



The Sphinx

A Newsletter for the American Community in Egypt

Consular Section, United States Embassy Cairo

Volume 2 Edition 4

February 2017

متوفر أيضا باللغة العربية

American Citizen Services (ACS)

8 Kamal El Din Salah Street
Garden City, Cairo

(20-2) 2797-3300 (24 hour number
for emergencies* only)

*ACS emergencies include: arrests, hospitalizations, child custody cases, welfare and whereabouts requests, repatriations, deaths, and lost and/or stolen passports.

For all other services, including passport renewals, consular reports of birth abroad, and notarial requests, please make an appointment using our website. For questions, send an email to:

ConsularCairoACS@State.gov

U.S. Embassy Cairo is not a Federal benefits post. For all questions about federal benefits please contact U.S. Consulate Jerusalem directly at: FBU.Jerusalem@SSA.gov



New President, Vice President and Secretary of State

In November 2016, Americans went to the polls and elected a new president. The new administration is led by President Donald J. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence.



Donald J. Trump is the 45th President of the United States. After graduating from the Wharton School of Finance, Mr. Trump followed in his father's footsteps as a real estate developer, and he worked in the world of real estate development in New York before entering the presidential race in June 2015. President Trump has been married to his wife, The First Lady, Melania, since 2005.



Michael R. Pence was born in Columbus, Indiana, on June 7, 1959. In 2000, he launched a successful bid for his local congressional seat, entering the United States House of Representatives at the age of 40. In 2013, Vice President Pence left the nation's capital when he was elected the 50th Governor of Indiana. He was selected as president Trump's running mate in July 2016.



Rex W. Tillerson was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the 69th Secretary of State on February 1, 2017. An engineer by trade, Mr. Tillerson began his career with Exxon in 1975, eventually becoming the chief executive officer of the company from 2006—2016. The Secretary of State, appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, is the President's chief foreign affairs adviser.

Egyptian Emergency Services Numbers

122 Police and Fire Department

123 Ambulance

140 National Phone Directory

16000 Child Emergency Line

What's Inside:



Executive Order Information

Pg. 2



Social Security Visit

Pg. 3



US Citizen Services

Pg. 3



Special Elections

Pg. 4

Important Announcement from the Department of State

An order issued by a U.S. District court in the state of Washington on February 3 bars the U.S. government from enforcing certain provisions of Executive Order 13769, “Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Attacks by Foreign Nationals,” including those related to visas and travel for nationals of Syria, Iraq, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen.

The Department of State had, under the Executive Order, provisionally revoked all valid visas of nationals of those seven countries, with limited exceptions. **That provisional revocation is now lifted, and those visas are now valid for travel to the United States, if the holder is otherwise eligible.** Individuals whose visas are expired, or were physically cancelled, must apply for a new visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate, absent a Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) decision to grant parole or waive the visa requirement at the port of entry. We are looking further into this issue and will revise this site with any updates.

See the full announcement and the latest updates at www.travel.state.gov



Egypt Travel Warning

On December 23, 2016 the Department of State issued a Travel Warning for Egypt. Read the full text of this security message [here](#).

Egypt-Specific Information Updated

On January 17, 2017, the Department of State issued updated the Country Information webpage for Egypt. Access the updated webpage [here](#).

Crisis Preparedness

On December 12—13, 2016, the Embassy recently hosted an expert team from Washington, D.C. to lead senior Embassy leadership in a table top crisis management exercise. The exercise was an excellent way to review the Embassy’s Egypt-specific crisis preparedness policies and procedures and it also served as an important reminder of the importance of being prepared. We were happy to have some of our local partners participate in the exercise, including staff from Cairo American College and our counterparts from foreign missions based in Cairo.

Are you prepared for a crisis? You can learn more about how to prepare yourself and your family at the Department of State’s [Personal Preparedness Planning webpage](#).

