



# Consular News

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**Consular Section  
U.S. Embassy, Port Louis, Mauritius**

## U.S. Consular Agency in Seychelles to Reopen

### Contact Us:

[PTL\\_consular@state.gov](mailto:PTL_consular@state.gov)

(230) 202-4400

We are pleased to announce that the U.S. Consular Agency in Victoria, Seychelles, will reopen in March 2007. A new agent, Travis Jensen, has been hired and will be attending comprehensive training in Mauritius and the United States prior to reopening the Agency. Travis has many years of customer service experience and is a welcome addition to our Consular Team. Official Agency hours will be released shortly.

The Consular Agency in Victoria is one of fifty-five operated by the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Department of State. Consular Agents provide a variety of services to U.S. citizens, including:

- Notarize documents,
- Visit U.S. citizens in hospitals and prisons,
- Assist destitute U.S. citizens,
- Accept passport applications, consular reports of birth abroad,
- Conduct welfare/

whereabouts checks for missing citizens,

- Assist in death cases of U.S. citizens, and
- Assist U.S. citizen victims of disasters or other crisis.

Consular Agents **cannot** provide visa services.



### ..... Traveling soon?

Visit :

[www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)

for all your travel needs, including info on foreign visas, customs requirements, and safety issues.

## More Seychelles News

The Consular Section would like to extend a thanks to Mark Davison, who hosted a get together of U.S. citizens at the Plantation Club in December. We had a nice turnout and it was a wonderful opportunity

for Americans to get together with Embassy staff and our volunteer wardens for Seychelles, Jim Scherer and Travis Jensen. Mark's hospitality is much appreciated by all.

Thanks also to Lucy and her children's group for a festive holiday performance.



## Registering with the Community Liaison Office (CLO)

The Consular Section continues to receive inquiries from American citizens about how they can learn about events the Embassy hosts from time to time (e.g. of July community party, Halloween etc.). Because of strict requirements mandated by the Privacy Act of 1974, the contact information you provided when you registered with the Consular Section is protected and

shared only under limited circumstances. Unless you signed a full Privacy Act Waiver, we are not able to share your contact details with the Community Liaison Office (CLO) here at the Embassy. This office notifies the community when social events are being organized and maintains a separate register of U.S. citizens living in Mauritius, Seychelles, and Reunion.

If you are interested in registering with that office, please contact Community Liaison Officer, Henry Semilota, at (230) 202-4459 or via e-mail at [semilotahs@state.gov](mailto:semilotahs@state.gov).



## Passports and the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative

As of **January 23, 2007**, ALL persons, including U.S. citizens, traveling by **air** between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda are required to present a valid passport, Air NEXUS card, or U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document, or an Alien Registration Card, Form I-551, if applicable.

As early as **January 1, 2008**, ALL persons, including U.S. citizens, traveling between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda by **land** or **sea** (including ferries), may be required to present a valid passport or other documents as determined by the Department of Homeland Security.

This is an excellent time to check the validity of your passport. With the implementation of this new requirement, demand on passport services in the United States has been high, and passport processing times may increase.

Contact the Consular Section if you wish to renew your U.S. passport or for more information.

## Visas for foreign nationals



Frequently, U.S. citizens are approached for information and assistance in obtaining visas to the United States. While the procedures may seem complex, they are based entirely on U.S. law and are the same worldwide.

Individuals seeking information

or assistance with visa applications should be encouraged to visit the Embassy's website for detailed information on the types of U.S. visas available and how to apply for them.

[http://  
mauritius.usembassy.gov](http://mauritius.usembassy.gov)