

NEWS RELEASE  
17 July 2018

## With POEA as prosecutor, illegal recruiter convicted, fined

Judge Arthur O. Malabaguio of Regional Trial Court Branch 93, Quezon City, has convicted a woman for duping three job applicants into non-existing jobs in Macau.

The POEA's Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch successfully prosecuted the case as Judge Malabaguio found Felisa Areola Caadiang guilty of illegal recruitment in large scale and two counts of *estafa*, and sentenced her to life imprisonment and pay P1 million as a fine.

The accused has no license to recruit Filipino workers for overseas employment.

She was charged with three separate cases of *estafa* and one for illegal recruitment. The four cases were consolidated for being closely related to and interwoven with each other.

In November 2007 and January 2008 Caadiang recruited one male and two female applicants to work overseas. He promised the three applicants jobs in Macau as cleaner and waitresses. The applicants each paid the recruiter amounts ranging from Php30,000 to Php40,000 as processing fees. The applicants left the country as tourists but found themselves jobless upon arriving in Macau.

Upon expiration of their tourist visa, two of the workers crossed the border to Shenzhen upon the instruction of the accused. Arriving back in Macau, they sought the assistance of the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) and filed a complaint against Caadiang. They also filed a complaint at the POEA when they returned to the Philippines in 2008 which endorsed the case to the City Prosecutor of Quezon City. The latter filed the information in Court, which issued the warrant of arrest of arrest against the accused. Caadiang went into hiding and was only arrested in January 2015. /END