

Published based on [What You Can Do Concerning A Lost Or Stolen US Passport](#)

What You Can Do Concerning A Lost Or Stolen US Passport

Important documents exist that persons use for travel or identification purposes. Known as passports, these documents uniquely identify the persons who own them. A lost or stolen passport is very inconvenient for the person to whom it belongs. If that incident should occur, an immediate report needs to be made. Incidents occurring overseas need to be reported to the nearest Consulate or Embassy.

Report The Lost Or Stolen Passport

The unfortunate incident can be reported by using the telephone. Toll free numbers facilitate calls and operators may be reached fourteen hours daily, except when there are Federal holidays. If telephone contact is not available, a special form exists that could be completed and then submitted. A personal submission is required by a passport agency or an acceptance facility.

It Will Be Invalidated

It should importantly be remembered that when owners do not have their passports in their possession and report them missing, the passports become invalidated. This prevents them from being further used for traveling. The information provided on the incident report form, generally enters the Consular system.

Find The Correct Office

If passports are found after they have been reported missing, they should be submitted to the same office that accepts report forms. On submission, the owners may request that the passports be returned to them. In compliance, the office would cancel the documents and return them to the owners. If no such request is made, the passport would be destroyed. This is done because passports that are reported missing cannot be re-validated. They, therefore, have to be replaced.

Get It Replaced

In order to replace missing passports, a visit must be paid at an acceptance facility or a passport agency. This visit should be personal and two forms are required. On one form, the report of the missing passports is documented while the other is an application form for another document.

Do You Need A Book Or Card?

Passports may look like books or cards. The cards have a credit card appearance, and are less costly and handier than books are. Nevertheless, they are only suitable for crossing land borders or entry ports at sea. Cards cannot be used for international air travel. An application for a card may be made through the mail, as long as the applicant owns a passport book. If one is not owned, a personal visit is required. First class mail, rather than overnight delivery, is used for delivering cards.

You May Need To Be There In Person

Books for replacing missing passports require personal appearance when applying, even though the form can be filled out online. Any special requirements that are applicable to the process must be noted carefully. The application process has specific steps that need to be followed exactly. Evidence of citizenship is one requirement.

Passports are crucial documents in terms of travel or identification. A [lost or stolen United States passport](#) makes life hugely uncomfortable for the owner. Missing a [United States passport](#) needs immediate reporting, overseas or locally, which renders them useless since they are invalidated. Reports can be accommodated on the telephone or special forms. Replacing passports is facilitated when certain procedures are followed.

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