

Did you know that you can end your enrollment with the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) by visiting the step.state.gov site? If you previously submitted a paper enrollment form to the U.S. consulate, you may end your enrollment by sending an email request to: ShanghaiACS@state.gov.

Shanghai Consulate News for Americans

Issue 56

September 2012

Register and Request Your Ballot

The Consulate's PM2.5 **Air Quality Monitor** data can be viewed at shanghai.usconsulate.gov/airmonitor.html

American Citizen Services (ACS) Contact Information
U.S. Consulate General, Shanghai, China
1038 West Nanjing Road, 8/F Westgate Mall
梅龙镇广场 (Mélóng Zhèn Guǎng Chǎng)
Open 8:00am - 11:30am and 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Monday to Friday
***Closed on Wednesday afternoons, weekends, and holidays.**
Homepage:
shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/service.html
After Hours Emergencies:
(86-21) 3217-4650

November 6, Election Day, is quickly approaching. Make sure you register to vote!

New absentee voting laws are in effect for the 2012 elections. You will no longer automatically receive ballots based on a previous absentee ballot request. All U.S. citizens outside the United States who want to vote by absentee ballot in the 2012 primary and general elections must complete a new Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) every year if they wish to vote from abroad.

U.S. citizens residing outside the U.S. can submit a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) by going to the FVAP.gov web portal or by following the instructions in the Voting Assistance Guide, also available at www.FVAP.gov. Be sure you include an email address, phone number and/or fax number on your absentee ballot application in case your local election official needs to contact you.

States are now required to send out ballots 45 days before an election. No matter what state you vote in, you can now ask your local election officials to provide your blank ballots to you electronically (by email, internet download, or fax, depending on your state).

The Consulate recommends that if you have not received your state absentee ballot by the first week of October, that you instead use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB), which can be found on the FVAP.gov website.

Check your state's election website for specific information on candidates, elections, contact information, and links to your local election offices.

Learn more at the Federal Voting Assistance Program's (FVAP) website www.FVAP.gov.

A regular voter just like you became the winner of this year's "Gallantly Streaming" video contest hosted by the Federal Voter Assistance Program by creating a short film teaching others how to request a ballot. Check it out here: <http://gallantlystreaming.challenge.gov/submissions/9547-use-fvap-s-fpca-and-fwab-tools>.

If you have any questions about registering to vote overseas, please contact Consulate Shanghai's American Citizens Services at ShanghaiACS@state.gov.

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Upcoming Holidays & Other Closures

A full list of all of our holiday closings is online at <http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/holidays.html>. The ACS Unit will be **CLOSED** to the public on:

<u>October 1 - October 5, Mon-Fri</u>	Chinese National Day & Mid-Autumn Festival (中国国庆节 Zhōngguó Guóqìng Jié; 中秋节 Zhōngqiū Jié)
<u>October 8, Monday</u>	Columbus Day (哥伦布日 Gēlún bù Rì)

Global Entry Program



Have you noticed the new kiosks at U.S. airport immigration checkpoints?

The Global Entry Program allows U.S. citizens and permanent residents to use Global Entry kiosks to speed their entry into the United States. Participants present their machine-readable U.S. passport or permanent resident card, place their fingertips on the scanner for fingerprint verification, and make a customs declaration. The kiosk issues the traveler a transaction receipt and directs the traveler to the baggage claim and exit.

Travelers must be pre-approved for the Global Entry program. All appli-

cants undergo a rigorous background check and interview before enrollment.

Though intended for frequent international travelers, there is no minimum number of trips necessary to qualify for the program. Participants may enter the United States by using automated kiosks located at select airports.

For further details and enrollment requirements please check out the following website: www.globalentry.gov/about.html.

Travel Warnings and Alerts

Security reminder: It is advisable that you and your family review your personal security profile and be aware of your surroundings at all times.

