



**Filipino Community Gets a “Refresher Course” on Philippine Laws**



*Atty. Melencio Sta. Maria, Jr. gives a lively lecture on developments in Philippine laws and jurisprudence (Photoby NYPCG)*

06 June 2019, New York City –In an effort to provide the Filipino Community with updates on legal developments in the Philippines, the Philippine Consulate General in New York (PCGNY) hosted a well-attended Forum at the Philippine Center on 03 June. Atty. Melencio Sta. Maria Jr., who is Dean of the Far Eastern University Institute of Law, Professor of Law at Ateneo de Manila College of Law, a columnist for Manila Bulletin, and a broadcaster for TV5 and Radyo5, among his other concurrent occupations, served as PCGNY’s distinguished resource person.

Topics covered include marriage, judicial recognition of foreign divorce, property relations, inheritance, support, administrative adoption, dual citizenship, and controversial subjects, such as gay marriage, amongst others.

Following the instructive presentation was a Q & A where Atty. Sta. Maria addressed legal concerns from its audience. More than 1,700 watched the Forum through PCGNY’s *Facebook Live*, a testament to how many of our *kababayans* wish to learn about their legal rights and responsibilities. **END**



Atty. Melencio Sta. Maria Jr. listens to queries from the audience (Photo by NYPCG)



Atty. Melencio Sta. Maria Jr. poses with some of the audience, including former Ambassador Mario De Leon Jr. (standing next to Atty. Sta. Maria), and Vice Consul Tanya Faye O. Ramiro (also a former law student of the resource person), third from right. (Photo by NYPCG)

For more information, visit [www.newyorkpcg.org](http://www.newyorkpcg.org) and [www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY](https://www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY)