

HAWAII

# FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S #1 FILIPINO NEWSPAPER

◆ SEPTEMBER 23, 2017 ◆

## ROZELLE AGAG LEADS FILIPINO LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

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## EDITORIAL

## Filipinos Making Strides in the Legal Profession But Remains Underrepresented

**U**nlike Filipinos making their large presence in the medical profession for decades now in the state of Hawaii, it has taken a while for Filipinos to make inroads in the legal field. Today, Filipinos are making an impact in the legal community as judges, law firm partners, solo practitioners, government lawyers, trial lawyers, law clerks, criminal lawyers, labor, immigration and corporate attorneys. Many Fil-Am attorneys have taken on even greater visible roles as elected public officials. The most notable among them was former Governor Ben Cayetano who was also an attorney. What we see is more Filipinos actively involved in complex legal matters that involve employment, torts, family law, government benefits, public policy and immigration.

While our community continues to make progress in this arena, Filipinos and Asians in general still face inequities in the legal profession nationally. A study conducted by California Supreme Court Justice Goodwin Liu found that while Asian Americans comprise 4 percent of lawyers in the U.S. and 7 percent of law students, only 3 percent of federal judges are Asian American, and three out of 94 U.S. Federal attorneys were Asian American. The study also showed 10 percent of graduates at the top 30 law schools were Asian Americans; yet they only comprised about 6 percent of federal law clerks and 4 percent of state law clerks.

The good news is that Asian Americans are the fastest growing minority group in the legal field. But, according to the American Bar Association, they are still underrepresented, comprising about 3 to 4 percent of all licensed lawyers in the country. Asians make up about 5.6 percent of the overall population in the U.S. Asians are also underrepresented in various fields of the law such as federal judges, federal clerks, and corporate law, among others. As far as motivation for entering the legal profession, Filipino American attorneys were more likely to say they entered law school to work in government or politics (11 percent), compared to other Asian groups. There are close to 6,800 Filipino lawyers in the U.S.

The study also found that within the legal profession, Asian attorneys tend to shy away from the limelight and from seeking top leadership positions. This is in part due to a lack of access to mentors as well as stereotypes that Asians may have the hard skills and competency of the law, but lack in social, soft skills

Mentorship has proven to be key in advancing in the legal field. Mentorship, along with networking and community service, is the prime driver that attracts attorneys to join organizations like the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA). The HFLA helps attorneys to become better attorneys and to be able to better serve the community. It is an organization for Filipino attorneys to meet and exchange ideas and information. HFLA is currently in capable hands under the leadership of its President Rozelle Agag. She is an associate with Hughs, Storm and Associates, a firm providing legal services for insurance-related and commercial claims. She also served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the Maui Prosecutor's Office and the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office.

Congratulations Atty. Agag on being elected president of HFLA. We wish you and HFLA tremendous success. Thank you and the many Filipino attorneys in Hawaii for serving our community and being great role models.

## Trump's Move to End DACA Is An Act of Political Desperation

**L**ike a handful of issues President Donald Trump has flip-flopped his position on, his recent order to end the Deferred Action for Children Arrivals (DACA) program apparently might not be over if the U.S. Congress passes and presents to the president legislation to keep DREAMERS in the country and DACA alive. If we are to believe the President's tweets of late, he appears sympathetic towards this special group

## FROM THE PUBLISHER



**F**ounded in 2005, the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA) has been active in community issues and events. It's a group where legal professionals can network, exchange ideas and information, and foster professional development. HFLA's mission is to promote justice, equity, and opportunity with special emphasis on the Filipino community.

For our cover story this issue, we have a Q&A with Rozelle Agag, President of HFLA. In it, Agag shares her top priorities for HFLA, the requirements to join HFLA, and the major challenge of getting more students of Filipino ancestry to enroll in law school. She mentioned some of HFLA's pro bono work, including its attorneys volunteering for the Hawaii Access to Justice Room in the Honolulu District court which provides civil legal matters for low- and moderate-income residents of Hawaii, as well HFLA members volunteering for legal clinics. Atty. Agag was born and raised in Kapalama-Kalihi, educated at Boston University for her Bachelor's degree, then returned to Hawaii where she got her law degree from the University of Hawaii's William Richardson School of Law. She is currently an associate with a private law firm that does insurance-related and commercial claims. Aside from tackling the hard issues in our cover stories, we are always pleased to feature community leaders and role models such as Agag. We wish her much success.

Also in this issue, we have two articles on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program written by HFC legal columnists. Atty. Reuben Seguritan wrote: "What Dreamers Need to Know After DACA Ends" and Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tapon's article is entitled "DACA ay Nadapa."

President Donald Trump recently rescinded the DACA program started by former President Barack Obama as an executive order. With the end of DACA, DREAMERS (undocumented immigrants who came into this country at a very young age) could be subject to deportation unless the U.S. Congress comes up with a more permanent legislation in the next six months. As of press time, Trump is said to be working with Republicans and Democrats for a long term DACA solution with an intention to tie into the bill additional border security, including the possibility of funding Trump's controversial southern border wall.

On the same subject, read in our Hawaii Filipino news section how Hawaii has joined numerous other states in a legal suit to block Trump's move to end DACA. HFC columnist Emil Guillermo also writes about congressional efforts to come to some agreement on DACA. He also writes about a bipartisan resolution that passed in both the House and Senate to honor Filipino World War II veterans with the Congressional Gold Medal.

We hope you enjoy these articles and the rest of the issue. I'd like to extend a big mahalo to all our readers, advertisers, and community supporters. With your support, we can continue to provide relevant, timely information on the issues that impact our community. Until next time, *aloha* and *mabuhay!*

*Chona A. Montesines-Sonido*

of undocumented immigrants who were brought into this country by no fault of their own, illegally by their parents. The president suggests a willingness to sign into law a more permanent solution should the U.S. Congress agree on one.

But can the president really be trusted? Is he just passing the buck and shedding accountability? Or has he just found a way to fund his border wall by tacking on a border-funding requirement to legislation that would preserve DACA. Given the soft spot Democrats in Congress have for saving DACA that puts 800,000 on a to-be-deported list, Trump may just have found new political leverage for him to cash in if Democrats are willing to pay a price for saving DACA. It's a sick game at times, the political process, when the fate of hundreds of thousands of lives hang in jeopardy and in the hands of cruel leaders who exploit lives for political gain. This is what appears to be going on and more transparent by the day.

Look at the history. During Trump's campaign trail, he played to an anti-immigrant base and promised to rescind DACA when elected. He scored politically. A few months into his administration, Trump stated that he was going to allow DACA to continue, first testing the political reaction of how his anti-immigrant base would react. They



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HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

# Hawaii Joins 15 States in Lawsuit to Block Trump's Order to End DACA

Hawaii joined 15 states and the District of Columbia in a lawsuit to block President Donald Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, a program that protected young undocumented immigrants from deportation. DACA was established under President Barack Obama to protect DREAMERS, immigrants who were brought into the country as children by their undocumented parents.

Attorney General Doug Chin said ending DACA "robs hundreds of Hawaii residents of certainty in their future. There are 558 DACA grantees in the state of Hawaii.

The lawsuit was filed in the Eastern District of New York. In addition to Hawaii and District of Columbia, the plaintiffs were New York, Massachusetts, Washington, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia.

Chin said the state was joining the coalition filing suit to protect grantees of the

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, grantees because it is the right thing to do.

"With cruel indifference the President has taken an action that immediately robs hundreds of Hawaii residents of certainty in their future," Chin said in a statement. "Many of these people, who have done nothing wrong, have only known Hawaii as their home. I am grateful to Gov. [David] Ige for his leadership and clear-eyed dedication to supporting the Dreamers and protecting DACA. Following his lead, I have joined this lawsuit not only because it is the right thing to do, but because the way the President has proceeded is illegal."

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the DACA program will end in six months to give Congress time to find a legislative solution for the immigrants. The participants were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families who overstayed visas.

Those already enrolled in DACA remain covered until their permits expire. If their permits expire before



March 5, 2018, they are eligible to renew them for another two years as long as they apply by Oct. 5. But the program isn't accepting new applications.

Opponents of the program support the Trump administration's decision. They called DACA an unconstitutional abuse of executive power but proponents of the program said the move by Trump was cruel.

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson said the action violates the due process rights of the immigrants. He said he fears the information the immigrants provided the government to participate in DACA could

be used against them.

"It's outrageous, it's not right," an emotional Ferguson said at a news conference in Seattle. "As attorney general for the state of Washington, I have a hammer, it's the law."

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee joined Ferguson at the

news conference and said "this is one more of a long train of abuses that this president has attempted to foist on this great nation."

Earlier this year, Ferguson sued Trump over his travel ban, which resulted in a federal judge blocking nationwide enforcement.

**EDITORIALS (from page 2, TRUMP'S MOVE....)**

were hardly moved. Then he immediately backtracked two days later in another test, saying he was undecided and might just end up scrapping DACA. The political left, DACA supporters, responded passionately against that possibility, which clearly gave Trump the information he needed -- that DACA was political gold. Trump then had the arsenal he needed to pull the trigger and end DACA when the timing was right, elevating the issue to Congress where he can wheel and deal, or in his case, make an art of a deal with Democrats on an issue far closer to his agenda. How this ends up, though, is anybody's guess.

