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## **News Release**

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## POEA warns public vs fake jobs in Palau

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) has warned the public, particularly aspiring overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), to be wary of offers of supposed jobs in the Republic of Palau.

The POEA received reports that certain individuals and entities have been promising aspiring OFWs of employment in Palau and convincing them to pay 1,000 USD for provisional visas, work permits and other documents that turned out to be fake.

The Philippine Honorary Consul in Palau confirmed that the alleged foreign employers and corresponding job orders do not exist. The consul found out that genuine provisional visas issued to prospective OFWs were copied and used as fake documents for illegal recruitment.

The POEA advised the public to exercise extreme caution in pursuing job applications to Palau to avoid becoming victims of illegal recruitment and human trafficking schemes.

Overseas job seekers are encouraged to always verify the existence and legitimacy of preferred job offers through the POEA website at <a href="https://www.poea.gov.ph">www.poea.gov.ph</a>, and only transact with licensed recruitment agencies and their duly acknowledged employees.

Further, the authenticity of job offers under direct hiring can be confirmed with the Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) that has the jurisdiction over the job site.

The POEA, meanwhile, is coordinating with the diplomatic corps and law enforcement agencies in Palau for the investigation of licensed recruitment agencies with alleged involvement in the reported illegal recruitment.

The public is also encouraged to immediately report any suspicious recruitment activities to POEA Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch Operations and Surveillance Division through their FB page <a href="www.facebook.com/airbranch">www.facebook.com/airbranch</a> and through its email <a href="mailto:osd@poea.gov.ph">osd@poea.gov.ph</a>. ###