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Recruiter loses license for illegal charging of placement fees

Administrator Hans Leo J. Cacdac has ordered the revocation of the recruitment license of Apex Grande International Labor Agency which was found to have collected placement fees from an applicant for work in Canada.

Cacdac said the complainant against Apex Grande alleged that the recruitment agency promised him employment as nurse in the Canadian province of British Columbia with a salary of CND\$15.00 per hour. He was charged to pay the amount of US\$6,500 for placement and other processing fees.

The complainant also claimed he has signed an employment contract and was issued visa but was not deployed because his supposed employer lost its business franchise.

Section 2 (c) of Rule I, Part VI of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Recruitment and Employment of Land-based Overseas Workers prohibits a recruitment agency from charging or collecting placement fee for deployment to countries where the prevailing system, either by law, policy or practice, do not allow the charging or collection of placement and recruitment fees.

POEA Memorandum Circular No. 3, Series of 2007 provides, among others, that laws and regulations in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia prohibit the charging of recruitment and placement fees upon any person seeking employment. END