Remember to include registering with the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) and Sign up for our rapid SMS notification system to receive security-related updates, in addition to email messaging through STEP. To sign up, send an e-mail with your phone number to CairoConsSMS@gmail.com.



Smart Traveler Enrollment Program
A SERVICE OF THE BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS
U.S. Department of State

Federal Benefit Unit to Visit Cairo

We are pleased to announce that the [Federal Benefit Unit](#), based at the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem, will conduct a 3-day outreach visit at the American Citizen Services Section at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo. Federal benefits include Social Security and Veterans Benefits.

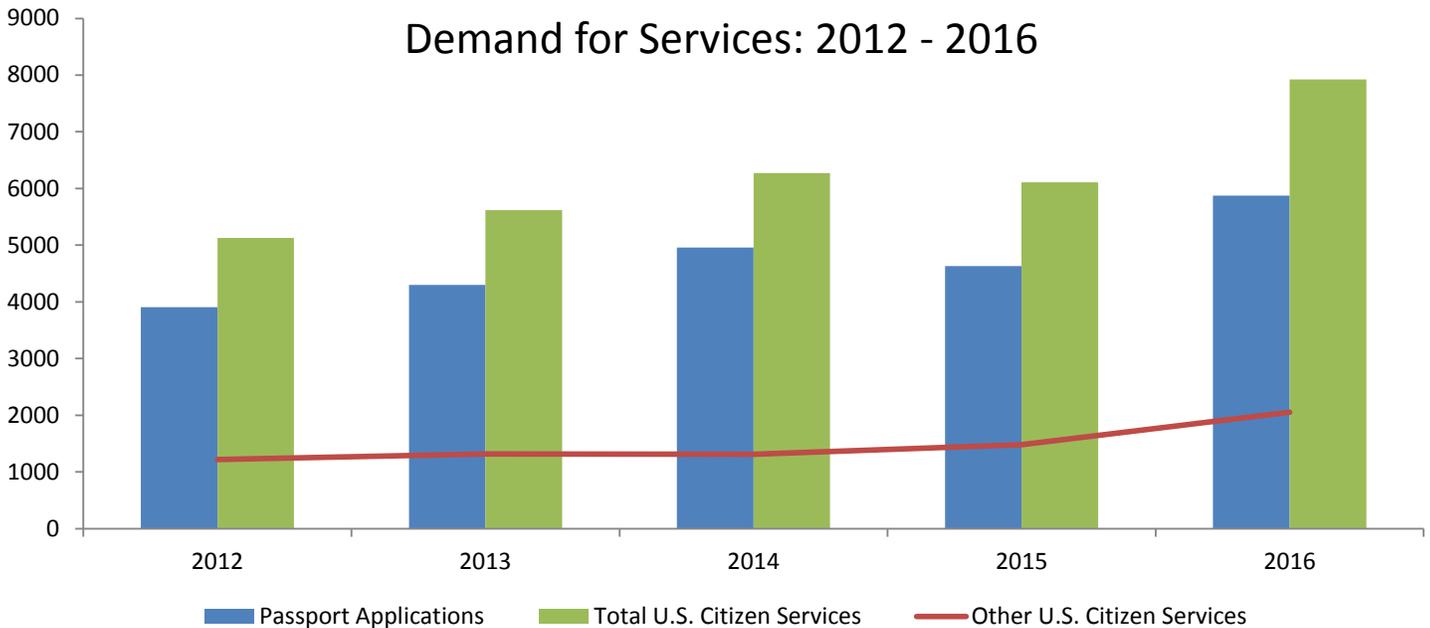
The visit will take place from March 7th to March 9th, 2017 in the American Citizen Services waiting area. The Federal Benefits team will meet with the beneficiaries to answer questions and provide updated Social Security guidelines. **Visit hours are 09:00am to 12:00pm and from 01:00pm to 02:30pm. No appointment is necessary.**

American citizens may access this outreach event through the public entrance (West Gate), located on 5 Tawfik Diab Street, Garden City.



