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REPUBLIC OF PANAMA  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY  
LEGISPAN  
LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

Type of Regulation: LAW

Number: 58

Reference:

Year: 2003

Dated (dd-mm-yyyy): August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Title: AMENDING THE ARTICLES OF LAW 14 OF 1982 ON CUSTODY,  
CONSERVATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE HISTORICAL HERITAGE OF  
THE NATION AND GIVES OTHER PROVISIONS.

Dictated by: LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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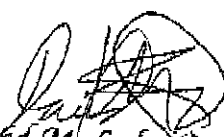
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6 Official Gazette, Tuesday August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003 No. 24,864

LAW No. 58

(Of August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003)

Amending the Articles of Law 14 Of 1982 on custody, conservation  
and administration of the Historical Heritage of the Nation and  
gives other provisions

  
David M. Luke Quiros  
Authorized Public Translator  
Res No 677  
September 14, 2006

## The Legislative Assembly

## Decreases:


Article 1: Article 8 of Law 14 of 1982 becomes:

Article 8. In order to effect archeological researches, excavations, and rescues it is required to have previous permission regarding such project from the National Direction of the Historic Heritage.

The archeological excavations will cover the prehispanic cultures, without taking care of its age, the colonial age and any other chronological stage whose for their understanding and rescue it is required the usage of archeological techniques. The excavations for paleontological order and the underwater rescues will be ruled likewise under the provisions mentioned herein on regards of the requirement for the application of the archaeological techniques.

Article 2. Article 9 of Law 14 of 1982 becomes:

Article 9. The requests to obtain the abovementioned permission in the previous article must be submitted personally or by means of a duly authorized representative and recognized by the national competent authorities, before the National Direction of the Historic Heritage. Such permission, in the case of archeological researches, excavations, and rescues as mentioned herein in the previous article, will be given to Universities, Institutes, and museums that may exist within the national territory and to the foreign scientific institutions and companies, whose scientific competence and technique are duly established.

  
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Article 3. Article 12 of Law 14 of 1982 becomes:

Article 12: The permissions will be given through contracts executed between the National Institute of Culture Director and the licensees.

The archaeological works done in virtue of this permission will be supervised by specialized clerks from the National Historic Heritage Direction.

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The National Institute of Culture must have the approval concept from Ministry of Finance and Treasury for the execution of the abovementioned permission.

The wages for the inspectors from the National Historic Heritage Direction will be covered by the contractor.

The contract must be ratified by the General Accounting Office of the Republic.

Article 4. Article 28 of Law 14 of 1982 becomes:

Article 28. No individual, agency nor person, is authorized to perform research nor excavation in archaeological sites; Notwithstanding, will be able to do researches through with the express authorization of the National Direction of the Historic Heritage.

  
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The material under the possession of offenders will be confiscated and a fine for one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) by the National Direction of the Historic Heritage according to the general procedural rules. The fine will be given according to the value of the object and to the damages caused in the archaeological sites.

Article 5. Article 40 of Law 14 of 1982 becomes:

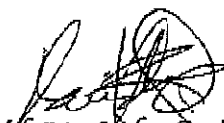
Article 40. The National Direction of the Historic Heritage must approve previously every project for restoration or conservation works for the national or historical monuments and will ensure that such works will not alterate the same nor its identity defiguration.

Therefore it will procure the preservation of the environment of the site in where the historic monument is located and will prohibit the placement of commercial advertising and of any type of cables nor antennas on the façade and covers, on the historic-artistic monuments so as on the archaeological zones.

Article 5. Article 42 of Law 14 of 1982 becomes:

Article 42. The owners or holders of sites in where there are national monuments or that may be located inside of a monumental complex, they will not put them down for restoration works without the previous permission of the National Direction of the Historic Heritage.

The destruction or demolition of these monuments will be

  
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sanctioned, by the National Direction of the Historic Heritage, with a fine of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00).

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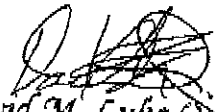
Article 7. The National Direction of the Historic Heritage will take the necessary measures, in order to develop a National System of Registration of Movable and Immovable Cultural Property.

The objects of this registry are the recognition, valuation, classification, identification, protection and to keep such properties.

Article 8. The administrative sanctions that may be enforced by the National Direction of the Historic Heritage from the National Institute of Culture shall be without prejudice to any criminal liability incurred by the infringer.

Article 9. Starting with the enactment of the present Law, any person that may have in their possession any movable cultural property it must register in the National Direction of the Historic Heritage. The omission of this requirement will enable the institute to promote the related forfeiture.

Article 10. The present Law modifies articles 8, 9, 12, 28, 40, and 42 of Law 14 of May 5<sup>th</sup> 1982, and abolishes articles 2, 3, 4, and 9 of Cabinet Decree 397 of December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1970.

  
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Article 11: This Law will be in effect as of its enactment.

COMMUNICATE AND COMPLY WITH IT.

Approved on third debate, in Justo Arosemena Hall, Panama city, on the 29 days in the month of June in the year two thousand three.

The President  
CARLOS R. ALVARADO A.

The Secretary General  
JOSE GOMEZ NUÑEZ

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE ORGAN. - PRESIDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC - PANAMA,  
REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, AUGUST 7th, 2003.


MIREYA MOSCOSO  
President of the Republic

DORIS ROSA DE MATA  
Education Minister

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IT IS A TRUE AND LAWFUL TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH OF THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT WRITTEN IN SPANISH.

Panama, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

  
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