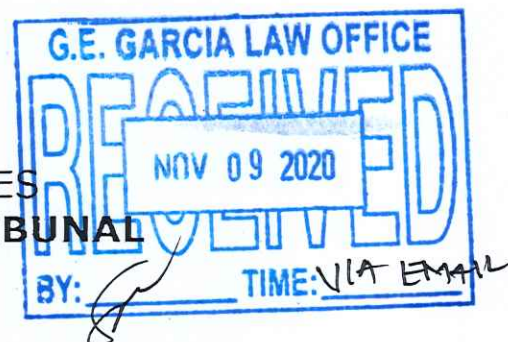


REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL
MANILA



FERDINAND "BONGBONG"
R. MARCOS, JR.,
Protestant,

-versus

PET CASE No. 005
For: Election Protest for Vice
President

MARIA LEONOR "LENI
DAANG MATUWID" G.
ROBREDO,
Protestee.

X-----X

*He serves the cause of the law
who forestalls the miscarriage of justice.*

- J. Sanchez in *Pimentel v. Hon. Salanga*
(G.R. No. L-27934, September 18, 1967)

OMNIBUS MOTION
(MOTION FOR INHIBITION OF ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
MARVIC M.V.F. LEONEN AND RERAFFLE)

THE OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (OSG),
to this Honorable Presidential Electoral Tribunal (Tribunal),
respectfully states:

PREFATORY STATEMENT

1. The purity of the election is one of the most fundamental requisites of government.¹ The people deserves nothing less but the speedy resolution of the instant election protest because not only does it involve genuine public interest, the people must not be deprived of their right to know who is their real choice.²

¹ *Cauton v. Comelec*, G.R. No. L-25467 (April 27, 1967).

² *Garcia v. Court of Appeals*, G.R. No. L-31775 (December 28, 1970).

2. Since the instant case was re-raffled to Associate Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen (Justice Leonen), the people has been suspended in animation for close to a year (11 months), which, among other reasons, not only suggests bias, but actually proves partiality of Justice Leonen against protestant Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. (protestant).

3. A factual antecedent of Justice Leonen's dissent in *Ocampo v. Enriquez, et al.*,³ and its companion cases (collectively referred to as the Marcos burial cases), together with other opinions written by him, is necessary to better understand the *raison d'être* for this motion for inhibition especially his express predisposition against the Marcoses. Moreover, his previous relation to protestant Marcos prior to his appointment as an Associate Justice of the Honorable Supreme Court would show why he is wired to be partial and biased against protestant. There is also a need to investigate some reports about his activities and actuations that destroy the reputation and trust of the people to an impartial Presidential Electoral Tribunal.

4. In the preparation of the Comment, the OSG could not help but observe the undue delay that has characterized the proceedings both under the previous and current Members in Charge. The inaction of the current Member in Charge, the Honorable Justice Leonen, for the past 11 months, coupled with his expressed disdain to the members of the Marcos family, duly recorded in his opinions as Associate Justice, compel us, with due respect, to move for his inhibition.

5. Generally, the OSG represents the Government of the Philippines, its agencies and instrumentalities and its officials and agents in any litigation, proceeding, investigation or matter requiring the services of lawyers.⁴ The exception to this rule is when it acts as the "People's Tribune." As such, it represents the best interests of the

³ G.R. No. 225973; *Lagman, et al., v. Medialdea, et al.*, G.R. No. 225984; *Rosales, et al., v. Medialdea, et al.*, G.R. No. 226097; *Alvarez, et al., v. Medialdea, et al.*, G.R. No. 226116; *Baniaga, et al. v. Lorenzana, et al.*, G.R. No. 226117; *Latiph, et al., v. Lorenzana, et al.*, G.R. No. 226120; *De Lima, et al., v. Medialdea, et al.*, G.R. No. 226294 (November 8, 2016).

⁴ 1987 ADM. CODE (1987), book IV, title III, chap. 12, sec. 35.

State, and may take an adverse position from the government agency under litigation. In *Pimentel, Jr. v. Commission on Elections*, the Supreme Court held, that:⁵

True, the Solicitor General is mandated to represent the Government, its agencies and instrumentalities and its officials and agents in any litigation, proceeding, investigation or matter requiring the services of a lawyer. However, the Solicitor General may, as it has in instances take a position adverse and contrary to that of the Government on the reasoning that it is incumbent upon him to present to the court what he considers would legally uphold the best interest of the government although it may run counter to a client's position.⁶

6. This Omnibus Motion is thus being made pursuant to the OSG's mandate as Tribune of the People. The Supreme Court explained the rationale for the OSG's role as Tribune of the People in *Gonzales v. Hon. Chavez*⁷ in this wise:

Indeed, in the final analysis, it is the Filipino people as a collectivity that constitutes the Republic of the Philippines. Thus, the distinguished client of the OSG is the people themselves of which the individual lawyers in said office are a part.

...

Moreover, endowed with a broad perspective that spans the legal interests of virtually the entire government officialdom, the OSG may be expected to transcend the parochial concerns of a particular client agency and instead, promote and protect the public weal. Given such objectivity, it can discern, metaphorically speaking, the panoply that is the forest and not just the individual trees. Not merely will it strive for a legal victory circumscribed by the narrow interests of the client office or official, but as well, the vast concerns of the sovereign which it is committed to serve.

(emphasis supplied)

⁵ 352 Phil. 424 (1998) [Per J. Kapunan, En Banc].

⁶ Id.

⁷ 282 Phil. 858 (1992) [Per J. Romero, En Banc].

6. This function of the OSG as Tribune of the People was made explicit in *Orbos v. CSC* where the Supreme Court pronounced that the OSG "should not therefore desist from appearing before this Court even in those cases he finds his opinion inconsistent with the Government or any of its agents he is expected to represent. The Court must be advised of his position just as well."⁸

7. As the People's Tribune, it is therefore incumbent upon the OSG to present to this Honorable Tribunal a legal position that it perceives to be in the best interest of the State and the People, notwithstanding the findings and/or stand of any trial court, government office or party.

8. The Filipino electorate has been on edge as regards the real winner in the elections for Vice President. So while the OSG is not technically a party to the present election contest, it filed the Comment on the defined issues as required by the Honorable Tribunal, and, in addition, moves for the inhibition of Justice Leonen on grounds as shall be discussed hereunder:

RELEVANT ANTECEDENTS

9. Prior to his appointment to the Supreme Court, Justice Leonen was a Former Dean and Professor at the University of the Philippines (UP) College of Law where he also obtained his law degree. It was in UP where he co-founded the *Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center, Inc.* Justice Leonen is a known and respected advocate for environmental and human rights. In July 2010, he was named by then President Benigno S. Aquino III as the Philippine government's Chief Negotiator with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). He successfully led the parties into signing the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB)⁹ which was signed on October 15, 2012. The FAB would later become the basis and reference of the

⁸ (G.R. No. 92561 (September 12, 1990).

⁹ The full text is available at

https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/PH_121015_FrameworkAgreementBangsamoro.pdf last accessed on October 27, 2020.

appurtenant annexes and the proposed legislation for the creation of a Bangsamoro sub-entity in Mindanao as proposed by him and President Aquino III.¹⁰

10. The proposed Bangsamoro sub-entity, however, was met with overwhelming opposition from constitutional law experts who opined that the FAB contained unconstitutional provisions and other indigenous groups who felt left out by the negotiations conducted by Justice Leonen, as the Chief Negotiator exclusively with the MILF. The holding of secret talks in Malaysia and Japan was also openly criticized.¹¹ The surrounding public debates led two Senate Committees: the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes chaired by the late Senator Miriam Defensor-Santiago and the Committee on Local Government chaired by then Senator Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr., to closely scrutinize the proposed enabling legislation *via* Senate Bill No. 2408 (referred to as the "Bangsamoro Basic Law" or BBL; dated September 15, 2014).¹²

11. Sen. Santiago's committee concluded, among others, that the proposed creation of a sub-state and the delineation of powers, classified under the FAB and the draft BBL as (a) retained or reserved, (b) concurrent, and (c) exclusive, were unconstitutional.¹³ The same committee

¹⁰ In a briefing at Malacanang on October 8, 2012, then Chief Negotiator Leonen described the FAB, as follows: "The framework agreement is the mother agreement that is a roadmap and contains a set of principles and values that would guide the process for the final political settlement with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front." See <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2012/10/08/press-briefing-by-presidential-spokesperson-lacierda-and-gph-peace-panel-chairman-leonen-october-8-2012/> last accessed on October 27, 2020.

¹¹ See <https://ndbcnews.com.ph/news/marcos-endorses-self-styled-bbl-hits-malaysia-sponsorship-speech;> [https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/533158/bongbong-guarantee-phl-won-t-drop-sabah-claim-should-be-in-bbl/story/;](https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/533158/bongbong-guarantee-phl-won-t-drop-sabah-claim-should-be-in-bbl/story/) <https://manilastandardtoday.com/opinion/columns/hail-to-the-chair-by-victor-avecilla/177688/malaysia-s-new-plans-to-undermine-philippine-interests.html>; <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/228541/milf-calls-aquino-murad-meeting-a-great-leap-forward/story/> last accessed on October 27, 2020. See also Sponsorship Speech on the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law: A Country Without Heroes, Is A Country Without Soul, http://legacy.senate.gov.ph/press_release/2015/0812_marcos2.asp last accessed on October 30, 2020.

¹² With then Senate President Franklin M. Drilon as principal sponsor.

¹³ Among the experts whose opinions were sought included former Supreme Court Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban; former Justices Florentino Feliciano and Vicente Mendoza; and former UP Law Dean Merlin Magallona. The Committee Report stated in part:

The term "sovereignty" means supreme dominion, authority, or rule. A sovereign State is a state that possesses an independent existence, being complete in itself. While the Philippines remains a sovereign state, the changes sought by the BBL conspire to create a part-sovereign state or a sub-state, meaning a political community in which part of the powers of external sovereignty are exercised by the home government, and part are vested in or controlled by some other political body or bodies. Thus creating what today we usually call a sub-state, the BBL creates an entire state within the Philippine state.

report, together with other findings, caused Sen. Marcos to describe the BBL, as originally proposed, to "lead us to perdition" and, accordingly "overhauled" the bill. He then introduced in its stead Senate Bill 2894 (referred to as "Basic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region;" dated August 10, 2015) which comprised 100 pages with 17 articles and 215 sections thereby rejecting the proposals originally contained in the FAB.¹⁴

12. Meanwhile, Justice Leonen was appointed to the Supreme Court by then President Benigno S. Aquino III on November 21, 2012¹⁵ or exactly five (5) weeks after the signing of the FAB and the lapse of just a few days following an "interview" by then President Aquino III. The appointment of Justice Leonen was announced by Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda as "imbued with high standards of probity and independence."¹⁶

When the BBL provides for certain provisions that collide with the Constitution, the effect is for the BBL to derogate the powers of sovereignty of the people. In providing for three different kinds of power – reserved, concurrent, and exclusive – the BBL allows the Bangsamoro government the power to diminish national sovereignty. When the BBL provides for concurrent powers, it means that the Bangsamoro government shares power with the national government. When the BBL provides for exclusive powers, it means that the Bangsamoro on occasion even exercises power independently of the national government.

In other words, the concept under the BBL of "concurrent powers" and "exclusive powers" tear asunder the supreme authority possessed by the sovereignty of the people. Many powers, functions, and responsibilities are sought to be transferred to the internal sovereignty of the Bangsamoro government, which is supposed to have a co-equal status with the national government. The Bangsamoro government under the BBL will be a part- sovereign state or a sub-state. This was never intended nor ever approved, by the Philippine Constitution.

The full committee report is available at http://legacy.senate.gov.ph/press_release/2015/bangsamoro%20basic%20law%20report%20of%20the%20committee%20on%20consti%20amendments%2011may2015.pdf last accessed on October 27, 2020

¹⁴ See <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/world/philippines-govt-welcomes-amended-bangsamoro-bill/17035>; <https://www.rappler.com/nation/document-marcos-substitute-bbl>; <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/697801/bongbong-marcos-slammed-for-megalomania-in-overhauling-bbl>, last accessed on October 27, 2020.

¹⁵ See <http://sc.judiciary.gov.ph/367/>, last accessed on October 27, 2020.

¹⁶ It was reported in part by *Rappler*, as follows:

President Benigno Aquino III appointed government peace panel chief Marvic Leonen to the High Court on Wednesday, November 21. He will take over the seat vacated in August by now Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno.

The President views his appointment as a "contribution to his vision of an empowered and independent" judiciary, according to Presidential Spokesman Edwin Lacierda in a press briefing at 4:20 pm. It's "a lasting legacy" of the Aquino administration that is "consistent with his desire" to see a "judiciary imbued with high standards of probity and independence," Lacierda added.

The President met with the 49-year-old Leonen in Malacañang Wednesday at 1 pm. He was the last of the 7 nominees to the position to be interviewed since Leonen was in Kuala Lumpur last week for the negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

GROUND FOR INHIBITION

I.

JUSTICE MARVIC M.V.F. LEONEN
UNEQUIVOCALLY EXHIBITED BIAS AND
PARTIALITY AGAINST THE WHOLE MARCOS
FAMILY IN HIS DISSENT IN THE MARCOS
BURIAL CASES.

II.

JUSTICE MARVIC M.V.F. LEONEN'S
PARTIALITY AGAINST THE MARCOSES HAS
LED TO A DECISION IN *FRANCISCO I. CHAVEZ*
v. IMELDA R. MARCOS WHICH EXHIBITS LACK
OF COMPETENCE AND PROBITY.

III.

JUSTICE MARVIC M.V.F. LEONEN'S
PARTIALITY OR SEMBLANCE THEREOF, ASIDE
FROM BEING REPORTED, HAS BEEN EVIDENT
IN THE DELAY IN HIS ACTIONS OVER THE
PROTEST CASE, THUS RESULTING TO
IMPAIRMENT OF PUBLIC TRUST IN THE
JUDICIARY.

*A. Justice Leonen's perceived partiality has
been reported and discussed in both mass and
social media.*

*B. The delay has further resulted to lingering
doubt on Justice Leonen's impartiality.*

*C. Old but unrepealed laws, Republic Act No.
1793 and Batas Pambansa Blg. 884, both*

require immediate termination of the long delayed protest case.

IV.

PREVAILING RULES AND JURISPRUDENCE ON VOLUNTARY INHIBITION CALL FOR THE RECUSAL OF THE HONORABLE JUSTICE MARVIC M.V.F. LEONEN FROM PARTICIPATING, DELIBERATING AND ADJUDICATING ON THE PROTEST CASE.

DISCUSSIONS

I. Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen unequivocally exhibited bias and partiality against the whole Marcos family in his Dissent in the Marcos burial cases.

13. In his scathing dissent in the Marcos Burial cases,¹⁷ Justice Leonen candidly wrote and expressed his loathsome attitude not just against President Ferdinand E. Marcos but also towards the latter's family and friends:

Former President Ferdinand E. Marcos presided over a regime that caused untold sufferings for millions of Filipinos. Gross violations of human rights were suffered by thousands. The public coffers contributed to by impoverished Filipinos were raided. **Ferdinand E. Marcos stood by as his family, associates, and cronies engaged in systematic plunder.** The national debt ballooned during his regime.

He was eventually ousted by a public uprising. His regime and the abuses he committed during that time led to a complete rethinking of our constitutional order. The 1987 Constitution embeds most of our experiences during Martial Law. It was a reaction to the failures of governance

¹⁷ *Ocampo, et al., v. Enriquez, et al., etc., supra.*

of Ferdinand E. Marcos and his cohorts.¹⁸ (emphasis and underscoring supplied)

14. Justice Leonen wrote that the widow and heirs of the late President Marcos were in no position to expect or much less demand the burial of the remains at the *Libingan ng mga Bayani*. He even imputed ill motives to the majority of the Supreme Court who agreed or concurred with the *ponencia* in the case, obviously not just simply satisfied with attacking the Marcos family:

The President's verbal orders do not provide for a definite and complete reason for transferring the remains of Former President Ferdinand E. Marcos from its originally intended site as shown in the agreement signed by Former Secretary Rafael Alunan III (Former Secretary Alunan) and Imelda Marcos to the Libingan ng mga Bayani. It was whimsical, capricious, and an abuse of discretion, and could have been done only to accommodate the private interest of the Heirs of Marcos.¹⁹ (emphasis and underscoring supplied)

15. Justice Leonen then further disclosed his personal biases against the late President Marcos and his family:

Our jurisprudence clearly shows that Ferdinand E. Marcos does not even come close to being one who will inspire. His example should not be emulated by this generation, or by generations yet to come.

Ferdinand E. Marcos has been characterized as an **authoritarian** by this Court in nine (9) Decisions and 9 Separate Opinions. He was called a **dictator** in 19 Decisions and 16 Separate Opinions. That he was unceremoniously deposed as President or dictator by a direct act of the People was stressed in 16 Decisions and six (6) Separate Opinions. This Court has also declared that the amount of US\$658,175,373.60, in Swiss deposits under the name of the Marcoses, was ill-gotten wealth that should be forfeited in favor of the State.²⁰ (emphases in the original; citations omitted)

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*

16. Despite the clear language of a cited jurisprudence in his dissent, Justice Leonen ascribed and imputed the whole Marcos family as beneficiaries of ill-gotten wealth:

In *Presidential Commission on Good Governance v. Pena*, **this Court recognized the gargantuan task of the Philippine Commission on Good Governance in recovering the ill-gotten wealth of the Marcoses and the "organized pillage" of his regime:**

Having been charged with the herculean task of bailing the country out of the financial bankruptcy and morass of the previous regime and returning to the people what is rightfully theirs, the Commission could ill-afford to be ~~prostrate with a huge \$27 billion foreign debt that has since ballooned to \$28.5 billion.²¹~~
prostrate with a huge \$27 billion foreign debt that has since ballooned to \$28.5 billion.²¹ (citations omitted; emphasis and underscoring supplied)

17. In this regard, it is submitted that there is no clear basis and, therefore, unwarranted, to state that the "Marcos regime" is the same as the "Marcos family." To be sure, the

Supreme Court made no plenary attribution of ill-gotten wealth against the "Marcos family" in *PCGG v. Pena*.²²

18. Despite the repeated discussions that human rights violations were state-sponsored during the years under Marcos, the good Justice, nevertheless, lumped the members of the Marcos family, together with others, as a single unit of human rights violators oblivious to the age, status, or even outright lack of participation in the public sphere of a Marcos family member:

In clear and unmistakable terms, the law recognizes the culpability of Ferdinand E. Marcos for acts of summary execution, torture, enforced or involuntary disappearances, and other gross violations of human rights. **The law likewise implies that not only was he the President that presided over those violations, but that he and his spouse, relatives, associates, cronies, and subordinates were active participants.**²³ (emphasis and underscoring supplied)

19. Justice Leonen's dissent evidently expresses deeply-rooted personal hatred despite the clear intent and desire of President Rodrigo E. Duterte, as affirmed by the majority in this Honorable Court in the prevailing *ponencia*, to have the burial serve as an instrument or symbol of closure, healing and reconciliation:

Having the remains of Ferdinand E. Marcos in a national shrine called the *Libingan ng mga Bayani* undeniably elevates his status. It produces an indelible remark on our history. **It commingles his name and his notorious legacy with the distinctively heroic and exemplary actions of all those privileged to be buried there.**

The transfer of Ferdinand E. Marcos' remains violates the policy of full and public disclosure of the truth. **It produces an inaccurate account of the violations committed. It will fail to educate all sectors of society and all generations of the human rights violations committed under his watch.** It is a violation of the fundamental statutory policy of recognition of the human

²² G.R. No. 77663 (April 12, 1988).

