

## **ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS**

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOMELAND SECURITY, LABOUR, JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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St. Kitts

## Ref: Circular: 002/2014

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

Service Providers St. Kitts and Nevis Citizenship by Investment Programme

The Federal Government of St Kitts and Nevis values your participation in the Citizenship by Investment Programme which continues to positively transform the socio economic landscape of the Federation, evident by the benefits derived by every citizen and resident of the Federation.

Several recent developments have reinforced the imperative of the Federal Government's pursuing initiatives to further strengthen the Programme through the implementation of a number of pragmatic, robust policy responses intended to ensure its sustainability.

In this instance, the policy action which I address in this correspondence is associated with the issuance of new St Kitts and Nevis passports to replace those previously issued between January 2012 and July 2014.

During its meeting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2014 the Federal Cabinet approved an initiative to replace by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015, passports previously issued without notation of:

- i). Place of Birth on the bio data page;
- *ii).* Change of names on the observation page.

E passports not returned on or before the deadline will be de activated and cancelled thereby voiding their use for travel.

The costs associated with the issuance of new passports to replace those returned by Holders and/or their agents will be borne by the Federal Government. The exercise will commence on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

The following centres have been identified for the return of passports:

- *i). Passport Office, BASSETERRE, St. Kitts all applications are to be processed there.*
- *ii). Premier's Ministry, Nevis;*
- *iii).* Federal Office, Nevis;
- *iv). Missions, Consulates in:*

- a) New York, USA;
- b) Washington, DC, USA;
- c) Toronto, Canada;
- d) Dubai, UAE:
- e) Kingston, Jamaica;
- f) Havana, Cuba;
- g) London, England;
- *h) Republic of China, Taiwan;*
- *i) Abuja*, *Nigeria*;
- *j) Providers certified under the CIP;*
- k) Other approved entities, individuals-lawyers, solicitors.

All passports being returned are to be accompanied by the form attached which can be collected from the Premier's Ministry, the various Missions of St Kitts and Nevis identified at (iv) (a) through (i) above, the Passport Office and/or from www.sknis.info. The Ministry will advise of other Web sites from which the forms can be downloaded.

Where holders would have effected change of names, evidence of this shall be submitted with the passports being returned. New passports will not be issued in the absence of presentation of supporting information.

It is anticipated that new passports will be processed and issued within five (5) to ten (10) days, assuming there are no technical and/ or other unforeseen difficulties.

In instances where passports are submitted through service providers, the new documents will be returned via that channel. Only those cancelled passports containing valid visas to permit entry into third countries will be returned.

The Ministry of Homeland Security has activated the following email addresses: sknpassportoffice@gmail.com and sknpassportrecall@gmail.com to respond to queries. Additional information can also obtained from the website mentioned above. Others will be provided in a subsequent correspondence.

In addition to the Honourable Minister, the following offers are also authorized to respond to queries on the Ministry's behalf:

- Elvis Newton i). Permanent Secretary Tel: 869-467 1155/1202 E mail: sknpassportoffice@gmail.com, sknpassportrecall@gmail.com
- Assistant Secretaries: ii).

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Mrs. Cecile Hull Jeffers 869-467-1531 E mail: sknpassportoffice@gmail.com sknpassportrecall@gmail.com

## Ms Marva Pinney 869-467-1530 E Mail: <u>sknpassportoffice@gmail.com</u> <u>sknpassportrecall@gmail.com</u>

This information is shared to guide your agency's actions to enable seamless implementation of this project in an effort to meet the deadline and most importantly not to inconvenience our nationals who will benefit from this initiative.

We are available to respond to queries and/or to receive comments, recommendations to enhance the Ministry's services.