

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Sandiganbayan QUEZON CITY

SIXTH DIVISION

MINUTES of the Proceedings held on March 16, 2022

PRESENT:

Hon. SARAH JANE T. FERNANDEZ Hon. KARL B. MIRANDA

Hon. KEVIN NARCE B. VIVERO

Chairperson

Associate Justice

Associate Justice

The following resolution was adopted in the following cases:

Crim. Cases No. SB-13-CRM-0576 to 0582

- PEOPLE VS. AUGUSTO LIMCACO SYJUCO, JR., ET AL.

This resolves the following:

- (1) Manifestation with Motion to Dismiss¹ filed on January 22, 2020 by Atty. Angel H. Gatmaitan, counsel of accused Augusto L. Syjuco, Jr.;
- (2) Motion to Release Travel Bonds² filed on July 10, 2020 by Atty. Angel H. Gatmaitan, counsel of accused Augusto L. Syjuco, Jr.; and
- (3) *Compliance*³ filed by the prosecution on June 25, 2021.

In his *Manifestation with Motion to Dismiss*, Atty. Angel H. Gatmaitan manifested that accused Augusto L. Syjuco, Jr. died on January 10, 2020 in Singapore while undergoing treatment at Mount Elizabeth Hospital. As evidence, he attached: a) *Consular Mortuary Certificate* signed by Hon. Janina Lourdes S. Bustos, Vice-Consul, stationed at the Philippine Embassy in Singapore; b) *Report of Death* dated January 14, 2020 with ID No. ROD-SG-03-2020; and (3) *Certificate of Registration of Death No. 3096761* of the Republic of Singapore. Atty. Gatmaitan prayed that the cases against accused Syjuco be dismissed, and that accused Syjuco's bail bond and travel bond be released to his widow, Judy J. Syjuco.

On January 24, 2020, the prosecution manifested that it interposes no objection to the *Manifestation with Motion to Dismiss* of accused Syjuco, Jr. Nevertheless, the Court directed the prosecution to confirm the death of said accused through a certificate of death issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

In his Motion to Release Travel Bonds, Atty. Gatmaitan moved for the release of the cash and travel bonds of accused Syjuco to his surviving spouse, Judy J. Syjuco

¹ Dated January 17, 2020; personally filed on January 22, 2020

² Dated July 3, 2020; personally filed on July 10, 2020

³ Dated June 24, 2021; personally filed on June 25, 2021

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In its *Compliance*, the prosecution attached a PSA copy of the *Report of Death of a Philippine Citizen Abroad* with ID # ROD-SG-03-2020 and dated January 14, 2020 issued by Vice-Consul Janina Lourdes S. Bustos of the Philippine Embassy in Singapore, with PSA entry No. 2020-702003.

The PSA-authenticated *Report of Death of a Philippine Citizen Abroad* dated January 14, 2020 shows that one AUGUSTO LIMCACO SYJUCO, JR. passed away on January 10, 2020 in Singapore. In view thereof, it appears that the death of accused AUGUSTO LIMCACO SYJUCO, JR. has been sufficiently established.

WHEREFORE, pursuant to Article 89 of the Revised Penal Code, the cases against accused AUGUSTO LIMCACO SYJUCO, JR. are ordered *DISMISSED*, without prejudice to the filing of a separate civil action against his estate, should the circumstances warrant.

The cash bond of accused AUGUSTO LIMCACO SYJUCO, JR. in the amount of Ninety Thousand Pesos (PhP 90,000.00),⁴ as evidenced by Official Receipt No. 5086610Y dated August 28, 2013, is <u>ORDERED</u> released to his wife, Judy J. Syjuco, subject to the usual accounting and auditing procedures. The travel bond of accused Syjuco in the amount of One Hundred Eighty Thousand Pesos (Php180,000.00),⁵ as evidenced by Official Receipt No. 7381740 O dated October 4, 2016, is likewise <u>ORDERED</u> released to his wife, Judy J. Syjuco, subject to the usual accounting and auditing procedures.

The Hold Departure Order dated May 6, 2013⁶ issued against AUGUSTO LIMCACO SYJUCO, JR. is hereby *LIFTED*.

Furnish the Bureau of Immigration with a copy of this Resolution.

SO ORDERED.

APPROVED:

FERNANDEZ, S.J., J., Chairperson

MIRANDA, J.

VIVERO, J.

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⁴ Official Receipts No. 5088610 Y, 2746787 B, and 4437085 B, all dated August 28, 2013.

⁵ Official Receipts No. 7381740 O, 3716962 C, and 1138936 C, all dated October 4, 2016.

⁶ Records, Vol. 1, page 116.