

Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

EN BANC

NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

Please take notice that the Court en banc issued a Resolution dated **FEBRUARY 21, 2017**, which reads as follows:

“A.M. No. 16-08-04-SC (Re: Motu Proprio Fact-Finding Investigation on Allegation of Four [4] Incumbent Judges’ Involvement in Illegal Drugs [Ref: Speech of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte Delivered on August 7, 2016 in Davao City]).— The report on Judge Antonio C. Reyes (Judge Reyes) of Branch 61 of the Regional Trial Court in Baguio City, a trial court specially designated to handle drugs cases, is now before this Court. It may be recalled that Judge Reyes was among the judges publicly named by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte as being involved in illegal drugs.¹

On 8 August 2016, the day following the speech of the President, Judge Reyes personally appeared before the Court Administrator to submit a statement denying his involvement in illegal drugs.²

On 6 September 2016, Justice Roberto A. Abad sent an invitation to the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), and the four judges to 1) submit affidavits/counter-affidavits, documents or such other relevant information; and 2) appear before a preliminary conference on 15 September 2016. A conference was conducted on the specified date, as well as on 3 October 2016. Judge Reyes was present during those conferences. The PNP was represented by Atty. Wilson C. Asueta; and PDEA, by Atty. Roselyn A. Borja, Atty. Francis S. del Valle, and Ms. Ruby Obediente.

On 16 February 2017, Justice Abad submitted his report³ concluding his investigation of the allegations against Judge Reyes. The following documents submitted by PDEA were considered:

- 1) Affidavit executed by Paul A. Black on 26 October 2007

¹ In a Resolution dated 6 December 2016, this Court terminated the fact-finding investigation on Judges Exequiel L. Dagala, Adriano S. Savillo, and Domingo L. Casiple, Jr. after finding that no evidence had been put forward that would link them to the use, proliferation, trade or involvement in illegal drugs.

² Letter of the Court Administrator to the Chief Justice, p. 2.

³ Re: Fact-Finding Investigation of Judge Antonio Reyes whom President Duterte claims to have been involved in illegal drugs.

Handwritten signature: J. B. ...

- 2) Memorandum from the acting Regional Director of the RO CAR dated 26 November 2007 with the subject "Update on the Special Report, Re: Connection of an Arrested Notorious Drug Pusher and a Drug Court Judge"
- 3) Affidavit executed by Melchora Nagen on 10 December 2007
- 4) Acknowledgment Receipt for ₱300,000 received from Richard Lagunilla and issued and signed by Norma Domingo
- 5) Unsigned and undated letter written in Tagalog and sent from an anonymous source

The sworn reply of Justice Reyes, along with its annexes, was likewise admitted and considered.

Below is an extended excerpt from the report of Justice Abad:

Judge Reyes has been hearing drugs cases in Branch [6]1 of the Baguio City RTC. Based on documents that the PDEA submitted, a certain Paul Black claimed in an affidavit he executed nine years ago on October 26, 2007 that a certain Norma Domingo gave ₱50,000 to Judge Reyes for the dismissal of the case against Black's wife. Black, whom the judge had previously convicted in a drugs case, said that he was able to give Norma only ₱15,000, which she accepted, but insisted that he pay the remaining ₱35,000 before July 5, 2007, the date of the promulgation of judgment against his wife. Black did so and Judge Reyes acquitted his wife. Unfortunately, Black had since died in prison according to PDEA.

On November 26, 2007 the PDEA Regional Director in Benguet claimed in a Memorandum to the Director General of that office that Judge Reyes inordinately dismissed the drugs cases against Norma Domingo, whom the judge had been using to negotiate pay-offs from those charged with similar offenses in his court. The memorandum claimed that Norma even issued a receipt for ₱300,000 that a certain Richard Lagunilla gave her in exchange for his acquittal by Judge Reyes. The PDEA planned in 2007 to entrap the judge but it dropped the idea as not feasible since payments to the judge were made through his driver.

On December 10, 2007 Melchora Nagen executed an affidavit, stating that while in jail for violation of the drugs law, she met Norma Domingo who had also been detained for the same offense in 2005. Melchora claimed that, to her surprise, Judge Reyes ordered the release of Norma and certain members of her family from detention only after a few days. Norma later visited Melchora offering to work for her release for ₱100,000 to be paid to Judge Reyes. Norma later met with Melchora's family which bargained for ₱50,000. This resulted in her acquittal. Melchora later became Norma's friend and accompanied her in her jail visits when she tried to convince those facing charges before Judge Reyes' court to raise money for their acquittal. Melchora often heard Norma bargain with Judge Reyes for the lowering of the amounts that were to be paid him. Sometime in September 2006 Norma requested Melchora to accompany her in delivering to Judge Reyes the ₱300,000 that Richard Lagunilla gave for the acquittal of his wife. They even counted the money. But the judge called Norma and told her to just give the money to somebody known to her. They gave the money to a medium built and balding man in front of Paddie's Point, whom Melchora recognized as the person who

Melchora Nagen - Handwritten signature

assisted the judge during court hearings. Unfortunately, the PDEA said they have lost track of Melchora and would be unable to present her.

An anonymous person also wrote an undated letter reporting the pattern of bribery that Norma Domingo allegedly arranged for Judge Reyes involving the drugs cases in his court. The writer claims that Judge Reyes convicted his relatives since they were unable to raise the money that they were asked to pay. The writer claimed that the lawyers and other judges in Baguio City were aware of such anomalies. The anonymous writer said that Attys. Mamaril, Bomogao, Felix, and Katigbak, who were close to Judge Reyes, obtained acquittals for their clients.

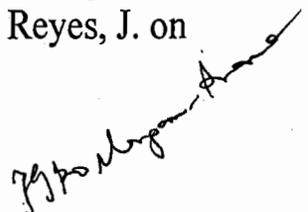
For his part, Judge Reyes submitted a sworn reply, vehemently denying the charges against him. He said that he abhorred corruption as evidenced by the fact that he charged one of his staffs with collecting money from those whom he had acquitted and the Supreme Court dismissed that member of his staffs. PDEA itself, according to Judge Reyes, gave him no less than sixteen commendations for "exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty." He admits that he had acquitted some but the evidence against them was deficient based on the Supreme Court criteria for conviction in drugs offenses. As for the allegation that he improperly dismissed the drugs case against Norma Domingo, Judge Reyes pointed out that the dismissal was based on the prosecutor's admission in open court that his witness against Norma, PDEA officer Abordo, had nothing to do with the operation that led to her arrest.

Justice Abad recommends that an administrative case for corruption be instituted against Judge Reyes based on the Affidavit of Melchora Nagen. He also recommends that the Court order PDEA and the PNP to ascertain her whereabouts. According to Justice Abad, PDEA's manifestation that witnesses declined to testify is not a valid excuse, since they may be compelled to testify by subpoenas from the Court. He believes that the affidavit of Nagen constitutes a serious charge of corruption against Judge Reyes, and that the Court should not simply accept that PDEA has lost track of her whereabouts.

WHEREFORE, the Court **ACCEPTS** the report entitled "Fact-Finding Investigation of Judge Antonio Reyes whom President Duterte claims to have been involved in illegal drugs." With this acceptance, Justice Roberto A. Abad is considered **DISCHARGED** from his designation as the sole investigator for this administrative matter.

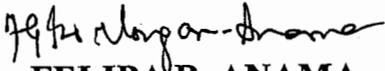
The Office of the Court Administrator is **DIRECTED** 1) to proceed with the inventory of cases decided by Judge Antonio C. Reyes to determine whether there is basis for the allegation that convictions were reversed in exchange for money; 2) to investigate the driver of Judge Reyes for bribery, and further, if the said driver took money from litigants on behalf of Judge Reyes; and 3) to request the National Bureau of Investigation to locate the witnesses identified in the report of Justice Abad.

The National Bureau of Investigation is **DIRECTED** to submit a report on its findings relative to the request within a period of thirty (30) days." Reyes, J. on



official leave. (adv12)

Very truly yours,


FELIPA B. ANAMA
Clerk of Court 

HON. MARIA LOURDES P.A. SERENO (x)
Chief Justice
Supreme Court

(Ret.) JUSTICE ROBERTO A. ABAD (x)
4055 Bigasan St., Palanan
Makati City

Court Administrator

* HON. JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ (x)
Deputy Court Administrators
HON. RAUL B. VILLANUEVA (x)
HON. JENNY LIND R. ALDECOA-DELORINO (x)
HON. THELMA C. BAHIA (x)
Supreme Court

* * ATTY. THEODORE TE (x)
Assistant Court Administrator and Chief
Public Information Office
Supreme Court

THE DIRECTOR (x)
National Bureau of Investigation
Taft Avenue, Manila

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (x)
LIBRARY SERVICES (x)
[For uploading pursuant to A.M. No.
12-7-1-SC]

A.M. No. 16-08-04-SC
wmd 22117 (URes12) 22817

* w/ records

* * w/ copy of the report
of Justice Abad.

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE (x)
Malacañang Palace, Jose P. Laurel St.
San Miguel, Manila

DIRECTOR GENERAL RONALD M. DE LA
ROSA (x)
Philippine National Police
Camp Crame, Quezon City

DIRECTOR GENERAL ISIDRO S. LAPEÑA (x)
Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency
Nia Road, Diliman, Quezon City

JUDGE EXEQUIL L. DAGALA (reg)
Municipal Circuit Trial Court
Dapa-Socorro, Surigao del Norte

JUDGE ADRIANO S. SAVILLO (reg)
Regional Trial Court, Branch 30
Iloilo City

JUDGE DOMINGO L. CASIPLE, JR. (reg)
Regional Trial Court, Branch 7
Kalibo, Aklan

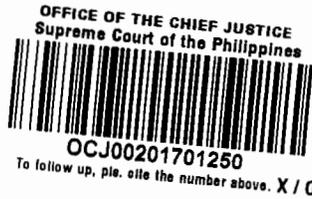
JUDGE ANTONIO C. REYES (reg)
Regional Trial Court, Branch 61
Baguio City

PHILIPPINE JUDGES ASSOCIATION
c/o Hon. Ralph Lee (x)
Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court, Branch 83
Quezon City

PHILIPPINE WOMEN JUDGES
ASSOCIATION (x)
c/o Hon. Teresita Leonardo-De Castro
Associate Justice
Supreme Court

Jebo Jagan - done

The Honorable Chief Justice
and Associate Justices
Supreme Court



February 16, 2017
SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILS.
MARIA LOURDES P. A. SERENO
CHIEF JUSTICE
RECEIVED
FEB 16 2017
BY: *Jan 1/12*

Re: Fact-Finding Investigation of Judge Antonio Reyes whom
President Duterte claims to have been involved in illegal drugs

Dear Madam Chief Justice and the Associate Justices of the Court:

Pursuant to the Court's Resolution A.M. No. 16-08-04-SC, the undersigned conducted a fact-finding investigation of the seven judges whom President Duterte said were involved in illegal drugs. Three of those judges have long left the judiciary and I already submitted earlier my report respecting three of them, namely, Judges Exequil Dagala, Adriano Savillo, and Domingo Casiple. Let me submit my last report concerning Judge Antonio Reyes.

Judge Reyes has been hearing drugs cases in Branch 1 of the Baguio City RTC.. Based on documents that the PDEA submitted, a certain Paul Black claimed in an affidavit he executed nine years ago on October 26, 2007¹ that a certain Norma Domingo gave P50,000 to Judge Reyes for the dismissal of the case against Black's wife. Black, whom the judge had previously convicted in a drugs case, said that he was able to give Norma only P15,000, which she accepted, but insisted that he pay the remaining P35,000 before July 5, 2007, the date of the promulgation of judgment against his wife. Black did so and Judge Reyes acquitted his wife. Unfortunately, Black had since died in prison according to PDEA.

On November 26, 2007 the PDEA Regional Director in Benguet claimed in a Memorandum to the Director General of that office² that Judge Reyes inordinately dismissed the drugs cases against Norma Domingo, whom the judge had been using to negotiate pay-offs from those charged with similar offenses in his court. The memorandum claimed that Norma even issued a receipt for P300,000 that a certain Richard Lagunilla gave her in exchange for his acquittal by Judge Reyes.³ The PDEA planned in 2007 to entrap the judge but it dropped the idea as not feasible since payments to the judge were made through his driver.

On December 10, 2007 Melchora Nagen executed an affidavit,⁴ stating that while in jail for violation of the drugs law, she met Norma Domingo who had also been detained for the same offense in 2005. Melchora claimed that, to her surprise,

¹ Annex A.
² Annex B.
³ Annex C.
⁴ Annex D.

N

*Call
2/2017*

Judge Reyes ordered the release of Norma and certain members of her family from detention only after a few days. Norma later visited Melchora offering to work for her release for P100,000 to be paid to Judge Reyes. Norma later met with Melchora's family which bargained for P50,000. This resulted in her acquittal. Melchora later became Norma's friend and accompanied her in her jail visits when she tried to convince those facing charges before Judge Reyes' court to raise money for their acquittal. Melchora often heard Norma bargain with Judge Reyes for the lowering of the amounts that were to be paid him. Sometime in September 2006 Norma requested Melchora to accompany her in delivering to Judge Reyes the P300,000 that Richard Lagunilla gave for the acquittal of his wife. They even counted the money. But the judge called Norma and told her to just give the money to somebody known to her. They gave the money to a medium built and balding man in front of Paddie's Point, whom Melchora recognized as the person who assisted the judge during court hearings. Unfortunately, the PDEA said that they have lost track of Melchora and would be unable to present her.

An anonymous person also wrote an undated letter,⁵ reporting the pattern of bribery that Norma Domingo allegedly arranged for Judge Reyes involving the drugs cases in his court. The writer claims that Judge Reyes convicted his relatives since they were unable to raise the money that they were asked to pay. The writer claimed that the lawyers and other judges in Baguio City were aware of such anomalies. The anonymous writer said that Attys. Mamaril, Bomogao, Felix, and Katigbak, who were close to Judge Reyes, obtained acquittals for their clients.

For his part, Judge Reyes submitted a sworn reply,⁶ vehemently denying the charges against him. He said that he abhorred corruption as evidenced by the fact that he charged one of his staffs with collecting money from those whom he had acquitted and the Supreme Court dismissed that member of his staffs.⁷ PDEA itself, according to Judge Reyes, gave him no less than sixteen commendations for "exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty."⁸ He admits that he had acquitted some but the evidence against them was deficient based on the Supreme Court criteria for convictions in drugs offenses. As for the allegation that he improperly dismissed the drugs case against Norma Domingo, Judge Reyes pointed out that the dismissal was based on the prosecutor's admission in open court that his witness against Norma, PDEA officer Abordo, had nothing to do with the operation that led to her arrest.⁹

When the undersigned asked the PDEA representatives whether they have witnesses who can testify against Judge Reyes in support of the charges against him, they replied that their witnesses declined to testify in the investigation. But this cannot be a valid excuse since those witnesses can be compelled to testify by

⁵ Annex E.

⁶ Annex F.

⁷ Annex G

⁸ Annexes G and series.

⁹ Annex K.

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subpoenas from the Court. Melchora Nagen's affidavit constitutes serious charge of corruption against the judge and I believe that the Court will not accept PDEA's excuse that it has lost track of her whereabouts.

In view of the above, I respectfully recommend the institution of an administrative case against Judge Reyes for corruption based on Melchora Nagen's affidavit with an order to PDEA and the Philippine National Police to ascertain her whereabouts.

Thank you for entrusting me with this investigation.

Very truly yours,


Roberto A. Abad

AFFIDAVIT

I, PAUL BLACK, of legal age, married, Filipino and resident of Quisumbing, Trancoville, Baguio City, after having been sworn to in accordance with law depose and state the following:

1. Sometime on the third week of June 2007, I was contacted by a certain Norma Domingo and that she advised me to meet her at the jobbee located at Sunshine Grocery, Abanao St., Baguio City.