Increased Demand for American Citizen Services

Demand for services provided by the American Citizen Services Unit has been steadily increasing. The volume of passport applications alone increased by nearly 27% during 2016. Increased demand for services can result in lengthy wait times to secure appointments. In response to the increased demand for services, we have added one new full time consular officer to the American Citizen Services Unit. Additionally, in March 2017, we will implement a three-day surge in appointments for passport and Consular Report of Birth Abroad appointments, which will reduce overall wait times for these services. The below graph shows how demand for services has been trending up in recent years.



Message for U.S. Citizens: Special Elections in California, Georgia, and Kansas

California Special Primary Election Scheduled for April 4

The State of California will conduct a special primary election on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, for the 34th Congressional District to replace Xavier Becerra who was confirmed as Attorney General of California. This district consists of part of Los Angeles County. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, a special general election will be held on June 6.

Service members, eligible family members and overseas citizens may use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), the registration and ballot request form accepted by all States and territories. Complete, sign and send the FPCA to your election office. **If you are a California resident from the 34th Congressional District, register and request an absentee ballot at www.fvap.gov.**

Georgia Special Election Scheduled for April 18

The State of Georgia will conduct a special election on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, for the 6th Congressional District to replace Tom Price who was confirmed as the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary. This district consists of parts of northern Atlanta and parts of surrounding counties such as Cobb, Fulton, and DeKalb.

Kansas Special Election Scheduled for April 11

The State of Kansas will conduct a special election on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, for the 4th Congressional District to replace Mike Pompeo who resigned from the U.S. House of Representatives when he was confirmed and formally sworn in as the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. This district consists of all or part of Barber, Butler, Chautauqua, Comanche, Cowley, Edwards, Elk, Greenwood, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, Kiowa, Pawnee, Pratt, Sedgwick, Stafford and Sumner Counties.

If you are a Kansas resident from the 4th Congressional District, register and request an absentee ballot today starting at www.fvap.gov. Service members, eligible family members and overseas citizens may use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), the registration and ballot request form accepted by all States and territories. Complete, sign and send the FPCA to your election office.

Federal Voting Assistance Program

The [Federal Voting Assistance Program \(FVAP\)](http://www.fvap.gov) assists voters through partnerships with the Military Services, Department of State, Department of Justice, and election officials from 50 States, U.S. territories and the District of Columbia. State and local governments administer U.S. elections, including those for federal offices. FVAP supports State and local election officials by providing absentee voting information, materials, training and guidance. Voters can contact FVAP's call center at 703-588-1584 (toll free 1-800-438-VOTE or DSN 425-1584) or email (vote@fvap.gov). Toll-free phone numbers from 67 countries are listed at FVAP.gov. Find FVAP on Facebook at ([facebook.com/DoDFVAP](https://www.facebook.com/DoDFVAP)) and Twitter (twitter.com/fvap).



Community Resources

New Fee Schedules for Entry Visas

As of June 1, 2017, the Government of Egypt will institute a new fee schedule for entry visas as follows:

- Fee for single-entry 30-day visa obtained upon arrival at Egyptian ports: \$60.00.
- Fee for multiple-entry 90-day visa obtained upon arrival at Egyptian ports: \$70.00.

Maintain Your Egyptian Visa Status

The Embassy encourages U.S. citizens to remain in compliance with Egyptian immigration law at all times; your visa status should correspond to your actual purpose of stay.

Basic information about Egyptian visa requirements is available from the Egypt page on travel.state.gov; more details may be obtained from the Egyptian Passport, Emigration, and Nationality Administration, or by consulting with the Immigration Department located in each governorate.

