

AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS FOR USE ABROAD

DISCLAIMER: THE INFORMATION IN THIS CIRCULAR RELATING TO THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF SPECIFIC FOREIGN COUNTRIES IS PROVIDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. QUESTIONS INVOLVING INTERPRETATION OF SPECIFIC FOREIGN LAWS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO FOREIGN COUNSEL.

Summary: Documents issued in one country which need to be used in another country must be "authenticated" or "legalized" before they can be recognized as valid in the foreign country. This is a process in which various seals are placed on the document. Such documents range from powers of attorney, affidavits, birth, death and marriages records, incorporation papers, deeds, patent applications, home studies and other legal papers. The number and type of authentication certificates you will need to obtain depend on the nature of the document and whether or not the foreign country is a party to the multilateral treaty on "legalization" of documents. (A) If your document is intended for use in a country which is a party to a treaty called the Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents ("Hague Legalization Convention") (countries listed below), obtaining a special "apostille" certificate is generally all that is required. The procedure is explained in detail in our separate information flyer available via our home page on the Internet or through our automated fax service. See "Additional Information" below. (B) If the country where the document will be used is not a party to the Convention, you will have to begin the cumbersome, time-consuming process of obtaining a series of certifications known as the "chain authentication method". This is literally a paper chase in which authorities will have to attest to the validity of a succession of seals beginning with your document and ending with the seal of the foreign embassy or consulate in the United States.

Treaty Authority:

Article 5(f) and (m) of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, 21 U.S.T. 77; TIAS 6820; 596 U.N.T.S. 261;

Applicable bilateral consular conventions;

Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents, TIAS 10072; 33 U.S.T. 883, 527 U.N.T.S. 189; 28 U.S.C.A., appended to Rule 44; U.S. Senate Executive L., 94th Cong., 2d Sess. (1976).

Statutory Authority:

Notarial/authentication function of consuls: 22 U.S.C. Sec. 4215; 4221; 22 C.F.R. Section 92.36 - 92.41;

Consular refusal to perform notarial/authentication function: 22 C.F.R. Section 92.9 - 92.10; Attorney General's Opinion August 1, 1866, Vol. XII, Official Opinions of the Attorneys General.

Certification of documents: 22 C.F.R. Sec. 131.1;

Refusal of certification for unlawful purpose: 22 C.F.R. 131.2;

Authentication of official records of sister-states: Art. IV, Sec. 1 of the Constitution; 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1739; Rule 44(a)(1), F.R.Civ. P. and Rule 902(1) and (2), F.R. Evid.;

Admissibility of authenticated copies of consular papers: 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1740;

Admissibility of authenticated copies of foreign official documents as evidence: 28 U.S.C. Sec. 1741;

Proof of official record; authentication of foreign record: Rule 44(a)(2) Fed. R. Civ. P., 28 U.S.C. Appendix.

Self-Authentication - foreign public documents: Rule 902(3), Fed. R. Evid., 28 U.S.C. Appendix.

Chain Authentication

1. Foreign Embassy: This is the last step in the authentication chain. Usually, foreign embassies or consulates in the U.S. can only authenticate the seal of the U.S. Department of State. Check with the embassy or consulate of the foreign country to see if some of the steps can be avoided. Some foreign embassies and consulates maintain sample seals of state authorities. Remember that what is needed is only the foreign consul's authentication on the document for the document to be "self-proving" in the foreign country. If a foreign consul will authenticate the document without the intermediate steps, you will have saved yourself money, time and effort. See our consular information sheets via the internet or autofax for the phone number for foreign embassies in the U.S. under "Entry Requirements" explained under "Additional Information" below. Also ask the foreign embassy or consulate about any fees they may charge. If the foreign embassy informs you that you must also obtain the seal of the U.S. embassy or consulate in the foreign country, which is required very rarely, you will then need to send the document to the Consular Section, American Citizens Services of the U.S. embassy or consulate, enclosing a money order or bank check payable to U.S. Embassy/Consulate (fill in name of city). The addresses of U.S. embassies and consulates abroad are included in the final paragraph of our consular information sheets available via the Internet on our home page or via our autofax service. See "Additional Information" below.

