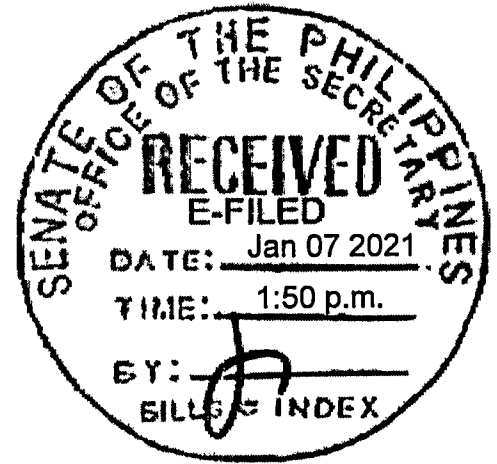


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**
Second Regular Session

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 605

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION

URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE GRUESOME KILLING OF SONYA GREGORIO AND HER SON FRANK ANTHONY GREGORIO IN TARLAC BY AN OFFICER OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) WITH THE END VIEW OF REVIEWING POLICIES AND ORGANIZATIONAL STANDARDS RELATED TO TRAINING AND EDUCATION, PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND PROMOTION, AND REGULAR ASSESSMENT OF PNP PERSONNEL TOWARDS ENSURING A MORE EFFECTIVE, PROFESSIONAL, CREDIBLE, AND SERVICE-ORIENTED POLICE FORCE

1 WHEREAS, on 20 December 2020, Police Senior Master Sergeant Jonel Nuezca
2 of Paranaque City police crime laboratory shot and killed his neighbors Sonya Gregorio,
3 52 years old, and Frank Anthony Gregorio, 25 years old, in the victims' residence in
4 Paniqui, Tarlac, allegedly after confrontation and arguments over the latter's use of
5 illegal noisemaker "boga";

6 WHEREAS, the shooting incident was caught on video, which has since gone
7 viral on social media, and showed that the victims were both unarmed. Moreover, the
8 brazen act of violence committed by an off-duty police officer in plain clothing
9 happened in broad daylight, in front of the cop's young daughter;

10 WHEREAS, the incident showing abuse of power and brutality drew widespread
11 outrage, criticism and condemnation from the public, and tarnished the reputation of
12 the Philippine National Police (PNP) as an effective law enforcement and peace-
13 keeping organization;

14 WHEREAS, Nuezca was the subject of several cases, including two cases of
15 grave misconduct for homicide in 2019 which were dismissed "for lack of substantial

evidence." He was also accused of serious neglect of duty in 2016 for failing to attend a court hearing as a witness in a drug case. In 2014, Nuezca was suspended for a month for less grave neglect of duty for refusing to take a drug test¹. Nuezca also faced a case of grave misconduct in 2013, and was suspended for ten (10) days in 2010²;

WHEREAS, the police chief of Paniqui town said that Nuezca mishandled the situation and should have let the local police unit to respond, investigate the complaint and enforce the law in the area, instead of taking the matter in his own hands;

WHEREAS, the local police chief of Bato, Catanduanes was relieved from duty after posting in social media an "offensive comment" on the Tarlac shooting incident, which appears to be justifying the killing of the unarmed victims. The Facebook post, which was later deleted, read, *"Kahit puti na ang buhok o ubanin na tayo, eh matuto tayong rumespeto sa ating mga kapulisan. Mahirap kalaban ang pagtitimpi at pagpapasensya;"*

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9708³ provides for a "continuing education program for the Philippine National Police officers and members in coordination with the Civil Service Commission, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Higher Education through a distance education program and/or an in-service education program focusing on law enforcement, criminal investigation, human rights or other similar programs;"

WHEREAS, RA 9708 provides conditions for promotion of members of the PNP. To wit, "A uniformed member of the PNP shall not be eligible for promotion to a higher position or rank unless he or she has successfully passed the corresponding promotional examination given by the Commission, or the Bar, or the corresponding board examinations for technical services and other professions, has satisfactorily completed the appropriate and accredited course in the PNPA or equivalent training institutions, and has satisfactorily passed the required psychiatric/psychological and

¹"PNP reviewing dismissed cases of cop in Tarlac slays." December 22, 2020. <https://news.abs-cbn.com/video/news/12/22/20/pnp-reviewing-dismissed-cases-of-cop-in-tarlac-slays>

² "Cop in Tarlac shooting faced two cases involving homicide in 2019." December 21, 2020. <https://www.rappler.com/nation/jonel-nuezca-cop-killed-mother-son-tarlac-past-administrative-cases>

³ An Act Extending For Five (5) Years The Reglementary Period For Complying With The Minimum Educational Qualification For Appointment To The Philippine National Police (PNP) And Adjusting The Promotion System Thereof, Amending For The Purpose Pertinent Provisions Of Republic Act No. 6975 And Republic Act No. 8551 And For Other Purposes

1 drug tests. In addition, the institution of a criminal action or complaint against a police
2 officer shall not be a bar to promotion: Provided, however, That upon finding of
3 probable cause, notwithstanding any challenge that may be raised against that finding
4 thereafter, the concerned police officer shall be ineligible for promotion: Provided,
5 further, That if the case remains unresolved after two (2) years from the
6 aforementioned determination of probable cause, he or she shall be considered for
7 promotion;”

8 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8551⁴ provides that, “For the purpose of
9 determining compliance with the requirements on physical and mental health, as well
10 as the non-use of prohibited drugs, the PNP by itself or through a NAPOLCOM
11 accredited government hospital shall conduct regular psychiatric, psychological drug
12 and physical tests randomly and without notice;”

13 WHEREAS, there appears a need to revisit retention, dismissal and disciplinary
14 policies, in relation to members and officers of the PNP who become subject of multiple
15 administrative and/or criminal cases, suspensions, marked as repeat offenders, or
16 those who have exhibited abusive, corrupt and violent behavior, as part of internal
17 cleansing in order to rid the ranks of rotten members and scalawags;

18 WHEREAS, while the horrific incident should not be reflective of the culture,
19 values and service of the 195,000-strong uniformed personnel of the organization,
20 there is a need to promptly review the established standards and regulations and the
21 implementation of such to ensure that our police force remains competent, efficient,
22 and committed to their sworn duty of serving and protecting the lives of the citizenry;

23 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to
24 urge the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into
25 the gruesome killing of Sonya Gregorio and her son Frank Anthony Gregorio in Tarlac
26 by an officer of the Philippine National Police (PNP) with the end view of reviewing
27 policies and organizational standards related to training and education, performance
28 evaluation and promotion, and regular assessment of PNP personnel towards ensuring
29 a more effective, professional, credible, and service-oriented police force.

⁴ An Act Providing For The Reform And Reorganization Of The Philippine National Police And For Other Purposes, Amending Certain Provisions Of Republic Act Numbered Sixty-Nine Hundred And Seventy-Five Entitled “An Act Establishing The Philippine National Police Under A Reorganized Department of Interior and Local Government, and For Other Purposes.

Adopted,


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.