



Understanding Evacuation Orders

This flyer provides a quick reference to understand the differences among the three main types of evacuation orders for dependents of U.S. government personnel.

1. AUTHORIZED DEPARTURE

What it is: Least urgent phase of evacuation. Voluntary, government authorizes departure of dependents due to a worsening security situation.

Key Features

- **Voluntary:** Dependents can choose whether to leave. Decision rests with the family. May not return until order is lifted.
- **Government Funded:** The government will reimburse cost of a one-way ticket to designated haven location, plus return at a future date, where applicable.
- **Allowances:** Certain allowances may be authorized to help with the costs of temporary lodging and subsistence.

2. ORDERED DEPARTURE

What it is: Second level of evacuation is mandatory. Government orders the departure of all dependents from a foreign country.

Key Features

- **Mandatory:** Dependents are required to leave the country. Failure to comply can result in disciplinary action against the sponsoring personnel.
- **Government Managed:** Government will arrange and pay for transportation to a designated haven.
- **Increased Urgency:** Initiated when the security situation has become more dangerous, and the government believes dependents should not remain.
- **Allowances:** Like Authorized Departure, allowances for temporary lodging and subsistence are provided.

3. NON-COMBATANT EVACUATION OPS

What it is: Most urgent and serious level of evacuation. NEO is a full-scale evacuation of all non-combatant U.S. citizens, from a foreign country.

Key Features

- **Military Operation:** NEOs are planned and executed by the Department of War.
- **Extreme Situations:** NEOs are ordered in the face of imminent or actual hostilities, civil war, or natural disaster that poses grave threats to American lives.
- **All U.S. Citizens:** Initiated for the protection of dependents. NEOs include all U.S. citizens wishing to evacuate.
- **Evacuation:** Evacuees are transported to a designated haven.

In all 3 scenarios, timelines will be compressed so it is imperative to be ready at all times! This means having a “Go-Bag” with 7 days’ worth of items, passports, medications, and cash as necessary. Should any of these instances occur, detailed information will be provided to include pet information.