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P1 Town Hall Meeting
Air Quality Index
- 
P3 Ask Miss Liberty
- 
P5 Worldwide Caution
Passport's Photo
- 
P2 Voting
CBP Trusted Traveler
- 
P4 ZIKA Virus
- 
P6 Tax Amnesty

American Citizen Services

U.S. Mission to Indonesia / Newsletter / Sept 2016

Kim Kelly is here to listen. Come share your thoughts on issues that matter to you and the community.

TOWN HALL 2016

Face to face with the Consul General of the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta

Saturday - September 24, 2016

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

American Club

Jl. Brawijaya IV No. 20

Pela Mampang, Jakarta Selatan

RSVP required by Sept. 21, 2016

Please email to : JakartaACS@state.gov



Starting December 21, 2015, the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta began publishing Air Quality Index (AQI) data collected by air quality monitors that are installed at two locations in Jakarta. The data is published on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) AirNow international air quality web-

site, and available to the public through the [U.S. Embassy website](#).


These monitors track only PM 2.5 pollutants (particulate matter measuring less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter), which is widely considered to be the most deleterious to respiratory health. The index is calculated based on data over a 24-hour period. The U.S. EPA has developed a formula to convert raw PM 2.5 readings into an air quality index (AQI) value that can help inform health-related decisions. The AQI has six levels as described below. [Click here for more information on the U.S. EPA's AQI](#).

American Citizen Services

JAKARTA

 +6221-34359000

 jakartaACS@state.gov

 12:30 - 14:30
Monday to Friday

SURABAYA

 +6231-2975300

 surabayaACS@state.gov



Voting registration documents and ballots can be mailed to the United States through the U.S. Embassy via the Diplomatic Post Office (DPO).

Address envelopes clearly, affix the correct U.S. postage if necessary, and drop off envelopes at the U.S. Embassy Jakarta American Citizen Services visitor entrance on Jalan Medan Merdeka Selatan Monday through Friday from 10:00 to 11:00 am and 12:30 to 2:30 pm (excluding U.S. and Indonesian holidays). In some cases, postage-paid envelopes can be printed by visiting the FVAP website, <http://www.fvap.gov/citizen-voter>. Envelopes will be mailed one business day after receipt by the U.S. Embassy. Please allow up to two weeks for delivery to the United

States. If your FPCA or ballots need to be notarized, please make an appointment under notarial and other services by visiting our website: <https://evisaforms.state.gov/Instructions/ACSSchedulingSystem.asp>. Please make sure to check the deadlines for your state or territory of residence, which can be found by visiting <http://www.fvap.gov/citizen-voter>, and mail your envelope early enough to meet the deadlines. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer expedited mailing service.

How to Vote From Anywhere
WHEN YOU'RE AN AMERICAN OVERSEAS

STEP 1
REGISTER AND REQUEST YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT WITH THE FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA).

STEP 2
FILL OUT AND SEND IN YOUR BALLOT WHEN IT ARRIVES.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Trusted Traveler applicants now have an opportunity to schedule/reschedule an interview appointment at the upcoming CBP Trusted Traveler Enrollment event in Singapore. To register for this event, log on to your Global Online Enrollment System (GOES) account and schedule your appointment online.

Select the interview location:
Singapore International Chamber of Commerce.

The event is open to ALL eligible CBP Trusted Traveler applicants conditionally approved for the Global Entry Program or/and the APEC Business Travel Card.

*** Date: October 31 – November 04, 2016 (Monday –Friday) *Extended Event Days!***

Time: From 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Venue: Singapore International Chamber of Commerce

6 Raffles Quay #10-01, Singapore 048580

* Please **contact the Singapore, US Embassy CBP at email: glob-alentrysingapore@state.gov for inquiries on appointments and other information.** Depending on demand, more days may be added to increase the number of appointment slots in GOES.

Visit CBP's website for information on Trusted Traveler Programs, at: <https://www.cbp.gov/travel/trusted-traveler-programs/global-entry>





Ask Miss Liberty

Who is this Miss Liberty? She's an actual Consular Officer in the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta. She cares about your concerns, so please feel free to write directly to her at jakartaacs@state.gov. She'll be happy to respond and even publish your question in the next newsletter if you like.

Dear Miss Liberty,

I just moved to Bandung. Is there someone from the U.S. Embassy here who can help me if I'm in trouble?

Sincerely,

New Kid on the Block

Dear New Kid on the Block,

The U.S. Embassy is located in Jakarta, with consulates in Medan and Surabaya, and a consular agency in Bali. We are also trying to improve our warden system. To find out who your U.S. Embassy warden is, contact JakartaACS@state.gov. If we don't currently have a warden in your area, please consider volunteering to be one. It's easy! Just let us know you're interested and we'll get you started.

Dear Miss Liberty,

I'm smart, well-travelled, and speak multiple languages fluently. In short, I think I'd make a superb Foreign Service Officer. Where do I sign up?

Sincerely,

FSO to Be

Dear FSO to Be,

Sounds like you'd be a great candidate for the Foreign Service. I think it's a highly rewarding career. To get started, you'll need

to fill out an [online application](#) and choose a career track. Then you'll register to take the [Foreign Service Officer Test \(FSOT\)](#). We'll offer the exam on October 4, 2016 at 8:00 am and 12:00 pm in the U.S. Embassy Annex in Jakarta. Registration for this exam opened August 24th and closes on October 1st. Not sure if the Foreign Service is right for you? Try taking this [quiz](#) to help you decide. We encourage applicants with a wide range of education and work experiences to apply.

Dear Miss Liberty,

I love adventures and I've heard that Papua has incredible mountains. What's the safest way to climb Puncak Jaya?

