



The Sphinx

A Newsletter for the American Community in Egypt

Consular Section, United States Embassy Cairo

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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



U.S. Embassy in Cairo Conducts Annual Consular Warden Meeting

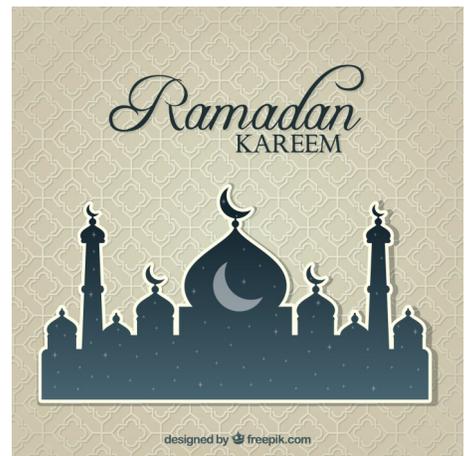
On April 27, 2017, the American Citizen Services Unit held its annual Consular Warden meeting. We are fortunate to have dedicated wardens across nearly all corners of Egypt; many of them attended the event, some coming from places such as Sharm El Sheikh and Aswan. Wardens include people that represent organizations that come into contact with American citizens, including community organizations, tour companies, schools, and businesses.

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Ramadan Kareem and Eid Mubarak

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo would like to wish a Happy Ramadan to all those celebrating the holiday. Here is President Trump's Ramadan greeting.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/05/26/statement-president-donald-j->



Egyptian Emergency Services Numbers

122 Police and Fire Department

123 Ambulance

140 National Phone Directory

16000 Child Emergency Line



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Security Message for U.S. Citizens
U.S. Embassy Cairo
05 June 2017

Terrorists have attacked targets associated with the Christian community in Egypt. Incidents have occurred in both urban and isolated settings. Additional attacks may be possible. The Egyptian Government has deployed police and military forces to protect Egyptian citizens and foreign visitors.

Until further notice, personnel assigned to the U.S. Mission in Egypt are prohibited from visiting religious sites outside greater Cairo. U.S. citizens residing in or visiting Egypt should take prudent steps to enhance their personal security and strictly follow the security guidance available in the Travel Warning for Egypt issued by the Department of State on December 23, 2016.



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](#).

For further information:

- See the State Department's travel website for the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), [Travel Warning for Egypt](#), and [Country Specific Information for Egypt](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the U.S. Embassy in Egypt. For non-emergency inquiries, U.S. citizens may send an email to the American Citizens Services Unit at consularcairoacs@state.gov. For emergencies during and after business hours and on weekends and holidays, U.S. citizens can contact the Embassy Duty Officer via the Embassy switchboard at +20-2-2797-3300. The Embassy is located at 5 Tawfik Diab Street (formerly known as Latin America Street), Garden City, Cairo.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

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



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

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Annual Consular Warden Meeting

ACS was delighted to welcome three new wardens to the network. Consular staff from the British Embassy also attended the meeting as part of the U.S. Embassy's ongoing cooperation with other missions on emergency preparedness issues.

Consular officers discussed with wardens a variety of real-life scenarios they might encounter and helped them understand their role in ensuring the well-being of American citizens. After a luncheon at the Ambassador's residence, wardens participated in a multi-part mini-Crisis Management Exercise.



A Vice Consul conducting a crisis management exercise with the consular wardens at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo

What is the Consular Warden System?

The Department of State has no more important responsibility than the protection of Americans overseas. This responsibility includes the dissemination of information to the public on matters affecting the safety and security of Americans traveling or residing abroad. A Consular Warden System allows the Embassy to maintain communications with its American community -- for both routine information as well as in times of increased threat or actual emergency.

All Americans registered at the Embassy are assigned to a Warden Zone, which are either functional (by organization) or regional. A Primary and sometimes a Deputy Warden are assigned to each Zone. Wardens are a valuable asset that can provide ACS with information about local conditions. Wardens can also assist in disaster preparedness by alerting U.S. citizens to emergency situations and passing on information from the Embassy.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve as a consular warden, please contact the American Citizen Services Unit at consularcairoacs@state.gov.

Don't Forget! Taxes for U.S. Citizens Abroad Due 15 June

U.S. citizens and resident aliens residing abroad are allowed an automatic two-month extension to file their tax return and pay any federal income tax. That extension expires June 15. For more information: <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/international-taxpayers/taxpayers->



Special Elections in Alabama and Utah

Alabama Special Primary Election Scheduled for 15 August

The State of Alabama will conduct a [special primary election](#) on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, for the office of U.S. Senator to replace Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

The special primary election will be held on **August 15, 2017**.

The special runoff election will be held on **September 26, 2017**.

The special general election will be held on **December 12, 2017**.

Service members, eligible family members and overseas citizens may use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which is 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 resident of Alabama, register and request an absentee ballot today starting at FVAP.gov.

If you are not currently registered, your FPCA needs to be received by July 31; if you are currently registered, your FPCA ballot request must be received by August 10.

Utah Special Primary Election Scheduled for 15 August

The State of Utah will conduct a [special primary election](#) on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, for the 3rd Congressional District to replace Jason Chaffetz who announced he will resign from Congress on June 30. This district consists of Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan and Wasatch counties as well as portions of Salt Lake and Utah counties.

The special primary election will be held on **August 15, 2017**.

The special general election will be held on **November 7, 2017**.

Service members, eligible family members and overseas citizens may use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which is 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 Utah resident from the 3rd Congressional District, register and request an absentee ballot today starting at FVAP.gov.



Federal Voting Assistance Program



The [Federal Voting Assistance Program \(FVAP\)](#) 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).



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 SMS Service

ACS has an 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:

Sunday, June 25th & Monday, June 26th
 Tuesday, July 4th
 Sunday, July 23rd
 Thursday, August 31st

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

ConsularCairoACS@State.Gov

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. As of May 2017, the Ministry of Interior raised the amount of fines for those that overstay their visas.

- Fine for visas expired for less than one year: EGP 1,053
- Fine for visas expired for one year or more: EGP 2,533
- Fine for visas expired for two years or more: EGP 4,533
- Fine of an additional EGP 500 for every three month period after the first year



TRAVEL.STATE.GOV

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