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# PREPARING FOR YOUR MBA MISSION ADVENTURE

Congratulations on your decision to be a part of the MBA Mission Adventure!

Though we haven't left home yet, our journey together is now beginning. Get ready to allow God to use you to touch the lives of our brothers and sisters in Brazil!

The purpose of this mission trip is to share the knowledge and the grace of Jesus Christ with the river inhabitants of the Amazon. This will be accomplished through our work in the community of our destination. The primary purpose of this trip is to provide a building structure for Christian worship and/or education. In addition to the construction aspect of our project, some in our group will provide medical and dental care for the surrounding community. Others may be involved in a daily Vacation Bible School program for children, or perhaps, nightly evangelistic or health evangelism meetings for adults. Be thinking about how you can fit in with one of these outreach teams.

Effectiveness as a member of this missionary team will require that participants have a passion for mission service, and show a high measure of spiritual and emotional maturity. Living and working conditions will require flexibility, responsibility, self-motivation, and cooperation. Be sure that you possess these four characteristics. If you don't, please inform the leadership of this group, and request immediately to be released from your participation with this group.

Mentioned in the rest of this document are bits of information that you will be responsible for knowing about as you prepare for this adventure.

## TRAVEL ITINERARY

Our travel plans will be ongoing as we work thru numbers traveling, and best fares available.

## PASSPORT & VISA

Everyone entering Brazil will need a current passport good for six months past the date of entry. A word to the wise – **don't put off getting your passport.** It will cost you more if you wait, and you will have to pay an organization to rush the process for you. You can pick up applications for a passport at your local post office. The Passport processing, application, and security fee for those 16 years of age or older is \$97. This does not include passport photos. We recommend Walgreens or CVS for passport photos, and that you acquire at least three photos, as you will need an additional photo for your Visa application.

In addition to possessing a passport for international identification, you will need a Tourist VISA. A VISA gives you permission to enter a country. Your VISA needs to be acquired no earlier than 90 days prior to departure. This will be handled as a group. We will be giving you more specific information regarding this as the departure date approaches. The cost for a **Tourist** VISA is \$265.00. This is included in your registration fee. We will be using a VISA agency to process all participants. **Supporting documents are needed for participants**

**under the age of 18, even if accompanied by parents, and/or whose parents are divorced but have joint custody.** Please be sure to have all documents properly signed and notarized. Passports, all supporting documents for participants under the age of 18. Passports and all supporting documents need to be turned in by January 11, 2015. **Prior to submitting your passport and VISA application, please be sure that you have signed your passport.**

Participants who do not submit their Passport and Visa application confirmation to the leadership prior to Jan. 11, 2015 will be required to secure their own Visa at their own expense.

## **VISA INSTRUCTIONS & CHECK LIST**

The Brazilian Consulate is very specific on what forms they need and how the forms are to be completed before they will grant children under the age of 18 a Visa. Listed below is a checklist of the forms or items needed in order to obtain a Visa for your child. Before submitting the paperwork to the leadership, make sure all seven (7) forms or items on the list are complete with signatures or notarized as requested. Doing it right the first time will save us both time and the additional expense.

*Check List: Forms are located toward the back of the Information Packet.*

1. **DRIVERS LICENSE**
2. **COPY OF BANK STATEMENT. Needs to show at least \$1000 in total funds.**
3. **CONTRACT OF COOPERATION** – One (1) Contract of Cooperation form *signed by the student.*
4. **PASSPORT** – Be sure that the student has signed it.
5. **ONE (1) EXTRA PASSPORT PHOTO (required for Visa application)**
6. **VISA APPLICATION CONFIRMATION FROM THE BRAZILIAN CONSULATE**
  - a. *NOTE: Beginning this year in order to receive a Visa the consulate will require a copy of your bank statement.*

## **VISA INSTRUCTIONS & CHECK LIST FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE**

The Brazilian Consulate is very specific on what forms they need and how the forms are to be completed before they will grant children under the age of 18 a Visa. Listed below is a checklist of the forms or items needed in order to obtain a Visa for your child. Before submitting the paperwork to the leadership, make sure all seven (7) forms or items on the list are complete with signatures or notarized as requested. Doing it right the first time will save us both time and the additional expense.

