



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
 SUPREME COURT
 Manila

SECOND DIVISION

SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES
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NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

Please take notice that the Court, Second Division, issued a Resolution dated 02 October 2019 which reads as follows:

¹G.R. Nos. 242506-10 – LUIS RAMON P. LORENZO, petitioner, versus HON. SANDIGANBAYAN SIXTH DIVISION and THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, respondents.

G.R. Nos. 242590-94 – ARTHUR CUA YAP, petitioner, versus SANDIGANBAYAN (SIXTH DIVISION) and PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, respondents.

X-----X

For the Court's resolution is the Urgent Motion for Leave to Travel Abroad¹ filed by Arthur C. Yap (Yap), the co-accused of herein petitioner Luis Ramon P. Lorenzo in Crim. Case Nos. SB-18-CRM-0288 to 0292.²

On June 10, 2019, the Second Division of the Court issued a temporary restraining order³ (TRO) in G.R. Nos. 242506-10, enjoining the Sandiganbayan Sixth Division (Sandiganbayan), its representatives, agents, or other persons acting on its behalf from proceeding with the arraignment and trial of Crim. Case Nos. SB-18-CRM-0288 to 0292 pending final adjudication of the instant case.

On June 21, 2019, the Sandiganbayan wrote a letter⁴ to the Court seeking guidance on whether it may act on other incidents such as, but not limited to, motions for authority to travel abroad and the issuance of an order of preventive suspension.

In a Resolution⁵ dated July 29, 2019 in G.R. Nos. 242506-10, the Court directed the Sandiganbayan to submit for its resolution all incidents and matters that may arise from the proceedings in the subject criminal cases pending final adjudication of the instant case.

On September 23, 2019, Yap filed before this Court an Urgent Motion for Leave to Travel Abroad⁶ requesting that he be allowed to travel on October 13 to 20, 2019 to attend the Boao Forum for Asia Board Working Meeting 2019.⁷

According to Yap, he is still finalizing the booking of his plane tickets and hotel accommodation and is processing his travel authority. However, in

¹ Rollo (G.R. Nos. 242506-10), pp. 526-535.

² See id. at 165.

³ Id. at 309-310.

⁴ Id. at 321-322.

⁵ Id. at 328-329.

⁶ Id. at 526-535.

⁷ Id. at 526.

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view of the proximity of the intended trip, he filed the instant Motion with an undertaking to submit the additional supporting documents as soon as they become available.⁸

Yap assures the Court that he is not a flight risk. As the incumbent Governor of the Province of Bohol, Yap avers that he is committed to fulfill his mandate to his constituents. Moreover, his personal and business interests are here; hence, it would be very difficult for him to start a new life abroad, especially as a fugitive.⁹

Further, Yap avers that he had complied with the terms and conditions of all the travel authorities previously issued to him by the Sandiganbayan and this Court. Similarly, Yap undertakes to abide by the terms and conditions that the Court may impose on him as regards the instant request.¹⁰

WHEREFORE, the Urgent Motion for Leave to Travel Abroad from October 13 to 20, 2019 filed by Arthur C. Yap is **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Yap shall file a manifestation before the Sandiganbayan Executive Clerk of Court informing the latter of the final departure date from the Philippines, the final arrival date to the Philippines, and all pertinent flight information relating to his travels, including travel information to and from the place indicated in his Motion;
- b. Yap's travel itinerary shall be limited to the place stated in his Motion;
- c. Within five (5) days after his return, Yap shall proceed to the Sandiganbayan Executive Clerk of Court and present his passport and photocopies of the pages indicating the stamp regarding his exit from and arrival in the Philippines, duly authenticated by the Sandiganbayan Executive Clerk of Court after a comparison with the original; and
- d. Yap shall post a cash bond of ₱500,000.00 within five (5) days from notice of this Resolution with the Sandiganbayan Executive Clerk of Court to ensure his return to the Philippines. Failure to post the bond within five (5) days from notice will result in the denial of Yap's Urgent Motion for Leave to Travel Abroad. The Sandiganbayan Executive Clerk of Court shall furnish this

⁸ Id. at 526-527.

⁹ Id. at 527.

¹⁰ Id.

Court with a report confirming payment of the cash bond within five (5) days of payment.

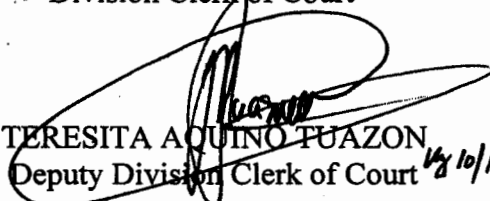
Upon Yap's return, the Sandiganbayan Executive Clerk of Court shall file a report with the Second Division Clerk of Court within fifteen (15) days from the date of Yap's appearance before him to confirm Yap's compliance with all conditions of this Resolution.

SO ORDERED. //

Very truly yours,

MARIA LOURDES C. PERFECTO
Division Clerk of Court

By:


TERESITA AQUINO TUAZON
Deputy Division Clerk of Court 10/11

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GR242506-10 & 242590-94. 10/02/19A(155[b])