Clearly, ending DACA has no political gain on its own. Trump clearly needs some major legislative accomplishment behind his presidency. What perhaps he did not anticipate is saving DACA -- even if it means getting partial funding for his wall -- just wouldn't sit well to his base. Imagine, saving DACA as his first legislative accomplishment. Awkward, for him.

Trump is not a true conservative; nor is he the radical ideologue he is pretending to be by catering to right-wing elements. Remember, he was a Democrat New Yorker for years and share close to nothing in common with this base. What Trump is -- is a political

opportunist, albeit a cruel, merciless one. If his sympathetic words towards DACA immigrants were sincere, it would have been far more compassionate to continue DACA and pressure the U.S. Congress (publicly) to find a long-term solution. That did not happen because his motivation is for political gain. It's a desperate act by a desperate president needing to find some legislative success. And he is willing to play with the lives of DACA youths to make this happen. This is clear. Political analysts and veteran politicians see right through this. So should more Americans know what kind of president they've elected.

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## COVER STORY

## Q &amp; A INTERVIEW

# Meet Attorney Rozelle Agag, President of HFLA

By Chona Montesines-Sonido

**M**entorship and networking are the cornerstones of any professional organization. This holds true for the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA) that has served to help Filipino attorneys and Filipino law students foster their professional careers.

Since its creation in 2005, HFLA has also been active in community service through legal clinics and pro bono service. Attorney Rozelle Agag, who has extensive experience in both the private and public sectors, was elected president of HFLA. She joins a long, illustrious list of former HFLA presidents. HFLA was incorporated in 2005 with William Domingo as the incorporator. That year, the first board of directors at the time of incorporation were William Domingo, President. (Currently District Court Judge); Jocelyn Abanes, 1st VP; Benjamin Ignacio, 2nd VP; Edward Earl Aquino, Secretary; Bryan Andaya, Treasurer; Pablo Quiban, Immediate Past President; Caroline Cobangbang, Gilbert Doles, Jamesner Dumlao, David Forman. The following is a Q&A with attorney Agag.

**HFC:** Congratulations on being named president of the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA). How does it feel to be leading this organization?

**AGAG:** It is an honor to serve as President of the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA) for a third year. The HFLA Board of Directors have consistently provided programming for our members, volunteer legal clinics for the community, and opportunities for members to network with other Filipino bar affiliates through the National Filipino American Lawyers Association. I stand on the shoulders of Filipino attorneys and community leaders who served as HFLA President before me: The Honorable William Domingo, Peter Labrador, Professor David Foreman, Donnie Juan, Leslie Patacil-Chinn, and Shyla Cockett Fukushima, to name a few of the more recent HFLA Presidents.

**HFC:** Tell us more about the Filipino Lawyers Association of Hawaii? What are the requirements to join HFLA?

**AGAG:** The Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association formally organized in 2005. The purpose of HFLA is to promote participation in the legal com-

munity by Filipino lawyers, to represent and to advocate the interests of Filipino lawyers and their communities; to foster the exchange of ideas and information among and between HFLA members and other members of the legal profession, the judiciary and the legal community; to encourage and promote the professional growth of the HFLA membership; to facilitate client referrals and to broaden professional opportunities for Filipino lawyers and law students.

To be eligible to become an individual member, and to maintain membership in the HFLA, an individual member must pay annual dues as determined by the HFLA Board of Directors and must meet the requirements of one of the following three categories:

- The individual must be admitted to practice and be in good standing before the highest court of the State of Hawaii; or
- The individual must be admitted to practice and be in good standing before the highest court of the Republic



lic of the Philippines and reflect an interest in law, the legal profession or legal issues (individuals in this category will be known as associate members); or

- The individual must have heretofore met the requirements in category (a) or (b) hereof and now be retired; or
- The individual is a law school graduate of Filipino ancestry and reflects an interest in the purposes of the HFLA.

**HFC:** What are your roles and responsibilities as HFLA president?

**AGAG:** As HFLA President, I am the principal executive officer in charge of the business and affairs of HFLA subject to the direction and control of the Board of Directors. I preside at all meetings of the members and Board of Directors and I see that the resolutions and directives of the Board of Directors are carried into effect.

**HFC:** What will be your top priorities during your term?

**AGAG:** HFLA's 2017 initiatives include helping and connecting Filipino World War II Veterans and their families

living in Hawaii with the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program. HFLA was also involved in the West Coast Pinay Powerhouse Conference 2017 in San Francisco, California in March. The Pinay Powerhouse Conference focused on the empowerment of Filipina attorneys and aspiring attorneys as leaders in law. HFLA will also continue to connect its members through networking events, provide continuing legal education opportunities, and volunteer opportunities through the Judiciary's Access to Justice Program and legal clinics throughout our community.

**HFC:** How would you describe your leadership style?

**AGAG:** I believe in empowering each Board Member to pursue projects or initiatives that personally interest them and in furtherance of HFLA's goals and purpose. We are a close-knit Board and we are in constant contact so that we may provide our members with interesting activities, volunteer opportunities, and educational events.

**HFC:** What is the number one challenge facing HFLA today? How do you plan on

(continued on page 5)

## A POPULAR RESTAURANT IS FOR SALE

An authentic Filipino restaurant near the Kahului airport is for sale.

A popular spot for tourists as well as local people.

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COVER STORY

(from page 4, MEET...)

addressing this challenge?

**AGAG:** The number one challenge facing HFLA today is reaching out to young Filipino lawyers and Filipino law students to remain active in the Filipino community and HFLA. HFLA hopes to work with law schools, undergraduate programs, and high schools to ensure that students of Filipino ancestry are represented in law school enrollment.

**HFC: What pro bono activities or other legal services that FLAH has done for people who do not have enough financial means to pay for their legal services? What other projects and activities do you plan to focus on during your term?**

**AGAG:** Hawaii Supreme Court Associate Justice Simeon R. Acoba (ret.) is the Chair of the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission whose primary purpose is to substantially increase access to justice in civil legal matters for low- and moderate-income residents of Hawaii. Justice Acoba is one of HFLA's founding members and he continues to support our organization. He is a mentor and inspiration to many of us. HFLA has met the Commission's challenge to seek equality in justice by providing volunteers for the Hawaii Access to Justice Room in the

Honolulu District Court. HFLA will also continue to provide volunteers for legal clinics throughout the 2017 Law Week in conjunction with the Hawaii State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. As mentioned earlier, HFLA will also assist in helping our qualified veterans with the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program.

**HFC: What advantages are there for Filipino lawyers to join your organization?**

**AGAG:** HFLA provides Filipino attorneys, retired attorneys and law students the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas and information about the legal profession, policies and advocacy issues that affect Filipinos in Hawaii. HFLA also encourages its members to be leaders in the community, leaders in the law and to seek judicial appointments. HFLA also works with other legal organizations, in Hawaii and nationally, to provide its members with opportunities to enhance their legal careers.

**HFC: Tell us about your background—where you hail from, education, where you received your legal training and your family. Where were you born, raised?**

**AGAG:** My parents are Antonio R. Agag and Eleanor S. Agag. They emigrated from



**HFLA Current Officers and Board of Directors: (Back-standing) Alana Peacott-Ricardos, Joanne Badua, Pearl Tamayo, Radji Tolentino, Wayne Scott, Becky Gardner and HSBA member services coordinator Aiden Quevedo. (Seated) Secretary Daniel Padilla, President Rozelle Agag, 1st Vice President Jessica Domingo.**

Zambales, Philippines in the 1950's and they met in Las Vegas, Nevada. Both my grandfathers were Filipino U.S. Army servicemen and WWII veterans. Dad is from San Narciso and Mom is from Castillejos. I have a sister, Leigh Agag who is a talented make-up artist and also resides in Honolulu. I was born and raised in Kapālama-Kalihi. My sister and I attended Sacred Hearts Convent in Nu'uauu and we graduated from high school from Sacred Hearts Academy in Kaimuki. I graduated cum laude from Boston University where I received

double Bachelor degrees in International Relations and Political Science. I became a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority while in college and I continue to support the alumnae chapter in Hawaii. While an undergraduate, I studied and interned at Corporation Counsel in Washington, D.C. and I interned with the Conservative Party in London, England. I lived in New York and San Francisco before returning

home to study law at the William S. Richardson School of Law.

**HFC: What is your full-time job? How long have you been at that position?**

**AGAG:** I am currently an associate with Hughes, Storm and Associates, a small firm providing legal services for insurance-related and commercial claims. I have been with

(continued on page 6)

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*(Peter recently passed away earlier this year)*

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*(Alfredo is currently serving on our board)*

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## HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

# New AARP Reports Show Specialty Drug Prices Increase at Fastest Rate in Over a Decade

Two new AARP reports show retail prices for specialty drugs increased by an average of nearly 10 percent as generic drug prices show a mixed bag. Retail prices for specialty prescription drugs widely used by older Americans ballooned by an average of 9.6% between 2014 and 2015, the highest increase since at least 2006, while retail prices for some generic drugs saw more mixed results, with 11% showing price increases according to two new AARP Public Policy Institute (PPI) reports released. While generic drug prices decreased overall in 2015, 11% of generic drugs saw price increases, some exceeding 100%.

