



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF PRIVATE SECTOR EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATION (OPA)

Academic and Government Programs

PARTNERING IN THE EVP: TRENDS & CASE STUDIES

- PRESENTATION OVERVIEW
 - OPA Current State of Affairs
 - Overall EVP Trends
 - Site Reviews and Site Visits
 - Incident Reporting Procedures
 - Case Studies
 - Questions

THE EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM



EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM OFFICE OF PRIVATE SECTOR EXCHANGE



OPA STRUCTURE

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Intern, Trainee, and Au Pair

Secondary School Student,
Teacher, and Alien Physician

HOW IS OPA-AG DIFFERENT FROM THE OFFICE OF DESIGNATION (D-AG)?

D-AG works specifically with the following:

Reviewing designation and re-designation applications.

Assisting sponsors with day-to-day J-1 visa related administrative, policy, and regulatory questions and inquiries. Reviews annual reports and requests for reinstatement, change of category, extension, and permission to issue.

Conducting outreach to assist sponsors and to evaluate the health of program categories.

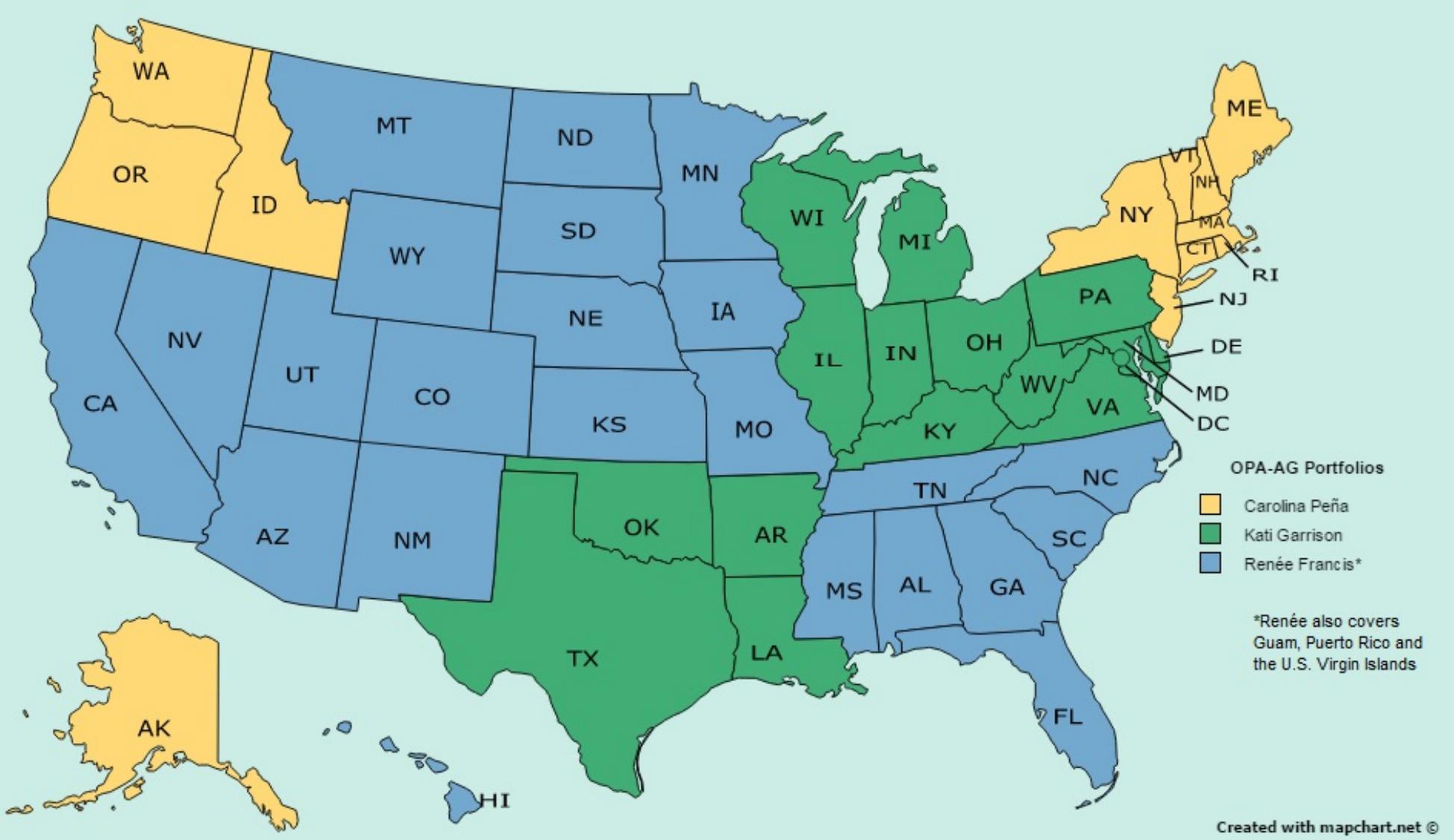
OPA-AG works specifically with the following:

