



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SANDIGANBAYAN
QUEZON CITY

THIRD DIVISION

**REPUBLIC OF THE
PHILIPPINES,**

Petitioner,

SB-14-CVL-0002

For: Forfeiture of Unlawfully
Acquired Properties
under R.A. No. 1379

Present:

- versus -

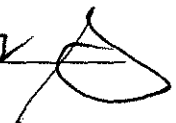
CABOTAJE-TANG, P.J.,
Chairperson,

**FERNANDEZ, B., J. and
MORENO, J.**

**HERNANDO B. PEREZ,
ROSARIO S. PEREZ,
ERNEST D. ESCALER, and
RAMON ANTONIO C.
ARCEO JR.,**

Respondents.

Promulgated:

JULY 28, 2022 

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RESOLUTION

CABOTAJE-TANG, P.J.:

For resolution are the following:

1. Petitioner-Republic's "*Motion for Inclusion of Exhibits and Witnesses in the Pre-trial Order*" dated May 31, 2022;¹
2. Respondent Ernest De Leon Escaler's "*Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records [To the Admission of/ the Judicial Affidavit of Atty. Liezel de Leon]*" dated June 03, 2022;²

¹ Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 1-12.

² Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 38-45



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3. Respondent Ernest De Leon Escaler's "*Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records [To the Admission of/ the Judicial Affidavits of Ms. Hedeliza Quiambao Encabo, Mr. Bernard V. Corrales, Atty. Mary Susan S. Guillermo, and Atty. James G. Viernes]*" dated June 09, 2022;³ and
4. Petitioner-Republic's "*Motion for Partial Reconsideration (Of the Resolution dated May 25, 2022)*" dated June 09, 2022.⁴

MOTION FOR INCLUSION OF EXHIBITS AND WITNESSES IN THE PRE-TRIAL ORDER

In its motion, petitioner-Republic pleads the Court to allow the marking and inclusion in the list of exhibits of the following documents, viz:

Exh. "K ⁴ "	Request for Authentication dated 27 June 2012 addressed to Hon. Albert F. Del Rosario, Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), from then Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales
Exh. "L ⁴ " to "L ⁴ - 232"	Confidential Documents, containing the following: Original Letter dated 26 September 2012 from Assistant Secretary Jaime Victor Ledda to Prosecutor Benitez... ..

It avers that these documents were among the subject of the subpoena sent to Atty. Liezel De Leon, Executive Clerk of Court of the Sandiganbayan, Fifth Division, but these were not marked during the pre-trial as it has not made any formal manifestation or motion for their inclusion. However, it pleads for the inclusion of the documents in the interest of substantial justice. In relation thereto, it likewise prays for the inclusion of the following witnesses to testify on these documents, viz: (1) Assistant Secretary DFA Jaime Victor B. Ledda, (2) Ambassador Leslie J. Baja, and (3) Consul Lilibeth Pono.

In support thereof, the petitioner cites the case of **Frisco F. San Juan v. Sandiganbayan**⁵ where the Supreme Court

³ Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 139-147

⁴ Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 134-138

⁵ G.R. No. 173956, August 6, 2008, 561 SCRA 316



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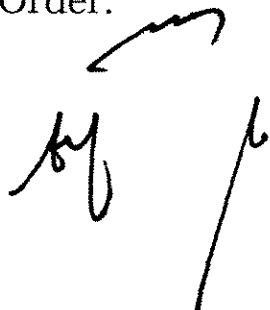
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allowed the additional marking of documentary exhibits of the prosecution in order to give it the opportunity to fully present its case, and considering that the Pre-trial Order has not been signed by the parties.

In their "*Comment/Opposition*" dated June 02, 2022, respondents Hernando B. Perez (Perez) and Ramon Antonio C. Arceo (Arceo) argue that the petitioner's motion must be denied on the ground that the petitioner's reservation of evidence was not compliant with the Rules of Court. They aver that under the 2019 Amendments to the Rules of Civil Procedure, evidence may be reserved but only in the following manner, viz: (1) for testimonial evidence, by giving the name or position and the nature of the testimony of the proposed witness; and (2) for documentary evidence and other object evidence, by giving a particular description of the evidence. Contrary to the *Rules*, they claim that the petitioner's reservation was merely general. Thus, it should not be allowed to include additional exhibits and witnesses. Furthermore, they submit that the case of *San Juan v. Sandiganbayan* relied upon by petitioner is not applicable since that case was criminal in nature and was governed by the former Rules of Procedure, while this case is civil in nature and is now governed by the 2019 Amendments to the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure.

