

RE-UNION

Filipino-American Associations in America

Searching for a kababata from your hometown, a college buddy or a Pinyon colleague? Your search is finally over. The Asian Journal brings you Re: Union, Filipino American Associations in America -- your link to a network of kababayan associations here in the United States. As your Filipino-American community newspaper, the Asian Journal recognizes your need to nourish and maintain ties with the people and the culture you were born with. This is our way of connecting our kababayans to the past, of creating new opportunities for the present and of inspiring you to pay it forward by becoming active members of your association and the FilAm community at large in the future.

Filipino American Business Association of Glendale (FABAG)

Contact:
(323) 258-0776
Walker & Associates, LLC - www.gwalker.org

The Filipino American Business Association of Glendale, FABAG, is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and empowering Fil-Am businesses and their partners through business networking mixers, seminars, workshops, and more. They also enrich the community through cultural celebrations and community service. They are a diverse group of businesses ranging from small businesses to corporations. Their members are an eclectic mix of ethnicities and talents who work together to benefit society in general.

The Filipino American Business Association of Glendale (FABAG) is a non-profit group of business and professional men and women that exists in this great community for the purpose of providing exemplary business leadership, cultural awareness, and community services.

Goals
- to provide community-wide celebrations of Filipino

Americans' cultural heritage to foster positive self-image and cultural pride, especially among the young

- to advance cross-cultural understanding through appreciation of our similarities and differences
- mobilize the Filipino American community to share resources and network with one another to uplift the community
- to highlight the group's economic and political participation to the community and maximize the community's promising potential contribution to society
- to recognize the contribution to the cultural, social, and economic growth of the City of Glendale and community-at-large
- to engage the various sectors of the community - business, educational institutions, cultural and governmental organizations - in a collaborative effort to celebrate cultural diversity. ■

DEBT RELIEF



ATTY. LAWRENCE YANG

CHRYSLER has been in bankruptcy for a little over a month now and is actually ready to get out of bankruptcy with the sale of most of its assets to FIAT. President Obama had indicated that he wanted Chrysler to have a quick prepackaged bankruptcy with the FIAT purchase and partnership, and it certainly looks that way. The Bankruptcy court has approved the reorganization plan, which calls in part for the sale of most of Chrysler's assets to FIAT. The sale was about to take place when a group of secured creditors objected to the sale to FIAT claiming that the sale prejudiced their rights as secured creditors. Since Bankruptcy courts are Federal Courts, appeal is made to the United States Court of Appeals, and thereafter to the United States Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has issued an order staying the sale to FIAT pending resolution of the creditor objections. Lawyers of Chrysler argued for a quick resolution of the objections by

Creditors appeal Chrysler sale to Fiat in BK court

the Supreme Court saying that Chrysler was losing \$100 million a day without the FIAT deal and implementation of the reorganization plan which had been approved by the Bankruptcy Court. The latest news is that the Supreme Court has rejected the objections of the secured creditors and has given its permission for the sale to FIAT to push through immediately without further delay. Thus, it is now certain that Chrysler will be out of bankruptcy before this month ends as a leaner and eventually profitable enterprise. Chrysler will be owned by FIAT, the US government, it's union and employees, and creditors. From start to finish, Chrysler was in and out of Bankruptcy court in two months. But without FIAT and Uncle Sam in the equation, Chrysler's bankruptcy would have ended with its liquidation in a Chapter 7 case, instead of reorganization in a Chapter 11 case.

There are several kinds of bankruptcy available. Chapter 11 is usually used by businesses to reorganize themselves when they have too much debt but can still become profitable again if

they are able to get rid of a lot of their unsecured debt. Some individuals are able to use Chapter 11 to restructure their finances if they cannot qualify for Chapter 13 because their debt limits are too high. Many smaller developers of subdivisions hit by the recession are resorting to Chapter 11 to save their businesses but are unable to submit viable reorganization plans because they are not able to find bridge financing to see them through until new home sales get back to normal. They usually buy raw land with a small down payment, subdivide and develop the property into several tract or customhouses, but rely heavily on bank financing and quick sales of the new houses. With banks currently refusing to lend even though they have a lot of money to lend, and with no buyers in sight, these Chapter 11 cases eventually become Chapter 7 liquidation cases where the trust deed holders foreclose on the properties and auction them off to the highest bidder at fire sale prices. If you have cash, it's certainly a great time to buy houses and land in foreclosure

auctions. In Chapter 13, individuals are able to restructure their debts much in the same way that businesses are able to restructure debts in Chapter 11.

If you've had several foreclosures with outstanding second trust deeds, or if your residence is upside down and the mortgage payment is too big because of multiple trust deeds such as seconds or helocs, maybe you should consider a fresh start with a chapter 7 case instead if loan modification is not working your way. Or, if you just have too much credit card debt, Chapter 7 wipe out might be the way to go. A chapter 13 will allow you to annul and convert your second trust or home equity loan into unsecured debt.

If you need debt relief, contact my office. I will analyze your case personally.

Lawrence Bautista Yang specializes in bankruptcy, business, real estate and civil litigation and has successfully represented more than five thousand clients in California. Please call Angie, Barbara or Jess at (626) 284-1142 for an appointment at 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Bldg. A-1 Suite 1125 Unit 58, Alhambra, CA 91803.

(Advertising Supplement)

BARRISTER'S CORNER



ATTY. KENNETH URSUA REYES

THE economic crisis has affected almost every aspect of our community from depressed real estate prices, lower 401k values, and employment. Many have

Modifying down child and spousal support in a recession

lost their jobs as employers try to cut cost. Those that are fortunate to keep their jobs usually have bonuses and overtime reduced. The bottom line is there is less money to go around.

To top all this off, many of us have existing child and spousal support obligations that were issued when the economy was growing and when you were generating more income. If your income has gone down substantially from the time that the child or spousal support determination, you may be able to file a modification of your support obligation. Losing a job or having less income constitutes a material change of circumstances that would allow the court to modify down your support obligations.

Child support in California is

based on guideline formula. One of the factors that is considered in the guideline formula is your gross income. Usually the court would look at several months or even an average of the last 12 months income. If your average income has decreased, you may be able to modify your child support to a lower amount. Bear in mind that there are other factors that come in the equation such as the amount of actual timeshare you spend with your child and the income of the other parent. If the other parent's income has gone down, this may adversely affect your child support obligation.

Spousal support may also be modified unless you stipulated in a divorce judgment that it is non-modifiable. However, spousal support are usually calculated

differently than guideline. The court will look at other factors in deciding whether to modify this. Those factors are listed in family code section 4320.

If you are unemployed, the other party may be expected to try to impute income on you. However in light of the recent cases in California, they would have to prove that you had the ability and the opportunity to obtain employment.

Attorney Kenneth Ursua Reyes was President of the Philippine American Bar Association. He is a member of both the Family law section and Immigration law section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. He has extensive CPA experience prior to law practice. Law Offices of Kenneth Reyes, P.C. is located at 3699 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA, 90010. Tel. (213) 388-1611 or e-mail kureyeslaw@aol.com. Website kenreyeslaw.com (Advertising Supplement)

Biologica to present complimentary Smartlipo in grand opening

Smart Lipo Informational Seminar with Biologica being held at their new medical spa in South Pasadena

PASADENA - Robert Tostado, MD of Biologica Institute is helping clients have the body they've always wanted by eliminating areas of unwanted fat with a new FDA approved procedure called Smart Lipo™. SmartLipo is laser-assisted lipolysis a revolutionary alternative to liposuction.

Biologica, one of South California's original Smartlipo Centers, will be giving a free information seminar to those that would like to learn more about this revolutionary new procedure. "I'm very excited to be able to share my expertise about SmartLipo with everyone interested. It's incredible how you can finally get rid of stubborn areas of fat that just won't go away", says Dr. Tostado.

Dr. Tostado is a board certified family phy-

sician with over 14 years of medical practice and has been exclusively practicing aesthetic medicine. "Patients love the fact that they walk in with fat and walk out a couple of hours later without it and we love it because it works and everyone is happy!", exclaims Teresa Tosado, NP, co-owner of Biologica.

