



**Philippine
Overseas
Employment
Administration**

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
BFO Building, Ortigas Avenue cor. EDSA, Mandaluyong City 1501
Website: www.poea.gov.ph E-mail: info@poea.gov.ph
Hotlines: 722-1144, 722-1155

News Release

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Illegal recruiters found guilty

The government's campaign against illegal recruitment is getting results as two suspected recruiters were convicted in two separate courts.

Judge Edilberto Claveral of Regional Trial Court Branch 60 of Baguio City found Shirley Cortado guilty of illegal recruitment committed by a syndicate and sentenced her to life imprisonment.

Cortado who has no POEA authority to recruit, was also found guilty on two counts of estafa and was sentenced to an additional penalty of eight years imprisonment as minimum punishment.

Her two co-accused, Hark Ro Yoon and Peligrana Bicasan remain at large.

The complainants, Ernesto Pelayan, Chennie Lagadan, and Clement Cabay testified that they paid a total amount of P287,000.00 as placement fees in exchange for the promise of employment in South Korea.

Meanwhile, Caloocan City, Judge Victoria Isabel A. Paredes of RTC Branch 124 found Loney Sapdin y Duroy guilty of simple illegal recruitment with a penalty of 6 to 8 years imprisonment and fine of P60,000.00.

Sapdin recruited Mary Jane Danieles and Theresa Duggay for supposed jobs in Italy with a monthly salary of \$400.00 even without authority from the POEA. The complainants were never deployed.

The POEA warned applicants to report any illegal recruitment activities to any POEA office or to police authorities. ###