2. On that same day, Norma Domingo (Norma for short) and I met at the jobbee wherein we discussed and she offered me the possibility of setting the case of my wife which is pending promulgation before the Regional Trial Court, Branch 61, Baguio City.

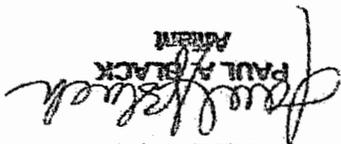
3. That Norma Domingo asked me to prepare the amount needed in setting the case of my wife so I bargained for the amount of P 50,000.00 which she accepted. She also informed me that the money is badly needed because the judge is about to leave abroad so I have to produce that amount as soon as possible.

4. That I then informed Norma that I could only produce the initial amount of P 20,000.00 which amount will be loaned from my relatives, however, I was able to produce only P 15,000.00 which I handed to Norma at Nevada Square after a week of our meeting at jobbee. On that same day she also informed that I have to give to her the remaining amount to complete the P50,000.00 as agreed upon, before the date set (July 5, 2007) for promulgation of judgment, otherwise, the judge will have a change of mind and impose a guilty verdict to my wife.

5. On July 4, 2007, I handed the amount of P 35,000.00 to Norma Domingo at the Baguio City Jail and she assured me that my wife will be released on July 5, 2007. However, the promulgation on July 5, 2007 was postponed and reset to July 6, 2007 wherein the Decision was promulgated by the Presiding Judge of RTC 60, Baguio City, acquitting my wife.

6. I hereby execute this affidavit to attest to the truth of the foregoing facts and circumstances and for all legal intents and purposes.

La Trinidad, Benguet, this 4 day of October 2007.


PAUL A. BLACK
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 4 day of October 2007, La Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines, I certify that I have personally examined the affiant and that I am convinced that he executed the affidavit voluntarily and understood the contents thereof.

MARYFRANCES V. MALLAMAR
2nd Assistant City Prosecutor

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
Camp Bado Dangwa, La Trinidad, Benguet
(Telefax No. 074-422-5544)

MEMORANDUM

ANNEX B

FOR : Director General, PDEA
PDEA Bldg., NIA Rd., Government Center
Hrgy. Pinyahan, Quezon City

FROM : Acting Regional Director, RO CAR

SUBJECT : Update on the Special Report, Re: Connection of an arrested
Notorious Drug Pusher and a Drug Court Judge

DATE : November 26, 2007

1. Reference: Memo from this office dated June 5, 2007, Re: same as above.
2. There are several information received and verified by this office that cases filed against Norma Paday Domingo has been time and again dismissed since she is protected by Judge Antonio Reyes. Judge Antonio Reyes is the presiding judge of the lone drug court in the City of Baguio. It has been verified that the judge has been protecting Domingo because the latter is the so called "negotiator" and "collector" of the former. After a "collection", Domingo delivers the money to the driver of Judge Reyes who in turn delivers the same to the judge.
3. Information reveals that the judge prepares two sets of decisions even before the prosecution rests its case. The decision for conviction shall eventually be promulgated if the accused cannot produce a certain amount dictated by the judge through Domingo. However, if the amount dictated would be produced by the accused in a certain case, then the decision for acquittal would be promulgated, finding faults on the testimony of the apprehending officers.
4. A copy of a receipt issued by Domingo to one Richard Lagunilla, while the latter was in jail for a drug case pending before the sala of Judge Reyes, for the amount of **Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 300,000.00)** dated September 1, 2006, **TAB A**, is hereto attached. On September 28, 2006, the court acquitted Richard Lagunilla.
5. Attached as **TAB B** is an **affidavit executed by Paul Black** which states that he had to pay **Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00)** before the date of promulgation of judgment to ensure the liberty of his wife, that is, the acquittal of Marina Black from her drug case. After the amount of money was given by Black to Domingo, Marina Black was acquitted in her drug case.
6. Mr. Joel Balas is currently detained for a pending drug case. According to him, Domingo went to Balas to ask for One Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 150,000.00) to ensure that he will be acquitted from his pending case. But Balas said he cannot produce the said amount. On the other hand, Mr. Andronico Bumacas was arrested together with Balas. Bumacas stated that

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Judge Reyes instructed the former to tell the latter who was responsible in the arrest of Norma Domingo in June 2007. The judge was very insistent in knowing the identity of the person who gave the information which led to the arrest of Domingo. Bumacas said that he was not the one and that he did not know who gave information.

7. An entrapment operation by the NBI was planned for the arrest of Norma Domingo with the end view that when she delivers the money to the judge, the latter would also be arrested. But there are several risks to be considered for the said operation. One, is the risk that Norma would deliver the amount to the driver of the judge and the driver may or may not tell who his principal may be in case of arrest. The actual money transfer between the driver and the judge would be very difficult to cover. Another risk is that, the PDEA would be the one to provide for the Php 150,000.00 entrapment money to be used. Would the PDEA be willing to sacrifice said amount so much so that it would form part of the evidence in case the entrapment would be successful, but it may also be lost if the operation fails.
8. This office observed also that most of the accused in dismissed cases and cases of acquittal in the sala of Judge Reyes had the means to raise a large amount of money to "pay" for their liberty, while those who cannot are convicted. A statistics is still being conducted on the available records to establish this observation.
9. In some instances, as previously stated in the initial report, the judge reversed his own decision of conviction to acquittal. The chances that a judge would reverse his own decision and admit his mistakes are rare. As per information, the accused in the said cases were able to raise the amount of money dictated before the finality of the case.
10. It has been observed also that in some of the few cases where Judge Reyes inhibited from hearing the same, he did so after having received an amount of money from the accused and after eventually determining that the evidence is strong, he decides to inhibit himself from the case. After which, he travels abroad.
11. It has been established that the judge has a personal grudge against one of the police officers when he shouted at him in open court and said that, "Lahat ng kaso na ikaw ang poseur-buyer e didismissin ko!" This is a clear indication of the fact that the relationship between the judge and the illegal drug-operatives has been scarred. The supposed impartiality of the judge can no longer be expected as he would be finding faults against the operatives instead of appreciating facts and pieces of evidence as presented to him.
12. Operatives from the Drug Enforcement Unit share the same sentiment with the operatives of PDEA. There were instances when the judge would scold the operatives instead of listening and weighing their testimony. He even openly shouted to one operative not to be arresting Norma Domingo.
13. Further, in relation to the last case filed against NORMA PADAY DOMINGO on June 4, 2007 for sale and use of dangerous drugs by PDEA-CAR, it was dismissed on June 20, 2007 by the court allegedly for lack of probable cause based on the allegations of the defense lawyer, **TAB C**. On July 3, 2007, this office timely filed a Motion for Reconsideration and Manifestation in relation to the Order of Dismissal, **TAB D**. However, upon follow-up by the case

15-day reglementary period. This office asked the court to issue an order regarding the same but up to the present, the court staff would only say that the judge said it was filed out of time.

14. Because of the observed bias by Judge Reyes towards law enforcers, the operatives of the Drug Enforcement Unit of the Baguio City Police Office are hesitant to conduct operations for fear that their operation would only prove futile when the judge dismisses the case after having received money from the accused.

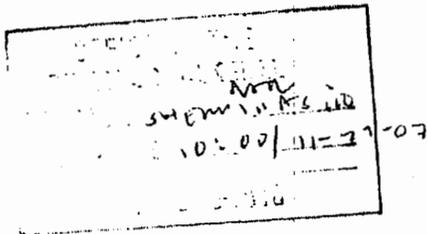
15. The judge even went to the extent of approaching out-going PRO-COR Regional Director Raul Gonzales just to bad mouth the operatives of PDEA and the DEU.

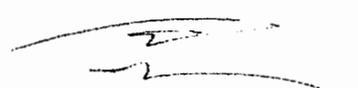
16. ASSESSMENT:

- a. The DEU and PDEA operatives are hesitant to conduct anti-drug operations, as brought out during the intelligence workshop, because of the blatant and open bias of the drug court judge against the operatives.
- b. Anti-Drug operations, even if successfully conducted, will still fail in the Judicial branch of the justice system.
- c. As per the Director General's instruction, an effort was made to contact Judge Reyes for a possible conference but he told the messenger that he was busy and had other things to attend to. It seems then, that he is not interested in a conference to settle whatever differences there may be.

17. RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the forgoing, it is respectfully recommended that action be taken by the Legal and Prosecution Service of the PDEA to endorse to the office of the Court Administrator for the possible assignment of a new drug court in the City of Baguio or for the appointment of additional drug courts in the City.




OLIVER ALILIS ENMODIAS
Police Superintendent

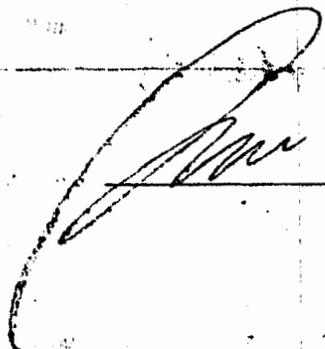
ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT

I, NORMA DOMINGO, acknowledge receipt of the amount of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P 300, 000. 00) from RICHARD LAGUNILLA.

Baguio City, Philippines, this 1st day of September 2006.


NORMA DOMINGO

WITNESSES:

AUTHEBERIFICATION

This is to certify that this
xerox copy is a true and faithful
reproduction of original which is
in my possession.


- DZ 40100 MAI 400
KDOH CAR

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to
before me this 1st day of
Sept 2006 in the City
of Baguio, Philippines.


ELMER MANUEL SAGSAG
CITY PROSECUTOR II
BAGUIO CITY

Melchora Ebanio Nagen

6. something in September 2004, Norma Domingo called me and asked me to accompany her in delivering three hundred thousand pesos (P300,000.00) to the judge. When I met Norma, she said that Richard Laguarda, through his wife Wilma, gave the said amount to ensure my freedom, we counted the money together before delivering it to the

7. After my release, because of gratitude, I spent some with Norma Domingo was speaking with Judge Reyes discussing about delivering amounts of drug case amounts. I often overheard when Norma Domingo was speaking with Judge Reyes discussing about delivering amounts of drug case amounts to raise a certain amount of money to ensure acquittal or dismissal of their cases.

8. My family gave Norma Domingo P50,000.00 and covered the term of my freedom but I had to wait until the release of my family.

9. When Norma Domingo visited me again in jail, I told her to meet with my family, which she later did. My family then informed me that they bargained with Norma for fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00).

10. I informed my family about the offer and they said if it would ensure my freedom, they would raise an amount but not P100,000.00 because it was too big and since my father was then in the hospital, money was very hard to find.

11. I was willing to pay one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), she said the money will be given to Judge Reyes to ensure an acquittal. I said I will have to think it over.

12. Some time later, Norma came to visit me in jail, she asked me if I was willing to pay one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), she said the money will be given to Judge Reyes to ensure an acquittal. I said I will have to think it over.

13. While in jail, I met an inmate in the name of Norma Domingo who was also arrested for a drug law violation sometime in 2005. She was detained for only a few days which came as a surprise to me since her name was almost the same as mine. And then I heard that her family members, who were also arrested for drug-related cases, were released from jail.

14. I was arrested for a drug law violation sometime in March of 2004 and was released after a verdict of acquittal sometime in November of 2005 in RTC Branch 57 of Baguio City.

15. I was arrested for a drug law violation sometime in March of 2004 and was released after a verdict of acquittal sometime in November of 2005 in RTC Branch 57 of Baguio City.

AFFIDAVIT

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET) S.S.

ANNEX D

judge. Then the judge called and told Norma that he could not meet us but he is sending somebody, known to Norma, to get the money.

9. We then met a medium built, almost balding man in front of Fodde's Point to whom Norma simply handed over the wrapped money. The man simply put the money inside a pocket of his jacket as if nothing happened. I remembered to have seen the man giving coffee to the judge or assisting him in some way when I was in court attending my hearings. After which I learned that Richard Lagunilla was acquitted of his drug case.

10. I am executing this affidavit to attest to the truth of the foregoing and for all legal intents and purposes it may serve.

Done in Trinidad, Benguet this 10 day of December 2007.

Melchora E. Magin
Melchora E. Magin
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 10 day of December 2007 in Trinidad, Benguet, Philippines. I certify that I have examined the affiant and I am convinced that she executed the document voluntarily and understood the contents hereof.

Hazen M. Binayan
Hazen M. Binayan
Special Agent in Charge

Sir/Ma'am,

Irereport ko lamang kung ano ang nalalaman ko tungkol sa pagkakaugnay ni Judge Antonio Reyes ng Baguio sa illegal drugs. Alam po ng karamihan mapa abogado man o ibang huwes na siya ay tumatanggap kapalit ng pag dismiss ng kaso na may kaugnayan sa droga sa kanyang nasasakupan.

Mayroon pong isang matandang babae na nagsisilbing bagman niya na malayang nakakapasok at nakakadalaw sa mga preso na nahuli dahil sa drugs. Itong matandang babae ang nakikipag usap sa mga preso para magkaroon ng negosasyon sa pagitan ni judge at ng mga preso. Siya na din ang nagdadala ng pera kay judge.

Mayroon din pong isang pulis na naka assign sa drug unit ng BCPO na nakikipag-usap kay judge at sa mga huli ng unit nila para magkaayusan sa kaso. Ito po ay si Police Officer Badua.

Ang mga kaso na kapansin-pansin na nadidismis ay kadalasang mga kaso ng mga akusado na hawak nila Atty. Mamaril, Bomogao, Felix at Katigbak na napapabalita sa karamihan na madalas makipag-usap kay judge.

Ang kamag-anak ko na nahuli na wala naman kinalaman sa pagbebenta at hindi din naman user at hinila na lang ng mga pulis ay nahatulan dahil kami ay walang maibigay pero yung mga malaking tao na talagang talamak sa pagbebenta at talagang nahuli sa akto ay napapawalang-sala matapos mapabalitang nagbigay kay judge katulad na lang ni Brenda Singson, Nider at Ibarra brothers. Itong mga impormasyon na ito ay alam din sa loob ng kulangan. Sana po ay maaksyunan nyo ito.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 61
BAGUIO CITY

October 3, 2016

JUSTICE ROBERTO A. ABAD
Investigating Justice
Office of the Court Administrator
Supreme Court
Manila

Your Honor:

IN RE: ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER NO. 16-08-04-SC
*(Fact Finding Investigation on Allegation of
Four (4) Incumbent Judges' Involvement in Illegal Drugs)*

A week or so prior to the Preliminary Conference scheduled on September 15, 2016, "invitations" dated September 6, 2016 were sent to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) to submit "such affidavits, documents, or other information as their respective agencies might have against" Judges Exequil Dagala, Adriano Savillo, Domingo Capsile, and herein undersigned Antonio Reyes, on their involvement on illegal drugs "within seven (7) days from receipt" of notice.

During the Preliminary Conference on September 15, 2016, the undersigned was furnished by the PDEA with the following: (1) a xerox copy of an anonymous and undated letter; (2) a xerox copy of an affidavit of one Melchora Nagen dated December 10, 2007; and (3) a xerox copy of an affidavit of one Paul Black dated October 26, 2007.

Likewise, during said Preliminary Conference, the PDEA and the PNP were requested to "submit additional complaints/evidence on September 26, 2016" and thereafter, the judges are to answer the said affidavits on or before September 30, 2016 or to hand-carry their answers on October 3, 2016.

On September 26, 2016, the PDEA submitted against the undersigned the following: (1) a xerox copy of an internal PDEA "*Memorandum*" dated November 26, 2007 for the PDEA Director General coming from acting Regional Director of the PDEA-CAR on the subject: "*Update on the Special Report Re: Connection of an arrested Notorious Drug Pusher and a Drug Court Judge*"; (2) a xerox copy of an "*Acknowledgment Receipt*" by one Norma Domingo of an amount of money allegedly coming from one Richard Lagunilla; (3) a xerox copy of an *Order* dated June 20, 2007 issued by the undersigned dismissing a case against one Norma Domingo for lack of probable cause; (3) a xerox copy of a *Motion for Reconsideration and*

Manifestation dated June 28, 2007 and filed in court on July 3, 2007; and (4) a xerox copy of list of *Police Detail* dated December 5, 2005.