²³ *Id.*

rights violations committed during the Marcos regime.²⁴
(emphasis and underscoring supplied)

20. Suffice it to state that neither the President nor the majority of the Court was attempting, subtly or otherwise, any form of historical revisionism or what Justice Leonen described as attempt of "respondents [to] rewrite our history to erase the remembrance of Ferdinand E. Marcos as a symbol of the atrocities committed to many of our People." The public respondents even clearly stated in the Marcos burial cases that the remains of the late President "will not be buried as a hero, but only as a President, soldier, and Medal of Valor Awardee." Showing yet again his personal biases, neither could Justice Leonen yield to the postulate proffered in the *ponencia* concurred in by the majority that the late President was "just a human who erred like us."

21. Justice Leonen even obscured the legal discussion in the Marcos burial cases by suggesting the need for unconditional apology from the heirs of the late President as he wrote:

The transfer of the remains of Ferdinand E. Marcos negates all these aspects of Satisfaction and Guarantee of Non-Repetition. **There has been no sufficient public apology, full acknowledgement of facts, or any clear acceptance of responsibility on the part of Ferdinand E. Marcos or his Heirs.** Neither was Ferdinand E. Marcos sanctioned specifically for human rights violations. Now that he is dead, the victims can no longer avail themselves of this recourse. To add insult to this injury, the President decided to acknowledge the heroic acts and other favorable aspects of Ferdinand E. Marcos, the person primarily responsible for these human rights violations. This affects the accuracy of the accounts of the violations committed on the victims. It reneges on the State's obligation to provide human rights education and humanitarian law education to the Filipino People. It contributes to allowing violations of international human rights law and encourages impunity. If the State chooses to revere the person responsible for human rights violations, the perception of its People and the rest of the world on the gravity and weight of the violations

²⁴ *Id.*

is necessarily compromised.²⁵ (emphasis and underscoring supplied)

22. There was likewise prejudgment on the participation of practically all the members of the Marcos family for alleged plunder when they were exiled as Justice Leonen wrote:

Ferdinand E. Marcos plundered the nation's coffers. The systematic plunder was so exceptional and outrageous that even after being ousted, he and his family brought more than P27,000,000.00 in freshly printed notes, 23 wooden crates, 12 suitcases and bags, and various boxes of jewelry, gold bricks, and enough clothes to fill 57 racks with them to their exile in Hawaii.²⁶ (emphasis and underscoring supplied)

23. It is all too clear that Justice Leonen's scornful remarks in his dissent, comprising 94 pages and containing a litany of expressions beyond the legal issues presented in the Marcos burial cases, established his hatred towards the Marcos family, to which protestant belongs.

24. Justice Leonen's bias and partiality, moreover, is not only evident in a single dissent or opinion.

25. In his dissent in *Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo v. People of the Philippines*,²⁷ a case involving the validity of the Sandiganbayan's resolution denying the demurrer to the evidence filed by President Macapagal-Arroyo for the crime of plunder, Justice Leonen still managed to unnecessarily take a swipe at the Marcoses, viz:

Republic Act No. 7080 or the Anti-Plunder Law was adopted in the wake of the Marcos dictatorship, when the pilferage of the country's wealth by former President Ferdinand E. Marcos, his wife Imelda, their family and cronies bled the Philippine economy dry. The terms "kleptocracy," "plunder," and "government by thievery" populated political discourse during Marcos' rule. Their ravaging is confirmed in jurisprudence. *Republic v.*

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ G.R. No. 220598 (July 19, 2016 and April 18, 2017).

Sandiganbayan professes the Marcos' regime's looting of at least US\$650 million (as of January 31, 2002) worth of government funds.²⁸ (citations omitted)

26. As evident from the above, Justice Leonen gave the impression that the Marcoses are guilty of the crime of plunder. Yet a quick perusal of *Republic v. Sandiganbayan*²⁹ from where he purportedly sourced his *ad hominem* arguments reveals that the Supreme Court in said case merely ordered the civil forfeiture of treasury notes and bank accounts of foreign foundations. And while the word "kleptocracy" was, by way of allegation, used by petitioner Republic in said case, said word and the other similar words were never used by the Supreme Court.

II. Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen's partiality against the Marcoses has led to a Decision in *Francisco I. Chavez v. Imelda R. Marcos*³⁰ which exhibits lack of competence and probity.

27. Blinded by partiality, Justice Leonen has betrayed his oath to administer justice with competence and probity.

28. This is evident in *Francisco I. Chavez v. Imelda R. Marcos*³¹ which involved 33 consolidated criminal cases for violation of foreign currency and allied laws filed by the People of the Philippines against the former First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, among others. The late Solicitor General Francisco I. Chavez, who was a material witness for the prosecution, however, repeatedly failed to complete his testimony. After numerous postponements, Presiding Judge Silvino T. Pampilo, Jr. set an intransferable date for the witness to testify and authenticate certain exhibits. Prior to said date, the prosecution filed a motion to inhibit against the Judge which

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ G.R. No. 152154 (July 15, 2003).

³⁰ G.R. No. 185484 (June 27, 2018).

³¹ *Id.*

filing prompted the former Solicitor General to unilaterally absent himself in the scheduled hearing. Mrs. Marcos' counsel, consequently, sought a declaration of the prosecution's waiver to present evidence.³²

29. A few days after the hearing which he failed to attend, Chavez filed a petition for *certiorari*, prohibition, and *mandamus* with the Court of Appeals, praying that it declare null Judge Pampilo's order in open court denying the motion to inhibit. The Court of Appeals denied Chavez's petition on the basis that Judge Pampilo's alleged bias was not sufficiently substantiated. The Court of Appeals also ruled that there was no undue haste on the part of Judge Pampilo when he ordered that the prosecution rest its case. By then, trial had concluded in the criminal cases. Less than a month after the Court of Appeals' Decision and thus, in the absence of any impediment, Judge Pampilo promulgated his Decision, acquitting accused Mrs. Marcos on the ground of reasonable doubt.³³

30. On why and how the acquittal led to a full-blown Supreme Court case is an interesting read.

31. Chavez, notwithstanding the Decision of acquittal of Mrs. Marcos by the RTC, filed a motion to reconsider the Court of Appeals' Decision as regards the matter of inhibition which motion, however, was denied. Chavez brought the matter to the Supreme Court *via* petition for review on *certiorari*. The proceedings were summarized in the *ponencia* as follows:

Thus, Chavez filed this Petition for Review on *Certiorari* before this Court. After Imelda filed her Comment and Chavez filed his Reply, this Court gave due course to the petition. Chavez filed his Memorandum, and Imelda, after seeking four (4) extensions of time to file, finally filed her Memorandum by mail on January 4, 2010. On October 3, 2016, this Court required the parties to move in the premises and to inform this Court of pertinent

³² *Id.*

³³ *Id.*

developments which may be of help in the disposition of this case, or which may have rendered it moot and academic. On November 18, 2016, counsel for petitioner informed this Court that petitioner Chavez passed away on September 11, 2013. Thereafter, counsel for petitioner filed a Motion for Resolution arguing that petitioner's action survives his death as it involves an issue not personal to him, namely, the national coffers, and that his death does not render the remedies prayed for moot and academic, or impossible.³⁴ (citations omitted)

32. The *ponente*, Justice Leonen, obviously was not the initial Member in Charge of the case as he was only appointed to the Supreme Court in 2012. But how a judgment of acquittal ended up being reviewed on the collateral issue of propriety of inhibition is a puzzle. Unexpectedly, the *ponencia* proposed the resolution of the following issues:

First, whether or not the petition should be dismissed for raising questions of fact;

Second, whether or not the Regional Trial Court May 28, 2007 Decision acquitting respondent Imelda R. Marcos was issued in violation of a subsisting injunction; and

Finally, whether or not the records show that Judge Silvino T. Pampilo, Jr. acted with bias in favor of respondent Imelda R. Marcos.³⁵

33. Clearly, there was absolutely no discussion on the violation of the accused's basic human right against double jeopardy and/or speedy disposition of her case. Neither the standing of a private individual (who later died during the pendency of the case), without participation from either the People of the Philippines or the Republic of the Philippines, to pursue the case further, was ever mentioned.

