



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-17-CRM-1498 to 1505 – People v. Thomas De Lara Dumpit, Jr., 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 accused is a flight risk considering the pendency of criminal cases in the various divisions of the Sandiganbayan.

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 In this case, the Court agrees with the prosecution that accused is a flight risk notwithstanding the Affidavit of Undertaking executed by his counsel. As such, the Court will have to scrutinize the reason for the travel and determine whether it is absolutely necessary. Based on the reasons provided, the Court does not see any compelling reason or absolute necessity for accused to be the one to accompany his daughter abroad. As such, the Motion for Leave to Travel is **DENIED**.

SO ORDERED.^{ip}

GOMEZ-ESTOESTA, J., Chairperson

TRESPESES, J.

HIDALGO, J.

¹ The prosecution’s “COMMENT/OPPOSITION” dated June 1, 2018.
² See *Marcos v. Sandiganbayan*, G.R. No. 115132-34, 09 Aug. 1995, 249 SCRA 127, 141-142.