



BELIZE

**PASSPORTS ACT
CHAPTER 164**

REVISED EDITION 2020

**SHOWING THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS AS AT
31ST DECEMBER, 2020**

This is a revised edition of the Substantive Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020.

This edition contains a consolidation of amendments made to the law by Acts No. 3 of 2014, No. 14 of 2016 and No. 11 of 2018.



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CHAPTER 164

PASSPORTS

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.
2. Form of application, and fees.
- 2A. Minister may delegate specified functions.
3. Offences.
4. Penalties.

CHAPTER 164**PASSPORTS**

Ch. 108,
 R.L., 1958.
 CAP. 127,
 R.E., 1980-1990.
 14 of 1968.
 13 of 1986.
 22 of 1987.
 3 of 2014.
 14 of 2016.
 11 of 2018.
 S. I. 81 of 1981.
 S.I. 66 of 2018.

[18th May, 1957]

PART I*Preliminary*

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Passports Act.

Form of
 application, and
 fees.
 14 of 1968.
 13 of 1986.
 S.I. 81 of 1981.

2. The form of application for and the particulars to be furnished in respect of a Belize passport issued to any person, and any fee to be paid therefore, may from time to time be prescribed by the Minister by regulations issued under the provisions of this Act.

Minister may
 delegate
 specified
 functions.

14 of 2016.

2A.-(1) The Minister may, by Order published in the *Gazette*, delegate to any Minister of State appointed to assist him, the exercise or performance of all or any of the powers or functions conferred upon the Minister under the provisions of this Act specified in sub-section (4).

(2) A delegation under sub-section (1) is revocable by the Minister and the delegation of the exercise of a power or the performance of a function shall not preclude its exercise of performance by the Minister.

(3) The provisions of this Act shall apply in relation to a power or a function delegated under this section as they would apply where the power of function is exercised or performed by the Minister.

(4) The provisions specified are those of section 2.

(5) The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding the provisions of section 59 of the Interpretation Act (power to delegate authority). CAP. 1.

3.-(1) Every person who, in respect of any passport— Offences.

- (a) alters or tampers with the same;
- (b) is found in unlawful possession thereof;
- (c) on finding the same neglects or fails, within seven days of finding thereof, to send such passport to the Director of Nationality and Passports, appointed under the Belize Nationality Act or to the officer in charge at the nearest Police Station; 11 of 2018. CAP. 161.
- (d) by personation or false representation holds himself out as the rightful possessor thereof;
- (e) by personation or false representation procures or obtains or attempts to procure or obtain the issue of the same to himself or to any person;
- (f) parts with the possession of the same to another person without lawful authority or for an unlawful purpose;
- (g) destroys, makes away with or, by wilful neglect, allows any person to obtain possession of the same;

(h) without having actual knowledge of the applicant for a passport, makes any declaration verifying the declaration of such applicant, or vouching the fitness of such applicant to receive a passport or makes any such declaration merely on information obtained from the applicant or from any other person;

3 of 2014.

(i) issues or takes any action to facilitate the issue of a passport—

(i) without lawful authority; or

(ii) knowing that the issue of the passport is contrary to the provisions of this Act; or

3 of 2014.

(j) engages in conduct, in exercise of a duty or authority under this Act, for the purpose of obtaining a benefit for himself or another person,

commits an offence against this Act.

(2) Every person who aids or abets any person in the commission of any offence against this Act, or harbours any person whom he knows or has reasonable ground for believing to have committed an offence against this Act, also commits an offence against this Act.

Penalty.
3 of 2014.

4. Every person who commits an offence under this Act is liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for a term of imprisonment that is not less than five years but does not exceed fifteen years and to a fine not exceeding fifty thousand dollars.