

18 June 2010 - The Department of Foreign Affairs-Office of Consular Affairs (DFA-OCA) is warning the public against unscrupulous and enterprising individuals who charge exorbitant fees in exchange for a passport appointment.

DFA-OCA wishes to clarify that getting an appointment for passport processing is **FREE** and may be done in two ways:

1. By calling telephone number **737-1000**, or
2. By logging on to **[www.epassport.com.ph](http://www.epassport.com.ph)**

DFA-OCA does not authorize any of its personnel to offer passport-related services (particularly appointments) to the public inside or outside of its premises.

The public is further advised not to deal or transact any business with any of these people or even offices near the DFA offering passport-related services to avoid being victimized.

Any inquiries or urgent concerns or requests may be directed to any of the DFA-OCA Public Assistance personnel.

DFA-OCA can provide assistance to applicants with urgent passport requirements provided that sufficient proof of urgency is submitted.

Finally, the cooperation of the public is requested by reporting any suspicious and anomalous offers regarding passports to the Office of the Passport Director. **END**