The undersigned denies in the strongest possible terms the allegations and the contents of all the documents presented by the PDEA as its proof of the gross misconduct of the undersigned on illegal drugs. Likewise, undersigned stands by the attached Order dated June 20, 2007 in dismissing a case against one Norma Domingo for lack of probable cause and in his inaction of the Motion for Reconsideration and Manifestation dated June 28, 2007,

1

The undersigned is steadfastly against any form of corruption in his court contrary to what the documents submitted by the PDEA suggest.

In the year 2007, which apparently is the very same year or thereabouts, which the PDEA documents reflect, undersigned filed administrative charges against one of his staff, namely, Edwin Fangonil, the process server of the court. Attached as Annex "A" is the Decision of the Supreme Court promulgated on June 4, 2013 in A.M. No. P-10-2741 entitled *Judge Antonio C. Reyes, Complainant, v. Edwin Fangonil, Process Server, Regional Trial Court, Branch 61, Baguio City, Respondent*.

The facts of the said administrative case succinctly demonstrate the modus operandi of unscrupulous individuals using a judge's name to collect money. This is neither novel nor an isolated incident - a nefarious activity where a trial court judge unknowingly is used for monetary gain.

The Supreme Court observed in the *Fangonil* case, thus:

"Agnes Sungduan was charged for violation of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. Pending her case's trial at the Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 61 of Baguio City, she was detained at the Baguio City Jail. She befriended a fellow inmate, Malou Hernandez, who referred Sungduan to Edwin Fangonil (Fangonil). Hernandez was acquitted eventually, and she told Sungduan the acquittal happened with Fangonil's assistance."

As shown above, Fangonil brazenly used the name of the undersigned to extort money from one accused, who was informed by an inmate (apparently a victim of Fangonil also) that Fangonil can work on an acquittal. The accused gave money to Fangonil but when the judgment of the case was promulgated, the accused was convicted. It was then that the illicit activities of Fangonil were exposed.

Undersigned came to know of Fangonil's misconduct on February 4, 2007 and he swiftly filed administrative charges against him two days later or on February 6, 2007.

In the said *Fangonil* case, the Supreme Court profoundly observed:

“As such, the pieces of evidence from the investigation were substantial, the quantum of evidence required in administrative cases. A reasonable mind will conclude that Fangonil accepted cash from accused individuals and got away with the act for every acquittal from the judge. Unfortunately, his last victim, Agnes Sungduan, was convicted, and that exposed his illicit acts.”

The Supreme Court, en banc, dismissed Edwin Fangonil from the judiciary.

2

The undersigned is also a fierce advocate against illegal drugs and there are more than a dozen testimonials which recognize undersigned's uncompromising advocacy. Now, relating these testimonials to the 2007 internal Memorandum of the PDEA where the agency enumerated a series of alleged misconduct of the undersigned, the PDEA national leadership should have had enough valid reasons not to award Commendations to the undersigned for exemplary service. But for the PDEA to award the Commendations totally refutes or revokes the unfounded allegations against the undersigned.

Ironically, the said Commendations were awarded by former PDEA Directors General Santiago and Cacdac themselves to the undersigned, who now takes their testimonials of undersigned's “exemplary service and dedication to duty” as well as his “keen comprehension and display of professionalism” to be his best defense against any and all allegations of misconduct.

One PDEA testimonial addressed to the undersigned reads:

“It is my distinct pleasure to commend you for your exemplary service and dedication to duty...”

xxx

“Your keen comprehension and display of professionalism in weighing the pieces of evidence presented by both the defense and the prosecution leading to the findings that the accused were GUILTY beyond reasonable doubt will

certainly help inspire our personnel to continue with our efforts to protect the community against illegal drugs.

xxx

Very truly yours,

GEN. DIONISIO R SANTIAGO
Sr. Undersecretary/Director General

The above quoted testimonial is attached as Annex "B".

The undersigned submits Fifteen (15) more Commendations awarded by PDEA Directors General Dionisio Santiago and Arturo Cacdac as eloquent testimonies to his unwavering support on the campaign against illegal drugs. The said Commendations are attached as Annexes "C to Q" and the said Commendations commonly extol the undersigned, as follows:

This
COMMENDATION
is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES
Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against ...

xxx

GEN. DIONISIO R SANTIAGO
Sr. Undersecretary/Director General

Each of the Commendations mentions the name of the accused and the case where the undersigned rendered a judgment of conviction.

3

As mentioned earlier, the undersigned vehemently denies any knowledge of the allegations contained in the unverified and unauthenticated documents presented by the PDEA.

A

Assessing the letter of PDEA Director General Isidro Lapena dated September 26, 2016, there is an admission that the allegations were not validated, thus:

“During the conduct of validation, PDEA had a difficulty in convincing the confidential informant to execute an affidavit on their own knowledge of the alleged involvement of the four (4) Judges in illegal drugs”.

In other words, there can be no clearer evidence that the allegations contained in the documents submitted on September 26, 2016 are unvalidated, coming as it does from the PDEA Director General Lapena himself and who appears to also have little or no confidence in the additional documents he further submitted by saying:

“After conducting a series of validation, we only have the following pieces of evidence...”

which consisted of an internal PDEA Memorandum, an Order issued by the undersigned in a case and an acknowledgment receipt of money by one Norma Domingo.

B

Addressing the Memorandum dated November 26, 2007 of then PDEA-CAR acting regional director Oliver Enmodias, it appears to be a litany of acts of gross misconduct by the undersigned. The Memorandum should have recommended the filing of appropriate disciplinary action. However, the Memorandum ends with a recommendation to “forum shop” or file cases in a friendlier court, thus:

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully recommended that action be taken by the Legal and Prosecution Service of the PDEA to endorse to the office of the Court Administrator for the possible assignment of a drug court in the City of Baguio or for the appointment of additional drug courts in the City.

By the sheer force of logic, the seriousness of the allegations of gross misconduct in the Memorandum demands an equally serious legal action for such misconduct, but not a change of court or a judge, a reasonable inference of which is that PDEA-CAR wants a friendlier forum.

It is of common knowledge in the legal circles of Baguio City of the undersigned’s judicial philosophy of exactitude when it comes to the implementation of Republic Act No. 9165 because the law has been described as one of the harshest drug legislations ever crafted, and besides undersigned’s strict adherence that “proof beyond reasonable doubt” must be established to gain a conviction, ever so conscious that life and liberty are always at stake and the need for a pinpoint scrutiny of every evidence presented.

Undersigned has been very thorough in the examination of affidavits, testimonies, and evidence in every case. And when the evidence warrants, a conviction is handed down just as the undersigned did in convicting the following: “Drug King” Bernardo Oliveros; the “Most Wanted” drug lord Teodulo Villareal; and the Drug Family of Gloria Borce del Mundo and Willy Borce. As the evidence against these “drug lords” were strong and clear, it was a duty to remove these influential drug persons from the streets of Baguio City. The decisions in these cases were all affirmed on appeal.

Please refer to attached news clippings marked as Annexes “R”, “S”, and “T”.

There are likewise cases which ended in acquittals because these cannot be avoided when police officers either bungle their cases or do not appear in court or do not follow the procedures provided either by the Drugs Law or precedents established by the Supreme Court. Thus, there were even several instances when undersigned recommended the filing of administrative charges against police officers for misconduct.

C

PDEA Director General Lapena had attached undersigned’s Order dated June 20, 2007 in the case of *People v. Domingo*, which the undersigned dismissed on a Motion for Determination of Probable Cause. Likewise attached was a Motion for Reconsideration of the Order of dismissal.

Undersigned stands by his issuances in the said case.

Part of the Order is a quote of an open court manifestation by the assigned assistant City Prosecutor Conrado Catral in the said case which needs a closer look and scrutiny.

Prosecutor Catral said:

During the break your Honor, we had an opportunity to confer with Officer Abordo, one of the affiants...and he was ready enough to admit that he personally knows Norma Domingo...

The operation was indeed a solo operation by PO3 Bernard Ventura and the participation of Abordo was only to stay in the vehicle while the alleged transaction took place... but apparently Abordo knows nothing about the operation.

The above manifestation of Prosecutor Catral reveals that Officer Romeo Abordo signed a joint affidavit claiming to be a part of a PDEA team that conducted a buy-bust operation, yet Abordo admitted to the prosecutor

that he (Abordo) knew nothing about the operation because it was a solo operation by one PO3 Bernard Ventura.

The Memorandum of then PDEA-CAR Regional Director Enmodias then claimed that undersigned failed to act on his Motion for Reconsideration and Manifestation on the court's Order of dismissal of the *People v. Domingo* case. Again, undersigned stands by his decision not to give due consideration to the Motion for Reconsideration and Manifestation because it was considered a mere scrap of paper since the Notice of Hearing was fatally defective and the Order of dismissal lapsed into finality. There seems to be a keen interest by Enmodias on Domingo because he himself filed the Motion for Reconsideration and Manifestation.

It is not far fetched, given the case above involving Norma Domingo and PO3 Bernardo Ventura, that Ventura was involved in all the anomalies being attributed to the undersigned. The question is why was he considered resigned from the service on November 26, 2007. It must be noted that the internal Memorandum of then acting regional director Enmodias bears the date November 26, 2007, the same date that PO3 Ventura was resigned from the service. Please refer to Annex "U".

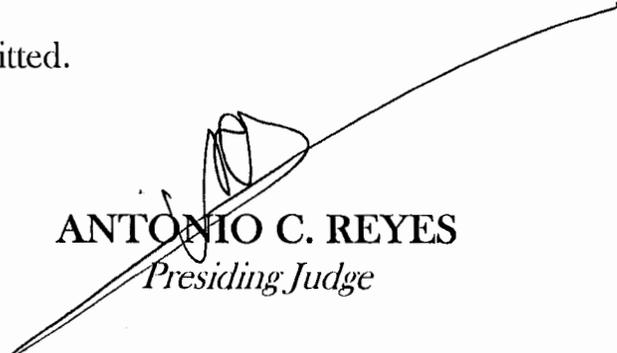
It appears that then acting regional director Enmodias had implied that the undersigned had links to Domingo and even also implied in the internal office Memorandum that in the acquittal of one accused, money changed hands as shown by an Acknowledgment Receipt.

Whether the Acknowledgment Receipt exists or not, it does not show anything more than that one Norma Domingo allegedly receiving money from one Richard Lagunilla. The document may be subject to numerous interpretations and speculations, if what is contained therein is even true at all.

CONCLUSION

Undersigned reiterates that he has proven himself to be intolerant of any form of corruption made obvious by his swift action against one of his own staff who has been compromising decisions of the court; that he has been recognized by the PDEA National Headquarters for his "exemplary service" and "keen dedication to duty"; that he has convicted known big time drug lords ridding them from Baguio City; and that no validated evidence was admittedly presented by the PDEA to link undersigned to illegal drugs.

Respectfully submitted.


ANTONIO C. REYES
Presiding Judge



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

EN BANC

JUDGE ANTONIO C. REYES,
Complainant,

A.M. No. P-10-2741

Present:

SERENO, C.J.,
*CARPIO,
VELASCO, JR.,
LEONARDO-DE CASTRO,
BRION,
PERALTA,
BERSAMIN,
DEL CASTILLO,
ABAD,
VILLARAMA, JR.,
PEREZ,
MENDOZA,
REYES,
PERLAS-BERNABE, and
LEONEN, JJ.

-versus-

EDWIN FANGONIL, Process Server,
Regional Trial Court, Branch 61 of
Baguio City,
Respondent.

Promulgated:

JUNE 04, 2013

X-----X

RESOLUTION

PER CURIAM:

This is a case of Gross Misconduct and Graft and Corruption committed by a court officer. The complainant, Judge Antonio C. Reyes, discovered inadvertently that his court's process server, Edwin Fangonil, had been soliciting money from litigants in exchange for favorable results.

These are the facts based on the investigation:

Agnes Sungduan was charged for violation of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. Pending her case's trial at the Regional Trial Court (RTC), Branch 61 of Baguio City, she was detained at the Baguio City Jail. She befriended a fellow inmate, Malou Hernandez, who referred Sungduan to Edwin Fangonil (**Fangonil**). Hernandez was acquitted eventually, and she told Sungduan the acquittal happened with Fangonil's assistance.¹

Thus, Sungduan sought the help of her uncle, Donato Tamingo, to negotiate with Fangonil for a favorable verdict. She gave Tamingo a sealed envelope containing twenty thousand pesos (₱20,000) in cash. Tamingo went to the RTC Branch 61 of Baguio City, met with the court's process server, Fangonil, and told him he was there in behalf of Sungduan. Fangonil invited him to a restaurant along Session Road. After ordering two bottles of soft drinks, Tamingo handed the very envelope containing twenty thousand pesos (₱20,000) to Fangonil.²

Two weeks later, Sungduan handed Tamingo another envelope, this time containing thirty thousand pesos (₱30,000) in cash. Tamingo proceeded to RTC to meet with Fangonil. The turnover of the money occurred at the third-floor canteen of the Hall of Justice in Baguio City.³

On January 29, 2007, Judge Antonio C. Reyes (**Judge Reyes**) promulgated a decision convicting Sungduan for violation of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. After the promulgation of the decision, rumors reached Judge Reyes that Sungduan had paid someone from RTC Branch 61 in exchange for an acquittal. He learned that she became hysterical after her conviction, but the judge ignored the rumors initially because these were unverified.⁴

On February 4, 2007, Judge Reyes received a letter at his residence.⁵ The letter was from Sungduan requesting the judge to grant the Motion for Reconsideration filed by her counsels.⁶ This portion of the letter particularly disturbed the judge:

¹ *Rollo*, p. 63.

² TSN, March 29, 2009, pp. 5-6.

³ *Id.* at 7.

⁴ *Rollo*, p. 57.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.* at 62

Your honor, my family will be more than willing to give you an additional amount to add to the P50,000 they gave to Edwin if you consider my motion for reconsideration.⁷ (Emphasis provided).

As a result, Judge Reyes asked two of his court employees to verify if the letter was indeed from Sungduan.⁸ She sent a second letter dated February 5, 2007 that admitted the veracity of her first letter under oath.⁹

An administrative complaint against Fangonil was filed by Judge Reyes through the Office of the Court Administrator (OCA) on February 6, 2007.¹⁰

In a Resolution dated July 9, 2007, the Court assigned the case to Executive Judge Edilberto Claravall for investigation, report, and recommendation.¹¹ However, Judge Claravall inhibited himself since he is a relative of Judge Reyes. The Court then reassigned the case to Vice Executive Judge Iluminada P. Cabato for investigation, report, and recommendation, in a Resolution dated July 23, 2007.¹²

Judge Cabato submitted her Report on July 30, 2008.¹³ This Court, however, returned the case to the investigating judge to obtain additional testimonies.¹⁴ Judge Cabato complied with the directives and filed an Additional Report on July 16, 2009.¹⁵ Both of Judge Cabato's reports found the respondent Fangonil guilty of gross misconduct and violation of Republic Act No. 6713. A penalty of one (1) year suspension from service was recommended by Judge Cabato as penalty against Fangonil.

In a Resolution dated September 14, 2009, the Court referred the case to OCA for additional report, findings, and recommendations. In a Memorandum dated October 21, 2009 submitted by former Court Administrator Jose P. Perez who is now a member of this Court, it was recommended that "respondent Fangonil be **FOUND** guilty for gross misconduct and be **DISMISSED** from the service with forfeiture of all

⁷ Id., cited portion marked as Exhibit "B-1."

