



## **PALANCA NEWS**



Welcome to the Palanca News, a newsletter from the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Angola for the American Citizen community. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide you with updated information about consular services available to Americans abroad, as well as provide information about health and safety issues for travelers. We hope you will find this newsletter useful, and we welcome your suggestions and input.

**April 2009**

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## **Contact Us**

- Address: Rua Presidente Houari Boumedinne N 32
- Phone: (244) 222-641-000/222-641-086
- Fax: (244) 222-641-259
- Email: [Consularluanda@state.gov](mailto:Consularluanda@state.gov)
- Web page: <http://angola.usembassy.gov>
- 24-hour Duty Officer cell phone: 923-404-209 (for emergencies only)
- Embassy web site: <http://luanda.usembassy.gov/>
- American Citizen Services hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Emergency services 24/7

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## **Registration with the U.S. Embassy in Luanda**

The cornerstone of our efforts to keep the American traveling public aware of problems threatening their safety and security is our Consular Information Program. If you would like to receive important information issued by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Embassy in Luanda, please register your stay in Angola by using this online registration service:

<https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>. By indicating your e-mail address at the time of registration you will automatically receive all U.S. Embassy bulletins and warden messages. Alternatively, you may print the form at the end of the newsletter and bring it, along with your U.S. passport, to the U.S. Embassy to register in person.

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## **Complimentary Registration Letter**

As a courtesy, the U.S. Embassy in Luanda provides U.S. citizens with a registration letter when you register in person. It will include a copy of your passport data page and current Angolan visa, which you may carry as backup identification in the event of a lost or stolen passport. You may obtain a letter by coming in during American Citizen Services hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. To save time, you may print and complete the two page registration form at the end of this newsletter prior to your visit. Remember to bring your passport!

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## **Is your Registration up-to-date?**

Please note that your registration will expire on the departure date you indicate on the registration form. If you work a rotational schedule and do not know how long you will be in Angola, please write “indefinite” and e-mail us at [ConsularLuanda@state.gov](mailto:ConsularLuanda@state.gov) when you are ready to permanently close your registration with the U.S. Embassy in Luanda.

**It is time to update your registration if...**

- You are extending your stay in Angola
- You wish to provide additional contact information
- Your contact information has changed

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**SMS Text Messaging Alert Network In Angola**

The U.S. Embassy in Luanda is pleased to announce our SMS Text Messaging ALERT network is operational. American citizens who wish to receive alerts via SMS text should ensure they are registered online at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>. At present, the system only works with UNITEL phone numbers.

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**Upcoming Holidays/Closures**

The U.S. Embassy will be closed the following days:

April 10- **Good Friday**

May 1- **Worker’s Day**

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**Country Specific Information Sheet for Angola**

Please note the changes recently made regarding travel and safety in Angola:

[http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1096.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1096.html)

(Updated February 20, 2009)

This replaces the Country Specific Information for Angola dated June 20, 2008, to update sections on Medical Facilities and Health Information, Aviation Safety Oversight and Registration/Embassy Location.

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## **Recent Warden Messages**

Most Recent Warden Message (29 January 2009):

[http://angola.usembassy.gov/wm\\_01292009.html](http://angola.usembassy.gov/wm_01292009.html)

World Wide Caution: [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/pa/pa\\_1161.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/pa/pa_1161.html)

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## **Tax Information**

April 15<sup>th</sup> is just around the corner! Are you prepared?

*For tax forms and information, please visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)*

The IRS has published a flyer for U.S. taxpayers living abroad to assist taxpayers in locating useful tax information to help in the preparation of their tax returns and/or in resolving tax account problems. To see it, please visit: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4732.pdf>.

Also, for online guidance in preparing your 2008 returns, please consult Publication 54 (2008), Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad by going to: <http://www.irs.gov/publications/p54/index.html>

Tax Forms: <http://www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html>

For information on your refund: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=96596,00.html>

Contacting the IRS internationally:

<http://www.irs.gov/localcontacts/article/0,,id=101292,00.html>

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## **U.S. Passport Applications and Forms Online**

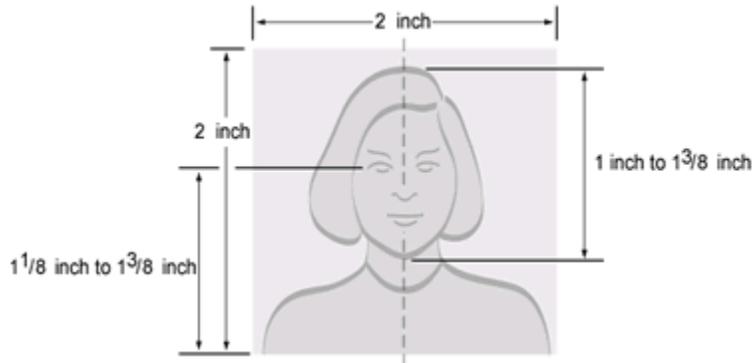
Did you know that U.S. passport applications and forms are online? Visit:

[http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms\\_847.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms_847.html)

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## Photo Requirements for U.S. Passport Applications

- You need 2 identical photos that measure 2x2 inches (50mm x 50mm).
- The photos must be taken within the last 6 months, showing current appearance.
- They must have a plain white or off-white background.
- They must show a front view of the full face, unobscured by headgear or glasses



To help applicants, the American Consulate located a local photograph store that will provide the required photo type/size:

- FOTO MARDAI-** Rua Marçal Braz Tito #8 (Close to Kinaxixi market)
- FOTO FELIZ-** Rua Rainha Ginga- in front of Jornal de Angola (downtown)
- TECNOFOTO-** Av. Comandante Valódia #73-75 (in front of Chik-Chik)

*This information does not reflect an agreement between the U.S. Consulate and the above-mentioned photo studios. Furthermore, it does not preclude any other photo studio from providing the same services. It is the applicant's responsibility to procure the required services and to make a choice among various cost options.*

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## Extra pages for your US passport

If the visa/stamp pages in your passport are full or close to full (only two 2 blank pages remaining), you should request that more visa pages be added. To do so please complete and sign form **DS-4085, Application for Additional Visa Pages** and bring it with your passport to the Consular Section during American

Citizens Services hours. There is no fee for this service and it usually takes about 20 minutes. It is especially important to check your passport before traveling to South Africa which requires 2 blank visa (not endorsement) pages. In addition, Angola requires at least one blank visa (not endorsement) page for entry into the country.

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### **Passport Application Requirements for all Minors under Age 16**

Minors under age 16 must appear with both parents when submitting an application for a passport. The appearance of both parents cannot be waived, although there is provision, in certain circumstances, for one parent to present a letter of authorization, together with one attending parent. In addition, the application must include the following items:

- Application Form DS-11
- Proof of U.S. Citizenship of the minor
- Documentation of Evidence of Child's Relationship to Parents/Guardians
- Parental Identification
- Notarized Parental Application Authorization Letter (If One Parent is absent)
- Two Passport Photos (2x2 inches, color photo with a plain white background)
- Fees for application (US\$ 85)
- Social Security Number

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### **Passport Fees**

<b>What Are You Applying For?</b>	<b>Application Fee</b>	<b>* Execution Fee</b>	<b>Total Amount You Pay</b>
<b>Passport Book (Age 16 &amp; Older)</b>	\$75.00	\$25.00	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Passport Book (Under Age 16)</b>	\$60.00	\$25.00	<b>\$85.00</b>
<b>Passport Card (Age 16 &amp; Older)</b>	\$20.00	\$25.00	<b>\$45.00</b>
<b>Passport Card (Under Age 16)</b>	\$10.00	\$25.00	<b>\$35.00</b>

\* The Execution Fee only applies to first time applicants, minors, and when current passport cannot be presented.

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## **Foreign Entry Requirements for Other Countries**

For information on entry requirements for a specific country, please go to the Entry/Exit Requirements section in the Country Specific Information for the country you are interested in at [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/cis/cis\\_1765.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1765.html). You may also contact the U.S. embassy or consulate of that country for further information.

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## **VOTING INFORMATION**

### **Upcoming Elections**

- \* April 7th: Special General Election in the 5th Congressional District of Illinois
- \* May 19th: Special General Election in the 32nd Congressional District of California
- \* June 2nd: New Jersey State Primary Election
- \* June 9th: Virginia State Primary Election
- \* November 3rd: State General Elections in New Jersey and Virginia

*For information on voting absentee, please visit: <http://www.fvap.gov/overseas-citizens/index.html>*

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## **From the Regional Security Office:**

### **The Children's Safety Contest for 2010**

The U.S. Department of State ([www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov)) is pleased to announce its annual contest for the A-OK (Alert Overseas Kids) children's safety program. Last year we were disappointed that only one entry was received from Luanda. We hope that you will help us increase that number for the 2010 Calendar by supporting this vital and creative program here in Angola.

We invite children in three groups -- grades K-2, 3-4, and 5-6 -- to submit full color drawings on the theme "Living Safely Overseas." The contest is open to all children in the international/expatriate community, including children of U.S.

Embassy employees, children at international/overseas schools, and children in the diplomatic and international business, NGO and OSAC communities.

