

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES SENATE ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL

COA-NCR Bldg., Batasan Road, Quezon City

FRANCIS N. TOLENTINO,

Protestant,

SET Case No. 001-16

-versus-

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Protestee.

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RESOLUTION NO. 16-108

The Executive Committee of the Tribunal resolves herein the following *Urgent Motions* of Protestant Tolentino:

1. Urgent Motion (For additional Time to Photocopy) dated 20 March 2018

Protestant stated that Resolution No. 16-94 dated 12 February 2018 directed the parties to conclude their photocopying activities not later than 23 March 2018. In view, however, of a seminar attended by the Secretariat of the Tribunal on 15-16 March 2018 resulting in office closure and a metro-wide transport strike that took place on 19 March 2018, Protestant manifested that he lost three (3) days for the conduct of photocopying. He, thus prayed that he be given up to 27 March 2018 to complete all photocopying activities.

In view of the observance of Holy Week, only a skeletal force for the Tribunal Secretariat was required to report for work on March 26 to 28, 2018. Thus, no photocopying activity was undertaken on said dates. Upon prior clearance from the Acting Secretary of the Tribunal, the Canvass Board Service (CBS) of the Tribunal allowed Protestant Tolentino's representatives to resume their photocopying activity on 02 April 2018, instead of 26 March 2018.

CBS, however, reported that in the afternoon of 02 April 2018, Protestant's supply of copy paper ran out and no replenishment was made until the morning of 04 April 2018. To give Protestant additional time, CBS allowed the photocopying activity to continue until 06 April 2018 but unfortunately, the toner of Protestant's copier ran out in the afternoon of said date. Thus, the photocopying activity was terminated after the noon break on 06 April 2018, thereby giving the Protestant two and a half days as additional time to photocopy the ballots and election documents from his pilot protested precincts.

2. Urgent Motion dated 03 April 2018 praying for the transmittal of the "meta data" submitted by Ms. Ma. Corazon M. Akol of the National Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL) to Mr. Yu of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV) before the 10 April 2018 scheduled hearing

During the presentation of evidence conducted on 22 March 2018, the Hearing Commissioner agreed that upon submission of the "meta data" by Ms. Akol, the Tribunal would transmit the same to PPCRV for their comment.²

On 02 April 2018, Ms. Akol submitted the aforesaid data and on 04 April 2018, the Hearing Commissioner transmitted the same to PPCRV.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, the Executive Committee of the Tribunal resolves to:

 NOTE Protestant Tolentino's Urgent Motion (For additional Time to Photocopy) dated 20 March 2018, as well as the photocopying activity that was undertaken on April 2 to 6, 2018 by the Canvass Board Service of the Tribunal; and

¹ As stated in the Urgent Motion dated 03 April 2018, this is the data that was allegedly used to create the NAMFREL Systems Group Report

² TSN of the hearing conducted on 22 March 2018, pp. 18-19

 NOTE the *Urgent Motion* dated 03 April 2018 filed by Protestant Tolentino, the submission of the *meta data* by Ms. Corazon M. Akol and the transmittal of the said data to the PPCRV by the Hearing Commissioner.

SO ORDERED.

18 April 2018.

ANTONIO T. CARPIO

Senior Associate Justice

Chairperson

Cerrita limando de Castro TERESITA J. LEONARDO-DE CASTRO

> Associate Justice Member

Associate Justice
Member