In his "*Opposition*" dated June 03, 2022, respondent Ernest de Leon Escaler (Escaler) likewise argues that the motion must be denied outright. Escaler avers that the documents sought to be marked and the witnesses sought to be presented should have been contained in the petitioner's Pre-Trial Brief or Amended Pre-Trial Brief as required by the Rules of Court. Moreover, its request for inclusion has no basis. Finally, he claims that the petitioner's reliance on *San Juan v. Sandiganbayan* is misplaced because said case involved only the additional marking of documentary exhibits which was granted by the Court because the parties were allowed to have a reservation to present additional documentary evidence in the Pre-Trial Order.

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OBJECTION/MOTION TO EXPUNGE FROM THE RECORDS
[TO THE ADMISSION OF/THE JUDICIAL AFFIDAVIT OF
ATTY. LIEZEL DE LEON]

In his “*Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records*” dated June 03, 2022, respondent Escaler avers that the Judicial Affidavit of Atty. Liezel de Leon, including all the documents referred thereto, should not be admitted and should be expunged from the records of the case for gross violation of the following: (a) 2019 Amendments to the 1997 Rules of Court, (b) the Judicial Affidavit Rule (JAR), (c) A.M. No. 03-1-09,⁶ and (d) 2018 Revised Internal Rules of the Sandiganbayan.

Respondent Escaler avers that the petitioner violated the requirements in the Judicial Affidavit Rule by failing to file and serve the judicial affidavits not later than five (5) days before the pre-trial or preliminary conference. Thus, pursuant to the JAR, it should have been deemed to have waived the submission of its witnesses’ judicial affidavits and its exhibits. Escaler further argues that the petitioner also violated A.M. No. 03-1-09-SC and the 2018 Revised Internal Rules of the Sandiganbayan. He claims that the exhibits sought to be marked by the petitioner to form part of the Judicial Affidavit of Atty. Liezel de Leon should have been included and attached in its Pre-Trial Brief, and failure to do so constituted a waiver of its presentation during trial.

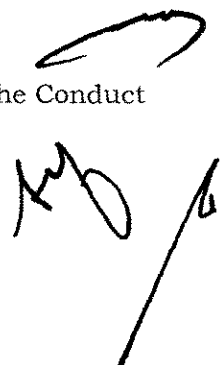
On June 06, 2022, respondents Perez and Arceo manifested that they are adopting as their own the “*Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records*” filed by respondent Escaler.⁷

In its “*Comment/Opposition*” dated June 07, 2022,⁸ petitioner-Republic avers that the JAR allows the submission of the judicial affidavits of witnesses five (5) days prior to the hearing, or in this case, the presentation of its witnesses. Besides, it claims that its failure to attach the judicial affidavits

⁶ Guidelines to be Observed by Trial Court Judges and Clerks of Court in the Conduct of Pre-trial and Use of Deposition-Discovery Measure

⁷ Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 63-64

⁸ Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 71-75

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of its witnesses was not intended to cause undue delay or to disregard prevailing rules. Moreover, it avers that the respondents' rights to be apprised in advance of the testimonies of the witnesses and to prepare for the conduct of their cross-examination would not be prejudiced as they would still have considerable time to prepare in advance. As to the exhibits it wishes to be marked and included in its list of evidence, save for Exhibit EEE to EEE-2 which was already marked and identified, it claims that the exhibits are among the subjects of its "Motion for Inclusion of Exhibits and Witnesses in the Pre-Trial Order" pending before this Court. Nevertheless, it reiterates its position that the same exhibits may still be allowed since the Pre-Trial Order has not yet been issued.

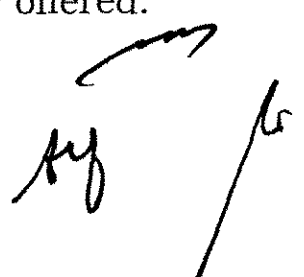
OBJECTION/MOTION TO EXPUNGE FROM THE RECORDS
[TO THE ADMISSION OF/THE JUDICIAL AFFIDAVITS OF
MS. HEDELIZA QUIAMBAO ENCABO, MR. BERNARD V.
CORRALES, ATTY. MARY SUSAN S. GUILLERMO, AND
ATTY. JAMES G. VIERNES]

In a separate motion, respondent Escaler also prays for the non-admission or expungement from the records of the judicial affidavits of the following prosecution witnesses: (1) Ms. Hedeliza Quiambao Encabo, (2) Mr. Bernard V. Corrales, (3) Atty. Mary Susan S. Guillermo, and (4) Atty. James G. Viernes. In support thereof, respondent Escaler cites the same grounds he cites in his "Objection/Motion to Expunge" with regard to the judicial affidavit of Atty. Liezel de Leon, i.e., violation of the Judicial Affidavit Rule, A.M. No. 03-1-09-SC, and the 2018 Internal Rules of the Sandiganbayan.

In its "*Comment/Opposition*" dated June 28, 2022,⁹ the petitioner manifests that it adopts the same counter-arguments it raised in its *Comment/Opposition* dated June 07, 2022.¹⁰ As to the objection to the admission of the documents attached to the judicial affidavits, the petitioner avers that the documents were all mentioned in its Amended Pre-Trial Brief. Moreover, respondent Escaler's objection is premature as these documents were not yet formally offered.

⁹ Record, Vol. VIII, pp. 727-730

¹⁰ See *Supra* note 8

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PETITIONER'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL RECONSIDERATION

Finally, in the subject motion, petitioner-Republic prays for a reconsideration of the period set by the Court in the submission of its witnesses' judicial affidavits. It claims that it intends to present twenty-one (21) witnesses, and as of its submission, it was able to submit five (5) judicial affidavits. The petitioner avers that the threat of COVID-19, along with the health and safety protocols and mobility restrictions impeded its efforts to confer with its witnesses for the taking of their judicial affidavits. Moreover, some of its witnesses are non-resident foreign nationals and Filipinos working abroad, thus, it is still coordinating with the proper authorities regarding the taking and presentation of their testimonies. Thus, it is asking for a reconsideration of the submission of the rest of its witnesses, as follows: (1) until June 30, 2022 for those residing in the Philippines, and (2) at least five (5) days before the hearing for the reception of their respective testimonies for those working and residing abroad.

The petitioner submits that the periods it requests do not detract from the purpose for which the Judicial Affidavit Rule was issued and promulgated, viz: to decongest the clogged dockets of courts, reduce the time needed for completing the testimonies of witnesses in cases under litigation, and speed up the hearing and adjudication of cases. Moreover, the respondents will not be unduly prejudiced by allowing the petitioner to submit the judicial affidavits of its witnesses residing in the Philippines until June 30, 2022 since the trial dates for June have been cancelled in view of the pending incidents in this case. Meanwhile, as to those working or residing abroad, the petitioner argues that allowing the submission of their judicial affidavits five (5) days prior to their scheduled presentation as witness is consistent with the provisions of Section 2 of the Judicial Affidavit Rule. Finally, the petitioner invokes the Supreme Court's pronouncement in the case of *Say v. Dizon*¹¹ that "[w]hen no substantial rights are affected and the intention to delay is not manifest with the corresponding [submission] x x x, it is sound judicial discretion

¹¹ G.R. No. 227457, June 22, 2020

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to allow the same to the end that the merits of the case may be fully ventilated.”

THE RULING OF THE COURT

Once again, this Court is presented with the task of determining whether the circumstances of this case warrant the relaxation of procedural rules in the interest of substantial justice. In doing so, we are guided by the principle that procedural rules should be treated with utmost respect and due regard, and cannot be simply disregarded, since they are designed to facilitate the adjudication of cases and speedy administration of justice.¹² Nevertheless, courts have the prerogative to relax compliance with procedural rules of even the most mandatory character, mindful of the duty to reconcile both the need to speedily put an end to litigation and the parties’ right to an opportunity to be heard.¹³ To put in another way, technicality and procedural imperfection should, as a rule, not serve as bases of decisions to ensure that ends of justice would be served.¹⁴

I. Motion For Inclusion of Exhibits and Witnesses in the Pre-Trial Order

At its core, the respondents’ objection to the petitioner’s motion is founded on the latter’s failure to comply with the procedural rules, particularly, the Rules on Pre-trial under the 2019 Amendments to the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure¹⁵ and A.M. No. 03-1-09-SC.¹⁶

Unlike the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure, the 2019 Amendments explicitly state the manner in which the parties should reserve evidence. It likewise provides the consequence of a party’s failure to produce evidence during the pre-trial, viz:

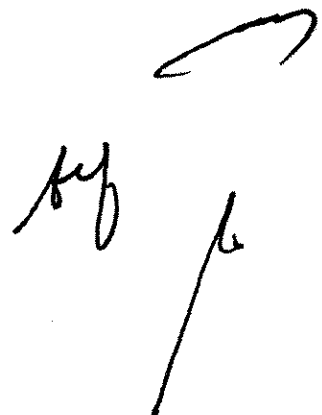
¹² *Zosa v. Consilium Inc.*, 840 Phil. 318 (2018)

¹³ *Latogan v. People*, G.R. No. 238298, January 22, 2020

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC

¹⁶ Dated July 13, 2004



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Section 2. *Nature and [p]urpose.* – The pre-trial is mandatory and should be terminated promptly. The court shall consider:

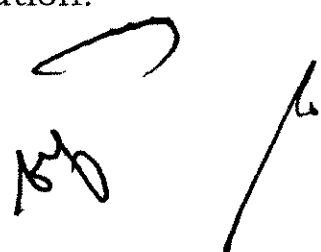
... ..