⁸ Id. at 58-59.

⁹ Id. at 63.

¹⁰ Id. at 57.

¹¹ Id. at 1.

¹² Id. at 13.

¹³ Id. at 18-27.

¹⁴ Id. at 123.

¹⁵ Id. at 125-127.

benefits, except accrued leave credits, and disqualification from reinstatement or appointment to any public office including government-owned or controlled corporation.”¹⁶

We affirm the findings of OCA and Judge Iluminada P. Cabato.

In this case, the respondent is a process server whose duty is vital to the administration of justice, and one’s primary task is to serve court notices. A process server is not authorized to collect or receive any amount of money from any party-litigant, or in this case, the accused.¹⁷

The fact that Fangonil accepted money from a litigant is evident in this case. Sungduan’s letters and Tamingo’s testimony showed Fangonil’s corrupt practice in soliciting money in exchange for a favorable verdict. She had the impression that Fangonil was acting as an agent of the judge handling her case. This explained why she wrote directly to the judge after her conviction instead of addressing Fangonil. Moreover, the judge was shocked to hear from a litigant whom he had just convicted. The mention of Edwin Fangonil’s name initiated the investigation of the anomalies occurring in Judge Reyes’ court.

As such, the pieces of evidence from the investigation were substantial,¹⁸ the quantum of evidence required in administrative cases. A reasonable mind will conclude that Fangonil accepted cash from accused individuals and got away with the act for every acquittal from the judge. Unfortunately, his last victim, Agnes Sungduan, was convicted, and that exposed his illicit acts.

The act of collecting or receiving money from a litigant constitutes grave misconduct in office. Thus, this kind of gross misconduct by those charged with administering and rendering justice erodes the respect for law and the courts.¹⁹

The OCA correctly cites the violations of Fangonil:

¹⁶ Memorandum dated October 21, 2009, p. 4.

¹⁷ *Office of the Court Administrator v. Panganiban*, A.M. No. P-04-1916, August 11, 2008, 561 SCRA 507, 514.

¹⁸ Substantial evidence is the amount of relevant evidence which a reasonable mind might accept as adequate to justify a conclusion. This is the quantum of evidence required in administrative proceeding. RULES OF COURT, Rule 133, Sec. 5. See also, *Dela Cruz v. Malunao*, A.M. No. P-11-3019, March 20, 2012.

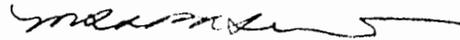
¹⁹ *Office of the Court Administrator v. Panganiban* supra

Respondent's act of receiving P50,000 from a party in a criminal case pending before the sala of the court where he is a Process Server constitutes gross misconduct x x x. Under Section 23, Rule XIV of the Omnibus Rules Implementing Book V of Executive Order 292, Grave Misconduct, being in the nature of grave offenses, carries the extreme penalty of dismissal from the service with forfeiture of retirement benefits except accrued leave credits, and perpetual disqualification from re-employment in government service.

Respondent likewise violated Canon 1, Section 2 of the Code of Conduct of Court Personnel which provides that court personnel shall not solicit or accept any gifts, favor or benefit of any explicit or implicit understanding that such gift shall influence their official actions.²⁰

WHEREFORE, premises considered, this Court finds Edwin Fangonil, process server of Regional Trial Court, Branch 61, Baguio City, **GUILTY** for grave misconduct and is **DISMISSED** from the service with forfeiture of all benefits, except accrued leave credits, and disqualification from reinstatement or appointment to any public office including government-owned or controlled corporation.

SO ORDERED.



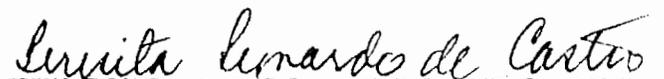
MARIA LOURDES P. A. SERENO
Chief Justice

(On leave)

ANTONIO T. CARPIO
Associate Justice



PRESBITERO J. VELASCO, JR.
Associate Justice

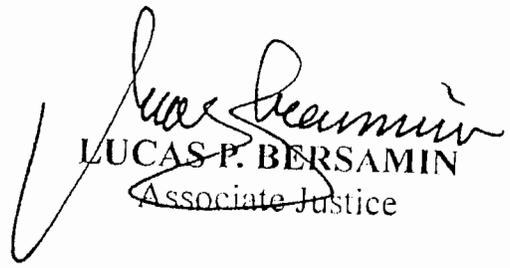


TERESITA J. LEONARDO-DE CASTRO
Associate Justice



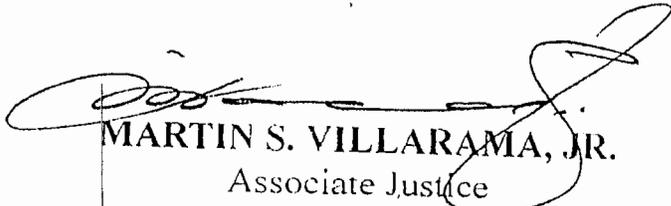
ARTURO D. BRION
Associate Justice


DIOSDADO M. PERALTA
Associate Justice


LUCAS P. BERSAMIN
Associate Justice


MARIANO C. DEL CASTILLO
Associate Justice


ROBERTO A. ABAD
Associate Justice

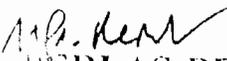

MARTIN S. VILLARAMA, JR.
Associate Justice

*No part. Acted on matter
of Cit. Adm.*


JOSE PORTUGAL PEREZ
Associate Justice


JOSE CATRAL MENDOZA
Associate Justice


BIENVENIDO L. REYES
Associate Justice


ESTELA M. PERLAS-BERNABE
Associate Justice


MARVIC M. V. E. LEONEN
Associate Justice



Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City 1100

ANNEX

H

February 4, 2010

HON. ANTONIO C REYES
Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court Branch 61
Baguio City

Dear Judge Reyes:

It is my distinct pleasure to commend you for your exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the following cases for violation of RA 9165 otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002:

Name of Suspect	Violation	Penalty	Fine
Domingo Tongali y Danglay	Section 5, Article II	Life Imprisonment	P 5,000,000.00
Martin Madino y Sagayo	Section 5, Article II	Life Imprisonment	P 5,000,000.00
Pinrad Fred y Layogan	Section 5, Article II	Life Imprisonment	P 5,000,000.00

Your keen comprehension and display of professionalism in weighing the pieces of evidence presented by both the defense and the prosecution leading to the findings that the accused were **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt will certainly help inspire our personnel to continue with our efforts to protect the community against illegal drugs.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

GEN. DIONISIO R SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary/Director General



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **GINA VINCER AND EDGAR OYANDO** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused were **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 500,000.00).*

Done this 5th day of January 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA

ANNEX 4-1



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

D ~~E~~

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **MICHAEL TRISTAN LABO** for violation of Section 11, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Imprisonment of twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years plus fine of Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 300,000.00).***

Done this 5th day of January 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

E

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **PEDRO ABINGLAS Y PAKDI AND RAMON DENGYAS Y ROSENDO** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused were **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 500,000.00).*

Done this 5th day of January 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dionisio R. Santiago", is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

F

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **ROLANDO ABAD** for violation of Section 11, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Imprisonment of twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years plus fine of Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 350,000.00).***

Done this 5th day of January 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago'.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

G

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **PHIL SANCHEZ Y CAYABYAB** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 500,000.00).*

Done this 3rd day of August 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)

Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City



This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **WINSTON TIMIDAN Y TANGULING** for violation of Sections 11 & 12, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Imprisonment of twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years plus fine of Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 300,000.00).***

Done this 3rd day of August 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink is located above the name of the Director General. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago'.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

1

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **ERWIN RESURECCION Y HERRERO** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Million Pesos (Php 5,000,000.00).*

Done this 3rd day of August 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



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Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

1

This

COMMENDATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **APOLINARIO ORDANZA Y OCA** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 500,000.00).*

Done this 3rd day of August 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



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PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

k

This

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **FIDEL CATINGCO Y MOLA** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Million Pesos (Php 5,000,000.00).*

Done this 13th day of September 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

This

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **JUN NAUBO Y SICASIC** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Million Pesos (Php 5,000,000.00).*

Done this 16th day of September 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

N

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

This

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **NOVELINE FAITH MERIS** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused was **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Million Pesos (Php 5,000,000.00).*

Done this 16th day of September 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

PDEA Bldg, NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

N

This

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is hereby presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

*for his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against **DOMINGO TONGALI Y DANGLAY AND MARTIN MADINO Y SAGAYO** for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002"; that led to a finding that the accused were **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt and to mete the penalty of **Life Imprisonment** plus fine of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php 500,000.00) each.*

Done this 16th day of August 2010 here at PDEA Bldg., NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dionisio R. Santiago', is written over a horizontal line.

GEN. DIONISIO R. SANTIAGO (Ret)
Sr. Undersecretary / Director General, PDEA



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Quezon City, Philippines

0

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is presented to

HON. ANTONIO C REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

For his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against Juan Sumilip y Tello for violation of Section 5, Article II, RA 9165, otherwise known as "The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002", that led to the conviction of the accused and meted the penalty of life imprisonment.

Given this 22nd day of July 2013 at NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A', is positioned above the name of the Undersecretary.

UNDERSECRETARY ARTURO G CACDAC JR, CEO VI

Director General



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Quezon City, Philippines

P

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

For his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against Jimmy Ramirez for violation of Section 5 and Section 11, Article II, RA 9165, otherwise known as "The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002", that led to the conviction of the accused and meted the penalty of life imprisonment.

Given this 3rd day of June 2013 at NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A', is positioned above the name of the Undersecretary.

UNDERSECRETARY ARTURO G CACDAC JR, CEO VI

Director General



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

NIA Northside Road, National Government Center
Quezon City, Philippines

Q

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

is presented to

HON. ANTONIO C. REYES

Presiding Judge

Regional Trial Court Branch 61, Baguio City

For his exemplary efficiency and dedication to duty as shown in the speedy disposition of the case against Hubert Ibarra y Lina, and Nelson Garcia y Jacinto, for violation of Section 15 Article II, RA 9165, otherwise known as "The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002", that led to the conviction of the accused and meted the penalty of life imprisonment.

Given this 7th day of June 2013, at NIA Northside Road, Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Cacdac Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

UNDERSECRETARY ARTURO G CACDAC JR, CEO VI

Director General

ANNEX H-2

NORTHERN PHILIPPINE TIMES

A weekly publication of columns and news from the Cordillera, Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon

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- Bulacan
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- Pampanga
- Tarlac

OPINION

- Bantay Gobyerno
- Behind the Scenes: Alfred Dizon
- Benchwarmer: Ramon Dacawi
- Bull's Hit: Rudy Garcia
- Business Bits
- Community Billboard
- G-Spat: Grace Bandoy
- Happy Weekend: Gina Dizon
- Letters from the

'Most wanted' drug lord in Cordillera gets 20 years

>> MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

BAGUIO CITY – The top most wanted drug personality in the Cordillera, who was also included in the police's order of battle against organized crime groups at the time of his last arrest on Aug. 25, 2009, was recently convicted to suffer 12 years and one day to 20 years jail and fined P400,000 in a Sept. 5 court ruling by Judge Antonio C. Reyes of the regional trial court.

Teodulo A. Villareal alias "Teddy" was last-apprehended by virtue of a warrant of arrest and bench warrant served against him and his live-in partner respectively, by a team from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency – Cordillera Administrative Region, Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit and Highway Patrol Group.

The 47-year old Villareal, a civil engineering undergraduate, native of Baguio City was reportedly associated with a notorious local drug syndicate and a dreaded organized crime group operating on a national scale.

He was apprehended by operatives of the Baguio City Police Office Drug Enforcement Unit on Jan. 7, 2003 at South Drive here for selling dangerous drugs, but was acquitted on May 25, 2005.

He was nabbed again on August 17, 2006 at Siapno Road, Pacdal here with two cohorts, when they sold shabu to a member of the BCPO operating team posing as buyer. Yet again, the case was dismissed on March 14, 2007.

Said team was then led by now PDEA – CAR regional director, Gil Cesario P. Castro.

Villareal and his live-in partner was nabbed at the Baguio General Hospital rotunda in Baguio City at around 12 noon, where Villareal was nabbed anew with a sachet of .44 gram of shabu.

Earlier, on August 2, 2008, a search warrant was jointly implemented by CIDU – CAR and PDEA – CAR, also through the leadership of Castro, at No. 46 Siapno Rd., Pacdal here, the residence of Villareal, which he operated as drug den or shabu tiangge, with his live-in partner.

This was actually the first shabu tiangge case in the region, a PDEA report said.

Found in the house during the anti-drug operation were shabu and marijuana, chemical precursors of shabu, laboratory tools for mixing essential chemicals to produce shabu, numerous assorted paraphernalia for pot sessions, equipment for and records of drug transactions, empty shells and a live bullet, and deadly weapons.

Villareal got away then during the raid, hence his warrant of arrest. But his co-operator was caught with nine others, including five minors and two other females.

SEARCH THIS BLOG

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29TH CORDILLERA DAY

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



Greetings! The creation of the Cordillera Administrative Region is once again celebrated on its 29th year of founding – and with it a time for reflection of the region's past and where it is headed to.

It was in Kalinga where part of the embers of the struggle for autonomy started with the people's determination to oppose a huge dam in the 1970's.

They said it would destroy their livelihood and cultural ways of life. Their collective spirit, along with folks from affected provinces, in defense of their collective rights over their land and resources, made them win the battle against its implementation.

Much have transpired since then, like hostilities between administration forces and rebel groups – until a 'sipat' or peace pact was forged with the government which resulted to the passage of Executive Order 220 creating the Cordillera Administrative Region by then President Corazon Aquino. The EO created the Cordillera Executive Board, Cordillera Regional Assembly and Cordillera Bodong Administration as transitory bodies to prepare the region for autonomy.

Time flew fast, with different administrations, but still the Constitutional mandate for the creation of a Cordillera Autonomous Region was never realized after two Organic Acts were not ratified by the people in plebiscites.

Since then, Cordillera Day/Month was commemorated amid burning regional issues and challenges on the direction the region will take. The latest move was House Bill 4649, an Act Creating a Cordillera Autonomous Region which is still pending in Congress.

The future and direction of the region have still to be reckoned with considering the administration's thrust for federalism and such issues have still to be discussed until a regional collective course of action is done.

Meanwhile, congratulations to our fellow Cordillerans – our warmest greetings from Kalinga.

HON. ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG
CONGRESSMAN
LONE DISTRICT OF KALINGA

29TH CORDILLERA DAY

Cordillera Heritage

Everything under the sun about Cordillera!!!



BAGUIO CITY JUDGE CONVICTS WOMAN DRUG PUSHER

Posted on | Thursday, 7 April 2011 | No Comments

The Baguio City drug court recently convicted 56-year old Gloria Borce Del Mundo about a year and five months after she and her younger brother were arrested in a raid at their residence in No. 70 Purok 2, Lower Quirino Hill, Baguio City for drug-related violations.

In an eight-page court decision rendered by Judge Antonio C. Reyes of the First Judicial Region Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 61, Baguio City, Del Mundo was found guilty beyond reasonable doubt of possession of dangerous drugs and thereby sentenced to suffer the penalty of imprisonment of 12 years and one day to 20 years, and a fine of P400,000.

Del Mundo and her sibling, Willy Cabonitalla Borce, were members of a long existing and wide-ranging local drug group in the Cordillera Region. Both had been in the Target List of Drug Personalities.

The duo were apprehended on August 19, 2009 during the implementation of the search warrant at their house by agents of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency - Cordillera Administrative Region.

Seized in the warranted search were shabu, marijuana hashish, drug paraphernalia, and live bullets for a caliber .45 pistol.

