



SENATE
P. S. R. No. 585

RECEIVED BY: *J*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED TO INTENSIFY THE DRIVE TO GO AFTER GUN REGISTRATION FIXERS IN THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 states, "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* website, on 24 March 2014, reported that an official of the Philippine National Police (PNP) said that they will deploy covert security personnel to arrest fixers in the Firearms and Explosives Office (FEO) at Camp Crame starting today;

WHEREAS, Chief Superintendent Melito Mabilin, who heads the Civil Security Group (CSG) tasked to process the licensing of firearms across the country, reportedly said that they will not tolerate illegal activities of fixers, and that they will be making arrests and filing cases in court over the next few days;

WHEREAS, Mabilin reportedly admitted to receiving reports that some gun owners opted to pay "fixers" for the convenience of not having to personally appear before the FEO to register the firearm and subject themselves to neuropsychiatric and drug tests;

WHEREAS, reports showed that the FEO charges ₱1,600 for a gun license but fixers collect P7,500 for each firearm they register;

WHEREAS, Deputy Director General for administration Felipe Rojas Jr., claimed that at least 80 percent of the firearms listed at the FEO are registered under fake names and addresses;

WHEREAS, it was reported that there are about 1.7 million registered guns in the FEO;

WHEREAS, Rojas reportedly said that PNP chief Director General Alan Purisima wanted applicants to show up personally before the FEO in Camp Crame to make sure that the gun license is registered to the right person and his exact address;

WHEREAS, according to Mabilin, the campaign against fixers is in consonance with Purisima's directive to cleanse the FEO database and curb the proliferation of loose firearms in the country which is said to be more or less 600,000 loose firearms all over the country;

WHEREAS, some sectors criticized the closing of all satellite offices of the CSG but according to Rojas the move was a way to prevent the proliferation of loose firearms; it was also reportedly decided by the PNP to have firearms licenses delivered to the registered residence of gun owners to ensure that they are not fictitious;

WHEREAS, FEO head Chief Superintendent Louie Oppus allegedly said that the centralized gun licensing is only temporary; it is not to make the life of gun holders miserable but to set the records right;

WHEREAS, it was reported that since 2011, the PNP has implemented Oplan Katok, a program designed to remind delinquent gun holders to renew the registration of their firearms or be charged for possessing loose firearms;

WHEREAS, through Oplan Katok, the PNP allegedly discovered that thousands of individuals registered their guns using fictitious names and addresses;

WHEREAS, the commendable efforts of the PNP to eliminate irresponsible and corrupt police officers should not go unnoticed by the State, and that Congress, in coordination with the proper government agencies should create stricter laws and guidelines to prevent “fixers” not only in the PNP but also in the different government agencies;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported need to intensify the drive to go after gun registration fixers in the Philippine National Police.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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