



Course Title: Evacuating American Citizens Abroad - Examining State, Defense, & Commercial Industry Collaboration

Transportation Academy Track:

Abbreviated Course Description (max of 100 words):

This course will look at the collaborative role between the Department of State & the Department of Defense in evacuating American citizens abroad, including a discussion of U.S. gov't after-action reports for Afghanistan.

Detailed Course Description (max of 250 words):

The Department of State's highest priority is to protect the lives and interests of U.S. citizens overseas. In a crisis, this will often include efforts to evacuate interested American citizens from locations where they are at risk due to civil/political unrest, war, or natural disasters. While evacuations typically are handled by the Department of State, in rare circumstances, the Department of Defense is requested to assist. While Afghanistan is the largest evacuation in recent history, this course will examine the circumstances in which the State Department leads an evacuation of American citizens, who is typically eligible for evacuation, modes of evacuation, as well as a deeper discussion on the utilization of CRAF activation in support of the Afghanistan evacuation, and a review of recently published U.S. government reports and lessons learned.

Organization Name: USTRANSCOM POLAD and USTRANSCOM J5I-A (CRAF)

Website: N/A



Lead Instructor: David "Buddha" Atkinson, CRAF Program Manager, USTRANSCOM

Brief Bio: Mr. Atkinson is the US Transportation Command Program Manager for the Emergency Preparedness Program known as the Civil Reserve Air Fleet. Dave is also the command designee for assembly and analysis of modal commercial business intelligence. Mr. Atkinson served active duty for 22 years in the US Air Force and is a veteran of Operation(s) ALLIED FORCE, ENDURING FREEDOM, and IRAQI FREEDOM as a Master Navigator and Weapons Officer on the KC-135R and Air Operations Center planner and strategist. Dave holds a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Policy and Management and Bachelor of Science in Geology from Brigham Young University. In his spare time, Dave is

an avid golfer and serves as a United States Soccer Federation and National Federation of High School Associations referee.



Instructor: Paul Mayer, USTRANSCOM Foreign Policy Advisor

Brief Bio: Paul Mayer serves as the Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the Commander, U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM). He is a member of the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister Counselor (O8 equivalent).

Prior to his arrival, Mr. Mayer was the Executive Director of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR), the State Department's Intelligence Community (IC) component. Mr. Mayer also served in the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs, including 7 months as Managing Director of Overseas Citizen Services, with a particular focus on hostage recovery issues. He was one of the Department's first representatives at the interagency Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell in 2015.

From 2012-2015, Mr. Mayer was the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane, Laos. Mr. Mayer's overseas assignments also include Tallinn, Estonia; Bangkok, Thailand; Udorn, Thailand; and Hong Kong. He also assisted with the evacuations of American citizens from Haiti in 2010, Egypt in 2011, and the Caribbean in 2017.



Point of Contact (publicly releasable)

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Consent:

I (we) consent to recording this session and posting on the NDTA website for training purposes.

✓ No

(Note: Only 25% of classes will be recorded)

I (we) consent to posting a pdf version of slides on the NDTA website for reference and training purposes.

✓ No

If you have any questions, please contact:

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