



News Advisory  
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## Macau increases penalty for overstaying expats

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Macau reported that the Special Administrative Region's Immigration Department has issued Administrative Regulation No. 14/2014 or the "Amendments to the Provision on Overstay" which imposed heavier penalty for overstaying foreigners, including overseas Filipino workers.

In a report to POEA Administrator Hans Leo J. Cacdac, Labor Attache Vivian Tornea said Macau increased the penalty for overstaying foreigners for less than 30 days from MOP200 to MOP500 per day. Violators are required to pay the fine immediately after they are arrested or have surrendered to the police.

According to the report, the penalty is not applicable to foreigners who have overstayed for 30 days or more. They are not allowed to pay the fine and will instead be banned for a certain period of time.

Previous offenders cannot enter Macau for one year instead of the earlier prohibition of six months.

The amendments took effect on 9 July 2014.

Cacdac said OFWs looking for work in Macau and other countries should secure the proper employment visa or work permit before leaving the country. Workers staying illegally in other countries are more vulnerable to harassment and abuse and are subject of police operations.

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