



**Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines**

**NEW YORK**

## **P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

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26 June 2019

### **Fil-Am Officers of NYPD, FDNY Unfazed by Balut, Videoke at Fellowship with PH Consul General**

26 June 2019, New York – Consul General Claro S. Cristobal hosted a meeting and fellowship with Fil-Am officers of the New York Police Department (NYPD) and the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) at the Philippine Center on 25 June 2019.

The event included a surprise balut-eating contest and videoke challenge but the women and men of NYPD and FDNY readily rose to the challenge. Firefighter Ryan Ocampo won the balut-eating contest over six other competitors when he relished two baluts and a bottle of Philippine beer in under a minute. On the other hand, Police Officer Teresigene D'Augostine easily won the videoke challenge by scoring 94 singing Air Supply's "All Out of Love".

Consul General Cristobal welcomed the officers and praised their important contribution in keeping the city and its residents safe, and in helping further raise the profile of Filipino-Americans through their service in the NYPD and FDNY. The Consul General encouraged them to keep their connection with their Filipino heritage.

Retired Police Captain Atty. Edward Carrasco, the highest ranking Fil-Am in the NYPD, thanked Consul General Cristobal on behalf of all the attendees for hosting and organizing the fellowship. He said that the event provided a venue for many of them to reconnect with the Philippine Consulate and their fellow officers. Detective Eugene Canapi said that he looks forward to expanding the network of Fil-Ams working in law enforcement.

Twenty Fil-Am officers of NYPD and six from the FDNY who are assigned in different precincts and offices in New York City participated in the gathering. END



Consul General Claro S. Cristobal (front row, 7th from the left) with Fil-Am officers of the NYPD and FDNY at a fellowship held at the Philippine Center on 25 June 2019. Also present are officers of the Consulate, Department of Tourism, and Philippine Center.



Fil-Am officers of NYPD and FDNY joined the balut-eating contest, downing two baluts with a bottle of Philippine beer.





Fil-Am members of the NYPD and FDNY with the officers of the Philippine Consulate, Department of Tourism-NY, and Philippine Center shared Filipino food and enjoyed videoke during the fellowship.