34. The petition of Chavez was eventually denied but Mrs. Marcos, despite her acquittal, *lost* as she was constrained to re-litigate for an additional period of more than ten (10) years.

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ *Id.*

III. Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen's partiality or semblance thereof, aside from being reported, has been evident in the delay in his actions over the protest case, thus resulting to impairment of public trust in the Judiciary.

A. Justice Leonen's perceived partiality has been reported and discussed in both mass and social media.

35. In an exclusive two-part banner headline, *The Manila Times*, through Jomar Canlas, reported on October 12 and 13, 2020 the alleged prejudgment of Justice Leonen. The first part of the report reads in part:

Justice prejudged Marcos poll protest.
(First of Two Parts)

The fate of the election protest of former senator Ferdinand Marcos Jr. had already been decided by its ponente long before the case was assigned to him.

Marcos ran for vice president in 2016 against Maria Leonor Robredo. She won by a narrow margin of about 263,000.

Marcos demanded a recount, claiming the returns from clustered precincts in three Mindanao provinces were questionable.

According to unimpeachable sources of *The Manila Times* in the Supreme Court, Associate Justice Mario Victor Leonen wanted to dismiss outright Marcos' protest more than a year after it was brought before the high court, sitting as Presidential Electoral Tribunal (PET), on June 29, 2016.

After more than four years, the case has gained little headway in the tribunal.

The case was raffled off to Leonen on Oct. 29, 2019, 14 days after the tribunal adopted his recommendation to get the case moving again.

One Times source said on July 10, 2017, Leonen provided his colleagues in the PET a draft of his 25-page reflections on the case before their July 11, 2017 en banc session.

Among the magistrates who made up the tribunal at the time were Chief Justice Diosdado Peralta, Senior Associate Justice Estela Perlas-Bernabe, Justice Alfredo Benjamin Caguioa and Leonen himself. Caguioa was the ponente then. The source said Leonen wanted to dismiss the protest, arguing that it did not specify the acts of fraud, anomalies, or irregularities committed.

Another Times source said that in his reflections, Leonen pressed for dismissing the protest, citing Rule 21 of the PET.

"Marcos' protest is dismissible under Rule 21 of the Presidential Electoral Tribunal. It does not comply with the requirement of specifically alleging fraud, anomalies and/or irregularities. Entertaining Marcos' plea for relief, when he himself is unsure of his bases will be condoning Marcos' exploitation of the state resources for his own fishing expedition," the source said, directly quoting from Leonen's reflections.

The source added that Leonen wanted to respect the outcome of the vice presidential elections since "suffrage is at the heart of every democracy."

In the dispositive portion of the reflections, Leonen recommended "that the protestant (Marcos) be required to plead facts with more specificity. Otherwise, acting on protestee's (Robredo) Motion for Reconsideration dated February 24, 2017, the protest must be dismissed."

In the dispositive portion of the reflections, Leonen recommended "that the protestant (Marcos) be required to plead facts with more specificity. Otherwise, acting on protestee's (Robredo) Motion for Reconsideration dated February 24, 2017, the protest must be dismissed."

In her motion, Robredo asked for the outright dismissal of the protest, claiming it did not specify the acts or omissions showing electoral fraud, anomalies and irregularities in the protested precincts in the provinces of Basilan, Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao.

The tribunal denied Robredo's motion for lack of merit

Another court insider said Leonen was overheard by several officials and employees in the high court as saying that the case might not be resolved until the next elections in 2022. The case will become moot and academic once Marcos and Robredo file their certificates of candidacy for the 2022 polls.

The deadline for filing of certificates is October 2021.³⁶

36. The second part of the report, meanwhile, reads:

Leonen's secrets revealed.

(Part 2)

The 25-page reflections Supreme Court Associate Justice Marvic Mario Victor Leonen submitted to the Presidential Electoral Tribunal (PET) to support his argument to dismiss the election protest of vice presidential candidate Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. contains at least two intriguing features, according to a Supreme Court insider who has seen the documents.

The Leonen reflections bolster speculations that the magistrate was convinced as early as 2017 that Marcos' protest must be dismissed.

Marcos lost narrowly to Leonor "Leni" Robredo in 2016.

He filed a protest, demanding a recount of poll returns from three provinces in Mindanao.

The tribunal assigned the Marcos case to Justice Alfredo Benjamin Caguioa. Leonen took over the case on Oct. 29, 2019.

Even before he took charge, Leonen had circulated his reflections to members of the tribunal.

The court insider told The Manila Times he found intriguing the way Leonen secretly shared his sentiments on the Marcos case with the members of the PET, even before he became part of the panel.

The Times source said it was clear that Leonen wanted the tribunal members to buy his argument that Marcos failed to

³⁶ Available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/12/second-headline/justice-prejudged-marcos-poll-protest/779459/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

specify the poll precincts in Basilan, Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao where alleged irregularities occurred.

"Accordingly, I respectfully recommend that the protestant (Marcos) be required to plead facts with more specificity. Otherwise, acting on protestee's (Robredo) Motion for Reconsideration dated February 24, 2017, the protest must be dismissed," the insider quoted Leonen in the reflections.

"For us to keep doubting our elections at every possible instance, forces us to run in circles. It hampers our development and frustrates the empowering objectives of popular sovereignty. Absent clear anomalies, elections must be taken to have successfully manifested the free will of the sovereign. Thus, any election protest challenging the results of an election must clearly and specifically allege the irregularities that occurred and particularly identify the precincts where each violation occurred. Failure to do so warrants the dismissal of the protest," Leonen also wrote, the source said.

Another puzzling aspect of the document is the blank promulgation date and the words "Subject to Proofreading," the source said.

But most fascinating of all is that the document had a watermark consisting of strange scribblings resembling an ancient indigenous alphabet.

The Times found out that the characters were from the *baybayin* or *alibata* alphabet used by Filipinos during the 16th and 17th centuries.

Leonen used the *baybayin* letters that translate to the word "confidential."

The magistrate claims that his roots are from the *Kankanai* tribe of Northern Luzon.

The source also said there was a footnote in the reflections, which warned Supreme Court officials and employees that any unauthorized disclosure, sharing or publication of the document is punishable under court rules.

"Important Note for Court Staff. This is part of the internal deliberations of the Court.

Unauthorized disclosure, publication, or use of this document or any of its contents is classified as a grave offense and is punishable by suspension or dismissal from service," the footnote read, the source said.

In his protest, Marcos wanted the results from 36,465 from 39,221 clustered precincts in the three Mindanao provinces recounted and the remaining 2,756 annulled.

Marcos, who lost to Robredo by 263,473 votes, alleged there were "massive electoral fraud, anomalies and irregularities" such as preshading of ballots, preloaded Secure Digital cards, misreading of ballots, and malfunctioning vote-counting machines.³⁷

37. At first glance the news articles appear to be mere hearsay but careful perusal discloses and suggests that a certain document denominated as *Reflections* was indeed circulated, *albeit* in confidence, among the Members of the Tribunal. Accordingly, with all due respect, it behooves upon the Tribunal to investigate why such news or information started in the first place. And it does not help that there has been no categorical denial from Justice Leonen.

38. The sharing of the so-called *Reflections*, in deference to the Tribunal may be best resolved among the Members, but certain facts and factors lead to doubts on the impartiality of Justice Leonen. The reported document, as reported by *The Manila Times*, was distributed (a) in the early stages of the protest case, and (b) while the case was in the hands of the former Member-in-Charge. We may add further that based on our review of the case records following the directive to file Comment, the *Reflections*, assuming such document indeed exists, appears to favor the legal theory espoused by protestee on the alleged "lack of specificity" in protestant's allegations which, from our own evaluation or opinion, may not necessarily be the case. Without prejudice to further verification, protestant has averred that there are already findings from the COMELEC Voters Identification Division that the 2016 elections were marked by electoral fraud based on a technical examination of precincts in Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao and Basilan.

39. The news reports from *The Manila Times* triggered renewed public interest in the electoral protest. A simple

³⁷ Available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/13/news/national/leonens-secrets-revealed/779931/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

internet search of the relevant names, words and/or phrases, e.g., "Leonen," "Marcos," "Robredo," "vice president," "election protest," "Supreme Court," "inhibition," etc., will reveal increased activity both in mainstream media sites and social media.

40. Whether true or not, the news that Justice Leonen has prejudged the electoral protest affects the integrity of the Tribunal, if he remains to be the ponente. A judge must not only be impartial, but must appear to be impartial.

B. The delay has further resulted to lingering doubt on Justice Leonen's impartiality.

41. Even before the reports from *The Manila Times* were published, legal and political commentary has been critical of Justice Leonen's handling and management of the protest case to the prejudice of the whole Tribunal, if not the entire Judiciary.

