



News Release
13 January 2014

POEA closes down visa consultancy office

Administrator Hans Leo J. Cacdac ordered the closure of another visa consultancy office which was found engaged in recruitment of overseas Filipino workers without proper authority or license from the POEA.

Cacdac identified the consultancy firm as Global Caratas Consultancy and Visa Assistance Services, Inc. with office address at Unit 208 Estrella Condominium, 858 San Andres Street, corner Quirino Avenue, Malate, Manila.

Antonio M. Magnaye, Jr., manager of the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) in Oriental Mindoro, reported to the POEA the alleged illegal recruitment activities of Global Caratas.

Cacdac ordered the closure of the establishment after several surveillance operations conducted by a team from POEA's Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch. The operatives confirmed that Global Caratas has been recruiting caregivers, butchers and farmers for Canada and collecting Php50,000.00 from applicants for medical, visa processing, and placement fees.

Cacdac said a certain "Mr. Harsey", a foreign national who introduced himself as an immigration lawyer, owns the visa consultancy firm.

Cases of illegal recruitment and estafa are now being initiated against the foreign national and his employees before the Department of Justice - Presidential Task Force Against Illegal Recruitment (DOJ-PTFAIR).

Cacdac warned the public not to apply with visa and immigration consultants promising overseas employment. He also advised applicants of Global Caratas to report to the Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch and to testify against the consultancy firm. /END