*Check List: Forms are located toward the back of the Information Packet.*

7. **PERMISSION SLIP FORM** – One (1) Permission Slip form **signed by BOTH of the parents or BOTH of the legal guardians.**
  
8. **TRAVEL RELEASE FORM FOR MINORS** – **This form must be signed by both of the parents or both of the guardians. Even if one or both parents are traveling with the child, signatures from either both parents or both guardians is required. THIS FORM NEEDS TO BE SIGNED BEFORE A NOTARY PUBLIC AND NOTARIZED.**  
*Note: In some cases one parent might not be available to sign because of divorce or other circumstances. A lawyer can grant legal guardianship to one parent for “just the trip.” In special circumstances this can be done quickly. The grant from the lawyer must accompany the Travel Release Form for Minors.*  
**AFTER BEING NOTARIZED THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE TAKEN TO THE COUNTY CLERKS OFFICE IN WHICH YOU LIVE TO HAVE THE NOTARIZATION VALIDATED. WITHOUT THIS VALIDATION THE VISA FOR A MINOR CANNOT BE PROCESSED! (THE NOTARY AND VALIDATION MUST BE IN THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOU LIVE.)**
  
9. **CONTRACT OF COOPERATION** – One (1) Contract of Cooperation form *signed by the student.*
  
10. **COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE** – A copy (not the original) of the child’s birth certificate.
  
11. **PASSPORT** – Be sure that the student has signed it.
  
12. **ONE (1) EXTRA PASSPORT PHOTO (required for Visa application)**
  
13. **VISA APPLICATION CONFIRMATION FROM THE BRAZILIAN CONSULATE**
  - a. *NOTE: Beginning this year in order to receive a Visa the consulate will require a copy of your bank statement.*

## **RECOMMENDED MEDICATION**

The latest information regarding the recommended immunizations can be obtained by calling the Center for Disease Control at 404-639-2573, or visit their website at [www.cdc.gov/travel/tropsam.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/tropsam.htm). The following vaccines are recommended but not mandatory:

- ❖ Hepatitis A                      Hepatitis B
- ❖ Typhoid                            Yellow Fever
- ❖ Rabies                              Malaria Pills
- ❖ Tetanus Booster (if you haven't had one in the last 5 years.)

The Rabies vaccine is recommended by CDC to give protection to those who might be having contact with animals. It has been our experience that our groups rarely interact with wild animals involuntarily. It almost always is a voluntary individual choice. The fee is expensive and we do not feel it is justified unless you plan to voluntarily handle wild animals. To begin receiving the proper immunizations, see a doctor 6-8 weeks prior to our departure. Immunizations through the Health Department are often cheaper, and in some states they will bill your insurance. Malaria medication cannot be obtained through the Health Department, and should be secured through your family physician.

## **HEALTH AND LIABILITY INSURANCE**

As a group, we are covered with a secondary health and life insurance policy. This is good for short-term travel and volunteer labor. It will pick up the additional costs that your own personal insurance does not cover. Please make sure your own policies are up to date.

## **LUGGAGE**

- **This is subject to change depending on the airlines we will be using.**

You will be allowed one carry-on, and one piece of check-in luggage. Your carry-on must be no larger than 45 inches (length+width+height), and must not exceed 18 lbs. Your check-in luggage must not exceed 62 inches (length+width+height), and not weigh more than 50 pounds. Extra pieces of luggage and overweight luggage will be charged a fee. For more information on luggage allowances, visit the Airlines website.

## **SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS**

Everyone will receive a hammock and mosquito net to serve as your bed and seat for the duration of the trip. The boat we will charter to take us from Manaus to our destination will also serve as our source of lodging while at the project site. This accommodation will allow for virtually no privacy or personal space. While for most, this will serve as a great source of bonding, for others it will be a source of stretching one's tolerance. Having a sensitive and flexible attitude will make this trip smoother and more enjoyable for yourself and others. Since the hammocks are hung so close, some have found ear plugs or mp-3 players/ipods invaluable for sleeping, especially if you have difficulty sleeping close to those who snore!

## **MISSION TRIP FEE**

The fee for this mission trip is \$1400.00 per participant PLUS airfare. There is a \$400.00 registration due with your application by October 16, 2014. The balance is due no later than January 11, 2015.