Gloria Del Mundo, married, high school graduate, businesswoman and native of Abra, was apprehended earlier by members of the Baguio City Police Office Drug Enforcement Unit, on July 4, 2006. She was then nabbed with another kin, Richard Guieb y Borce, where the duo sold 0.1 gram of shabu to the policeman who posed as buyer. They were acquitted on August 1, 2007 by Judge Reyes, the same judge who convicted her this time.

Meanwhile, Willy Borce, 46, married, construction laborer and native of Baguio City, had been previously convicted and served 13 years at the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City.

The criminal cases for violations of Sections 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs) and 12 (Possession of Equipment, Instrument, Apparatus and Other Paraphernalia for Dangerous Drugs) of Republic Act 9165 (The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002), and Presidential Decree 1866, or illegal possession of ammunition, against Borce are still being heard before the drug court in Baguio City and the Fourth Branch of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities, respectively. *(PDEA//PIA-CAR)

Category: Baguio City

Comments

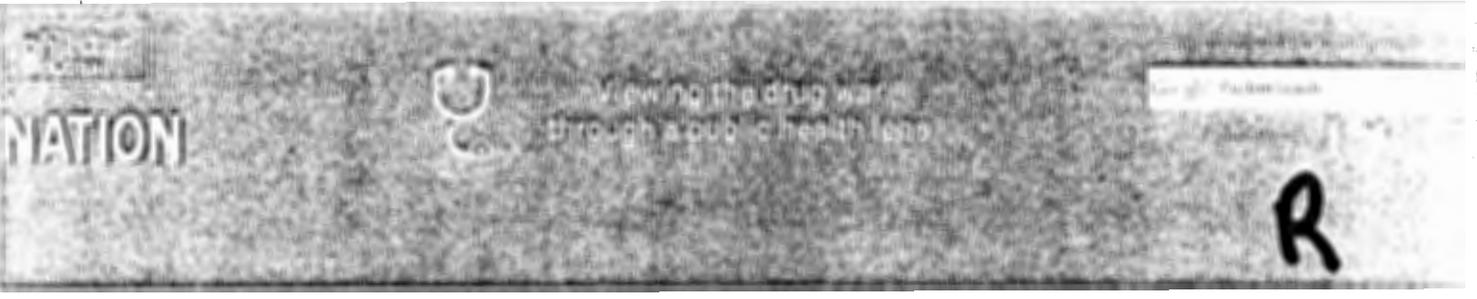
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Your brain on drugs: **What really happens?** #NewsLab



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Baguio's drug king gets life term

By Arlenio Dumlao (philstar.com) | Updated August 28, 2013 - 2:44pm

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BAGUIO CITY, Philippines - Baguio's infamous drug king- Bernardo 'Benjie' Oliveros, got a life term and was fined P10 million for selling drugs.

Oliveros, said to be in the drug trade for decades and was only collared by anti-narcotics operatives on September 2011, was found guilty by Judge Antonio Reyes of the Baguio City drug court.

The conviction of the 'godfather' of organized local drug groups prompted the neutralization of the wide-ranging and deep-seated Oliveros drug group in the Cordillera Region, said Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA)- Cordillera Assistant Director Gil Castro.



From his humble beginning as a 'stowaway,' he became the city's most powerful drug personality for a very long time, he said.

On August 20, Reyes convicted Oliveros to 12 years and one day to 20 years imprisonment, and a fine of four hundred thousand pesos, for having found guilty beyond any reasonable doubt of violating Section 11 (Possession of Dangerous Drugs) of Republic Act 9165 (The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002).

Oliveros will be sent to the National Penitentiary in Muntinlupa.



Reyes in his ruling said, "this Court has to condemn, as a matter of duty, the accused to a life in prison where he shall be of harm to society no more."

The streets of Baguio City has become a little safer from one notorious drug pusher less, a small measure of comfort but greatly attributable to the seamless efforts of the courts Prosecutor Ma. Lourdes D. Soriano and the concerned PDEA agents, Reyes said.

Oliveros, an elusive, seasoned drug dealings top dog was Number One in the Target List of Drug Personalities in the region and had already been a key player in the shabu trade in Baguio City by the late 1990's.

He had long been the subject of various drug law enforcement operations in the region even before the birth of the PDEA- Cordillera.

The big-time Oliveros drug group leader was once arrested with 10 grams of shabu by operatives of PDEA- Cordillera, on Nov. 17, 2004, in a buy-bust operation at Lower Rock Quarry, Baguio City. But the criminal cases filed against him were dismissed shortly, on Dec. 7, 2004. He had been, subsequently, difficult to corner.

His son, Federico Oliveros alias 'Eric' was nabbed with 9.09 grams of shabu at Maria Basa, Pacdal, Baguio City during an entrapment operation by the Drug Enforcement Unit of the Baguio City Police Office on Nov. 10, 2007. The cases against him for illegal sale, possession and use of dangerous drugs were also dismissed on Jan. 6, 2009.

More than two years and five months later, on June 11, 2011, he was again collared in Alfonso Tabora, Baguio City by members of the Regional Anti-illegal Drugs Special Operations Task Group of the Police Regional Office - Cordillera in a buy-bust operation. He was caught with .41 gram of shabu and consequently charged for unlawful drug sale and possession. He was acquitted on July 9 last year.

The younger Oliveros, who had also been previously wanted for frustrated murder, was last captured on May 21, 2013, which is a little over 10 months after his latest acquittal.

Eric, a regional top priority target and member of the Oliveros group, was nabbed at New Lucban, Baguio City in a sting operation by PDEA agents. Three sachets of shabu, weighing about 2.18 grams, were confiscated from him.

Like his father, Eric will spend life in prison when found guilty of his newest drug law violations.

At least three other close relatives or drug group members of the older Oliveros, who were collared by PDEA had already been convicted.

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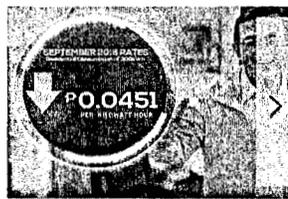
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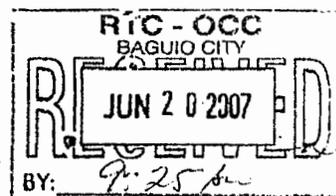


Electricity rates go down in September

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ANNEX I

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
First Judicial Region
Baguio City
Branch 61



DISMISSED:
JUNE 20, 2007

PEOPLE OF THE
PHILIPPINES,
PLAINTIFF,

-VERSUS-

CRIMINAL CASES NOS. 27285-R
& 27286-R

NORMA DOMINGO,
ACCUSED.

X-----X

ORDER

This Court is in receipt of a Manifestation with a Motion to Dismiss filed by counsel for the accused and which, after a review of the same, treats the said pleading a motion for judicial determination of probable cause.

Before this Court rules on the same, it must be first recalled that when this case was called for the arraignment of the accused, her counsel made a manifestation touching on several points, almost material to the merits of this case and joined in by Prosecutor Catral.

The counsel for the accused manifested the following:

ATTY KATIGBAK:

Your Honor please, may we be allowed to make a manifestation. We have gone over the records of the case and we found out that the poseur-buyer was PO2 Bernardo Ventura and the accused Norma Domingo is a well known asset of the PNP PDEA, Your Honor and in-fact Norma Domingo has been used by PDEA in so many successful operations of the PDEA. It is quite remote and impossible that the accused would have not known Abordo and Ventura in the said buy-bust operation.

Second, Your Honor, this PO2 Bernardo Ventura is not even an authorized narcotics agent of

the PDEA.

COURT:

How do you know that?

ATTY. KATIGBAK:

If we will proceed to trial, Your Honor we will present a Certification from the PDEA National office that this PO3 Bernard Ventura is not authorized to operate as a narcotic agent.

Third, Your Honor please, this is a solo operation of PO3 Bernard Ventura, if this trial will proceed and in fact Officer Abordo is here to confirm the fact that it was only Ventura who allegedly operated against Norma Domingo. If we will proceed to trial, we will be presenting 2 witnesses to prove the fact that Abordo was not part of the alleged buy-bust operation and therefore in the signing of the Affidavit-Complaint, Abordo might have perjured himself and there might also be a case for planting evidence against PO3 Ventura because Abordo did not see what actually happened to confirm that the accused indeed transacted with Ventura.

Fourth, Your Honor please, after the laboratory examination on the person of the accused Norma Domingo, the accused was found negative of any trace of narcotics or drugs so if this trial will proceed and the accused has been in jail and in order not to waste the precious time of this Honorable Court and with the indulgence of the trial prosecutor, may we just pray that this case be ordered dismissed against the accused Norma Domingo.

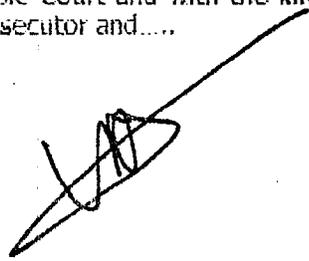
COURT:

What you are saying are matters of defense.

ATTY. KATIGBAK:

Yes, Your Honor please, but what we have to consider is that, the accused has been illegally arrested in violation of her constitutional rights and PO3 Ventura planted evidence against the accused, who will be in jail in an indeterminate period of time and we are appealing to the sound discretion of the Honorable Court and with the kind indulgence of the trial prosecutor and.....

COURT:



How do you know that Abordo was not part of the operation?

ATTY. KATIGBAK:

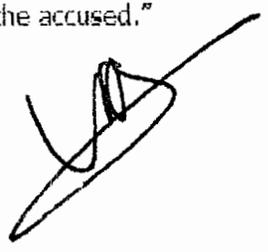
Your Honor please, I have 2 witnesses from PDEA who are willing to come forward.

Even Assistant City Prosecutor manifested that:

During the break, Your Honor we had an opportunity to confer with Officer Abordo, one of the affiants, in-fact even before the proceedings itself before we started we already conferred with him. What we were trying to get or draw from him is a confirmation if he knows the accused in this case and he was ready enough to admit that he personally knows Norma Domingo but as to whether or not Ventura and Domingo know each other he does not know, the fact that their office used her in many operations and known personally to the PDEA I was able to draw that confirmation.

This operation was indeed a solo operation by Bernard Ventura and the participation of Abordo was only to stay in the vehicle while the alleged transaction took place because in a buy-bust operation we rely on the credibility of the poseur buyer and supposed to be confirmed by the back-up who should know the operation itself but apparently Abordo knows nothing about said operation:

If this Court considers the above points raised during yesterday's hearing by both parties, it would clearly appear that the accused has been falsely indicted by the PDEA. Even Prosecutor Catral seems to agree, if one should analyze his statements before the court that there must be someone, other than the poseur-buyer to validate the operations. Since Officer Abordo, the back-up operative, has said to Prosecutor Catral that he (Abordo) "merely stayed inside the vehicle while the transaction took place", it can be gainsaid that the said buy-bust operation did not occur at all, contrary to his sworn statement with Ventura. As a matter of fact, Prosecutor reacted positively to the statement of counsel for the accused that "... we can safely draw from Assistant City Prosecutor Catral's manifestation that Ventura (the alleged poseur-buyer) planted evidence against the accused."



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly 'K. Katigbak', written over a horizontal line.

Prosecutor Catral has likewise inferred, short of a definite conclusion, that Ventura was known to the accused because she was used in several operations of the PDEA as an asset.

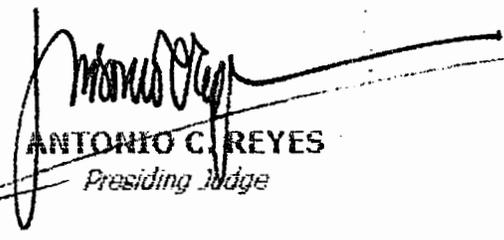
Besides, this Court observed the absence of the buy-bust money or its facsimile in the records and which must be shown to have been either authenticated or placed on record before the Baguio City Police Office. This is the standard operating procedure, even if during trial the said buy-bust money would not be presented in court. What matters is that, at its inception, the buy-bust money must at least be part of the operating procedure to make for a real buy-bust operation.

Thus, with the inferences that can be drawn from the manifestations of Prosecutor Catral and Atty. Alex Katigbak, there was indeed no buy-bust operation and that no probable cause should thereby exist against the accused. At best, the prosecution, with its statement that one of the only two officers involved in the operation knew nothing about it, will not be able to prove its case. A protracted trial will merely waste the resources, both human and material, of the prosecution, the defense and more importantly, this Court's.

WHEREFORE, these cases are hereby **DISMISSED** for lack of probable cause and the accused is hereby released from custody unless being held for some other offense requiring her continued detention.

Baguio City.

June 20, 2007.


ANTONIO C. REYES
Presiding Judge

Republic of the Philippines
SUPREME COURT
Manila

A.M. No. 16-08-04-SC

Re: Motu Proprio Fact-Finding Investigation on Allegation of Four [4] Incumbent Judges' Involvement in Illegal Drugs [Ref: Speech of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte delivered on August 7, 2016 in Davao City].

The Honorable Chief Justice
and Associate Justices
Supreme Court

Re: Partial Report on the Fact-Finding Investigation of Judges whom President Duterte claims to have been involved in illegal drugs

Dear Madam Chief Justice and the Associate Justices of the Court:

Pursuant to the Court's Resolution A.M. No. 16-08-04-SC,¹ the undersigned conducted a fact-finding investigation of the judges whom President Duterte said were involved in illegal drugs. He named seven Judges but three of them, namely the following, are no longer with the judiciary:

- 1) Judge Lorenda Mupas, former MTC judge of Dasmarinas, who was dismissed in 2007 for gross misconduct and ignorance of the law;
- 2) Judge Roberto Navidad, former RTC Judge of Calbayog, Samar, who was killed in 2008; and
- 3) Judge Rene Gonzales, former MTCC Judge in Iloilo, who retired in 2016.²

My investigation focused on the four other judges in President Duterte's list: Judges Exequil Dagala, Adriano Savillo, Domingo Casiple, and Antonio Reyes,.

I concluded my investigation of Judges Dagala, Savillo, and Casiple and this report covers them. Because I am still awaiting the reply to a query I made, I have not yet completed my investigation of Judge Reyes.

The following is the result of my investigation:

¹ Annex A of this Report.

² Annex B, Report of the Office of the Court Administrator dated August 8, 2016

1. Judge Exequil Dagala
MTC, Dapa-Socorro, Surigao

Since Judge Exequil Dagala is an MTC judge, he did not handle drugs cases. But on July 22, 2016 Eddie Escuyos, a former Vice Mayor of Pilar, Siargao Island, Surigao Del Norte, wrote President Duterte an unsworn letter³ stating that Judge Dagala is a drugs pusher, protector, and user. Escuyos also claims that Judge Dagala is a cockfight aficionado and a womanizer and that, indeed, his niece was among those who fell victim to him. The undersigned sent a lawyer from the Office of the Court Administrator (OCAD) to Escuyos' given residence in Taguig with a request for him to testify in my investigation.⁴ But his daughter, April Escuyos-Zerda, said that her father never lived there and had gone into hiding because of fear of reprisals from unnamed drug lords. She claimed that his father's use of her address had brought anxieties to her family because unknown persons would come to their house looking for him.

On September 19, 2016 the PDEA Director in Butuan City said in his memorandum to the PDEA Director General⁵ that there were reports that Judge Dagala is a well-known protector, financier, and pusher of illegal drugs in Surigao del Norte and that indeed the judge is a friend and former legal counsel of the Matugas family. He was also a protector of big-time pushers like Dindo Bestitula, a now deceased target personality, Jose Pebra, Jr., Norman Lim, Bryan Yap Laosinguan (arrested as target personality), and Nathaniel Bonotan. Judge Dagala is also reported as protecting the American Steve Mickey, a known supplier of hashish, marijuana, and party drugs. When asked, however, if PDEA has witnesses who can testify against Judge Dagala, the PDEA representatives said that none of their informants was willing to testify against him.