Watch Live-Action American Football in Cairo

American Football is hitting Cairo on **Friday, March 3rd at 2pm** at the Maadi Olympic Center Stadium. The Cairo Hellhounds are taking on the Cairo Wolves, who are managed by ex-NFL player, Antonio Banks. This will be an exciting game!!! Food and beverages (french fries, shawarma, soda, etc.) are available at the stadium concession stands, and admission tickets are available at the gate for 30 Egyptian Pounds.

ENFL 2017

17TH FEB	24TH FEB	3RD MARCH
VS 2 PM-5PM	VS 2 PM-5PM	VS 2 PM-5PM
VS 5PM-8PM	VS 5PM-8PM	VS 5PM-8PM
10TH MARCH	17TH MARCH	
VS 2 PM-5PM	VS 2 PM-5PM	VS 2 PM-5PM
VS 5PM-8PM	VS 5PM-8PM	VS 5PM-8PM

#TheGameBegins

How to Vote in U.S. Elections from Anywhere in
2 Simple Steps...
FOR U.S. MILITARY AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS

Did you know U.S. military members, their families and overseas citizens can exercise their right to vote from anywhere in the world?

HERE'S HOW:

STEP 1

FILL OUT THE FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA) AT FVAP.GOV TO REGISTER AND REQUEST A BALLOT

WHEN?
Send in the FPCA by the State's specific deadline. Find it at FVAP.gov.

STEP 2

FILL OUT AND SEND IN THE BALLOT WHEN IT ARRIVES

WHEN?
By the recommended mailing date:

November 1, 2016
stateside

October 15, 2016
outside the U.S.

October 10, 2016
on a ship at sea

DIDN'T GET THE BALLOT IN TIME?
No worries. Get a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) from FVAP.gov.

WANT TO MAKE SURE THE BALLOT WAS RECEIVED?
Check the status at FVAP.gov.

Have friends or family living abroad or stationed away from home? Let them know they can get more info and assistance at FVAP.gov



Americans can vote. Wherever they are.



ACS Services

In an effort to provide the most efficient service, the American Citizen Services unit has an appointment system for all services. To make an appointment, please visit us on-line at egypt.usembassy.gov.

Sign up for new SMS Service

ACS recently announced the launch of a rapid SMS notification system for Americans in Egypt. Going forward, ACS will use the SMS service in addition to our preexisting e-mail messaging to notify subscribers of urgent security-related information. We encourage you to sign up to receive these SMS messages, please send an e-mail with your phone number to cairoconssms@gmail.com.

ACS will be closed on the following dates for local and U.S. federal holidays:

Monday, April 17 & Tuesday, April 25

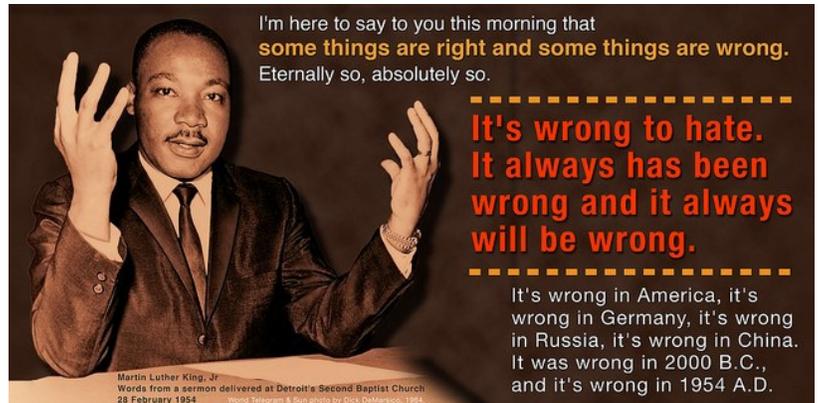
Monday, May 1 & Sunday, May 28

Want to see something in particular in the next issue of *The Sphinx*? Email us:

ConsularCairoACS@State.Gov

February is Black History Month

Black History Month, or National African American History Month, is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.



Black History Month Information From www.history.com



TRAVEL.STATE.GOV

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE · BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS