



AN ATE'S DILEMMA ON THIS SUNDAY'S CITIZEN PINOY! What do you do when your beloved little brother is in danger of having his case denied, shattering his "American Dream"? Dr. Frieda V. Brookshire (left), the Orange County dentist responsible for the dazzling smiles of divas Pops Fernandez and Kuh Ledesma, joins her brother Frederick (right) and "attorney-to-the-stars" Michael J. Gurfinkel (middle) for a heartwarming and informative episode. The most popular immigration program on television, Citizen Pinoy airs this Sunday, at 5:40 pm (PST) with a replay on Tuesday, at 11:35 pm (PST) on TFC. Citizen Pinoy also airs on ANC-US every Sunday at 1am with replays on Sunday at 8am and Thursday at 8pm, all PST; and on ANC- Philippines every Sunday at 4pm with a replay at 12 midnight on Monday and Friday at 11am (Manila time).

IMMIGRATION CORNER



ATTY. MICHAEL GURFINKEL

No fraud committed by victim of 'Ghost Bride' scam

and that he would take care of everything. The person further told the alien not to worry about any of the details, and that everything would be done legally. Trusting this person and his promises of hope, the alien paid about \$3,000 for the person's "services."

The alien went to the INS' district office, where he had his picture taken and signed a document. This was the only document that the alien ever signed (Apparently, the picture was taken and he signed an employment authorization card). Upon receiving his work authorization card, the alien felt reassured that everything was being done legally.

The alien was then required to file a fraud waiver, which the real District Director denied, and the alien appealed to the AAO. The AAO noted that in order to be guilty of fraud or misrepresentation, the alien must have knowingly or willfully attempted to obtain an immigration benefit by fraud and/or misrepresentation. In this particular case, the alien was duped, and was a victim of an immigration scam, such that the alien did not act "willfully" or fraudulently. Therefore, the alien committed no fraud, and was not required to submit a fraud waiver (Form I-601).

Eventually, the alien received a letter from the INS that his application for permanent residence was denied. He kept calling the consultant to find out what was going on, but the consultant avoided all his phone calls. He was finally able to reach the consultant, and asked for a copy of what the consultant had filed with INS, but the consultant refused to send any paper work and claimed he had an argument with his neighbor (the Assistant District Director of INS), which is why the case had been denied. The alien was finally able to obtain a copy of his immigration file, and saw that there were numerous forms, with forgeries of the alien's signatures, a different "home address" for the alien, and a picture of a woman, whom the alien had never met in his life, who was supposedly his wife. However, the alien already had a wife whom he was in love with, and had children with her.

If you have been a victim of fraud, such as being married to a phantom or ghost US citizen husband or wife, or had a consultant apply for other benefits without your knowledge (such as asylum, CSS/LULAC, etc.), I would strongly suggest that you seek the advice of a reputable attorney, who can evaluate your case, and prove that you are not guilty of fraud, since you were a victim yourself.

 Michael J. Gurfinkel is licensed, and an active member of the State Bar of California and New York. All immigration services are provided by, or under the supervision of, an active member of the State Bar of California. Each case is different. The information contained herein (including testimonials, "Success Stories", endorsements and re-enactments) is of a general nature, and is not intended to apply to any particular case, and does not constitute a prediction, warranty, guarantee or legal advice regarding the outcome of your legal matter. No attorney-client relationship is, or shall be, established with any reader.
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JUNO CONNECTION



CHARMAINE TEODORO

Overcoming the challenges of a healthcare career

ACAREER in healthcare is one of the most demanding jobs a person can have. It requires complete dedication, attention to details, and accuracy; leaving no room for errors. Mistakes committed in a healthcare profession can be literally fatal, and the professional challenges that come with high pay and a recession-proof career abound. Our experiences in dealing with some of the most hard-working healthcare professionals have given us insights on ways to overcome these challenges. Below are some guidelines.

here on, you will fully comprehend the meaning of the phrase "every second counts."

Doubtlessly, your work is demanding! And for you to face this type of job head-on and succeed in it, you need to have the right mindset. Before you even go to work, prepare yourself emotionally and physically for the tasks ahead. Acknowledge that your job involves saving lives and healing people and not everyone is entrusted with that responsibility. Have a positive outlook at work. See all the benefits of the job more than the pressures. As a healthcare professional, you have a high-paying job with an almost bulletproof cover from the recession. The fact that your hospital has its entire staff intact and is not giving anyone a pink slip should be enough for you to be grateful with work. Your attitude at work will make all the difference between a job you love and a job you will end up abhorring.

Compartmentalize your life
 This one's definitely easier said than done. If your personal problems will have a negative clout over your work life to the point that you are not able to function effectively on the job, then it's

either you don't get a career in healthcare career or you do not report to work (if you're already a professional). Remember, you perform critical functions. You support a system that nourishes or saves a person's well being. Your focus and concentration on the job is very important. No less than 100 percent of your energy is needed. As I wrote earlier, mistakes in your job can be fatal. You wouldn't want to think of your relational problems when administering dosage to your patient or when doing a blood test on someone. As a healthcare professional, the ability for you to demarcate in your mind when to think about personal issues and when to fully concentrate on work is vital not only to your success on the job, but also to keeping the job and avoiding any mistakes that might cost you beyond just losing the job, but also your license.

