


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9 NOV 26 P2:23

SENATE

RECEIVED BY 

P.S. Res. No. 1502

---

Introduced by Sen. Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

---

### RESOLUTION

**CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST TERMS POSSIBLE THE "MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE", CALLING ON THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) AND/OR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ) TO IMMEDIATELY BRING THE PERPETRATORS BEFORE THE BAR OF JUSTICE AND DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO INQUIRE, LOOK INTO AND/OR INVESTIGATE THE SAID INCIDENT TO FERRET OUT THE TRUTH REGARDING THIS DASTARDLY ACT AND IN AID OF REMEDIAL LEGISLATION.**

**WHEREAS**, last Monday, November 23, 2009, a convoy which included at least fifty-nine (59) people – including the wife of Buluan, Maguindanao Vice-Mayor Ishmael Mangudadatu and the latter's sisters, lawyers and relatives and their supporters, mostly women, as well as members of the media – were abducted in broad daylight while on their way from Buluan town to the provincial capital Shariff Aguak to obtain and/or file the Certificate of Candidacy (COC) of Ishmael Mangudadatu for the position of Governor of Maguindanao in the upcoming 2010 Local Elections;

**WHEREAS**, the victims were unarmed civilians who were all shot at close range and murdered in cold blood shortly after being abducted with some being buried en masse in shallow graves in what is now aptly known as the "*Maguindanao Massacre*";

**WHEREAS**, Col. Romeo Brawner, AFP Spokesperson, in his statement to the media on 24 November 2009, has indentified the perpetrators as a group of about one hundred (100) heavily armed men reportedly including militiamen and supporters and relatives of the incumbent Governor of Maguindanao, Andal Ampatuan, Sr., led by his son Datu Unsay town Mayor Andal Ampatuan, Jr., who are close allies of Mrs. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo;

**WHEREAS**, persistent media reports point to the possible negligence and/or connivance of local civilian, police and/or military officials in failing to provide the requested security for Mrs. Mangudadatu and her party and in failing to appropriately act immediately after the abduction, which prompt action could have prevented the bloody carnage;

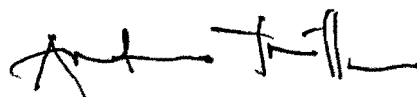
**WHEREAS**, these dastardly and inhumane actions and actuation of the perpetrators have no place in civilized society and must be categorically condemned by the Senate and by all Senators under the strongest terms possible;

**WHEREAS**, despite of the substantial period of time which has elapsed since the incident, no arrests have been made and no charges have been filed up to this time against the alleged perpetrators which has led to the widespread impression and public perception that the administration of Mrs. Arroyo is cuddling and giving special treatment of the alleged perpetrators;

**WHEREAS**, considering the fact that the alleged perpetrators of this dastardly and inhuman acts are immediate relatives and/or supporters of no less than the Governor of Maguindanao Province and his family, who are close ally of Mrs. Arroyo, as well as the horrific scale and colossal magnitude of their alleged crime, there is an imperative necessity for the Senate to look into, inquire and/or investigate the incident in order to ferret out the truth, in the interest of justice and in aid of remedial legislation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to express the sense of the Senate condemning in the strongest terms possible the "*Maguindanao Massacre*", calling on the Philippine National Police (PNP), the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and/or the Department of Justice (DOJ) to immediately bring the perpetrators before the bar of justice and directing the Committees on Justice and Human Rights and National Defense and Security of the Senate to immediately inquire, look into and/or investigate in aid of legislation the said incident to ferret out the truth, in the interest of justice and in aid of remedial legislation.

**ADOPTED,**



**ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV**  
Senator