Since our previous Newsletter, the U.S. Department of State has issued new **Travel Warnings** for the following countries:

Pakistan	09/19/2012
Lebanon	09/17/2012
Tunisia	09/15/2012
Sudan	09/15/2012
Algeria	09/13/2012
Libya	09/12/2012
North Korea	09/11/2012
South Sudan	09/10/2012
Guinea	09/07/2012
Mali	08/29/2012
Syria	08/28/2012

Travel Warnings are issued to describe long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable. A Travel Warning is also issued when the U.S. Government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of its staff. This information is available at

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html.

The U.S. Department of State has not issued any new **Travel Alerts**.

Travel Alerts are issued to disseminate information about short-term conditions generally within a particular country or region that pose imminent risks to the security of U.S. citizens. Natural disasters, terrorist attacks, coups, anniversaries of terrorist events, election-related demonstrations or violence, and high-profile events such as international conferences or regional sports events are examples of conditions that might generate a Travel Alert. This information is available at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1766.html.

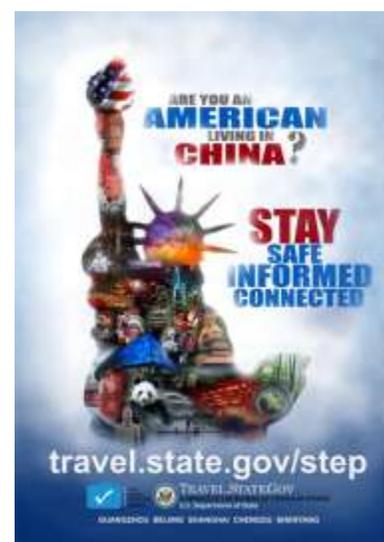
The most up-to-date information regarding permitted and **prohibited items** on flights can be viewed online at www.tsa.gov.

For additional information, please visit "**Americans Traveling Abroad**" on the U.S. Department of State website:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/americans/americans_1252.html.

Students traveling abroad may wish to visit the State Department site designed for them: <http://studentsabroad.state.gov/>.

To obtain up-to-date information on security conditions, please call 1-888-407-4747 (toll free in the United States), or +1-202-501-4444 if you are outside the United States.



Reporting International Financial Scams & Resources for Victims

国际金融骗局及为受害人提供的信息资源

The State Department's information on international financial scams can help you report fraud to the appropriate U.S. authorities like the FBI, Secret Service, Federal Trade Commission, and U.S. Postal Inspector, or to the appropriate overseas authorities including the Nigerian Economic and Financial Crimes Commission and the United Kingdom's Metropolitan Police. Contact information can be found on the State Department's website that provides resources for victims.

国务院公布于国际金融骗局网站上的信息可帮助您将骗局报告给美国有关当局，如联邦调查局、美国特勤处、联邦贸易委员会、美国邮政督察，以及包括尼日利亚经济与金融犯罪委员会和英国警察厅在内的相关海外部门。联系方式可在国务院的网站上为国际金融骗局受害人提供的信息资源中找到。

http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/financial_scams/financial_scams_3155.html

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4522.html

The first website includes steps that can be used to protect yourself against *future* identity theft because the fraud perpetrators can use your personal information to open bank accounts or obtain credit cards in your name. Remember, some losses may be tax deductible, so consult a qualified tax advisor or the IRS to see if you qualify.

第一个网站包括了一些步骤，你可以用来保护自己以防身份信息被盗用，因为诈骗犯可能会利用你的个人信息开启银行账户或以你的名义获取信用卡。记住，部分损失可能符合减税条件，因此咨询一下具有资质的纳税顾问或国税署，看你是否符合此条件。

Financial fraud can have an emotional impact on victims and their families. The Identity Theft Resource Center Victim Guide has information about the emotional impact of identity theft, and much of this advice is relevant to fraud victims.

金融诈骗会对受害人及其家属造成精神伤害。身份盗用资源中心的受害人指南上有关于身份盗用造成精神伤害方面的指导信息，此类建议对诈骗受害人亦有帮助。

http://www.idtheftcenter.org/v_resources/v_intro.shtml

Internet Dating and Romance Scams

网络约会及爱情骗局

U.S. citizens should be alert to attempts at fraud by persons claiming to live outside of the U.S., professing friendship, romantic interest, and/or marriage intentions over the Internet.

