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Everything You Need to Know About Depositions in Seoul, South Korea

Seoul, South Korea has boomed in the last 50 years to become the planet's 10th most economically robust city and the second largest metropolitan area. With this modern city thriving due to an influx of telecom, it is no surprise that U.S. depositions taking place in Seoul have become more and more frequent.

Optima Juris has been scheduling depositions in South Korea for over 15 years and we know everything there is to know about depos in South Korea. Read on for a wealth of essential details, insider information, and first-hand tips.

Deposing a Willing Witness in Seoul, South Korea

Depositions in Seoul are relatively straight forward. South Korea is a party to the Hague Evidence Convention, which means they allow for depositions of U.S. citizens to be taken without prior permission or special formalities. For depositions of Korean nationals or third country nationals you will need to request permission from the Korean Central Authority. Here is the official statement from the Department of State http://travel.state.gov/content/travel/english/legal-considerations/judicial/country/korea-south.html:

Under the Hague Evidence Convention, the Republic of Korea permits the taking of voluntary depositions of U.S. citizen willing witnesses by a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States. Oral depositions of U.S. citizens or depositions of U.S. citizens on written questions may be taken by U.S. consular officers or by private attorneys from the United States either on notice or pursuant to a commission. If the services of a U.S. consular officer are required to administer an oath to the witness, interpreter and stenographer, such arrangements must be made in advance with the U.S. embassy directly. Korea objected to the provisions of the Convention which pertain to the taking of voluntary depositions of Korean nationals or third country nationals by commissioners. Private attorneys and U.S. consular officers are prohibited from taking depositions of Korean nationals and third country nationals.

Consequently, depositions of such willing witnesses in the Republic of Korea must be undertaken pursuant to a request to the Korean Central Authority for the Hague Evidence Convention and in the context of the Republic of Korea court system.

Where to Hold Your Deposition

South Korea does not have any specific restrictions on where you can or can't hold your deposition. This gives you an endless amount of options to choose from. Most depos in Seoul take place in a comfortable conference room in one of the many modern and luxurious hotels or conference room facilities. As the planet's most wired city, Seoul also has many sophisticated and reliable videoconferencing facilities available if needed. Contact me to find out my favorite options.

Traveling to South Korea

U.S. citizens can travel to South Korea with just a valid U.S. passport as long as they are staying less than 90 days and traveling for tourism or temporary business purposes. Find out more here: http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/korea-south.html

As the planet's leading airport, Incheon International Airport is highly efficient and modern. Direct flights can be found from many U.S. cities including Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Dallas, Houston, Honolulu,

Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Seattle, and Washington D.C. For flight times and routes check out this interactive map: http://english.visitkorea.or.kr/enu/GK/GK EN 2 2 1.jsp.

With 10 million residents, Seoul has a plethora of menu and staying options for all types of business travelers. You can pick from Western-style rooms (carpeting, raised beds and a desk with a chair), or traditional Korean rooms with ondul-heating (floor heating) and low or floor sitting cushion style quarters. Guests are expected to remove their shoes and wear provided slippers.

For more information on South Korea, check our article http://www.optimajuris.com/international-deposition-blog/a-regional-guide-to-depositions-in-asia-1058/

Questions about Depositions in Seoul, South Korea

Myself and a team of global deposition experts are ready to <u>answer any questions</u> you may have about depos in South Korea. As the knowledge leaders on international depositions, we have the expert knowledge and advice to make sure your depo in Seoul goes as smoothly as it would in the U.S. Optima Juris has been conducting depositions without fail for over 15 years, and is the only firm that is 100% dedicated to international depositions with true global coverage. Contact us today to find out more about deposition services in South Korea.

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