42. Philippine media practitioners have not minced words and have been less than polite as they, by way of example, have written and described the situation as: "*Atrocious delay of justice in Marcos election protest*;"³⁸ "*Duterte's unfinished legacy*;"³⁹ "*Gone haywire*;"⁴⁰ and "*Why hasn't Bongbong learned from his father*?"⁴¹

43. More recently the following found publication: "*Is the Philippines a functioning democracy*?"⁴² "*Leonen: Not just*

³⁸ Editorial by *The Manila Times*, October 2, 2020, available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/02/opinion/editorial/atrocious-delay-of-justice-in-marcos-election-protest/775101/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

³⁹ Column article by Rod Kapunan, August 29, 2020, available at <https://manilastandard.net/opinion/columns/backbencher-by-rod-kapunan/332671/duterte-s-unfinished-legacy.html> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

⁴⁰ Column article by Rod Kapunan, October 10, 2020, available at <https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/336322> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

⁴¹ Opinion article by Mauro Gia Samonte, October 11, 2020, available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/11/opinion/columnists/topanalysis/why-hasnt-bongbong-learned-from-his-father/778921/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

⁴² Opinion article by Dr. Dante A. Ang, October 20, 2020, available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/20/opinion/columnists/topanalysis/is-the-philippines-a-functioning-democracy/782797/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

without integrity, but low energy justice;"⁴³ "Leonen mocks our democratic system, SC shouldn't acquiesce;"⁴⁴ and "The bottom line."⁴⁵

44. Messages and opinions, originally expressed and, later repeated by way of shares, in social media are way more harsh, if not outright impolite, against Justice Leonen directly and the Tribunal indirectly.

45. Any observer, keen or casual, has been asking and accordingly expecting a rational explanation as regards the delay. It is established that as early as a year ago, both the protestant and the protestee have submitted their respective memoranda. The directive to the COMELEC and the OSG to file Comment on the legal issues the Tribunal wants elaboration is unique as it expanded (vis-à-vis earlier directives) the issues and matters for discussion and, later, adjudication by the Tribunal.

⁴³ Opinion article by Rigoberto D. Tiglao, October 21, 2020, available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/21/opinion/columnists/topanalysis/leonen-not-just-without-integrity-but-a-low-energy-justice/783311/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

⁴⁴ Opinion article by Rigoberto D. Tiglao, October 23, 2020. October 23, 2020, available at <https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/10/23/opinion/columnists/topanalysis/leonen-mocks-our-democratic-system-sc-shouldnt-acquiesce/784217/> last accessed on October 28, 2020.

⁴⁵ Column article by Emil Jurado, October 16, 2020 (available at <https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/336853> last accessed on October 27, 2020). It reads:

The expose of a Manila daily that Supreme Court Justice Marvic Leonen prejudged the election protest of Bongbong Marcos against Vice President Leni Robredo makes for very interesting reading.

Santa Banana, this seems authentic – it had a copy of the comments of Leonen as ponente of the Presidential Electoral Tribunal's decision.

I do know that some things that happen in the chambers of the Supreme Court are just unbelievable. In this case, shall we dare believe what is being said about Justice Leonen? He should stop being the ponente, if it is true that he has already prejudged the case.

Any prejudgment on his part will only confirm that he is an Aquino asset and a Yellow justice.

Marcos narrowly lost to Robredo in the 2016 elections. Subsequently, he filed an election protest. The case was originally assigned to Justice Benjamin Caguioa, but when he retired, Leonen took over. Leonen is an appointee of former President Noyonoy Aquino.

Leonen's sentiment against the Marcoses is well-known. Is this not bias, plain and simple? No wonder the case is not moving.

46. Justice delayed is justice denied, especially in an election protest. The long delay in the resolution thereof is anathema to democracy as it disregards the sanctity of votes and the popular choice of the people.

47. The People needs to know who the actual winner is in the vice-presidential race. It is unfair for the sitting Vice President to be accused of cheating, and equally unfair for the protestant to give him false hope in the guise of calculated yet very slow progress of the protest.

48. Certainly, suffrage is the heart of democracy. In order to protect such primordial interest, the Tribunal must ensure the impartiality of the ponente of the instant protest. The people deserves nothing less.

C. Old but unrepealed laws, Republic Act No. 1793 and Batas Pambansa Blg. 884, both require immediate termination of the long delayed protest case.

49. The Legislature has seen it fit to provide a timeframe in which the Tribunal is expected to render its decision in a protest case.

50. Republic Act No. 1793⁴⁶ provides that the Tribunal should decide the protest within 20 months, viz:

Section 3. The Presidential Electoral Tribunal shall decide the contest within twenty months after it is filed, and within said period shall declare who among the parties has been elected, or, in the proper case, that none has been elected, and in case of a tie between the candidates for president or for vice-president involved in the contest, one of them shall be chosen President or Vice-President, as the

⁴⁶ AN ACT CONSTITUTING AN INDEPENDENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL TO TRY, HEAR AND DECIDE PROTESTS CONTESTING THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE PHILIPPINES AND PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF HEARING THE SAME (June 21, 1957).

case may be, by a majority vote of the members of the Congress in joint session assembled.

XXXX.

51. Batas Pambansa Blg. 884,⁴⁷ however, provides for a shorter period:

SEC. 4. The Tribunal must decide the contest within twelve months after it is filed. In case of a tie between the candidates for President and/or for Vice-President involved in the contest, the Tribunal shall notify the Batasang Pambansa of such fact, in which case the President or Vice-President, as the case may be, shall be chosen by a vote of a majority of all the Members of the Batasang Pambansa in session assembled.

XXXX.

52. B.P. 884, despite its absence of an express repealing clause, should prevail over R.A. 1793. In both instances, however, the unjustified delay in the present protest case has violated said provisions to the prejudice not only of both protestant and protestee but, worse, the electorate.

IV. Prevailing rules and jurisprudence on voluntary inhibition call for the recusal of the Honorable Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen from participating, deliberating and adjudicating on the protest case.

53. The rule on compulsory disqualification and voluntary inhibition of judges is provided under Section 1, Rule 137 of the Rules of Court as follows:

⁴⁷ AN ACT CONSTITUTING AN INDEPENDENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL TO TRY, HEAR AND DECIDE ELECTION CONTESTS IN THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (December 3, 1985).

Sec. 1. Disqualification of judges. - No judge or judicial officer shall sit in any case in which he, or his wife or child, is pecuniarily interested as heir, legatee, creditor or otherwise, or in which he is related to either party within the sixth degree of consanguinity or affinity, or to counsel within the fourth degree, computed according to the rules of the civil law, or in which he has been executor, administrator, guardian, trustee or counsel, or in which he has presided in any inferior court when his ruling or decision is the subject of review, without the written consent of all parties in interest, signed by them and entered upon the record.

A judge may, in the exercise of his sound discretion, disqualify himself from sitting in a case, for just or valid reasons other than those mentioned above.

54. The foregoing is essentially repeated in the Internal Rules of the Supreme Court (A.M. No. 10-4-20-SC).⁴⁸

55. Originally, only mandatory inhibition was provided in the old Rules of Court. But "[i]n keeping with the tenet that judges should not only act with fairness, independence, impartiality and honesty but should also be perceived to be

⁴⁸ Section 1 of Rule 8 (Inhibition and Substitution of Members of the Court) provides:

Section 1. *Grounds for inhibition.* - A Member of the Court shall inhibit himself or herself from participating in the resolution of the case for any of these and similar reasons:

(a) the Member of the Court was the ponente of the decision or participated in the proceedings in the appellate or trial court;

(b) the Member of the Court was counsel, partner or member of law firm that is or was the counsel in the case subject to Section 3(c) of this rule;

(c) the Member of the Court or his or her spouse, parent or child is pecuniarily interested in the case;

(d) the Member of the Court is related to either party in the case within the sixth degree of consanguinity or affinity, or to an attorney or any member of a law firm who is counsel of record in the case within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity;

(e) the Member of the Court was executor, administrator, guardian or trustee in the case; and

(f) the Member of the Court was an official or is the spouse of an official or former official of a government agency or private entity that is a party to the case, and the Justice or his or her spouse has reviewed or acted on any matter relating to the case.

A Member of the Court may in the exercise of his or her sound discretion, inhibit himself or herself for a just or valid reason other than any of those mentioned above.

The inhibiting Member must state the precise reason for the inhibition.

the embodiment of such qualities, the Court added the rule on voluntary inhibition in 1964."⁴⁹ The Supreme Court, citing earlier cases, summarized the evolution of the second paragraph of the said rule in *Pagoda Philippines, Inc. v. Universal Canning, Inc.*,⁵⁰ viz:

In *Umale v. Villaluz*, the Court traced the history of the second paragraph of the above-quoted provision, which had been added only as an amendment to the Rules of Court in 1964. Prior to that year, the question on whether to take cognizance of the case did not depend upon the discretion of the judges not legally disqualified to sit in a given case. If those concerned were not disqualified, it was their official duty to proceed with the case or else risk being called upon to account for their dereliction. They could not voluntarily inhibit themselves on grounds of prejudice or bias, extreme delicacy, or even if they themselves took great interest and an active part in the filing of the case. *Gutierrez v. Santos* and *Del Castillo v. Javelona* paved the way for the recognition of other circumstances for disqualification- those that depended upon the exercise of discretion of the judges concerned.⁵¹ (citations omitted)

56. To fully appreciate the rule on voluntary inhibition, let us examine two cases: one where the voluntary inhibition was held to be valid and another where the voluntary inhibition was deemed improper.

