



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

PRESS RELEASE No. 50-2019

FILIPINA HONORED AT ANNUAL ASIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION ORGANIZED BY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

A Chicago-based Filipina lawyer was one of the three Asian-Americans honored on the occasion of the Asian-American Heritage Month celebration organized by Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Honorable Dorothy Brown on May 16, 2019 at the Daley Center, Chicago. Atty. Aurora Austriaco, of the Valentine Austriaco & Bueschsel, P.C., an all women-owned law firm and the first Asian-American President of the Chicago Bar Association and one of the founding members of the Filipino-American Lawyer Association (FALA), received the award from Ms. Dorothy Brown, who praised Atty. Austriaco for her significant contribution to the Asian-American community and for her active leadership roles in the Filipino-American community in Illinois.

The other Asian-American awardees were Deputy Sheriff Richard Kong of the Cook County Sheriff's Department and Mr. Manhar Patel, of the Accounting Department of the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County. Atty. Aileen Bhandari, Assistant State Attorney in the Office of the Cook County State Attorney, (of Filipino and Indian parents) served as keynote speaker during the program. Another Filipino-American, Judge Israel Desierto, sits in the Cook County Circuit Court.

Circuit Court Clerk Brown thanked the awardees for their unwavering commitment to community service and dedication to their professions.

Consul General Gina Jamoralin, congratulated Atty. Austriaco for bringing pride to the Filipino community as well as the other awardees for their contribution to the Asian-American community. She also thanked Clerk Brown for her support to the Asian-American community in Illinois.





Left to right: Consul General Jamoralin , Atty. Aurora Austriaco (Filipino awardee) and Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown



Group photo left to right, middle row seated: Deputy Consul General Kenji Tanaka of Japanese Consulate; Atty. Aileen Bhandari; Deputy Sheriff Richard Kong; Mr. Manhar Patel; Atty. Aurora Austriaco; Mr. Eric Huang, Director General, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO); Consul General Gina Jamoralin; Honorary Consul of Nepal Marvin Brustin. Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown is shown at the center, standing together with Cook County District Court officers and guests. First row seated are youth members of the Kala Padma Dance Academy who earlier performed an Indian cultural dance.



Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown delivering her opening remarks



At the luncheon reception hosted by the Cook County District Court Office after the event with (left to right) TECO Deputy Director General Edward Chen, Consul General Gina Jamoralin, Atty. Aurora Austriaco, TECO Director General Eric Huang, Host Circuit Court Cook County Clerk Dorothy Brown.