



THAI IMMIGRATION NEWS

The information below is based on reports from Expats using the Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration Office (Jomtien Soi 5) unless otherwise noted.

[Click here](#) for information on retirement extensions under the new rules issued in 2019

[Scroll down for information on](#)

Page 1

- Age of bank letter for Long Stay extension
- Instructions for online 90 day address reporting

Page 2

- Requirements for applying for a Non-Immigrant Visa (prelude to applying for retirement extension)

Page 3

- Alert for Expat renting to another Expat
- Proof of Residence
- Obtaining a Certificate of Residence from Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration

BANK LETTER SHOULD BE CURRENT

If you use funds on deposit in a Thai bank for all or part of your financial requirements, recent reports with the latest being May 5, 2019, are that some Pattaya Immigration is not accepting the Bank Letter if it is not dated on the date of application (previous reports were that it could not be more than 3 days old) – Also, they are requiring the passbook show a transaction on the date of application for extension.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ONLINE 90 DAY ADDRESS REPORTING

One of our members who completed his 90-day reporting online has provided us with detailed instructions – [click here](#) to see the instructions. You may receive a warning that it is an unsecured site; thus, there could be some risk if you want to use online reporting.

CHONBURI (PATTAYA) IMMIGRATION ENFORCING TM.30 ADDRESS REPORTING WITHIN 24 HOURS (UPDATED 4/3/19)

If you have never had a TM.30 filed for your current address, you should be aware of the possibility of it being checked.

Pattaya radio Fabulous FM 103 has prepared a video and text based on information they received from Chonburi Immigration regarding the filing of Form TM.30 to report an alien (foreigner) residing in your residence and/or property. To view the text with link to the video, visit: <http://fabulous103.com/immigration-thailand-visitors-home/>. To view just the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tStMlfgVu8Y>. FM 103 interviewed a Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration official about both TM.30 filing and retirement extension ([click here](#)).

If you regularly rent out property that you own, you can go to Immigration to get signed up for using online reporting. To download a copy, visit: <http://www.pcecnews.com/permNL/tm30.pdf> (source Thai Immigration Website).

REQUIREMENTS AT PATTAYA IMMIGRATION FOR NON-IMMIGRANT “O” VISA APPLICATIONS FOR USE IN EXTENDING YOUR STAY BASED ON RETIREMENT [Please Note: the following does not apply to those doing their annual renewal of their permission to stay or for those applying for a one year extension if they entered Thailand using a Non-Immigrant “O” Visa]

Using an Income Letter from your Embassy to show monthly income (UPDATE 3/1/19)

The UK, USA, Australia, and Denmark no longer issue letters certifying income. However, the Embassies continued to issue such letters until the end of December 2018. These certifications should be acceptable until 6 months after issue.

We have received reports (1/17) from Expats applying for a Non-Immigrant “O” Visa as part of the two step process to get a long stay retirement extension (having arrived in Thailand on Visa Exempt or Tourist Visa status). If using an Embassy letter certifying income to meet the financial requirements, Immigration wants the Embassy Letter to have been verified by the Department of Consular Affairs (located in Bangkok in the Chaeng Wattana Government Complex – 3rd Floor). The Legalization section will place a stamp on the document, the cost is 400 baht (regular) or 800 baht (express – same day). NOTE: This stamp IS NOT being required as of August 2016 if using the income letter when renewing your annual extension OR when applying for first time and you entered Thailand with a Non-Immigrant Visa.

[Click here](#) for a map showing location of Department of Consular Affairs office in the Government complex at Chang Wattana. The legal Department is on the 3rd floor.

Hand drawn map may be required - The Immigration Officers at Desk 9 are requiring a hand drawn map from the Immigration Office to your residence – the latest report that this is required was received in January 2017, we have no reports on whether this continue to be required.

ALERT FOR EXPATS RENTING TO/FROM ANOTHER EXPAT -- It appears that Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration Office may not approve applications for retirement extensions if you are renting a property from another retired expat unless they have a Work Permit for leasing their property – this also seems to be sporadic (latest report was in February 2017). Another report is that there is no problem if the owning Expat uses a regular management agent to do the rental and rental documents to be used for the extension come from the management agent.

PROOF OF RESIDENCE [updated October 2, 2018]

Documentation required can vary depending on the Immigration Officer processing the paperwork, these are the latest reports – **KEEP US INFORMED** -- If you experience something different or wish to confirm your experience, please let us know at: Darrel-pcec@inbox.com or info@pcecclub.org.

Chonburi (Pattaya) Immigration has implemented requirements for documenting proof of residence. The following is from an information sheet they are presently providing (copy provided to us on March 28, 2018:

5. A document showing your local Thai address-an official rent book or a letter headed receipt of rent paid, company papers or proof of ownership of a condominium or residence. The immigration officer will keep a photocopy of the document.

We received a report on October 2, 2018, that if you own your residence in a company name, you will need to have a copy of house book, chanote, and company registration showing the applicant is the Managing Director.

OBTAINING RESIDENCE LETTER FROM PATTAYA IMMIGRATION [Added January 10, 2019]

We have received recent reports that those wishing to obtain a Certificate of Residence at Chonburi (Pattaya) have run into some difficulties in obtaining them. Previously, to obtain the certificate, you completed the paperwork, provided copies of passport, two photos, and evidence of current residence (which could be as simple as a letter from your hotel).

These Certificates are required by the Chonburi Land Office for purchase of condominium, Chonburi Land Transport Office for purchase/sale by foreigner of a vehicle, or obtaining a Thai Driving license. In the case of driving license, Immigration insisted on providing a separate letter for type of vehicle, e.g., car, motorbike. The fee is 300 baht. Note, some Immigration Offices in Thailand will not issue such certificates and Bangkok Immigration only after you have filed your 90 day address report. Further, where this service is provided, the fees and length of time will vary.

We received one report where the person was informed that Chonburi Immigration was no longer providing residence certificate; however, subsequent reports was that they were, but might require involvement of the vehicle dealership, i.e., report states initial refusal to provide the Certificate. The car buyer contacted the dealer, the dealer then contacted Immigration and then they did issue the certificate for the individual. The most recent report, this week, was a person requesting the certificate because it was wanted by the bank where he was opening an account. Apparently the bank had no interest in contacting Immigration. The individual reporting the matter to us, said they waited a week, then went back in and said they needed the Certificate for a driving licenses and received it from Immigration without any problem.

Please note, a Certificate of Residence can also be obtained from your own Embassy. They are accepted by the Land Transport Department, Land Office, and most banks, etc. However, they are more costly, for US Citizens, the fee charged by the Embassy is about US\$50, and involves a trip to Bangkok to obtain it (it may also be available at an outreach visit).