

# REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Majuro—The Office of the Attorney-General wishes to inform the general public about new and current application requirements for passports. These new requirements are as follows:

- 1) A copy of an applicant's social security card must be provided with the application form along with other current necessary documentation. It has come to our attention that there are a number of applicants who use other people's social security numbers when completing their application forms. Consequently, those who have committed this crime of identity theft and fraud will have their passports immediately revoked to allow those who were assigned these social security numbers to use them to obtain a passport. This has already taken effect. Unfortunately, there will be delays to the issuance of passports, but the gravity of this matter dictates immediate action.
- 2) In addition to a copy of an applicant's social security card, the following documents are required to be submitted with a **completed** application form:
  - a) For first time applicants:
    - (i) A <u>certified</u> copy of one's birth certificate; and
    - (ii) If you are applying from overseas and mailing in your application, a money order in the appropriate amount payable to the Secretary of Finance.
      Otherwise, pay at the Ministry of Finance.
  - b) For renewals:
    - (i) A copy of one's previous passport (DO NOT PROVIDE YOUR ACTUAL PASSPORT); and
    - (ii) If you are applying from overseas and mailing in your application, a money order in the appropriate amount payable to the Secretary of Finance.
      Otherwise, pay at the Ministry of Finance.
  - c) For naturalized or registered applicants:



- (i) In addition to the foregoing documents, documents proving the manner in which one obtained his/her Marshallese citizenship.
- 3) This Office has been instructed by the Cabinet, through C.M. 044-2025, regarding the \$50 expedite fee. This has already taken effect as this is a Cabinet directive. To that end, said fee will only be granted for the following criterions:
  - a) Family emergency involving life or death situation of a family member—
    - (i) an emergency due to death of a family member or relative requires a death certificate; or
    - (ii) an emergency due to sickness, illness, or health complications of a family member requires an official letter from a hospital (letterhead) signed by a medical doctor or medical professional explaining the medical conditions.
  - b) Medical self-referral by the applicant—
    - (i) requires an official letter from a hospital (letterhead) signed by a medical doctor or medical professional explaining the applicant's medical condition.
- 4) The following fees still apply:
  - a) For infants and children aged 12 years old and under, \$50 with a 5-year passport validity;
  - b) For children aged 13 years old and adults, \$100 with a 10-year passport validity;
  - c) For lost or damaged passports:
    - (i) \$200 for children 13 years old and adults (\$100 renewal fee plus \$100 penalty fee); and
    - \$100 for infants and children 12 years old and below (\$50 renewal fee plus \$50 penalty
- 5) As a party to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the RMI, and other state parties, is committed to abide by its standards. One of those standards is in relation to the numbering of a passport. Every passport issued requires a different passport number. THIS CANNOT BE CHANGED. For matters related to I-94s, please contact the



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade at the following Embassy/Consulates at the respective contact details:

## RMI Embassy in Washington, D.C.

2433 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington, DC 20008 Tel: (202) 234-5414 Fax:(202) 232-3236 Email: info@rmiembassyus.org

## Arkansas Consulate General

109 Spring Street, Suite 3 Springdale, Arkansas 72764 Tel: <u>(479) 419-9332/(479) 419-9356</u> Fax: <u>(479) 419-9667</u> Email: <u>rmiconsulatearkansas@gmail.com</u>

# Honolulu Consulate General

1888 Lusitana Street Suite #101 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel: <u>(808) 545-7767</u> Fax: <u>(808) 545-7211</u> Email: <u>info@rmiconsulatehi.com</u>

IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT A PASSPORT BEARER RE-APPLIES FOR A RENEWAL PASSPORT ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE EXPIRY DATE.

