

RISING STAR NOMINEE – ATTY. WALTER L. MACTAL

Atty. Walter L. Mactal (“Atty. Mactal”) is the Chief Legal and Administrative Officer of Travellers International Hotel Group, Inc. (the “Company”), the owner and operator of Newport World Resorts (“NWR”). He started as a Legal Manager in NWR in 2012 and rose through the ranks, becoming Assistant Director for Litigation, Director for Litigation, and Director for Legal Services before being promoted to his current position. As the Chief Legal and Administrative Officer, Atty. Mactal is the youngest Senior Vice President of NWR.



Atty. Mactal oversees the following corporate functional areas of the Legal and Corporate Affairs Department: Tax and Legal Compliance, Special Projects, Corporate Compliance and Contracts, Litigation and Labor, and Labor Relations. In addition, he oversees the Transportation Segment, Yacht and Aviation Services, and the Office Administration Department of the Company and ensures that there is no hamper or delay in operations.

Under Atty. Mactal’s leadership, the Legal and Corporate Affairs Department drafts and reviews thousands of contracts, averaging at around 4,300 contracts per year, including entertainment, lease, construction, supply, and service agreements. The department also prosecutes criminal cases involving casino scams and other gaming-related crimes and defends the Company from all kinds of claims and complaints. The Legal and Corporate Affairs Department also plays a vital role in maintaining the smooth operations of the various businesses of the Company by monitoring compliance with all pertinent regulatory issuances and ensuring the timely renewal of various government permits for the Garden Wing and Grand Wing casinos of NWR, 5 international brand hotels, and multiple restaurants. In the past year, the department secured 94 Business Permits, 94 Sanitary Permits, and 62 Annual Inspection Certificates, and registered/maintained at least 142 trademarks. They also provide legal support to five (5) partner international brand hotels located in NWR.

When Atty. Mactal took over the Transportation segment of the Company, he introduced positive changes that streamlined the operations and created millions in savings for the Company through cost efficient measures such as direct oversight of more than 200 personnel, instead of outsourced management that triggers substantial management fees.

Before joining the Company, Atty. Mactal started his legal career in a seasoned Makati-based law firm. He received his Juris Doctor Degree from the Ateneo de Manila University School of Law in 2008, graduating with Second Honors. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics from the Ateneo de Manila University Loyola Schools.

In recent years, Atty. Mactal engaged in various projects that had great impact to the Company and to the industry, to wit:

- **Development of Westside City** - Atty. Mactal was instrumental in the preparation of multibillion agreements for the development of an integrated resort in Westside City in Entertainment City, Philippines, and presently provides legal and technical advisory support to the parties involved.
- **Newport World Resorts Rebranding** - Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the management of the Company decided to rebrand its integrated resort in Pasay City from Resorts World Manila to Newport World Resorts.¹ The Legal and Corporate Affairs Department was pivotal in this undertaking as part of its mandate is to register and maintain the Company’s trademarks, registrations, permits, and other records, and coordinate with the Company’s various regulators and partners to ensure the seamless transition to Newport World Resorts.

¹ Click to see [Asia Gaming Brief Article](#).

- **Other Corporate Functions** - Atty. Mactal sits as a director on the board of 30 companies including one (1) publicly listed company, and serves as Corporate Secretary in 28 stock companies and four (4) non-stock, non-profit companies.
- **COVID-19 Pandemic Response** - Atty. Mactal and the Legal and Corporate Affairs Department facilitated and assisted in the donation of 554,000 personal protective equipment, face masks, gloves, goggles, and shoe covers to over 40 public hospitals in Metro Manila; 40,000 face masks and 600 infrared thermometers to the Philippine National Police; and 75,000 grocery packs, 800 sacks of rice, and 10,000 rapid test kits to various barangays within Metro Manila and nearby Provinces.² His team also provided invaluable assistance to ensure the proper documentation of the Company's partnership with the government in procuring the much needed vaccines against COVID-19 and to ensure that a duly accredited COVID-19 testing center would be set up and available within the Company premises during the height of the pandemic not only for its guests, employees and their families, but for the communities surrounding NWR as well. Most importantly, Atty. Mactal provided sound legal and business advice to the management of NWR to preserve the jobs affected by the pandemic and to ensure that no employee will be laid off despite the halting of the operations of the Company and the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **NWR Foundation** - As Executive Director of Newport World Resorts Foundation, Inc., Atty. Mactal oversaw the completion of the construction of the Davao Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Center³ and refurbishment of the Camp Crame General Hospital and Baguio Post Office Park⁴, as well as donations to victims of natural disasters⁵, public hospitals, and local government units. Ongoing projects include the construction of an alumni center for the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association, a hospital for Naga City, and a medical center for the Philippine National Police⁶, among others.
- **OPPA Foundation** - Atty. Mactal serves as the Corporate Secretary of the Original Pilipino Performing Arts Foundation ("OPPA Foundation") and his team handles its corporate housekeeping and provides legal and administrative services for its Scholarship Program to ensure alignment and compliance with PAGCOR directives, rules and regulations. Since the Scholarship Program was launched in 2016, it has benefited 56 scholars from various universities and colleges.
- **Litigation Abroad** - Despite the difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, Atty. Mactal successfully supervised the prosecution of a claim before the Malaysian courts and secured a favorable decision awarding hundreds of millions of pesos to the Company.
- **Sustainability Projects** - Atty. Mactal is a member of the working committees of NWR's "iLOVEarth", a sustainability program that set concrete sustainability goals for NWR's integrated resort and its international partner hotels.⁷ Atty. Mactal has also completed three (3) modules on sustainability (*i.e.*, Sustainability 101, Sustainability Management, and Sustainability & Experience Delivery) at the AIM Earthcheck Sustainability Academy.
- **Awardee of The Legal 500 GC Powerlist Philippines 2023** - On the first edition of The Legal 500 GC Powerlist Philippines 2023, Atty. Mactal was recognized among top players in the profession.⁸ The GC Powerlist is a publication that highlights the most influential and innovative general counsels in a given market, involving a three-month process of nominations, background research and interviews.

² Click to see [PAGCOR Website Article](#) about the donations.

³ Click to see [Manila Standard Article](#) for the Davao Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Center.

⁴ Click to see [Pagcor Website Article](#) about the Baguio Post Office Park redevelopment.

⁵ Click to see [PAGCOR Website Article](#) about the donation to victims of Typhoon Karding.

⁶ Click to see [PAGCOR Website Article](#) and [ASGAM Article](#) about the PNP medical center.

⁷ Click to see [Rappler Article](#).

⁸ Click to see [Legal 500 GC Powerlist 2023](#). The GC Powerlist is a publication that highlights the most influential and innovative general counsels in a given market, involving a three-month process of nominations, background research and interviews. Each individual has made a demonstrable impact to their team, company or industry through innovative approaches to their everyday work.