Typically, once a connection is made, the correspondent asks the U.S. citizen to send money or credit card informa-

tion for living expenses, travel/medical expenses, or "visa costs." Sometimes, the correspondent notifies the U.S. citizen that a close family member, usually the mother, is in desperate need of surgery and begins to request monetary assistance. Internet dating and romance scams have advanced to the point where several U.S. citizens have reported losing tens of thousands of dollars through such scams.

Correspondents who quickly move to expressions of romantic interest or discussion of intimate matters are likely scammers. A request for funds almost always marks a fraudulent correspondent. U.S. citizens are cautioned against sending any money to persons they have not actually met in person.

网络上有些人会谎称本人不住在美国并有兴趣发展友谊、恋爱及（或）婚姻关系，美国公民应谨防这些人有诈骗企图。

通信联系一旦建立，此类通信人即会要求美国公民汇款或提供信用卡信息，以用于生活费、旅行或医疗费，或者“签证费用”。有时此类通信人会告知美国公民自己有位近亲（通常是母亲）急需动手术，然后开始要求金钱上的援助。网络约会及爱情骗局愈演愈烈，已有多名美国公民报告因此损失了数以万计美元的财产。

网上通信人如果迅速表达发展亲密关系或谈情说爱的兴趣，往往可能是在制造骗局。伸手要钱的几乎总是冒牌货。在此提醒美国公民注意防范，谨慎汇款给从未谋面过的人。

http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/financial_scams/financial_scams_4554.html

Counterfeit and Pirated Goods

假冒及盗版商品

Do not buy counterfeit or pirated goods, even if they are widely available. Not only are bootleg and knock-off goods illegal in the U.S., if you purchase them, you may also be breaking local laws. Please remember that U.S. passports can only be issued by the U.S. Department of State.

切勿购买假冒及盗版商品，即使它们相当普遍。购买私录唱片及名牌仿制品不仅在美国属于非法，您也可能触犯当地法律。请记住，只有美国国务院可签发美国护照。

Questions on how to obtain a U.S. passport or green card can be posed to your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. 有关如何申请美国护照或绿卡的问题可向离您最近的美国大使馆或领事馆咨询。

Forewarned Is Forearmed – SCAMS Endemic To Shanghai

凡事预则立——上海地区的流行骗局

The American Citizen Services (ACS) unit is regularly contacted by Americans victimized by scams that take advantage of their generosity or ignorance of local norms and culture. While petty theft remains the most prevalent type of crime Westerners encounter in China, the diversity and sophistication of scams is increasing. While the following list is not meant to be all-encompassing it does forewarn and forearm you against the most common scams encountered by Americans here:

美国公民服务处常接获美国人报称有人利用其慷慨或对本地习俗文化缺乏了解而设置骗局。尽管西方人在中国最常所遇犯罪是小偷小摸，各种骗局的多样性和复杂性有所增加，以下所列美国人在本地最常遇到的骗局，不尽全面，供您有备无患。



“Art Show / Art Student” scam – “Hi, I’m an art major at a Chinese university. We are showing our work nearby and would love for you to have a look. Don’t worry, entrance is free and there’s no need to buy anything.” If you follow this “art student” you will be pressured to purchase expensive, low-grade art prints.

“艺术品展出/艺术系学生”骗局：“你好，我是一名艺术系的中国大学生。我们在附近展出作品，欢迎你前来参观。别担心，入场免费且不需要你购买任何东西。”如你跟着这位“艺术系学生”走，将被迫购买价格高昂的劣质艺术品。

“Tea Ceremony/English student” scam – “Hi, we are English students at a local university. Would you mind helping us practice our English? In

exchange, we will treat you to a traditional Chinese tea ceremony.” After ordering tea and snacks they will excuse themselves. Soon the bill will arrive and very large men will force you to pay an exorbitant amount of money before allowing you to leave. Real English students will not mind going to a place of your choosing to practice their English for an hour.

