

# LEGAL RIGHTS



By Atty. Johnson Lazaro

## A Date with the General Consul in Manila

NEXT week we hope to speak face to face with the General Consul of the U.S. Embassy in Manila. Our purpose is to find some answers on how they decide on non-immigrant visas. The visa denial rate from Manila is alarmingly high. We hear that the decision making process is so arbitrary and at times so irrational that even the most qualified applicants are turned down.

Filipinos who truly don't want to stay in America. Many are content with life in the Philippines. Now-selling this argument to the General Consul is another story.

The Consuls are the gate keepers at the U.S. Embassy. Their charge is to insure that every rule and regulation is followed. Many see their roles as the "fraud police." They

be accessed 24/7 to make appointments especially designed for non-immigrant visa applicants. The US Embassy in Manila has one of most informative website of all consular posts in the world. If you have internet access, you can check their website as part of your preparation. There are information for early appointments and urgent travels. But

despite the sophistication, many applicants are refused a visa. We have many questions to ask the General Consul. I doubt if we'll get the answers. But these ques-

*"The Consuls are the gate keepers at the US Embassy. Their charge is to insure that every rule and regulation is followed. Many see their roles as the 'fraud police.' They presume that anyone applying for a tourist visa is trying to pull a disappearing act. Give them visa and they disappear."*

Complaints come mostly from intending tourists. Qualified applicants who basically want to visit relatives and sightsee in the United States are being denied a visa. Many have no intentions of violating immigration status and they can prove it but still no deal.

presume that anyone applying for a tourist visa is trying to pull a disappearing act. Give them visa and they disappear. There are approximately 26 consular officers in Manila. There is even a Fraud Prevention Unit which is charged with profiling any potential impostors. If you are young, single, and unemployed you can certainly forget about getting a tourist visa. You would be the prime candidate for a denial. Similarly, applicants for tourist or student visas who have immediate family members in the United States with permanent resident status may have difficulty establishing that he or she has an un-abandoned residence abroad and thus, risk refusal.

tions are certainly worth asking. The high number of fraud cases coming out of Manila will certainly not help our cause. But we have to make a case for those who are legitimate tourists. If they are able to prove that they are the real deal, then they deserve the chance to see the beauty of America. I just hope the Consul does not cancel our appointment.

The U.S. Embassy in Manila is designated by the U.S State Department as a "high fraud" post. This means that many visa applications are based on fraud or misrepresentation. Given that fraud is endemic in both written and oral evidence in many applications, there is a danger for Filipinos to be stereotyped as fraud artists. But fraud is present in many other countries around the world. Columbia for example has one of the highest visa fraud rates in that region. We hope to persuade the Consul that this designation as a "high fraud" post punishes those who are legitimate tourist applicants. There are many

Among the many U.S. Consulates abroad, Manila stands out as being one of the most sophisticated. Manila has established the Visa Point System, an online appointment scheduling system which can

Atty. Lazaro represents immigrants in Immigration Courts throughout the United States and U.S. Embassy in Manila. The firm's offices are located in San Francisco, Makati City (Philippines), and Fremont, Union City California. Telephone (415) 278-9577. E-mail: Law@LazaroLaw.com Website: www.LazaroLaw.com

This article should not be taken as legal advice for any individual case or situation. The information is intended to be general and should not be relied upon for any specific situation. This is not meant to create a lawyer-client relationship. (Advertising Supplement)

# IMMIGRATION HIGHLIGHTS



By Atty. Crispin Lozano

## Waiver for Crimes of Domestic Violence and Stalking

the waiver application. Question: What are the favorable discretionary factors?

Answer: The favorable considerations are:

- Family ties within the U.S.
- Residence of long duration in the U.S.
- Hardship that would result if application is denied
- Service in the U.S. armed forces
- Employment history
- Property or business ties
- Value and service to the community
- Genuine rehabilitation
- Payment of taxes and
- Other evidence of good moral character

Question: What are the negative discretionary factors?

Answer: The following are negative considerations that should be overcome:

- The presence of additional significant violations of the U.S. immigration laws.
- Any other criminal records and its nature, recency and seriousness
- Any other evidence of bad character

Hot News of the Week Green cards without expiration date should be renewed within 120 days period. They have the alternative of applying for naturalization. Please call our office for questions about renewing green cards.

A bill has been filed to recapture 61,000 unused employment based immigrant visas of prior years exclusively for nurses. Skilled and other workers should be included here. Call your congressman to include skilled and other workers in this bill.

Illegal immigrants who graduated from a U.S. high school may study in college and avail of lower tuition fee in California under certain law.

Tip of the Week Waiver for certain mis-

representation at the time of entry may be waived if you have a parent, spouse, son or daughter who is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident. Once approved you may be eligible for naturalization. You should apply now before your personal situation or the law is changed.

