



The Sarajevo Sentinel

A newsletter for the American citizens living, working, and visiting Bosnia and Herzegovina

Produced by the Consular Section of US Embassy Sarajevo

FALL 2009

US Embassy Sarajevo

Alipašina 43

71000 Sarajevo

(387) 33 445 700

(387) 33 221 837 FAX

In case of after-hours emergency, please call the main Embassy line.

American Citizen Services

Walk-in Hours:

Monday to Friday: 2pm to 3:30pm

Friday: 8am to 10:30am

**We can provide better service if you make an appointment via phone.*

(387) 33 445 700 x2210 or x2337

rws@state.gov

Non-Immigrant Visa Hours:

By appointment only

Call Visa Information Service:

(387) 33 295 375

Immigrant Visa Hours:

By appointment only

(387) 33 445 700 x2453

IVConsularSarajevo@state.gov

The Embassy will be closed:

November 11 - Veterans' Day

November 25 - BiH Statehood

November 26 - Thanksgiving

December 25 - Christmas Day

Don't forget to register with the Embassy!

We frequently send out important information on country conditions and if you're not registered, you will not get our emails. You can register in person at the Embassy or online at: <http://www.travel.state.gov>

Please join us for a

TOWN HALL MEETING

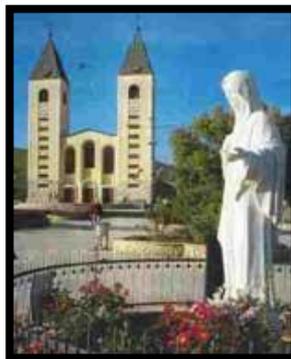
October 21, 2009 at 11am

St. James Church

MEDJUGORJE

On Wednesday, October 21, Vice Consul Brianna Powers will host a town hall meeting for American Citizens in Medjugorje which will begin at 11am at St. James Church. We would like to meet as many American residents and visitors as possible. Please bring questions!

In addition, we will have passport applications and registration forms on hand. If you have specific questions, please email us beforehand at rws@state.gov so we can be sure to bring the information you need.



A NOTE ON NOTARIAL SERVICES:

If the document you are presenting for notarization requires the signature of witnesses, please bring people willing to act as witnesses with you to your appointment. The consular staff is prohibited from acting as witnesses.



MEET OUR NEW VICE CONSUL

Brianna Powers

Our new Vice Consul, Brianna Powers, arrived in Sarajevo in September. Brianna spent the last two years in Mexico where she worked on non-immigrant visas and American Citizen services. She will be in Sarajevo for the next two years and is looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible. Brianna says, "The best part about my job is working with my fellow Americans who live, work, and travel abroad. Please contact me with questions or suggestions at rws@state.gov."

TAX FORMS

In January 2010, the Consular Section of the Embassy will have tax forms available. The forms are also available online at: <http://www.irs.gov>. However, we cannot advise you on how to fill out the forms. For tax assistance, please contact the regional IRS office at US Embassy Paris at: <http://france.usembassy.gov/irs.html>.

WHAT ARE SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES?

The Special Consular Services (SCS) unit of the Consular Section of US Embassy Sarajevo provides a variety of emergency and non-emergency services to American citizens in BiH. These services include but are not limited to:

- Voter Registration
- Assistance to American citizen children and families involved in abduction, custody, support, and other cases
- check on the welfare of American citizens
- Provide information on safety and security in BiH
- Assist families following the death of a American citizen loved one

Detailed information on these and the other services we provide is available on our website at:

<http://sarajevo.usembassy.gov/service.html>



Connecting with Students in Zenica

Vice Consul Brianna Powers recently met with a group of students in Zenica interested in studying in the US. If you know of a group of interested students or people who would like to learn more about travel or study in the US, please contact us at rws@state.gov.

VOTING NEWS

New York Voters: Get Ready for the November 3, 2009 Special Election

On Tuesday, November 3, 2009 New York will hold a special State election to fill the congressional vacancy left by the appointment of Army Secretary John McHugh. A list of candidates will be available after October 14, 2009 at: <http://www.elections.state.ny.us>

For More Information: New York State Board of Elections website: <http://www.elections.state.ny.us> or visit FVAP at: www.fvap.gov.

Massachusetts Voters, Submit Your Ballot Request NOW for the December 8, 2009 Special Primary!

On Tuesday, December 8, 2009, Massachusetts will hold a special primary election followed by the special State election on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 to fill the vacancy left as a result of the passing of Senator Edward M. Kennedy. A list of candidates will be available by November 13, 2009 at: www.sec.state.ma.us.

Request Your Ballot

Massachusetts waives voter registration. Request a ballot for this election by completing and submitting a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) if you have not done so already in calendar year 2009. If you are eligible to vote in this election, and requested and received a ballot for last year’s presidential election, you will automatically receive an

absentee ballot, and need not take any further action unless your mailing address has changed.

The online version of the FPCA and Massachusetts’ instructions on how to fill out and submit the form are available at: www.fvap.gov.

The Consular Section always has a supply of Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA’s).

ASK THE CONSUL

Have a question about what we do? Please email us at rws@state.gov and you may see your question in the next issue of the Sarajevo Sentinel.



SECURITY REMINDER

When visiting the Embassy, please remember not to bring mobile phones or any electronic devices, such as Blackberries, iPods, or PDAs, as they are not allowed within the Embassy.



We also advise against bringing large bags, backpacks, suitcases or packages to the interview as there are no storage facilities on Embassy grounds.

Thank you for reading the Sarajevo Sentinel!