



**Attorneys
in the Consular District of Paris**

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The List of Attorneys: The following individuals and firms have informed the Embassy that they are qualified to adjudicate law in the categories specified and that they are sufficiently competent in the English language to provide services to English-speaking clients. Generally, this list is revised triennially with interim addendum as needed to ensure that local counsel are still practicing in the consular district and are willing to represent clients from the United States. Detailed information on retaining an attorney abroad may be found at this [State Department website page \(http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english/legal-considerations/judicial/retaining-a-foreign-attorney.html\)](http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english/legal-considerations/judicial/retaining-a-foreign-attorney.html).

Important Note: Before making an appointment to see a lawyer in France, first ask if you will be charged for the initial consultation, and if so, how much the fee will be for this service.

All corrections and modifications should be sent to the: the U.S. Embassy, American Citizen Services by E-mail to: Citizeninfo@state.gov.

Definitions:

Avocats: An *avocat* must be a lawyer or attorney. *Avocats* may render legal advice on all matters, draft agreements and contracts, handle commercial disputes and collection cases, and plead and defend civil and criminal cases before the French courts to which they are admitted.

Notaries: (*notaires*) In some countries, notaries public, "notaires" or "notars" can perform many of the functions performed by attorneys in the United States. A notary in a civil law

country is not comparable to a notary public in the United States. They frequently draft instruments such as wills and transfers of property. In France, a notary (*notaire*) is a public official appointed by the Ministry of Justice, whose functions include not only preparing documents, but the administration and

Retaining an Attorney Abroad

These [Department of State guidelines](#) may be helpful to you in retaining the services of an attorney abroad to protect your interest (<http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english/legal-considerations/judicial/retaining-a-foreign-attorney.html>).

Note: In some countries courts recess for a period of several months during the summer. In addition, even if the case is resolved, currency control laws are often complex and may delay the transfer of funds awarded to you from the foreign country for an indefinite time.

Questions: Additional questions may be addressed to the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, and Office of American Citizens Services at (202) 647-5225 or (202) 647-5226.

Complaints Against Foreign Attorneys

If the service of your foreign attorney proves unsatisfactory, in addition to notifying the Department of State and the U.S. embassy or consulate abroad, you may address your complaints to the local foreign Bar association. For example, to contact the Paris Bar Association you may refer to the following website address: <http://www.avocatparis.org/>

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& commercial; civil law; estates; contracts; corporations; foreign investments; government relations;
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 and inheritance; investments; intellectual property; domestic and transnational litigation;
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 litigation; including insurance; intellectual property; theft; fraud; personal injury
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 foreign judgments and *certificats de coutume*.
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 passport and nationality questions; expatriation issues; Treaty Investor (E-1 and E-2) visas;
 preparation of petitions for business transferees and performers (H-1B; J-1; L-1A; O-1 and P-1
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