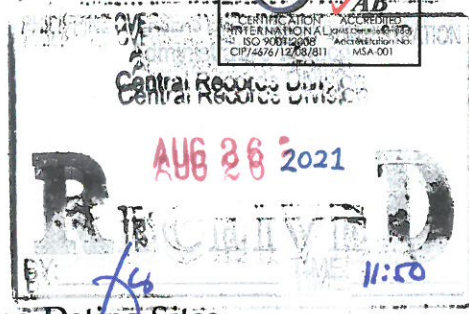
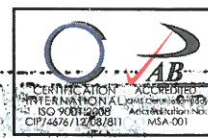




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Warning on Illegal Recruitment Modus in Online Dating Sites

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has received reports from individuals who have been offered overseas employment bound to the United States and Canada in dating apps or websites.

The modus is perpetrated by unscrupulous individuals via “catfishing” or the use of fictitious cyber identities. The culprits would contact potential victims in dating apps or websites who have common interests or mutual connections. Once the scammers establish an affinity with their victims, they would send migration offers, including promise of overseas jobs. The perpetrators would then send fake job contracts and company profiles, and would refer the unsuspecting victims to overseas visa consultancy firms. The scammers, while maintaining their supposed romantic interest, would demand that payments be sent to the visa consultancy firms for the release of application forms and other documents, including supposed airport clearances.

The POEA warns the public to ignore job offers from dating apps and websites and to refrain from depositing or transferring any amount of money to supposed ‘online romantic partners’ or recruiters.

Overseas job seekers are advised to use the POEA Verification System at the POEA website (www.poea.gov.ph) or email the POEA Information Center at connect@poea.gov.ph to confirm overseas employment offers. The POEA also encourages overseas jobseekers to be more cautious and to immediately report any suspicious recruitment activities to the Operations and Surveillance Division via email at osd@poea.gov.ph. Information on avoiding recruitment scams is available at the POEA Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/airbranch.

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CONTROLLED AND DISSEMINATED
BY CRD ON AUG 26 2021