

19-1398

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission and wishes to bring to their attention information regarding disposal of trash from office premises and all properties owned by the Government of his or her country in the District of Columbia.

As a beneficiary of exemption from real estate taxes in the District of Columbia, the Embassy is required to independently contract with a trash and recycling removal service to ensure all trash is stored properly and removed on a regular basis.

Embassies are informed that utilizing public trash cans to dispose of garbage from the Embassy's properties is in violation of District of Columbia code 24 DCMR 1009.1 Improper Use of Public Litter Receptacle.

More information regarding District of Columbia Solid Waste and Sanitation Regulations can be found at: <https://dpw.dc.gov/page/solid-waste-reg-21-7>.

The Department encourages Embassies to contact the Department of Public Works' Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program at [dpw@dc.gov](mailto:dpw@dc.gov) or 202-645-7190 to discuss the District of Columbia's sanitation rules.

In addition, in order to control rodents in the District of Columbia, it is important that Embassies contain trash in covered receptacles prior to disposal. Comprehensive information on rodent control may be found at the following link: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/rodent-control>. Embassy personnel are encouraged to call 311 to report rodent sightings in the District of Columbia.

Inquiries regarding this matter may be directed to the Department's Office of Foreign Missions at 202-895-3500, option 5, or to [OFMProperty@state.gov](mailto:OFMProperty@state.gov).

Department of State,

Washington, October 1, 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.