

15 JAN 28 PM 4:25

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1140

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT AN INMATE DIED OF TORTURE AT A
MANILA POLICE DISTRICT DETENTION CELL.

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 Constitution, Article 2, Section 11 also provides: "The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* on 19 January 2015 reported that homicide investigators from the Manila Police District are looking into the possibility that a detainee died of torture in one of its detention cells on January 14;

WHEREAS, Armando Ramos, 59, died after being rushed to the Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center due to severe physical injuries;

WHEREAS, Ramos was found in his detention cell with his legs and back swollen and the skin on his genitals and inner thighs scalded and flayed;

WHEREAS, Police Officer 3 Geford Gremaje, who was the jailer on duty, claimed Ramos' fellow detainees told him the victim suddenly collapsed and experienced difficulty in breathing;

WHEREAS, a police officer, who asked not to be identified, said Ramos, who was arrested on 4 December 2014 for allegedly using illegal drugs, may have been tortured to compel him to reveal his drug supplier;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, should ensure that inmates are protected from harm and danger that may be inflicted by other prisoners or state agents;

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 report that an inmate died of torture at a Manila Police District detention cell.

Adopted,

/rjd


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
7P