

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

WILLIAM J. BRATTON
Chief of Police



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OCOP # 2004-04-12

JAMES K. HAHN
Mayor

May 28, 2004

RECEIVED

JUN 04 2004

J. MICHAEL CAREY

Mr. Frank T. Martinez
Executive Officer
Office of the City Clerk
200 North Spring Street
Room 360
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Martinez:

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), in accordance with a recent policy established pursuant to Los Angeles City Ordinance No. 175853, now accepts, as legitimate forms of identification, Foreign Consulate Identification Cards (FCIC) [also referred to as "Matricula Consular I.D Cards"] from Mexican and Argentine foreign nationals. In light of this recent addition to the Los Angeles City Ordinance, it is anticipated that other countries will push to have FCICs accepted by their citizens, residing in or visiting the City of Los Angeles. To maintain a degree of consistency, while at the same time not compromising security, the Department has established the following minimal security guidelines. These guidelines are for those foreign governments seeking acceptance, by the City of Los Angeles, of their FCICs.

Effective immediately, the guidelines are as follows for those governments now seeking acceptance of FCICs:

- ◆ Foreign Governments desiring acceptance to the FCIC program must comply with the guidelines set forth in Ordinance No. 175853.
- ◆ FCICs must only be issued by the Federal authorities of that country upon presentation by the bearer of his/her birth certificate and must bear the signature of the issuing authority. Federal authorities must retain on file, fingerprints for all persons to whom they issue FCICs.
- ◆ All FCIC must visibly indicate an identification number that is specific to that particular bearer of the card. The card must also visibly reflect the bearer's information - full name as it appears on the birth certificate, address in the United States, place and date of birth, height, weight and gender. This same side of the card must also contain a recent photograph of the bearer, date of issuance of the card, expiration date of the card, along with information on the issuing consular office.

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- ◆ Along with the incorporation of “anti-forgery” provisions”, all cards must possess invisible security features and those features must be articulated to the LAPD.
- ◆ An actual/real example of such FCIC must be presented to the LAPD.
- ◆ Included in the card’s security features must be the inability of the card to be duplicated. Additionally, there must be information unique only to the bearer (e.g., Date of Birth, surname/mother’s maiden name, etc.), invisibly duplicated on the card and capable of being viewed only with the use of some special decoder or fluorescent light.
- ◆ All FCICs bear the official seal of the country of issuance. The seal must be visibly located on the card and possess some sort of anti-forgery feature (e.g., seal changes color when seen with natural light, seal is a hologram with anti-forgery features, etc.).

Please direct any additional questions regarding this correspondence to Lieutenant Horace Frank, Critical Incident Management Bureau, at (213) 485-3211.

All the best,



WILLIAM J. BRATTON
Chief of Police