FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



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SENATE P.S.R. No. 341

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF FORMAL INVESTIGATIVE TRAINING OF MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP)

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article2, Section 5 states: "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, it was reported last 17 January 2011 by abs-cbnnews.com that four out of ten police members lack special training on investigative work;

WHEREAS, out of 4,000 police investigators, only 900 or 24% of them have special training on investigative work;

WHEREAS, the report cited that a number of police officers, who have been in service for 10 to 13 years, have received only six months of basic training and another six months of investigative training;

WHEREAS, some of the police officers interviewed reasoned that as licensed criminologists, their knowledge on handling cases is sufficient even if they lack additional formal training;

WHEREAS, despite the short time frame allocated to these trainings, it is also bothersome that training sessions are merely conducted inside the classroom;

WHEREAS, according to General Agrimero Cruz, spokesperson of the PNP, the Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management is currently working on increasing the number of police officers who will receive formal training; he stated that in the next six months, there will be 700 police officers who will have finished their formal training on investigation;

WHEREAS, it could not be emphasized more that the lack of formal training, especially on the field, could be fatal not just for the police officer, but also for the case he or she is handling;

WHEREAS, although it is commendable that the police has started to address the need to increase the number of police officers receiving formal investigative training, it is imperative that like many professionals, members of the police force should receive additional mandatory education and training on investigative work, and other pertinent and necessary skills used in tracking and pinning down criminals;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the need to address the lack of formal investigative training of members of the Philippine National Police.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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