



Wreath-Laying Ceremony at the Jose Rizal Monument Kicks-Off the Filipino-American History Month Celebrations in the City of Carson



Councilmember Jim Dear (L-R 7th), Vice Consul Rainier Casis (8th) and Cultural Officer Maria Dolores Sales (9th) with the appointed Fil-Am commissioners and employees of Carson City during the wreath-laying ceremony at Carson City's International Sculpture Garden on 05 October 2019. (Photo credit: Mr. Bengo Ascue)

Los Angeles, 07 October 2019 – The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles led by Vice Consul Rainier J. Casis participated in the wreath-laying ceremony at the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Monument located at the International Sculpture Garden in the City of Carson, CA on 05 October 2019. This annual event officially kicks-off the month-long celebration of Filipino-American History Month (FAHM) in Carson.

In his remarks, Vice Consul Casis encouraged the various Filipino-American community leaders in Los Angeles County who were present during the event to use the FAHM celebrations to come together to promote understanding of the richness and diversity of Philippine culture, especially to the newer generations of Fil-Ams and our friends from other communities.

For his part, Councilmember Jim Dear who represented the City of Carson acknowledged the remarkable contributions of Filipinos and Filipino-Americans to the development of the political, economic and socio-cultural life of mainstream American society. He also took the opportunity to thank the Filipino-American community, particularly the Fil-Am appointed commissioners and employees in Carson for their dedication and work ethic.

FAHM is celebrated annually in the United States during the month of October. October is significant for Filipinos in America as it is the birth month of Filipino-American labor leader, Larry Itliong who was born in October 1913. The first recorded presence of Filipinos in the continental United States was also in October 1587. This is when the so-called “*Indios Luzones*” waded into what is now Morro Bay, California, having crossed the vast *mar pacifico* via the aptly-named Spanish galleon *Nuestra Señora de Esperanza*, or Our Lady of Hope. END.