



**CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
CHICAGO**
ANNOUNCEMENT NO. 02-2018

06 August 2018

Dear Friends and Leaders of the Filipino Community,

Greetings from the Philippine Consulate General!

Since the early days of the *pensionados*, Filipino-Americans in the great State of Illinois have come so far and done so much in making a name for themselves in various fields of endeavor and expertise. The Land of Lincoln continues to be home to an increasing number of our *kababayans*, around 150,000 Filipinos (alone or in any combination), according to the American Community Survey 2011-2015. Yet the challenge and call to be fully enfranchised and participate in democratic and electoral processes remains.

Thus, we continually engage with and encourage every single one to come together, realizing that the Filipino-American community can make the greatest impact in civic life both in the Philippines and in their adopted country by supporting causes and interests that cut across differences and cement our shared values and aspirations.

In this light, we are pleased to inform you that we are organizing the **Fil-Am Voters' Education Forum 2018**, in cooperation with the Cook County Clerk's Office and the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) Midwest Chapter on August 25, Saturday, at the Seafood City Supermarket Community Center, 5033 N. Elston Ave., Chicago.

Some of the important topics to be discussed include the history of voting rights in Illinois, changes that transpired in the last 20 years; requirements and modes of registration and voting; voter fraud, protective responses to cyberattacks, ballot measures and other important issues at stake in the coming general election; and strategies for community organizations in promoting voter registration and participation.

The event is open to all residents and registered Filipino-American voters in Illinois, but we especially hope to see younger generations of Fil-Ams, including 17-year-olds who will turn 18 on the day of the General Election, 06 November 2018. We would like them to experience albeit in a simulated way what it means and feels like to cast a vote and be counted as a responsible member of society founded on the principles of freedom and democracy.

As a longtime partner of the Consulate General, we will highly appreciate your organization's representation. We look forward to your confirmation by August 15 through email.

Attached is a copy of the program for your reference. *Maraming salamat po!*

Sincerely,


GINA A. JAMORALIN
Consul General

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The **Consulate General of the Philippines in Chicago**,
in cooperation with the **Cook County Clerk's Office** and **NaFFAA - Midwest Chapter**,
welcomes

all **Filipino-American residents/registered voters** in Illinois,
including those who will be eligible to vote in the
General Election, 06 November 2018,
to the



FIL-AM VOTERS' EDUCATION FORUM 2018



25 August 2018, Saturday

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Seafood City Supermarket Community Center

5033 N. Elston Ave., Chicago 60630

Program:

- 9:00 a.m. Doors Open for the Arrival of Participants*
- 9:30 a.m. Welcome Remarks by Consul General Gina Jamoralin
Remarks by NaFFAA Midwest President Ms. Abbey Eusebio
- 10:00 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Mark Mesle, Outreach Director,
Cook County Clerk's Office
"Mock Election"
- 11:30 a.m. Registration of New Voters by Deputy Registrars

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About the Speaker:



Mark Mesle is the Outreach Director for the Cook County Clerk's office. He works with student groups, non-profits and community organizations throughout the county to establish effective voter registration campaigns. Mark also established and maintained a network of more than 500 community organizations and government offices to recruit election judges to serve voters in 1,600 precincts spread across 135 municipalities. Mark is the father of two young daughters and a committed advocate for action on climate change.

*A simple *merienda* will be available.