

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1446



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Introduced by HONORABLE STELLA LUZ A. QUIMBO

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE KILLING OF SONYA AND FRANK GREGORIO BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE AGENCY'S POLICIES ON TRAINING AND EVALUATING THE PERFORMANCE AND MENTAL FITNESS OF ITS PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, on 20 December 2020, Police Senior Master Sgt. Jonel Nuezca shot Sonya Gregorio and Frank Gregorio dead in Paniqui, Tarlac after Nuezca went to the victims' residence to investigate alleged usage of *boga*, a firecracker and then figured in a verbal altercation with the victims;

WHEREAS, the incident was captured in a video which showed that both Sonya and Frank Gregorio were unarmed and did not pose a threat to the life or limb of Nuezca before they were shot and killed, and that Nuezca was off duty at the time of the incident;

WHEREAS, Nuezca's behavior is criminal and contrary to his sworn duty as a police officer to maintain peace and order under fair, humane, and legal circumstances;

WHEREAS, Nuezca had been suspended from service in 2010 and 2014, with the latter suspension being caused by his refusal to test for drugs and for leaving the testing area without permission from the NAPOLCOM; from 2013, five cases have been filed against Nuezca for varied reasons such as grave misconduct, less grave neglect of duty, and serious neglect of duty, and in 2019, he had been the accused party in two cases of homicide;

WHEREAS, despite demonstrably dangerous behavior and inability to comprehend his duties and responsibilities as a police officer for approximately ten (10) years, Nuezca remained in the service and was allowed to continue carrying a fire-arm;

WHEREAS, Section 30 of Republic Act No. 6975 or the Department of Interior and Local Government Act of 1990 mandates that no person shall be appointed as officer or member of the Philippine National Police (PNP) unless he possesses, among others, sound body and mind, good moral conduct, eligibility in accordance with the standards set by the National Police Commission;

WHEREAS, Section 37 of the same law established a performance evaluation system and directs that the rating system of the members and officers of the Philippine National Police consider the results of their annual physical, psychological, and neuropsychiatric examinations;

WHEREAS, Standard 5 of the PNP Guidebook on Human Rights-Based Policing mandates the conduct of regular firearms proficiency training, the conduct of re-training of police personnel in the use of non-lethal force and tactics in effecting arrests, and the conduct of periodic neuro-psychiatric testing and counseling for all PNP personnel;

WHEREAS, despite above-mentioned existing standards, there appears to be insufficient screening and monitoring of the psychiatric or mental well-being of police officers to prevent unnecessary brutality and killings by members of the police force;

WHEREAS, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has an established principle that officers should not take firearms home but should have them locked up in an armory when off duty,<sup>1</sup> and such a policy has helped other countries, such as Japan, minimize gun crime and the abuse of firearms;<sup>2</sup>

WHEREAS, there is also a need to assess the implications of the regulations of the PNP on the use of firearms, including the policy allowing its members to carry firearms even when off duty;

WHEREAS, there is a pressing need to ensure that members and officers of the Philippine National Police are knowledgeable, psychologically fit, and adequately trained in the fulfillment of their mandate to serve and protect the Filipino people;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on (i) the recent killing of Sonya and Frank Gregorio by a member of the PNP, (ii) the implementation of the current policies, protocols, and rules of the PNP in ensuring that all its personnel possess the necessary technical knowledge and psychological fitness and preparedness in the performance of their duties, including policies on circumstances which warrant the use of firearms.

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<sup>1</sup> UNODC, 2017. Resource Book on the Use of Force and Firearms in Law Enforcement.

<sup>2</sup> BBC News, 2017

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SLA' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

**STELLA LUZ A. QUIMBO**