Responding to complaints and incidents.

Evaluating sponsors' day-to-day administration. Reviews SEVIS records. Monitors and enforces compliance with Department regulations and policies with a focus on exchange visitor's health, safety, and well-being.

Conducting field site visits and partnership consultations.

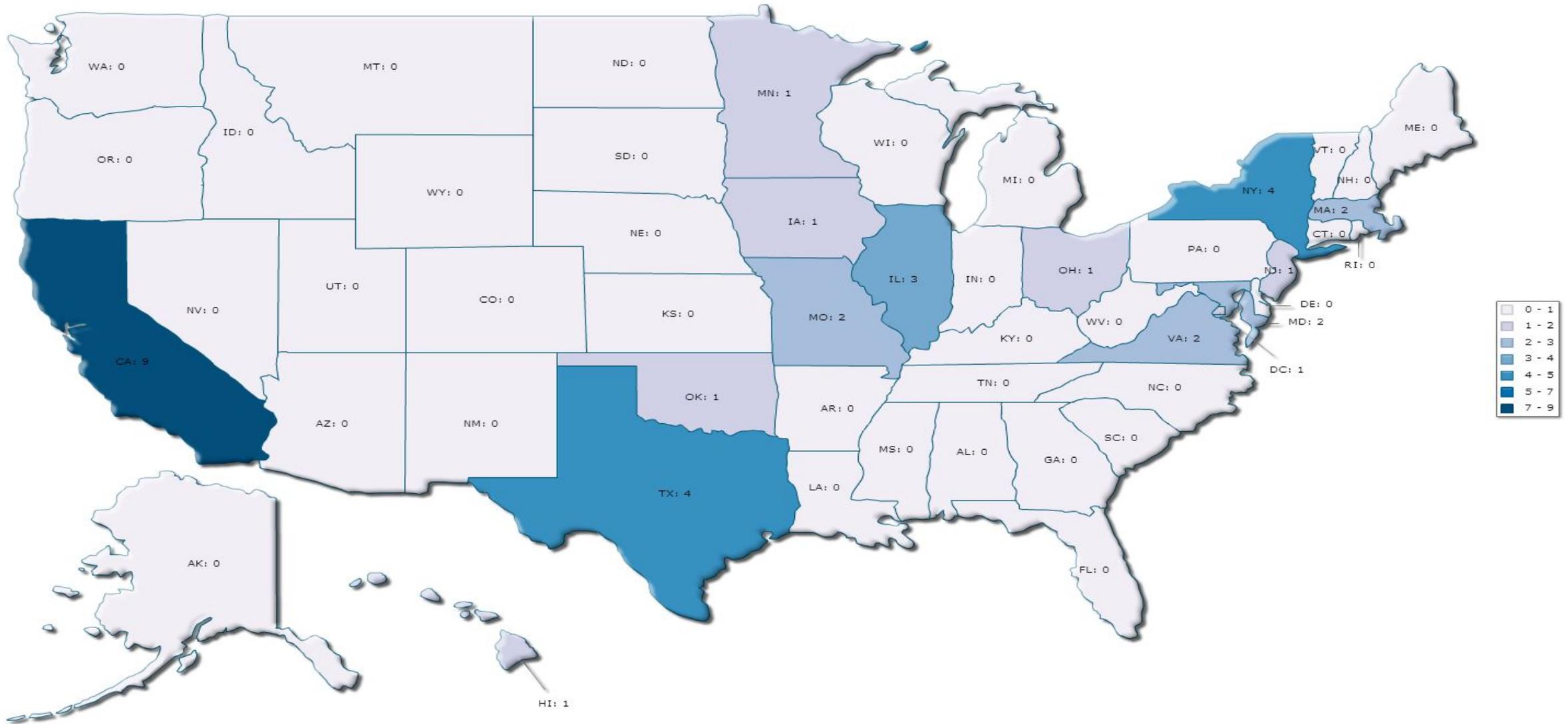
OPA ACADEMIC AND GOVERNMENT PORTFOLIO DISTRIBUTION



QUESTIONS FROM SPONSORS: RESPONDING TO COMPLAINTS

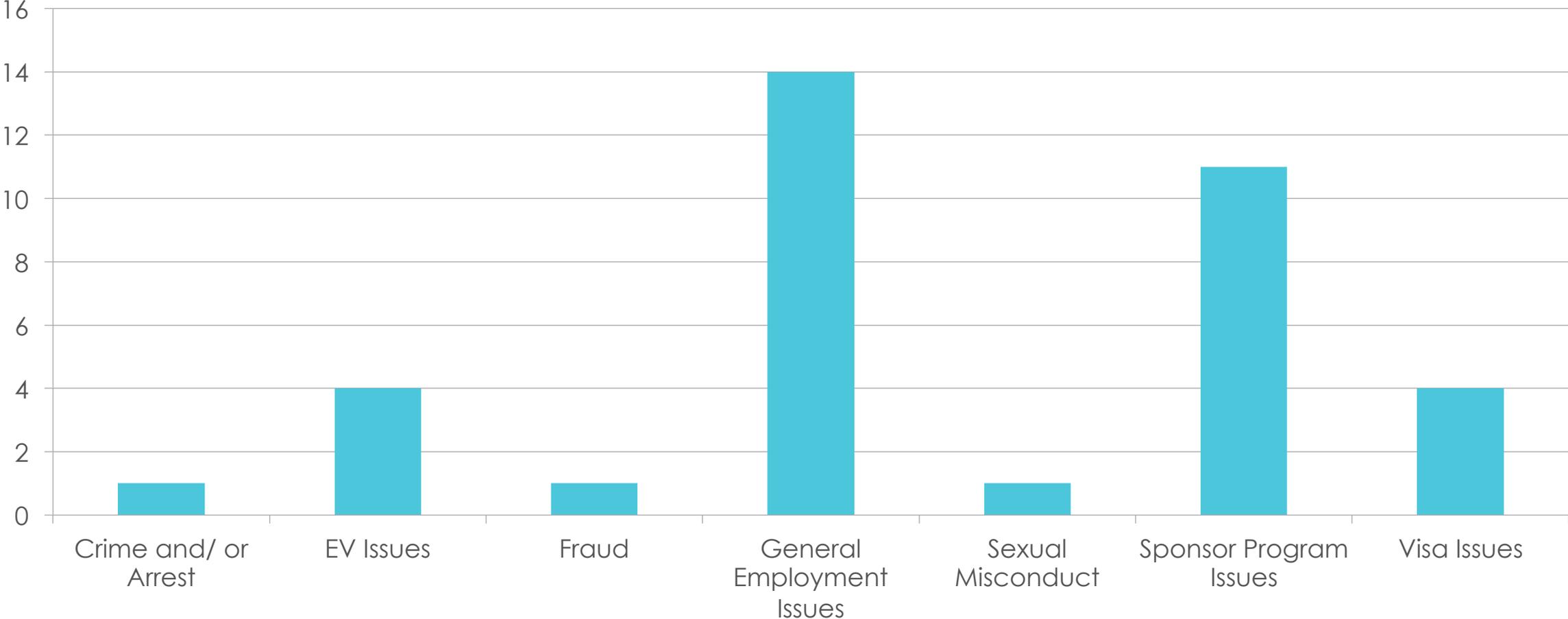
How would you usually investigate or follow-up on a complaint by an Exchange Visitor or a third party? What is the process afforded to the one making the complaint and the one against whom the complaint is made?

COMPLAINTS REPORTED BY STATE JUNE 2014 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2016



NATURE OF COMPLAINTS REPORTED

JUNE 2014 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2016



Total Complaints: 36

QUESTIONS FROM SPONSORS: INCIDENT REPORTING

The Exchange Visitor Program categories that brought disrepute were not academic or government programs. Isn't this reporting rubric meant for sponsors of non-academic and government programs?

WHY REPORT INCIDENTS TO OPA?

