



**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

December 1, 2020

HC-50-20

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Offices to the United Nations and wishes to inform that it has come to the attention of the Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) that the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), the office responsible for the bridges and tunnels toll system collection in New York, recently has begun the collection of unpaid tolls and toll violations. The United States Mission reminds the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Offices that a mission or office and its members have an obligation to respect local law, and failure to stop and pay (or have a transponder to pay) tolls constitutes a violation of local law.

The United States Mission requests the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Offices' assistance in properly and promptly resolving unpaid tolls for which MTA has assessed the mission, if any, reminding members and their

Permanent and Observer Missions
to the United Nations
New York, NY

DIPLOMATIC NOTE

dependents of obligations to pay tolls, and to undertake practices to ensure that no future unpaid tolls will be assessed.

It is the State Department's longstanding policy (reaffirmed in the Department's diplomatic note No. 16-1971, dated December 12, 2016) not to intervene with local jurisdictions in these matters. Mission members and their dependents are therefore expected to resolve alleged violations, and to pay outstanding tolls, in accordance with local law. If you have questions about an invoice you received, please contact MTA at 646-252-7228.

The Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Offices are reminded that mission members may contact the MTA to apply for "E-ZPass" accounts for all mission and personal vehicles to ensure that all these tolls are paid on time. The application to apply for an "E-ZPass" account can be found at:

<http://web.mta.info/bandt/ezpass/>.

Questions concerning this matter may be directed to OFM by electronic mail to OFMNYCustomerService@state.gov.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions and Permanent Observer Offices to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

JBD