57. Clarifying the second paragraph of the rule, the Supreme Court in *Antonia J. Gutang, et al. v. Court of Appeals, et al.*,⁵² stated:

While the second paragraph does not expressly enumerate the specific grounds for inhibition and leaves it to the sound discretion of the judge, such should be based on just and valid reasons. The import of the rule on the voluntary inhibition of judges is that the decision on whether or not to inhibit is left to the sound discretion and conscience of the trial judge based on his rational and logical assessment of the circumstances prevailing in the case brought before him. It makes clear to the occupants of the

⁴⁹ (*Kilosbayan Foundation, et al., v. Leoncio M. Janolo, Jr. et al.*, G.R. No. 180543 (July 27, 2010).

⁵⁰ G.R. No. 160966 (October 11, 2005).

⁵¹ *Id.* Also reiterated in *Kilosbayan, supra*.

⁵² G.R. No. 124760 (July 8, 1998).

Bench that outside of pecuniary interest, relationship or previous participation in the matter that calls for adjudication, there might be other causes that could conceivably erode the trait of objectivity, thus calling for inhibition. That is to betray a sense of realism, for the factors that lead to preference or predilections are many and varied. (citations omitted)

58. The Supreme Court concluded further in *Gutang*, that "there is really no hard and fast rule when it comes to the inhibition of judges" as "[e]ach case should be treated differently and decided based on its peculiar circumstances." The case of *Gutang*, suffice it to state, involved a valid voluntary inhibition by the presiding judge who, despite his position that there was neither factual nor legal basis for inhibition, he, nevertheless, inhibited. The Supreme Court ratiocinated:

While not expressly stated, respondent judge nevertheless did have a just and valid reason for voluntarily inhibiting himself. In the questioned order, it was evident that he thought it more prudent to inhibit himself than to have any decision, order or resolution he would make on the incidents of the case be put under a cloud of distrust and skepticism. In this sense, he would no longer be effective in dispensing justice to the parties to the litigation.

Taking the cue from the *Pimentel* case, the respondent Judge de la Cruz, Jr. properly took heed of this Court's advice, to wit:

... But when suggestion is made of record that he might be induced to act in favor of one party or with bias or prejudice against a litigant arising out of circumstance reasonably capable of inciting such a state of mind, he should conduct a careful self-examination. He should exercise his discretion in a way that the people's faith in the courts of justice is not impaired....

Truly, the presiding judge must maintain and preserve the trust and faith of the parties-litigants. He must hold himself above reproach and suspicion. **At the very first sign of lack of faith and trust in his actions, whether well-grounded or not, the Judge has no other alternative but to inhibit himself from the case.** When circumstances appear that will induce doubt as to his honest actuations and probity in favor of either party, or incite such

state of mind, he should conduct a careful self-examination. He should exercise his discretion in a way that the people's faith in the Courts of Justice is not impaired. The better course for the judge under such circumstances is to disqualify himself. That way, he avoids being misunderstood, his reputation for probity and objectivity is preserved. What is more important, the ideal of impartial administration of justice is lived up to.⁵³ (emphasis added and citations omitted)

59. In contrast, the case of *People of the Philippines, et al. v. Governor Antonio Kho, et al.*,⁵⁴ involved an example of an erroneous voluntary inhibition where the Supreme Court had the occasion to clarify what constitutes or suggests bias to warrant voluntary inhibition. In the said case, the then Presiding Judge Lucas P. Bersamin granted bail to two murder suspects after an alleged eyewitness retracted his extra-judicial confession. Judge Bersamin concluded that the evidence of guilt against the suspects was "other than strong." Accordingly, he granted the application for bail. Immediately, the prosecution made an oral motion for the judge's voluntary inhibition, later followed by a written motion, where the prosecution made a blanket claim of bias, partiality and prejudgment of the case. The Supreme Court went on to rule that there was no reason for Judge Bersamin to disqualify himself from the case simply because of baseless accusations from the prosecution of bias and partiality.

60. While far from absolutely controlling, the Supreme Court in *Kho*, emphasized the earlier doctrine in *Pimentel v. Salanga*,⁵⁵ where the Supreme Court stated the factors to consider in voluntary inhibition, viz:

All the foregoing notwithstanding, this should be a good occasion as any to draw attention of all judges to appropriate guidelines in a situation where their capacity to try and decide a case fairly and judiciously comes to the fore by way of challenge from any one of the parties. A judge may not be legally prohibited from sitting in a litigation. But when **suggestion is made of record that he might be induced to act in favor of one party or with bias or prejudice against a litigant** arising out of circumstances

⁵³ *Id.*

⁵⁴ G.R. No. 139381 (April 20, 2001).

⁵⁵ G.R. No. L-27934 (September 18, 1967).

reasonably capable of inciting such a state of mind, he should conduct a careful self-examination. He should exercise his discretion in a way that the **people's faith in the courts of justice is not impaired**. A salutary norm is that he reflect on the probability that **losing party might nurture at the back of his mind the thought that the judge had unmeritoriously tilted the scales of justice against him**. That passion on the part of a judge may be generated because of serious charges of misconduct against him by a suitor or his counsel, is not altogether remote. He is a man, subject to the frailties of other men. He should, therefore, exercise great care and caution before making up his mind to act or withdraw from a suit where that party or counsel is involved. He could in good grace inhibit himself **where that case could be heard by another judge and where no appreciable prejudice would be occasioned to others involved therein**. On the result of his decision to sit or not to sit may depend to a great extent the all-important **confidence in the impartiality of the judiciary**. If after reflection he should resolve to voluntarily desist from sitting in a case where his motives or fairness might be seriously impugned, his action is to be interpreted as giving meaning and substance to the second paragraph of Section 1, Rule 137. He serves the cause of law who forestalls the miscarriage of justice.⁵⁶ (emphasis added)

61. Stated otherwise, and in the absence of clear criteria which are present in mandatory inhibition, the following, *albeit* non-exclusive, appear to be reasonable considerations or parameters for voluntary inhibition: (a) there is a recorded suggestion that the judge may be partial or bias in any way; (b) the exercise of the discretion whether to inhibit would impair the people's faith or confidence in the courts of justice; (c) the probability that the losing party might nurture or entertain a thought that the judge had unfairly tilted the scales of justice against him; (d) availability of another judge to take over the case, and (e) inhibition does not result to appreciable prejudice to the parties.

62. In addition, the general sentiment of the other Members of the Court may be considered given the settled approach on matters of inhibition, *i.e.*, "the challenged magistrate sits with the Court and decides the challenge as

⁵⁶ *Id.*

collegial body.”⁵⁷ It has been held that in the event that a judge may be unable to discern for himself his inability to meet the test of the cold neutrality required of him, the Supreme Court has seen to it that he should disqualify himself.⁵⁸

63. Impartiality is essential to the proper discharge of the judicial office. It applies not only to the decision itself but also to the process by which the decision is made.⁵⁹

64. Section 5, Canon 3 of the New Code of Judicial Conduct⁶⁰ pertinently demands the disqualification of a judge who is unable to decide the matter impartially or who appears to a reasonable observer that he is unable to decide impartially, to wit:

SEC. 5. Judges **shall** disqualify themselves from participating in any proceedings in which they are unable to decide the matter impartially or **in which it may appear to a reasonable observer that they are unable to decide the matter impartially.** Xxx (emphasis added)

65. Strictly, there are no compulsory grounds to warrant outright mandatory inhibition. But as presented, the totality of facts and circumstances require inhibition by Justice Leonen.

66. Furthermore, due process of law requires a hearing before an impartial and disinterested tribunal, and that every litigant is entitled to nothing less than the cold neutrality of an impartial judge. Parallel to the duty of rendering a just decision is the duty of doing it in a manner that will not arouse any suspicion as to its fairness and the integrity of the Judge.⁶¹

⁵⁷ *Republic of the Philippines rep. by Solicitor General Jose C. Calida v. Maria Lourdes P.A. Sereno*, G.R. No. 237428 (May 11, 2018); see also *Jurado Co. v. Hongkong Bank*, 01 Phil. 395 (1902) and *Commissioner of Internal Revenue v. Court of Appeals*, G.R. No. 119322 (February 6, 1997).

⁵⁸ *Rosario and Villasanta vs. Hon. Juan*, G.R. No. L-39516-17 (January 28, 1975) (citations omitted)

⁵⁹ Canon 3, New Code of Judicial Conduct (A.M. No. 03-05-01-SC).

⁶⁰ A.M. No. 03-05-01-SC.

⁶¹ *Gutierrez v. Santos, etc., et al.*, G.R. No. L-15824 (May 30, 1961) (citations omitted).

67. In *Gutierrez v. Santos, etc. et al.*,⁶² the Supreme Court highlighted the reason in disqualifying a judge who is not wholly free, disinterested, impartial and independent, thus:

Consequently, we take it to be the true intention of the law — stated in general terms — that no judge shall preside in a case in which he is not wholly free, disinterested, impartial and independent (30 Am. Jur., *supra*) because —

. . . However upright the judge, and however free from the slightest inclination but to do justice, there is peril of his unconscious bias or prejudice, or **lest any former opinion formed *ex parte* may still linger to affect unconsciously his present judgment, or lest he may be moved or swayed unconsciously by his knowledge of the facts which may not be revealed or stated at the trial, or cannot under the rules of evidence. No effort of the will can shut out memory; there is no art of forgetting. We cannot be certain that the human mind will deliberate and determine unaffected by that which it knows, but which it should forget in that process....** (Ann. Cas. 1917A, p. 1235).⁶³

68. Inhibition is necessary in order to avoid not just impropriety in the conduct of Judges but also the mere appearance of impropriety. Appearance or perception is an essential manifestation of reality. It is, therefore, indispensable that judges or Justices be above suspicion.

