

## NEWS RELEASE

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### POEA sets records straight on closed recruitment agency

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration has denied claims by a non-government organization that a recruitment agency continues to operate even after the cancellation of its license.

POEA Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said the POEA has cancelled the license of Emeville Manpower Services on May 25, 2006 for recruitment violations and since then Emeville has ceased to operate as a licensed recruitment agency contrary to claims by the paralegal officer of Kanlungan Center Foundation, Inc - Center for Migrant Workers.

The POEA also issued a closure order against the recruitment agency on February 17, 2006.

Baldoz said the POEA has assisted victims of the agency in the filing of charges against the recruitment agency and has ordered Emeville to pay a total of Php991,614.84 to some 30 applicants as refund of application and placement fees.

Baldoz advises the victims to pursue criminal cases against Emeville even after they have already recovered their money. The applicants paid from Php20,000 to Php100,000 to the agency as placement fees.

“Applicants for overseas jobs must be vigilant and must not be blinded by promises of high paying jobs. They must check from POEA if the agency has a valid license and existing job orders, and must not pay any amount unless they have a legally binding employment contract already”, Baldoz said. ###