



## CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES SYDNEY

### **ADVISORY ON INTERNET SCAM VICTIMIZING CAUCASIAN MALES**

The Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, warns the public of an apparent internet scam victimizing Caucasian males with the following elements:

1. The foreigner, usually a Caucasian male, meets and befriends an alleged Filipina through a dating website;
2. The couple communicate online for a period of time;
3. In some cases, the woman chats with the victim while using the picture of another woman, usually an attractive one;
4. The man invites the woman to travel to his country, or vice-versa;
5. The man remits money to the woman, or her alleged travel agency, for her visa and other travel expenses;
6. On the day of the supposed flight, the woman claims to have suddenly met an accident and is hospitalized, or is questioned and detained by immigration authorities, for illegal stay, possession of illegal articles, or other reasons. This is usually the case if the woman is allegedly in China;
7. A very distressed woman, or more authoritative-sounding person contacts the man to ask him to remit money immediately for assistance or to facilitate release of the Filipina from detention; and
8. After money is remitted, none of the parties can be reached anymore.

In this regard, the Consulate reminds the public to be mindful of this kind of internet scam and refrain from sending to any people met over the internet for unverified purposes as there may be no way of recovering the money as remittances are usually through remittance centers.

Thank you.

26 April 2018