



Republic of the Philippines
Sandiganbayan
 Quezon City

SEVENTH DIVISION

MINUTES of the proceedings held on June 26, 2018.

Present:

<i>MA. THERESA DOLORES C. GOMEZ-ESTOESTA</i> -----	<i>Chairperson</i>
<i>ZALDY V. TRESPESES</i> -----	<i>Associate Justice</i>
<i>GEORGINA D. HIDALGO</i> -----	<i>Associate Justice</i>

The following resolution was adopted:

SB-16-CRM-0173 to 0178 – People v. Rodolfo Garong Valencia, et al.

In his “MOTION FOR LEAVE TO TRAVEL” dated May 21, 2018, accused Dennis L. Cunanan moves that he be allowed to travel to the United States of America from July 11 to August 10, 2018 to accompany his 17-year old daughter who was selected to serve as Global Scholar representing the Philippines at the 2018 *Global Young Leaders Conference*. In support of his motion, he argues that the travel is necessary and that he is not a flight risk, submitting for this purpose an Affidavit of Undertaking of his counsel to guarantee his return to the country.

In its opposition,¹ the prosecution states that there is no necessity or urgency for the travel sought and that accused is a flight risk considering that he is facing numerous criminal charges before our criminal jurisdiction.

The Court agrees with the arguments raised by the prosecution and thus **DENIES** the instant Motion for Leave to Travel. While the Court acknowledges accused’s right to travel, it is also cognizant of the numerous criminal charges he is facing and of the Court’s concomitant duty of safeguarding the system of justice.² The Court notes that it has previously denied a similar motion filed last June 13, 2016 and that, as in the past, accused Cunanan has not shown the necessity and urgency of the travel being requested.

SO ORDERED.

GOMEZ-ESTOESTA, J., Chairperson

TRESPESES, J.

HIDALGO, J.

¹ The prosecution’s “OPPOSITION (Motion for Leave to Travel filed by accused Dennis L. Cunanan dated 21 May 2018)”
² See *Marcos v. Sandiganbayan*, G.R. No. 115132-34, 09 Aug. 1995, 249 SCRA 127, 141-142.