## **CLOTHES**

Loose clothing is recommended, preferably made of cotton. As the saying goes, "If the bugs don't get you, the heat and humidity will." Modest shorts and t-shirts are appropriate. Remember to bring a cool but appropriate Sabbath outfit. (Sabbath dress can consist of a collared shirt and non-denim long pants for males, and modest skirts or dresses for females.) Some have made it a practice to bring clothing they are willing to give away towards the end of the trip. Goodwill Stores is a great place to pick up clothing for the trip.

### **Clothing suggestions:**

Shorts	Short sleeve t-shirts
Pants for evening	Lightweight windbreaker or jacket
Underclothing	Lots of socks (you won't want to hand wash them!)
Sabbath shoes	Work shoes (tennis shoes are better for construction)
Sabbath attire (light but modest)	

## **OTHER SUGGESTED PERSONAL ITEMS TO BRING**

### **Toiletries**

Towel	Soap
Shampoo	Antiperspirant (LOTS of it!!!)
Lotion	Powder (eliminates the sticky feeling)

### **From the Medicine Cabinet**

Cortisone Cream	Charcoal Tablets	Grapefruit Seed Extract (natural antibiotic)
Garlic Tablets (mosquitos)	Other medication	

### **For the Work Site**

Sunscreen	Sunglasses
Hat	Work Gloves
Tools (hammer, tape measure, etc)	Water Bottle

### **Miscellaneous**

Lightweight blanket	Camera and charger/film
Flashlight	Baby wipes
Small pillow (neck pillow)	Energy snack food/treats
Crystal Light packets	Dirty clothes bag
Gum	Journal
Bible	Mosquito repellent (30% DET or better)
	Photo printer (not necessary, but nice to have to share pictures with the Brazilian friends you make.)

## **GIFTS THE CHILDREN LIKE**

Gum	Small dolls
Small cars	Small stuffed animals
Hair barrettes, etc.	Markers

**\*\*\*ALL KNIVES, SCISSORS, ETC. MUST BE PLACED IN YOUR CHECK-IN LUGGAGE IN ORDER TO PASS SECURITY CHECKS AT THE AIRPORT.**

## **NOTE TO PARENTS**

*Parents – If your student is under 18 years of age please read this section. On the return trip the plan is to spend some time in Manaus shopping before our departing flight. While provisions and guidance will be given to insure proper supervision, there will possibly be times while shopping in town when direct supervision will not be present. If you feel uncomfortable with these arrangements for your student, you should re-evaluate your student's participation with this mission trip excursion. It is important to the safety of all participating minors that they cooperate with, and adhere to, the rules governing times of minimal supervision. This ability should be seriously taken into consideration when allowing your child to participate on this trip.*

*Furthermore, it is important to know that the MBA Mission experience does, on occasion, include opportunities for our members to join local residents in fishing and baby alligator hunting (fish and alligators are not killed). If you are uncomfortable with your student joining in these activities please state so by checking the appropriate box on the Permission Slip form.*

## **MBA MISSION ADVENTURE SPONSORSHIP**

*MBA Mission Adventures is sponsored by:*

*Monterey Bay Academy  
783 San Andreas Rd  
La Selva Beach, CA 95076  
831-728-1481  
Steve Wilson, Director  
Pastor Jerry Nelson Co-Director*

## **KNOWING WHAT TO EXPECT (in general 😊)**

*While each trip is unique and the unexpected seems to always occur, we have endeavored to give a brief description of what to expect during this mission trip. We hope that this will help to make your trip a more positive experience.*

### **GETTING THERE**

*For those of you who have never traveled abroad, traveling with a group will be comforting. For those of you who are experienced travelers, traveling with a group can be frustrating at times.*