“茶道表演/英语系学生”骗局：“你好，我们是来自本地一所大学英语系的学生。你能帮助我们练习英语吗？作为回报，我们请你观看传统的中式茶道表演。”点完茶和点心后他们会离去。稍顷账单即至，非常壮硕的男子会在允许你离开前逼迫你支付一大笔钱。真正的英语系学生不会介意去你所选择的地方练习一小时英语。

“Bar tabs” – Better to pay as you go. Starting a tab makes it possible for a bartender to hand you a bar bill of \$500. If you decline to pay you could be threatened with physical violence until you pay (usually by credit card), before being escorted out.

“酒吧赊账”：最好现点现付。如果赊账，最终可能会接到酒吧招待递来的500美金账单。如拒付，在被押送出门前，你可能身受暴力威胁直到你（通常是用信用卡）交钱。

“Injured Relative / Arrested Relative” scam – “Hi, I’m a friend of your grandchild here in China and she was just seriously injured (usually in a traffic accident) and/or arrested. In order for her to receive medical care in China you must pay all fees upfront. The American Consulate won’t help. Please wire \$2000 to my account so I can ensure your granddaughter receives the necessary medical treatment.” Always best to try and contact your relative directly, or call ACS to help you find out the facts, if someone tells you that they are in trouble and need you to wire them money ASAP. In China medical facilities will usually contact

the U.S. Consulate if an American citizen is admitted without anyone to assist. We will never refuse to assist American citizens in need.

“亲属受伤/被捕”骗局：“你好，我是你孙女在中国的朋友，她刚刚（通常是在车祸中）严重受伤了，或者，她刚刚被捕了。她在中国接受治疗需要你提前支付所有费用。美国领事馆不提供帮助。请汇2000美金到我账上，我会确保你孙女得到必要的治疗。”如有人告知你亲属有难需立即汇钱，始终尽量直接联系到你的亲人，或致电美国公民服务处寻求帮助了解实情。中国的医疗机构如果接收到无人协助的美国公民，通常会联络美国领事馆。我们绝不会拒绝帮助有需要的美国公民。

“Please Hold the Line for the Police” – You receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from your bank or the police station and you are told that someone assumed your identity and used your credit card to commit credit card fraud, which is now under investigation by the Public Security Bureau (PSB). You are informed that the PSB requires your bank account information to complete their investigation. After providing your personally identifiable information over the phone that included your savings account information, your account is liquidated. You later find out that the person who called you was not from your bank or the police. If you receive a call from the police asking for personal information you should ask them to wait, and contact your nearest police station to inquire into the situation in person.

“请别挂电话，等待转接至警署”：你接到声称来自银行或警署的电话，告知有人冒用你的信用卡涉嫌信用卡诈骗，现正接受公安局调查。你被告知公安局调查过程中需要你的银行账号信息。你在电话中提供了包括你储蓄账户内容的个人身份信息

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后，你的账户即被提清。事后你发现致电给你的人并非来自你的银行或警署。如果接到要你提供个人信息的电话，你应要求对方等候，随即联络附近的警署当面了解情况。

****NEW** “Mimicking Phone Numbers”** – You receive a call on your mobile phone from someone claiming to be the police from the “Economic Crimes Bureau” in Beijing. You are told your bank account is involved with money laundering and that you are now being investigated. You are told that you may verify the incoming call by checking online or in a phone book for the number of the “Economic Crimes Bureau”. The caller is patient and tells you that he will hold the line while you check to verify the number. You check with different resources and confirm the phone number of the incoming call belongs to the police in Beijing. You then follow the caller’s instructions and provide him with detailed information about your bank accounts. You transfer the money to the safe account as instructed by the caller. You later find the money that you transferred is gone. How this Scam Works: To attract clients, telecom operators enable clients to set the incoming number they want to be displayed on the phone of someone they call. Bottom line, you cannot always trust that a phone call is truly coming from the number appearing on your phone. If you are concerned about your bank accounts, it’s best to contact your bank or the local authorities directly.

