



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

Press Release No. **18-2017**

CONSULATE GENERAL IN CHICAGO EXTENDS SERVICE TO LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Consul General Generoso D.G. Calonge led a team from the Philippine Consulate General in Chicago that conducted its first outreach mission in Little Rock, Arkansas over the weekend, serving Filipino Americans residing across The Natural State and beyond.

The consular team performed a total of 379 various services, including e-passport renewal, dual citizenship, civil registration, legalization of documents and overseas voting registration.

As partners in the endeavor, the Arkansas Philippine Association (APA) under the leadership of Mr. Cris Balleza and the City of Little Rock, represented by City Director, Hon. Joan Adcock, provided volunteers to manage the flow of foot traffic and arranged for the use of the Southwest Community Center as venue of the outreach service.

To further enhance the consulate's extension service, representatives from the U.S. Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) participated to promote education on workers' rights under federal laws.

Director Adcock also provided security support by having police officers detailed at the venue and warmly welcomed all applicants by providing free drinking water and snacks. She also made sure the event is widely publicized with local TV Channel 7 coverage. The APA volunteer health professionals likewise offered free blood pressure and sugar level checks.

Consul General Calonge took the opportunity to announce and promote the 11th Ambassadors' Tour slated for 11-16 July 2017 among longtime immigrants and Filipino Americans who reacquired/retained their Philippine citizenship.

He lauded the assistance and hospitality of the City of Little Rock and the volunteerism of the APA officers and members in ensuring the success of the consular outreach service. **END**





Above: Filipino Americans who have reacquired/retained their Philippine citizenship are all smiles after their oath-taking administered by Consul General Generoso D.G. Calonge, together with APA volunteers. **Below:** Consul General Calonge (left) handed certificates of appreciation to NLRB Board Agent Ms. Kisten Walls-Parker (second from left) and OSHA Little Rock Area Director Mr. Carlos Reynolds (center). Joining them in the photo are Mr. Cris Balleza, APA Chairman (second from right), and DCG Romulo Victor Israel, Jr. (right).





Top left: Consul General thanks Ms. Virginia Pollard from EEOC; **Top right:** Overseas Voting Registration Assistant Ms. Kya Cupino (right) captures the biometrics of an applicant; **Above:** The consular team and APA volunteers are joined by Hon. Joan Adcock, City Director, (standing, fifth from left) at the end of the outreach activity held at the Southwest Community Center, Little Rock, Arkansas on 25 March 2017.