1

PUBLIC
DIPLOMACY
OBJECTIVES



2

METRICS



3

ASSISTANCE
FROM THE
DEPARTMENT



REPORTING INCIDENTS

AGalert@State.gov

Complete the Academic and Government Category Incident Report within 24 hours once the sponsor is aware of the issue. 1 business day).

Academic and Government Category Incident Report

Today's Date:		Approximate Time:	
A. REPORTER INFORMATION			
Name:		Title:	
Email:		Telephone Number:	
Sponsor Name:		Program Number:	
City:		State:	
B. PARTICIPANT INFORMATION			
EV Family Name:		EV First Name:	
DOB:		Country of Citizenship:	
SEVIS Number:		Program Category:	<input type="text"/>
Program Start Date:		Program End Date:	
City:		State:	
Other Parties Involved: (contact information)			
C. SUMMARY			
Nature of Incident:			
Date of Occurrence:		Date 1 st Reported to Sponsor:	
Brief Narrative: (Timeline of Events)			
D. ACTION TAKEN			
E. NEXT STEPS / PROPOSED SOLUTION			
F. UPDATE (please number and date each update submitted)			

INCIDENT REPORTING RUBRIC

J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM: ACADEMIC AND GOVERNMENT CATEGORY INCIDENT REPORTING RUBRIC

This reporting rubric should be used by Department of State–designated Exchange Visitor Program sponsors as a general guideline for reporting incidents involving J-1 exchange visitors to the U.S. Department of State pursuant to 22 CFR 62.13(d). The examples provided below are not meant to be exhaustive (e.g., there may be other serious situations, not listed below, that have or could endanger the health, safety, or welfare of an exchange visitor or otherwise could be expected to bring the Department of State, the Exchange Visitor Program, or the sponsor's exchange visitor program into notoriety or disrepute). Sponsors can download an incident report form here: <http://j1visa.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/AG-Incident-Report.pdf> and should email the form to the Office of Private Sector Exchange Administration's Academic and Government (OPA-AG) unit at: AGalert@state.gov. An incident report form is preferred in all situations, but an e-mail regarding an evolving situation, to be followed later by an incident report, is acceptable.

