The U.S. passport card may only be used for international travel by land or sea between the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda. Please visit our website for detailed information.

R D O DP
End. # _____ Exp. _____

1. Name Last

First & Middle

2. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

3. Sex

M F

4. Place of Birth (City & State or City & Country as it is presently known)

5. Social Security Number

6. Mailing Address: Street/RFD # or P.O. Box

Apartment or unit #

City _____ State _____ Zip Code (Zip + 4 if known) _____ In Care Of or Country, if applicable _____

7. Contact Phone Number

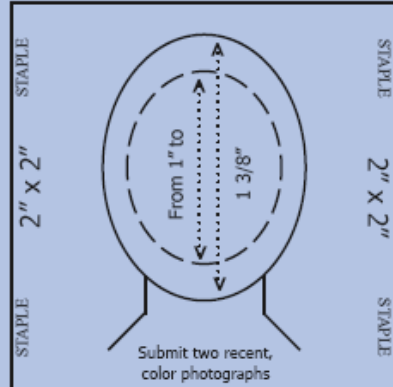
Home Cell
 Work

8. Email Address (Optional)

9. Have You Ever Used A Different Name (Maiden, Previous Marriage, Legal Name Change)? If yes, please complete. (Attach additional pages if needed)

1.

2.



10. Passport Book or Passport Card Information

Your name as listed on your most recent passport or passport card

Most recent passport book or passport card

Issue date (mm/dd/yyyy)

11. Name Change Information - Complete if name is different than last passport book or passport card

Place of Name Change (City/State)

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Changed by Marriage
 Changed by Court Order

Please submit marriage certificate or court order to support your name change.

CONTINUE TO PAGE 2
YOU MUST SIGN AND DATE THE APPLICATION IN THE DESIGNATED AREA BELOW

I declare under penalty of perjury all of the following: 1)I am a citizen or non-citizen national of the United States and have not, since acquiring U.S. citizenship or nationality, performed any of the acts listed under "Acts or Conditions" on the reverse side of this application (unless explanatory statement is attached); 2)the statements made on the application are true and correct; 3)I have not knowingly and willfully made false statements or included false documents in support of this application; 4)the photograph submitted with this application is a genuine, current, photograph of me; and 5)I have read and understood the warning on page two of the instructions to the application form.

x _____
Applicant's Signature

Date

This section for issuing office only

Marriage Certificate Date of Marriage/Place Issued:

Court Order Date Filed/Court:

Other:

Attached:



PPT Fee _____ EF _____ Postage _____ Other _____



DS 82 10 2007 1

Name of Applicant (Last, First & Middle)

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

12. Height

13. Hair Color

14. Eye Color

15. Occupation

16. Employer

17. Additional Contact Phone Numbers

Home
 Work

Cell

Home
 Work

Cell

18. Permanent Address: Street/RFD # (No P.O. Box)

Apartment or unit #

City

State

Zip Code

19. Emergency Contact - Provide the information of a person not traveling with you to be contacted in the event of an emergency.

Name

Address: Street/RFD # or P.O. Box

Apartment or unit #

City

State

Zip Code

Phone Number

Relationship

20. Travel Plans

Date of Trip (mm/dd/yyyy)

Length of Trip

Countries to be visited

**STOP! YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR APPLICATION
BE SURE TO SIGN AND DATE PAGE ONE**



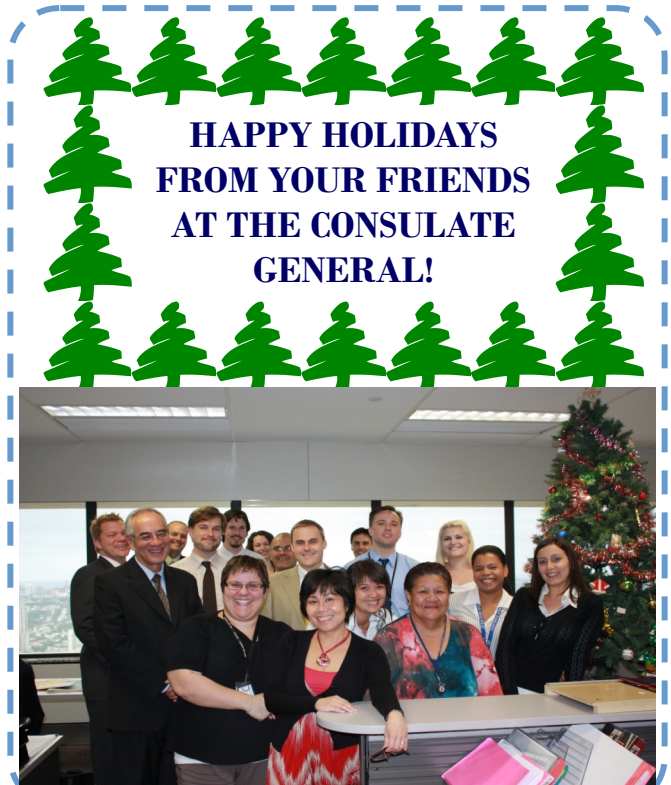
DS 82 10 2007 2

American Citizens Services' Fees

All U.S. consular fees worldwide are established in U.S. dollars (USD). For common consular services, the U.S. Embassy in Canberra provides an official exchange rate to calculate an Australian dollar (AUD) equivalent. As a result of the recent fluctuation in the Australian dollar, the U.S. Embassy in Canberra has recently required several adjustments to the official exchange rate to the Australian dollar. Future adjustments to the official exchange rate are anticipated, but, unfortunately, cannot be determined in advance. Payments made or received in Australian dollars are subject to the current official exchange rate. We do not accept payments for the incorrect amount. Incorrect payments will be returned and new payments will be requested. Note, the new payment requested is also subject to the current official exchange rate, which could possibly

change after we request a new payment amount. Payments which exceed the fee for service cannot be accepted. Payments received in U.S. dollars are not affected. Therefore, we encourage all payments received to be made in U.S. dollars. This may avoid delays in the processing of requested services. Acceptable forms of payment are bank checks or money orders (personal and company checks are not accepted). Please be advised that the larger Australia Post outlets offer [Western Union Money Orders](#) in U.S. dollars. Or, you may contact a local banking institution to inquire if they are able to issue a bank check in U.S. dollars.

The Consulates General do not, under any circumstances, accept cash sent through the mail.



The U.S. Mission in Australia Contact Information

U.S. Embassy Canberra

American Embassy
Moonah Place
Yarralumla, ACT 2600
(02) 6214-5600
Web <http://canberra.usembassy.gov/>



Consulate General of the United States Sydney

For residents of ACT, New South Wales and Queensland
Level 59, MLC Centre
19-29 Martin Place
Sydney, NSW 2000
Ph: (02) 9373-9200
<http://sydney.usconsulate.gov/>

Consulate General of the United States Melbourne

For residents of Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory
553 St. Kilda Road
Melbourne, VIC 3004
Ph: (03) 9526-5900
<http://melbourne.usconsulate.gov/>

Consulate General of the United States Perth

For residents of Western Australia
4th Floor
16 St. George's Terrace
Perth, WA 6000
Ph: (08) 9202 1224
<http://perth.usconsulate.gov/>