



January 2021

Newsletter for U.S. Citizens in Haiti

Happy 2021 from all of us here at the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Port Au Prince. Allow me to introduce myself: I'm **John Whiteley, the new Deputy Consul General**. I am very excited to be here in Haiti!

Our priority is always the safety and security of U.S. citizens overseas. There is no greater responsibility of the U.S. Department of State. We will continually communicate travel advice and alerts to you as we face the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and security situations here. I urge you to register for the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program ([STEP.state.gov](https://step.state.gov)) so you can receive important messages from the Embassy, including security alerts and travel advisories.

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, consular sections throughout the world, including Haiti, are still not operating at full capacity, and many routine services are suspended. We realize this creates difficult situations for you as you await interviews, have appointments cancelled and rescheduled, and cannot fully plan for future travel. Please rest assured, however, that we are committed to resuming services as soon as practicable once the situation permits, while protecting the health and safety of our customers.

You can always find the most up-to-date information about our consular services on our website:

ht.usembassy.gov.

Even with these challenges, we are finding creative ways to offer our services and help prepare you for your appointments.



Pictured:

John Whiteley
Deputy Consul General

For example, we will be doing an informational Facebook Live event on Thursday, January 28 about the Consular Report of Birth Abroad. This is a critical citizenship document for U.S. citizens born overseas, and we are pleased to be able to offer this service. We know this process can be confusing and it requires a lot of documentation and an in-depth interview. To help navigate this process, we will be answering your questions and walking you through all the steps. I hope to see you on the 28th, virtually!

What's new with American Citizen Services?

❖ Resumption of all routine services, including the Consular Report of Birth Abroad

U.S. Embassy Port Au Prince has resumed all routine services for U.S. citizens in Haiti. If you are a U.S. citizen seeking an appointment for U.S. passports, notarial services, or the Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA), you can schedule an appointment on our [Online Appointment System](#).

If you are scheduling an appointment for a CRBA, please refer to our webpage at <https://ht.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services/child-family-matters/birth/> and carefully review the required documents needed. Please bring your completed application and all required documents to the appointment.

U.S. EMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE
PRESENTS:

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW
ABOUT THE CONSULAR REPORT OF
BIRTH ABROAD**

Join our **Facebook Live** event on **January 28 at 2PM EST** to learn about the process of obtaining a U.S. government birth document and applying for a first passport for your U.S. citizen child born in Haiti- ask us anything!

Where: U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince American Citizen Services Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ACS PortauPrince>

When: Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 2:00 PM EST

❖ **EVENT: Everything You Need to Know about the Consular Report of Birth Abroad Facebook Live: Thursday, January 28, 2021 2pm EST**

The Consular Report of Birth Abroad process requires a lot of documentation, proof, and even some personal questions, and we would like to help you navigate the process and be fully prepared for your CRBA appointment.

Please join us for a Facebook Live event where staff members of the consular section will explain how to fill out forms, address some common misconceptions, and answer all your questions. Just go to our [American Citizen Services Port Au Prince Facebook page](#) at 2pm EST on Thursday, January 28.

What's new with American Citizen Services?

❖ First-Ever Virtual Citizen Liaison Volunteer Conference

The U.S. Embassy proudly welcomes our new Citizen Liaison Volunteers (CLVs)! A well-organized and efficient CLV system is essential for the U.S. government to carry out its primary function of protecting U.S. citizens overseas, especially in times of crisis.

On Friday, January 22, the U.S. Embassy held its first Virtual CLV Conference,

hosted by Ambassador Michele Sison, for about 60 volunteers across Haiti. This conference allowed CLVs to hear directly from the Ambassador about the COVID-19 testing requirements and current operations at the Embassy. The Embassy's Regional Security Officer also addressed kidnapping, crime mitigation tips, and how CLVs can report important incidents involving U.S. citizens to the Embassy.



❖ New COVID-19 Testing Requirements for Travel to the U.S.



Effective January 26, all airline passengers to the United States ages two years and older must provide a negative COVID-19 viral test taken within three calendar days of travel. Alternatively, travelers to the U.S. may provide documentation from a licensed health care provider of having recovered from COVID-19 in the 90 days preceding travel.

Check the CDC website for additional information and [Frequently Asked Questions](#). Additionally, the [U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince website](#) has a list of laboratories that may offer tests. Please check with the specific laboratory about their availability of tests and capacity to deliver test results within the required timeframe.



Health Tips from the Medical Unit

- 👉 **COVID-19:** For updated information about COVID-19 in Haiti, including where to get tested, entry/exit requirements, and quarantine information, [please visit the Embassy website](#).
- 👉 Make sure you are current on your vaccines, including tetanus and rabies. Treatment for prevention of rabies after you have been potentially exposed is non-existent in Haiti.
- 👉 Know where doctors and the closest emergency room are located in your area. Please visit the [Embassy website](#) for a [list of hospitals](#) and [medical professionals](#) in Haiti.
- 👉 Always keep basic medications and supplies on hand. Invest in a quality first aid kit and keep one in your car and at home.
- 👉 Always have medical insurance, including medevac insurance. If you need to be medically evacuated out of Haiti, you should contact a medevac company or an air ambulance service. Visit the U.S. Embassy website for a list of [Air Ambulance Services](#).

