

**Front page of the Filipino Reporter. Issue # 29; June 20-26, 2014**

Written by special to the filipino reporter  
Friday, 20 June 2014 12:36

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# Filipino Reporter

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Former NYPD officer Rex-Gene Maralit leaves Brooklyn Federal Court with his wife Sharon after being freed on bail in September 2013. (Jeff Ruckert/New York Daily News)

## 2 bros. plead guilty to gun traffic to PH

*Ex-NYPD cop to serve 4 to 6 years*

Two Filipino-American brothers — one a former New York City police officer and another a former Customs and Border Protection officer — have pleaded guilty to trafficking unlicensed weapons from the United States to the Philippines using their law enforcement credentials to score discounts.

Under the plea deal, ex-New York City Police Department (NYPD) officer Rex-Gene Maralit and his U.S. Customs officer sibling Wilfredo Maralit will have to serve four to six years in prison.

But federal prosecutors said the brothers would get reduced sen-



U.S. Customs officer Wilfredo Maralit leaves Brooklyn Federal Court on June 12. (Photo by Ryan Nassut/New York Post)



ARIEL MARALIT

would come to the U.S. and plead guilty as well.

That younger brother, Ariel Maralit, is still at large in the Philippines and is considered a fugitive, officials said.

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## Dolan grants permit allowing Masses at Philippine Consulate



In a rare gesture, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan (pictured above in a file photo) has granted permission for Misa de

Gallo, widely known as Sirsibang Gabi, to be celebrated this December at the Philippine Consulate in New York City, the *Filipino Reporter* has learned.

The cardinal last year has decided not to permit Masses at the consulate, which had hosted similar Masses for 27 years.

Dolan, the archbishop of New York, cited canon laws that forbid Masses outside a sacred place.

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But, he emphasized, "only in the rarest of cases should a Mass not be celebrated in a church."

But at the last minute, Dolan relented, and allowed Sirsibang Gabi at the consulate last

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## Fil-Am couple rescued in Carteret, N.J. fire

A Filipino-American husband and wife were rescued in the nick of time by a quick thinking off-duty police dispatcher from a massive blaze that gutted a Carteret, N.J. home on June 16.

Marissa Mamanta, 50, and her

husband were treated for cuts they sustained when they climbed out of the basement window through the help of Woodbridge police dispatcher Eric Seniakewych.

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DEA Undersecretary Rafael Seguis attends the 94th Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly's 4th Biennial Review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. In his speech, he said the Philippines is addressing constant terror threats by coming up with new laws. (UN/Debra Roberts)

## 'We're under constant terror threats' — Seguis

The Philippines highlighted its achievements in furtherance of the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy (UNGCTS).

In a statement delivered last Thursday before the United Nations General Assembly, Rafael E. Seguis, the Department of Foreign Affairs' Undersecretary for Civilian

Security and Consular Affairs, declared that, "The Philippines has been facing constant threats of terrorism during the past decade... (but) our resolve remains clearer than ever... rather than submit to fear and paralysis, all the more we have become unshakable and determined."

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## PH not worried on China claim

MANILA — Malacañang is not worried about China's accusation against the Philippines during a recent meeting of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Presidential Communication Operations Office head Hermisio Coloma Jr. sees nothing wrong with China's move to engage the Philippines

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