FAQs: CESSATION OF AFFIDAVITS THAT ARE INTENDED TO REPLACE OFFICIAL AUTHETICATION OR CERTIFICATION OF U.S. DOCUMENTS

Is it true the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and the U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai will no longer notarize affidavits for U.S. citizens that are intended to replace official authentication or certification of U.S. documents?

Yes. Starting on June 1, 2023, the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai no longer notarize affidavits intended to replace official authentication or certification of U.S. documents, such as Academic records, vital records (birth, death, marriage, and divorce records), criminal background checks, etc.

Why is the U.S. Embassy making this decision?

U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai are unable to authenticate public documents issued in the United States. Such documents include vital records (birth, marriage, death and divorce), as well as academic, commercial, or other credentials. The U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai do not have access to the records of the issuing office or the seal of the custodian of these records. To authenticate and legalize official documents issued in the United States, please follow the steps detailed below:

Step 1 Check an authentication certificate requirements for a document to be authenticated
https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/records-and-authentications/authenticate-your-document/authentication-certificate-requirements.html

Step 2 Royal Thai Embassy https://washingtondc.thaiembassy.org/th/page/certify-us-documents for a document legalization, or look up the United States-based Embassy of the country where the documents will be used.

Step 3 Visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Legalization Division, Consular Affairs in Thailand.

For more information about Authentications of U.S. documents to be used abroad is available here
https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/records-and-authentications.html .

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Additional information