2. U.S. Department of State Authentications Office: The office is located at 518 23rd St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520, tel: (202) 647-5002. There is a fee of \$5.00 for each authentication payable in the form of a check drawn on a U.S. bank or money order made payable to the Department of State. For additional information, call the Federal Information Center: 1-800-688-9889, and choose option 6 after you press 1 for touch tone phones. Walk-in service is available from the Authentications Office from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday-Friday, except holidays. Walk-in service is limited to 15 documents per person per day (documents can be multiple pages). Processing time for authentication requests sent by mail is 5 working days or less. See also, the State Department home page at <http://www.state.gov>. See also in general, 22 C.F.R. 131.

3. Documents Issued by Federal Courts: Documents issued under the seal of a federal court should be sent to Justice Management Division, Security Program Staff, Physical Security Office, 9th and Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 6531, Washington, D.C. 20530, tel: (202) 514-2314 or 514-4667 for the preliminary authentication. Then forward the document(s) to the U.S. Department of State, Authentications Office as explained above. Finally, send the documents to the foreign embassy or consulate in the United States.

4. Documents Issued by Federal Agencies: Documents issued under the seal of a federal agency can be authenticated by the U.S. Department of State Authentications Office following the instructions above. Then send the documents to the foreign embassy or consulate in the United States as explained above.

5. State Documents: State documents such as documents originating with a state court or agency (birth, death, marriage, etc.) must be authenticated by the appropriate office in the state Secretary of State's office (listed below). The document may then be authenticated by the U.S. Department of State Authentications Office as explained above. The document may then be authenticated by the foreign embassy or consulate in the United States following the instructions above.

6. Notarized Documents: The procedure for authenticating documents executed before a notary public such as affidavits or acknowledgments varies from state to state. It is advisable to contact the state authentication authority listed below to learn what steps are necessary between the notary's seal and the state Secretary of State's seal. In some states, this requires contacting the clerk of the court of the county where the notary is licensed, and obtaining an authentication of the notary's seal. The state Secretary of State's office can then

authenticate the seal of the clerk of the county court. After the seal of the state Secretary of State or comparable authority listed below is on the document, it may be authenticated by the U.S. Department of State Authentications Office. The final step is to obtain the seal of the foreign embassy or consulate in the United States following the instructions above.

Hague Legalization Convention Procedure

The United States is a party to the Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents. The Convention abolishes the requirement of diplomatic and consular legalization for public documents originating in one Convention country and intended for use in another. For the purposes of the Convention, public documents include: (a) documents emanating from a court, (b) documents issued by an administrative authority (such as civil records), and (c) documents executed before a notary. Such documents issued in a Convention country which have been certified by a Convention certificate called an "apostille" are entitled to recognition in any other Convention country without any further authentication. See TIAS 10072; U.N.T.S. 189; 28 U.S.C.A., Fed. R. Civ. P. 44, pp. 323-327 (1992 & West Supp. 1993); Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Law Digest Volume, Selected International Conventions; 20 Int'l. Leg. Mat. 1405-1414 (November 1981). A detailed information flyer concerning the process is available from our home page on the Internet or via our automated fax service. See "Additional Information" below.

IN FORCE: ANDORRA, ANGOLA, ANGUILLA, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, ARGENTINA, ARMENIA, ARUBA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BAHAMAS, BARBADOS, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BELIZE, BERMUDA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, BOTSWANA, BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, BRUNEI, BULGARIA, CAYMAN ISLANDS, COMOROS ISLANDS (*formerly Moroni*), CROATIA, CYPRUS, DJIBOUTI (*formerly Affars and Issas*), DOMINICA, EL SALVADOR, FALKLAND ISLANDS, FIJI, FINLAND, FRANCE, FRENCH GUIANA, FRENCH POLYNESIA, GUADELOUPE, GERMANY, GIBRALTAR, GREECE, GRENADA, GUERNSEY (Bailiwick of), HONG KONG, HUNGARY, ISLE OF MAN, ISRAEL, ITALY, JAPAN, JERSEY (Bailiwick of), KIRIBATI (*formerly Gilbert Islands*), LATVIA, LESOTHO, LIECHTENSTEIN, LUXEMBOURG, MACAO, MACEDONIA, MALAWI, MALTA, MARSHALL ISLANDS, MARTINIQUE, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, MONTSERRAT, MOZAMBIQUE, NETHERLANDS, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (Curacao, Bonaire, St. Martin, St. Eustatius and Saba), NEW CALEDONIA, NORWAY, PANAMA, PORTUGAL, REUNION, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, ST. CHRISTOPHER (Kitts) AND NEVIS, ST. GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS, ST. HELENA, ST. LUCIA, ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON, ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES, SAN MARINO, SEYCHELLES, SLOVENIA, SOLOMON ISLANDS (*formerly British Solomon Islands*), SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SURINAME, SWAZILAND, SWITZERLAND, TONGA, TURKEY, TURKS AND CAICOS, TUVALU (*formerly Ellice Islands*), UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES, VANUATU (*formerly New Hebrides*), WALLIS AND FUTUNA.

(Italics indicate country now independent, but no formal confirmation of continued applicability of Convention received.)

State Authentication Authorities: (This list of state authorities was valid effective 4/1/97. See also 28 U.S.C.A., Fed. R. Civ. P. 44, pp. 328-31 (1992 & West Supp. 1993). It is valid for chain authentication and Hague Legalization Convention "apostille" procedures; but see our specialized flyer on the operation of the Hague Legalization Convention since the Convention "apostille" certificate is affixed by different American authorities depending on the nature of the document.)

Alabama

Office of the Secretary of State
State Capitol
Bainbridge St.
Montgomery, AL 36130

334-242-7205

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State

Alaska

Lieutenant Governor

P.O. Box 110015

Juneau, AK 99811

907-465-3509

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Lieutenant Governor; Attorney General; Clerk of the Supreme Court

Arizona

Office of the Secretary of State

Public Services Department

7th Floor

1700 W. Washington

Phoenix, AZ 85007

602 542-4086

Fee: \$3.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State.

Arkansas

Office of Secretary of State

Notary Division

State Capitol

Little Rock, AR 72201-1094

501-682-3409

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Chief Deputy Secretary of State.

California

Office of the Secretary of State

P.O. Box 942877

Sacramento, CA 94277-0001

916-653-3595

Fee: \$20.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; any Assistant Secretary of State; any Deputy Secretary of State.

Colorado

Office of Secretary of State

1560 Broadway

Suite 200

Denver, CO 80202

303-894-2680

Fee: By Mail: \$2.00 While You Wait: \$17.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Connecticut

Office of the Secretary of State

Authentications

30 Trinity St.

Hartford, CT 06106

203-566-5273

Fee: \$20.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Delaware

Office of Secretary of State

Notary Division

P.O. Box 898

Dover, DE 19903

302-739-3077 or 302-739-3756

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Acting Secretary of State.

District of Columbia

Office of the Secretary, D.C.

Notary Commissions & Authentications Section

441 4th St. N.W. (One Judiciary Square)

Washington, D.C.

202-727-3117

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Executive Secretary; Assistant Executive Secretary; Mayor's Special Assistant and Assistant to the Executive Secretary; Secretary of the District of Columbia.

Florida

Department of State

Bureau of Notaries Public

The Capitol Building

Suite 1801

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

904-413-9732

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State

Georgia

Secretary of State

Notary Division

2 Martin Luther King Drive

West Tower

Suite 820

Atlanta, GA 30334

404-656-2899

Fee: \$3.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Notary Public Division Director.

Hawaii

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Box 3226

Honolulu, HI 96802

808-586-0255

Fee: \$1.00

Designated Authority: Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawaii.

Idaho

Office of Secretary of State
Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720
208-334-2300

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Chief Deputy Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State; Notary Public Clerk.

Illinois

Office of the Secretary of State
Index Department
111 E. Monroe St.
Springfield, IL 62756
217-782-0646

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Indiana

Office of Secretary of State
Statehouse
Suite 201
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-6542

Fee: \$0.50

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State

Iowa

Office of Secretary of State
Hoover Office Building
Second Floor
Des Moines, IA 50319
515-281-5204

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State

Kansas

Office of Secretary of State
State Capitol
Second Floor
Topeka, KS 66612
913-296-2744

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State; any Deputy Assistant Secretary of State.

Kentucky

Office of Secretary of State
Capitol Building
P.O. Box 718
Frankfort, KY 40602-0178
502-564-7330

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State.

