

**ANNEXURE TO AUGUST 2014 NEWSFLASH****New Regulations when traveling with children**

The Department of Home Affairs (DHA) has implemented new regulations when traveling with children, effective as from the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2014. All adults traveling with children will need to produce among other documents a copy of an unabridged birth certificate for each child they are traveling with.

We urge all travelers who travel with children and do not have an unabridged birth certificate to apply as soon as possible. Although the application process is simple it could take anything from six weeks to six months to process and receive.

Immigration officials will require the following documentation in the instance where one parent is traveling with a child whether as a single parent, or merely in the absence of the other parent:

- A copy of the child's unabridged birth certificate.
- An affidavit from the other parent or legal guardian of the child, giving their permission for the accompanying adult to travel with the child.
- Single will be required to produce a court order (not just an affidavit) granting full parental responsibilities and rights or legal guardianship in respect of the child, if he/she is the parent or legal guardian of the child.
- If applicable, a death certificate of a deceased parent must be produced.

Immigration officials will require the following documentation where an adult traveling with a child is not the child's biological parent:

- A copy of the child's unabridged birth certificate.
- An affidavit from the other parent or legal guardian of the child, giving their permission for the accompanying adult to travel with the child.
- Copies of the identity documents or passports of the parents or legal guardians of the child.
- Contact details of the parents or legal guardians of the child.

Immigration officials will require the following documentation from an unaccompanied minor as per DHA requirements thus applies to any child under the age of 18 years:

- Proof of consent from one or both his / her parents or legal guardian, in the form of a letter or affidavit for the child to travel into or depart from South Africa.
- In the case where one parent provides proof of consent, that parent must also provide a copy of a court order issued to him/her in terms of which he/she has been granted full parental responsibilities and rights in respect of the child.
- A letter from the person who is to receive the child in the destination country, containing his/her residential address and contact details where the child will be staying.
- A copy of the identity document or valid passport and visa or permanent residence permit of the person who is to receive the child in the destination country.
- The contact details of the parents or legal guardian of the child in the country of origin.