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**Getting Married in Mauritius –
for non-Mauritians NOT resident in Mauritius**

DISCLAIMER: The information below relating to Mauritian legal requirements is provided for general information only. Questions involving interpretations of specific provisions or application to a specific case should be addressed to Mauritian government officials. The Embassy is not in a position to intercede with Mauritian authorities on behalf of Americans seeking exceptions from Mauritian marriage requirements.

The following information is presented as a guide for civilian American citizens who are **NOT resident** in Mauritius contemplating marriage in Mauritius. Since each marriage is specific, the documentary requirements may vary. Although marriage statutes in the United States differ from state to state, a marriage performed in Mauritius under Mauritian law is recognized in all U.S. states. American diplomatic and consular officers **do not** have the legal authority to perform marriages. Marriages cannot be performed within the Embassy in Mauritius.

Although the “Civil Status Act” states that marriage of non-residents can take place one day following publication of marriage banns, the process is somewhat more complicated and may take several weeks to complete.

When entering Mauritius, individuals must specify that the purpose of their visit is for marriage, otherwise permission to marry may be subsequently denied.

The first step is to have an affidavit completed before the Mauritian Supreme Court. You will need an attorney to walk you through the legal process. Please visit the Embassy’s website for a list of attorneys practicing in Mauritius:
<http://mauritius.usembassy.gov/attorneys.html>

It is advisable to contact the attorney prior to arriving in Mauritius.

After you obtain the affidavit, submit it, along with the following documents, to the Civil Status Office (CSO) in the area where you wish to marry in order to apply for an “Authority from Prime Minister’s Office to Marry.”

- Birth certificates of applicants
- Applicant’s passports
- Divorce/death certificates of any former spouse

The “Authority from Prime Minister’s Office to Marry” will then be forwarded from the CSO to the Prime Minister’s Office for approval/denial, after which the PMO automatically returns it to the CSO. The CSO will directly notify the couple if permission has been granted, and the marriage may take place at any time thereafter. Two witnesses with valid photo IDs are required to be present at the ceremony, which may take place at the Civil Status Office or a hotel. Arrangements for the ceremony should be made with the CSO or hotels directly.

The Port Louis CSO is located on the 7th Floor, Emmanuel Anquetil Building, Port Louis.
Tel: (230) 201 1222, Fax: (230) 211 2420.

For more information or an update please visit the Government of Mauritius’ website:
<http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/civilstatussite>