Specialty drugs generally include drugs used to treat complex, chronic health conditions. They often require special care in how they are administered to patients, as well as in how they

are handled and stored. Many specialty drugs treat conditions that are common among older people, including rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, and cancer.

In 2015, the average annual cost of therapy with one specialty drug was \$52,486, an amount more than three times higher than the average Social Security retirement benefit (\$16,101) and twice the median income (\$25,150) for someone on Medicare. By comparison, the average annual cost of therapy for one generic drug in 2015 was \$523, down from \$714 the year before.

Among the 11% of generic drugs which saw price increases, all of the increases exceeded the rate of general inflation. Between 2010 and 2015, all but 1 of the 399 widely-used generic drugs in this study experienced at least one retail price increase.

Some of these price increases were extraordinary, exceeding 100%. Two manufacturers increased the retail price of doxycycline hyclate, a commonly-used generic antibiotic, by over 1,000%, the highest price increase noted in the generic drug report.

“American families can’t afford to keep paying for prescription drugs that cost more money than their salaries,” said AARP Chief Public Policy Officer Debra Whitman. “These price increases are particularly hard on older adults, who take an average of 4 ½ prescription drugs per month and often live on fixed incomes.”

## Specialty Rx Price Watch Report Highlights

Based on the retail prices of 101 specialty drugs:

\*The average annual increase in retail prices was 9.6%

(2014–2015), compared with 8.9% the year before. In contrast, the general U.S. inflation rate was 0.1%.

\*The average annual cost of specialty drug therapy used on a chronic basis rose by nearly \$35,000 between 2006 and 2015.

\*In 2015, the average annual price of therapy for specialty drugs was nine times higher than the average annual price of therapy for brand name drugs and 100 times higher than the average annual price of therapy for generic drugs.

\*One drug, HP Acthar® Gel, was dropped from the specialty drug analyses because its enormous one-time retail price increase (1,300%+) in 2007 distorted the overall trends.

## Generic Rx Price Watch Report Highlights

Based on the retail prices of 399 generic drugs:

\*The average annual retail

cost of generic drug therapy was about \$2,350 in 2015, more than twice what it was in 2006 when the Medicare Part D program began.

\*In 2015, one widely-used generic diabetes drug had a 450%+ retail price increase.

\*The average annual generic drug price decreased 19.4% (2014–2015).

“Generics drugs currently account for almost nine out of 10 prescriptions filled at the pharmacy but only a quarter of total drug costs,” said Leigh Purvis, Director of Health Services Research, AARP Public Policy Institute, and co-author of the report. “Given Americans’ long-standing reliance on these products for savings—as well as recent price trends for brand name and specialty drugs—it is incredibly important that we identify and mitigate the factors behind recent generic drug price increases.”

## COVER STORY (from page 5, MEET....)

my firm for four years. I started my legal career as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the Maui Prosecutor’s Office and the Honolulu Prosecutor’s Office where I prosecuted traffic, juvenile, sex assault, property crimes, violent crimes, domestic violence matters and felony cases against the elderly.

**HFC: Who was one of your early role models? How did that person impact you?**

**AGAG:** My Mom and Dad continue to be my role models in life. They have been together for 51 years, enduring life’s hills and valleys. They instilled in me values such as hard work and commitment to loved ones. They taught me by example: to serve my community without expectation of recognition, to be grateful for all of God’s blessings, to be proud of my humble beginnings, and to be happy with the simple things in life. I couldn’t

have asked for a more loving family and I am so grateful for their unwavering support throughout my life.

**HFC: Why did you choose to become a lawyer?**

**AGAG:** Sometimes I feel like a legal career chose me. As a young student, I enjoyed reading, writing and learning about history, literature, social sciences and government. I was in speech and debate and served in leadership positions at every grade level through college. In college, I enjoyed learning about political science, international history and law. I worked as a paralegal for several years in a large law firm. I think I developed skills that led me to becoming a lawyer. In practice and through HFLA, I’ve learned to use those skills to help people in our community, to work well with fellow lawyers and to help young lawyers who are finding their way through their legal careers.

**HFC: If you were not a lawyer, what do you think you’d be doing at this moment?**

**AGAG:** I would be a fabulous travel blogger!

**HFC: What do you enjoy doing in your free time? What**

**is your favorite book and why?**

**AGAG:** I spend my free time with family and friends. I squeeze in walking and jogging and other fitness classes. I still dance the hula with Kumu Pohai Souza of Halau Hula Kamamolikolehua. I travel when I can. I enjoy seeking new experiences and trying new restaurants. I relish times when I can go to the beach, hike, or relax at a park. I used to read more in the past, but nowadays I find myself scrolling through social media to pass the time. I seek out little adventures when possible and I try to recognize and enjoy the small yet beautiful moments in life.

Unfortunately, I have little time for leisurely reading but I’m currently in the middle of three books: *Inferno*, inspired

by our recent trip to Florence, Italy; *Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow, because I just love the musical soundtrack; and *Conversational Tagalog* by Teresita V. Ramos, because I’m trying to learn the language for my next trip to the Philippines!

**HFC: When your term is done, what legacy do you want to leave behind?**

**AGAG:** I hope to leave a strong, motivated and well-managed organization with a reputation of being committed to helping the Filipino community. I intend to stay active in HFLA when my term is done and I will encourage other Filipino attorneys to take leadership roles in the law. I hope to mentor young attorneys and encourage young Filipino lawyers to lead HFLA into the future.



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## PHILIPPINE NEWS

# Advocates for West Philippine Sea Meets with Defense Secretary

Officers of the global group National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea (NYMWPS) met with the Philippines Secretary of National Defense Delfin Lorenzana to discuss the country’s sovereignty over the West Philippine Sea. The marine area is being contested by multiple-

(continued on page 7)

WHAT'S UP, ATTORNEY



By Atty. Emmanuel Samonte Tipon

# DACA ay Nadapa

rescinded," Attorney General Jeff Sessions said. As they say in Tagalog "DACA ay Nadapa"

President Trump blamed Obama for creating the program through executive action and suggested that Congress can provide a solution: "It is now time for Congress to act!" Trump said that "We will resolve the DACA issue with heart and compassion, but through the lawful democratic process, while at the same time ensuring that any immigration reform we adopt provides enduring benefits for the American citizens we were elected to serve," although "we must also have heart and compassion for unemployed, struggling and forgotten Americans."

An estimated 800,000 aliens who were brought into the United States illegally by their illegal alien parents were temporarily protected from deportation by the DACA program if they met certain qualifications.

### What Happens Now?

After September 5, no new applications for DACA

benefits will be accepted. If Congress does not enact a new law protecting DACA recipients by March 5, 2018, DACA recipients will begin to lose their status as their 2-year permit expires. Aliens with expired DACA permits would be subject to deportation like any person who is in the country illegally, although they would not be specifically targeted.

### DACA Unconstitutional

Critics of the DACA program believed that it was an "amnesty" and was an unconstitutional exercise of executive power by President Obama. Congress which was then controlled by Democrats had attempted to enact a DACA program - The Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, S744. But when it failed, Obama took it upon himself to enact a law embodying what Congress attempted to do. As Nolan Rapaport, a former immigration counsel representing Democrats in the House Judiciary Committee, predicted: "anything President Obama can do by issuing an executive order, the next president can undo by issuing his/her own executive order. . . I just want the president and the aliens who would benefit from the temporary lawful status to be fully aware of the risks involved." "There already is a legal path to citizenship for those wishing to immigrate to the United States. Anyone who decided to get off that path and enter the United States illegally should not be given any sort of

amnesty for it is neither fair nor equal treatment under the law." According to Tea Party Congressman Louie Gohmert, "Either we're going to enforce our law and remain strong economically and otherwise, or we ignore the rule of law and go to being a third world nation."

### Threat to Sue to Revoke DACA

The Attorneys General of at least 11 states, led by Texas, that had successfully challenged the Obama administration's DAPA and expanded DACA programs had written to the Attorney General that if by September 5, 2017, the Executive Branch agreed to rescind the June 15, 2012 DACA memorandum and not to renew or issue any DACA or Expanded DACA permits in the future, they would not amend their complaint to challenge the DACA program. It is believed that this threat prompted the rescission of DACA.

According to the Attorney General, the Department of Justice cannot defend this "overreach" by Obama. Rejecting DACA supporters' plea for compassion, the Attorney General said: "There is nothing compassionate about the failure to enforce immigration laws. Enforcing the law saves lives, protects communities and taxpayers, and prevents human suffering. Failure to enforce the laws in the past has put our nation at risk of crime, violence and even terrorism. The compassionate thing is to end the lawlessness, (and) enforce our laws."

### National Interest and the Rule of Law

At the end of a deportation hearing, the Immigration Judge usually asks "Is it in the national interest to keep this alien here or to remove him?"

What is "national interest"? There is no legal definition. But it has been suggested that: "A national interest is a public good of concern to all or most Americans; a vital national interest is one which they are willing to expend blood and treasure to defend. National interests usually combine security and material concerns, on the one hand, and moral and ethical concerns, on the other." The Erosion of American National Interests, Samuel P. Huntington.

