



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SENATE ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL

COA-NCR Bldg., Batasan Road, Quezon City

FRANCIS N. TOLENTINO,
Protestant,

- versus -

SET CASE No. 001-16

LEILA M. DE LIMA,
Protestee.

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RESOLUTION NO. 16-33

In an *Urgent Manifestation and Motion* dated and filed on 31 January 2017, Protestant Francis N. Tolentino, thru counsel, requested that instead of the 3,507 pilot precincts listed in the summary of cost estimates furnished him during the Preliminary Conference held on 26 January 2017, revision proceedings be conducted on the 2,973 pilot precincts¹ enumerated in the said *Urgent Manifestation and Motion*. This is for the purpose of expediting the proceedings and limiting the costs of the collection of the ballot boxes and election documents.

Protestant Tolentino further requested that the estimated collection costs be adjusted in accordance with the reduced number of pilot precincts from P8,492,275.00 to P7,145,775.47, and that he be allowed to pay one-half thereof, or P3,572,88.74 not later than 06 February 2017 and the balance on or before 06 April 2017.

In the collection of ballot boxes and election documents, it is ideal that the funds needed for such activity be on hand to ensure its continuity. However, the Tribunal has, in the past, found means to balance the financial burden placed on the party requesting the revision with the need to complete the collection of ballot boxes and election documents as expeditiously as possible. One such means is

¹ Comprising 21.57% of the total contested precincts.

the payment of the amount needed in installment basis, as requested by Protestant Tolentino.

Upon a review of the places of collection and other relevant factors, the Executive Committee finds that the installment scheme requested by Protestant Tolentino puts the collection activity in a precarious footing. A more acceptable arrangement would be for Protestant Tolentino to pay one-half of the amount, or P3,572,887.74 on or before 06 February 2017; one-fourth of the amount, or P1,786,443.87, on or before 06 March 2017 and the balance of P1,786,443.87 on or before 06 April 2017.

WHEREFORE, the Executive Committee of the Tribunal Resolves to:

- a) **GRANT** the motion of Protestant Francis N. Tolentino to reduce the number of pilot precincts from 3,507 to 2,973, comprising 21.57% of the total contested precincts;
- b) **ADJUST** the estimated cost of collection of the ballot boxes and election documents from P8,492,275.00 to P7,145,775.47; and
- c) **REQUIRE** Protestant Tolentino to deposit with the Tribunal the amount of P7,145,775.47 in accordance with the following schedule:
 1. P3,572,887.74 on or before 06 February 2017;
 2. P1,786,443.87, on or before 06 March 2017; and
 3. P1,786,443.87 on or before 06 April 2017.

SO ORDERED.

06 February 2017.



ANTONIO T. CARPIO
Senior Associate Justice
Chairperson

Teresita Leonardo de Castro
TERESITA J. LEONARDO-DE CASTRO
Associate Justice
Member

Lucas P. Bersamin
LUCAS P. BERSAMIN
Associate Justice
Member