



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



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ConGen Badajos Keynotes #DefendOurElders Self-Defense Workshop



11 May 2021, Los Angeles – Keynoting the #DefendOurElders Self-Defense Workshop, Consul General Edgar B. Badajos assured the Filipino-American community that the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles stands in solidarity with Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) in addressing the rising incidence of hate crimes targeting the AAPI communities. The workshop was held in the morning of 08 May 2021 at Carson Park, in the City of Carson, CA.

ConGen Badajos also informed the gathering that the Consulate General is closely coordinating with relevant local agencies and various Fil-Am community organizations in monitoring and promoting greater awareness of the situation.

He added, “I reiterate to you the call of both the LAPD and the LA Sheriff for community members, who have experienced or witnessed racially-motivated violence or other incidents, to report the matter directly to law enforcement authorities and other relevant agencies for immediate action.”



Assemblymember Mike Gipson of District 64, City of Carson Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dear and Councilmembers Jowane Hilton and Cedric L. Hicks, Sr. also attended the event to show their support to the Fil-Am community.

The *#DefendOurElders* workshop was organized by the Alliance Against AAPI Hate (AAAH) in celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month this May. It is aimed at educating seniors and vulnerable sectors of the community on self-defense using ordinary things not usually thought of as weapons, such as keys, fans, umbrellas, purses, walking canes, among others.

Similar workshops will also be held in other cities within Los Angeles County in the following weeks and will feature Filipino-American celebrity martial artists, fighters, and boxers.

The workshop in Carson was led by Fil-Am martial artist and Hollywood actor, Ms. Diana Lee Inosanto and her husband Ron Balicki, with the support of Guru Alvin Catacutan of Pamana Kali, among many others. END.