Is it in the national interest to keep DACA recipients (or "Dreamers") in the United States or will giving them amnesty breed more lawlessness by encouraging more illegal aliens to come to the United States in the expectation that they, too, will be amnestied.

**ATTY. TIPON** has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. He specializes in immigration law and criminal defense. Office: American Savings Bank Tower, 1001 Bishop Street, Suite 2305, Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel. 808 225 2645 E-Mail: [filamlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:filamlaw@yahoo.com). Websites: [www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com](http://www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com). He is from Laoag City and Magsingal, Ilocos Sur. He served as an Immigration Officer. He is co-author of "Immigration Law Service, 1st ed.," an 8-volume practice guide for immigration officers and lawyers. This article is a general overview of the subject matter discussed and is not intended as legal advice.

**“I,** the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me.” Exodus 20:5 (New International Version).

Today (September 5, 2017), President Trump ended President Obama's amnesty program known as "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals" (DACA). <http://www.cnn.com/2017/09/05/politics/daca-trump-congress/index.html> <http://video.usnews.com/Trump-officially-ends-DACA-immigration-program-32933248>.

"I am here today to announce that the program known as DACA that was effectuated under the Obama administration is being

### HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS (from page 6, ADVOCATES....)



Philippines Department of National Defense (DND) Secretary Delfin Lorenzana shares his department's plans with regard to the West Philippine Sea issues to the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea (NYMWPS) group during the meeting on September 5, 2017 at the DND chief's office at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines.

country owners including China and the Philippines. In 2016, the Philippines received a favorable United Nation's Tribunal ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration. But China continues to claim territorial ownership.

NYMWPS is a youth group that advocates the upholding and preservation of the Philippines' territorial sovereignty. The global chairperson and founder is Dr. Celia Lamkin.

NYMWPS advocates finding peaceful solutions to the disputed territories. The DND chief has also shared with the group the development program for Pag-asa Island, saying that the department has already allocated a budget for it. Foremost among the development efforts is the improvement of the runway and plans to put up a marine research station, fishermen wharf, and the possibility of promoting the island as a diving spot.

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By Emil Guillermo

# Bipartisan Politics Win Congressional Medal for Filipino Vets; But a Jeer from the Right for Donald Trump on DACA

**A**s Washington searches for a way toward real bipartisanship in Congress on tough issues like DACA, we must celebrate the passing of a resolution in both the House and Senate to honor Filipino World War II veterans with the Congressional Gold Medal.

Low-hanging fruit? Slam-dunk? Not necessarily.

It required 70 senators to co-sponsor a resolution led by Hawaii Senator Mazie Hirono. And then it needed more than 290 member of the House so it could pass by unanimous consent, Ben De Guzman of the Filipino Veterans Recognition And Education Project told me.

The real work was getting the legislators to understand why the Filipino World War II vets deserved a Congressional Gold Medal.

More on that toward the end of the column.

News of the Congressional medal for the Filipino Vets coincidentally comes after Donald Trump stumbled while trying to be bi-partisan on the more contentious Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

## Hungry for power?

After a meal of Chinese food with Trump, Democratic leaders Charles Schumer and Nancy Pelosi acted out a variation of an old joke.

An hour later (or thereabouts), and they really were hungry for a power.

They released a statement

that said a framework for a deal on DACA had been reached.

"We agreed to enshrine the protections of DACA into law quickly, and to work out a package of border security, excluding the wall, that's acceptable to both sides," the statement added.

The idea was border security would somehow be combined with at the DREAM Act, which the Democrats a week ago called for an immediate vote.

But if a deal was done, Trump apparently had a case of acid reflux.

Tweeted Trump: "No deal was made on DACA."

He followed that up with more tweets that a wall definitely would be built.

But then Trump tweeted out two other messages which sounded like a real pathway to something was being discussed.

"Does anybody really want to throw out good, educated and accomplished young people who have jobs, some serving in the military? Really!....."

And

"They have been in our country for many years through no fault of their own - brought in by parents at young age. Plus BIG border security"

Later, Trump told the media he was behind some kind of plan.

The lesson for the day: Bipartisanship will not be easy, though it appears Trump doesn't mind being called "Amnesty Don" by Breit-



barters.

He threw them some red meat after all the DACA hubbub when he repeated his remark about violence "on both sides" at Charlottesville.

What's up with Trump?

He's showing he's tired of losing the straight Republican way on just about everything.

So as Trump tweets and defines and redefines himself on any number of issues, we're all playing a kind of bamboo politics, bending left or right, depending on the issue, as needed.

It's a kind of situational politics that is really not much different from any successful politician in the recent past, from Obama, to Bush, to Clinton (Bill or Hillary).

Is it principled enough? Is it too compromised?

When ideology gives way to practicality, it may just be the cost of getting something done.

Let's not forget even Obama had his compromises. He not only gave us DACA, but deported millions of people during his tenure. And then there was Guantanamo.

He wasn't perfect.

Just way more perfect than Trump.

## Now for some real bipartisanship

Contentiousness has a way of screwing up attempts at bipartisanship. On DACA, it was interesting to see the Republicans immediately fight

amongst themselves.

The nationalists see DACA recipients taking away jobs and admissions spots in college, and want them all deported pronto.

The more compassionate conservatives see the DACA recipients as smart, and upwardly mobile. They won't mind a pathway to citizenship as long as it provides the 800,000 a pathway to the GOP.

And Trump? All he cares is that you see him as the guy who fixed another "mess" left by his arch-enemy, Obama.

It will take some doing to get to a bipartisan promised land on contentious issues.

For now, issues like The Filipino Veterans Congressional Gold Medal resolution passed by both the Senate and the House, serve as a reminder that the two legislative bodies and all the parties can work together.

Considering where they are now, we must marvel at any bi-partisan display. And wonder what do we have to do to get to that kind of clarity?

De Guzman told me on my podcast, Emil Amok's Takeout that the toughest part was educating the legislators. Many just didn't know the role of Filipinos and the Philippines in the Pacific during WWII. They knew MacArthur retreated and returned, but they didn't know how important the Filipinos fighting under the U.S. flag as the U.S. Armed Forces in the Far East were during the void.

For the community, the big news may be how those eligible for the medal include more than just the Filipino Vets who were subject to the Rescission Act of 1946 (See my stories on the vets' fight for equity pay:

<http://aaldef.org/blog/emil-guillermo-the-fight-for-pay-equity-is-not-over-for-many-filipino-veterans-of-wwii.html>

and on the Rescission Act:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/forgotten-battle-thousands-wwii-veterans-are-still-fighting-n52-0456>

The Congressional Gold Medal is expansive in scope and will now be awarded to all Filipinos who served in WWII.

In other words, not just those Filipinos who answered Roosevelt's call in the Philippines, but also Filipino Americans who were in the U.S.

DeGuzman said the number eligible for replica medals could be as high as 250,000.

The actual gold medal will be awarded on Oct. 25 in a special ceremony at Emancipation Hall in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center in D.C. It will then be on display at the Smithsonian.

A community celebration is also planned after the ceremony and the first 1,000 who registered at <http://www.filvetrep.org> will get replica medals.

Go to the website to see if your loved one's service makes him or her eligible for a replica.

DeGuzman said it's not too late to register. The organization is counting on community donations for the medals (each on costs around \$52).

As DeGuzman told me, "There's still time to get one for Lolo."

.....  
**EMIL GUILLERMO** is an award-winning journalist and commentator who writes from Northern California. He recently won the 2015 Dr. Suzanne Ahn Award for Civil Rights and Social Justice from the Asian American Journalists Association California. Listen to his podcast: *Emil Amok's Takeout* <http://emilamokstakeout.libsyn.com/website>

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NEWS FEATURE

# BEA RAMOS-RAZON, RN, IS 2017 DR. JOSE P. RIZAL AWARDEE

By Serafin Colmenares Jr.

**A** he Knights of Rizal-Hawaii Chapter recently held its 7th Annual Dr. Jose P. Rizal Award Gala on September 17, 2017 at the Filipino Community Center. Receiving the award this year is Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, founding president of Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc. (NAMI).

The Dr. Jose P. Rizal Award for Peace and Social Justice was instituted in 2011 and is given annually by the Knights of Rizal-Hawaii Chapter to celebrate Rizal's life and to honor his memory and his achievements. It is awarded to a person who exemplifies the ideals and teachings of the Philippines foremost national hero. Dr. Jose P. Rizal was a polymath and excelled in many fields.

He is known for his literary works, his keen scientific mind, his devotion to an educated citizenry, his vision of an ideal community, but most of all, for his dedication to and struggle for peace, freedom and social justice.

The Rizal Award is open to all nationalities residing in Hawaii, male and female. The candidate must be nominated by at least three reputable civic, professional or community organizations, and must submit a nomination form detailing his/her accomplishments, the impact of said achievements on the community, and how such achievements promote the ideals and teachings of Dr. Jose P. Rizal. The nominee must show exceptional leadership, achievement, service and advocacy in the promotion of change through peaceful means, inter-



cultural understanding, social justice, and democratic principles.

