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SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 471

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senators Pimentel, Sotto, Recto, Angara, Binay, Ejercito, Escudero, Gatchalian, Gordon, Honasan, Lacson, Legarda, Pacquiao, Poe, Villanueva, Villar, Zubiri

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO CONDEMN
THE KILLING OF KIAN LOYD DELOS SANTOS AND TO
DIRECT THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION TO
DETERMINE THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE PHILIPPINE
NATIONAL POLICE IN THE CONDUCT OF THE CAMPAIGN
AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS THAT MAY HAVE RESULTED IN
UNNECESSARY AND UNJUSTIFIED DEATHS AND/OR
KILLINGS

WHEREAS, on August 15 until August 16 2017, police operations against illegal drug operations in Bulacan resulted in 32 deaths, 20 armed encounters and 109 arrests of drug suspects, despite being conducted in the span of only 24 hours;¹

WHEREAS, on August 17 2017, the police of Manila reported some 28 deaths as a result of the same operations against illegal drugs in the city;²

WHEREAS, on August 18 2017, an additional 13 deaths were reported as a result of the operations in Manila;³

WHEREAS, Kian Loyd delos Santos, a 17-year-old, Grade 11 student, who was killed on August 16, 2017, is one of the casualties of these drug operations;

WHEREAS, it has been alleged by the police that Kian Loyd delos Santos had tried to run away and that he had later allegedly engaged in a

¹ <http://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/16/17/bulacan-anti-drug-sweep-32-killed-in-24-hours>

² <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippines-drugs-idUSKCN1AX0B0>

³ <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/08/80-killed-escalation-philippines-war-drugs-170818042429248.html>

shootout with police officers from the Police Community Precinct 7 along Block 7 Riverside in Barangay Baesa, Caloocan City;⁴

WHEREAS, eyewitness accounts and CCTV footage, however, belie the narrative of the police involved as these reveal that Kian Loyd delos Santos had already been apprehended by the police, and that he was forced to hold a gun and run with the gun.⁵ Delos Santos was then shot;

WHEREAS, similar incidents in the past have happened in carrying out the campaign of the Duterte administration against illegal drugs;

WHEREAS, in conducting the campaign of the Duterte administration against illegal drugs, the government must always ensure that no innocent lives are unnecessarily lost and that those within the ranks of the police or any government agency should be held fully accountable for any crime or offense;

WHEREAS, the apparent abuses by the police in undertaking these drug operations have resulted in a series of tragedies such as that of Kian Loyd delos Santos,

WHEREAS, similar incidents require deeper scrutiny to ensure the accountability of the PNP and its officers as they implement the campaign against illegal drugs;

WHEREAS, the PNP Internal Affairs Service (IAS) has moved sluggishly in investigating cases and has found mitigating circumstances even where not seemingly justified;

WHEREAS, proposed amendments have been filed and heard to amend R.A. No. 8551, otherwise known as the Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998, wherein, the IAS shall investigate, on its own or upon complaint, all police operations which result in deaths, physical injuries, alleged human rights and rules of engagement violations, within five (5) days from the time of the incident, and fifteen (15) days thereafter, there must be a report and recommendation on whether administrative and/or criminal charges should be filed so that the public will not lose faith in the police and complain about the delay in the administration of justice;

WHEREAS, we must strengthen our institutions that keep our society safe under the rule of law to eradicate the culture of impunity;

WHEREAS, officials of the PNP have stated that they are open to any investigation regarding the conduct of their operations,⁶ and no less than PNP Director General Ronald Dela Rosa has guaranteed to the families of those

⁴ <http://www.philstar.com:8080/metro/2017/08/18/1730174/boy-17-killed-calooacan-drug-operation>

⁵ <http://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/18/17/a-mothers-grief-you-cant-bring-back-my-sons-life>

⁶ <http://news.abs-cbn.com/news/08/16/17/bulacan-anti-drug-sweep-32-killed-in-24-hours>

who have lost family and loved ones due to the war against illegal drugs that he would have all their cases investigated;⁷

WHEREAS, while government institutions that are tasked with leading the campaign against illegal drugs must be fully empowered to undertake their responsibilities, they should, with equal fervor, be held accountable to the Filipino people in the conduct of this campaign;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to express its condemnation against the recent spate of abuses by the police resulting in excessive and unnecessary deaths in the conduct of the campaign against illegal drugs, and to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to inquire and review the conduct of anti-drug operations by the PNP as well as capacitating the PNP as an institution, to hold erring officials within their ranks liable for the commission of any crime or offense.

Adopted,


SENATE PRESIDENT AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III


SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III


SENATOR RALPH G. RECTO


SENATOR SONNY M. ANGARA


SENATOR MARIA LOURDES "NANCY" S. BINAY


SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO


SENATOR FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO

⁷ <http://www.rappler.com/nation/179156-dela-rosa-apology-families-dead-drug-suspects-pnp>




SENATOR SHERWIN GATCHALIAN



SENATOR RICHARD J. GORDON



SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN II



SENATOR PANFILO "PING" M. LACSON



SENATOR LOREN B. LEGARDA



SENATOR EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO



SENATOR GRACE L. POE



SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA



SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR



SENATOR JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" F. ZUBIRI