

**From:** [Bob Guild <respect@respectassociation.org>](mailto:respect@respectassociation.org) [[Add to Address Book](#)]

**To:** Bob Guild <[respect@respectassociation.org](mailto:respect@respectassociation.org)>

**Subject:** Complete descriptions of 12 categories of general license travel to Cuba attached

**Date:** Nov 16, 2017 12:54 PM

**Attachments:** NOTICE CUBA TRAVELERS-November 2017 (002).doc List of Restricted Entities and Subentities Associated With Cuba as of November 9, 2017.html.doc

16 Nov 17

Dear Friends and colleagues,

Please find attached NOTICE TO TRAVELERS the complete description of each of the 12 categories of travel to Cuba under a general license. I have also attached the official State Department list of "prohibited entities".

Only the new amendments were published in the Federal Register on November 9<sup>th</sup>, without including previously issued descriptions of the 12 categories and this has led to much confusion.

In the message below, I have tried to quickly summarize the changes in each category and to respond to several comments and questions which have come up.

- In general, most of the U.S. individuals and groups now traveling to Cuba in one of these categories may not stay at or eat at or buy goods from any of the entities on the "Prohibited List" attached – **unless their reservations were initiated prior to November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. No "direct financial transactions" can take place between individuals and/or groups and the entities on the list.

o A 'direct financial transaction' is defined as originating any transfer of funds whose ultimate beneficiary is an entity on this list.

o Also please note that persons traveling in Categories 3, 9, and 12 are not subject to this "prohibited list" (indicated in red in the attached NOTICE TO TRAVELLERS).

- One of the sub-categories – individual people to people travel – has been eliminated- effective **June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. Reservations in this sub-category initiated prior to June 16<sup>th</sup> are still valid no matter when the actual travel is taking place. This was one of the most important categories of general license travel allowing individuals to make their own arrangements on self-directed programs in Cuba.

- GROUP people to people travel (Category 5 - 515.565(b) remains as before.

- Please note INDIVIDUAL travel to Cuba is allowed in almost all the Categories of travel (as described in each category)

Bob Guild

Vice President

Co-Coordinator

Marazul Charters, Inc.

RESPECT

[bguild@marazul.com](mailto:bguild@marazul.com)

[respect@respectassociation.org](mailto:respect@respectassociation.org)

In reference to the attached descriptions of each of the 12 categories of general license travel, here are some comments:

Category 1 Visiting Close Relatives (Section 515.561(a)) : U.S. persons, and persons traveling with them who share a common dwelling as a family.

*This is the largest category of travel. It is also the category for family members accompanying persons traveling in certain other categories (e.g. doing professional research and/or attending professional meetings)*

Category 2 Official Government Business (Section 515.562)

**This travel general license does not prohibit qualifying U.S. persons from engaging in direct financial transactions with Cuban Restricted Entities.**

Category 3 Journalistic Activities (Section 515.563(a))

**This travel general license does not prohibit qualifying U.S. persons from engaging in direct financial transactions with Cuban Restricted Entities.**

Category 4 Professional Research and Professional Meetings:

Category 5. Educational Activities and People-to-People Exchanges:

· Educational Activities (Section 515.565(a)(1) U.S. academic institutions”), students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs at such institutions, and full-time permanent employees of such institutions

***Covers semester long / 10 week programs***

· Educational Activities (Section 515.565(a)(2)) : U.S. persons (including faculty, staff, and students)

***Covers short term study programs and other academic travel***

***Covers travel by high school classes***

· People-to-People Exchanges (Section 515.565(b))

***Please review all conditions of travel under this category in the attached.***

***Please note a U.S. person – who is an employee, paid consultant, agent, or other representative of the sponsoring organization must accompany each group.***

***Please note there is no minimum or maximum size of a group.***

***Please note any organization subject to U.S. jurisdiction which promotes people to people contact may sponsor a group.***

Category 6. U.S. Religious Organizations (Section 515.566(a)):

U.S. persons (including U.S. organizations and their members and staff) who are traveling to Cuba to engage in a full-time schedule of religious activities.

Category 7. Public Performances, Clinics, Workshops, Athletic and Other Competitions and Exhibitions:

Category 8. Support for the Cuban People (Section 515.574):

Please read the complete **conditions** of this category,

U.S. persons who are supporting the Cuban people, provided that:

a. The activities are of:

i. Recognized human rights organizations;

ii. Independent organizations designed to promote **a rapid and peaceful transition to democracy; or**

**The general license does not prohibit U.S. persons, who are qualified to travel for activities (a)(i) or (ii), from engaging in direct financial transactions with Cuban Restricted Entities.**

iii. Individuals or nongovernmental organizations that promote independent activity to strengthen civil society in Cuba;

**v The general license prohibits U.S. persons, who are qualified to travel for activities (a)(iii), from engaging in direct financial transactions with Cuban Restricted Entities.**

b. Each traveler engages in a full-time schedule of activities that:

i. Enhance contact with the Cuban people, support civil society in Cuba, or promote the Cuban people's independence from Cuban authorities;**and**

ii. Result in meaningful interaction with the Cuban people; **and**

c. Each traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule.

Category 9. Humanitarian Projects (Section 515.575)

✓ **This travel general license does not prohibit qualifying U.S. persons from engaging in direct financial transactions with Cuban Restricted Entities.**

***Please read conditions carefully***

Category 10. Private Foundations or Research or Educational Institutes (Section 515.576)

✓ **This travel general license prohibits qualifying U.S. persons from engaging in direct financial transactions with Cuban Restricted Entities.**

Category 11. Exportation/Importation of Informational Materials:

a. Exempt Informational Materials (Section 515.545(b)(1)):

b. Professional Media and Artistic Productions (Section 515.545(b)(2))

Category 12. Exportation of BIS Authorized or Licensed Goods:

a. Authorized or Licensed Goods (Section 515.533(c)(1)):

b. Aircraft or Vessels on Temporary Sojourn (Section 515.533(c)(2)):

c. Medicines and Medical Supplies (Section 515.559(d)):