*We have asked the group to meet at the Airport a good 3 hours before departure. This may seem like a long time to wait, and it is. Nevertheless, it is necessary. The challenge at this time is to get the luggage checked in without exceeding our allotted number of pieces. In addition to all the personal items, there will be a stack of luggage and boxes that will pertain to our group. These items contain some of our food, cooking equipment, building equipment, medical supplies, and VBS supplies, etc. More often than not, we will get there and discover that we are over our limit, and we will need to do some quick consolidation. This process will go much smoother if everybody strictly cooperates with their personal allowance (one check-in, one carry-on). Something for you to think about: What you bring is what you will at times have to carry. Pack light! It's O.K. to wear the same set of dirty shorts and shirt for two or three days at a time. Excess luggage is charged the premium rate of \$100 per item. Excess weight is charged at a rate of \$2.00/lb. You will be responsible for this amount if you plan to check in more than one piece of luggage or if your luggage is overweight. Professionals and staff members who are planning to bring your own equipment and supplies need to clear your extra pieces of luggage with the leadership two weeks before departure.*

*Since we are traveling as a group we are expected to check in and get seat assignments as a group, which will take additional time. The airport requires that all passports be presented with the tickets. Please be prepared to present both when checking in. Under no circumstances should you pack your documents in your check-in luggage. Also, be personally responsible for your own luggage. When people simply drop their luggage off and go exploring the airport it causes delays in the check-in process. Other delays are caused when group members leave their passports at home or forget to acquire a Visa stamp in your passport by the Brazilian Consulate. **Failure to bring either of these two items will result in your not being permitted to board the plane, and therefore, any further participation in the mission trip.***

*Other expectations you may have of the traveling process revolve around the local transportation once we arrive in Manaus, Brazil. We do our best to plan, but once we enter a foreign country, plans are always subject to change, sometimes without much, if any notice. Buses won't always arrive on time or leave on time. Sometimes they don't arrive at all. The key to preserving your sanity is to simply be flexible and be prepared to adjust your plans. While we will try to keep the group informed of any changes, sometimes it won't happen as quickly as you would like. If you sense that there will be some down time, enjoy the rest. You will be glad you did!*

*During the flight we will each be required to fill out two documents for the customs officials in Brazil. One form simply wants to know where you are going and where you will be staying in Brazil. The other is a declaration of what you are bringing into Brazil. These will be given to a customs official upon arrival along with your passport. They in turn will give you a small white document which you **MUST** give to the immigration agent when you depart. **PLEASE DO NOT DISCARD THIS***

**DOCUMENT!!** *It is a good idea to fold it and leave it inside your passport where it will be handy when we leave Brazil.*

*We will then go through customs. (That's where Brazilian officials will rummage through your luggage, messing everything up looking for contraband items.) Once through customs we will load our luggage onto buses and proceed toward the docks to meet up with our chartered boat. There we will transfer all of our stuff on to the boat for the long journey to our destination.*

*The return trip will be much the same. More waiting, transferring luggage, and standing in lines. By this time you will be used to it and won't mind as much.*

**Tips for making your traveling experience more pleasant:**

1. *Arrive at the designated time.*
2. *If you need to leave the group, tell the group leader.*
3. *Volunteer to help out when luggage is being moved.*
4. *Assume that nobody else is going to watch your luggage if you need to leave the group.*
5. *For your safety, always have a buddy around.*
6. *Pack your valuables in different locations, but never in a check-in piece of luggage.*
7. *Keep your passport on you at all times while traveling. It's your only accepted source of identification internationally.*
8. *Rest when you can. It will be a long trip.*
9. *Pack enough food to last you a full day.*
10. *Stay flexible and positive. It makes life much easier for everybody else.*
11. *If you don't know what's going on, just wait a while. You will soon find out.*
12. *Make sure your luggage is water resistant. You will want the contents protected from occasional rain storms.*

**LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS**

*There are few motels, hotels, or condo's where we are going. So for our comfort and safety, the chartered passenger boat will be our home for two weeks. Our boat will be a double-decker river boat with open, covered space. Everyone coming on this trip will receive a hammock and mosquito net. Your hammock will be suspended in the open space provided. Under it you will place your luggage. This will be your personal space and bed for the duration of the trip. Get on good terms with your neighbors. They will be sleeping within a foot of you on both sides. When the boat rocks, you may actually bump into the person next to you, so try to swing in unison! Lessons on how to sleep comfortably in a hammock will be given on the boat. (Once you learn how, you may never go back to sleeping in a bed again!)*

*The boat will have a few restroom facilities, but not of the quality you are used to at home. Bathing facilities on the boat are unpredictable. Use lots of deodorant and baby powder, and be prepared to take 'spit baths' until we arrive at our destination. At our destination we will take daily baths in the river.*

