

IMMIGRATION CORNER



ATTY. MICHAEL GURFINKEL

CBP trains air carriers to spot fraudulent travel documents

THE US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recently announced that it has trained more than 15,000 airline personnel in identifying counterfeit/fraudulent documents, imposter recognition, and travel document verification. (In other words, to spot fake/fraudulent visas). The purpose of this training is to reduce the numbers of improperly documented individuals who are boarding aircraft destined for the US.

In the past, people have tried a wide variety of tricks and schemes to enter the US without proper travel documentation. This would include photo-substituted passports, (containing legitimate visas, in someone else's name, but containing the photo of the person using the passport), fake green cards, fake ADIT (temporary) stamp in the passport, and the

like. Under this program, airline employees would already be able to spot or identify such fraudulent travel documents or improper visas or green cards, such that the person would not even be allowed to board the plane to the US. Even if a person was "lucky enough" to fool the airline employees, he would still be inspected at the port of entry (airport) by CBP officers. The new program is an additional measure to stop passengers with fraudulent documentation from even getting on board the plane, thus avoiding "an airport to airport" expedited removal at the US airport.

If you are planning to go to the US, I would suggest you seek the advice of a reputable attorney, who can advise you on lawful and legitimate ways to enter the US. Under no circumstance should you use fraudulent or questionable documentation, not only because it is wrong, but is likely that you

would be caught either at your departure airport or at the port of entry in the US and face a possible lifetime ban from ever coming to the US.

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.

Website: www.gurfinkel.com

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SENATOR LEGARDA ON CITIZEN PINOY! Senator (and former broadcast journalist) Loren Legarda joins Atty Michael J. Gurfinkel, for a lively discussion on the rights and contributions of OFW's, their sacrifices, and the pain of being separated from their families. Be sure to watch this engaging and enlightening episode, where more of your immigration questions will also be answered. 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 1 am with replays on Sunday at 9 am and Thursday at 8 pm, all PST; and on ANC- Philippines every Sunday at 4 pm with a replay at 12 midnight on Monday and Friday at 11 am (Manila time).

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 retelling the old classics. Like organic fruits and vegetables from an older gene pool, these stories come with neither manipulation nor artificial embellishments, and perhaps, are a good thing to chew on. Simple, organic, direct — these are the stories we remember. Here's another helping from a series of old classic tales, so appropriate to write about, today being April Fool's Day.)

LONG ago in the island of Crete, there lived a man named Daedalus, who was famed for his skills as an inventor. He worked for King Minos. Foremost among his many achievements was building the labyrinth in which the king kept the Minotaur, a fearsome, legendary beast who was half-man and half-bull that fed on human flesh. It was said that anyone who went into the labyrinth never came out of it again because of its complex, undecipherable winding walls and corridors. Daedalus was brilliant and this was a problem for the king. Although Daedalus had been giving the king great and loyal service all his life, Minos was deeply insecure and feared that Daedalus who was wise, celebrated and ingenious would, one day challenge him to become king. As a preemptive move, Minos imprisoned Daedalus and his son, Icarus in a prison tower. The king underestimated Daedalus, for one

Hubris and the Folly of Youth

"The deepest definition of youth is life as yet untouched by tragedy."

—Alfred North Whitehead

dark night, father and son escaped from their prison tower. They found out however that it was well nigh impossible to escape the island with the paranoid King Minos sending out an all points bulletin to his mindless minions. Minos' soldiers carefully searched every boat that left the island.

Father and son took cover in a remote cave along the shore hidden from the watchful eyes of Minos' soldiers while Daedalus figured out a way to escape. Watching the seagulls for hours soaring and diving for food on the shore, Daedalus was struck with the idea of flight as an escape route. He caught one bird and studied the structure and form of its wings and after careful thought, decided to copy how a wing is made. He instructed Icarus to catch seagulls and pluck their feathers. When there were enough feathers, he sewed them together and used melted wax to bind the feathers on a wooden framework. He created the contraption so skillfully that they looked like a giant replica of a bird's wings. He customized two pairs of wings for himself and for his son, careful to take each of their individual body weights into consideration.

But having wings was one thing, knowing how to use those wings to fly was another. So Daedalus strapped his wings and still taking his cue from the seagulls on how to soar, swoop, dive and glide, he proceeded to learn how to fly so that the wings felt like a seamless part of his arms and his body. He studied wind currents, the waters of the sea and the heat of the sun. Having gained the skill, he proceeded to teach

his son patiently. At first, Icarus stumbled and fell and when he got past the first few fumbles, the youth learned quickly, his lithe, svelte form seemingly destined for flight. He learned to fly like a bird, swooping and diving, gliding and circling about, looking down below at the blue waters and their island prison, now a mere speck from above, and frolicking about overhead, chasing the seagulls and rolling in the clouds. Freedom was a heady drink. Icarus felt complete elation, knew the incredible lightness of being and tasted the sweet freedom of flight.

