



**Consular Notification and
Access Reference Card:
Instructions for Arrests and
Detentions of Foreign
Nationals**

This card summarizes for law enforcement officials the basic consular notification procedures to follow upon the arrest or detention of a foreign national. For more detailed instructions and legal material, see the Department of State publication *Consular Notification and Access*. The complete publication is available at <http://travel.state.gov/consularnotification>.

Questions may be addressed to:

Office of Policy Coordination & Public Affairs
CA/P, Room 4800 HST
U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC 20520
Telephone: 202-647-4415
Fax: 202-736-7559
Email: consnot@state.gov

Urgent after-hours inquiries may be
directed to 202-647-1512
(State Department Operations Center.)

Steps To Follow When a Foreign National Is Arrested or Detained¹

1. Determine the foreign national's country of nationality. In the absence of other information, assume this is the country on whose passport or other document the national is traveling.
2. If the foreign national's country is **not** on the list of mandatory notification countries:
 - a) Use Statement 1 on the back of this card to inform the national, without delay, that he or she may have his or her consular officers notified and may communicate with them.
 - b) If the national requests that the consular officers be notified, notify the nearest consulate of the national's country without delay.
 - c) Forward any communication from the national to the consulate without delay.
3. If the foreign national's country is on the list of mandatory notification countries:
 - a) Notify the national's nearest consulate, without delay, of the arrest or detention.
 - b) Use Statement 2 on the back of this card to tell the national, without delay, that you are making this notification and that he or she may communicate with the consulate.
 - c) Forward any communication from the national to the consulate without delay.
4. Keep a written record of:
 - What information you provided to the foreign national and when.
 - The foreign national's requests, if any.
 - Whether you notified consular officers and, if so, the date and time and how you notified them (e.g., fax or phone). Keep any fax confirmation in your records.
 - Any other relevant actions taken.

¹These steps should be followed for all foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status.

“Mandatory Notification” (“List”) Countries

Albania	Malta
Algeria	Mauritius
Antigua and Barbuda	Moldova
Armenia	Mongolia
Azerbaijan	Nigeria
Bahamas	Philippines
Barbados	Poland ²
Belarus	Romania
Belize	Russia
Brunei	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Bulgaria	Saint Lucia
China ¹ (Including Macau and Hong Kong)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Costa Rica	Seychelles
Cyprus	Sierra Leone
Czech Republic	Singapore
Dominica	Slovakia
Fiji	Tajikistan
Gambia	Tanzania
Georgia	Tonga
Ghana	Trinidad and Tobago
Grenada	Tunisia
Guyana	Turkmenistan
Hungary	Tuvalu
Jamaica	Ukraine
Kazakhstan	United Kingdom ³
Kiribati	Uzbekistan
Kuwait	Zambia
Kyrgyzstan	Zimbabwe
Malaysia	

¹Does not include Republic of China (Taiwan) passport holders.

²Mandatory for non-permanent residents only.

³U.K. includes Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos Islands. Residents' passports bear the name of their territory and may also bear the name “United Kingdom.”

Suggested Statements to Arrested or Detained Foreign Nationals

Statement 1:

For All Foreign Nationals Except Those From Mandatory Notification Countries

As a non-U.S. citizen who is being arrested or detained, you may request that we notify your country's consular officers here in the United States of your situation. You may also communicate with your consular officers. A consular officer may be able to help you obtain legal representation, and may contact your family and visit you in detention, among other things. If you want us to notify your consular officers, you can request this notification now, or at any time in the future. Do you want us to notify your consular officers at this time?

Statement 2:

For Foreign Nationals From Mandatory Notification Countries

Because of your nationality, we are required to notify your country's consular officers here in the United States that you have been arrested or detained. We will do this as soon as possible. In addition, you may communicate with your consular officers. You are not required to accept their assistance, but your consular officers may be able to help you obtain legal representation, and may contact your family and visit you in detention, among other things. Please sign to show that you have received this information.