



## U.S. Embassy Tegucigalpa, Honduras

### **LETTERS ROGATORY**

Honduras is **not** a party to any international convention or treaty on service of documents or obtaining evidence to which the United States is also a party. Judicial assistance is governed generally by the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations to which the United States and Honduras are parties.

**Only** voluntary depositions of **U.S. citizens** can be taken by the U.S. Embassy on notice or pursuant to a commission and need not be taken on U.S. consular premises; although a U.S. consular seal is generally required in order for the proceeding to be admissible in the United States.

Depositions of **non-U.S. citizens** must be taken by **Letters Rogatory**.

**Compulsion of evidence** can be obtained pursuant to a Letter Rogatory. There is no treaty in force on enforcement of judgments.

Letters Rogatory typically take from **6 months to a year** to execute.

For additional information you may wish to visit the Department of State website at [http://www.travel.state.gov/law/info/judicial/judicial\\_673.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/law/info/judicial/judicial_673.html)

#### **How to Submit a Letter Rogatory:**

Letters Rogatory and accompanying documents must be translated into Spanish and submitted in duplicate (an original and one copy of both the English language version and the translation) directly to the Department (CA/OCS/ACS) or to the U.S. Embassy.

#### **Fees:**

The Department also requires submission of a certified check or international money order for the current fee for letters Rogatory (see [22 CFR 22.1](#)), made payable to the American Embassy, with the documents as a deposit for costs incurred in executing the request.

#### **Internal Procedures:**

When the documents have been reviewed by the State Department (CA/OCS) for compliance with provisions and host country requirements, they are sent to the U.S. Embassy for delivery to the local Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The U.S. Embassy will monitor the developments and report to the Department (CA/OCS). Once the Letter Rogatory is executed and returned, the Embassy will forward it to the State Department for delivery to the interested party.