Then came the day when Daedalus and Icarus were to fly out of Crete. The sun was up, and the wind was mild and Daedalus decided it was an auspicious day to make the great escape. Daedalus sat his son down and looked him in the eyes for serious pre-flight instructions knowing that once in the air, there would be little chance for communication. "Pay attention, Icarus. Stick close behind me and watch your altitude. Fly too low and the sea with its moisture will make your wings too heavy. Fly too high and the heat of the sun will melt the wax in your wings. Take heed and stay close." Icarus nodded agreement but he was far too excited and his mind was already in the sky.

Daedalus took off flapping his wings faster and faster to get vertical lift-off and escape gravity. Icarus followed suit and took off shortly after. As they flew, the people on the ground in Crete watched in amazement wondering whether the winged creatures are the gods themselves flying.

Icarus trailed his father closely

at first, following his flight pattern and struggling to take heed of his father's admonitions. But feeling an overwhelming sense of growing power in his ability to fly, reveling in his freedom and giving in to his impetuous, youthful nature, Icarus deviated a little at first, taking little swoops and side trips and catching up with his father who was intently flying on a steady speed and altitude. As Icarus swooped, dived and indulged frivolously in his aerial acrobatics, Icarus soon forgot his father's words and flew higher and higher towards the noonday sun. Then the wax in his wings melted, the wooden framework broke apart and the feathers blew away. Wingless and panicking, Icarus plunged headlong like deadweight into the blue waters. Daedalus swooped down in hot pursuit to save his son but it was much too late. All he saw were a few feathers floating on the surface.

Daedalus, with a heavy heart

at the tragic loss of his beloved Icarus, managed to fly to Sicily. In his grief, Daedalus retired his wings, lost his love for life and never flew again.

Over and over again through the generations, we see this tendency of some of the young ones to "forget" the things they have been taught and allow hubris and folly to rule. Some throw away everything they have learned and painstakingly worked for in one impetuous decision or action. It is as if their overwhelming sense of freedom, newly-attained independence and sense of power goads them to "fly close to the sun." Humility gets torpedoed and overweening pride rules. They feel they no longer need guidance from anyone. Sometimes a good scare or a tiny thorn of bad experience can be humbling and worth more than a lifetime of warnings, advice and admonitions to nudge prideful youth back to reality and on the straight and narrow.

While we may think that this tendency of the youth today is

unique to our times, we only have to look back several thousand years to know that the scenario may have changed, the cast of characters in every generation in every nation may be different, but the predilection for hubris and folly in some of the youth remains the same.

We need to be reminded too that as adults, we were once just as young and just as foolish, perhaps even more so. But we were lucky and got a pass because life was magnanimous enough to let us get past this harrowing stage with barely a scratch and live long enough to see the cycle repeated in our children.

And on and on until the sun dies, the cycle goes.

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JUNO CONNECTION



CHARMAINE TEODORO

Why choose a healthcare career

HAVING first-hand experience in a growing healthcare staffing firm, I have seen how the industry has helped provide hundreds of professionals with a job that not only pays well, but also gives a great deal of satisfaction. As nurses, physical therapists and allied health professionals invest the time and effort necessary to give the best care they can, they reap the fruits of their labor big time. Their experiences have shown that a career in healthcare not only gives financial security but also a high sense of personal success. Naturally, a healthcare profession is not for everyone, but for those who are considering a change of career, or thinking about becoming a healthcare professional, let me highlight four important reasons why it's a good idea.

Industry stability: Factories shut down and companies fold in times of crisis, but the demand for healthcare professionals nationwide is not easily affected by these economic

declines and industry changes. Since it is inevitable that people of all shapes and sizes will get old or get sick, there will always be a need for people to attend to them. It is a continuous need that causes great demand, so much so that the US Healthcare Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has projected a shortage of healthcare professionals by hundreds of thousands by the year 2020. It doesn't matter where the economy is headed or the time frame of when everything will stabilize; the need for healthcare professionals in the country will always be present. This is not to mention that sustaining the healthcare sector is a top priority of the new Administration, giving the industry some valuable federal support.

Consistent and growing demand: The health services industry is one of the largest industries in the country, employing more than 11 million people; according to the US Department of Labor, more than 10 percent of all wage and salary jobs created between 2000 and 2010 will be in health services. The industry is also projected to grow by more than 25 percent from this year to next, despite the recession. In addition, 9 out of

20 occupations projected to have the fastest growth rates are in the health services sector. Factor in the potential shortage of several hundred thousand of healthcare professionals by the year 2020, and you'll understand why the demand for nurses, physical therapists and allied healthcare professionals is tremendous. To further convince you of the strong demand for this type of job, some healthcare staffing firms actually guarantee that they can get you a job when you apply through them.

Competitive salary offers: According to CBSalary.com, the US National Average for a registered nurse is \$56,242.00; for a Physical Therapist, an allied health profession, the average salary is \$57,961.00. Aside from this, the majority of, if not all, healthcare job offer packages include health benefits and if you choose to go through an agency, there may even be sign-up bonuses. As the demand for healthcare professionals increases every year, more facilities are willing to pay a premium price to hire workers they desperately need.

High job satisfaction: Healthcare professionals don't have the recession. In addition, 9 out of



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