You can download a copy of last year's calendar (PDF format, 3MB) at:  
<https://www.osac.gov/Reports/report.cfm?contentID=95526>

Here in Luanda we will conduct a local contest for 2010, selecting three winners from each age group and submitting the final nine drawings to Washington. Entries must be received no later than May 8, 2009 to allow adequate time to mail the entries and for scanning, layout and printing of the calendar. Of all the entries worldwide, 13 winners will be selected, one for each month and one for the cover. All participants in this final selection will receive a certificate of appreciation. Winners will receive a certificate of achievement and a "cool" prize.

#### CONTEST GUIDELINES:

The theme for the contest is: LIVING SAFELY OVERSEAS. Entries should illustrate "safety" themed messages.

- All drawings should be on paper no larger than 11x17 inches, with Letter (8.5x11 inches) or A4 (210mm x 297mm) sized artwork being preferred. Drawings larger than this cannot be accommodated by our scanning equipment for prepress and cannot be considered for inclusion.
- Drawings should be oriented in landscape format (wide vs. tall). Artwork submitted in portrait format cannot be considered for inclusion.
- Drawings can use any media (Crayon, Pen, Paint, etc.)

It is very important that each drawing submitted have the following information clearly marked on the back in block letters as shown below:

- CHILD'S NAME (First and Last)
- SCHOOL and GRADE
- CITY and COUNTRY

-- Also provide a point of contact at each participating school, embassy, company, or organization and let us know the number of calendars you would like so we can advise Washington how many to print. (There is no cost to you for the calendars, but please request only the amount you actually need.)

Submit your entries, and direct any questions, to:

Regional Security Office  
U.S. Embassy, Luanda  
Tel: +244 22 264-1116 / 1101  
Email: DS\_RSO\_Luanda\_City@state.gov

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## **Leaving Angola?**

If you are departing Angola and you have formally registered your stay with the Embassy, please be sure to "cancel" your registration when you leave.

You can close out your registration by sending us an e-mail at [ConsularLuanda@state.gov](mailto:ConsularLuanda@state.gov) with your full name and departure date.

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## **Useful Web Pages**

- State Department Employment Opportunities - [www.careers.state.gov](http://www.careers.state.gov)
- The official U.S. government jobs website- [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).
- Travel Advisories - <http://travel.state.gov>
- Internal Revenue Service (for tax forms and information) - [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)
- Department of Motor Vehicles (for driver's license renewal information) - [www.dmv.org](http://www.dmv.org)
- Social Security Administration - [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
- U. S. Customs - [www.customs.ustreas.gov](http://www.customs.ustreas.gov)  
Medicare - <http://www.medicare.gov>
- Federal Voting Assistance Program website : [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov)
- Us Passport Applications and Forms-  
[http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms\\_847.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms_847.html)

CONSULAR SECTION  
LUANDA, ANGOLA

**\*To register with the US Embassy in person, please print and complete this form and bring it in to the Consular Section with your U.S. passport.**

**US CITIZEN REGISTRATION FORM**

<i>ARRIVAL DATE:</i> _____ _____		<i>LENGTH OF STAY:</i> _____ _____	
<i>NAME:</i> _____ _____		<i>PASSPORT #:</i> _____ _____	
<i>ANGOLA HOME ADDRESS (INCLUDE BAIRRO/ZONE):</i> _____ _____ _____		<i>HOME PHONE #:</i> _____ _____	
		<i>CELL PHONE #:</i> _____ _____	
<i>COMPANY/ORGANIZATION</i> _____ _____	<i>EMAIL ADDRESS:</i> _____ _____	<i>WORK PHONE:</i> _____ _____ <i>EXT.:</i> _____	
<i>INDICATE ROTATIONAL SCHEDULE, IF APPLICABLE :</i> <i>YES</i> _____ / <i>No</i> _____		<i>EXT.:</i> _____ _____	

**Accompanying Family Members, if Applicable:**

*SPOUSE* : \_\_\_\_\_ *PASSPORT #*

: \_\_\_\_\_

*CHILD* : \_\_\_\_\_ *PASSPORT #*

: \_\_\_\_\_

*CHILD* : \_\_\_\_\_ *PASSPORT #*

: \_\_\_\_\_

*CHILD* : \_\_\_\_\_ *PASSPORT #*

: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT IN THE US OR ELSEWHERE:**

*NAME:*

*RELATIONSHIP:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*ADDRESS:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*HOME PHONE #:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*EMAIL:* \_\_\_\_\_

*WORK PHONE #:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*OTHER*

*INFORMATION:* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
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