69. Against the foregoing legal and factual backdrop, it is respectfully submitted by the OSG, as Tribune of the People, that there are sufficient and reasonable bases for the impression, if not outright conclusion, that Honorable Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen, arising from the clear and convincing evidence presented above, is biased or partial against the interests not only of protestant Marcos but also that of the

⁶² *Id.*

⁶³ *Id.*, (emphasis supplied).

People who have waited for the resolution of the election protest.

70. A refusal to inhibit, given the political stakes involved, will destroy the reputation of an independent Judiciary. Non-inhibition will likewise result to the sense that whoever loses the case was not accorded due process given the contrasting expectations. The President has endeavored to appoint Members of the Court immediately upon the occurrence of a vacancy; there is, thus, no dearth of qualified Justices who can take over the protest case. This motion for inhibition, is expected to be resolved forthwith upon personal reflection of Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen; there is, therefore, no appreciable damage to any party or the People considering the lapse of tremendous length of time when the case remained idle. The resulting inhibition may even allow the Justice to focus on his reported unresolved docket of cases.

71. To borrow the language of the Supreme Court in *Pimentel*, Justice Leonen, both through his actuations and writings, has "stepped to one side of the fulcrum" warranting his inhibition.

72. All told, it is respectfully submitted that the interest of justice will be best served if the instant Omnibus Motion be granted by the Tribunal.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, premises considered, the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) prays, with utmost respect to the Honorable Members of the Tribunal, that they:

1. **DECIDE** and **GRANT** the instant Omnibus Motion for Inhibition of Associate Justice Marvic M.V. F. Leonen; and

2. **ORDER THE IMMEDIATE RERAFFLE** of the instant election protest case to another Member of the Tribunal.

Such other forms of relief that are just and equitable under the premises are likewise prayed for.

Makati City for City of Manila, November 9, 2020.

//...Signatories on the next page...//



JOSE C. CALIDA

Solicitor General

Roll No. 24852

IBP Lifetime No. 015360, 08-18-16

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000228, 11-08-19



MA. ANTONIA EDITA C. DIZON

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 33774

IBP Lifetime No. 010284, 12-12-11

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000219, 11-05-19



MARISSA B. DELA CRUZ-GALANDINES

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 37023

IBP No. 113527, 01-14-20

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000214, 11-05-19



BERNARD G. HERNANDEZ

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 34618

IBP Lifetime No. 08866, 2-1-10

MCLE Exemption No. VII-00SG000218, 11-05-19



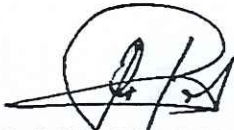
JOHN EMMANUEL F. MADAMBA

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 37363

IBP No. 119680, 06-24-20

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000220, 11-05-19



REX BERNARDO L. PASCUAL

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 38914

IBP Lifetime No. 01997

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG002251, 01-14-20



ERIC REMEGIO O. PANGA

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 39377

IBP Lifetime No. 04291, 1-9-03

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000212, 11-05-19



ELLAINE ROSE A. SANCHEZ-CORRO

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 36514

IBP Lifetime Membership No. 02444, 01-10-07

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000216, 11-05-19



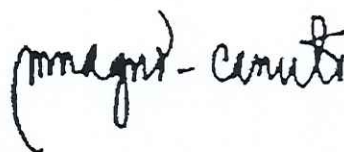
THOMAS M. LARAGAN

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 38842

IBP Lifetime No. 09144, 04-29-10

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000215, 11-05-19



MYRNA N. AGNO-CANUTO

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 39183

IBP Lifetime Membership No. 06393, 01-10-07

MCLE Exemption No. VII-000213, 11-05-19

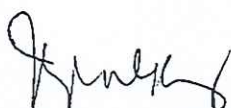

HERMES L. OCAMPO

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 40169

IBP Lifetime No. 09135, 4-28-10

MCLE Exemption No. VI-000633, 05-24-18



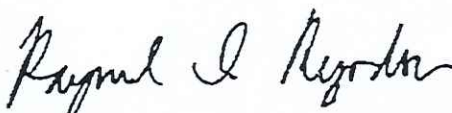
NYRIAM SUSAN O. SEDLLO-HERNANDEZ

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 35338

IBP Lifetime Membership No. 07708, 08-13-08

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000221, 11-05-19



RAYMUND I. RIGODON

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 39730

IBP Lifetime Membership No. 013395, 02-12-15

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000217, 11-05-19



ANGELITA VILLANUEVA MIRANDA

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 42949

IBP Lifetime Membership No. 02113

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000211, 11-05-19



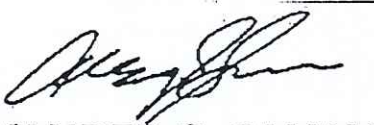
PENA FRANCIA C. CARPIO-DEVESA

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 37203

IBP Lifetime No. 018148, 11-07-17

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG000136, 09-10-19



ALEXANDER S. SALVADOR

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 42940

IBP Lifetime No. 013968

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG002146, 12-19-19



JOSEPH L. GUEVARRA

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 36854

IBP Lifetime No. 010364, 01-06-12

MCLE Exemption No. VII-OSG002606, 07-20-20



DIANA H. CASTAÑEDA-DE VERA

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 42914

IBP Lifetime No. 08543

MCLE Exemption No. VI-0023365, 04-25-19



GILBERT U. MEDRANO

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 47392

IBP Lifetime No. 03598/07-04-2004

MCLE Exemption No. VI-0021105/03-26-19



JAMES LEE CUNDANGAN

Assistant Solicitor General

Roll No. 47481

IBP Lifetime No. 09142, 04-29-10

MCLE Compliance No. VI-0023137, 04-11-19

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ATTY. ROMULO B. MACALINTAL

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Unit 802 Taipan Place

F. Ortigas Avenue

Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Email:rbmacalintal@gmail.com

beng.sardillo@s3law.com

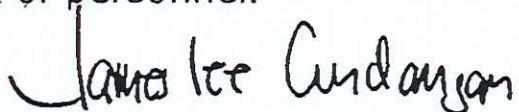
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

Intramuros, Manila

Email: law@comelec.gov.ph

EXPLANATION

Service on the other parties are being done by registered mail due to lack of personnel.



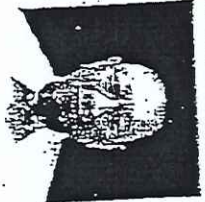
JAMES LEE CUNDANGAN

Assistant Solicitor General

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 9th day of November, 2020 at Makati City, by the above signatories who are all personally known to me and whose proofs of identity are attached.


LILIAN C. ABENOJAR
Senior State Solicitor

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Office of the Solicitor General
134 Antonio Hil, Lungsod Village, Alabast City
Tel No: 090 10170000, 01700170000 www.sgc.gov.ph




Employee ID No.:
2016-07004

Signature

CALIDA, JOSE C.
Solicitor General

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address:	16 VENUS ST., BRGY MOONWALK, PARANAQUE CITY
Date of Birth:	07 Jul 1950
Sex:	Male
GSIS BP No:	2001163239
TIN:	108-153-482-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY	
Name:	Millagros O. Calida
Address:	16 VENUS ST., BRGY MOONWALK, PARANAQUE CITY
Contact Nos.:	02-8121896
 201607004	

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Employee No.:
1986-09001

Antonia
Signature

DIZON, MA. ANTONIA FRITA C.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address: U-305 LA MAISON RADA COND. RADA, ST., LEGASPI VILLAGE, MAKATI CITY
Date of Birth: 13 Jun 1961
Sex: Female
GSIS Number: 00001188055
TIN: 123-317-921-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: Dr. Evelyn D. de Gracia
Address:
Contact Nos.: 872-7505
 198609001



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

United Nations

106-0084-10000



President of the Philippines



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Employee No.:
1987-06001

[Signature]
Signature

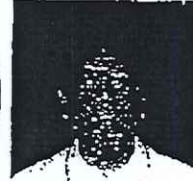
HERNANDEZ, BERNARD G.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

[Signature]
JOSE C. CALIDA
Solicitor General

Home Address: 25 Dr. Garcia St. Bambang, Pasig City
Date of Birth: 11 Feb 1969
Sex: Male
GSIS Number: 00001186601
TIN: 133-939-732-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: Atty. Myriam Susan O. Sedillo-Hernandez
Address: 25 Dr. Garcia St., Bambang, Pasig City
Contact Nos.: 640-0360 / 8134607
 198709001

Home Address: Lot5 Blk2 Marquez St., BFRV Las Piñas City
Date of Birth: 27 Dec 1960
Sex: Male
GSIS Number: 00001188206
TIN: 133-940-061-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: Edna C. Madamba
Address: BFRV Las Piñas City
Contact Nos.: 875-1552
 199105002

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Tel No 958 1574 Fax No 817-6037 Website www.ogs.gov.ph



Employee No.:
1991-05002

Signature

MADAMBA, JOHN EMMANUEL F.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

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Tel. No. 988 1674 Fax No. 817-6037 Website: www.oag.gov.ph