Louisiana

Office of Secretary of State
P.O. Box 94125
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
504-342-4981

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State.

Maine

Office of Secretary of State
Bureau of Corporations
Elections and Commissions
Statehouse Station 101
Augusta, ME 04333
207-287-3676

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Maryland

Office of Secretary of State
Statehouse
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-974-5520

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State.

Massachusetts

Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth for Public Records
Room 1719
Commissions
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108
617-727-2795

Fee: \$3.00

Michigan

Department of State
Office of the Great Seal
Lansing, MI 48918-1750
517-373-2531

Fee: \$1.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Minnesota

Secretary of State's Office
180 State Office Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155
612-297-9102.

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Mississippi

Office of Secretary of State

P.O. Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205-0136
601-359-1615

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; any Assistant Secretary of State.

Missouri

Office of Secretary of State
Commission Division
P.O. Box 784
Jefferson City, MO 65102
314-751-2336

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Montana

Office of Secretary of State
Room 225
Box 202801
State Capitol
Helena, MT 59602
406-444-5379

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Chief Deputy Secretary of State; Government Affairs Bureau Chief.

Nebraska

Office of Secretary of State
Notary Division
Room 1303
Box 95104
State Capitol
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-2558

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Nevada

Secretary of State
101 N. Carson Street, #3
Carson City, NV 89701-4786
702-687-5203

Fee: \$20.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Chief Deputy Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

New Hampshire

Office of Secretary of State
Statehouse
Room 204
Concord, NH 03301
603-271-3242.

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State

New Jersey

Department of State
Division of Commission Recording
Notary Section
CN 452
Trenton, NJ 08625
609-530-6421

Fee: Regular Service: \$25.00 Expedited Service: \$35.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State

New Mexico

Office of the Secretary of State
State Capitol Building
Room 421
Santa Fe, NM 87503
505-827-3600

Fee: \$3.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State.

New York

1. Upstate Counties

Miscellaneous Records
162 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12231
518-474-4770

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Executive Deputy Secretary of State; any Deputy Secretary of State; any Special Deputy Secretary of State.

2. Down State Counties

New York authorities in Albany advise that documents issued in the nine down state counties are authenticated under the Convention by the New York City office. The nine down state counties are New York, Kings, Queens, Bronx, Westchester, Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland and Richmond. The address of the New York Department of State, Certification Unit is 6th Floor, 270 Broadway, New York, New York 10007, tel: 212-417-5684. **Fee: \$10.00**

North Carolina

Office of Secretary of State
Authentication Division
300 N. Salisbury Street
Raleigh, N.C. 27603-5909
919-733-4129

Fee: \$6.25

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State

North Dakota

Office of Secretary of State
Capitol Building
Bismarck, ND 58505
701-328-2900

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Ohio

Office of the Secretary of State
30 East Broad St.
14th Fl.
Columbus, OH 43266-0418
614-466-2585

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State.

Oklahoma

Office of Secretary of State
2300 N. Lincoln
Room 101
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405-521-4211

Fee: \$25.00 (cashiers check or money order)

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State; Budget Officer of the Secretary of State.

Oregon

Office of Secretary of State
255 Capitol St.
Suite 151
Salem OR 97310
503-986-2200.

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State; Acting Secretary of State; Assistant to the Secretary of State.

Pennsylvania

Department of State
Bureau of Commissions
Elections and Legislation
North Office Building
Room 304
Harrisburg, PA 17120
717-787-5280

Fee: \$15.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of the Commonwealth; Executive Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Rhode Island

Office of Secretary of State
Notary Division
100 N. Main St.
Providence, RI 02903
401-277-1487

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; First Deputy Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State

South Carolina

Office of Secretary of State
P.O. Box 11350
Columbia, SC 29211

803-734-2119

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State

South Dakota

Office of Secretary of State

500 East Capitol

Pierre, SD 57501-5077

605-773-5004

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State

Tennessee

Office of Secretary of State

James K. Polk Building

18th Floor

Nashville, TN 37243-0306

615-741-3699

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State.

Texas

Office of Secretary of State

P.O. Box 12079

Austin, TX 78711

512-463-5705

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State

Utah

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

State Capitol

Room 203

Salt Lake City, UT 84145-8414

801-538-1040

Fee: Certifying Notary's Seal: \$10.00 Apostille: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Lieutenant Governor; Deputy Lieutenant Governor; Administrative Assistant.

Vermont

Office of Secretary of State

109 State St.

Montpelier, VT 05609-1103

802-828-2308

Fee: \$2.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

Virginia

Office of Secretary of Commonwealth

Authentications Division

P.O. Box 2454

Richmond, VA 23219

804-786-2441

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of the Commonwealth; Chief Clerk, Office of the Secretary of Commonwealth.

Washington

Department of Licensing
Business and Professions Division
Notary Section
P.O. Box 9027
Olympia, WA 98507-9027
360-586-4575

Fee: \$15.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State; Director, Department of Licensing.

West Virginia

Office of Secretary of State
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East
Capitol Building
No. 157-K
Charleston, WV 25305-0770
304-558-6000

Fee: \$10.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Under Secretary of State; any Deputy Secretary of State.

Wisconsin

Office of Secretary of State
P.O. Box 7848
Madison, WI 53707-7848
608-266-5503

Fee: \$5.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State.

Wyoming

Office of Secretary of State
The Capitol
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020
307-777-5342

Fee: \$3.00

Designated Authority: Secretary of State; Deputy Secretary of State.

American Samoa

Office of the Governor
Pago Pago, AS 96799
011-684-633-4116

Designated Authority: Secretary of American Samoa; Attorney General of American Samoa.

Guam (Territory of)

Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 2950
Agana, GU 96910
011-671-472-1537

Designated Authority: Director, Department of Administration; Acting Director, Department of Administration; Deputy Director, Department of Administration; Acting Deputy Director, Department of Administration.

Northern Mariana Islands (Commonwealth of the)

Designated Authority: Attorney General; Acting Attorney General; Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth Trial Court; Deputy Clerk, Commonwealth Trial Court

Puerto Rico (Commonwealth of)

Office of the Secretary of State

Department of State

Box 3271

San Juan, PR 00902-3271

809-723-4334

Designated Authority: Under Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State for External Affairs; Assistant Secretary of State; Chief, Certifications Office; Director, Office of Protocol.

U.S. Virgin Islands

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

7 & 8 King St.

Christiansted, St. Croix, USVI 00802

340-774-2991

No authority designated; refer requests to the U.S. Department of State, Authentications Office, 2400 M St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520, (202) 647-5002.

Authentication of Foreign Documents for Use in U.S.: In countries party to the Hague Legalization Convention, foreign documents are authenticated by the foreign competent authority listed in our separate information flyer on the Convention. See "Additional Information" below. In non-Hague countries, documents can be authenticated by a consular officer at the U.S. embassy or consulate for a fee of \$10.00 per document. See 22 C.F.R. 22.1, item 45. Hours for authentication services may vary from one U.S. embassy to another. Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate directly for more information. [See our Consular Information Sheets via our home page on the Internet](#) or our automated fax system for the addresses, phone numbers and fax numbers for U.S. embassies and consulates abroad.

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Digest of United States Practice in International Law, Department of State, Office of the Legal Adviser, 1976,

780, 781.

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Digest of United States Practice in International Law, Department of State, Office of the Legal Adviser, 1979, 888-891.

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Additional Information: The Office of American Citizens Services has available general information flyers on international judicial assistance many of which are available through our automated fax system or via our Internet Consular Affairs Home Page. These topics include country-specific information about service of process and obtaining evidence abroad.

Using the Internet: Many of our judicial assistance flyers are also available on the Internet via the Department of State, [Bureau of Consular Affairs home page](#) under [Judicial Assistance](#). See also, [the Authentication Office section of the Department of State home page](#) for information. See also the home pages for many of our embassies which are linked to the Consular Affairs home page. As noted above, the text of the Convention and updated information concerning countries which have acceded to the Convention can be found in the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, Law Digest Volume. [See the Martindale-Hubbell home page on the Internet.](#)

Treaty Databases on the Internet:

United Nations (UN): [Databases/Treaties](#)

[Council of Europe](#) (COE) under [Texts/Treaties](#)

[Organization of American States](#) (OAS): under Documents/Treaties and Conventions.

Questions: General questions may be addressed to the Office of American Citizens Services at 202-647-5226.

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