The free Smartlipo information seminar will include hors d'ouevres, a gift bag and giveaways. Please watch out for the announcement of the free seminar to be held together with the grand opening event at the new Biologica Institute location: 1108 Fremont Ave. South Pasadena, CA. For more information on the upcoming event or any questions, please call 626-564-0300 or email chad@mybiologica.com.

(Advertising Supplement)

THE SHORT SALE SPECIALISTS

360 Realty

360 REALTY assists homeowners throughout California in negotiating down the amount owed on their home loan. It creates a win-win situation for both parties by providing the homeowner an option before their property is foreclosed upon, and by achieving maximum return to the lender. They assist homeowners in protecting the homeowner's credit from further degradation; presenting a solution to the lender and negotiating favorable terms; helping to minimize their debt obligations; allowing the homeowner and their family to get a fresh start; expediting the process with a fast resolution.

360 Realty is also a Short Sale Specialist. A short sale also called "Short Pay" is a process by which a lender agrees to receive a lower amount of an owed debt in exchange for the sale of the property to a third party, usually at no cost to the borrower. Most of short sale services are TOTALLY FREE OF CHARGE . 360

Realty's short sale specialists may help homeowners prevent the downgrading of their credit scores while providing them a fresh start.

Why consider a short sale?

Due to the recent downturn in the real estate market and the rise in the rates on adjustable mortgages, many homeowners are stuck with homes they cannot afford. After numerous attempts, they are not able to refinance as they had hoped . Now that owners are facing foreclosure , they realize that pursuing a Short Sale lessens the blow to the credit. Sellers realize that if they successfully close a Short Sale, they will be able to repair their credit history in a relatively short amount of time compared to what they will face if they have a foreclosure on their record. Not to mention the unavoidable expenses that are the responsibility of the seller if their home goes back to the bank.

(Advertising Supplement)

People and Events



Kudos to Katrina

Trina A. Creencia graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree after completing 2 years of prerequisites and 3 years of the nursing program on June 12, 2009. Trina feels the joy of accomplishing something she has set out to do. The pinning ceremony was held at the Almansor Court in Alhambra the next day. Trina would like to thank her parents, David and Elizabeth Creencia, her grandmother Natividad Adeva, all 3 of her siblings and a number of cousins who gave her all-out support to achieve this dream of becoming a nurse.

SIPA Home Rescue Fair

Saturday, June 27, 10am to 2pm
Panorama High School
8015 Van Nuys Blvd.
Panorama City, CA 91402

PLEASE bring the following documents:

- Current pay stubs (within the last 30 days)
- 2007 and 2008 income-tax returns
- Three months of bank statements
- Household expense budget
- Copy of closing documents and most recent correspondence from your mortgage company
- Most recent property-insurance and mortgage statements

Take advantage of these free services:

- one-on-one sessions with loan specialists, HUD-approved housing counselors and attorneys
- foreclosure-prevention workshops
- translators

For more information, call (213) 382-1819 x132. This event is brought to you by Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (AP3CON) & Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA). ■

HELPING FILIPINO EMPLOYEES OBTAIN FAIR WAGES UNDER THE LAW

As an employee, you may be entitled to additional pay if:

- You work more than 8 hours a day, even though you are a "salaried" employee.
- You work before or after your shift without extra pay.
- Your job title is "Manager," "Administrator," or "Supervisor" but you do not make managerial or executive decisions and are not paid overtime.
- You are classified as a professional (for example, accountant or chemist) but do not have a California license and are not paid overtime.
- You are not provided a 30-minute uninterrupted meal break or a 10-minute rest break.
- You are classified as an independent contractor without overtime pay or benefits even though the employer controls your work.
- You are a nurse or healthcare employee and paid different hourly rates for the same job, depending on the hours of your shift.

With more than 22 years of litigation experience, we have a track record of fighting and winning for employees and their families. For a confidential, no-cost inquiry, please call:

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