Previous awardees were Dr. Belinda Aquino (2011), the late Dr. Jorge Camara (2012), Dr. Amefil Agbayani (2013), Dr. Ramon Sy (2014), Anacleto Alcantra (2015), and Dr. Charlie Sonido (2016).

Born and raised in the Philippines, Beatrice Ramos-Razon obtained her nursing diploma from the University

of the Philippines. Following her migration to Hawaii, she worked her way up from being a Staff Nurse to Head Nurse at St. Francis Hospital. She briefly served as Patient Care Coordinator, helping in the opening of Pali Momi Medical Center in 1989, before moving to Washington State as Director of Nursing at Bremerton Health Care Center and Sequim Living Center. She returned to Hawaii in 1999 as

Assistant Director of Nursing at the Convalescent Center of Honolulu and then served in various administrative capacities, including Director of Nursing for Hale Ho Aloha and Avalon Care Center, from 2001 to 2006. She was then hired as Quality Assurance Reviewer by the Hawaii State Department of Human Services, and became a Nurse Educator at the University of Hawaii Kapiolani Community College in 2010, from where she retired in 2017.

Throughout her successful career in nursing, Bea, as she is fondly called, has never lost sight of the welfare not only of her patients and fellow nurses but her fellow immigrants as well, particularly those who are needy and underserved. She used her leadership skills to lead various organizations and to advocate for their causes. She is past president and lifetime member of the Filipino Nurses Organization of Hawaii; founding president

*(continued on page 10)*

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## State Ready to Offer Flu Shots at Hawaii Public Schools

**S**top Flu at School, a vaccination program that provides free flu shots to students in kindergarten through eighth grade, will be offered to all elementary and intermediate public schools in Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii counties later this year. On Oahu, the program will be made available to selected public schools. Private schools will no longer offer flu shots.

Information packets and vaccination consent forms will be distributed to families in participating schools in early October. Vaccination clinics are scheduled to begin November 1.

“We recognize that many families relied on the Stop Flu at School program as a free and convenient way to vaccinate their children, so scaling back the program’s offerings was not a decision taken lightly,” said Health Director Dr. Virginia Pressler. “After careful consideration, we understood it was critical to prioritize eligible schools based on students with the greatest need for assistance, which allowed us to maximize the benefit to the public while utilizing the limited funds and



resources available.”

The program will be offered to approximately 90 Oahu public schools which in previous years had at least 40 percent of their student enrollment participating in the Department of Education’s Free and Reduced-Price Meal Program. All neighbor island public schools will be eligible to participate in this year’s program as access to healthcare in those counties can often be a challenge.

“Parents of students attending schools no longer eligible for the Stop Flu at School program are encouraged to have their child vaccinated by their healthcare provider,” said State Epidemiologist Dr. Sarah Park. “As an additional resource, pharmacies are now able to provide flu

vaccine to children ages 11 through 17 with a prescription from their healthcare provider.”

In addition to vaccination for everyone ages 6 months and older, DOH recommends other flu prevention strategies, which include staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing

hands frequently. For more information about the flu, visit [http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease\\_listing/influenza-flu/](http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/disease_listing/influenza-flu/).

The Stop Flu at School program is a continuing partnership between the Departments of Health and Education, and is made possible by the support of school administra-

tors, health care providers, the American Academy of Pediatrics Hawaii Chapter, health insurers, and federal partners. For more information about Stop Flu at School, visit <http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/about-us/programs/stop-flu-at-school/>.

## HART Submits Recovery Plan

**T**he Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) has submitted a Recovery Plan for the Honolulu Rail Transit Project to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

The Recovery Plan includes an updated project Financial Plan which is based on the recent deliberations and actions of both the State and City governments to provide additional local funding for completion of the construction of the project to Ala Moana Center.

“Thank you to the many members of our HART staff who worked diligently and professionally to make sure HART would meet the FTA’s deadline for submittal of our Recovery Plan,” said HART Executive Director and CEO Andrew Robbins.

The total project cost included in the plan remains at \$8.165 billion for capital costs exclusive of finance charges, with full revenue service scheduled for December, 2025. Fi-



nancing charges of \$858 million are also projected, bringing the total project amount to \$9.023 billion, including contingency. The revenue to cover the cost will come from the federal funds as outlined in the project’s Full Funding Grant Agreement, receipt of the county surcharge on the state General Excise Tax, one percent of the state Transient Accommodations Tax, and a subsidy from the City and County of Honolulu.

“This updated Recovery Plan lays out the local funding now available to meet the current cost estimate and complete the project,” Robbins said

### NEWS FEATURE (from page 9, BEA RAMOS-RAZON...)

of the Filipino Nurses Association of Puget Sound, Washington State; past president and lifetime member of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Hawaii; past president of Hawaii Association of Directors of Nursing Administration; past executive director of

the Philippine Nurses Association of America, Hawaii Chapter; and executive director of the Filipino Certified Nurse Aide Association of Hawaii. In addition, she has given and continues to give back to the community, serving as a volunteer for the Minority Organ Tissue

Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP) which sought to increase the number of minority organ donors, and as a community advisory council member for the Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness Research & Training (AANCART) which aims to reduce health disparities,

particularly the unnecessary cancer burden, among Asian Americans. She served as chair of the “Tell-A-Friend” campaign, a national breast cancer early detection program, and was instrumental in helping to tailor breast cancer education train-the-trainers materials to be linguistically and culturally appropriate to Filipino women.

She is the founding president of Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc. (NAMI), a highly-successful non-profit which provides free NCLEX/RN review classes for foreign-educated nursing graduates. She worked with the Board of Nursing in modifying the exam application of foreign nurse graduates, and remains as NAMI’s lead coordinator of more than 50 volunteer lecturers, assisting foreign nurse graduates in the exam application process and in finding job opportunities as registered nurses. She and NAMI have partnered with

AANCART and UH-SEED to advance cancer education and community research in the Filipino community; they have also been strong advocates and provided countless testimonies for the successful enactments of legislations on issues on social justice, labor equity, health disparities and education, among others.

For her work, Bea has received honors, awards and commendations from the National Association of Directors of Nursing Administration, the Philippine Nurses Association of America, the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of America, and the Hawaii State Legislature. Indeed, as an educator, a health professional, a community leader, and an advocate for social justice, Bea puts into practice and epitomizes the ideals espoused by Dr. Jose P. Rizal.

The event included the elevation of Sirs Jerry Felicitas, Pepito Guevarra and Frederick

(continued on page 11)

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*Dr. Jon Avery Go is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Medicine and Surgery and underwent training at the Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, RI which is affiliated with Boston University School of Medicine.*



PHILIPPINE NEWS

# 16 Aegis Juris Fratmen on DOJ Departure Lookout

by Edu Punay  
Thursday, September 21, 2017

**M**ANILA, Philippines — Sixteen members of Aegis Juris fraternity suspected of involvement in the hazing death of University of Santo Tomas law freshman Horacio Castillo III have been placed on the immigration lookout bulletin by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II said the lookout bulletin order (LBO), contained in a three-page memorandum issued yesterday, would bar the 16 from traveling outside the country without approval from authorities.

Unlike a hold departure order issued by a court, which automatically prevents the subjects from leaving the country, the LBO is issued for monitoring purposes only, just like a watchlist order.

Individuals in an LBO may be allowed to leave the country, but only after securing an Allow Departure Order (ADO) from the DOJ.

Covered by the order is John Paul Solano, who had claimed to have taken Castillo to the Chinese General Hospital after finding him sprawled on a sidewalk in Balut, Tondo Sunday morning.

Solano initially identified himself to police as a medical technician at the San Lazaro Hospital. He turned out to be also a UST Law student and member of the Aegis Juris.

The other frat members in the LBO are Arvin Balag, Mhin Wei Chan, Marc Anthony Ventura, Axel Mundo Hipe, Oliver John Audrey Onofre, Joshua Joriel Macabali, Jason Adolfo Robiños, Ralph Trangia, Ranie Rafael Santiago, Danielle Hans Matthew Rodrigo, Carl Matthew Villanueva, Aeron Salientes, Marcelino Bagtang, Zimon Padro and Jose Miguel Salamat.

Balag is said to be the head of the fraternity in UST while Ventura and Hipe are allegedly the “masters of initiation.”

Trangia’s father reportedly owns the red pickup that brought Castillo to the hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Chat logs now being verified by the police indicate that Balag ordered fraternity members to observe a code of silence

– “manahimik muna lahat” – after Hipe reported an “emergency” at 9 a.m. on Sunday.

The police have started a manhunt for the suspects.

“In order not to frustrate the ends of justice to ensure that persons-of-interest shall remain within our jurisdiction, and considering the gravity of the offense, there is a strong possibility that they may attempt to place themselves beyond the reach of the legal process by leaving the country,” the DOJ explained in its order.

Aguirre’s order was addressed to Bureau of Immigration Commissioner Jaime Morente and acting Prosecutor General Jorge Catalan Jr.

Aguirre said the names of the 16 individuals on the LBO were provided to his office by police investigators.

“I call upon the persons named in the LBO or anyone who has knowledge of what happened to Mr. Horacio Tomas Castillo III to come forward and to clear their names and share what they know,” Aguirre said in a statement.

Aguirre earlier directed the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) to conduct a parallel probe on Castillo’s death.

