

Press Release No. 26-15

**PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL INKS LOCAL MOU WITH  
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION**

Taking a step to provide the Filipino community with more tools for empowerment, Consul General Generoso D.G. Calonge today signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Philippine Consulate General and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Chicago District Office.

EEOC Chicago Regional Director Julianne Bowman signed the MOU also on behalf of six other EEOC District Offices in Indianapolis, IN; St. Louis, MO; Houston, TX; Birmingham, AL; Memphis, TN; and Philadelphia, PA, given the extent of the Consulate's jurisdiction covering sixteen states.

The MOU establishes a working arrangement between the Consulate and EEOC at the regional level to provide Philippine citizens information, guidance and access to training resources to help them exercise their workplace rights, guaranteed under federal laws against employment discrimination and laws promoting equal employment opportunity.

A national agreement between the Philippine Embassy and EEOC in Washington D.C. was signed in February this year.

As a first undertaking between the Consulate and the EEOC, a forum will be held at the Consulate tomorrow, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m., on how the EEOC protects civil rights of immigrants and makes its services available to anyone who has experienced and suffered various types of discrimination (based on age, disability, genetic information, national origin, pregnancy, race or color, religion and sex) in their workplace or job applications.

A joint educational campaign will be launched crisscrossing the Consulate's vast area of jurisdiction with at least ten (10) community outreach activities scheduled for the year.

The Consulate has entered into similar alliance agreements with the U.S. Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). **END**



*Top: Consul General Generoso D.G. Calonge and EEOC Regional Director Julianne Bowman sign the MOU at the Kalayaan Hall of the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago on Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Bottom: CG Calonge and Director Bowman proudly display the signed MOU formally establishing cooperation between their two offices in promoting equal employment opportunity and protecting the civil rights of Filipino immigrants against all forms of employment discrimination.*



*Consul General Calonge and EEOC Regional Director Bowman (seated) pose with Chicago PCG staff and leaders and members of the Filipino community who witnessed the signing ceremony. Also in photo is Mr. Daniel Lim, (standing fifth from left) a Filipino-American official at EEOC Chicago.*