

Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Missoula Police Department extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

412.2 POLICY

The Missoula Police Department respects international laws related to the special privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives assigned to the United States.

All foreign diplomatic and consular representatives shall be treated with respect and courtesy, regardless of any privileges or immunities afforded them.

412.3 CLAIMS OF IMMUNITY

If a member comes into contact with a person where law enforcement action may be warranted and the person claims diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, the member should, without delay:

- (a) Notify a supervisor.
- (b) Advise the person that their claim will be investigated and they may be released in accordance with the law upon confirmation of the person's status.
- (c) Request the person's identification card, either issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Chief of Protocol or, in the case of persons accredited to the United Nations, by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. These are the only reliable documents for purposes of determining privileges and immunities.
- (d) Contact the DOS Diplomatic Security Command Center at 571-345-3146 or toll-free at 866-217-2089, or at another current telephone number, and inform the center of the circumstances.
- (e) Verify the immunity status with DOS and follow any instructions regarding further detention, arrest, prosecution and/or release, as indicated by the DOS representative. This may require immediate release, even if a crime has been committed.

Identity or immunity status should not be presumed from the type of license plates displayed on a vehicle. If there is a question as to the status or the legitimate possession of a Diplomat or Consul license plate, a query should be run via the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), designating "US" as the state.

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412.4 ENFORCEMENT ACTION

If the DOS is not immediately available for consultation regarding law enforcement action, members shall be aware of the following:

- (a) Generally, all persons with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may be issued a citation or notice to appear.
- (b) All persons, even those with a valid privilege or immunity, may be reasonably restrained in exigent circumstances for purposes of self-defense, public safety or the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) An impaired foreign diplomatic or consular representative may be prevented from driving a vehicle, even if the person may not be arrested due to privileges and immunities.
 - 1. Investigations, including the request for field sobriety tests, chemical tests and any other tests regarding impaired driving, may proceed but they shall not be compelled.
- (d) The following persons may not be detained or arrested, and any property or vehicle owned by these persons may not be searched or seized:
 - 1. Diplomatic-level staff of missions to international organizations and recognized family members
 - 2. Diplomatic agents and recognized family members
 - 3. Members of administrative and technical staff of a diplomatic mission and recognized family members
 - 4. Career consular officers, unless the person is the subject of a felony warrant
- (e) The following persons may generally be detained and arrested:
 - 1. International organization staff; however, some senior officers are entitled to the same treatment as diplomatic agents
 - 2. Support staff of missions to international organizations
 - 3. Diplomatic service staff and consular employees; however, special bilateral agreements may exclude employees of certain foreign countries
 - 4. Honorary consular officers

412.5 CONSULAR NOTIFICATION

Consular notification may be mandatory when certain foreign nationals are arrested. The Patrol Division Captain will ensure that the U.S. Department of State's list of countries and jurisdictions that require mandatory notification is readily available to department members. There should also be a published list of foreign embassy and consulate telephone and fax numbers, as well as standardized notification forms that can be transmitted and then retained for documentation. Prominently displayed signs informing foreign nationals of their rights related to consular notification should also be posted in areas used for the temporary custody of adults.

Department members assigned to process a foreign national shall:

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- (a) Inform the individual, without delay, that he/she may have his/her consular officers notified of the arrest or detention and may communicate with them.

1. This notification should be documented.

- (b) Determine whether the foreign national's country is on the U.S. Department of State's mandatory notification list.

(See Mandatory Notification List at State Department's Web site at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/consularnotification/QuarantinedForeignNationals/countries-and-jurisdictions-with-mandatory-notifications.html>).

1. If the country is on the mandatory notification list, then:

- (a) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone. (See Foreign Embassies & Consulates Contact List at State Department's Web site at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/consularnotification/ConsularNotificationandAccess.html>).
- (b) Tell the individual that this notification has been made and inform him/her without delay that he/she may communicate with consular officers.
- (c) Document all notifications to the embassy or consulate and retain the faxed notification and any fax confirmation for the individual's file.
- (d) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.

2. If the country is not on the mandatory notification list and the individual requests that his/her consular officers be notified, then:

- (a) Notify the country's nearest embassy or consulate of the arrest or detention by fax or telephone.
- (b) Forward any communication from the individual to his/her consular officers without delay.

412.6 DOCUMENTATION

All contacts with persons who have claimed privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives should be thoroughly documented and the related reports forwarded to DOS.

412.7 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

Category	Arrested or Detained	Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures	Issued Traffic Citation	Subpoenaed as Witness	Prosecuted	Recognized Family Members

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Diplomatic Agent	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Member of Admin and Tech Staff	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Service Staff	Yes (note (a))	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability (note (a))
Career Consul Officer	Yes if for a felony and pursuant to a warrant (note (a))	Yes (note (d))	Yes	No for official acts Testimony may not be compelled in any case	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability
Honorable Consul	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability
Consulate Employees	Yes (note (a))	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability (note (a))
Int'l Org Staff (note (b))	Yes (note (c))	Yes (note (c))	Yes	Yes (note (c))	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note (c))	No immunity or inviolability
Diplomatic-Level Staff of Missions to Int'l Org	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity and inviolability)
Support Staff of Missions to Int'l Orgs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability

Notes for diplomatic immunity table:

- (a) This table represents general rules. The employees of certain foreign countries may enjoy higher levels of privileges and immunities on the basis of special bilateral agreements.

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- (b) Reasonable constraints, however, may be applied in emergency circumstances involving self-defense, public safety or the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) A small number of senior officers are entitled to be treated identically to diplomatic agents.
- (d) Note that consul residences are sometimes located within the official consular premises. In such cases, only the official office space is protected from police entry.