

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

Ministry of Finance and Treasury

Office of the Directorate of Merchant Marine Circular No. 6

Consular and Maritime Affairs

To: Shipowners/Operators and Masters of Vessels

Subject: Application for vessel Registration

Reference: a. Regulation 1-76 dated December 17, 1976

b. Law No. 2 of January 17, 1980

1. Under the stipulations of Regulation 1-76 and Law No.2, 1980, every vessel, in order to be properly registered under the Panamanian Flag, must submit an application for registration. This application must be submitted on with an official seal or a validated paper by the owner of the vessel or his legal representative and forwarded either to Panamanian Consular Officials or to the competent authorities in the Republic of Panama at the Directorate General of Consular and Maritime Affairs.
2. When the application is submitted to a Panamanian Consul and before inquiring by cable for the respective authorization, the consular official will assume responsibility for the relevant fees, taxes, annual rates and any additional fee for the vessel in question. The authorization for the registry shall be requested from the Directorate General of Consular and Maritime Affairs (D.G.C.M.A.).
3. Once the authorization is granted, the request for the registration must be made with the following distribution:
 - a. original for the Consulate
 - b. duplicate for the interested party
 - c. triplicate for the D.G.C.M.A.
4. Once the above mentioned requirements have been met and the corresponding fees paid, the Provisional Registration ("Patente" Provisional) will be issued.
5. The D.G.C.M.A. may, by issuing a resolution stating the reasons thereof, reject a registration application whenever such application is contrary to the national interests.

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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular should be directed to:
Directorate of Consular and Maritime Affairs, New York Representative Office,
Republic of Panama, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor
New York, New York 10036, U.S.A.