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PRESS RELEASE

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**U.S. Ambassador Expresses Condolences for Tragic Loss of Embassy Employee
Raida Agayeva**



It is with tremendous sadness and a heavy heart that I express my sincerest condolences to the family and friends of one of our dear friend and colleague, Raida Agayeva.

28-year old Raida Agayeva, a Senior Employee of the Embassy's Security Office, was taken from us in a tragic car accident near Miami, Florida on December 15. As usual, Raida had volunteered to help others, this time traveling to the U.S. to escort a group of Azerbaijani customs officials on a U.S. government program.

Although we are overcome with sadness at her untimely passing, we cannot remember Raida without recalling that she brought so much joy into all of our lives. Raida was the life and soul of her family, friends and our Embassy community. Considerate and unstintingly generous, Raida selflessly devoted herself to bringing happiness to others. She initiated and greatly contributed to a US Embassy project helping children in orphanages, raising funds and donating gifts.

Raida's kindness and compassion touched the lives of all of us. We extend our sincerest condolences and sympathy to her mother, Aida khanim, her family, and her many, many friends. We will miss Raida tremendously. In her short time here she made this world a better place. We will always remember the bright memory of Raida Agayeva.