

Lawyer's Pledge for an Embassy Listing

It is the public policy of [name of country] that children have frequent, meaningful and continuing contact with both natural parents regardless of the citizenship, marital status or gender of the parent. Frequent, meaningful and continuing contact should occur at all times during any family law dispute including during separation, mediation, court proceedings and any other circumstances of separated from a parent prior to and after a legal decision is issued. This policy is derived from the values and customs of [name of country] and is reflected both in the laws of [name of country] and its political subdivisions, as well as international treaties and other agreements to which [name of country] is a party. Furthermore, the laws of [name of country] prohibit parental child abduction, denial of access, custodial interference and other similar types of conduct (collectively, "Denial of Access"). These laws also prohibit Parental Alienation, repeated disparagement or an attitude of rejection by one parent toward the other parent or the other parent's nationality and culture. Denial of Access and Parental Alienation may each constitute a form of child abuse, and could result in both criminal prosecution and civil sanctions if conducted in [name of country] or even if conducted outside of [country] but concerning a parent or child citizen or habitual resident of [name of country].

While there may be circumstances in which contact with one or both parents may be detrimental to a child, [country] believes that such cases are rare and should only be permitted after a thorough and conclusive investigation by professionals educated and trained in child psychology and welfare.

In light of [name of country's] policy as described above, as a condition to being added to the list of attorneys that the embassy of [name of country] provides to its nationals in Japan, attorneys so added undertake that: (a) they will not knowingly facilitate, encourage or permit Denial of Access in connection with any marital, child custody or child visitation dispute with a child known to be a citizen or habitual resident of [name of country] or any of its jurisdictions; (b) they will advise any client involved in a dispute involving a child who is a citizen or habitual resident of [name of country] of the public policy of [name of country] as described above; and (c) any attorney may be removed from [name of country]'s list if consular officials of [name of country] determine in their sole discretion that he or she has engaged in conduct inconsistent with the foregoing undertakings.

I understand and agree to the foregoing (signed): _____

Name of Attorney and Law Firm: _____

Date: _____



Version 3

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