**Tips for making your housing experience more positive:**

1. *Respect other people(s) personal space and items.*
2. *Respect the quiet times. (You will be glad when others do, as well.)*
3. *Be cognizant of your own body odor. Your sleeping neighbors will be!*
4. *Pack a light blanket or flannel sheet. Breezes on the river can get quite cool.*
5. *Keep your personal area tidy. This will keep your things safe and morale high.*
6. *Keep you hammock clean. You may keep it as a souvenir.*

## **TO EAT, OR NOT TO EAT**

*Meals will be prepared by an experienced cook. My guess is that you will eat better than at home. Precautions will be taken to make sure that the food is free from contaminants. While most of the meals will be familiar to you, some will have local influences. Enjoy the cultural exchange. While on the trip, please eat only what is provided to you by the cooks. Sampling foods offered to you from local residents is a sure way to get the “runs.” When the opportunity does occur for you to “eat out,” be sure to eat only cooked items.*

*Filtered drinking water will be provided for you once we board the boat. On the boat, drink only water provided to you from bottles. Do not drink water from any faucet – most likely it comes straight up from the river. You will want to bring a sipper bottle to take water to your work site. For your own back-up system, you might want to bring iodine tablets. These will purify unfiltered water in the event of an emergency.*

### **Tips for making your meals a pleasant experience for you:**

1. *Wash your own eating utensils in sanitized water.*
2. *Eat well and drink lots. . .this will keep you well.*
3. *Take good care of the cooks and they will take good care of you!*
4. *Eat lots of fruit. Your body will thank you later!*

## **WHERE'S THE PEPTO?**

*One of the greatest fears people will face when participating in a trip like this is the fear of getting sick or contracting some sort of disease. The immunizations suggested in the packet by the Center for Disease Control will generally keep you safe from the major diseases if you use commonsense and follow the instructions given to you in this packet. Having said this, it is not uncommon for almost everybody to experience some discomfort at one point or another in the trip. For some, it comes early; for others, later – depending on the strength of the immune system and how careful they are. Usually this intestinal discomfort will last about 24 hours with varying effects. A more prolonged illness of two to three days sometimes plagues a few people. This is usually due to dehydration and can be easily prevented by simply remembering to drink. A word to the wise – come prepared. First of all, come with the realization that you're probably going to get sick. When it hits, try to relax, get lots of rest, drink lots of water, and know that this too shall pass. Bring your own private stash of medicines that will help relieve some of the symptoms of dysentery. To help ease your worry, know that there will be plenty of medical staff available to ensure your well-being.*

*In regards to one of the immunizations recommended by the CDC, a question was asked about the Rabies vaccine. As with all the vaccinations, it is a recommendation not a requirement. We include these in the packet for your information and consideration so that you are aware of the nature of the environment we will be entering. Rabies is low on the risk factor and can only be contracted through contact with animals. Contact with animals is discouraged as they are so dirty and disease ridden, especially dogs and cats. If you choose to avoid animals on this trip you might not need to get the vaccine. Having said this, you make this decision at your own risk.*

### **Tips for keeping yourself healthy:**

1. *Give careful attention to what you eat and drink.*
2. *Keep yourself hydrated. Drink even when you don't feel you need to.*
3. *Care for your own personal hygiene. Always wash after using the restroom.*

4. Avoid petting dogs and cats. Wash after petting or handling any animal.
5. Wash before every meal.
6. Don't eat food offered to you by locals unless you know how it's been prepared.
7. Watch where you swim. Avoid the areas close to shore.

### **ARE YOU SURE THIS IS SAFE?**

Every mission trip is a disaster waiting to happen. But with a little bit of commonsense and obedience to instructions, disasters can be replaced by opportunities. The Amazon is a dangerous place and traveling there is full of risks. Traveling on a boat is risky. Elements in the environment create a risk. Shopping in Manaus is risky. So the most important thing to remember is that you are responsible for your own safety. Assume that every unknown situation is dangerous until you satisfy yourself that it is safe to proceed. On the work site, use caution. In town, among the people, use caution. When eating out, use caution. Don't wander off with people you don't know. Never go out alone, always go in groups. Don't go hiking until you are comfortable with the level of risk. Don't go swimming at unapproved times and places. This kind of trip requires caution and maturity from the participants. However, when you adhere to the instructions and guidelines given you, you will be safe and this trip will be meaningful for you.

