Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce

Administrative Building Kingstown, Bay St. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, W.I.



PRESS RELEASE

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RESUMPTION OF B1/B2 VISA SERVICES EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

KINGSTOWN, SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES, November 16, 2020 – The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce wishes to inform the general public that the Consular Section of the Embassy of the United States of America located in Bridgetown, Barbados resumed its routine B1/B2 tourist and business visa services on Monday November 16, 2020 with the next available in-person interview commencing from December 1, 2020.

Appointments for the B1/B2 visa category will **only** be available for applicants who reside within the Embassy's consular district that encompasses St. Vincent and the Grenadines, countries within the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), and the French and the United Kingdom jurisdictions in the Eastern Caribbean.

The general public is also required to note the following guidelines when applying for the aforementioned visa at the US Embassy:

- 1. Applicants residing outside of Barbados who wish to schedule an in-person interview must strictly adhere to <u>all</u> immigration restrictions imposed by the Government of Barbados;
- 2. <u>All</u> applicants will be expected to strictly adhere to the Barbadian Ministry of Health protocols;
- 3. <u>All</u> applicants must wear a facial covering while inside the Embassy and adhere to posted instructions regarding the health safety including social distancing and the application of hand sanitizer;
- 4. Any applicant experiencing flu-like symptoms including fever should **NOT** come for his/her scheduled interview.
- 5. A visa appointment at the US Embassy does **NOT** allow for a breakage of required quarantine or isolation;

Please note that the United States entry ban from designated global hotspots of COVID-19 remain in effect. Therefore, persons with a valid non-immigrant visa will not be permitted to enter the United States of America if he/she has been to one of the listed geographic zones within fourteen (14) days. These zones include United Kingdom, Ireland, the European Union (Schengen Zone), Brazil, China and Iran.

The U.S. Embassy in Bridgetown, Barbados continues its processing of student visas. Therefore, persons wishing to apply for a student visa can do so at the Consular Section of the Embassy.

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For further information, please contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce at telephone number 456 2060.