



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS ANGELES



PR-AASC-22-2026

STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES, 06 OCTOBER 2026 — The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles reaffirms its unwavering commitment to extending appropriate assistance-to-nationals (ATN) services to all Filipino citizens within its jurisdiction.

In response to recent public assertions and mischaracterizations regarding the ongoing detention case of Mr. Mark Mabasa, the Consulate General wishes to provide the following clarifications:

- **Unwavering Support for Mr. Mark Mabasa:** Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz and the Assistance-to-Nationals team were at the Adelanto Immigration Court on 02 October 2026 to monitor the legal proceedings, ensure Mr. Mabasa's welfare, and reinforce the Consulate's active diplomatic presence on his behalf. While the Consulate General's representatives were not directly present at the hearing itself due to the brevity of the proceedings, Mr. Mabasa shared the information taken up during the hearing as relayed to him by his legal representative.
- **Adherence to Judicial and Court Protocols:** Attendance and access inside federal courtrooms are strictly governed by federal immigration judges and U.S. court rules. Immigration hearings are open to the public but attendees are required to comply with specific facility / building security and entrance rules.

Consulate officials do not dictate courtroom access or federal scheduling decisions, including court-ordered continuances or hearing delays. The Consulate General actively exercises its consular rights, while observing host government regulations, to ensure Mr. Mabasa, and all Filipino citizens, receive due process under U.S. law.

- **Independence of Consular Operations:** The Consulate General conducts its mandate strictly in the service of the Filipino community, adhering to non-partisan duty, Philippine and U.S. laws, as well as international conventions, in particular, the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, which govern the Consulate General's consular rights and access to its nationals.

Assertions implying collusion or negligence run counter to the daily work performed by consular personnel dedicated to safeguarding the rights and well-being of overseas Filipinos.



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- **Continuous Consular Assistance to Detained Filipino Citizens:** The Consulate General, in coordination with the Migrant Workers Office in Los Angeles, routinely monitors and assists Filipino citizens in detention centers across Southern California and adjacent regions. Consular officers, including the Consul General, perform regular welfare checks and facilitate communications in accordance with established Philippine government guidelines and host-nation laws. From January to September of this year, the Consulate General has conducted a total of 15 jail / detention visits. This number does not include our phone calls for welfare checks and monitoring of detainees.
- **Continuous Delivery of Other Types of Consular Assistance:** Aside from jail and detention center visits, the Assistance-to-Nationals team has also conducted six (6) hospital / home welfare visits, attended three (3) court hearings, and facilitated two (2) repatriations as of September 2026.

When providing assistance to distressed Filipino citizens, the Consulate General observes the highest level of confidentiality and does not provide information on any case unless expressly allowed by the concerned individual.

The Consulate General wishes to emphasize that a Filipino citizen does not need to find an individual or an organization to assist them in seeking our help. Consular officials receive and entertain requests via phone call, email, or personal appearance at our office.

The Consulate General's Assistance-to-Nationals emergency phone is 323-528-1528. Emails can be sent to losangeles.pcg@dfa.gov.ph. Our office is located on the 5th floor of the Equitable Building, 3435 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 550, Los Angeles, CA 90010.

Likewise, if a concerned individual or organization has information about a Filipino national requiring consular assistance, the Consulate General requests that this individual be referred directly to our office. The Consulate General is committed to safeguarding the privacy of Filipino nationals seeking assistance and hopes that well-meaning individuals and organizations observe this same courtesy and respect towards those they wish to help.

The Philippine Consulate General will continue to monitor Mr. Mabasa's case closely ahead of his upcoming proceedings, work collaboratively with his legal representative, and extend the necessary assistance to him and his family.

Given the Mabasa family's explicit request for them to be given the space to privately address this challenging situation, away from public scrutiny and discussion, we appeal to the public to respect their request. **END.**