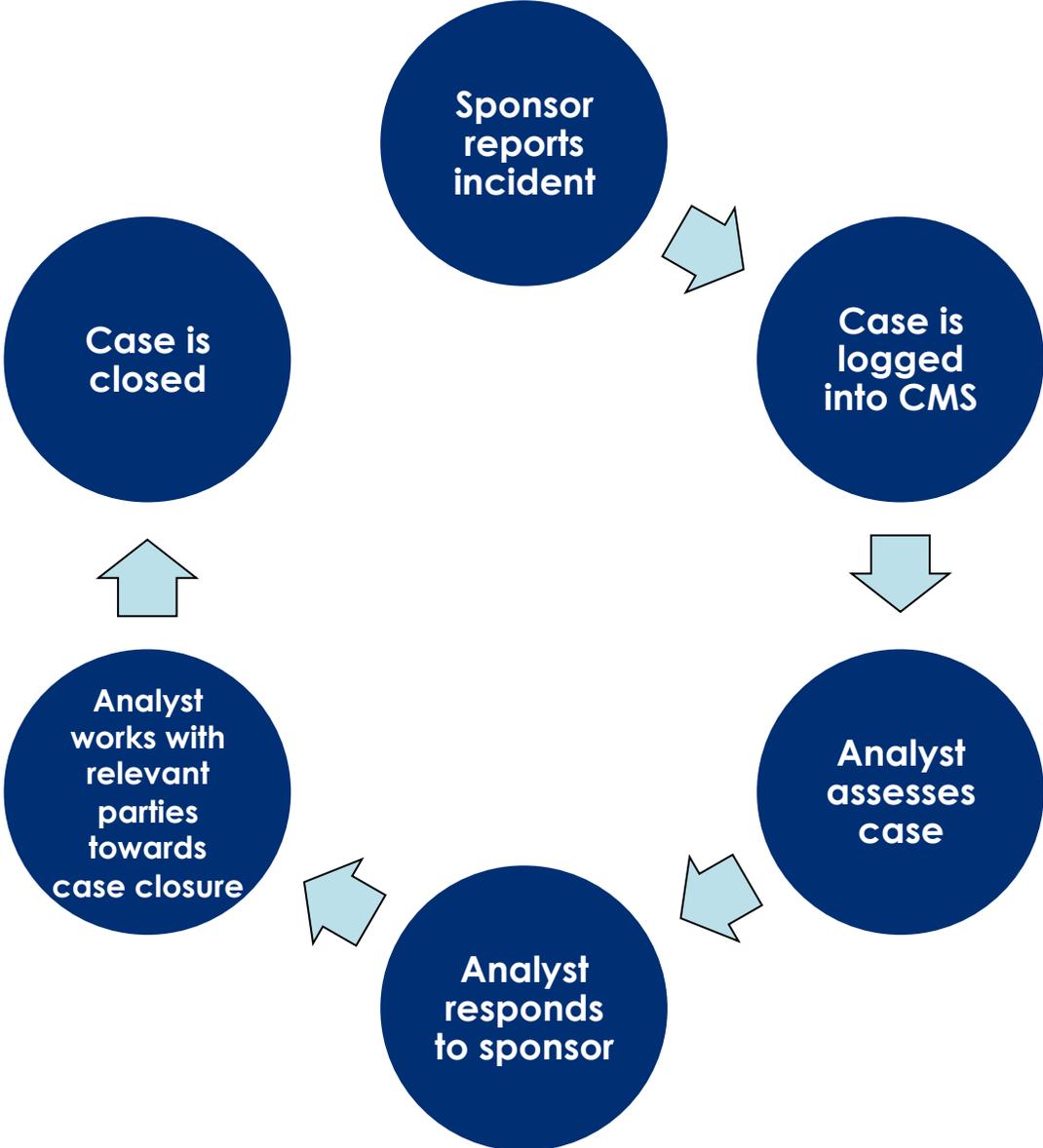
Nature of Incident or Allegation

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exchange Visitor Death• Exchange Visitor Missing• Exchange Visitor Serious Illness or Injury (e.g., brain injury, severe burn, major surgery, communicable disease, serious mental health incidents, any condition requiring hospitalization of 48 hours or more, etc.)• Litigation (related to a sponsor's exchange visitor program, in which sponsor or an exchange visitor may be a named party) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incident Involving the Criminal Justice System (e.g., arrest, charges, law enforcement, etc.)• Sexually-Related Incidents or Abuse (an incident or allegation involving sexual exploitation, harassment or abuse)• Negative Press involving a sponsor's exchange visitor program• Foreign Government Involvement (including embassy officials)• Other Situations Impacting Exchange Visitor Safety (e.g., natural disasters, civil unrest, outbreaks of violence) |
|--|---|

Report Incidents within One Business Day

22 CFR 62.13(d) *Serious problem or controversy.* Sponsors must inform the Department of State on or before the next business day by telephone (confirmed promptly in writing by facsimile or email) of any investigations of an exchange visitor's site of activity or serious problem or controversy that could be expected to bring the Department of State, the Exchange Visitor Program, or the sponsor's exchange visitor program into notoriety or disrepute, including any potential litigation related to a sponsor's exchange visitor program, in which the sponsor or an exchange visitor may be a named party.

INCIDENT REPORTING CYCLE



Send	From	AGalert@state.gov
	To...	
	Cc...	AGalert; Private Sector Exchange;
	Subject:	Incident Name of Sponsor Name of EV(s) SEVIS Number(s) Incident Type(s) CASE-#

Dear Sponsor,

Thank you for reporting this incident. Additional information will be requested in the email body, if necessary.

Mark

Initial Date of Incident Reported to DOS:

Responsible Analyst:

Nature of Incident:

Exchange Visitor (Last and First) Name:

SEVIS ID:

Country of Origin:

Date Incident Occurred:

Date Incident Reported to Sponsor:

SOA:

Initial Report of Incident (Who, what, where, when, and how):