#### **Tips to help you be safe:**

1. Be aware of where you are.
2. Be sure your leader knows where you are.
3. Never wander around by yourself, always have a buddy with you.
4. Swim only with permission. Swim at your own risk.
5. Watch where you walk. Few hazards are identified in this part of the world.
6. Be careful around unfamiliar animals.

### **WHAT'S OUR DAY LIKE?**

Because of the unpredictable nature of our environment, our work schedule is always subject to change. The plan, however, is for the daily routine to go something like this:

6:00 a.m.	Wake up
6:15	Worship
6:45	Breakfast
7:45	Begin work assignments
12:00	Break for lunch
2:00	Return to work
5:30	Quit work
6:00	Supper
7:00	Evening Evangelistic Meetings/Worship
10:00	Lights out

As you can see, there will be a lot going on. Some of you will be working on the construction of the building. Some will be working with the medical team. Others will be working with Vacation Bible School. The reality is that we would like you to be willing to work where we need you. For some of the jobs, we will ask for volunteers. For other tasks, we will simply make assignments. You may be asked to share your spiritual experience either through giving a morning devotional, or by participating in some of the other religious meetings. Begin now to think of how you would like to be involved. Your flexibility and positive spirit will make this a very enriching and meaningful experience for you.

## **WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?**

### **Site A: Church Construction**

*The construction projects are built in the good, old-fashioned South American building tradition of using external bound beams (columns) to support the weight of the roof, and red brick (to fill in the wall between the columns.) Work on the construction site will start early due to the intense heat during the day. It is better to work while it is cooler than to work during the most intense heat of 12-3 p.m. Specific tasks will include mixing cement (by hand), laying brick, sifting sand, cleaning up the area, etc. While we will provide the tools to do the work at large, we recommend that you bring your own personal tools to work with; i.e. hammer, trowel, measuring tape, gloves, etc.*

### **Site B: Medical Clinic**

*Our medical clinic will be a "branch office." (Most likely the clinic will be set up under the branch of a large tree.) Our goal is to provide basic medical, dental, and any other "care" we can take with us. This clinic will be staffed by the medical professionals that come with our group. However, there will be opportunity for some of our non-professionals and students to assist for short periods of time. Medical staff should bring their own working equipment; i.e., stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, and whatever else you use to examine people. We need your help in the pooling of medical supplies and medication. Medical professionals can contact the leadership with a list of supplies needed. Also, we need for every medical professional to send/give us a copy of your medical license. Sometimes we are asked to provide these to the local health department.*

### **Site C: Vacation Bible School**

*Vacation Bible School will be one of the more rewarding activities we engage the people in. Since this will be the third year in a row that a mission group has gone to this area, we anticipate a good-sized group. The children in this area attend school at one of three times: morning, afternoon, or night. Therefore we will run two VBS programs so that we can accommodate as many children as possible. The morning program will begin mid-morning, the afternoon program in mid-afternoon. Those who work at the morning VBS will be expected to work at the construction site in the afternoon, and vice versa. The VBS program will be simple, consisting of singing, storytelling, a craft or picture to color, playing games, etc. There is usually something we can all do to help. The VBS program will last five or six days, beginning either the Sunday or Monday after we arrive. Sometime before we start the trip our VBS leader may contact you to be a participant.*

### **Site D: Evangelistic Meetings/Health Evangelism**

*Our whole purpose for this mission is to introduce to the residents in the Amazon the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our approach is multifaceted. Not only does it include the building of a church facility, caring for their medical needs, educating the children, but it also includes participating in meetings where residents will be verbally introduced to the love and grace of Jesus Christ. These meetings will take place in the evening where our group members will participate as greeters, speakers, storytellers, and musical performers. Please come willing to participate in one of these areas.*

