

NEWS RELEASE

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POEA warns public anew on illegal recruitment as non-essential outbound travel resumes

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) warned the public anew on the illegal recruitment schemes involving the use of fake travel documents and misdeclaration of purpose of overseas travel with the resumption of non-essential outbound travels of Filipinos.

This after the POEA received reports from the Bureau of Immigration on apprehended individuals, claiming to be travelling as OFWs, for using forged travel documents, including fake visas and overseas employment certificates (OECs). Some individuals were also apprehended for using false identities and fake passports.

The POEA reminded Filipinos intending to work overseas to first secure their proper travel and overseas employment documents, including their work permits/visa, and OECs, and must be in possession of their travel documents while traveling.

The administration also reiterated that applicants who leave the country as tourists with the intention of working overseas are prone to abuse and maltreatment. This so-called tourist-to-work scheme offered by some travel agencies and immigration consultants to jobseekers is regarded as a form of illegal recruitment.

The POEA urges the public to report this kind of illegal recruitment schemes and any suspicious activities on recruitment scams to POEA Operations and Surveillance Division by sending an email at poea_airb_osd@yahoo.com or contact the numbers 8722-1192.

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