

§ 22.4

22 CFR Ch. I (4-1-04 Edition)

§ 22.4 Requests for services, Foreign Service.

Officers of the Foreign Service shall charge for official services performed abroad at the rates prescribed in this schedule, in coin of the United States or at its representative value in exchange (22 U.S.C. 1202). For definition of representative value in exchange, see § 23.4 of this chapter. No fees named in this schedule shall be charged or collected for the official services to American vessels and seamen (22 U.S.C. 1186). The term "American vessels" is defined to exclude, for the purposes of this schedule, undocumented American vessels and the fees prescribed herein shall be charged and collected for such undocumented vessels. However, the fees prescribed herein shall not be charged or collected for American public vessels, which includes any vessel owned or operated by a U.S. Government department or agency and engaged exclusively in official business on a non-commercial basis. This schedule of fees shall be kept posted in a conspicuous place in each Foreign Service consular office, subject to the examination by all persons interested therein (22 U.S.C. 1197).

§ 22.5 Remittances to Foreign Service posts.

Remittances to Foreign Service posts from persons in the United States in payment of official fees and charges or for the purpose of establishing deposits in advance of rendition of services shall be in a form acceptable to the post, drawn payable to the American Embassy (name of city), American Consulate General (name of city) or American Consulate (name of city), as the case may be. This will permit cashing of negotiable instruments for deposit in the Treasury when not negotiated locally. See § 23.2 of this chapter.

(a) *Time at which fees become payable.* Fees are due and payable prior to issue or delivery to the interested party of a signed document, a copy of a record, or other paper representative of a service performed.

(b) *Receipt for fees; register of services.* Every officer of the Foreign Service responsible for the performance of services as enumerated in the Schedule of Fees for Consular Services, Depart-

ment of State and Foreign Service (§ 22.1), shall give receipts for fees collected for the official services rendered, specifying the nature of the service and numbered to correspond with entries in a register maintained for the purpose (22 U.S.C. 1192, 1193, and 1194). The register serves as a record of official acts performed by officers of the Foreign Service in a governmental or notarial capacity, corresponding in this regard with the record which notaries are usually expected or required to keep of their official acts. See § 92.2 of this chapter.

(c) *Deposits to guarantee payment of fees or incidental costs.* When the amount of any fee is determinable only after initiation of the performance of a service, or if incidental costs are involved, the total fee and incidental costs shall be carefully estimated and an advance deposit required, subject to refund of any unused balance to the person making the deposit.

§ 22.6 Refund of fees.

(a) Fees which have been collected for deposit in the Treasury are refundable:

(1) As specifically authorized by law (See 22 U.S.C. 214a concerning passport fees erroneously charged persons excused from payment and 46 U.S.C. 8 concerning fees improperly imposed on vessels and seamen);

(2) When the principal officer at the consular post where the fee was collected (or the officer in charge of the consular section at a combined diplomatic/consular post) finds upon review of the facts that the collection was erroneous under applicable law; and

(3) Where determination is made by the Department of State with a view to payment of a refund in the United States in cases which it is impracticable to have the facts reviewed and refund effected by and at the direction of the responsible consular office. See § 13.1 of this chapter concerning refunds of fees improperly exacted by consular officers who have neglected to return the same.

(b) Refunds of \$5.00 or less will not be paid to the remitter unless a claim is specifically filed at the time of payment for the excess amount. An automatic refund on overpayments due to

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misinformation or mistakes on the part of the Department of State will be made.

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§ 22.7 Collection and return of fees.

No fees other than those prescribed in the Schedule of Fees, § 22.1, or by or pursuant to an act of Congress, shall be charged or collected by officers of the Foreign Service for official services performed abroad (22 U.S.C. 1201). All fees received by any officer of the Foreign Service for services rendered in connection with the duties of office or as a consular officer shall be accounted for and paid into the Treasury of the United States (22 U.S.C. 99 and 812). For receipt, registry, and numbering provisions, see § 22.5(b). Collections for transportation and other expenses necessary for performance of services or for Interested Party toll telephone calls shall be refunded to post allotment accounts and made available for meeting such expenses.

PART 23—FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

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SOURCE: 22 FR 10793, Dec. 27, 1957, unless otherwise noted.

§ 23.1 Remittances made payable to the Department of State.

Except as otherwise specified in this title, remittances of moneys shall be drawn payable to the Department of State and sent to the Department for action and deposit. (See §§ 21.2, 22.2, and 51.40 of this chapter.)

§ 23.2 Endorsing remittances for deposit in the Treasury.

The Office of Finance—Cashier Unit, the Authentication Office, the Passport Office or Passport Agency, American Embassy, American Legation, Amer-

ican consular office, or other office or unit of the Department of State authorized and required to deposit funds in the Treasury of the United States, is hereby authorized to endorse, or to have endorsed, to the order of the Treasurer of the United States by appropriate stamp, checks, drafts, money orders, or other forms of remittance, regardless of how drawn, which are for payment to the Department of State for deposit in the Treasury of the United States, including those payable to the Secretary of State.

§ 23.3 Refunds.

(a) *Rectifications and readjustments.* See § 22.6 of this chapter for outline of circumstances under which fees which have been collected for deposit in the Treasury may be refunded.

(b) *Refund of wrongful exactions.* See § 13.1 of this chapter concerning recovery from consular officers of amounts wrongfully exacted and withheld by them.

[22 FR 10793, Dec. 27, 1957, as amended at 65 FR 14212, Mar. 16, 2000]

§ 23.4 Representative value in exchange.

Representative value in exchange for the collection of a fee means foreign currency equivalent to the prescribed United States dollar fee at the current rate of exchange at the time and place of payment of the fee. "Current rate" of exchange for this purpose means the bank selling rate at which the foreign bank will sell the number of United States dollars required to liquidate the obligation to the United States for the Foreign Service fee.

§ 23.5 Claims for settlement by Department of State or General Accounting Office.

Claims for settlement by the Department of State or by the General Accounting Office shall be submitted to the Department in duplicate over the handwritten signature, together with the post office address of the claimant, and with appropriate recommendations of the officer of the Foreign Service, for items such as:

(a) Refunds of amounts representing payroll deductions such as for retirement and disability fund;