

Sample guidelines for Member Associations to give their members in the event of arrest in a foreign country

DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES TALK TO, OR ALLOW YOUR FACE TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED BY, THE NEWS MEDIA.

While you may think “it will never happen to me,” arrest by the police of a foreign state for alcohol consumption or other offences is always a possibility. Consequently, (insert MA name) Association recommends the following procedures for crewmembers that are unfortunate enough to be arrested in a foreign country. These recommendations are designed to get you out of jail and return you home as soon as possible.

Comply with the orders of the police and politely ask why they are detaining you. If they question you or you test positive in a drug or alcohol test and they ask you if you have been drinking or question you about your conduct, politely advise them that you do not want to make any statements until you have consulted with a lawyer.

Request that they allow you to talk to a lawyer. If compelled to make a statement prior to talking to a lawyer, as an interim measure use the sample statement contained herein. If you are required to provide a blood or urine sample, ask for a split sample. Ask to retain one sample for your own independent testing.

Contact your Association’s incident hotline as soon as possible and tell them you need immediate assistance. If you cannot reach your home association for some reason, call the IFALPA hot line (number) and ask them for assistance. Provide the following information:

-  Your Name and Company
-  Your location
-  What you are charged with by the police.
-  Names and location of other crew members.
-  Inform them that you need a lawyer and help in getting out of jail.

The quicker you get your Association involved the sooner you can get the support you need. If you are provided with a lawyer and/or a representative, you should verify their identity before speaking to them.

SAMPLE STATEMENT

I, _____ am employed as a pilot by _____ airline and am based in _____. I am a citizen of _____ and reside at _____. I do not wish to make any statement until I have spoken to a lawyer.

Please contact the _____ Embassy and inform them that you have arrested me and let me contact my Association for assistance.

MEMBER ASSOCIATION ACTIONS

-  Upon receiving the call for assistance contact the local pilot association in the country where your pilot is in difficulty and ask their assistance in getting your pilot out of jail and out of the country as soon as possible.
-  If you cannot reach the local association, contact IFALPA for assistance.
-  Notify the pilot's company and ask for any assistance that they can provide.
-  Notify the pilot's family and let them know what has happened. Advise them not to talk to the media and to remove themselves to a safe location as soon as possible.
-  Do not talk to the media about the incident. If you have media specialists advise them of the incident so they can control any media contacts.
-  If you are unable to reach anyone for assistance, contact the nearest embassy or consulate and ask them for help.
-  The goal is to get the pilot out of jail and out of the country as soon as possible and everything possible should be done to achieve that goal.
-  If the pilot is released but his passport has been confiscated, arrange for accommodation until he/she can return home.
-  If practicable send a representative immediately from the home association to assist the pilot at his location.

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