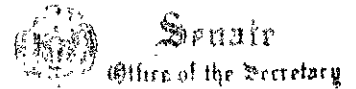


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'14 SEP -3 P3:07

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 887

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 INCREASE OF KIDNAPPING INCIDENTS IN
THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY IN METRO MANILA AND THE PROVINCES OF
LAGUNA AND CAVITE

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides: "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, the *Manila Bulletin*, in its 28 August 2014 issue, reported that Teresita Ang-See, founding chairwoman of the anti-crime non-government organization (NGO) Movement for Restoration of Peace and Order (MRPO), expressed concern about the increasing incidents of kidnapping in Metro Manila and the provinces of Laguna and Cavite;

WHEREAS, Ang-See reportedly made the remarks shortly after a Pasig City Regional Court Judge sentenced to life imprisonment actor and former Quezon City congressman Dennis Roldan (Mitchell Gumabao in real life) after he and two other accused were found guilty of kidnapping a three-year-old Chinese boy in Ortigas, Pasig City more than nine years ago;

WHEREAS, the police reportedly said that the boy was kept in a safe house for three days and the kidnapers demanded ₱250-million ransom from the boy's family;

WHEREAS, in a 26-page ruling, Judge Rolando Misleng of the Pasig RTC Branch 167 found Roldan and his two co-accused, identified as Rowena P. San Andres and Adrian C. Domingo, guilty beyond reasonable doubt of kidnapping Kenshi Yu on February 9, 2005 at the AIC Gold Tower on Emerald Avenue in Pasig City;

WHEREAS, it was reported that aside from imposing *reclusion perpetua* on the three, without eligibility of parole (by virtue of the Act Prohibiting the Imposition of the Death Penalty in the Philippines), the court also ordered each of them to pay ₱300,000 as civil, moral and exemplary damages, with interest at the rate of six percent per annum, to earn from the date of the finality of judgment until fully paid;

WHEREAS, Chief Insp. Rosel Cejas, spokesman of the Philippine National Police's (PNP) Anti-Kidnapping Group (AKG), reportedly said that the court conviction is proof of the strengthened criminal justice system wherein the police and court have been working to punish the guilty;

WHEREAS, the PNP reportedly recorded 18 cases of kidnapping-for-ransom (KFR) in Luzon from January to August 2014, which is higher by one case compared to the same period in 2013; the

WHEREAS, the report claimed that in the late 1990s and early 2000s, kidnap-for-ransom groups were a serious headache for the government; Filipino-Chinese businessmen were usually targeted and some of the victims were even killed; this prompted then President Arroyo to create a special task force headed by then Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes which busted KFR groups one after another;

WHEREAS, Chief Supt. Reuben Theodore Sindac, chief police information officer, reportedly said that the crime solution efficiency of the AKG is faring well, with 20 cases solved in the past two years while 13 cases are still being investigated;

WHEREAS, it was reported that these figures only cover cases in Luzon, with no reported case in the Visayas;

WHEREAS, reported cases in Mindanao are classified by the PNP as under terrorism, noting the extremist Abu Sayyaf Group members usually end up as the suspects;

WHEREAS, there is a need to intensify State efforts in addressing the rise of kidnappings-for-ransom in the country;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported increase of kidnapping incidents in the country, particularly in Metro Manila and the provinces of Laguna and Cavite.

Approved,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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