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Warning on scams using the POEA name and logo

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has received reports of individuals misrepresenting themselves as POEA personnel and unauthorized entities using the POEA name and logo. Reports include recruitment for employment abroad, financial solicitations, and promises of expedited transactions with POEA.

The act of misrepresentation as POEA personnel and the unauthorized use of the POEA name and logo is considered a violation of applicable laws, including Article 177 of the Revised Penal Code -

Art. 177. Usurpation of authority or official functions. — Any person who shall knowingly and falsely represent himself to be an officer, agent or representative of any department or agency of the Philippine Government or of any foreign government, or who, under pretense of official position, shall perform any act pertaining to any person in authority or public officer of the Philippine Government or any foreign government, or any agency thereof, without being lawfully entitled to do so, shall suffer the penalty of prision correccional in its minimum and medium periods.

Moreover, the unauthorized use of the POEA name and logo by any non-licensed or non-authorized persons or entities to commit any act of recruitment for employment abroad is considered as illegal recruitment which carries with it a penalty of imprisonment and fine.

The public is hereby warned to be more discerning and not to engage with said individuals and entities. The list of licensed recruitment agencies and all approved job orders, including government to government hiring through the POEA, may be verified via the POEA website at www.poea.gov.ph.

The POEA shall prosecute to the full extent of the law all individuals and entities misrepresenting themselves to be connected with POEA, and those who, without any authorization, shall use the POEA name and logo. The POEA requests the public to report those who are involved in the above illegal acts to the nearest station of the Philippine National Police and to contact the POEA Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch (POEA AIRB) Operations and Surveillance Division at email poea_airb_osd@yahoo.com or phone 8722-1192 or the POEA AIRB Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/airbranch.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