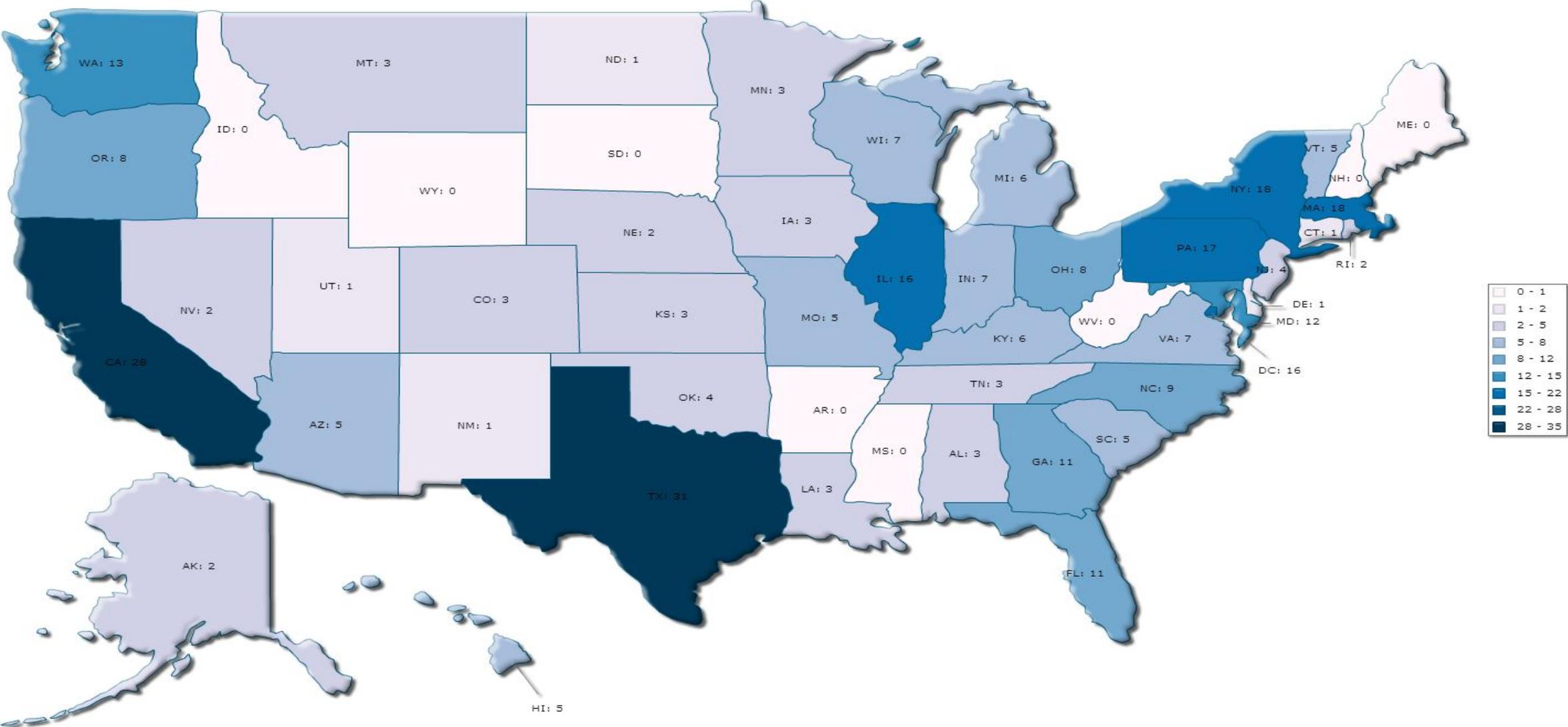
OPA Actions Taken:

Incident Updates (Chronological):

Sponsor Follow Procedures? Yes.

If 'No', please explain:

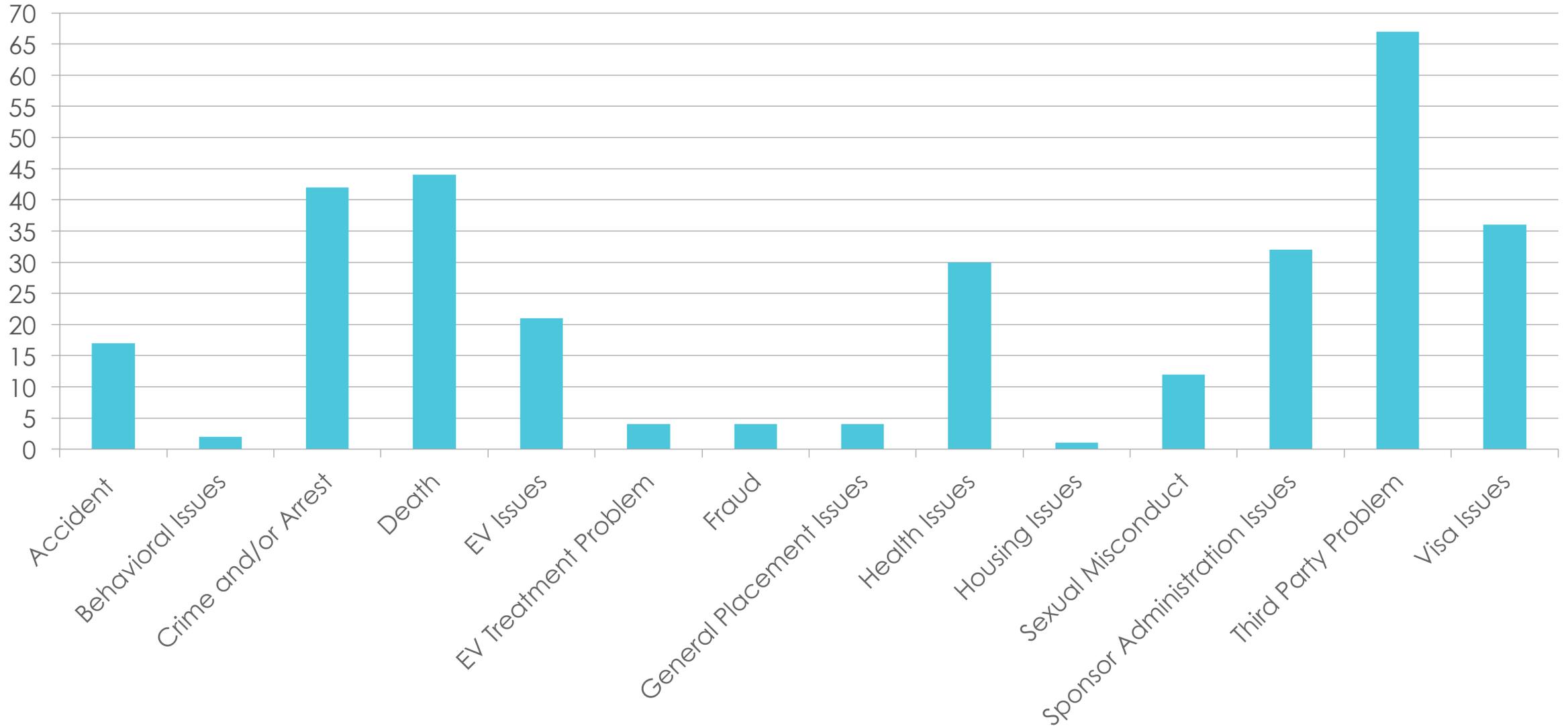
NUMBER OF INCIDENTS REPORTED BY STATE JUNE 2014 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2016



NATURE OF INCIDENTS REPORTED

JUNE 2014 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

Total Incidents: 316



SEVIS REVIEWS AND SITE VISITS



Case Study 1

J-1 Research Scholar

- Exchange Visitor (EV) alleged unfair dismissal from research project.
- EV sought to have her program transferred to another sponsor during her 30-day grace period.

Sponsor

- Alleged EV performance issues.
- Alleged inappropriate & erratic behavior from the EV.

OPA

- OPA reviewed information gathered from both the EV and the sponsor.
- OPA found in favor of the sponsor.

Case Study 2

J-1 Research Scholar

- EV stated she did not have time to work on her intended research project.
- EV alleged that her host professor had threatened to send her home.

Sponsor

- Sponsor met with both parties. Decided relationship was beyond repair.
- Counseled host professor.
- Found EV another placement.

OPA

- Supported actions of the sponsor
- Provided host professor with regulations governing the J-1 Research Scholar category.

Case Study 3

University RO

- No ARO on the program.
- RO stated that his requests to University officials for additional resources had gone unanswered.

OPA

- DOS met with top-level University officials to discuss necessary resources, DOS regulations, and program requirements.
- Designation of University's exchange visitor program was suspended until staffing issue was addressed.

Sponsor

- Hired new ARO.
- Additional space was added to office suite.
- Graduate assistants were assigned to assist RO and ARO.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Overview: www.J1Visa.state.gov

Regular Communications or questions: jvisas@state.gov.

This e-mail address is to communicate non-emergency issues, questions, and concerns.

J-1 Visa Emergency Hotline: 1-866-283-9090.*

This line is for use by exchange visitors and third parties in the case of urgent situations.

*A Department of State representative is available 24 hours a day.



QUESTIONS?