Sincerely,

Wild guy

Dear Wild guy,

If you're physically ready for the challenge, please sign up for our [STEP program](#). Make sure that your passport will have at least 6 months validity remaining from the time you enter Indonesia. Check out our [Country Specific Information on Indonesia](#).

Dear Miss Liberty,

I heard absentee ballots aren't even counted. Why go through

all the trouble to try and vote if no one cares? Is this true? Does my vote actually count?

Sincerely,

Rock the Vote

Dear Rock the Vote,

Thanks for your question. I'm happy to tell you that you heard wrong about this. Your vote matters. It really does. Every vote has to be counted by law. Every ballot, even absentee ballots. It's not too late to [register](#) for an absentee ballot! Check out www.fvap.gov for all your other voting questions.

Dear Miss Liberty,

I just had a baby in Indonesia. Is it true that President Obama will congratulate me?

Sincerely,

Googooahgah

Dear Googooahgah,

That's wonderful news! You heard right. The White House does send greetings for special occasions, including the birth of a new baby overseas. To get your greeting from the Oval Office, fill out this [online form](#). Register your new baby for their [Consular Report of Birth Abroad](#) and apply for their first [passport](#) here at the U.S. Embassy.

ZIKA VIRUS

This summer, whether you've been scrolling through Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, your social media feeds have probably included stories about the Zika virus. You may have read about how the Zika virus spreads mostly through mosquito bites, the potentially devastating impact that Zika can have on pregnant women and their newborns, or the number of cases here in the United States. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is working to ensure you have the most accurate and up-to-date information about Zika and what it means for your health and safety. For more information, check out the [CDC website](http://www.cdc.gov).

HAVE YOU
REGISTERED?

STEP.STATE.GOV



Pregnant?

Warning: Zika might be linked to birth defects
There is no vaccine to prevent Zika virus infection



Protect yourself from mosquito bites



Daytime is most dangerous

Mosquitoes that spread chikungunya, dengue, and Zika are aggressive daytime biters. They can also bite at night.



Use insect repellent It works!

Look for the following active ingredients:
• DEET • PICARIDIN • IR3535



Wear protective clothes

Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and use insect repellent. For extra protection, treat clothing with permethrin.



Mosquito-proof your home

Use screens on windows and doors. Use air conditioning when available. Keep mosquitoes from laying eggs in and near standing water.

For more information:

www.cdc.gov/chikungunya • www.cdc.gov/dengue • www.cdc.gov/zika



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

WORLDWIDE CAUTION !

As part of the State Department's continuous efforts to provide U.S. citizens traveling abroad with information about relevant events, we are updating the Worldwide Caution with information on the continuing threat of terrorist actions and violence against U.S. citizens and interests throughout the world. Please refer to this link at our website:

<https://id.usembassy.gov/security-message-u-s-citizens-worldwide-caution/>

TOP 8 REASONS PASSPORT PHOTOS ARE DENIED

NOT IN FRONT OF PLAIN WHITE BACKGROUND



FACE NOT CENTERED IN THE PHOTO



HEAD TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL IN FRAME



GLARE OR SHADOW CAUSED BY GLASSES



PHOTO IS DAMAGED

HAIR OR OTHER OBJECTS COVERING PART OF FACE



PHOTO IS TOO LIGHT OR TOO DARK



SHADOWS ON FACE OR BACKGROUND



#PicturePerfectPassport



Indonesia's New Tax Amnesty Program by Vice Consul, Mariel Chatman, U.S. General Consulate of Surabaya

The Indonesian legislature (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat*, or DPR) passed a tax amnesty law on July 1, 2016. The tax amnesty affects expatriates as well as Indonesians and there is currently no distinction between tax residents based on citizenship. Generally, any private individual is considered to be an Indonesian "tax resident" if he or she is either (1) present in Indonesia for 183 days or more in any given 12 month period or (2) present for an entire fiscal year with the intention to reside in Indonesia. Indonesian tax residents, including any expatriates that meet the above timing requirements, are subject to taxation on their worldwide income, regardless of source. The amnesty covers corporate and individual income taxes, withholding, VAT, luxury taxes, and sales taxes. Land and building taxes, land and building acquisition duties, regional taxes, customs duties, and stamp duties are excluded.

The purpose of the law is to incen-



tivize Indonesian tax residents to repatriate overseas capital that has not previously been declared. The amnesty, which is voluntary, will be implemented over a nine-month period, divided into three calendar quarters: (1) July 2016 – September 2016, (2) October 2016 – December 2016 and (3) January – March 2017. The amnesty allows for special low concessionary tax rates on all repatriated capital that increase over time (2% for quarter one, 3% for quarter two and 5% for quarter three). Additionally, the amnesty also allows for tax residents to simply declare their offshore assets (and pay a differing rate -- 4% for quarter one, 6% for quarter two and 10% for quarter three) if they are choosing not to repatriate the capital at this time.

The special concessionary tax

rates are lower than the standard tax rates (for example, the standard rate for the highest tax bracket is 30%). Future taxation on the same assets, however, are currently unknown. Expatriates should ensure that they assess how taking advantage of these lower rates may affect their tax obligations in their home countries as well.

For information on the most current governing regulations, other relevant information, and the necessary forms to participate in the tax program, please visit: <http://www.pajak.go.id/amnestipajak>. The website also includes information about "tax amnesty help desks" that the OJK (the Indonesian Financial Services Authority) has created in tax offices across Indonesia.

It's with great excitement that we unveil our new website to you. Aside from an updated look, the new website features a powerful new way to sift through our menus, making it easier for you to better understand our wide range of services and capabilities.