“伪造来电号码”：你的手机接到声称来自北京“经济罪案调查科”的电话。你被告知你的银行账号涉及洗钱而正被调查中。你还被告知可以通过上网或查询电话簿来核实对方身份。来电者很耐心，说他可以在电话线上等你先核实。你通过不同渠道确认了来电号码确属北京警方。于是你按来电者的要求，提供了你的银行账户信息，并按指示把钱转入安全账户。你随后发现转出的钱款都不见踪影。这个骗局是怎么回事？——为了吸引顾客，电信公司允许客户对打到他人电话上的来电号码进行设置。关键要记住的是：来电显示的号码并不总是该来电的真实号码。如果你对自己的银行账户有疑虑，最好直接与银行或当地机构取得联系。

“Business Deal” – You have been doing business with a Chinese company for some time and receive an email asking you to send the next wire transfer to a new account number. After wiring the money you are asked to resend the payment because it never arrived. After rewiring the payment you are again notified that the payment did not arrive and that you should try sending it to another account number. At which time you become extremely suspicious and discover the email address is slightly different from the company’s real email and/or the person who has

been contacting you left the company a month before.

“做生意”：你与一家中国公司业务合作已有时日，对方发来电子邮件要求你将下笔款项汇到一个新帐号。汇款之后，你被要求再次汇款，因为之前的汇款未被收到。再次汇款后，你又被告知款项没有汇到，必须再次汇至另一账号。你此时极度怀疑并发现对方的电子邮件地址与其公司真实的电子邮件地址有细微差别，并且（或者）联系人已于一个月前离职。

“IRS scam” – You received an email from the IRS claiming they cannot process your recent tax return because you did not include a photocopy of your state or federal ID. The IRS does NOT generally initiate fax or emails to taxpayers, nor does the IRS discuss tax account matters with taxpayers via email or fax. The IRS never requests security-related personal information, such as your SSN or PIN numbers.

“税务署骗局”：你收到来自税务署的电子邮件声称由于你未附上带照片的州或联邦证件的复印件，他们无法处理你最新递交的退税单。税务署通常不会发送传真或电子邮件给纳税人，也从未在电子邮件或传真中与纳税人商议税务账号问题。此外，税务署从不要求提供涉及安全的个人信息，如社会保障号码或密码。

“Diversity Visa” – You receive an email congratulating you because you’ve won a Diversity Visa (DV) and although the DV participation was free, U.S. law and regulations require every DV winner to pay a visa processing fee of \$819. The email goes on to state the fee must be paid using a Western Union money transfer and will be processed by the U.S. Embassy in the United Kingdom. UN- DER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should money be sent to anyone to participate in the DV Lottery. The State Department’s Kentucky Consular Center does not send email notifications to DV entrants informing the winning entries.

“抽签移民”：你收到电邮恭喜你获得抽签移民并被告知，尽管参与抽签移民免费，美国法律法规要求每个获得抽签移民资格的人支付一笔819美金的签证处理费。电子邮件继续介绍说该费用必须使用西联汇款并汇至美国驻英国大使馆。无论如何不要为了参加抽签移民而汇钱给某人。美国国务院肯塔基州领事事务中心(KCC)不会使用电子邮件通知抽签移民中奖信息。

“Real Estate” scam – You sign a contract for an apartment you want to rent and hand over the deposit and first few months rent to who you believe is the landlord. All seems legitimate until you return home one night to discover the real landlord in the apartment demanding to know who you are and why you have moved into his apartment.

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You find that the person you signed the contract with has skipped town with your money and the real estate agent has no recollection of you.

“房产”骗局：你签订租房合同并将头几个月的定金付给了以为是房东的那人。一切貌似合法，直到某天晚上你回家时真正的房东出现并质问你谁且为何会住在他家。你发现与你签订合同的那人已携款不告而别，而真正的房产中介不认识你。

“Black Taxi” – “Where do you want to go?” “Taxi?” If you get in, make no mistake, you will be grossly over charged and potentially robbed in a secluded area by the driver’s friends. The same goes for motorcycles charging for transportation.

