

News Release
June 10, 2015

POEA cancels recruitment license of persistent deceiver

Administrator Hans Leo J. Cacdac has cancelled the license of Crystal Fallah-Ville International Manpower Services, for submitting fake or double visas and forged documents to the POEA.

In one case filed *motu proprio* against Crystal Fallah-Ville, the agency submitted documents for processing including a visa for a teacher that was found to have been altered. The visa was verified to have been originally issued to another sponsor for the position of a servant or a household service worker.

The agency argued that they never had a hand on the tampered visa and it was an "innocent mistake" by the agency for submitting the visa which was personally acquired by the applicant.

In another case of misrepresentation, Cacdac said the recruitment agency Crystal Fallah-Ville presented a forged request or endorsement for processing of employment documents to the POEA. The liaison officer of Crystal Fallah-Ville said he delivered the said document to the POEA in good faith, not knowing that one signature was falsified.

The third case was about a visa written in Arabic that the agency submitted to the POEA for processing together with documents of a dressmaker bound for Saudi Arabia. The official translator of Arabic visas at the POEA, however, disclosed that the skill category was not for a dressmaker but a domestic helper.

The agency representative declared that it was once again an "innocent mistake" due to clerical error, considering that the visa was in Arabic. He tried to rectify the alleged error by submitting a dressmaker visa, which the agency claimed was the true position of the worker. However, a careful scrutiny of the two visas revealed that except for the skill category, they bore the same entries such as dates, validity and visa number.

Cacdac said the recruitment agency has the responsibility to ensure authenticity and validity of documents submitted to the POEA because they are liable for any irregularity in its issuance.

“Honest mistake, oversight or even good faith, assuming they are true, cannot be considered as an exculpatory defense. Such explanation or admission does not change the fact that the recruiter deceived both the government and OFWs, and violated the POEA rules and regulations on misrepresentation,” Cacdac added.

The penalty of cancellation of license is imposed on a recruitment agency with three or more misrepresentation offenses. END