Work with people
 As a nurse or allied health professional, it's obvious you don't do selling on the job. But your job has a lot to do with people. From fellow workers, to patients, to patients' guardians or family, to doctor and facility administration

IMMIGRANT LIVING: 101 AND BEYOND



MONETTE ADEVA MAGLAYA

(Stories can teach, heal, entertain, remind and bring home a message with laser-like accuracy and oftentimes, with latent comment. They appeal to all ages. I like the old ones best: the Greek and Roman classics, fables, legends and myths of every nation. Dusting them from the vault and mining them for meaning, I like to take a look at them with fresh eyes and newer understanding and see how ancient truths still apply in the way we live as human beings, still going through the same struggles and needing all the understanding we can get, despite advances we've made in a last few thousand years. Like organic fruits and vegetables from an older gene pool, these stories come with little manipulation and artificial embellishments, and perhaps, are a good thing to chew on. Simple, organic, direct — these are the stories we remember. Here's one of them on vanity, self-absorption and karma.)

LONG ago when enchanted creatures peopled the earth, there was a nymph called Echo. She probably rated a nine and a half on a 10 point-attractiveness scale, gorgeous, knowledgeable and perfect in every way except for one thing—she was a chatterbox nonpareil. She liked to hear herself talk far too much and perhaps, with a tinge of hubris, would insist on having the last word in every conversation.

Juno, the queen of the Gods, was so irked by Echo's habit that she meted out a punishment just for her. Echo will no longer be able to talk, except for one tiny concession—she will be able to say only the last word.

In the same forest where the nymphs lived, there was a young man named Narcissus who was so classically handsome and perfectly proportioned that all the nymphs oohed and ahhed and fell in love with him at first sight. Picture Michelangelo's marble sculpture

Unrequited love

"Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity."

— From Ecclesiastes

of "David" in flesh and blood or a composite between diCaprio and Brad Pitt. If he were real person today, he would have made the cover of *People Magazine's* "Sexiest Man of the Year." His fans became legion that all that adulation got into his head. He became extremely vain. No nymph was good enough for him.

One day, Echo espied Narcissus while he was hunting with his peers and fell like a ton of bricks in love with him. She longed to tell him of her feelings, but in her afflicted state, she became painfully shy and simply contented herself silently watching him from a distance, shadowing Narcissus' every move. Narcissus, however, became aware of her shadowy presence and talked her out of her hiding place. Echo could only repeat the last words of what Narcissus was saying in their conversation so she may have come out sounding like a mindless idiot, vexing Narcissus. Besotted with love for the hunk however and believing Narcissus' plea that she come out so they can be joined together, she finally overcame her crippling shyness and revealed herself. Narcissus felt she wasn't good enough for him and scorned her for her bold presumptuousness and repudiated her total being, sending her away devastated in the most cutting words, slashing and burning her very existence, swearing he would rather die than be with Echo.

Poor Echo! Her heart broke into a million little pieces. Beauty and light dissolved into darkness for her until nothing held any meaning. Refusing food and drink, Echo grew pale and consumptive and faded away, leaving only her far-off voice in the distance. It is said that Echo haunts the mountains where she answers all who call but only with the last words.

Narcissus meanwhile continued to break one hapless heart after another in the most mean spirited way, until one day, one totally aggrieved nymph with her heart shattered, prayed to the

powers that be, for vengeance, to inflict punishment on Narcissus to make him feel the pure pain of unrequited love, to make him feel how it is to give love and have it flung back in his face. Her prayer was heard and in a world of swift and even-handed justice with no lawyers to cloud the issue, appropriate punishment was served.

One day Narcissus chanced upon a pool with water so clear, looked like a mirror. Bending over to drink, Narcissus saw his own reflection, thought it was a water nymph, and forthwith, was smitten with the image on the pool. He fell for himself, hook, line and sinker, not unlike celebrities who read their own press and believe them to be true. But I digress.

Narcissus tried to embrace his own reflection in the water but his attempt to touch or kiss his beloved ended in frustration each time. The image in the water dissolved into ripples, disappeared and came back on. Narcissus had to be content just by looking at the mirror image of himself in the pool, day and night, without ever knowing the joy of touching or being loved in return. He now knew, up close and personal, the excruciating pain of multiple rejections from the same object of his affection. Still he persisted, becoming rooted to the spot by the pool. He now knew how it is to be on the receiving end of rejection. He slowly pined away, losing his youth and beauty and withering away on the same spot by the pool's edge with Echo still hovering over him and repeating his poignant last word, "Alas!" as he lay dying.

As the woodland creatures prepared to bury his body, Narcissus' body was nowhere to be found and in its place, stood a flower, bending over the pool, as though admiring itself. Gardeners know this flower as narcissus.

Hence, we call those who exhibit the same folly these days as narcissistic. The irony of it is that others clearly see it for what it is

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IN REUNION THERE IS STRENGTH.

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