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SENATE

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P.S. RES. No. 728

Introduced by **SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE RUTHLESS AMBUSH OF APARRI VICE MAYOR ROMMEL ALAMEDA AND HIS FIVE COMPANIONS IN BAGABAG, NUEVA VIZCAYA

1
2 WHEREAS, on February 19, 2023, Aparri Vice Mayor Rommel Alameda, along
3 with five companions were shot and killed by unidentified men, dressed in police
4 uniforms, and driving a government car in the town of Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya¹;

5
6 WHEREAS, Vice Mayor Rommel, who was serving his third term as vice mayor,
7 was with his aides and companions on the way to Aparri in a black Hyundai Starex
8 vehicle, when they were ambushed by six gunmen in Sitio Kinacao in Barangay
9 Baretbet at past 8 o'clock in the morning²;

10
11 WHEREAS, according to the news, the initial report³ stated that the suspects
12 blocked the highway in front of the MV Duque Elementary School, putting up a
13 barricade that they took from the school. It was upon the approach of the van that
14 the suspects opened fire, using both long and short firearms. It was also stated in the
15 initial report that after shooting, the suspects had taken the firearms inside the vehicle
16 of the victims;

17
18 WHEREAS, in a statement made to the media on February 20, 2023, Philippine
19 National Police (PNP) Spokesperson Col. Jean Fajardo clarified that no member of the
20 PNP was involved in the said ambush⁴. She also stated that it was possible that the

¹ Villamor Visaya Jr. "Aparri vice mayor, 5 others killed in Nueva Vizcaya ambush," 19 February 2023. Retrieved from: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1732023/aparri-vice-mayor-5-others-killed-in-nueva-vizcaya-ambush>, retrieved on August 7 2023.

² Ibid.

³ CNN Philippines Staff, "Aparri vice mayor, 5 others killed in Nueva Vizcaya ambush," 19 February 2023. Retrieved from: https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2023/2/19/6-killed-in-Nueva-Vizcaya-ambush.html#google_vignette, retrieved on: August 7 2023.

⁴ Daphne Galvez, "No PNP members involved in Cagayan vice mayor ambush, police force clarifies," 20 February 2023. Retrieved from: <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1732242/fwd-no-pnp-members-involved-in-cagayan-vice-mayor-ambush>, retrieved on: August 7 2023.

1 suspects were merely wearing those uniforms to make it appear as a legitimate
2 operation;

3
4 WHEREAS, on April 18, 2023, an alias "Bong", identified as the owner of the
5 white Mitsubishi Adventure used by the suspects as a getaway vehicle, was charged
6 for the murder of Vice Mayor Alameda and his five companions⁵. Apart from six counts
7 of murder, he was also charged with obstruction of justice and violation of Republic
8 Act No. 8749, otherwise known as the "Philippine Clean Air Act";

9
10 WHEREAS, despite this development last April, further progress in resolving and
11 getting to the bottom of the crime still has not been made;

12
13 WHEREAS, it is alarming that criminals can simply opt to use police uniforms in
14 the conduct of their heinous crimes, which destroys the reputation and integrity of the
15 institution that has sworn to serve and protect us;

16
17 WHEREAS, there is a need, not only to solve the case of the murder of Vice
18 Mayor Alameda and his five companions, but also to look into possible legislative
19 remedies to deter individuals with evil intentions to appropriate for themselves the
20 identity of the PNP as well as of the government at large;

21
22 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Committee
23 on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into
24 the ruthless and heartless ambush of Aparri Vice Mayor Rommel Alameda and his five
25 companions in Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya.

Adopted,


RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

⁵ Liezle Basa Inigo, "Suspect in ambush-slay of Aparri Vice Mayor Alameda charged," 18 April 2023. Retrieved from: <https://mb.com.ph/2023/4/18/suspect-in-ambush-slay-of-aparri-vice-mayor-alameda-charged>, retrieved on: August 7, 2023.