



Siam Legal International Clarifies 90-Day Report Rules for Departing Residents

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Siam Legal International, a law firm in Thailand with more than 22 years of experience, is addressing one of the most frequent questions raised by long-term residents: what happens to the mandatory 90-day address report when the holder leaves the country while the report is due. The firm confirms that departing Thailand during the filing window removes the need to file, as the 90-day count stops on departure and restarts on re-entry.

Under Thai immigration rules, any foreign national who remains in Thailand for more than 90 consecutive days must notify immigration authorities of a current residential address. The requirement applies to most long-term visa categories. Holders of the Long-Term Resident (LTR) visa report only once a year, while Thailand Privilege members have access to dedicated services that handle the notification on their behalf.

For all other long-stay visa holders, the report must be filed within a three-week window that opens 15 days before the due date and closes seven days after it. A missed deadline carries a fine of THB 2,000, which rises to THB 5,000 if police or immigration officers identify the lapse before the foreign national comes forward.

Travel during that window changes the calculation. A foreign national who leaves Thailand while a report is due does not need to file it, because the current 90-day period ends at departure. On return, the count begins again at day one the moment the traveler clears passport control. Leaving before the seven-day grace period expires also means immigration will not flag the unfiled report at the airport.

The one step that cannot be skipped is the re-entry permit. A foreign national holding a visa extension who departs Thailand without first obtaining a valid re-entry permit risks having the current visa cancelled, regardless of where the 90-day count stands.

"The 90-day report is tied to a continuous stay, so leaving the country effectively closes that cycle," said Rex Baay, Senior Immigration Consultant and Operations Manager at Siam Legal International. "The mistake that causes real damage is not the report itself but forgetting the re-entry permit, because a cancelled visa costs far more time and money to rebuild than any reporting fine."

Foreign nationals who remain in Thailand must still file, and three methods are available: in person at an immigration office, by mail, or through the online portal. Each carries practical drawbacks. The online system frequently fails to process submissions, and it does not offer the seven-day extension after the deadline, meaning online reports must be completed within the 15 days leading up to the due date.

Mailed reports carry the risk of documents being lost in the postal system. In-person filing is the most dependable route but can take a full day, particularly at the immigration offices inside the Chaeng Watthana Government Complex in Bangkok, which costs working professionals and retirees time.

Siam Legal's 90-day reporting guide walks through the filing window, the re-entry reset, and each submission method in further detail. The firm's immigration team also manages 90-day notifications on behalf of clients who prefer to have the process handled for them, alongside broader visa status reviews for long-term residents.

Siam Legal International is a Thailand-based law firm with more than 22 years of practice, serving Thai and foreign clients from offices in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, and Pattaya. Its lawyers and immigration consultants handle visa and residency matters, property and corporate transactions, family law, and litigation.

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Siam Legal International

American-managed Thailand law firm with 22+ years? experience. Experts in corporate setup, BOI, FBL, family & divorce, property, litigation, immigration, notary, wills, contracts & due diligence across Bangkok, Phuket, Pattaya & more.

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