

Kenyan Dignitaries visit MIA



L-R: Manny Gonzalez, Commissioner Jean Monestime, Vice Chairman Oliver Gilbert, III, Commissioner and Chairman of Airport & Economic Development Committee Keon Hardemon, Kenyan Senate Majority Leader Professor Samuel Poghishio, MDAD's Director & CEO Lester Sola, GES President & CEO Dwayne Corbitt, Deputy Aviation Director Ken Pyatt, Kenyan Senate Minority Leader James Orengo, Esq., U. Desmond Alufohai and Director & CEO of PortMiami Juan Kuryla.

The Miami-Dade Aviation Department hosted a Breakfast Meeting and Briefing on June 11, 2021 at MIA in honor of the Kenyan Senate Majority and Minority Leaders - The Honorable (Prof.) Samuel Poghishio and the Honorable James Orengo, Esq., respectively. More than 60 leaders and guests from academia, business, and diplomatic circles from across South Florida attended the event. Four (4) County Commissioners - Oliver Gilbert, III, Keon Hardemon, Jean Monestime and Kionne McGhee - and representatives from Miami International Airport, PortMiami, Miami-Dade Beacon Council, and the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau made presentations about the County's attributes and assets as a global gateway, tourism and logistics hub. Miami-Dade County officials and the Kenyan leaders also discussed ways to increase trade and commercial opportunities, foster cultural and educational ties, and building economic bridges between Kenya and Miami-Dade. PortMiami and the Port of Mombasa in Kenya, have an active Sister Seaport agreement. The Kenyan leaders expressed an interest in establishing a Kenyan Consulate General and/or Trade Post in Miami.

Additionally, Mr. Dwayne Corbitt, president of GES Industries USA-Africa noted that his company plans to establish a manufacturing firm in Miami-Dade and ship the products to Africa through Kenya.



We cordially invite interested parties to the **Protocol Officer Training™** - a five-day comprehensive course conducted by **The Protocol School of Washington®**

(PSOW) at the Miami International Airport Hotel Conference Room, from September 27 to October 1, 2021. The course provides expert instruction, guided exercises, and coaching in the fundamentals of operational protocol.

Protocol is a highly sophisticated and strategic asset in today's international business, military, and diplomatic environments. It dictates how we behave socially, conduct business, and orchestrate events when international, social, religious, and political considerations are important. You will gain a broad understanding of functional business, government, and international protocol, and the expertise to confidently and appropriately apply protocol formulas in the most complex and critical situations. Graduates will receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and a certificate for successful completion.

Topics include: Protocol History • Ceremonies • Dining Etiquette • Flags and Logos • Personal Diplomacy • Precedence and Positioning • Military Protocol • Seating • Titles and Forms of Address • Official Gifts • VIP Management.

[Click here for course overview, costs, and registration link.](#)

JUNE 2021

Division Director's Message



U. Desmond Alufohai
Director

Protocol & International Affairs Division
Miami-Dade Aviation Department

Every month has its own vibration, a feeling that is unique to its own transitional span of time. June is named after Juno, the Roman goddess of spring and growth. The weather is warm, school is out, and the days are long. June contains the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, the day with the most daylight hours, and the winter solstice in the Southern Hemisphere, the day with the fewest daylight hours.

We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Miami-Dade County officials and esteemed guests for joining us to welcome the Kenyan dignitaries to MIA. Mr. Dwayne Corbitt and Ms. Natalie Sigillito of GES Industries USA-Africa were instrumental to the outstanding success of their visit.

We are delighted that the Protocol School of Washington® will conduct its world renowned Protocol Training Course, for the first-time ever, in Miami, in September 2021. Space is limited, so please register now, if you are interested.

We welcome Mr. Oscar Vega Camacho, Consul General of Bolivia in Miami to our community and we salute all nations celebrating their independence and/or national day in June. As always, please be safe!

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BRIEFS & NOTES

[National Caribbean-American Heritage Month](#)

President Joe Biden signed a [Presidential Proclamation](#) on National Caribbean-American Heritage Month on June 1, 2021. During National Caribbean-American Heritage Month in June, we celebrate the legacy and essential contributions of Caribbean Americans who have added so much to our American fabric. According to the [Institute of Caribbean Studies](#) (ICS) “Caribbean immigrants have been contributing to the well-being of American society since its founding. “Alexander Hamilton, the First Secretary of the Treasury was from the Caribbean island of Nevis. We count among our famous sons and daughters, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Cicely Tyson, W.E.B Dubois, James Weldon Johnson, Harry Belafonte, and Sidney Poitier to name a few.

ICS' effort began in 1999 with a petition to President Bill Clinton for the recognition of a Caribbean American Heritage Month. In 2000, ICS began leading activities in celebration of June as Caribbean American Heritage Month in Washington DC, building on efforts started by a now defunct ad-hoc group of Washington DC residents to have a Caribbean Heritage Month designated in Washington DC in 1999. The official campaign for a National Caribbean American Heritage Month began in 2004 when a legislative bill was tabled in Congress by Congresswoman Barbara Lee. The Bill was reintroduced and passed the House in June 2005 and the Senate in February 2006. A [Proclamation](#) making the resolution official was signed by President George W. Bush on June 5, 2006.

[National Immigrant Heritage Month](#)



June is National Immigrant Heritage Month in the United States. Immigrant Heritage Month is an initiative put forth by the [I Am An Immigrant](#) foundation that seeks to celebrate our shared heritage as an immigrant nation and the important contributions to our economy, culture, and common identity by immigrants from all around the world. The celebration formally began in 2014 and seeks to give immigrants and refugees in our country the opportunity to explore and celebrate their background as well as to create awareness on how diversity and immigration are both essential elements of our social fabric.

According to a recent study by [New American Economy](#), 45% of companies founded by immigrants or their children generated \$16.1 trillion in revenue in 2018. [Another study](#) shows that about 44% of companies on the Forbes 500 list were created by immigrants or by children of immigrants. Companies such as Google (founded by Sergei Bryn from Russia), Yahoo (founded by Jerry Yang from Taiwan), eBay (founded by Iranian/French entrepreneur Pierre Omidyar), and many more have made radical innovations to our way of life that could not have been possible without the immigrants that built them. [Here is the link to President Joe Biden's Proclamation on National Immigrant Heritage Month.](#)

[National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Pride Month, 2021](#)

June is Pride Month, when the [world's LGBT communities](#) come together and celebrate the freedom to be themselves. Pride gatherings are rooted in the arduous history of minority groups who have struggled for decades to overcome prejudice and be accepted for who they are. The original organizers chose this month to pay homage to [the Stonewall uprising](#) in June 1969 in New York City, which helped spark the modern gay rights movement. Most Pride events take place each year in June, although some cities hold their celebrations at other times of the year.

LGBTQ, or even LGBTQIA, include queer, intersex, and asexual groups. Queer is an umbrella term for non-straight people; intersex refers to those whose sex is not clearly defined because of genetic, hormonal, or biological differences; and asexual describes those who do not experience sexual attraction. These terms may also include gender fluid people, or those whose gender identity shifts over time or depending on the situation. [Click here to view the 2021 Presidential Proclamation in LGBTQ Pride Month.](#)

[Juneteenth County Holiday – June 19, 2021](#)

Juneteenth (short for “June Nineteenth”) marks the day when federal troops arrived in [Galveston, Texas](#) in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops’ arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the [Emancipation Proclamation](#). Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday. For the first time, Miami-Dade County will recognize and commemorate “Juneteenth” celebrated on the 19th of June each year to observe the official emancipation of the last group of enslaved people in the United States.

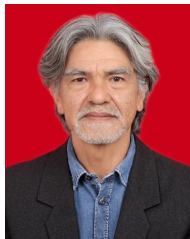
The holiday was first celebrated in Texas, where on that date in 1865, Major General Gordon Granger of the Union Army landed in Galveston, TX, and informed slaves that the Civil War had ended and slavery had been abolished per the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863, signed by President Abraham Lincoln January 1, 1863. Since then, it has also been billed as “Emancipation Day” and recognized in several states and now Miami-Dade County. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill on June 16, 2021 to make Juneteenth a federal holiday.

[National Business Etiquette Week \(June 7-14, 2021\)](#)

National Business Etiquette Week was established in 2007 to highlight the importance of proper etiquette and the ways in which it improves interpersonal and intercultural communications, creates a professional environment for building relationships, and allows organizations to conduct business effectively in the global marketplace. The [Protocol School of Washington®](#) set aside this week in June as National Business Etiquette Week. This is a time to highlight the promotion of people skills, professionalism, and protocol, including mobile phone and technology etiquette. Good business etiquette skills are an asset and send a message to customers and clients that you are professional, credible, and someone with whom they want to do business.

DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

New Consul General of Bolivia in Miami



Mr. Oscar Vega Camacho is the new Consul General of Bolivia in Miami. He is an independent researcher and writer from La Paz, with studies in Philosophy and Literature at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Mexico City, Mexico. He was part of the Representation of the Presidency for the Constituent Assembly in Bolivia and the Constitutional Studies Center of the Catholic University of Bolivia "San Pablo," where he was a visiting professor. Consul General Vega Camacho has authored the following publications: *Errancias. Aperturas para vivir bien (2011)*, and in press: *Asedios al Estado. Descolonización y plurinacionalidad*.

Countries celebrating Independence and National Days in June

June 2, 1946 – Italy: Republic Day or Festa della Repubblica (Festival of the Republic), commemorates the day Italians voted to abolish the monarchy and replace it with a republic.

June 3, 2006 – Montenegro: In a referendum held on May 21, 2006, Montenegrins voted to end the federation with Serbia and declared independence on June 3, 2006. The Serbian parliament recognized Montenegro's independence two days later.

June 4, 1970 – Tonga: After signing the Treaty of Friendship in 1900, the Kingdom of Tonga became a protectorate of the United Kingdom. Although Tonga retained its sovereignty and continued to self-govern, foreign affairs were handled by the UK. On Emancipation Day, June 4, 1970, Tonga achieved full independence from the UK.

June 6, 1523 – Sweden: On June 6, 1523 Gustav Vasa was elected king of Sweden, marking the abolishment of the Kalmar Union between Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. From 1916 to 1982, the day was celebrated as Swedish Flag Day. Since 1983, June 6 has been celebrated as Sweden's National Day.

June 10, 1580 – Portugal: Portugal Day, also called Camoes Day, is celebrated annually on June 10 and commemorates the day Portugal's greatest and most revered poet, Luis de Camoes, passed away in 1580.

June 12, 1898 – Philippines: Although the Philippines declared independence from Spain during the Spanish-American War of 1898, Spain ceded them to the United States after the war ended. For nearly 50 years, the Philippines was a colony of the United States until achieving independence on July 4, 1946. In 1962, the date of Philippine independence was changed to June 12, 1898, honoring the day [General Emilio Aguinaldo](#) had declared independence from Spain.

June 12, 1990 – Russia: Russia's national holiday, Russia Day, has been celebrated annually since 1992. It commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of State Sovereignty of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) on June 12, 1990.

June 12, 2021 – United Kingdom: Since 1748, when King George II decided to combine his birthday celebration with an annual military parade, the 'Trooping of the Colour', has marked the official birthday of the British Sovereign. Due to Britain's unpredictable weather, King George II chose to hold the parade in June, and this tradition continues today. In 2021, Queen Elizabeth's birthday will be celebrated on June 12, 2021. Due to the ongoing pandemic, celebrations will be scaled down.

June 17, 1944 – Iceland: After a two-part referendum in May 1944, the union with Denmark was dissolved on June 17, 1944. The date was chosen to coincide with the birthday of Jon Sigurdsson, the leader of Iceland's 19th Century independence movement.

June 23, (1962) – Luxembourg: The celebration of the sovereign became an important patriotic public holiday during the reign of Grand Duchess Charlotte (1919–1964). In 1962, National Day festivities were changed to June 23, to take advantage of the summer weather.

June 25, 1991 – Slovenia: It declared independence from Yugoslavia on June 25, 1991.

June 25, 1975 – Mozambique: Since Vasco de Gama came ashore in 1497, and Portuguese settlers followed in 1505, Mozambique had been part of Portugal, first as a province and then as a colony. On June 25, 1975, Mozambique attained its independence from Portugal.

June 26, 1960 – Madagascar: Declared independence from France on June 26, 1960.

June 27, 1977 – Djibouti: Before 1967, Djibouti was known as French Somaliland and from 1967 – 1977 as the French Territory of the Afars and Issas. When the territory gained independence from France on June 27, 1977, it was renamed Djibouti.

June 29, 1976 – Seychelles: A British crown colony since 1903, the Seychelles became an independent republic on June 29, 1976.

June 30, 1960 – Democratic Republic of Congo: On June 30, 1960, the DRC gained its independence from Belgium.

ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is -

To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.

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For comments, suggestions, event announcements or to opt-out, please send us an email.