**False statements**

Manila Police District director Chief Supt. Joel Napoleon Coronel said Solano “deliberately, intentionally and maliciously gave false statements” to investigators.



Horacio Tomas Castillo III

Antonio Trangia, the father of one of the suspects. The elder Trangia is also an officer of Aegis Juris.

Coronel revealed there are “a handful or more suspects” but he declined to name them.

He pointed out they are “all officers of Aegis Juris fraternity currently enrolled (in UST).”

He stressed fraternity officers not present in deadly initiation rites could also be held criminally liable.

“It is provided in the anti-hazing law that officers of fraternities or organizations could be held liable in events or incidents such as hazing,” he said. “There is a possibility that even if they are not present during hazing rites, they may have participated in recruitment and eventual hazing or initiation.”

Some members of the fraternity’s female counterpart Regina Juris who may have joined in the initiation rites could also be included in the

“At present, he is considered a principal suspect in the killing of Horacio Castillo III and manhunt operations are ongoing to effect his capture and arrest,” he added.

Police also said the red Mitsubishi Strada (ZTV 539) used to transport Castillo to the hospital was registered to

investigation, as are members of the UST Faculty of Civil Law who could be “co-conspirators, accomplices, accessories.”

National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) Director Oscar Albayalde said Coronel, being a lawyer, would know who among the members of Aeris Juris could be held accountable for the death of Castillo.

“I think it will go up to the president of that fraternity. They have this liability, I’m sure,” Albayalde told a news briefing at Camp Crame, Quezon City.

“I think it’s very simple, the officers of Aegis Juris fraternity are there,” said Albayalde.

Police also released two closed-circuit television (CCTV) footage provided by UST, which showed Castillo walking with some men, including Solano, along Dapitan Street at around 11:25 a.m. last Sept. 16. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

**NEWS FEATURE (from page 10, BEA RAMOS-RAZON...)**

Ching to the second degree (Knight Officer of Rizal) and the exaltation of Sir Danny Villaruz to the third degree (Knight Commander of Rizal). Sir Ben Sanchez, KGOR, also received his life membership award. It also included reaffirmation ceremonies for the new set of officers of the Knights of Rizal-Hawaii Chapter for 2017-2019 led by Sir Danny Villaruz as chapter commander, and the introduction of the new set of officers of the

Kabataang Pangarap ni Rizal (KAPARIZ), also known as the Rizalian Youth Council.

The evening gala was graced by the Hon. Gina Jamoralin, Philippine consul-general, who gave brief opening remarks, and Jade Butay, deputy director of the Department of Transportation, representing the governor. Two previous Dr. Rizal awardees, Dr. Belinda Aquino and Dr. Amy Agbayani, were also present. Dr. Patricio "Jojo"

Abinales, director of the UH Center for Philippine Studies, was the guest speaker and talked about why Filipinos and non-Filipinos alike should get to know Dr. Rizal and read his novels, the Noli Me Tangere and El Filibusterismo. In her acceptance speech, Bea Ramos-Razon talked about the work that she has done and still does, but gave the credit for what she has achieved to her family, colleagues and friends, who have supported her all the way.

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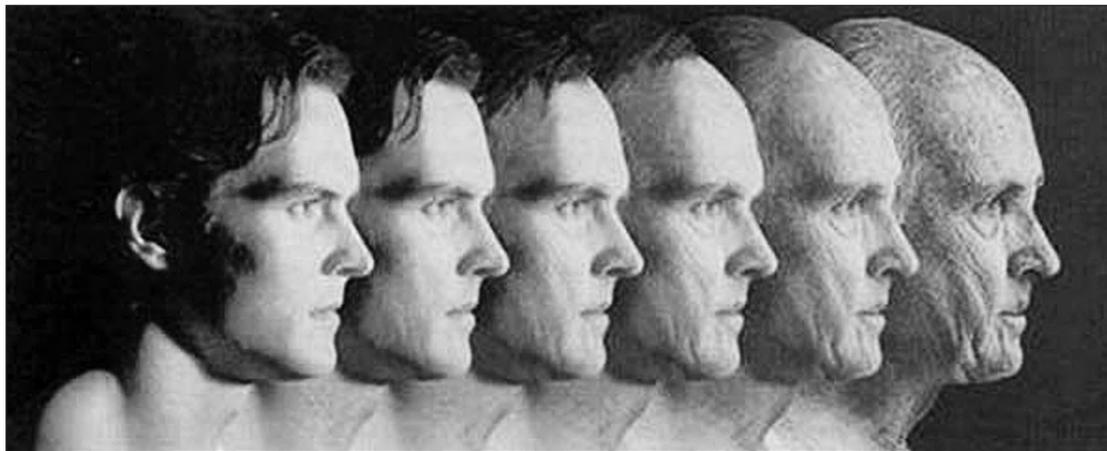


# HOW TO DELAY FACIAL AGING

**UNDER YOUR SKIN** By Grace Carole Beltran, MD

**F**riends tell me all the time that they need a vacation after their vacation in Europe or the US. The obvious reason is their dysfunctional sleeping pattern — “jet lag” in simple terms. Sleep deprivation is no laughing matter and could cause havoc to one’s health and compromise the immune system. Furthermore, not having enough sleep makes one lethargic and slow-witted. The brain is foggy and reflex impulse is slow or non-functional. Taking tons of coffee to get through the day is not a good solution either as one could have heart palpitations from the caffeine. Taking lots of liquids will disrupt whatever sleep you need to catch as the bladder has to be emptied every so often. Some friends say taking a lot of water works for them so take the course that works best for you.

Aging, in almost all societies, is seen as something that one would not want to acquire, even though it’s a natural part of life. Why as a society are we ashamed to embrace aging when one, it’s an opportunity not afforded to everyone; two, with age comes wisdom, as the saying goes, maybe for most? But still, we want to



delay or even deny the acceptance of old age as long as possible because being old is so unappealing in a culture that worships beautiful, youthful looks and athletic, young bodies. But we cannot deny the fact that we begin aging at birth, so aren’t there some preventive measures we can take to have a pleasurable old age? Actually, since I have been in practice for 27 years as an aesthetic surgeon and dermatologist, I have come to assume that most Filipino patients would come for treatment of their aging problems only if they are already reduced to shriveled frames and crepey arms. Which means that the process has degenerated and that their aging problems have now compounded.

Aging does not usually start with deep wrinkling and sagging — the end points of

neglect or utter disregard for one’s skin care. Usually, skin aging shows up first as discoloration or blemishes that start to appear on the skin. This is usually accompanied by a change in texture, such as roughness and scaling, in a previously smooth skin. The skin starts to look dull, followed by the appearance of fine lines and some not-so-obvious indentations on the face because as we grow older, fats underneath the skin move down as the ligaments that are supposed to support and ensure that these fats stay in place lose their strength and elasticity and thus, loosen their grip on such structures. This allows changes in the positioning of fats and explains why we have the jowls. As the fat moves down, it pulls on the other structures, like the skin, and forms unwanted bulges on the sides of the chin, thus creating a wider lower third of the face and a sunken middle face. It also creates heaviness on the sides of the face, making the nasolabial (lines on sides of the nose) and melomental (vertical lines on the sides of the mouth) folds deeper. It also sometimes creates a concavity on the side of the cheeks just before the ear.

What you see are early signs of volume loss, mostly in the mid-face and chin. This is also due to a decline in collagen and hyaluronic acid production so that you may notice that your face is starting to look slimmer and more angular, which can make you look older and tired. By this time, fine temporary lines are replaced by deeper, permanent

lines or furrows. Bone resorption is inevitable in aging. It is a process involving the breakdown of bone by specialized cells known as osteoclasts. It occurs on a continual level inside the body. The broken-down bone is replaced by new bone growth. But as people age, the rate of breakdown tends to exceed the rate of replacement, contributing to the aged appearance. Muscles also atrophy (progressive loss of muscle tissue referred to as sarcopenia).

All these contribute to the downward sloping of the skin called sagging. The upper and lower eyelids go down. The tip of the nose droops. The cheeks sink and begin to transform a straight jawline to an angling jawline plus the chin shortens. But because of the advances in health and well-being awareness, together with the dawn of new technology in the world of aesthetics, men and women facing the onslaught of middle age are now armed with an arsenal of age-fighting implements. So my advice is for people out there to start their beauty regimen as early as age 25 by protecting it against harsh chemicals starting from soaps that they use. Choosing the right kind of cleansers for your type of skin is essential. Applying moisturizer if your skin is dry and using a toner if it is oily is a big plus at this age. Photoaging from UV radiation exposure is the primary cause of extrinsic aging (aging caused by external factors) and therefore is largely preventable so using sunscreen is also helpful at this age. By the

third decade, one would need a daily dose of antioxidants, which is one’s free radical defense.

At this point in time, there is a need for volumizing, plumping, muscle-relaxing peptides to restore youth and volume, limiting contractions of muscles to allow greater repair and restoration of these structures. Probiotic peptides would also greatly help in improving skin clarity, combating dryness, and enhancing anti-aging effects. Botulinum toxin injections at this age would prevent fine lines from becoming deep furrows later on. And those beginning nasty folds on the side of the nose and the mouth may also need a little plumping, courtesy of filler injections in small amounts. Pigmentations, like freckles and melasma, should be stopped right here at this age by incorporating skin creams with mild whitening components. By the fourth decade, a stronger antiaging cream should be added in the maintenance regimen, together with a peel and lightening facial cream.

