

News Release

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Illegal recruiters face 20 years in jail

A regional trial court has sentenced two women to 20 years in prison after being found guilty of illegal recruitment.

Branch 19 of the Manila Regional Trial Court convicted Yvette Valdez and Anneli Taytay of illegal recruitment by engaging in the processing and deployment of two overseas Filipino workers (OFW) without proper authorization from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

One complainant accused Valdez of collecting P150,000 from her account for the documentation and processing of her documents as worker in New Zealand, which did not actually take place.

The other complainant also accused Valdez, together with Taytay, of collecting P200,000 placement fee for his alleged deployment as a dairy farm worker in New Zealand, which also did not happen.

Both the accused failed to reimburse the expenses of the complainants in connection with their promised deployment.

Aside from the penalty of 20 years in prison, the court has ordered Valdez to pay a fine of P2 million and P150,000 to one complainant as actual damages.

In a separate case, the two women were also directed to pay a fine of P2 million and to pay jointly the other complainant the amount of P200,000 as actual damages. ###