

MRP MOTOR VEHICLE FLEET MANAGEMENT MANUAL

SUPPLEMENT 3

REQUIREMENTS TO OPERATE MOTOR VEHICLES AT INTERNATIONAL LOCATIONS

1. PURPOSE

This supplement provides additional policy on the requirements to operate motor vehicles at international locations.

2. LICENSE/PERMITS

Laws governing requirements to operate motor vehicles vary geographically. MRP personnel should contact their local program coordinators or the Embassy for additional information.

3. INSURANCE

GOVs are self-insured for the U.S. and its territories. This coverage does not extend to Mexico and Canada. An employee performing official duties across the border must first purchase insurance coverage.

- a. Employees are required to obtain insurance on Government vehicles from a local insurance company before they authorize its use for “other authorized uses.” However, if the Embassy already requires MRP to carry third party liability on its vehicles, employees do not have to include it in their policies.
- b. The insurance will include collision, liability, and medical payment for at least the minimum amount required by the Embassy or host country, whichever is more stringent, for privately owned vehicles of American personnel in the host country.

When a POV is used, employees must obtain insurance prior to arriving at the international location. Employees should check with their insurance company to see if there are riders on their personal insurance to cover the POV or GOV when used for personal business. If a rider or extended coverage is purchased, the employee can be reimbursed for mileage. However, the agency does not recommend an employee use their POV for assignments at international locations if a GOV is available. The Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to pay a tort claim in accordance with title 28 of the US Code, if the claim arises outside of the US in connection with activities of individuals who are performing services for the Secretary.

The Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) protects employees from liability and imprisonment in the event of an accident only under the jurisdiction of the United States. The FTCA does not apply in foreign countries.

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