At this point, laser for skin tightening may be necessary for immediate results and for a longer-lasting effect and, of course, sunblock. Some patients might need the addition of botox and filler injections to treat the whole face. At age 50, more consistency in one’s treatment procedures (the soltera platform is highly recommended) is a necessity to maintain a youthful appearance.

For patients with more severe problems in their late 50s, surgery might be the right choice. For those with double chins, whether at an early or later age, there is this new injectable drug that can get rid of the problem without much downtime and without surgery. This will make the lower two thirds of the face rejuvenated and, hence, more pleasing to the eyes.

For questions or inquiries, email: [gc\\_beltran@yahoo.com](mailto:gc_beltran@yahoo.com). ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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LEGAL NOTES



By Atty. Reuben S. Seguritan

# What 'DREAMERS' Need to Know After DACA Ends

**T**hrough an early morning tweet on September 5, President Donald Trump signaled what the government dubbed as an “orderly phasing out” of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) that was signed by his predecessor Barack Obama.

Due to this development, the DHS immediately announced that it “will provide a limited, six-month window during which it will consider certain requests for DACA and applications for work authorization, under specific parameters.” New DACA and Employment Authorization applications are no longer accepted. However, DACA applications that were received by the USCIS on or before Sept. 5, 2017 will continue to be processed.

Those currently given two-year work permits will still be able to continue working until their permit expires. Those whose permit will expire on March 5, 2018 will be allowed to apply for two-year renewal as long as they apply by Oct. 5, 2017. In addition, DHS will not approve any new Form I-131

applications for advance parole associated with the DACA program, although it will generally honor previously approved applications until its stated validity period. DHS will also administratively close all pending Form I-131 applications for advance parole filed under the DACA program, and will refund all associated fees.

Those affected by the announcement should consult with an attorney. Unexpired DACA and work permits can still be terminated if DHS believes that the recipient is no longer eligible or for any other reasons. ‘Dreamers’ should talk with their attorney if they have other options. Members of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) have reported that up to 30% of potential DACA applications are eligible for something better.

The government says the “phasing out” is a humane way of handling the issue given that Pres. Trump has repeatedly mentioned he will show “great heart” in dealing with the “dreamers”.

Pres. Obama instituted DACA on June 15, 2012. Under this program, those under 31 years old on June 15, 2012, arrived in the US before becoming 16, had continuously

resided since June 15, 2007, were either in school, had graduated or completed high school or a general education development (GED) certificate, or were honorably discharged veterans of the US Coast Guard or US Armed Forces and had not been convicted of a felony, could have deferred action or deferred deportation. This protected nearly 800,000 undocumented minor immigrants from deportation. To date, 787,580 have been allowed to stay here in the US, granted work permits and allowed to obtain education.

Obama later expanded DACA and created DAPA (Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents) which among other things expanded the coverage of the DACA to include a wider range of ages and arrival dates. This became the subject of a lawsuit filed by 26 states that resulted in a preliminary injunction ordered by a US District Court in Texas that stopped the implementation of the expanded DACA and DAPA nationwide. This later reached the Supreme Court and ended in a divided vote, effectively upholding the preliminary injunction ordered by the lower court.

Meanwhile, Texas and sev-

eral other states have been putting pressure on Trump to fulfill his campaign promise to scrap DACA. On June 29, 2017, attorneys general of Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, South Carolina, and West Virginia sent a letter to US Attorney General Jeff Sessions asserting that this policy is an unlawful exercise of executive authority. These states threatened to sue the administration and amend the DAPA lawsuit to include a challenge to DACA.

Trump has been threading these waters very lightly but eventually decided to give the ball to Congress to enact a legislative solution to this issue and urged them to “do your job” as he puts it in his tweet.

Immigrants’ rights groups are enraged and several “dreamers” also fear mass deportation given that the DHS has all their information. Several lawmakers, both from the

Republican and the Democrat now call on their colleagues in Congress to protect the “dreamers”. In a statement, House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) said that “however well-intentioned, President Obama’s DACA was a clear abuse of executive authority, an attempt to create law out of thin air. This was never a viable long-term solution. Congress writes laws, not the president... “He then hoped that Congress would come out with an immigration policy that will protect these children. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) also called on Congress to protect DACA recipients by voting on the bipartisan DREAM Act “as soon as possible.”

**REUBEN S. SEGURITAN** has been practicing law for over 30 years. For further information, you may call him at (212) 695 5281 or log on to his website at [www.seguritan.com](http://www.seguritan.com)

MAINLAND NEWS

## Hirono Leads Efforts to Support Survivors of Sexual Assault on College Campuses

**W**ASHINGTON, D.C. – Senators Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) and Tim Kaine (D-Va.) introduced legislation to help provide support for survivors of sexual assault on college campuses. The Survivor Outreach and Support on Campus Act (S.O.S. Campus Act) would require colleges and universities to ensure that an independent advocate is available to support survivors of sexual assault on every campus.

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced a controversial decision to re-examine Obama-era campus sexual assault policy on campus.

“Last week’s decision by Betsy DeVos threatens to reverse important progress on Title IX protections that have been implemented to combat and prevent sexual harassment and assault on our nation’s campuses,” said Senator Hirono. “While this decision is concerning, I will continue to

work with my colleagues in the Senate to hold the Trump administration accountable and provide the necessary leadership that ensures our students have access to learning environments free from sexual harassment and discrimination in schools.”

The S.O.S. Campus Act is cosponsored by Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) and Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.). Congresswoman Susan Davis (D-Calif.) introduced a companion version of the bill in the House.

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## PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE



**ILOKO**  
By Amado I. Yoro

# Nakoronaan A Mrs. Ilocos Surian 2017-2019: Adelfa Azores Quines

**K**ANGRUNAAN A TAMPOK ti programa ti Ilocos Surian Association of Hawaii [ISAH] ti panakakorona ni Adelfa Azores Quines a maikanem a reyna ti ISAH idi rabii ti Agosto 18, 2017 idiay Ala Moana Hotel babaen ti panangiturong ti emcee Amy Casamina Cabatu. Paset ti programa ti panangablaaw da Event Chair Emmie Villaruz; ISAH president Danny Villaruz, Consul Bernardo; Kauai Mayor Carvalho, ita a pannakaisurat daytoy, saan pay a nagpormal a kandidato para gobernador.

Mainaig ti koronasion iti maisagsagana a pannakidanggay ti Ilocos Surian Association of Hawaii iti mayaw-awis Ilocano Grand Reunion 2018 ken iti: Intayon Ilocos Sur; Experience Ilocos Sur 2018 ken ti ISAH THEME: "Onward to

2018 Ilocos Sur Province Bicentennial: a selebrasion iti 200 a tawen nga anibersario ti Ilocos Sur a maangay iti Enero 29 Pebrero 7, 2018 idiay Vigan City kas dakkal a programa ti gobierno probinsial nga ipanguluan ni Gobernador Ryan Luis Singson ken ti Vigan City nga ipanguluan ni Mayor Carlo Magno Medina. Naisina ti Ilocos Sur idi Pebrero 2, 1818 manipud iti Ylocos.

Itoy a rabii, nairaman a sangaili iti pasken da Consul Bernardo; Mayor Bernard Carvalho ti Kauai; Atty. Franz Donnie Juan, kas naisangayan a sangaili. Ken dagiti nadumaduma a lider ken kameng ti komunidad.

Nabigbig met dagiti nagpaay iti napalabas a royal court iti tallaong kas kada Mrs. Nancy Clemente Luat; Mrs. Elena Puesta; Mrs. Davelyn Quijano; Mrs. Marylou Natividad; Mrs. Anita Alquiza; Zeny Abalos; Analiza Braceros Mateo; Zeny Sumibcay; Letty Dalit; Loida Alimbuyugen Yamamoto; Alice Castaneda ken dadduma.

Nupay medio atiddog, sumangkapintas met a buyaen dagiti managayat iti sala dagiti pasalip nga indauluan ni Engr. Carlito Soria. Nagpaay a hues ti panagpili da Al Sabangan, Art Abinsay ken Maria Etrata. Tabulator ni Ben Cabrerros. Adda cash a premio tunggal pareha.

Dagiti nangabak ti salip ti sala:

Tango Mr. ken Mrs. Jun and Myrna Peralta [Cabugao]; Rhumba Leo ken Virgie Corsino; Waltz Mr. ken Mrs. Roman and Angie Saupan [Cabugao]

### Asino ni Adelfa?

Nayanak idiay Ayusan Norte, Vigan, Ilocos Sur idi Agosto 29, 1962 kada Enhiniero Sergio Jaramillo Quines ken Juanita Barcellano Azores. Immakar ken nagubing idiay Sto Tomas, Sto Domingo Ilocos Sur iti lugar ti apongna a lakay a kaduana dagiti kakabsatna manipud 1969.