Denied F-2A opt out requests are now available. Employers should have a file of I-9 for all its employees. This is the time to legalize your stay in the U.S. because of the announced DHS crackdown on illegal immigrants with more workplace enforcement and agents to do the job.

Taxpayer Identification Number is not a Social Security Number. It should be identified as ITIN and be used only in filing Form 1099 Miscellaneous with the IRS at the end of the year. It should not be used for filing payroll returns with the Social Security Administration. Our office handles consultation on "no match SS number" situations.

Income tax filing is required in the proposed legalization. Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) can be used for filing tax returns and is required before bank accounts can be opened. It is also needed by employers to charge to expense payment for contractual job. Our office assists clients in obtaining ITIN.

Crispin Caday Lozano is an active member of the State Bar of California and he specializes in immigration law. He earned his Juris Doctor at Western State University in Fullerton, California. His offices are located at 1290 B Street, Suite 205, Hayward, California 94541 and at 777 N. First St., Suite 333, San Jose, CA 95112. You can contact him at telephone number (510) 538-7188.

(Advertising Supplement)

**Don't ignore the warning signs!** UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP!

## WINTON PROTECH AUTOCARE

**Brand New Fully Equipped Facility**  
2551 W. Winton Ave #6F, Hayward, CA 94545

**"Electric & Automotive Diagnostic Specialists"**

**"Serving the Filipino Community for the past 26 Years"**

**Your Dealer Alternative**  
Worked at Nissan Dealership for 26 years

- Original Factory Parts
- Certified Technicians
- Hi-Tech Diagnostic Equipment
- Shuttle Service

Service Satisfaction Guaranteed, please call:  
**510.782.4333**

OPEN: MON-FRI 8AM-5PM, SAT 8AM-4PM • FREE RENTAL

**Experts with Integrity**

We employ ASE Certified Technicians  
**ALL WORK GUARANTEED**

**LUBE, OIL & FILTER & FREE TIRE ROTATION**

**\$19.95**

• Add up to 5 Qts of Oil  
• Install New Oil Filter  
• Check All Fluids and Safety Inspection  
• FREE Tire Rotation  
Synthetic Oil Extra 12 Month, 12,000 mile warranty parts & labor. Most cars. Coupons required at time of write-up. Coupons can not be combined. Expires 11/30/07

**FUEL INJECTION CLEANING**

**\$69.95**

Most Cars.  
Coupons required at time of write-up. Expires 11/30/07

**TIMING BELT REPLACEMENT**

**\$50.00 OFF**

• Original Equipment  
• Inspect Timing Belt Tensioner  
• Inspect Idler Pulley  
• Inspect Water Pump & Seals  
Coupons required at time of write-up. Expires 11/30/07

**BRAKE SPECIAL**

**\$50.00 OFF**

Any Brake Service  
\*Most cars. Coupon required at time of write-up. Expires 11/30/07

**POWER SAVER**  
30K, 60K 90K MILE SERVICE

12 MONTH, 12,000 MILE WARRANTY ON PARTS AND LABOR

**\$100.00 OFF**

Tune-up, Lube oil & Filter, Rear Wheel Drive Differential Service, Flush Transmission Fluid, Flush Power steering Fluid, Flush Cooling System, Install New Car's Plug, Replace Air Filter, Fuel Injection, System Service, Inspect Brake System, Adjust Drum Brakes & Rotate Tires, Additional Parts & Synthetic Oil Extra

\*Most cars. Platform plug with. Coupons required at time of write-up. Coupons cannot be combined. Expires 11/30/07

**CAR CARE PACKAGE**

**\$39.99**

• 4-Tire Balance Featuring High speed computerized spin balance. Plus we inspect tire tread, air pressure & valve stem caps.  
• 4-Tire Rotation Rotate tires according to manufacturer's recommendation.  
Most Vehicles  
Expires 11/30/07

**ENGINE DIAGNOSTIC**

**\$35.95**

Check Engine Light For Codes Only  
**FREE**  
Diagnosis if repair is done here with our parts & labor. Save over \$100 on purchase separately.  
Most Cars Reg. \$79.99  
Free oil or used only oil parts & labor service. Must present coupon.  
Expires 11/30/07

**A/C INSPECTION**

**\$19.95**

(A/C Inspection)  
• Check for leaks / Freon  
• Test A/C Infection  
Some Restrictions Apply  
Expires 11/30/07

**SAVE ADDITIONAL 10% OFF**

Dealer advertise prices. All scheduled services, call for prices.  
Must present coupon at time of estimate. Coupons may not be combined with any other offer. Expires 11/30/07

**FLUID FLUSH SPECIAL**  
COMPLETE COOLING SYSTEM FLUSH

**TRANSMISSION FLUID FLUSH**  
COMPLETE COOLING SYSTEM FLUSH

**\$215.95**

Dealer type flushing w/ MDC product as fluid chemical same as dealers. Must present coupon. Expires 11/30/07

**TRANSMISSION FLUID FLUSH**  
DEALERSHIP STYLE MACHINE FLUSH

**\$79.95** (Reg. \$119.95)

INCLUDES:  
• Replace All Fluid, Not Just A Few Quarts • Protect Your Transmission  
• Replace Fluid From Torque Converter  
Must Vehicles With Coupon Only  
Expires 11/30/07

OUR WIDE ARRAY OF SERVICES INCLUDE: Lube, Oil & Filter • Minor & Major Tune Up • Computer Diagnostic • Electrical System Service • Transmission Service & Repair • Engine Service & Repair • Steering Service & Repair • Suspension Service & Repair • Brakes & A/S Service • Heating & A/C Service • Free Written Estimates • 15k, 30k, 90k, & 120k+ Mile Maintenance Service • Radiator & Cooling System Service • Computerized Wheel Balance • Clutch Repair & Replacement • Timing Belt Replacement • CV Aids Service & Repair

FREE TOWING & SHUTTLE SERVICE (ASK FOR DETAILS) EARLY BIRD OR LATE OWL DROP OFF

WE REPAIR ALL MAKES & MODELS

**"We beat or match any advertised prices!"**

# HONDA OF SERRAMONTE

## 0% sale on going NOW!

**NEW 2007 HONDA CIVIC HYBRID**

Lease for only  
**\$199**

A month plus tax for 36 months.\*  
**2 at this payment**

\*36 month closed-end lease on approved credit when financed through A/H/A. Lease includes 12,000 miles per year with 15 cents per additional mile. \$0 security deposit. \$3,399 total drive off. Subject to prior sale. Offer expires 11/6/07.

**0% on all new 2007/2008 Hondas in stock!**

Subject to premer credit approval. 36 month term. \$10k. max finance, dealer participation may affect consumer cost.

**NEW 2008 HONDA ACCORD LX AUTOMATIC SEDAN**

Lease for only  
**\$199**

A month plus tax for 36 months.\*  
**2 at this payment**

VIN# 006859, 014183

\*36 month closed-end lease on approved credit when financed through A/H/A. Lease includes 12,000 miles per year with 15 cents per additional mile. \$0 security deposit. \$3,399 total drive off. Subject to prior sale. Offer expires 11/6/07.

**NEW 2008 HONDA CR-V LX 2WD**

Lease for only  
**\$199**

A month plus tax for 36 months.\*  
**2 at this payment**

VIN# 004566, 004617

\*36 month closed-end lease on approved credit when financed through A/H/A. Lease includes 12,000 miles per year with 15 cents per additional mile. \$0 security deposit. \$3,399 total drive off. Subject to prior sale. Offer expires 11/6/07.

**NEW 2008 HONDA ODYSSEY EX**

Lease for only  
**\$249**

A month plus tax for 36 months.\*  
**2 at this payment**

VIN# 007615, 121456

\*36 month closed-end lease on approved credit when financed through A/H/A. Lease includes 12,000 miles per year with 15 cents per additional mile. \$0 security deposit. \$3,399 total drive off. Subject to prior sale. Offer expires 11/6/07.

2007 HONDA CIVIC LX \$1,999	2007 HONDA CIVIC EX \$2,999	2007 HONDA CIVIC HYBRID \$3,399	2007 HONDA ACCORD LX \$1,999	2007 HONDA ACCORD EX \$2,999	2007 HONDA ACCORD HYBRID \$3,399	2007 HONDA CR-V LX \$1,999	2007 HONDA CR-V EX \$2,999	2007 HONDA CR-V HYBRID \$3,399	2007 HONDA ODYSSEY EX \$2,999
-----------------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------	-------------------------------

## EASY SHOPPING 24/7 AT SERRAMONTEHONDA.COM

**LEO MONEGAS**  
SALES CONSULTANT  
850.218.2143

**TONY MOYRONG**  
SALES CONSULTANT  
825.218.7105

**EDWIN FORTEZA**  
SALES CONSULTANT  
850.892-0967

**ED ZAPICO**  
SALES CONSULTANT  
850.821-8200

**NO CREDIT, BAD CREDIT OF FIRST TIME BUYER? tawagan lang po ninyo kami**

**WWW.SERRAMONTEHONDA.COM**  
For Instant Price Quote!

Honda of Serramonte Hours:  
9-9 Mon-Sat, 10-8 Sun.  
Parts & Service  
Open 7:30-8 Mon-Fri.  
Offers end close of business 11/04/07.

**HONDA OF SERRAMONTE**

**We Make It Easy.**  
"We Speak Tagalog, Spanish, Chinese & Burmese!"  
**888-876-9843**  
485 Serramonte Blvd., Colma, CA

All prices plus government fees and taxes, any dealer document preparation charge, any license charge and any title and recording charge.