



## **A Few Thoughts on Safety From Your Security Committee**

### **Security Tip #19: Resources for Safe Overseas Travel**

Given the evolving political and diplomatic tension in some parts of the world, precautionary measures for traveling judges are strongly recommended. To facilitate safe overseas travel, the United States Marshals Service (USMS) has designated an intelligence analyst in the Office of Protective Intelligence to serve as the primary point of contact with the Department of State Judicial Liaison, the Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS), and the International Staff of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. When a federal judge is contemplating overseas travel, the intelligence analyst can obtain embassy or consulate contact information from DS. The analyst can also provide the judge with basic information concerning that country, including security advisories.

To avail yourself of this resource, judges should notify their district U.S. Marshal's office of their travel plans. This should include a full and complete itinerary for the traveler, including cell phone number, flight information, accommodations, and transportation arrangements, i.e., rental car, public transportation, etc. If the traveling judge contemplates attending any type of conference or organization meeting, this should

also be described in detail. This information will be conveyed to the intelligence analyst at the Office of Protective Intelligence for review and shared with the regional security officer for the embassy or consulate in the area to be visited.

After the judge's itinerary is evaluated, he or she will be advised of any other precautionary measures recommended by the USMS or State Department. Knowledge of the judge's itinerary is critical in the event an emergency occurs that requires contact with the judge or their family. This would include alerts from the U.S. Embassy or consulate should any unforeseen events raise safety issues.

In the event that the judge requires assistance while traveling overseas, the judge can contact the district U.S. Marshal's office. The USMS will immediately relay the request to the Office of Protective Intelligence who will assess the situation and contact the proper resources for providing coordinated assistance to the traveling judge. The judge can also contact the United States embassy or consulate in the country where he or she is located.

Advanced planning for judicial travel by the USMS can substantially reduce response time in the event of an emergency.

Security Committee  
Federal Judges Association

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