



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS  
**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL**

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

*For immediate release*  
*Friday, January 31, 2025*

Majuro—The Office of the Attorney-General wishes to respond to a social media post alleging that the Government is selling passports. As the Office authorized under the *Passport Act, 2020*, to issue passports, we would like to reassure the general public that this is false. We are aware of these websites selling counterfeit passports, but do not have the jurisdiction nor the capacity to have them shut down or investigated. Last year, this Office received a total of official requests from the U.S. Government and the RMI Embassy in the Republic of China, Taiwan, to verify the validity of 7 passports. Due to our new passport system installed last year and the security features in our new passports, our response was these were indeed counterfeit passports as they were either not in our system or did not have the security features.

On the issue of hundreds of Marshallese residing abroad who are waiting for their passports for years, as of yesterday, the number of pending passports applications is 414, all of which were submitted in January. The general public is urged to be aware of the expiration date of their passports, and to apply for renewals one year prior to that date. The passport does not need to be submitted with the application form, only a legible copy along with other necessary documents as well as payments. Moreover, the application forms must be completed, otherwise they will be returned. This Office currently has approximately 20 incomplete applications for Marshallese residing overseas, and have not contacted all of them given that the contact details provided in their respective applications were no longer valid. This list has been shared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to hopefully get in touch with these applicants and inform them of the situation.

This Office also wishes to inform the general public of Phase II of our new passport system, the completion of which will enable Marshallese residing abroad to apply for new passports or renewal through Enrollment Kits at the RMI Embassy in Washington, D.C. and Consulates in Honolulu and Springdale, respectively. We will be working with the Ministry of Finance on a payment portal in order to cover the payment requirement. This Office continues to work with the firm that assisted with Phase 1, but it is anticipated that the completion of Phase II will be this year after its successful launch.

Please contact the Office at [info@rmiagoffice.com](mailto:info@rmiagoffice.com) if there are any questions or concerns. Komol tata.

END///



P.O. Box 890, Majuro, MH 96960



(692) 625 3244 / 8245



[www.rmiagoffice.com](http://www.rmiagoffice.com)