



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Vital Records Section

Beginning July 1, 2010, Connecticut residents born in Puerto Rico will need to obtain a new certified copy of their birth certificate from the Vital Statistics Record Office of the Puerto Rico Health Department under a new law passed by the government of Puerto Rico.

The new law represents a joint effort by the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Puerto Rico to address the fraudulent use of Puerto Rico-issued birth certificates to unlawfully obtain U.S. passports, Social Security benefits, and other federal services. The law will invalidate or cancel all existing certified copies of birth certificates issued by the Commonwealth prior to July 1, 2010. As a result, individuals who do not obtain a new birth certificate will not have the valid identity documentation necessary to apply for a Passport or other federal or state programs.

Connecticut residents born in Puerto Rico should contact the Office of Vital Statistics in Puerto Rico to obtain a new, more secure replacement birth certificate. Individuals may contact the government of Puerto Rico at <http://www.salud.gov.pr> or by phone at (787)-765-2929. An English version of the website, which also includes an on-line birth application form, can be accessed at: <http://www.salud.gov.pr/Programas/RegistroDemografico/Documents/Birth%20Certificate%20Application.pdf>.

Additional information about the new law is also available at www.prfaa.com/birthcertificates.



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