

JUNO CONNECTION



CHARMAINE TEODORO

TYPHOONS Ketsana and Parma, the tsunami in Samoa and the earthquake in Indonesia, were grave natural tragedies brought by the wraths of nature. Thousands have died and millions displaced by these unexpected occurrences, while hundreds of thousands take refuge in evacuation centers and makeshift temporary shelters; to imagine what affected residents go through in these times is horrific, especially those whose loved ones had died. As people whose profession is to care, we must ask ourselves:

What are we supposed to do? How do we act in these crucial times?

How should healthcare workers respond in times of crises?

How do nurses and allied health workers respond in times of crises? There are many answers, but here are practical ways on how to approach these dire situations.

Get informed
The first thing you need to do when you hear of these matters is to get as much information as you can. Go to major news sites or newspapers like Asian Journal and see the latest updates. Log on to your Facebook or Twitter accounts and see what's the latest post or conversation about the event. Confirm with friends and family members around you or near your community if there's anyone they know in the area. Think of friends, family members and relatives who may be living in the place where disaster struck. The more information you have, the better you'll know how best to help out.

Get in touch...ASAP
Especially if you know the

person(s) affected by the crisis, get in touch with them ASAP. Call, text, FB, tweet; exhaust all possible avenues to reach out to them. Brace yourself for the worst when reaching out to these people and be prepared to respond. If they're near your area and their place is accessible by any mode of transportation, go there and lend a hand. Not all tragedies are as grave as the recent typhoons and earthquakes, but emergencies at home occur. Floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes happen all over the states. When this comes, be ready and alert; help in various ways without neglecting your true capacity to assist these people.

Get involved
Checking out JUNO Healthcare's social service sector organization is a good starting point to getting involved. The Foundation for God's Glory (<http://fggonline.org>) recently launched its Ketsana Campaign Relief Philippines project aimed at funneling funds to organizations

actively involved in providing relief goods, temporary housing and even counseling to victims of the typhoon that flooded 80% of the capital. You are assured that 100% of what you give will go straight to victims of this natural disaster.

As healthcare professionals, our role transcends the four walls of our facilities. As dedicated individuals passionate in ensuring the holistic well-being of peoples, we need to be aware of such crises and be ready to respond when the time calls for it. Although we must never do it for recognition, the events of the past months provide an opportunity for us to show our willingness to give care to society as a whole.

Make an impact today: FGG, the social sector arm of JUNO Healthcare Group of Companies is still receiving donations for the Ketsana Campaign Relief Fund. Donate today and make an impact in the lives of Filipinos affected by the typhoon. Call us at 212-686-5866 ext. 32 for more info or visit <http://fggonline.org> for ways to donate.

Charmaine Teodoro is the Senior Vice President of JUNO Healthcare Staffing, a group of companies that recruits RNs, LPNs, CNAs and allied healthcare professionals

and deploys them to healthcare facilities on a full-time, part-time, per diem or travel assignment. It also sponsors foreign-trained RNs for immigration to the US. JUNO's offices in California are located in Los Angeles and San Diego.

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(Advertising Supplement)

TAPAT SA BATAS



ATTY. RHEA V. SAMSON

(Ikalawang Bahagi)
NOONG aking huling artikulo ay aking tinalakay ang deferred action relief para sa widow ng US citizen (USC) na namatay bago ang second anniversary ng kanilang kasal. Ang deferred action ay exercise ng prosecutorial discretion na hindi muna ilagay sa removal proceedings ang isang dayuhan sa loob ng limitadong panahon. Para sa widow ng US citizen, ang deferred action relief ay two years.

Para makakuha ng deferred action relief, ang widow ng USC ay kailangang mag-file ng Petition sa Vermont Service Center. Hindi automatic ang pagbigay ng deferred action relief sa widow ng USC – ito ay discretionary sa USCIS. Ang mga tiotigan ng USCIS ay kung mayroong mga mabigat na dahilan o serious adverse factors, katulad ng national security concerns, matinding immigration fraud, paggawa ng

Deferred action relief para sa widow ng US citizen

mga krimen, o public safety reasons para hindi apubahan ang deferred action relief request ng widow ng USC. Susuriin din ng USCIS kung may iba pang dahilan maliban sa pagkamatay ng USC, katulad ng dating denial or revocation ng visa ng widow, upang hindi ibigay ang deferred action. Walang appeal o remedy sa denial ng deferred action sa widow ng USC.

Kung ang I-130 Immigrant Petition ay naaprubahan na bago mamatay ang USC, at pending pa ang green card application noong mamatay ang USC, ang remedy ng widow ay hindi request for deferred action kundi request for humanitarian reinstatement ng approved I-130 petition. Kapag naaprubahan na ang request for humanitarian reinstatement, maaari nang mag-file ng green card application ulit ang widow ng USC.