Nagbasa iti elementaria ken sekundaria iti lugarda. Lineppasna ti Bachelor of Sci-

ence in Commerce-Management iti University of Northern Philippines 1983.

Immay ditoy Hawaii idi Setiembre 18, 2004 ken umuna a trabahona iti caregiver iti ORI Helemano Plantation. Saan a nagbayag sadiay. Simrek iti sabali a panggedan. Agdama a Personal assistant iti HHS.

Da Jan ken Jay dagiti dua nga annakna a lallaki.

Ni Adelfa ti maikanem a Reyna ti Ilocos Surian. Ken isu pay ti maikatlo kadagiti immunan a tubo ti Vigan kas kada Marylou Natividad ken Anita Alquiza dagiti dua pay a tubo ti Vigan.

### Dagiti nakoronaan a Mrs. Ilocos Surian:

1. Mrs. Nancy Vallejo Clemente Luat 2003-2006 [Cabugao]
2. Mrs. Elena Villaruz Puesta 2006-2008 [Santa]
3. Mrs. Davelyn Ancheta Quijano 2008-2013 [Sinait]
4. Mrs. Marylou Natividad 2013-2015 [Vigan]
5. Mrs. Anita Alquiza 2015-2017 [Vigan]

Nairugi ti Mrs. Ilocos Surian a programa a pamataudan ti nayon ti pondo para iti medical ken homecoming mission. Maangay ti mission iti tunggal dua a tawen. Dagiti napalabas a mission 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015. Dadaulo daytoy a mission da Dr. Charlie Y Sonido; Dr. Elizabeth Lim Abinsay; Felipe Abinsay, Jr., babaen iti tulong dagiti adu a volunteers: dodoktor, nanarses, kameng ti grupo sibiko.

### Dagiti Agdama A Liderato Ti Ilocos Surian Association of Hawaii 2016-2018:

Danny Villaruz, presidente; Maria Etrata, 1vp; Veronica Esteban, 2vp; Maria Cristina White, recording secretary; Tessie Aganon, corresponding secretary; Rose Sabangan, treasurer; Lina Mercado, assistant treasurer; Alice Castaneda, auditor; Emmie Villaruz, assistant auditor; Roger Tapat,

PRO; Emerita Etrata, PRO; Art Abinsay, Jimmy Dalit; Antonio Ipalari; Roman Saupan, Josie Takamoto, sergeant at arms.

### Dagiti Unit Organizations Ken Presidente:

1. Annac Ti Caoayan – Jenny Quezon
2. Annak Ti Sinait Iti Hawaii – Gus Concepcion
3. Cabugao Sons & Daughters Association of Hawaii – Myrna Peralta
4. San Juan Lapog Association of Hawaii – Alice Castaneda
5. Magsingal Association of Hawaii – Imelda Ulangca Formoso
6. Vigan Association of Hawaii & Associates – Tessie Aganon
7. Santanians Association of Hawaii USA – represented by Ben Aquino
8. Narvacan Association of Hawaii – Louie Funtanilla
9. Candonians – Helen Go
10. Santa Marians of Hawaii – Letty Dalit
11. Santiaguensians Association of Hawaii – Thomas Quintos
12. Sinait National High School Alumni Association of Hawaii – Romulo Basuel

**ADVISERS:** Felipe Abinsay, Jr. Ben Cabrerros; Rep. Romy Cachola; Louie Funtanilla; Al Sabangan; Dr. Charlie Y. Sonido; Engr. Carlito Soria; Amado I. Yoro

Nabangon ti ISAH idi Pebrero 27, 1977. Kameng iti OFCC, UFCH. Rehistrado iti DCCA. Itultuloy ti ISAH dagiti napateg a proyekto pakairamanan ti President Elpidio Quirino Leadership & Humanitarian Award; Special Projects- Feed the Homeless; Adopt a Hwy, a Park. Maawis amin nga annak ti Ilocos Sur, nayanak, naikamang iti taga Ilocos Sur. Silulukat ti ISAH kadagiti amin a gunglo dagiti ili, munisipio, baranggay iti las-ud ti probinsia nga addan ditoy Estado ti Hawaii. (Note: *adda Ilocos Surian of Maui—Romeo Guzman, presidente*).

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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**PMAH OHANA'S 11TH MEDICAL MISSION** | QUEZON CITY (Payatas), September 23, 2017 | PANGASINAN, September 24 (Dagupan City); September 25 (Urdaneta City), 2017 | For further info, contact JP Orias at 888-674-7624 (Fax: 888-391-7624) or email info@ohanamedicalmissions.org

**FILIPINO COMMUNITY CENTER'S BAYANIHAN GALA FUNDRAISER** | October 16, 2017 | Contact FilCom Center @ 808-680-0451 for details.

**2ND PMAH GOLF TOURNAMENT** | October 18, 2017 | 9:00 am (Registration), 11:00 a.m. (Golf Tournament Begins) and 6:00 p.m. (Awarding of Prizes and Buffet Dinner) | HOAKALEI COUNTRY CLUB | For registration, contact Elmer Baysa, MD @ 689-8315, Ray Romero, MD @680-0554 or Christopher Regala, MD @ 622-2626.

**DOCTORS-ON-STAGE'S DOWNTRODDEN** | October 28, 2017 | 3:30 pm | KROC CENTER HAWAII THEATER | For further info, call JP Orias at 888-674-7624 (Fax: 888-391-7624) or visit www.bayanihanclinicwwhawaii.org

**HALLOWEEN AND MASQUERADE BALL FUNDRAISING, PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII (PNAH)** | October 29, 2017 | 5:00 - 10:00 pm | ALA MOANA HOTEL, RUMOURS NIGHTCLUB | Cost is \$30.00, heavy pupus and one drink included. For reservations, contact Ramon Sumibcay @ 489-7148, Tina Salvador @426-6183 or Tina Fernandez @ 721-1721.

**ANNUAL KIMONA BALL AND BUSINESS WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS** | November 4, 2017 | 6:00 pm | DOLE CANNERY POMAIIKAI, BALLROOM AT IWILEI ROAD, HONOLULU, HI | Contact Elsa Talavera @ 358-8964.

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**MAINLAND NEWS**

**Hawaii Gets \$2.8 Million to Protect Coastal Communities**

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- The University of Hawaii's Pacific Island Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) will receive over \$2.8 million in National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funding to develop and enhance forecasting and modeling tools that promote resiliency and sustainability throughout Hawaii's coastal communities, announced Senator Mazie Hirono.

"Hawaii is seeing firsthand the effects of climate change and coastal erosion," said Senator Hirono. "By improving our ability to track and predict rising ocean levels and dangerous tides, this funding will help Hawaii communities prepare for the effects of coastal erosion."

As part of the grant funding, PacIOOS will receive \$2.3 million to enhance existing ocean monitoring

in Hawaii and the U.S. Insular Pacific over the next five years. Through improving the current capacity to provide ocean data and information, the program aims to support science-based decision-making to ensure a safe, clean, and productive ocean and resilient coastal communities.

"PacIOOS is grateful for the continued funding and support from the U.S. Congress and NOAA to sustain and enhance ocean observing and forecasting efforts in Hawaii the Pacific Islands region," said Melissa Iwamoto, Director of PacIOOS. "We work closely with partners and users to address their needs for coastal and ocean information to support decision-making that saves lives and protects livelihoods and resources."

In addition, \$500,000 will be provided to PacIOOS to help

Hawaii's coastal communities prepare for large wave and high tide events that significantly damage the shore and impact the local economy. This includes developing new information and real-time tools to forecast flooding on West Maui. The forecast system being developed for this project will be able to be replicated for other communities in Hawaii and the Pacific Islands.

"We will work closely with coastal managers, emergency managers, property owners, and local residents on Maui and around the State to ensure that data and tools are easy to understand and suitable for short- and long-term decision-making. The goal of this project is to better understand site-specific risks and vulnerabilities so that such stakeholders can integrate the information into community planning, policy-making, and hazard-related ordinances," added Iwamoto.

**Senator Brian Schatz Secures Funding to Help Homeless Veterans**

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- Senator Brian Schatz announced that Hawaii is set to receive federal funding from the Department of Veterans Affairs to help homeless veterans.

Schatz, lead Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs said "No veteran should be homeless. These funds

will give struggling veterans access to stable housing and provide them with the services they need to get back on their feet and find a home of their own."

The VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program will provide approximately \$185 million to community agencies in Hawaii and across the country, including the U.S. Veterans Initiative at Barbers

Point, which serves nearly a thousand veterans. The Initiative will be eligible to receive reimbursement grant funding to help carry out their mission and provide affordable, long-term housing, and supportive care for homeless veterans, who may struggle from a lack of a local support network or steep financial or health challenges. One out of every six homeless people is a veteran.

**HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS**

**HEMA and Philippine Consulate General Present Briefing on N. Korea Preparedness**

The Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (HEMA) in cooperation with the Philippine Consulate General invites the public to a "Briefing on the North Korean Nuclear Threat and Disaster Preparedness" on October 10, 6 - 7 p.m., at the Philippine Consulate General Lanai, 2433 Pali Highway. The deadline to RSVP is September 30. The briefing will be conducted by Vern Miyagi, Administrator of HEMA. Schatz, lead Democrat on the Senate Appropriation

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