For his part, Judge Dagala submitted an affidavit⁶ vehemently denying the claims against him. He points out that such claims lack specific facts that would link him to illegal drugs operations in Surigao Del Norte, particularly in Siargao Island. The claims cannot be true, said Judge Dagala, since, as MTC judge, he did not handle any drugs case. He laments that because of the charges against him, he had to go into hiding. He implores the Court to accept his resignation which it had initially rejected.

Before closing the investigation, the undersigned asked the PDEA representatives if they have witnesses who can testify against Judge Dagala in support of the charges against him. They replied that

³ Annex C (The signature portion of the available copy of the letter is missing.).

⁴ Annex D.

⁵ Annex E.

⁶ Annex F.

their informants were unwilling to give testimony against him. Consequently, for lack of evidence, the undersigned is also unable to recommend the taking of disciplinary action against Judge Dagala.

2. Judges Adriano Savillo RTC, Br. 30, Iloilo City

On August 8, 2016, after learning that President Duterte mentioned his name as among the judges involved in illegal drugs, Judge Savillo came to Manila and gave a statement to OCAD,⁷ claiming that, as Family Court judge, he had no power to influence either drug personalities or the law enforcers who have been after them. He insists that he was never a drug protector.

On September 22, 2016 Atty. Gil T. Pabilona of PDEA wrote a validation report,⁸ stating that Judge Savillo had connections to Melvin Odicta, the notorious drugs dealer who was ambushed with his wife at a RORO pier in Iloilo. The validation report claims that Judges Savillo, Casipe, and Gonzales used to receive P25,000 per week from Odicta and were seen at his house almost every week having coffee with him or attending his parties.

PDEA claims that after the police arrested Dineros, Odicta's drug ally, in a drugs operation, Judge Savillo granted Dineros bail. Malay Betita, a bondsman cousin of Odicta, reportedly helped provide the bail and rigged the raffle of Dineros' habeas corpus case for it to be assigned to Judge Savillo. The latter received a Glock 17 pistol for granting bail to Dineros who also helped fund the construction of Judge Savillo's house. PDEA admits having no evidence, however, that the judge directly took part in the drugs business.

Judge Savillo submitted an affidavit dated September 30, 2015⁹ strongly denying the allegations that he had, together with two other judges, been receiving P25,000 weekly from the late Melvin Odicta. Judge Savillo claimed that he had not done Odicta any favor nor had he been his legal adviser. The judge claimed further that he had never gone to Odicta's house in Malipayon, Esperanza, Iloilo, nor had he ever attended any of his parties. Although Judge Savillo handled drugs cases involving minors, none of these cases had been linked to Odicta. Judge Savillo lamented as false PDEA's claim that he had been engaged in case-fixing, given that he has always respected his fellow judges.

Judge Savillo claimed that the habeas corpus case against Dineros fell in his sala because a minor had been involved. He ordered Dineros' released from detention because it was shown that the

⁷ Annex G

⁸ Annex H.

⁹ Annex I.

prosecutor failed to file the information against him for almost six months following receipt of PDEA's complaint, a fact that the prosecutor admitted. Besides, the prosecution did not seek reconsideration of his order. Further, Judge Savillo denied receiving a Glock 17 pistol for a supposed favor that he gave Dineros. He also denied that the late Odicta helped him finish his house construction in 2008. Judge Savillo claimed that the construction of his house began only in early 2009. It is still unfinished although he has since lived in it.

In any event, as in the case of the other judges, the undersigned asked the PDEA representatives if they have witnesses who can testify against Judge Savillo in support of the charges against him. They replied that they had none. The police informant who furnished them the information against Judge Savillo refused, according to PDEA, to testify or give a signed statement. Consequently, the undersigned is also unable to recommend the taking of disciplinary action against Judge Savillo for lack of evidence.

3. Judge Domingo Casiple RTC, Br. 7, Kalibo, Aklan

In his September 22, 2016 validation report,¹⁰ PDEA's Atty. Pabilona said that his agency had confirmed Judge Casiple's connection to the notorious late drug dealer Melvin Odicta. The unsworn report said that Judges Casiple, Savillo, and Gonzales received P25,000 per week from Odicta, had coffee with him at his house almost every week, and attended his parties. The PDEA further said that Judge Casiple was formerly a Provincial Prosecutor of Iloilo and had been known to connive with former Chief Provincial Prosecutor Dusaban in case-fixing. The two were instrumental in dismissing the case against the Balasan boys who were arrested for sale of illegal drugs following a buy-bust operation.

For his part, Judge Casiple gave as statement to the office of the Court Administrator on August 8, 2016, as soon as he heard President Duterte mentioned him as one of the narco judges, stating that his court did not handle drugs cases and that he has never been involved in the drugs trade.¹¹ He also submitted a verified answer dated October 3, 2016¹² stating, among other things, that President Duterte's denunciation of certain judges, including Judge Casiple, shocked the latter and seriously damaged his reputation; that he has never engaged in case-fixing; that no disciplinary action has been filed against him for indicting the Balasan boys, when he was a prosecutor, with the crime of illegal possession rather than illegal selling of drugs, a decision on his part that carried the approval of his superiors; and

¹⁰ See Annex K, *supra*.

¹¹ Annex L.

¹² Annex L.

that Judge Casiple had never received any amount of money from Odicta.

The undersigned asked the PDEA representatives during the investigation if they have witnesses who can testify against Judge Casiple in support of the charges against him. As in the case of the other two judges, they replied that they had none. Consequently, the undersigned is also unable to recommend the taking of disciplinary action against Judge Casiple.

It may be assumed that, in accusing the above three judges of some wrong-doings, President Duterte had to rely on information that PDEA or some other police agencies had given him. Unfortunately, PDEA and such agencies sourced their information from government assets who decline to come forward and testify. PDEA seems reluctant to place them under the Department of Justice's witness protection program to shield them from possible harm if they testify against the drugs lords and the judges who allegedly protect them. The undersigned cannot understand such reluctance. The Supreme Court should be blameless for failing to do more under the circumstances.

Thank you for entrusting me with this investigation.

Manila, November 4, 2016.

Very truly yours,



Roberto A. Abad



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

A.M. No. 16-08-04-SC

(Re: *Motu Proprio* Fact-Finding Investigation on Allegation of Four [4] Incumbent Judges' Involvement in Illegal Drugs [Ref: Speech of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte delivered on August 7, 2016 in Davao City])

ORDERING THE CONDUCT OF A *MOTU PROPRIO* FACT-FINDING INVESTIGATION ON ALLEGATION OF FOUR (4) INCUMBENT JUDGES' INVOLVEMENT IN ILLEGAL DRUGS

WHEREAS, on 7 August 2016, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte delivered a speech in Davao City naming seven (7) judges as being involved in illegal drugs, which the Court in its *en banc* session on 9 August 2016 deemed as a Complaint;

WHEREAS, in later statements, President Duterte clarified that his statement was not an accusation but only information on the said judges;

WHEREAS, four (4) of these judges are still on active duty, namely:

1. Judge Exequil Dagala, Municipal Trial Court, Dapa-Socorro, Surigao;
2. Judge Adriano Savillo, Regional Trial Court (RTC), Branch 30, Iloilo City;
3. Judge Domingo Casiple, RTC, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan; and
4. Judge Antonio Reyes, RTC, Branch 1, Baguio City;

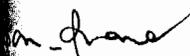
WHEREAS, considering the information provided above and in light of the Court's constitutional duty to supervise and discipline members of the bench, a *motu proprio* fact-finding investigation is hereby warranted, to be headed by a retired Supreme Court Justice and conducted on an expedited basis;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Supreme Court hereby **RESOLVES** to, as follows:

TREAT the speech of President Duterte as information against Judges Exequil Dagala, Adriano Savillo, Domingo Casiple and Antonio Reyes, and on the basis of such information, **ORDER** the conduct of a *motu proprio* fact-finding investigation into whether they are involved in illegal drugs;

INVITE Philippine National Police Director General Ronald M. Dela Rosa and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Director General Isidro S. Lapeña, heads of the statutory authorities mandated to obtain information on illegal drugs activities, to submit Complaints-Affidavits or other information against the 4 judges within seven (7) days from receipt of this Order, to the Secretariat of the fact-finding investigation, care of the Legal Office, Office of the Court Administrator (OCA), in five (5) copies, in accordance with the Efficient Use of Paper Rule (A.M. No. 11-9-4-SC);

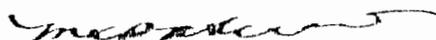
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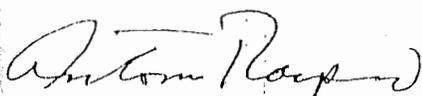
ANAMA
COURT, EN BANC
THE COURT

3. **DIRECT** the 4 judges mentioned above to each submit their respective Answers within 7 days from receipt of the Complaint-Affidavit or other information appertaining to each, to the Secretariat of the fact-finding investigation, care of the Legal Office, OCA, also in 5 copies;
4. **APPOINT** Justice Roberto A. Abad (Ret.) as the sole investigator hereof, and **DIRECT** the investigation to be concluded within thirty (30) days from receipt of the 4 judges' Answers;
5. **AUTHORIZE** Justice Abad to issue notices of hearing to the 4 judges and all other necessary parties upon commencement of the investigation;
6. **AUTHORIZE** the Clerk of Court *En Banc* or any Division Clerk of Court to administer oaths to persons who will provide testimonies or attest to the veracity of documents in the said investigation; and
7. **DIRECT** Justice Abad, the Secretariat of the Fact-Finding Investigation, all officials of the Supreme Court, and all relevant parties to treat the proceedings with confidentiality as in all administrative proceedings.

16 August 2016.



MARIA LOURDES P. A. SERENO
Chief Justice



ANTONIO T. CARPIO
Associate Justice



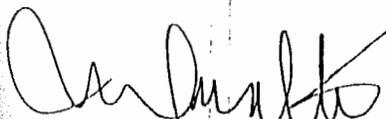
PRESBITERO J. VELASCO, JR.
Associate Justice



JUSTINA L. LEONARDO DE CASTRO
Associate Justice

(on leave)

ARTURO D. BRION
Associate Justice



DIOSDADO M. PERALTA
Associate Justice

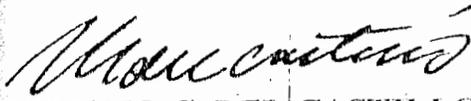


LUCAS P. BERSAMIN
Associate Justice

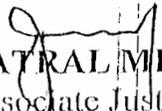
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B. ANAMA
COURT, EN BANC
THE COURT


 MARIANO C. DEL CASTILLO
 Associate Justice


 JOSE PORTUGAL PEREZ
 Associate Justice

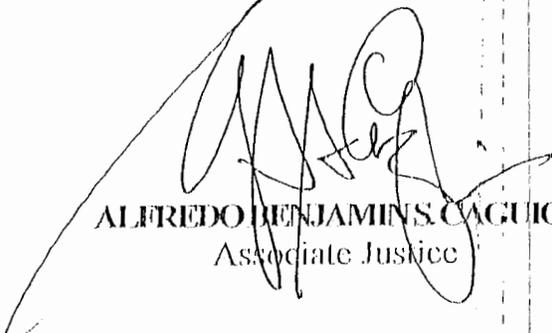

 JOSE CATRAL MENDOZA
 Associate Justice


 BIENVENIDO L. REYES
 Associate Justice

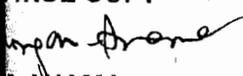

 ESTELA M. PERLAS-BERNABE
 Associate Justice


 MARVIC M.V.F. LEONEN
 Associate Justice


 FRANCIS H. JARDELEZA
 Associate Justice


 ALFREDO BENJAMINS CAGUIOA
 Associate Justice

TRUE COPY


 B. ANAMA
 COURT, EN BANC
 THE COURT

tion

Roberto A. Abad (Ret.)
Special Fact-Finding Investigation
West Tower
Time Stock Exchange Centre
Munoz Road, Ortigas Center, 1605
Pasig City

Alipha B. Anama
Clerk of Court
of the Clerk Court, En Banc
Clerk of Court

Administrator Jose Midas P. Marquez
of the Court Administrator
Clerk of Court
Manila

Helmina D. Geronga
Legal Office
Supreme Court

Requil Dagala
Regional Trial Court,
Davao City, Surigao

Friano Savillo
Regional Trial Court (RTC)
Iloilo City

Mingo Casiple
Regional Trial Court (RTC)
Kalibo, Aklan

Antonio Reyes
Regional Trial Court (RTC)
Baguio City

Donald M. Dela Rosa
National Police
Quezon City

Andro S. Lapeña
Drug Enforcement Agency
Mall Building
Munoz Avenue
Manila, 1020

By Helmina D. Geronga



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Office of the Court Administrator
Manila

ANNEX B

SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILS.
MARIA LOURDES P. A. SERENO
CHIEF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
AUG 08 2016
E.V. [Signature]

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
Supreme Court of the Philippines



OCJ00201608172

To follow up, pls. cite the number above. X / 0

FROM THE DESK OF:

HON. JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ
Court Administrator

8 August 2016

HON. MARIA LOURDES P. A. SERENO
Chief Justice

Re: Judges named by His Excellency President Rodrigo
Roa Duterte as allegedly involved in illegal drugs

Dear Madame Chief Justice:

In a speech delivered in the early hours of 7 August 2016, His Excellency President Rodrigo Roa Duterte named the following judges as allegedly involved in illegal drugs:

1. Judge Mupas, Dasmariñas, Cavite
2. Judge Reyes, Baguio City
3. Judge Savillo, Branch 13, RTC, Iloilo City
4. Judge Casiple, Kalibo, Aklan
5. Judge Rene Gonzales, MTC
6. Judge Natividad, RTC, Calbayog City
7. Judge Ezekiel Dagala, MTC
8. Judge Dapa, Siargao

Judge Mupas, who appears to be former Judge Lorinda T. Mupas, Municipal Trial Court, Dasmariñas, Cavite, was already dismissed from the service in 2007.

Judge Reyes appears to be Judge Antonio C. Reyes, Presiding Judge, Branch 61, Regional Trial Court, Baguio City. Judge Reyes is a drugs court judge and has been a judge in Baguio City for almost 22 years. He is set to retire in November 2017.

Judge Savillo appears to be Judge Adriano S. Savillo, Presiding Judge Branch 30, Regional Trial Court, Iloilo City. Judge Savillo is a family court judge and has been a judge in Iloilo City for almost 20 years. He is set to retire in March 2017.

Judge Casiple appears to be Judge Domingo L. Casiple, Jr., Presiding Judge, Branch 7, Regional Trial Court, Kalibo, Aklan. Judge Casiple is a regular court judge and was appointed in June 2012. He will retire in 2026.

Judge Rene Gonzales, who appears to be former Judge Rene B. Gonzales, Branch 7, Municipal Trial Court, Iloilo City, has compulsorily retired on 20 June 2016.

Judge Navidad, who appears to be former Judge Roberto Navidad, Branch 32, Regional Trial Court, Calbayog City, Samar, was shot to death on 14 January 2008. His case remains unsolved.

Judge Ezekiel Dagala appears to be Judge Exequil L. Dagala, Presiding Judge, 6th Municipal Circuit Trial Court, Dapa-Socorro, Surigao del Norte.

Judge Dapa does not appear on record and is presumed to refer to the court station of Judge Dagala.

Thus, of the eight (8) named judges, only four (4) are incumbent.

At around 8:30 this morning, Judges Antonio C. Reyes and Domingo L. Casiple, Jr., personally appeared before the Office of the Court Administrator and presented their respective initial statements signifying their denial of their alleged involvement in illegal drugs. Judge Savillo has likewise submitted his statement through email, while Judge Dagala is currently on his way to the Supreme Court.

Attached herewith, for Your Honor's appropriate action and further instructions, are the preliminary statements submitted by Judges Reyes, Casiple, Jr., and Savillo.

