

THE LAW OFFICES OF CHUA, TINSAY & VEGA

Competence, Credibility and Compassion



Atty. Jean Tinsay, Dennis Chua and Aurora Vega are committed to personalized service and honesty when dealing with people who want to retain their services or consult them on what to do with their cases.

SOME people hate dealing with lawyers for the reason that they will most likely only meet with you once and later on pass you to an assistant.

But at Chua, Tinsay & Vega, that kind of situation is one practice they will never do. Three competent, credible lawyers under one roof who will make sure that clients are treated the way they are supposed to be? That sounds too good to be true, but then again, Attorneys Dennis Chua, Jean Tinsay and Aurora Vega share the same vision.

"We have known each other way back in UP College of Law," said Atty. Chua, explaining that all of them decided that since they share the same vision, why not establish their own law firm.

"There is truth in advertising," Atty. Chua said, referring to their slogan—Competent, Credibility, Compassion. "We want to stand for something."

Competent, because all three lawyers have extensive experience in the various law services they offer. One important factor in dealing with clients is being available to address their concerns personally. Atty. Chua reiterates this, "It's important that the clients assigned to me have access to me personally," and adds, "Especially for complex questions or cases, we personally handle them. "It's important to keep the personality of the firm, we want to make our clients feel comfort-

able to know that our clients can talk to us." Atty. Jean Tinsay agrees. "I've always made it a point *na ako talaga nakakausap*. I personally do the work." She also adds that, "We are mindful of why clients hire us."

As for Credibility, Atty. Aurora Vega explains why it is important to tell the truth—either on their side, or the client's. "A good attorney is conscientious. We have to maintain objectivity. We need to educate the clients, that we are not magicians and explain to them they are the bigger stakeholders. They need to tell us the truth about their case so we can give them the right advise."

Compassion also comes in—and it is something most people do not expect from lawyers.

"While we practice our profession, we also keep in mind that our clients are *kapwa* immigrants," said Atty. Vega, stating that 80 percent of their clients are Filipinos. She also said that they put themselves in the client's shoes to understand a situation, but still would like to remain objective as not to blur the real picture.

The partners
Dennis E. Chua. Having an extensive experience in the field of US immigration law, Atty. Chua has successfully represented clients in removal/deportation proceedings. He also handles all types of family and employment-based applications, such as artists and entertainer petitions, fraud and criminal waivers applications, finance petitions, battered spouse petitions, extraordinary ability petitions, investor visa petitions.

Atty. Chua practices family law assisting clients in their divorce and nullity cases and also extensive experience in the practice of Philippine law.

Prior to moving in the US, Atty. Chua He was a Senior Legislative Aide for Senator Edgardo Angara. He has worked as an associate for the law offices of Mario Ongkiko and was a junior partner in the law office of former Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban.

Atty. Chua was admitted to the California State Bar in 1999 and was also admitted to practice law in the Philippines having been admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1990.

An active member of the State Bar of California, the American Immigration Lawyer's Association and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Atty. Chua also speaks Tagalog, Kapampangan and Chinese (Mandarin and Fookien).



Filipino American goalkeeper Nick Rimando (center, touching the ball) of Salt Lake Real soccer team faced the San Jose Earthquakes last Saturday, May 30 to a capacity crowd at Buck Shaw Stadium in Santa Clara. The SJ Earthquakes won the game 2-0, and is planning to celebrate its first Filipino Heritage Night on August 22, 2009. Photo by John Todd

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Uplift Internationale

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IN 1989, maxillofacial surgeon Dr. Jaime Yrastorza led a five member medical group in the inaugural mission of Uplift Internationale. Each year since, Uplift Internationale has returned to the Philippines with a team of medical professionals and outreach volunteers. Since the mid-90's, the organization's program activities have focused on providing care to children born with facial deformities, primarily clefts of the lip and palate.

The project can continue, only but with assistance of interested donors. In the words of Dr. Yrastorza: "Without the continuing support of like-minded individuals, foundations and organizations, these children have little chance of living normal, happy lives."

Founder Dr. Yrastorza left his native Philippines after graduation from high school to begin his collegiate studies at the University of Minnesota where he earned a bachelor's degree in psychology. Then, he obtained a doctorate degree in dental medicine from Washington University and specialty training in oral-maxillofacial surgery from Georgetown University.

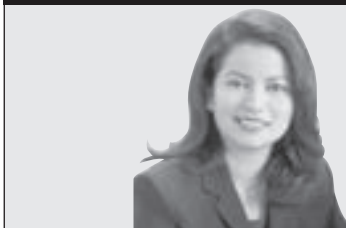
He was a frequent lecturer and author of scientific publications, a diplomate of the American Board of Oral-maxillofacial Surgery and a Clinical Associate Professor of the University of Colorado School of Dentistry.

For 3 years immediately before and after retirement, he served as a United Nations Development Programme consultant in oral-maxillofacial surgery for the Philippines, helping to organize and develop a qualifying training program in his specialty at the St. Porres Charity Hospital of Manila.

On a personal note, Jaime remains active in his community as a Rotarian. ■

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DR. VAL'S DENTAL VIEWS



DR. VALERIE DE LEON

What is a denture or partial denture?

A conventional denture is placed in the mouth about a month after all the teeth are removed to allow for proper healing, whereas an immediate denture is placed as soon as the teeth are removed. The drawback behind an immediate denture is that it may require more adjustments after the healing has taken place or may be replaced after 6 months when the bone is more stable.

Who needs a denture?

Candidates for complete dentures have lost most or all of their teeth. A partial denture is suitable for those who have some natural teeth remaining. A denture improves chewing ability and speech, and provides support for facial muscles. It will

greatly enhance the facial appearance and smile.

What happens when you get a denture?

A dentist can make a full conventional denture when all teeth have been lost or all extraction sites have healed (up to eight weeks or longer.) The denture process takes about one month and several appointments: the initial diagnosis is made; an impression is made to determine vertical dimensions and proper jaw position; sometimes a "try-in" is placed to assure proper color, shape and fit; and the patient's final denture is made by a laboratory and then placed in the patient's mouth.

New denture wearers need

time to get accustomed to their new "teeth" because even the best fitting dentures will feel awkward at first. While most patients can begin to speak normally within a few hours, many patients report discomfort with eating for several days to a few weeks. To get accustomed to chewing with a new denture, start with soft, easy-to-chew foods. In addition, denture wearers often notice a slight change in facial appearance, increased salivary flow, or minor speech difficulty.

How do you care for a denture?

A denture is fragile, so it is important to handle it with care.

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