Kung ang I-130 Petition ay pending pa noong mamatay ang USC, o na-deny dahil sa pagkamatay ng USC bago inilabas ang deferred action relief noong June 9, 2009, o kung walang I-130 Petition na nai-file bago mamatay

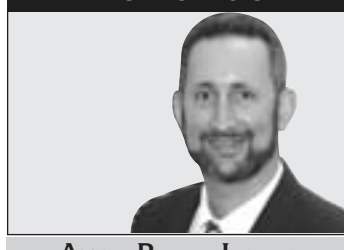
ang USC, ang widow ay maaari pa ring mag-file ng deferred action relief.

Kung ang widow naman ay naka-detain at nasa removal proceedings o mayroon nang administrative order of removal laban sa kanya, ang widow ay maaaring humingi ng deferred action sa Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE).

Si Attorney Rhea V. Samson ay abogado dito sa California at sa Pilipinas. Siya ay nagturo sa Ateneo De Manila University ng Essentials of Philippine Business Law, Obligations and Contracts, Corporation Law, Partnership Law at Labor Laws and Social Legislation. Siya rin ay nagkatha ng librong, "Working With Labor Laws, A Comprehensive Guide on Conditions of Employment, Employee Benefits Under Special Laws, Termination and Retirement" na inilathala ng Ateneo de Manila University Press at University of Hawaii Press. Itong libro niya ay kasalukuyang textbook sa kursong Labor Laws and Social Legislation ng Ateneo de Manila University.

Nagbibigay si Attorney Samson ng free initial consultation sa kanyang opisina. Samson Law Corporation, 3550 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1765, Los Angeles, CA 90010; telephone no: (213)249-1605; fax no: (213)637-5637; email address: samson@samsonlawcorp.com; website: www.samsonlawcorp.com.
(Advertising Supplement)

BANKRUPTCY CORNER



ATTY. BRIAN LERNER

QUESTION: *The commencement of a bankruptcy case automatically creates a bankruptcy estate. Accordingly, at the time the petition is filed, whether voluntary or involuntary, single or joint, a bankruptcy estate is formed of the debtor's property, which then becomes subject to administration by a trustee or the debtor-in-possession for the benefit of the debtor's creditors. The bankruptcy estate includes the debtor's legal and equitable interests in property owned by the debtor at the time of filing, as well as the proceeds, profits, or rents from such property, certain property to which the debtor becomes entitled within six months of the petition date, and any property interest acquired by the estate after the petition date. For obvious reasons, the timing of the filing of the petition and the timing of the debtor's receipt of property or income is critical to determining whether property belongs to the estate. Many cases have held that certain types of income or rights to payment that were earned prepetition became property of the estate, notwithstanding the fact that the debtor did not receive the funds until after the filing of the petition.*

Question: *What exactly does the debtor own at the time of filing in order to determine what must be placed in the estate?*

What is in the bankruptcy estate

enumerated methods.

The second is property acquired as a result of a property settlement agreement with the debtor's spouse, or as the result of an interlocutory or final decree of divorce. It should be noted that payments awarded as spousal support or maintenance payments do not become property of the estate under this subsection.

The third category includes property received by the debtor as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or a death benefit plan. If the debtor is the designated beneficiary at the time of the death of the insured, the debtor will be considered to have become entitled to receive the life insurance proceeds, notwithstanding the fact that the debtor's interest is contested. It should also be noted that, in the case of joint debtors, if one spouse dies during the 180-day period following the filing of the petition, and the other spouse is the beneficiary of the deceased spouse's life insurance policy, the proceeds will enter the estate of the beneficiary spouse only. Unless the two debtor estates are substantively consolidated, the life insurance proceeds will be available for payment of only the beneficiary spouse's creditors.

Attorney Brian D. Lerner has his main office in Long Beach, California. You can call 866-495-0554 for information on how to obtain a free consultation. He has been licensed since 1992 and practices Bankruptcy and Immigration Law.
(Advertising Supplement)

Answer: Section 541(a) provides that all equitable or legal interests of the debtor in property are included within the estate. Section 541(a) is interpreted broadly to include the debtor's interest in all types of property, including: tangible property, such as real property and vehicles; intangible property rights, such as tax attributes, intellectual property rights, unexpired leases, contract rights, insurance policies, partnership interests, causes of action, and licenses; equitable interests, such as a state law right of redemption in property and a possessory interest in property.

Question: *What about property acquired after the petition is filed?*

Answer: The estate is entitled to certain property that the debtor acquires, or to which the debtor becomes entitled, within the six months following the petition date, so long as the property would have been included in the estate had the debtor held such interest on the date of filing. The relevant time for determining whether the debtor acquired or became entitled to the property interest within 180 days of the petition date is the date of filing of the original petition rather than the date of subsequent conversion to another chapter. This property falls into three categories.

The first is property acquired by the debtor through bequest, devise, or inheritance. The property must actually be acquired by the debtor by one of these

INSURANCE 101



MELODY AVECILLA

LIVING in California, means living with earthquakes. They can happen at any time. Are you and your family prepared? If not, you may want to familiarize yourself with these earthquake safety tips.