*Hope this revs up your anticipation! The only thing left to do is pack!*

**Contract of Cooperation**  
*(To Be Filled Out By All Participants)*

***I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a participating member of MBA Mission Adventures, do agree to support and uphold the rules and regulations given for the governance of this mission trip excursion. I commit to being self-motivated in accomplishing the tasks assigned to the group. I agree to fully cooperate with the leadership of the group in upholding the values of the Seventh-day Adventist church (whether or not I agree with them) and in accomplishing the task of this mission.***

***Furthermore, I understand that this mission trip excursion contains inherent risks and dangers involved with river life, construction sites, and visiting a third world country. I accept these risks of my own free will and agree to release the MBA Mission Adventure leaders, Monterey Bay Academy, the Central California Conference, the Pacific Union, the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventist, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist of any and all liability in the case of injury or death.***

***Signature of Participant:***

\_\_\_\_\_

***Date:*** \_\_\_\_\_

*April 1, 2015*

**BRAZILIAN CONSULATE**  
**RE: VISA APPLICATION**

*This letter concerns:*

---

*(Names of applicant)*

*Whose passports you now possess. These individuals are part of a tour group that is visiting the Amazon Region of Brazil. Even though the individual participants of this excursion do not hold a ticket in their hand, a group itinerary is available upon request, showing the arrangements made with TAM/Copa Airlines for a round trip passage from Los Angeles to Manaus. The dates of the trip are March 17-30, 2015.*

*I request that you grant this individual a Tourist Visa effective the date of entry.*

*Any other questions you might have can be directed to my office at: 770-630-4970*

*I thank you in advance.*

*Sincerely,*

*Steve Wilson*  
*Tour Coordinator*

## **TRAVEL RELEASE**

**Participants under 18 years must have this form completed.**

*This is a release form giving permission for my son/daughter to travel into Brazil on a mission trip, March 17-30, 2015 with the group from Monterey Bay Academy.*

***This form is to be filled in and signed in the presence of a Notary Public.***

My child's name is \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: Parent(s) or Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **NOTARIZED**

County/City of \_\_\_\_\_

Commonwealth/State of \_\_\_\_\_

The foregoing instrument was subscribed and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_

# PERMISSION SLIP

(For individuals under 18)

For parents or legal guardians of persons under eighteen (18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to go on the MBA Mission Adventure 2015, March 17-30, 2015. As parents we realize that there will be occasions when our student will not be under direct supervision 24 hours a day, and that we trust our student to behave in a way that is mature, and upholds the values of the Seventh-day Adventist church. (Please contact MBA Mission Adventure leadership if clarification is needed.) I/We also agree to pay for his or her early return expenses if sent home because of misconduct. As parents or legal guardians, permission is granted for emergency medical treatment or surgery if necessary. Also, as parents or legal guardians, we have provided our child, \_\_\_\_\_, with medical insurance. We therefore release MBA Mission Adventures, the leaders, the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventist, the Pacific Union, the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventist, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist of any and all liability in the case of injury or death.

Signatures of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ My child may participate in a fishing and alligator hunting expeditions.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child may not participate in fishing and alligator hunting expeditions.



Date:

Dear

My life is about to change! I believe God is calling me to serve Him as a missionary in Brazil during March 2015. I know it's going to be a growing experience in ways I probably can't even imagine yet.

The town of Nhamunda is a very historic community along the Rio Negro. The people there are hungry for hope. Along with 30+ people I will be going to the Amazon to construct a new Adventist church for the people of that town. In addition, members of our team will also provide the local people with medical and dental aid, provide a VBS program for children, and conduct outreach meetings for the adults. As you can tell, we will be quite busy.

I'm personally responsible for raising \$1,400 for my trip plus airfare. This will cover my meals and lodging, airfare, and transportation to and from my place of service. It will also help with the cost of the construction project, children's program, and medical missions.

Our trip depends directly on the financial support of people like you who believe in youth mission training. I would like to ask you to support me and my mission group with your prayers, and consider if God wants you to financially support this mission trip. Will you please give generously to support the MBA Mission Adventure 2015? Whatever you can give will be greatly appreciated.

In addition I would like to solicit your prayers on my behalf as I embark on this adventure. I would like to help make a difference in the lives of the people of Nhamundra. Your prayers are what I need most! Thank you in advance for helping make it possible for me and others to respond to Jesus' challenge of going "into all the world."

In His Service,

Monterey Bay Academy