“黑车”：“你想去哪儿？”“出租车？”如上车，毫无疑问会被乱开价甚至可能在隐蔽处遭司机的朋友抢劫。同样骗局亦现于摩托车等其它有偿交通工具上。

“Fake Police” – You are stopped on the road (usually near an area frequented by expats) and asked to show your passport to a person claiming to be a police officer. When you cannot show your passport, you are asked to pay an on-the-spot fine of RMB500. First, if they are real police they will have no problem with showing you their I.D. when asked. Moreover, real police officers will go with you to their station where you will be issued a receipt for the fine.

“假警察”：有人在路上（通常在外国人常去地）拦住你并自称是警官，要求你出示护照。如你无法出示，即被要求当场支付500元人民币的罚款。首先，如果对方是真警察，则不会在被要求时拒绝向你出示他们的证件。此外，真的警官会带你至警署，你在那里支付罚款并会得到收据。

“Pickpockets” – Typically, a single

man or a pair of women with babies strapped to their chests approach you from behind during your walk near a popular tourist area (Nanjing Rd). Unbeknownst to you, they unzip your bag and quickly steal everything that looks expensive. Remember to keep your bags in front of you and do not place valuables in your back pocket.

“小偷”：常常发生在你走近热门旅游区时，单身男子或两个胸前绑有小孩的女子从后面接近你，趁你不注意拉开你的包拉链并迅速偷走看似值钱的东西。记住把包放置身前并别把贵重物放在背后的口袋里。

“Child Beggars and Flower Sellers” – “Money, money!” or “Flowers, Flowers!” Money dropped into their cup will be taken by their adult handler (perhaps even their kidnapper) who is exploiting the child and your humanitarian nature. If you want to help, consider offering food instead.

“乞童与卖花者”：“给钱，给钱！”“买花，买花！”扔进他们帽子的钱会被利用这些儿童和你善心的成年操控者（或许也是绑架这些儿童的人）收走。如果你想帮忙，可以考虑提供食物。

“Buy a Car” scam – A Chinese based website states you can pay 30% of the total cost of the car now through Western Union and the balance upon delivery. In the end you never receive your car or see your money again.

“买车”骗局：一家中国网站声称你可通过西联汇款支付全部购车款的30%并在车到后付清余款。最终你不仅没拿到车还赔了钱。

“Black Money” – In order to prevent the theft of U.S. currency being shipped overseas, the U.S. government has a process to coat \$100 bills with a special ink (usually black). I have intercepted one shipment but need your help purchasing a special solvent to “clean”

the bills. I am happy to share the proceeds with you. Of course, the process is bogus, and you will lose whatever money you invest.

“黑钱”：为预防运往海外的美国货币失窃，美国政府有给100美元纸币涂上一种特殊墨水（通常为黑色）的处理。我截获了一批这样的货物，但需要你帮忙购买一种“清洁”纸币的特殊溶剂。我愿与你分享收益。当然，这种处理子虚乌有，你的投资也将一去不返。

“Stolen Wallet” – “Hi, my wife and I (dressed nicely) are tourists and had our wallets stolen. Could you loan us RMB100? When we return home we will send it back to you.” You will not receive any money back and have just been victimized by a con artist.

“被盗皮夹”：“你好，我太太和我（衣冠楚楚）是被盗皮夹的游客。你能借我们100元人民币吗？回家后我们会把钱寄还给你。”你不会收到任何还款。

“Dropped Metro Card” scam – The taxi driver drops your transportation card as he attempts to hand it back to you in the backseat. The next time you go to use it you find the card has a zero balance. What happened? The taxi driver saw that you had a lot of money on your card and dropped it by his feet to quickly switch it for an empty one. Circumvent this scam by placing a sticker or other clear identifying marker on your card to confirm the card handed back to you is indeed your own.

“掉落公交卡”骗局：出租车司机把公交卡递还给后座的你时将其掉落。下次使用该卡时，你发现卡的余额为零。你的钱呢？出租车司机看见你卡里有很多钱，于是将其掉落在他脚下并迅速换成一张空卡。可以给你的公交卡加上贴纸或别的清晰可辨的标记以确认还给你的卡确实属你所有，从而规避此类骗局。