



United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

September 2, 2016

Beth Baron and Amy W. Newhall
3542 N. Geronimo Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85705

Dear Ms. Baron and Ms. Newhall:

We are writing in response to your August 2 letter to Secretary of State John F. Kerry concerning the nonimmigrant visa case of Mr. Abdel Bari Abu Atwan. Because the Department of State is responsible for visa matters, your inquiry was forwarded to us for our reply. We appreciate your patience in awaiting a response.

Visa applications are adjudicated in accordance with the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and applicable federal regulations. While the Department of State makes every effort to facilitate legitimate travel by international visitors, we are also fully committed to administering U.S. immigration law and ensuring the integrity and security of our country's borders.

Pursuant to section 222(f) of the INA, visa records are considered confidential and may not be released to persons other than the visa applicant or designated agent. Therefore, we cannot discuss specific details of Mr. Atwan's visa application with you. We wish to assure you that Mr. Atwan's case will be given every possible consideration consistent with U.S. immigration law.

We hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christine Parker".

Christine Parker
Chief
Outreach and Inquiries Division
Visa Services