

## PRESS RELEASE

Q/A on Page 3

**Reminder: New rules are to be effective imminently,**

**As of June 26<sup>th</sup> 2012 everyone must possess a passport of their own when travelling in or out of the country. Thus, children under the age of 15 who are imbedded into the passport of an adult must have a passport of their own, if they are to travel abroad. Passport applications must be submitted to 'Borgerservice'.**

On December 12<sup>th</sup> 2011 the Ministry of Justice issued a notification regarding passports which, i.e. meant that passports issued after January the 1<sup>st</sup> of 2012 must contain a fingerprint. The new passports will make it more difficult to counterfeit and abuse passports.

The notification also contains the stipulation that, as of June 26<sup>th</sup> 2012, everyone must possess their own passport if they are to journey in or out of the country.

This means that it is no longer possible for children under the age of 15 who are imbedded into the passport of their parents or any other adult prior to October 1<sup>st</sup> 2004, to travel without a passport of their own.

Children under the age of 15 who are imbedded into the passports of their parents or another adult who are to travel after June 26<sup>th</sup> 2012 must, thus, have a passport of their own. This also applies if the journey

out of the country happens prior to the June 26<sup>th</sup> - if the journey into the country happens after June 26<sup>th</sup> 2012. The adult or parent who has the child imbedded into his/her passport is, however, not required to have their passport renewed at this time.

As of June 26<sup>th</sup> it will no longer be possible to have a '*fællespas*' issued, in which i.e students and teachers may travel abroad using the same passport.

### **Background information**

The reason for children under the age of 15 to no longer travel without a passport of their own is due to an EU decree which contains a principle stating: "one person – one passport". This principle means that a passport must only affect its' owner. Following the decree it is a demand that a passport is issued as a 'personal document' which means that everyone – even minors – must possess a passport of their own. The purpose of this procedure is to complicate the counterfeiting and abuse of passports.

The option of imbedding under the age of 15 into the passport of a parent or another adult was withdrawn by a modification of the passport declaration which came into effect October 1<sup>st</sup> 2004.

Journalists may contact Carsten Andersen (Communications adviser), Danish National police on 2510 7724. Citizens may contact Danish civil service centres should they have further inquiries.

## Questions and Answers – Children in passports

### 1. What do I do?

*If your child is imbedded into the passport of a parent or another adult and the child is to travel abroad – you must apply for a passport for your child at ‘Borgerservice’.*

*You can read more about the application for passports on [www.borger.dk](http://www.borger.dk) or on the homepage of your local municipality.*

### 2. What do I do if I cannot have a passport issued before my journey?

*If it is not possible to issue a passport for your child before your journey, Borgerservice may issue a provisional passport.*

*Important notice: Not all countries permit entry on the mandate of a provisional passport. Further information regarding which countries do and do not permit entry on the mandate of a provisional passport may be found by consulting the embassy of the country in question, located in Denmark.*

### 3. Can a child travel without a personal passport if the departure takes place prior to June 26<sup>th</sup>?

*Children under the age of 15 who are imbedded into the passports of a parent or another adult and travelling after June 26<sup>th</sup> 2012 must possess a personal passport. This also applies even if the departure took place prior to June 26<sup>th</sup>, if the return trip takes place after June 26<sup>th</sup>.*

### 4. Will the passport of the adult still be valid?

*The adult, whose passport has the child imbedded, does not necessarily have to be renewed. The validity of the passport depends on when the passport has been issued. A passport is, per usual, valid for 10 years.*

#### **5. How much does it cost to have a passport issued to a child?**

*The fee for issuing a passport to a person under the age of 18 is 115,- DKK. In addition, a fee of 25,- DKK covers the cost of having a fingerprint admitted. As of now, children below the age of 12 are not required to supply a fingerprint.*

*It is free to have a provisional passport issued; assuming one applies for a regular passport of which one has already paid the fee.*