



News Release
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POEA to pay docket fees of illegal recruitment victims

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration is encouraging victims of illegal recruitment to file cases against their recruiters as it takes on the payment of filing fees and other court-related expenses.

Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said the POEA Governing Board has instructed the POEA implement an incentive program providing assistance to victims and witnesses of illegal recruitment cases through the payment of docket fees and other court or legal fees.

As a bonus, victims and witnesses availing of the program shall be given priority for overseas employment.

Baldoz said many of illegal recruitment cases are dismissed due to complainants' inability to pay the required docket fees in courts. And most often, after filing the cases, victims desist from participating in proceedings before prosecutors or courts, accepting instead measly sum of settlement money.

The fund for the assistance program shall come from the regular budget of the POEA.

In 2006, a total of 316 (as against 250 in 2005) illegal recruitment cases involving 694 victims were filed for preliminary investigation.

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