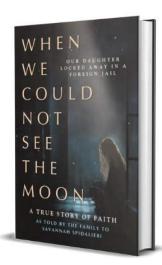
Reference Guide

Resources for American Citizens Facing Humanitarian or Legal Crises Abroad

WHEN WE COULD NOT SEE THE MOON

Our Daughter Locked Away in a Foreign Jail

As told by the family (Jan and Tammy de Weerd) to Savannah Spidalieri www.whenwecouldnotseethemoon.com



GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

1. U.S. Department of State - Bureau of Consular Affairs

Role

• The primary resource for assisting U.S. citizens detained, in distress, or facing emergencies abroad.

Services:

- · Contacting family or friends on your behalf.
- Providing a list of local attorneys.
- Ensuring you are treated humanely and fairly according to local laws.
- Monitoring your case and advocating for due process.
- Repatriation in extreme cases.

How to Contact:

- Overseas: Locate the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. Use the website https://www.usembassy.gov.
- From the U.S.: Call the Office of Overseas Citizens Services at +1-888-407-4747 (domestic) or +1-202-501-4444 (international).
- 2. STEP (Smart Traveler Enrollment Program)

What It Does:

- Allows U.S. citizens to register their travel with the nearest embassy.
- Helps the government locate and assist citizens in emergencies (natural disasters, political unrest).

How to Enroll:

Visit https://step.state.gov.

NON-PROFIT AND HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS

1. International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC)

Purpose:

 Provides legal support and advocacy for individuals detained abroad.

Services:

Connecting individuals with experienced international attorneys.

Website:

https://ilacnet.org

2. Amnesty International

Purpose:

Advocates for individuals experiencing human rights violations.

Services:

 Mobilizes public campaigns and legal teams for unjust detentions or mistreatment.

Website:

https://www.amnesty.org

3. Reprieve

Purpose:

 Offers free legal assistance to people on death row, unlawfully detained, or victims of extreme injustice.

Website:

• https://reprieve.org

4. Hostage US

Purpose:

• Supports families of individuals kidnapped or detained abroad.

Services:

• Emotional support, guidance through legal processes, and reintegration assistance for those released.

Website:

https://hostageus.org

PREPARING FOR EMERGENCIES

1. Documents to Keep Handy

- A copy of your passport and visa (digital and physical).
- Emergency contacts (family, attorney, and embassy).
- Travel insurance details.
- A basic understanding of local laws and customs in the destination country.

2. Tips for Travelers

- **Know Your Rights Abroad:** Familiarize yourself with the legal system of the country you're visiting.
- **Emergency Numbers:** Save the contact details of the nearest U.S. Embassy/Consulate.
- **Cultural Awareness:** Research local customs, practices, and sensitivities to avoid unintentional offenses.
- Communication Plan: Establish a check-in schedule with family or friends.

KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

- **Stay Calm:** If a loved one is detained, gather verified information before reacting.
- **Contact the Embassy:** Encourage the detained individual or their family to notify the nearest U.S. Embassy immediately.
- **Support Without Overstepping:** Offer help but respect privacy and boundaries during the legal process.

WHEN WE COULD NOT SEE THE MOON Reference Guide

	_
NOTES	
	-

	-
	- m- 1

	* *
	** ** **

	1