Employee ID No.:
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Signature

PASCUAL, REX BERNARDO L.
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Solicitor General

Home Address:

14 Asogue, Tugatog, Malabon

Date of Birth: 30 Oct 1967

Sex: Male

GSIS BP No: 2001224596

TIN: 116-067-214-000

**PERSON TO NOTIFY
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

Name: Bernadette P. Pascual


Address:

14 Asogue, Tugatog, Malabon

Contact Nos.:



199405002

Home Address: Lot 13 Block 2 (No. 6) Sydney Street, Filinvest Eastville III-A, Muntindilao, Marcos Highway, Antipolo City
Date of Birth: 01 Oct 1968
Sex: Male
GSIS Number: CM00000450526
TIN: 169-521-869-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: Maria Cristina Joy P. Valdez-Panga
Address: Lot 13 Block 2 (No. 6) Sydney Street, Filinvest Eastville III-A, Munting Dilao, Marcos Highway, Antipolo City
Contact Nos.: 0917-895-66-65
 199806004

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Employee No.:
1996-06004

Signature

PANGA, ERIC REMEGIO O.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address: L6 Block 86 C. Arellano Ave., Katarungan Village, Muntinlupa City
Date of Birth: 28 Oct 1963
Sex: Female
GSIS Number: CM00000347333
TIN: 133-941-078-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: Atty. Raul Corro
Address: L6 Block 86 C. Arellano Ave., Katarungan Village, Muntinlupa City
Contact Nos.: 09185273848
 196008001

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Tel. No. 1674 (Main), 117 (Ext.)



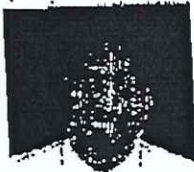
Employee No.:
1990-09001

Ellaine Rose S. Corro
Signature

CORRO, ELLAINE ROSE S.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

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Signature

LARAGAN, THOMAS M.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose G. Galida
Solicitor General

Home Address:
11 MIDLAND PARK, MANOR I, XAVIER
ST., GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, M.M.

Date of Birth: 22 Sep 1968

Sex: Male

GSIS Number: CM00000385046

TIN: 168-572-106-000

PERSON TO NOTIFY
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Name: ATTY. JANE LIM-LARAGAN


Address:
SAME AS ABOVE

Contact Nos.: 7221748



199408002

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Employee ID No:
2007-09001

(Signature)
Signature

ASNO-CANUTO, MYRNA N.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address: 105 Hudson, Riverfront Residences, Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Brgy. Canlogan, Pasig City
Date of Birth: 30 Jul 1967
Sex: Female
GSIS BP No: 2001108271
TIN: 154-826-022-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: SSS B. MARC A. CANUTO
Address: 105 Hudson, Riverfront Residences, Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Brgy. Canlogan, Pasig City
Contact Nos.: 09228945116
 200709001

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134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City



Employee No.:
1996-06002

Hermes L. Ocampo
Signature

OCAMPO, HERMES L.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address:

Bik 44 Lot 15, Phase 3e2, Kaunlaran Vill.,
Malabon, Metro Manila

Date of Birth: 18 Nov 1964

Sex: Male

GSIS Number: CM00000428279

TIN: 188-610-839-000

**PERSON TO NOTIFY
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

Name: Migradel O. Ranque

Address:

Bik 44 Lot 15, Phase 3e2, Kaunlaran
Vill., Malabon, Metro Manila

Contact Nos.: 447-8325



199606002

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Employee No.:
1988-08002

Jose C. Calida
Signature


HERNANDEZ, NYRIAM SUSAN S.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General


Home Address:	
No. 25 Dr. Garcia St., Bambang, Pasig City	
Date of Birth: 24 May 1960	
Sex: Female	
GSIS BP No: 2001227397	
TIN: 133-941-132-000	
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY	
Name: ASG Bernard G. Hernandez	
Address: No. 25 Dr. Garcia St., Bambang, Pasig City	
Contact Nos.: 640-03-60	
 198808002	



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE



NON-PROFESSIONAL DRIVER'S LICENSE

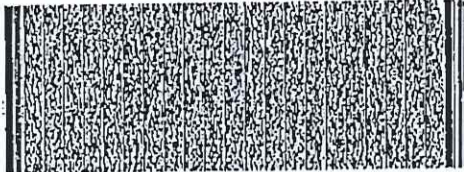


Last Name-First Name-Middle Name
RIGODON RAYMOND IGLESIAS
Nationality Sex Date of Birth Height Weight
PHL M 1989/07/23 172 72
Address
42 RD 28 PHZ COGEO VILLAGE BAGONG NAYON
ANTIPOLO CITY
License No. Expiration Date Agency Code
N02-93-204956 2022/07/23 N12
Blood Type Eyes Color
O BLACK
Restrictions Conditions
NONE
Signature of Licensee
Raymond J. Rigodon
EDGAR D. ALVARADO
Assistant Secretary

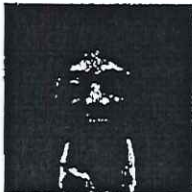
III. ORGAN DONATION:
 I WILL NOT DONATE ANY ORGAN
 IV. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:
 NAME: MARLOU D. BATALLA
 ADDRESS: COGEO VILLAGE BAGONG NAYON ANTIPOLO
 TEL. NO.: 09116844611

- I. RESTRICTIONS:**
1. MOTORCYCLES/MOTORIZED TRICYCLES
 2. VEHICLE UP TO 4500 KGS G.V.W
 3. VEHICLE ABOVE 4500 KGS G.V.W
 4. AUTOMATIC CLUTCH UP TO 4500 G.V.W
 5. AUTOMATIC CLUTCH ABOVE 4500 G.V.W
 6. ARTICULATED VEHICLE 1600 KGS G.V.W AND BELOW
 7. ARTICULATED VEHICLE 1601 UP TO 4500 G.V.W
 8. ARTICULATED VEHICLE 4501 & ABOVE G.V.W
- II. CONDITIONS:**
- A. NEAR EYEGLASSES
 - B. DRIVE ONLY W/SPECIAL EQPT FOR UPPER LIMBS
 - C. DRIVE ONLY W/SPECIAL EQPT FOR LOWER LIMBS
 - D. DAYLIGHT DRIVING ONLY
 - E. ACCOMPANIED BY A PERSON W/NORMAL HEARING

Serial Number
 043256288



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Employee ID No.:
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[Signature]
Signature

MIRANDA, ANGELITA V.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

[Signature]
Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address:
145 Abra St., Bago-Bantay, Q.C.

Date of Birth: 05 Jul 1962

Sex: Female

GSIS BP No: 2001221575

TIN: 300-104-005-000

PERSON TO NOTIFY
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Name: Alfredo V. Miranda

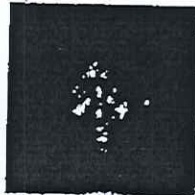
Address:
128 Belen Homesite Subd., Angeles City

Contact Nos.: 09054581713



199806001

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Employee ID No.:
2009-08001


Signature

CARPIO-DEVESA, PEÑAFRANCIA C.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL


Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

9/6/2009

Home Address: 721 Tandang Sora Ave., Quezon City	
Date of Birth: 30 Sep 1969	
Sex: Male	
GSIS BP No: 2001222672	
TIN: 202-051-207-000	
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY	
Name: Judge T. P. Salvador, Jr.	
Address: Makati City Hall	
Contact Nos.: 870-1000	
 188806002	

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Employee ID No:
1888-06002


Signature

SALVADOR, ALEXANDER S.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General

Home Address:
Sikris, Lot 15 C. Arallano St. Village Muntinlupa City
Date of Birth: 20-Sep 1957
Sex: Male
CSIS RP No: 2000933935
FIN: 133-935-756-000
PERSON-TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Name: Wilma Grace d. Guevarra
Address:
Sikris, Lot 15 C. Arallano St. Village Muntinlupa City
Contact Nos.: 807-78-54
200908003

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Employee ID No.: 2009-08003	Signature
GUEVARRA, JOSEPH L. ASSISTANT-SOLICITOR GENERAL	


Jose C. Calida
 Solicitor General

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Tel. No. 944-1674 Fax No. 817-6037 Website: www.osg.gov.ph



Employee ID No.:
2004-02001



Signature

DIANA H. CASTANEDA-DE VERA
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General



Home Address:	
# 1 Marcelo corner Yulo Streets, BF Homes, Paranaque City	
WEBSITE: osg.gov.ph	
Date of Birth:	01 May 1967
Sex:	Female
GSIS BP No:	2001222937
TIN:	100-331-854-000
PERSON TO NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY	
Name: Andy S. De Vera	
Address: # 1 Marcelo corner Yulo Streets, BF Homes, Paranaque City	
Contact Nos.: 09176341135	
 200402001	

TIN:	195-783-928-000
GSIS No:	2001089248
Date of Birth:	15 Nov 1972

Signature

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134 Amorsolo Street
Legaspi Village, Makati City



MEDRANO, GILBERT U.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL
Emp ID No: 201004001

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Tel. No. 986 4674 Fax No. 417 6437 Website: www.ong.gov.ph



Employee ID No.:
2002-05004

James L. Cundangan
Signature

CUNDANGAN, JAMES L.
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Jose C. Calida
Solicitor General