The best protection during an earthquake is to get under heavy furniture such as a desk, table or bench. The greatest danger exists directly outside buildings, at exits and alongside exterior walls. Fatalities often happen when people run outside of buildings and get hit by falling debris from collapsing walls. Ground movement during an earthquake is seldom the direct

Earthquake preparedness tips

cause of death or injury. Most earthquake-related casualties result from collapsing walls, flying glass and falling objects.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has information to help you prepare for all types of disasters, including earthquakes. Here are a few:

Check your home for hazards – make sure shelves are fastened securely to walls; large, heavy objects and breakable items are stored on lower shelves; pictures and mirrors are hung away from areas where people sit and sleep; check for defective electrical wiring and gas leaks as these pose potential fire hazards

Identify safe places in each room – under sturdy furniture; against an inside wall; away from where glass could shatter or heave furniture might topple

Locate safe places outside – open spaces away from falling debris and electrical lines

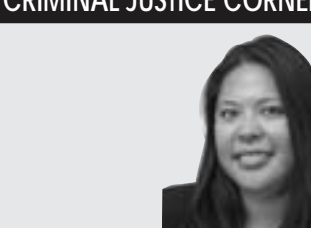
Have disaster supplies on hand – flashlights; portable battery-operated radio; first aid kit and essential medicines; emergency food and water; hand-operated can opener; cash and credit cards; sturdy shoes

Develop and emergency communication plan – in case family members get separated, have a designated place to meet; ask an out-of-state relative to be your family contact and make sure everyone has the phone number

A little advance planning can help you and your family weather disasters of any kind more safely. And remember ... earthquake damage is generally not covered by your homeowners insurance. So include your insurance agent in your planning.

If you suspect a scam, call the NICB hotline at 1-800-TEL-NICB.
For information about auto insurance and insurance fraud, contact your insurance agent.
(Advertising Supplement)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CORNER



ATTY. NICOLE VALERA

HAVE you been arrested? Are you charged with a crime? If so, this can be a very scary time for you and you will want to take the right steps to protect yourself. If you cannot afford an attorney, on your first day in court, the judge will appoint a public defender to represent you. If you can afford to hire an attorney, then here are some tips to help you find the right one for you.

Ask your friends for referrals
Start asking your friends and family if they know any criminal defense attorneys. Talk to the person who was represented by that attorney and ask what their personal experience was - Did the lawyer answer all of the questions that were asked of him? Was the lawyer responsive to phone calls and emails? What was the outcome on the case? And even if the outcome was not positive, did it appear that the lawyer did all they could do?

Search the internet
Whether you've gotten a referral from a friend, or whether your search for an attorney begins on the internet, the world wide web

Some tips for picking the right criminal defense attorney

provides a wealth of information about a prospective attorney. There are numerous websites (such as Avvo.com, Lawfirms.com, CriminalDefenseLawyers.com) where lawyers provide profiles, and clients and colleagues provide recommendations or endorsements. These websites are very helpful because they allow you to compare attorneys and provide ways to contact and learn more about each one. Many, if not most, attorneys have their own websites where they provide more detailed background information about themselves, such as their individual philosophy, experience and case results. Take time to read through these websites to give yourself more of an idea of what this particular attorney is about. After you've looked up the personal referrals from friends or found some attorneys on the internet, make a list of 2 or 3 attorneys you would like to call or email.

Make some phone calls or send some emails
Many attorneys offer free consultations over the phone, in person or via email. Take that list of attorneys you've made and start contacting them. Spend some time on the phone with them - tell them about your case and your situation. If you're emailing them, see how long it takes them

to respond and how detailed their response is. Have they handled this type of case before? They can't give you any specific legal advice since they don't have all the information, but they can tell you some general things about your case, such as what you're facing, jail time, etc. By the end of the conversation, you should have a general feeling of whether you feel comfortable with this attorney. After all, you may have to tell your attorney some very personal and perhaps embarrassing information (depending on the nature of your case), and if you don't feel comfortable with them, you're less likely to communicate with them. Communication is key to any good attorney/client relationship.

Look them up on your State Bar website
Most, if not all State Bar websites have a database where you can search for individual attorneys. Look up their records - Do they have complaints filed against them? Have they been disciplined by the state bar? Are they on probation? You may not want to hire an attorney who has been disciplined by the state bar.

Meet them in person
After you've made the phone calls and narrowed it down to

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Law Offices Of LARRY BAUTISTA YANG

BANKRUPTCY

WE ARE A DEBT RELIEF AGENCY. WE REPRESENT DEBTORS IN CHAPTER 7, 13, 11 AND 12 OF THE NEW BANKRUPTCY LAW. THIS INCLUDES RELIEF FROM MORTGAGE PAYMENT DEFAULTS AND PRE-FORECLOSURE RELIEF FOR RESIDENCES AND OTHER REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES.

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- DIVORCE & FAMILY LAW
- CIVIL, BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE LITIGATION & TRIALS

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