Judge Jesus B. Mupas, the husband of former Judge Lorinda T. Mupas, and Presiding Judge, Branch 112, Regional Trial Court, Pasay City, also personally appeared before the Office of the Court Administrator, together with his wife, and presented their respective statements. Considering, however, that Judge Jesus B. Mupas was not named as having been involved in illegal drugs, his statement and that of his wife, have been excluded from the attachment.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ

ANNEX C

President Rodrigo R. Duterte
Malacañan Palace, Manila

Dear Sir:

The undersigned is a former OIC Municipal Mayor in 1986 and a former Municipal Vice Mayor of Pilar, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte in 2010-2013. In my desire to help you in your fight against illegal drugs, here are the names of high profile protectors, drug pushers and users in District 1, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte:

1. Congressman Bingo F. Matugas –

Before his election as congressman of the First Congressional District in May 9, 2016, he was a high ranking official of the Bureau of Customs when he started drug pushing. His father Atty. Francisco T. Matugas was the congressman for three consecutive terms and his mother, Governor Sol F. Matugas is now in her last term as Provincial Governor. I exposed his illegal activities in my speeches in political rallies in 9 towns and some barangays in Siargao Island during in May 9, 2016 elections. I remember about three years ago, his close-in body guard who is my first degree cousin told me that now Congressman Bingo F. Matugas is the owner of Shabu in Surigao del Norte.

I am now temporarily residing in Taguig City for fear of reprisal. He is the financier of SWERTRES in Siargao Island since he was still with the Bureau of Customs. His general coordinator is a certain Tata Elik whose operation is based at Poblacion, Dapa, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte

2. Judge Excequil L. Dagala –

He is now assigned as MCTC Judge of Dapa, Siargao, Island, Surigao del Norte. I know his involvement in drugs as pusher, protector and user. He is my kumpadre in a church wedding. I am sure his connection in illegal drugs is known to PDEA men assigned in Caraga Region. He is also popular among cock fighting aficionados because he participates in cock derbies and many times as a sponsor. He frequents in cockpits and lupadas in Siargao Island. He is a known womanizer having impregnated young and beautiful women including my niece who is a public teacher whom he begot a daughter. He has also an offspring with a young woman in the town of Socorro, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte when he was assigned there as MCTC Judge. /

3. Municipal Vice Mayor Jun Jun Gonzales –

He is the incumbent Municipal Vice Mayor of Dapa, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. He is the nephew of ex-Congressman Francisco T. Matugas and first degree cousin of now Congressman Bingo F. Matugas. His mother is the younger sister of Francisco T. Matugas. He is a drug pusher and user.

4. Nathaniel (Lalo) A. Bonotan –

He is a wealthy businessman with large landholding residing at Barangay Pilaring, Pilar, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. Former financier of Jal-alal and swetres in Siargao Island. He is the owner of a cockpit at Sitio Man-asog, Barangay Consolacion, Pilar. Sometime in September 2015, I visited him at the construction site of his cockpit. During our conversation, by slip of his tongue, he told me that he and Herbert Colangco plan to put up a gambling business in Siargao Island. This supports the rumor that Bonotan is indebted to Colangco in the amount of P5M. He is a drug pusher and user.

5. Municipal Vice Mayor Bec Bec Solioso –

He is the incumbent Municipal Vice Mayor of General Luna, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. He sponsors cock derbies in Gen. Luna and neighboring towns. He frequents in cockpits and lupadas where he is a heavy bettor. He is a drug pusher and user.

6. Manuel G. Solioso –

He is a retired high school teacher and a resident of Barangay Asinan, Pilar, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte. He is a close political ally and leader of the Matugas. He is a drug pusher and user.

Thank you and more power.

Truly yours,



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Office of the Court Administrator
Manila

ANNEX D

RRW

3 October 2016

MR. EDDIE MANTILLA ESCUYOS.
MB26-306 BCDA
Phase 2, Ususan
Taguig City

Dear Mr. Escuyos:

On 16 August 2016 the Supreme Court en banc issued **Administrative Matter No. 16-08-04-SC**, copy here attached as Annex A, taking note of President Rodrigo R. Duterte's claim in a speech that Judges Exequil Dagala, Adriano Savillo, Domingo Casiple, and Antonio Reyes were involved in illegal drugs and directing, among others, the conduct of a fact-finding investigation of such claim.

During the meeting held on 3 October 2016, an unsigned letter dated 22 July 2016 (copy here attached as Annex B) was presented by the PDEA to the Supreme Court-designated Investigator, Justice Roberto A. Abad, as one of its evidence against Judge Dagala. The letter-sender identified himself as a former OIC/Municipal Mayor in 1986 and a former Vice Mayor of Pilar, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte from 2010 to 2013 and based from these credentials, you were identified as the possible author of the letter.

Verily, you are hereby requested to submit a formal affidavit in support of your unsigned letter dated 22 July 2016 to Justice Abad, c/o the Office of the Court Administrator, on or before 10 October 2016.

You are further requested to appear for a hearing set by Justice Abad on **10 October 2016 (Monday), 2:00 p.m., at the Conference Room of the Office of the Court Administrator, 3rd Floor, Old Supreme Court Building, Padre Faura corner Taft Avenue, Ermita, Manila.** You can also hand-carry your affidavit if you wish to just bring it during the said meeting.

By authority of Justice Roberto A. Abad (Ret.)

RR
ATTY. EDUARDO C. TOLENTINO
Secretary-Recorder

Enclosures: a/s



Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
REGIONAL OFFICE XIII

Provincial Hospital Compound, Libertad, Butuan City • (085) 815 1661 • pdea13@yahoo.com

**MEMORANDUM****ANNEX B**

FOR : DIRECTOR GENERAL, PDEA

FROM : 
DIR. GILBERT V. BUENAFE, RCrim., MMPA
Officer-In-Charge, PDEA RO XIII

SUBJECT : Alleged Involvement of Judge Dagala in Illegal Drug Activities

DATE : September 19, 2016

1. Reference: Memorandum dated September 15, 2016 with subject Submission of the Result of the Validation Conducted by PDEA on the Alleged Involvement of Four (4) Judges to Illegal Drugs.

2. In connection with the above subject, this Office received report that Judge Exequiel Dagala, Presiding Judge, 9th MCTC, Surigao del Norte is the protector of Drug Lords and Pushers in Surigao del Norte. He is a friend and a former Legal Counsel of Matugas Family.

3. Further, we received report from IIS, NHQ to conduct verification on the alleged involvement of the said personality that was reported by a concerned citizen. Action taken was done. Information gathered during the verification is that Judge Exequiel L. Dagala is a well known protector, financier and pusher of illegal drugs. He is known to have close attachments thus being tagged as protecting big time drug pushers like Dindo Besitula (one of our Target listed personality who is now deceased), Jose Pebra Jr., Norman Lim, Bryan Yap Laosinguan (one of our Priority Targets who was arrested last September 18, 2016 thru joint operation of PDEA RO 13 and PDEA RO10) and Nathaniel Bonotan.

4. Moreover, he is also connected and protects American Nationals Steve and Mickey who owns a private resort in General Luna, Siargao Island who are known supplier of hashish, Marijuana and party drugs. He also owns high-powered firearms being kept in his residence in Purok 6, Brgy. San Jose, Del Carmen, Siargao Island and in his private Island resort located at Brgy. Kaob, Del Carmen, Siargao Island.

5. Further validation in the matter.

Republic of the Philippines

Quezon City, Metro Manila

AFFIDAVIT

I, EXEQUIL L. DAGALA, filipino, married, with residence and postal address at Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte after having sworn to in accordance with law do hereby depose and say;

That I was among the 7 Judges mentioned by President Duterte allegedly involved in drug trade as protector, financier, in his speech last August 7, 2016 in Davao City.

That I received a complaint from OCA of a certain Eddie Escuyos as ANNEX A - pointing me as protector, financier, of Drug Trade in Siargao Island. ANNEX B- is also the complaint from PEDEA linking me to drug lords and drug personality of Surigao del Norte some for them are already incarcerated and deceased.

That I vehemently, and categorically DENY this allegation, it being couched in a general term and does not substantially elaborate painstakingly how did I become a protector and financier of such drug trade, when I am an MCTC Judge without jurisdiction on drug cases. There must be some convincing and solid evidence to implicate me over said alleged act and should not come from a polluted source like the anonymous letter of Eddie Escuyos, siargao island is a small island almost people are my acquaintance and friend. It is unfair and illogical to dragged my name to their illegal business if there's any, when I did not middle or use my influenced, to free any arrested drug lord in my locality, nor did I

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Continued

receive monetary consideration by financing or receive money as profits of such acts.

That I had been judged already in the eyes of disgruntled majority as GUILTY. I had cheated death so many times from people who want to silenced me. My career and reputation was already damaged I had been in hiding for more than two months already. I had difficulty in coming to Manila for fear of my life. I implore the wisdom of the supreme court and its innate passion for justice to approved my resignation after this administrative forum, whatever is the result maybe, I need to find a new home for my house ceased to become a home already.

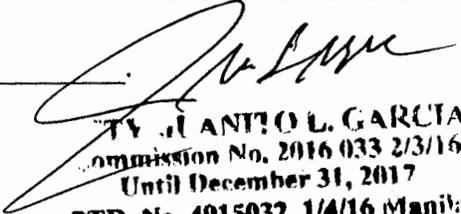
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my signature this 23 day of Oct. 2016 in Ermite Manila Philippines.

EXEQUIL L. DAGALA
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 3rd day of Oct. 2016
by at Manila who exhibited to me his CTC No. _____
issued on MORU ID NO. 070013

Notary Public

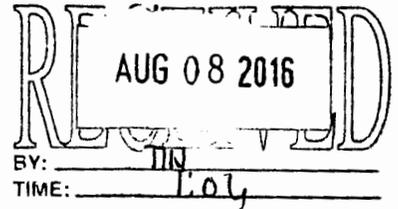
Doc. No. 430
Page No. 37
Book No. 3
Series of 20 16


ANTONIO L. GARCIA
Commission No. 2016 033 2/3/16
Until December 31, 2017
PTR. No. 4915032 1/4/16 Manila
IHP No. 072665 10/16/15 Manila (V)
(for the year 2016-2017)
MCLE Compliance No. V-000960
Aug. 5, 2015
Roll No. 21095
41 Maria Orosa Avenue
Ermite, Manila

ANNEX 6

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
SIXTH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 30
ILOILO CITY

SUPREME COURT OF THE PHIL.
OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR



August 8, 2016

HON. RAUL B. VILLANUEVA
Deputy Court Administrator
Supreme Court of the Philippines
Padre Faura St., Ermita
M a n i l a

Dear Deputy Court Administrator Villanueva:

I am Judge Adriano S. Savillo, Presiding Judge of a designated Family Court, Regional Trial Court, Branch 30, Iloilo City.

My name was included as a Drug Protector in the list recently announced by President Rodrigo R. Duterte. As Presiding Judge of a Family Court, I have no power, capacity or influence to protect any drug personality. I have no influence over law enforcers who are tasked to go after drug personalities. I have never been a drug protector by any definition.

I sincerely hope that I be given the opportunity to answer the allegations pointing to me as a Drug Protector the soonest possible time.

Very truly yours,


ADRIANO S. SAVILLO
Presiding Judge

ASS/jas



**PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
REGIONAL OFFICE VI**

P. Aquino Avenue corner Forth San Pedro Drive
Balis City 5000 | Email: pdeas@yahoo.com | Tel/Fax No. (033) 337-1800

MEMORANDUM

FOR : DG, PDEA

FROM : ATTY GILT PABILONA

**SUBJECT : VALIDATION OF INFORMATION ON THE JUDGES FROM
REGION 6 MENTIONED BY PRESIDENT DUTERTE
AS ALLEGED PROTECTORS**

DATE : September 22, 2016

1. **Reference:** Memo from DG, PDEA to RD, RO6 on September 15, 2016 re "Submission of the Result of the Validation on Alleged Involvement of Four Judges to Illegal Drugs"
2. Based on verification, the connection of Judge Savillo of RTC, Branch former Judge Casiple of RTC, Kalibo, Aklan and Judge Rene Gonzales, Municipal Trial Court with deceased Melvin Odicta is confirmed.
3. Confidential informant revealed that the following judges were receiving money from the late Melvin Odicta in the amount of Php 25,000.00 per week. They were seen in the house of Odicta's located at Malipayon, Esperanza, Iloilo City on Saturdays. They were also seen during the parties hosted by the late couple Melvin and Meriam Odicta.
 - a) **Judge Rene Gonzales** – MTC, Branch 7, Iloilo City, former Assistant Regional State Prosecutor, retired at age 60 but applied as MTC Judge and was appointed. He is a friend of Melvin Odicta. He was seen visiting the house of Melvin Odicta almost every week to have a coffee with Melvin in the latter's house.
 - b) **Judge Domingo Casiple** – former Judge of RTC, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan. Now a judge who was formerly a Provincial Prosecutor of Iloilo who was known to have been conniving with former Provincial Prosecutor Chief, Dusaban in case fixing. The two were instrumental in dismissing the case against Balasan Boys for violation of R.A. 9165, where the anti-illegal drug operation was

Continue

conducted by PDEA RO 6. This case was also a subject of Congressional Inquiry

c) Judge Adriano Savillo - Family Court RTC, Branch 30, Iloilo City. He was seen at weekends visiting Melvin Odicta. He is known in case fixing who uses his position to influence the decision of the trial judge. In a drug case years back People versus Noel Ramos Dineros Alias White, et al. PDEA RO 6 conducted a buy bust operation where Dineros was arrested and his lady companion was shot dead. Judge Savillo played an important role in freeing Dineros by granting his petition to post bail. Dineros is a known drug trade ally of Odicta. Malay Botita was the bondsman, who is a cousin of Odicta. Malay Botita helped Dineros' lawyer, Atty. Gerochi to find ways for Deniro to be able to post bail by contacting Atty. Gerry Sumaculob, Chief, OCC-Iloilo, in order for the Deniro's case to be raffled to the sala of Judge Savillo. In Judge Savillo's sala for petition of habeas corpus, Judge Savillo allowed Deniro to file bail for the accused's release. In exchange of the favor given to allow Deniro to post bail, Atty Gerochi bought Clock 17 for Judge Savillo and Odicta supported the unfinished construction of the house of Judge Savillo.

The Deniro's case occurred during that time of PNP members who were detailed in PDEA RO6.

4. Except for case fixing and favoring the cases of the accused being protected by the Odicta's or receiving grease money from the late Melvin Odicta and serving as legal advisers for Odicta's, there is no evidence of their direct involvement in illegal drug trade in Region 6.
5. Our major problem during the validation of the above information is that the confidential informant was unwilling to come to testify or execute any affidavit. The informant does not want also to execute an affidavit to prove that the same judges were receiving money from Melvin Odicta
6. For the cases we mentioned, we recommend that the SC investigating body to direct production or submission of the same from the concerned courts. Furthermore, the validation on the foregoing concerned only the PDEA RO6 cases.

I deeply resent the insinuation of the PDEA informant that I am engaged in case fixing who uses my position to "influence the decision of the trial Judge". I have too much respect for my fellow Judges and will not even attempt to influence their decision, in the same way that I do not like my fellow Judges to do the same on my decisions in cases before my sala;

Incidentally, the docket of my court will reveal that a few drugs cases have been raffled to my sala when minors are involved. Verily, none of these cases ever bore any possible link to Melvin and Meriam Odicta. In fact these cases are mostly handled by lawyers of the Public Attorney's Office;

Regarding the case of People of the Philippines vs. Noel Ramos Dineros, alias "White", et al., this case was raffled to my sala, RTC Branch 30 since one of the accused was a minor. The case of Dineros before my sala was a Petition for Habeas Corpus. I granted the petition in favor of the accused as the investigating prosecutor failed to file the proper Information against the accused for almost six (6) months after the complaint was filed by the PDEA on November 14, 2007, a matter admitted by the prosecution in open court. The Order was eventually implemented after no motion for reconsideration was filed by the Prosecution and the PDEA lawyer. Attached hereto is a true copy of the Petition for Habeas Corpus and my Order granting the same dated April 28, 2008. The record of this case is very clear. I never granted or allowed Dineros to file bail for his release;

The allegation that Atty. Gerochi, in return for my allegedly allowing Dineros, et al. to post bail, bought a Glock 17 for me is an outright lie. I have never owned a Glock 17 and the records in the Firearms and Explosive Office of the Philippine National Police will prove this;

The allegation that in return for the favor given to Dineros, Odicta supported the unfinished construction of my house is not only untrue but a reckless imputation. I have no "unfinished construction" in 2008. I started building my house in the early part of 2009 and until now it is not yet finished although I am already residing in said house;

I execute this Affidavit to attest to the truth of the foregoing facts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affix my signature this 30th day of September, 2016 at Iloilo City, Philippines.