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Haiti – Level 4: Very High Level of COVID-19

The CDC has issued a Level 4 health advisory for Haiti. Travelers should avoid all travel to Haiti. Travel may increase chances of getting and spreading COVID-19.



cdc.gov/coronavirus



USE A MASK TO HELP PROTECT OTHERS

- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth to help prevent getting and spreading COVID-19
- Wear a mask in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when indoors and when it may be difficult for you to stay six feet apart from people who don't live with you
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer

CASES ARE RISING.
ACT NOW!



WEAR A MASK



STAY 6 FEET APART



AVOID CROWDS

4 Haiti – Level 4: Do Not Travel

The U.S. Department of State has issued the highest level “[Level 4: Do Not Travel](#)” travel advisory for Haiti due to crime, civil unrest, kidnapping and COVID-19.

If you are in Haiti...

- Remember that demonstrations, tire burning, and roadblocks are frequent, unpredictable, and can turn violent. Emergency response, including ambulance service, is limited or non-existent.
- Always carry your cell phone & ensure it is charged before you travel. Ensure you have important numbers programmed into your phone.
- Avoid demonstrations and crowds. If you encounter a roadblock, turn around and get to a safe area.
- Arrange airport transfers and hotels in advance, or have your host meet you upon arrival.
- Travel by vehicle to minimize walking in public, and travel in groups of at least two people, whenever possible.
- Always keep vehicle doors locks and windows closed.
- Exercise caution and alertness, especially when driving through markets and other traffic-congested areas.
- Do not physically resist any robbery attempt.
- Do not travel in areas unfamiliar to you and be aware that navigation apps are highly unreliable in Haiti.
- Always make sure your vehicle is in good driving condition.
- Travel at times when traffic is expected to be lighter and avoid travel after dark in Port Au Prince.
- Ensure adequate spacing between vehicles to provide options for evading a potentially dangerous situation.
- Patronize shops or restaurants that provide secure, enclosed, and well-lit parking.
- Always inform someone, such as a family member or friend of where you are going and what time you expect to return.
- **Enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)** to receive important information from the Embassy about safety conditions in Haiti, and help the Embassy contact you in the case of emergency. To enroll, visit: step.state.gov, or click the image to the right.



Assistance for U.S. Citizens

U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince

Boulevard du 15 October,
Tabarre 41, Route de Tabarre
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Telephone

+(509) 2229-8000 / 2229-8900

Emergency

+(509) 2229-8000

Fax

+(509) 2229-8027

Email

acspap@state.gov

Website

[U.S. Embassy Port-au-Prince](https://step.state.gov)



STEP

Smart Traveler
Enrollment Program

<https://step.state.gov/step/>

Protect Yourself Against Fraud

The U.S. Department of State takes U.S. passport and visa fraud very seriously. We also want to ensure applicants do not fall victim to scams perpetrated by individuals falsely claiming to offer passport or visa services, or otherwise represent the U.S. government. If you are aware of fraud associated with a U.S. passport or visa application or were yourself a victim of U.S. passport or visa fraud, there are a number of ways you can report that information, outlined below. When reporting fraud, be sure to include as much information as you have about the application in question (if there is one); that will help us ensure that the report is thoroughly assessed.



[Watch Tonton Bicha](#) warn visa and passport applicants against the risk of fraud scams.



❖ U.S. Passport and Visa Fraud

If you are aware of or have been a victim of fraud associated with a U.S. passport or U.S. visa application, please contact PassportVisaFraud@state.gov.

❖ U.S. Visa Fraud Overseas

Information regarding fraud committed overseas in connection with a U.S. visa application should be sent to the U.S. Embassy or Consulate that adjudicated or will

adjudicate that visa application. You can find contact information for all [U.S. Embassies and Consulates](#).

❖ Fraud Tip:

- To avoid fraudulent websites about visas and passports, always make sure the site ends in “.gov”
- To link directly to more than 200 U.S. Embassy and Consulate websites, visit www.usembassy.gov.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Embassy Address:

U.S. Embassy Port Au Prince

Boulevard du 15 Octobre

Tabarre 41, Route de Tabarre, Port Au Prince, Haiti

Phone Number:

+509-2229-8000

Online Resources:

- ✓ U.S. Embassy Port Au Prince's website: ht.usembassy.gov
- ✓ American Citizen Services (ACS) website: ht.usembassy.gov/u-s-citizen-services
- ✓ U.S. Embassy Port Au Prince on Facebook: facebook.com/USEmbassyHaiti
- ✓ ACS on Facebook: facebook.com/ACSPortauPrince
- ✓ Haiti Travel Advisory: travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/haiti-travel-advisory.html



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