

Airport Community
Princess Juliana International Airport
Airport road, Simpson Bay

Date:

Monday, September 1, 2025

Our Reference:

PJIAE/QAD/rr/279

Subject: Discontinuation of Issuing Access Cards for French St. Martin-Born Nationals Without Legal Working Status

Dear Airport Community,

Before the constitutional transition from Netherlands Antilles to Country Sint Maarten in October of 2010, it was customary practice for French St. Martin-born nationals to be issued airport access cards for employment at Princess Juliana International Airport (PJIA) without the requirement of a work permit, as at that time the law didn't mandate such requirements.

After the transition, the "Landsverordening arbeid vreemdelingen" was updated to require work permits and legal residency status for all foreign nationals, including French St. Martin-born individuals seeking employment on the Dutch side. However, operational practices at the airport did not fully evolve in line with these changes in the law and the practice of issuing access cards without legal working status continued.

After a recent consultation with the Ministry of Public Health, Social Development and Labor (VSA), PJIAE has been advised that effective immediately, only individuals with valid legal working status will be eligible to receive airport security access cards. This includes compliance with all applicable labor and immigration laws of Country Sint Maarten.

We understand that this adjustment may affect certain members of the airport workforce, including long-serving French St. Martin-born nationals. PJIAE is working closely with the Ministry of VSA to ensure a structured and transparent process for French-born St. Martin individuals already employed within the airport community. While we remain committed to supporting our employees and stakeholders, PJIAE must ensure full compliance with the laws and regulations governing labor and security.

We count on your cooperation and understanding as we bring our operations in alignment with these requirements.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely, PJIAE N.V.

Michael Cleaver CEO/President