How-To Contact Your Migration Officials in the United States



Purpose

This document is intended to provide information on how to contact U.S. agencies at various levels that work on migration issues.

UNHCR U.S.A

U.S.A for IOM

U.S. State Department- Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

U.S. Congress

UNHCR U.S.A

Background information and Scope

"UNHCR's role in the United States focuses on working with the Government, non-governmental and other organizations, volunteer networks and communities to ensure the protection of refugees and asylum seekers.

The United States government has the responsibility to process asylum claims and to decide whether somebody can be given legal protection in the United States...UNHCR does not register refugees, does not examine asylum applications and does not issue refugee documents. The United States government handles these responsibilities."

Contact Details

Website: https://help.unhcr.org/usa/contact-us/

Email: usawainq@unhcr.org

Phone-Number: 202-461-2356

Address: 1800 Massachusetts Ave NW #500, Washington, DC 20036

U.S.A for IOM, UN Migration

Background information

"The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is part of the United Nations System as the leading inter-governmental organization promoting since 1951 humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all, with 175 member states and a presence in over 100 countries."

Scope

"IOM's regional office in Washington, DC, coordinates with offices in North America and the Caribbean and serves as a liaison with United States Government counterparts, Government of Canada counterparts, IOM offices around the world, along with other international and non-governmental organizations."

Contact Details

Website: https://usaforiom.org/contact-us/

Email/Phone-Number: usaforiom@iom.int

Mailing Address: 1752 N Street NW Suite 600, Washington, DC 20036 United

States

U.S. State Department- Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

Background information

"The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) is the humanitarian bureau of the State Department. PRM promotes U.S. interests by providing protection, easing suffering, and resolving the plight of persecuted and forcibly displaced people around the world. We do this by coordinating humanitarian policy and diplomacy, providing life-sustaining assistance, working with multilateral organizations to build global partnerships, and promoting best practices in humanitarian response."

Scope

The State Department is a national agency that works closely with foreign governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations.

The Secretary of this agency is chosen by the President.

Contact Details

Website: https://register.state.gov/contactus/contactusform

https://www.state.gov/directory-dss-field-offices/

Phone: Washington DC office, (571) 226-9300 / **Fax:** (571) 226-9382

Address: 2222 Gallows Rd Suite 300, Dunn Loring, VA 22027

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Background information

The Department of Homeland Security has a wide-range of authority with the goal "to secure the nation from the many threats we face". In terms of migration, this agency oversees U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Scope

This is a national agency that works closely with other agencies, governments, and non-governmental organizations.

The Secretary of this agency is chosen by the President.

Contact Details

Website: https://www.dhs.gov/contact-us

Phone Number (comment line): 202-282-8495

U.S. Congress

Background information

Congress is the elected, national governing body of the United States. It consists of two chambers: the House of Representatives and the Senate. Within these chambers exists committees who decide which bills will move forward depending on the subject. Members of committees have more power over bills in their subject. All bills regarding government spending go through the Appropriations Committee. For migration, most bills will be under the below committees:

Judiciary Committee (<u>House</u> and <u>Senate</u>) Homeland Security Committee (<u>House</u> and <u>Senate</u>)

Scope

These are national, elected officials. Each constituent/voter has a representative for their district **and** two senators for their state. This varies for areas that are not states (D.C., native reservations, territories)

Contact Details

Website/phone number/email: https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member

Address: All members of Congress will have at least one office in Washington D.C. **and** one office in the district/state they represent.