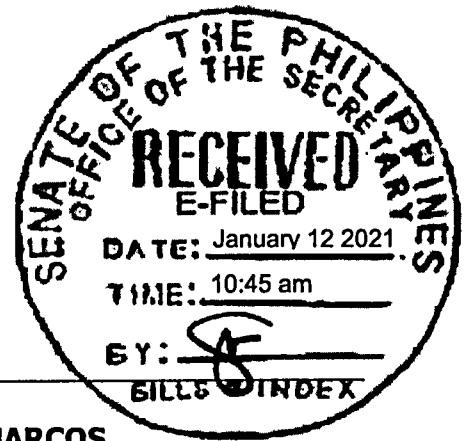


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

SENATE  
P.S. Resolution No. 608



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

#### RESOLUTION

**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT SHOOTING INCIDENT AT PANIQUI, TARLAC BY A POLICE OFFICER, CAUSING FEAR, SHOCK AND ANGER AMONG THE POPULACE, AND BESMIRCHING THE IMAGE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) AS THE PROTECTOR OF THE PEOPLE, AND WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRENGTHENING OUR LAWS THAT AIM TO ENSURE AND PROMOTE THE PSYCHIATRIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FITNESS OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PNP**

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 4 of the 1987 Constitution affirms that "the prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people". This is in line with the Latin maxim "salus populi est suprema lex" or the welfare of the people is considered as the supreme law of the land;

**WHEREAS**, on 13 December 1990, Republic Act No. 6975 or the "Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990" was enacted, with the goal to promote peace and order, ensure public safety and further strengthen local government capability aimed towards the effective delivery of the basic services to the citizenry through the establishment of a highly efficient and competent police force that is national in scope and civilian in character;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 6975 was further amended by Republic Act No. 8551 or the "Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998", affirming the role of the Philippine National Police (PNP) in the community, and with emphasis that it is a service oriented agency responsible for the maintenance of peace and order and public safety;

**WHEREAS**, on 20 December 2020, a video of a police officer firing his gun at point-blank range against two defenseless civilians, thereby instantly killing them, spread throughout various social media platforms and shocked the entire country;

**WHEREAS**, the police officer in the video was later on identified as Senior Master Sergeant Jonel Nuezca while the victims were his neighbors, Sonya Gregorio, 52, and her son Frank Anthony, 25;

**WHEREAS**, M/Sgt. Nuezca, after initially fleeing from the scene of the crime, surrendered at the Rosales Pangasinan Municipal Police Station an hour after the incident. He also turned over his PNP-issued 9mm semi-auto pistol that was used in the crime;

**WHEREAS**, records showed that M/Sgt. Nuezca had at least six (6) administrative cases prior to the said incident, two (2) of which involved grave misconduct involving homicide;

**WHEREAS**, instead of giving disciplinary action on the two previous homicide cases involving M/Sgt. Nuezca, he was merely reassigned by the PNP from the Parañaque City police office, where he had been serving, to a unit charged with keeping tabs on officers with pending cases;

**WHEREAS**, according to Inspector General Alfegar Triambulo of the PNP Internal Affairs Service (IAS), the 2016 homicide case filed against M/Sgt. Nuezca was dismissed because he served only as backup to the main operating team and was nowhere near the site of the shootout while in the 2018 case, he was one of three (3) members of the local station's drug enforcement unit who conducted a buy-bust operation against a lone suspect and the NCRPO-IAS was not able to determine who among the three (3) policemen was responsible for the suspect's death;

**WHEREAS**, the shooting incident happened while M/Sgt. Nuezca was off-duty. While PNP chief General Debold Sinas says there is no need to muzzle cops' guns during the holidays, the PNP has yet to issue guidelines to regulate law enforcement action taken by any of its members while off-duty in order to promote safe, effective and efficient police action;

**WHEREAS**, what enraged the victims' family and the netizens even more was the seemingly arrogant attitude of M/Sgt. Nuezca in the video and even while he was detained, saying he would just answer questions in court;

**WHEREAS**, while the horrible incident may be considered as an isolated case perpetrated by a police officer, it pressed a serious issue on the procedure being implemented by the PNP to ensure and promote the psychiatric and psychological fitness of its officers and members;

**WHEREAS**, while Republic Act No. 6975 otherwise known as the "*Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990*", as amended, provides that the PNP by itself or through a NAPOLCOM accredited government hospital shall conduct regular psychiatric, psychological drug and physical tests randomly and without notice, at present, neuro-psychiatric tests are given only during recruitment, promotion, and when directed by a supervisor;

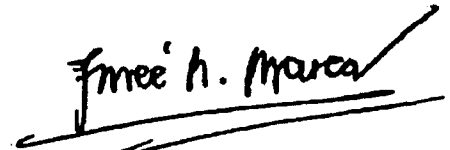
**WHEREAS**, aside from the regular psychiatric test, PNP chief General Debold Sinas said he was considering the conduct of a study on anger management issues

among policemen to pave the way for a training program aimed at averting violence, abuse and other violations of police operational procedures;

**WHEREAS**, other safeguards must be taken into consideration in order to prevent the recurrence of such wanton and unlawful behavior from a police officer whose primary duty is to protect and serve the people;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the recent shooting incident at Paniqui, Tarlac by a police officer, causing fear, shock, and anger among the populace, besmirching the image of the Philippine National Police (PNP) as the protector of the people, and with the end in view of strengthening our laws that aim to ensure and promote the psychiatric and psychological fitness of the officers and members of the PNP.

*Adopted,*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Imee R. Marcos". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**IMEE R. MARCOS**