



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs
credibility and honor
defined.



Beyond NUMBERS

2025 ISSUE NO. 001

#AOCWinStories:

*AOC Starts the Year
with Purpose,
Embracing New
Learnings and
Expanding Its Reach!*



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Kicks Off 2025 with a Virtual Breaktime Celebration

As the New Year unfolds, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs welcomed 2025 with a heartfelt Virtual Breaktime Celebration on January 8, 2025. With more than 250 attendees from its 13 offices nationwide, the event was a momentous occasion to reflecting on past achievements, embracing new beginnings, fostering camaraderie among employees, and setting a positive tone for the year ahead.



The celebration commenced with a solemn mass officiated by Father Ogie Orpiada, whose homily offered encouragement and hope. Following the mass, the ever-enthusiastic host, Mr. John Paul Daria, welcomed all attendees with warmth and energy, igniting excitement for the program ahead. The program featured the introduction of new hires, the celebration of January birthdays, and the recognition of employees marking significant work anniversaries.

The **AOCWinStories** segment featured testimonials from Jenalyn Baptista, Hazel Liban, and Partner Beth Yasay, who shared insights from their secondment in Australia. Jenalyn spoke about how the program shaped her career, despite the personal challenge of losing her mother. Hazel highlighted Australian work culture, focusing on professionalism, strong work ethic, and work-life balance. Beth offered practical tips for future secondees, guiding them on how to maximize the opportunity and overcome challenges. Their shared experiences and key takeaways served as a valuable resource for those aspiring secondees to embark on similar journeys in the future.



The event wrapped up with a lively icebreaker game by Rogielyn Barroga, adding fun and energy to the gathering. The Virtual Breaktime Celebration of the firm was more than just a gathering—it was a celebration of resilience, unity, and growth. As 2025 begins, the company remains committed to fostering a culture of continuous learning, appreciation, and camaraderie among its employees, ensuring a thriving and supportive work environment.

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Inaugurates New Laguna Office

On January 22, 2025, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs proudly inaugurated its new Laguna office located at G/F Alfredo V. Mance Sr. Building, 2nd St. Hi-way Homes, Platero, Biñan City, Laguna. The event featured a ceremonial ribbon-cutting and the blessing of the office, officiated by Rev. Father Michael Loza, Parish Vicar of Sta. Rosa de Lima Parish.



Leading the celebration were the firm's newest partner, Rodel Bascon, Partner-in-Charge of the Laguna branch, and Director Rhoda Bascon, alongside Chairman and Founding Partner Donnies T. Alas, Senior Partner Glesie Martinez, Partner Christian Martinez, and Director Mary Ann Duguran.



L-R: Mary Ann Duguran, Eleanor Almazan, Rhoda Bascon, Rodel Bascon, Donnies Alas, Glesie Martinez, Christian Martinez and Arvilene Anonuevo.

In his speech, Mr. Bascon shared the journey of the branch's creation, expressing excitement about the office's potential and its contributions to the local business community. He quoted, *"Determination and trusting yourself play a vital role in one's life."*



Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Inaugurates New Laguna Office (Continuation)

Mr. Alas conveyed his confidence in the branch's success, highlighting its potential to drive growth and provide invaluable support to local clients.

After the office blessing and ribbon-cutting, the Laguna team treated everyone to a delightful spread of local delicacies, fostering a warm and festive atmosphere as all enjoyed and shared the delicious offerings.

In addition, the AOC Laguna branch operations board held its first meeting, focusing on the branch's current status, progress, and future updates, marking an exciting step forward for the team.



The branch opening marks an important milestone for Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, reflecting the firm's commitment to growth, excellence, and exceptional service across the Philippines. The event underscores the firm's values of **Credibility** and **Honor, Defined**, and its dedication to fostering trust, building strong relationships, and upholding the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in every endeavor.

AOC SF Audit Team Elevates Skills with Training Led by LvHJ Partners

January 8-10, 2025 The AOC SF Audit Team participated in an intensive three-day training session at RCBC Plaza, Makati City, in collaboration with Lindquist, von Husen & Joyce LLP (LvHJ), a BKR member firm from California, USA. Led by LvHJ Partners Charlotte Tay and Crisanto Francisco, the sessions offered both a comprehensive refresher and a chance to meet the team members in person.

To kick off the event, Alas Oplas' CEO and former BKR Chair, Marycris Oplas, hosted a welcoming dinner at Jade Garden, Makati City, on January 7, warmly greeting the LvHJ partners and their team.

This successful initiative highlights the strong partnership between BKR member firms and underscores their shared commitment to continuous professional development and service excellence.



SF Audit team with AOC CEO Marycris Oplas, LvHJ Partners Crisanto Francisco and Charlotte Tay.



Crisanto Francisco, LvHJ Partner



Charlotte Tay, LvHJ Partner



AOC SF Tax Team Enriches Expertise with Training from LvHJ Principal Sherman Leong

The AOC SF Tax team, led by Tax Partner Fernando Santos, held a three-day training session at RCBC Plaza, Makati City. Sherman Leong, Principal from Lindquist, von Husen & Joyce LLP (LvHJ), a BKR member firm in California, USA, provided practical, up-to-date training, specifically enhancing the team's expertise in US Tax. This training also offered a valuable opportunity for team members, who typically work remotely, to meet and collaborate in person.

Before Sherman returned to the US, CEO and Founding Partner Marycris Oplas hosted a dinner at Jade Garden Restaurant, Makati City to express gratitude for his dedication and efforts during the three-day training session.

This initiative highlights the robust collaboration between BKR member firms and reinforces their shared commitment to continuous professional development, ensuring service excellence for clients.



SF Tax Team with Sherman Leong, LvHJ Principal; Marycris Oplas, AOC CEO; and Fernan Santos, AOC Tax Partner

AOC Iloilo Conducts Free Seminar on Withholding Taxes Year-End Adjustments

On January 24, 2025, Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs – Iloilo hosted a valuable, free seminar on Withholding Taxes Year-End Adjustments and the Annualization Process. The seminar, led by Kimberly Noble, Partner-In-Charge of the Iloilo branch, took place at the Joethess Building in Pavia, Iloilo City.

The event was attended by 21 participants from various local businesses who gained essential insights into the latest tax regulations and learned how to navigate year-end adjustments effectively. With expert guidance and practical strategies, attendees were empowered to optimize their tax compliance and business operations.

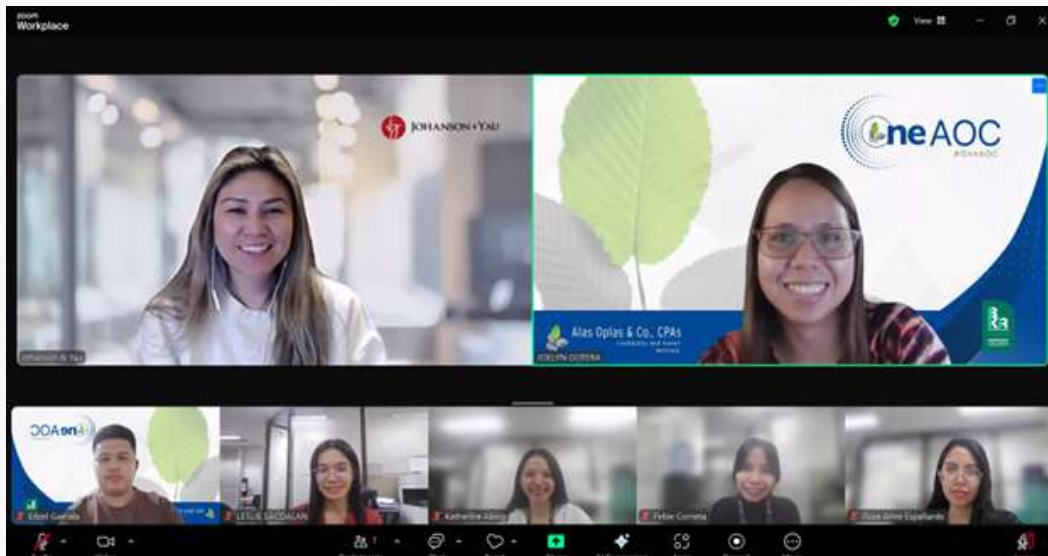
This session not only enhanced participants' knowledge of tax compliance but also fostered meaningful discussions on best practices and common industry challenges.

At Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, we are dedicated to supporting local businesses by providing expert guidance on complex tax matters. Through continuous education and personalized support, we aim to help businesses achieve better compliance, smoother operations, and long-term success.



AOC Iloilo Partner-in-Charge Kimberly Noble with former AOC Partner Tina Estorque, together with the 21 participants

AOC Makati Tax Team Engages in Online Training with Johanson & Yau LLP



January 7-10, 2025 – The AOC Makati Tax team participated in an in-depth online training session with Johanson & Yau LLP, a BKR member firm from California, USA. Led by Tax Manager Cindy Cheng, the training covered updates on certain US tax matters and the systems used, ensuring the team remains current on applicable tax practices. Through its BKR network, AOC continues its commitment to delivering high-quality service and collaboration with member firms worldwide.

AOC Makati Tax Team Attends ACPAPP Seminar



The AOC Makati Tax team attended the ACPAPP seminar on January 21, 2025, at SGV 1 Building, Makati City. The morning session, "Common Inspection Findings, Accounting and Auditing Reminders," provided valuable insights into prevalent issues and best practices in accounting and auditing. In the afternoon, the team participated in "CREATE More: Relevant Provisions and Updates," which focused on the latest provisions and updates related to the CREATE Law. The seminar served as an excellent opportunity for the team to stay informed and enhance their expertise in both accounting and tax matters.

AOC Legazpi Team Kicks Off the Year with Client Engagements and Fieldwork

The AOC Legazpi team, led by Partner in Charge Nathalie Lupango, started the new year strong with a series of meetings and introductions. This proactive approach strengthened relationships and provided deeper insights into client needs.

In addition, the team began fieldwork, highlighting their commitment to delivering top-quality audit services. Audit Manager Denver Tabubuca, along with Associates Fely Joy Ballon, Kristel Ballaran, Leojelaine Igcoy, Ma. Christina Atrasado, and Ashley Marie Rances, worked diligently on several client projects, ensuring efficiency and quality in service delivery.

This productive start to the year demonstrates the AOC Legazpi team’s dedication to excellence and their ongoing efforts to exceed client expectations.



In the Photo (L-R): Financial Audit Staff, Ms. Jennifer Dimaano Labitag (Financial Audit Section Supervisor); Ms. Ma. Laila Decano Perez (OIC-Finance Services Department); Mr. Iluminado Hicarte Bello (Internal Audit Department Manager); AOC Manager, Denver A. Tabubuca , AOC Associates: Ma. Christina Atrasado, Ashley Marie Rances, Fely Joy Ballon, Leojelaine Igcoy; and Gilbert Lusuegro (Financial Audit Staff)



NRL with Sr. Odelle of Divine Healer Academy & PALMFSI Director-Sorsogon City (I)



AOC Associate Kristel Anne Ballaran, NRL & Donna P. Bilo - UST Legazpi Controller



In the Photo (L-R): AOC Associates - Fely Joy Ballon, Kristel Ballaran, Leojelaine Igcoy, Ashley Marie Rances, and AOC Manager Denver Tabubuca, from JMH Microfinance Inc. Accounting Head Ms. Cecile Funelas, Accounting Specialist Mr. Jason Cabiles and Accounting Specialist Ms. Regine Roldan.



NRL with Roselyn K. Ebron - UST Legazpi Hosp Finance and Collection Head



NRL with Minda Gonzalgo - Acctg Head of SORECO I, Irosin, Sorsogon



AOC Manager Denver Tabubuca at Goodfound Cement.

AOC Cavite's Badminton Tournament

On January 25, 2025, the AOC Cavite Branch officially kicked off its Badminton Tournament at the Shuttle Showdown Badminton Court, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, marking an exciting start to the year. The event attracted players to participate in the lively competition and showcase their badminton skills. The atmosphere was filled with enthusiasm as competitors took to the courts, battling it out in both singles and doubles categories.

These tournaments were not just about winning but also building sportsmanship and fostering teamwork among employees. This event provides an opportunity for team members to showcase their athletic skills and step away from daily routines and engage in an activity that promotes physical health, mental well-being, and strong connection while demonstrating their commitment to AOC's values of unity and respect.

The teams were divided into eight groups: Red, Green, Blue, Black, White, Gray, Pink, and Brown. After the sportsfest, the teams gathered for a lunch to celebrate their efforts and enjoy some downtime together.

The enthusiasm and cooperation displayed throughout the tournament set a positive tone for the rest of the month's events, ensuring that AOC Cavite's commitment to promoting a balanced, active lifestyle remains a core value moving forward. This spirit of teamwork and determination will help employees stay focused and motivated, not just in sports, but also in overcoming challenges at work and in daily life.



Alas Oplas Cabanatuan Sends Off Interns from General De Jesus College

Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs – Cabanatuan recently wrapped up its internship program for Catrina Anne Bagan, a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy student, and Mikaela Jade Paguyo, pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Management Accounting, both from General De Jesus College. Mikaela completed her internship on November 29, 2024, while Catrina finished on December 2, 2024. The Cabanatuan team, led by Partner Loraine San Pedro, organized a memorable send-off on December 2, 2024, to celebrate the interns' valuable contributions and hard work during their tenure.

During their internship, trainees gained hands-on experience through meaningful tasks that enhanced their skills, professional growth, and understanding of the field.

At Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, we are dedicated to developing young talents by equipping them with the knowledge and experience needed to excel in accounting and auditing. We wish our interns continued success in their careers!



Left to right: Catrina Anne C. Bagan, Partner Loraine San Pedro and Mikaela Jade D. Paguyo.



Interns from General De Jesus College together with the AOC Cabanatuan team.

Eleven Trainees Embark on Their Journey at Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs Bacolod Branch

January 28, 2025 – The AOC Bacolod branch, together with Regional Director Nessa Sy and Managing Director Krizza Oplas, welcomed eleven promising trainees from two educational institutions: Binalbagan Catholic College and the University of Negros Occidental – Recoletos (UNO-R) Bacolod. This partnership marks a significant milestone in the firm's ongoing commitment to nurturing the next generation of accounting professionals and fostering a dynamic, supportive learning environment.

The trainees, selected from a pool of talented students, will be guided through various aspects of accounting and auditing, gaining hands-on experience under the mentorship of the firm's professionals.

The AOC Bacolod team is excited to work with these bright young minds and looks forward to their contributions over the coming months. With the continued collaboration between education and industry, both the firm and the trainees are poised for success.



Eleven interns joined by the AOC Bacolod team, with Regional Director Nessa Sy and Managing Director Krizza Oplas, celebrating the start of their professional development.



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Beyond Numbers by:

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

We welcome your comments and feedback.

Please email us at aoheadoffice@alaso plascpas.com

or you may visit our

Website: www.alaso plascpas.com

Beyond Numbers is a periodic e-newsletter of Alas Oplas & Co., CPAs, which underscores its people, its services, and the events, occasions, and activities it conducts and participates in. The e-newsletter aims to reflect the Firm's culture, commitments, values, and practices and is solely directed for communication purposes.