ADRIANO S. SAVILLO

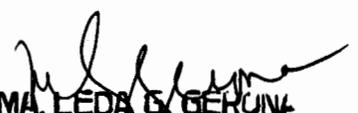
Affiant

CTC No. 32635252

Issued at Iloilo City on March 2, 2016

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 30th day of September, 2016, in the City of Iloilo, Philippines, affiant exhibited to me his Community Tax Certificate appearing below his name and his Identification Card as proof of his identity.

THIS DOCUMENT
WAS NOT PREPARED
BY THE PAO


ATTY. MA. LEDA S. GERONA
PUBLIC ATTORNEY II
NOTARY PUBLIC
(PURSUANT TO R.A. 9406)

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
First Judicial Region
Baguio City
Branch 61

Filed July 3

People of the Philippines,
Plaintiff

Criminal Cases
Nos.: 27285-R &
27286-R

-versus-

NORMA P. DOMINGO,
Accused.

X-----X

**MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION
and MANIFESTATION**

With all due respect.

Plaintiff, through the undersigned, moves unto the Honorable Court for reconsideration and avers that:

1. The Honorable Court issued an **ORDER** dated **June 20, 2007** **DISMISSING** the above-entitled case on ground of lack of probable cause upon manifestation and motion to dismiss by the Defense Counsel;
2. The arguments presented by the accused may be offered as a matter of defense if a full blown trial ensues. But given the fact that the case has already been dismissed, the undersigned is constrained to move for reconsideration of the Honorable Court taking into account the succeeding facts;
3. The argument of the Defense Counsel that the accused has been used as an asset of the PDEA operatives remains to be an allegation. Assuming, without necessarily admitting, that the accused was used as an asset of the Agency, it is not unexpected that the accused never met PO3 Bernard Ventura. For security purposes, not all operatives are personally introduced and known to an asset. The asset, after having fulfilled the necessary documentary requirements for being one, reports to a handler to whom he/she should report regularly. An asset is never given the

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privilege to meet all the operatives of the agency as he/she may always turn hostile and cause peril to the agency if and when he/she decides to play with both sides. Such would jeopardize operations of the agency;

4. As to the authority of PO3 Bernard Ventura, let the defense present the certification which he claims to have obtained. In this relation, a copy of the DETAIL of RAIDSOOTG marked as Annex A, a copy of the Relief/Designation Order marked as Annex B, and a copy of the Memorandum of Tuba Police Station is hereto attached marked as Annex C, all of which are made integral part hereof. These documents would readily indicate the authority of PO3 Ventura to conduct narcotics operations;
5. Contrary to the allegation of the accused that a solo operation was conducted by PO3 Ventura, the operation was legitimately conducted by a PDEA operative team with the informant Salvador Baday. Attached hereto and made integral part hereof marked as Annex D is the affidavit of the undersigned containing the fact that I was duly informed of the operation and authorized the said operation;
6. Further, it is argued that there must be someone, other than the poseur-buyer, to validate the operation which took place. The Honorable Court might have overlooked from the records of the case submitted and filed that the same included the affidavit of the informant, **Mr. Salvador Baday**, who was actually present while the transaction took place. The affidavit and the testimony, if trial ensues, of the informant could be sufficient to corroborate the allegations of the poseur-buyer;
7. It is respectfully posited that the Honorable Court reconsider its order dated June 20, 2007 and let the case take its regular course in a full blown trial;
8. And by way of manifestation, when the Honorable Court reconsiders its decision, a warrant of arrest be issued to gain custody of the accused since she was released by virtue of the assailed order;

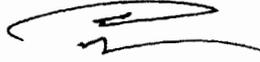
WHEREFORE, premises considered, it is most respectfully prayed of this Honorable Court to RECONSIDER and vacate its ORDER dated June 20, 2007,

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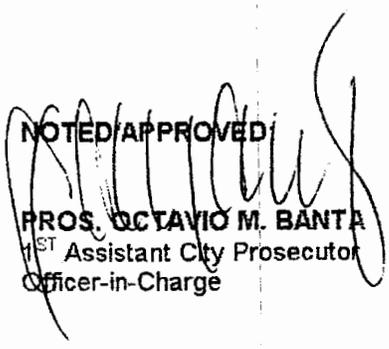
take note of its manifestation to issue a warrant for the arrest of the accused, and let the above entitled case take its course in a full blown trial.

Other relief just and equitable under the premises are likewise prayed for.

Done this 28th day of June 2007 in the Municipality of La Trinidad for the City of Baguio, Philippines.


PSUPT OLIVER A ENMODIAS
Regional Director
PDEA-CAR

NOTED/APPROVED


PROS. OCTAVIO M. BANTA
1ST Assistant City Prosecutor
Officer-in-Charge

NOTICE

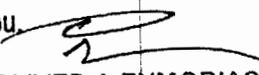
Mr. JOAN CASTILLO
Officer-in-Charge/Clerk of Court
Regional Trial Court
Branch 61

Sir:

Greetings!

Please submit the foregoing MOTION AND MANIFESTATION for perusal and consideration of the Honorable Court.

Thank you.


PSUPT OLIVER A ENMODIAS

cc. 1. *ATTY. KATIUBAR*
COUNSEL FOR THE ACCUSED
PERBE VILLIE
FELIZOY BLDG., SESSION RA.
BAGUIO CITY

REC. RECEIPT 99

2. *NORMA P. DOMINGO*
APUCAN, GREEN VALLEY, BAGUIO CITY

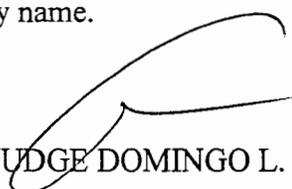
REC. RECEIPT 95

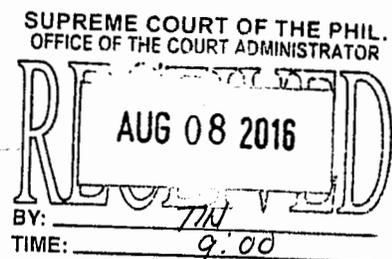
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ANNEX K

I am presently at the Supreme Court to comply with the directives of President Rodrigo Duterte.

As a judge assigned at RTC Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan, I do not handle drug cases and I vehemently deny any personal involvement in the illegal drug trade. I was shocked to see my name included in the list of alleged drug protectors. In view of this, I am hoping that a thorough investigation be conducted at the soonest possible time if only to clear my name.


JUDGE DOMINGO L. CASIPLE, JR.



Assistant Provincial
Prosecutor of Iloilo where I
served for seven (7) years.

continue

ANSWER

I, **DOMINGO L. CASIPLE, JR.**, of legal age, married and with office address at Regional Trial Court, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan, after having been sworn depose and say that:

"We emphasize that this Court will not shirk from its responsibility of imposing discipline upon erring employees and members of the bench. At the same time, however, the Court should not hesitate to shield them from unfounded suits that only serve to disrupt rather than promote the orderly administration of justice. This Court will not be the instrument to destroy the reputation of any member of the bench or any of its employees by pronouncing guilt on mere speculation.

-Umali, Jr. v. Hernandez, IPI No. 15-35-SB-J, February 23, 2016

1. I am the incumbent presiding judge of the Regional Trial Court, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan.

1.1. Imbued with the required qualities of competence, integrity probity and independence I was appointed as Regional Trial Court judge on July, 2012.

1.2. I was assigned to Regional Trial Court, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan.

1.3. My sala is a court of general jurisdiction. Never in my career as judge have I presided over a drug case.

1.4. Prior to my appointment as Regional Trial Court I was Assistant Provincial Prosecutor of Iloilo where I served for seven (7) years.

Continue

1.5. Since my appointment up to the present I have discharged my duties as a judge with dedication , loyalty to the Republic, fidelity to the law and I lived a simple and modest life.

2. Early in the morning of August 7, 2016 President Rodrigo Roa Duterte delivered a speech where he named the undersigned, among others, as a member of the judiciary who has involvement in illegal drugs. Despiciously, it did mention any factual or evidentiary basis for our involvement in such nefarious activity.

3. Our names reverberated in the corners of the country ,in the press - broadcast and print, in social media, in coffee shops and even in malicious whispers. I and the judges whose names were read by President Duterte were condemned even before we knew what our involvement was. Through the years I have strengthened my integrity and my dedication as a civil servant. It was snuffed out by the President's act of reading out my name. Ridicule, suspicion and embarrassment was the necessary consequence. I felt like a pariah in the Aklan judicial circle and in the community at large.

4. The damage to my integrity and reputation notwithstanding, the President of the Republic admitted to the general public that the list from which he read my name was nothing but an invalidated report. To my mind, an unvalidated report is raw data equivalent to "tsismis" and nothing more than hearsay evidence. It only confirmed that the list from which my name was culled is unreliable, unfounded and lacked the qualification to be admitted as evidence against an innocent individual.

5. When pressed to substantiate the allegations against me, all that was submitted by the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency to the Fact Finding Investigation is an unverified, unfounded

and valueless Memorandum dated September 22, 2016 from one Atty Gil T. Pabilona. The source of the facts and the conclusions are unknown. It remained uncorroborated . No documents were attached to the unverified, unfounded and valueless Memorandum dated September 22, 2016 from one Atty. Gil Pabilona. It is nothing but speculation and is hearsay evidence inadmissible in any proceeding.

6. In the said Memorandum, the only insinuation against me reads as follows:

c) Judge Domingo Casiple-former Judge of RTC, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan. Now a judge who was formerly a Provincial Prosecutor of Iloilo who was known to have been conniving with former Provincial Prosecutor Chief, Dusaban in case fixing. The two were instrumental in dismissing the case against Balasan Boys for violation of RA 9165, where the anti-illegal drug operation was conducted by PDEA RO6. The case was also subject of congressional inquiry.

7. A careful reading of my alleged "involvement", assuming this qualifies as such, were confined to the time when I was yet a member of Iloilo Provincial Prosecutor Office. It has nothing to do about my membership in the judiciary.

8. I vehemently deny that I was in cahoots with then Chief Provincial Prosecutor Bernabe Dusaban in alleged case-fixing. These are malicious insinuations the basis of which is only imagined. While case-fixing is imputed to me the Memorandum does not even point how I was involved as well as the details of my participation.

9. In the case of the Balasan Boys mentioned in the Memorandum, I was acting therein as the Preliminary Investigator. As preliminary investigator it was my sworn duty to determine if

probable cause exists. As prosecutor then, my sworn duty is not to persecute people but to see to it that justice is done.

10. In the said case law enforcement agents had a search warrant yet they asserted that a buy-bust happened. Contrary to the allegations in the Memorandum I did not dismiss the case but instead of filing a case for selling of illegal drugs I recommended the filing of an Information for violation for section 11 of RA 9165. In sum, the facts as presented led me to believe that no probable cause exists for violation of section 5 but only for section 11 of RA 9165. It was duly concurred in by my then chief of office, Iloilo Provincial Prosecutor Bernabe Dusaban. Under the instances, it was procedural for the Chief Prosecutor to either approve or disapprove the Preliminary Investigator's findings. Prosecutor Dusaban's concurrence with my observation did not make us conspirators.

11. Moreover, my resolution was a product of my personal, unbiased and objective evaluation of the facts as presented before me. I do not claim infallibility, but it was done in good faith. Nevertheless, infallible that I am my Resolutions are subject to reversal or affirmance by higher authorities if appealed.

12. I was never charged of any malfeasance, misfeasance or non-feasance by reason of the Resolution I wrote involving the so-called Balasan Boys. If indeed I was a drug protector then the PDEA or other law enforcement agents should have filed a case against me years ago.

13. Indeed, there was a congressional inquiry about the Balasan boys. However, there was nothing that came out of the said inquiry.

14. If the Memorandum's imputation against me were to be given consideration this produces a chilling effect to prosecutors and judges. It can be translated to mean that whenever members of the judiciary or the prosecution stands to reason,

pay heed to the majesty of the law and adjudicates in a case disfavorable to law enforcement agents they will be branded as "drug protectors" or are "linked" to the drug trade.

15. Translated otherwise, this means that judges like me cannot afford to rule against law enforcement agents or the State even when the evidence clearly dictates otherwise. Judges should be free from any undue influence to be able to dispense justice. It pains me that when I stood by my conscience siding on the preservation of the law's majesty I am now charged as a drug coddler. Such inadmissible evidence should not be permitted to destroy the integrity and reputation of judges.

16. Worse, no less than the very memorandum itself states that "x x x there is no evidence of their direct involvement in illegal drug trade in Region VI" and that, "xxxthe informant does not want also to execute an affidavit to prove that the same judges were receiving money from Odicta". This underscores the fact that indeed the evidence presented against me is classic hearsay, unsubstantiated and uncorroborated. This makes unbelievable the allegation that I was receiving P25,000.00 per week from Odicta, were in Odicta's house on Saturdays and seen cavorting with the Odicta couple.

17. I have not received any single centavo from the Odictas or from any one in exchange for protection or for favorable decisions. Neither have I cavorted with the Odicta couple. I am assigned in Kalibo, Aklan since 2012 and I do not handle drug cases. I cannot imagine how I can be a "protector" of the Odictas when I am in another province miles away from Iloilo and which speaks a different dialect. There has been no showing that Odicta had drug links in Aklan.

18. I hardly go to Iloilo City because when I go home on weekends from my assignment in Kalibo, Aklan I stay in my hometown of Lambunao, Iloilo which is about 60 kilometers away from the city.

My time is readily consumed by my family and my personal pursuits.

18. What pains me even more is that I am maligned in my present capacity as judge when the "insinuations" on the basis of which I am linked to these false accusations happened when I was still a prosecutor and involved only a single case which I resolved contrary to the desire of law enforcement agents. This is totally unfair.

19. In the light of the foregoing, I pray that my dignity and integrity be vindicated and restored by proclaiming our exoneration from whatever malicious imputation, blemish in character and tainted reputation I have suffered as a consequence of the President's speech on August 7, 2016 and the unfounded allegations against me as embodied in the PDEA Memorandum dated September 22, 2016 .

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this presents this ___ day of October, 2016, in the City of _____, Philippines.



DOMINGO L. CASIPLE, JR.

VERIFICATION

I, **DOMINGO L. CASIPLE, JR.**, of legal age, Filipino, married and with office address at Regional Trial Court, Branch 7, Kalibo, Aklan, , after having been sworn depose and say, that:

I am the respondent in the above entitled case;

I caused the preparation of the foregoing Answer, that I have read the contents thereof and the allegations therein is true and correct to the best of my personal knowledge as well as from available, existing and authentic records;

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this presents this ___ day of October, 2016, in the City of _____, Philippines.

DOMINGO L. CASIPLE, JR.

Competent Evidence of Identity:
Driver's License No.
F03-86-023601

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 3rd day of October, 2016 in the City of _____, Philippines.

Doc. No. ___;
Page No. ___;
Book No. ___;
Series of 2016.

(Notary Public)
number
Roberto A. Abad
Supreme Court Designated
Investigator