



Trends, Tips and Lessons Learned

October 2013

Hope you enjoyed your summer. As Fall approaches we wanted to share with you some tips on investing and traveling abroad as well as a recent case study we thought you would appreciate. As always, we hope you are doing well and business is thriving.

Spotlight: Turkey

To keep you abreast of investment and travel risks outside the United States, Corporate Resolutions is highlighting the third in our series of MIST (Mexico, Indonesia, S. Korea and Turkey) countries. This focus will be on **Turkey**:

- The Turkish National Police (TNP) are professional and the economy is strong and crime rates are very low. The PKK cease fire has been in effect for the longest period in history and many believe that it will endure. The rate of street crime remains relatively low in Turkey. In Istanbul, petty street crime (pick pocketing, purse snatching, mugging) is most common in tourist areas such as Taksim Square, Sultanahmet, and in the areas around the Grand Bazaar and Spice (Egyptian) Bazaar. Visitors to those, and other, tourist destinations should carry only what is needed when there. Carry a copy of your passport and visa with you and leave your U.S. passport and other valuables in your hotel safe.
- When dining out, only visit well-established restaurants. Always ask to see a menu, with prices, before ordering anything to avoid becoming susceptible to a common con whereby a restaurant patron orders exorbitantly high priced food without knowing it and is soon given a deliberately outrageous bill.
- The Maoist terrorist group DHKP/C has continued to conduct violent attacks against the Turkish government and Western interests in Turkey. More recently, the group has been intensely outspoken against US military operations in Afghanistan and in Iraq and must be seen as a continuing threat. A suspected suicide bomber detonated an explosive in front of the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, killing himself and a guard at the entrance gate this past February.
- Exercise due diligence when purchasing real estate in Turkey. For more information please visit the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Guidance for Foreigners website. Please carefully research the background of any property in order to ensure that everything is legal.
- For additional safety and security information, be sure to routinely check the information published in the US Dept. of State Country Specific Information sheet. http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1046.html. Also all travelers should join the Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). There is no check for citizenship and most of the fields can be skipped <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/>. By signing up for STEP, they will get the latest security information for Turkey as it is shared with the broader community. This could be especially helpful for fast breaking situations when someone is on the ground in Turkey.

And a Recent Case Study...

Members of a board of a private company heard rumors their CEO was absent more often than usual and was behaving erratically. They hired us to see if we could figure out what was going on and if the CEO's behavior was in any way a risk to the company. Through our investigative research, we confirmed the board's suspicions: the CEO had been systematically embezzling company funds to his own bank accounts. The board was faced with a predicament: how to terminate the CEO who was known to have a bad temper without disrupting the office while avoiding any unpredictable problems, such as outrage or threats of lawsuits. To navigate this sensitive situation we executed appropriate security measures to be present at the company on the day the CEO was removed from his position; we conducted a physical security threat assessment: changed the locks and other access control devices and installed cameras at access points into the facility; changed all passwords (administrative passwords) and alarm codes; and, we assisted the board in educating employees on appropriate codes of conduct. We also implemented an Ethics Hotline at the company so that employees could anonymously report any wrongdoing and thus provided the board with a set of eyes on the inside to avoid any future damaging situations.

About Corporate Resolutions

Corporate Resolutions Inc. was founded in 1991 and is headquartered in New York City, with additional offices in Hong Kong (Asia-Pacific), London (Western/Eastern Europe), Miami (Latin America/Caribbean) and Boston. Corporate Resolutions conducts background checks and business investigations globally and offers a suite of investigative solutions including background checks, Ethics Hotlines, FCPA investigations, business intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) compliance reviews. Our professional staff is comprised of former FBI and US Customs Agents, white-collar investigators, intelligence analysts, public record specialists and investigators both nationally and internationally. Ken Springer, President and Founder of Corporate Resolutions Inc., is a former FBI agent who, along with Joelle Scott, Director of Business Intelligence, recently published *Digging for Disclosure: Tactics for Protecting Your Firm's Assets from Swindlers, Scammers and Imposters*. www.corporateresolutions.com.