

achievements in
CORPORATE PRACTICE OR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Imelda Argel

Fueled by her passion for the law, and primed with honesty and integrity, she has become an asset to the legal profession with her law qualifications recognized in 3 countries – Philippines, USA and Australia.



Imelda Argel established her own practice in 1994 primarily focusing on immigration, conveyancing and commercial contracts. She migrated to Australia with her 9 year old son in 1998. She survived the challenges encountered by new migrants by humbly accepting work as paralegal at the law firm, Baker & McKenzie, (Sydney) despite 15 years of corporate legal experience in a prestigious law firm and in top corporations in Manila. She worked during the day and studied at night before she opened her practice in order to gain admission as Solicitor of New South Wales and to obtain her Masters of Law from University of Sydney.

Her practice is credited with having obtained the most number of working visas for overseas Filipino registered nurses in Sydney since year 2000, a remarkable 90% success rate of visa grants for various categories and nationalities since 1996, 95% rate of success for appeals with the Migration Review Tribunal (MRT).

The Migration Agents Registration Authority (MARA) has recognized Imelda Argel's very high standards of ethics, competence and integrity by appointing her one of the very few EVALUATORS for Registered Migration Agent Seminar providers, Australia wide.

Imelda's latest achievement is the recognition of the Philippine Regulatory Commission (PRC) Licensure Board Examinations in the assessment of qualifications under NOOSR's the Philippine Country Education Profile (CEP).

Imelda submitted this recommendation to the Joint Standing Committee on Migration of the Federal Parliament in August 2005. This has resulted in the Bachelor degree obtained in the Philippines being comparable to the educational level of Bachelor degree in Australia, regardless of weighted average and where the degree was obtained in the Philippines provided the visa applicant has passed the PRC examinations. This opens the door to thousands of intending Filipino migrants to Australia such as Accountants, Engineers, Architects, Registered Nurses, Pharmacists among others, who otherwise would not qualify.

A unique feature of her practice is the internship program for high achieving senior year law students of various universities in Sydney. This mentoring service exposes the participants to legal practice protocol, providing them with an edge over law graduates without any work experience in their future employment.

Imelda is a proactive leader within the Filipino community. As the President of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Australia (NSW Chapter) from 1998 to 2000, she was responsible for the publication of 3000 copies of the Filipino cookbook, 'All Time Filipino Favorite Dishes'.

She considers bringing up her son Victor Guevara as a sole parent her greatest personal achievement. At 27, he works as Plant Finance Manager for Proctor & Gamble in Sydney.