- (g) The requirement for the parties to:
1. Mark their respective evidence if not yet marked in the judicial affidavits of their witnesses;
 2. Examine and make comparisons of the adverse parties' evidence *vis-a-vis* the copies to be marked;
 3. Manifest for the record stipulations regarding the faithfulness of the reproductions and the genuineness and due execution of the adverse parties' evidence;
 4. Reserve evidence not available at the pre-trial, but only in the following manner:
 - i. For testimonial evidence, by giving the name or position and the nature of the testimony of the proposed witness;
 - ii. For documentary evidence and other object evidence, by giving a particular description of the evidence.

No reservation shall be allowed if not made in the manner described above.

- (h) Such other matters as may aid in the prompt disposition of the action.

The failure without just cause of a party and counsel to appear during pre-trial, despite notice, shall result in a waiver of any objections to the faithfulness of the reproductions marked, or their genuineness and due execution.

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The failure without just cause of a party and/or counsel to bring the evidence required shall be deemed a waiver of the presentation of such evidence.

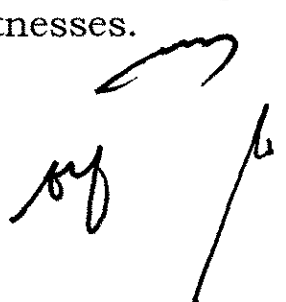
The branch clerk of court shall prepare the minutes of the pre-trial, which shall have the following format: (See prescribed form) (2a)

Meanwhile, Clause I(A)[2] of A.M. No. 03-1-09-SC lays down the guidelines for the submission of pre-trial briefs, viz:

I. Civil Cases

2. The parties shall submit, at least three (3) days before the pre-trial, pre-trial briefs containing the following:
 - a. A statement of their willingness to enter into an amicable settlement indicating the desired terms thereof or to submit the case to any of the alternative modes of dispute resolution;
 - b. A summary of admitted facts and proposed stipulation of facts;
 - c. The issues to be tried or resolved;
 - d. The documents or exhibits to be presented, stating the purpose thereof. (No evidence shall be allowed to be presented and offered during the trial in support of a party's evidence-in-chief other than those that had been earlier identified and pre-marked during the pre-trial, except if allowed by the court for good cause shown);¹⁷
 - e. A manifestation of their having availed or their intention to avail themselves of discovery procedures or referral to commissioners; and
 - f. The number and names of the witnesses, the substance of their testimonies, and the approximate number of hours that will be required by the parties for the presentation of their respective witnesses.

¹⁷ Emphasis supplied

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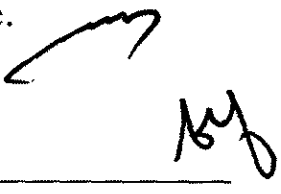
In this case, the petitioner made a reservation in its Amended Pre-Trial Brief in this manner:

VI. RESERVATION

The petitioner reserves the right to present additional documentary and testimonial evidence and to present substitute witnesses should the need arises during the trial of this case.¹⁸

It is thus evident that the petitioner did not properly make a reservation for the presentation of additional evidence. Nonetheless, the petitioner pleads for the inclusion of the additional documents and witnesses in the Pre-Trial Order in the interest of substantial justice, citing the case of **San Juan v. Sandiganbayan**¹⁹ in support thereof. In the said case, the Supreme Court allowed the additional marking of the prosecution's evidence to allow it to fully present its case, and considering that the Pre-Trial Order has not yet been issued. The Court declared that the liberal construction of procedural rules is allowed "where the interest of substantial justice will be served and where the resolution of the motion is addressed solely to the sound and judicious discretion of the court."²⁰

After a careful consideration of the circumstances of this case, the Court grants the inclusion of the additional documents and witnesses in the Pre-Trial Order considering that the Pre-Trial Order has not been issued yet. As we earlier stated, the court, in the exercise of its judicial discretion, can relax compliance with procedural rules of even the most mandatory character, if doing so would serve the ends of justice. In this case, the additional marking of evidence and inclusion of witnesses would not unduly prejudice the respondents since the prosecution has not even begun with the presentation of its evidence.


¹⁸ Petitioner's Amended Pre-Trial Brief dated March 16, 2022, p 20; Record, Vol. VI, p. 757.

¹⁹ Supra note 5

²⁰ *Id.*

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II. Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records [To the Admission of/The Judicial Affidavits of Atty. Liezel De Leon, Ms. Hedeliza Quiambao Encabo, Mr. Bernard V. Corrales, Atty. Mary Susan S. Guillermo, and Atty. James G. Viernes]

In separate motions, respondent Escaler objected to the admission of the Judicial Affidavits of Atty. Liezel de Leon, Ms. Hedeliza Quiambao Encabo, Mr. Bernard V. Corrales, Atty. Mary Susan S. Guillermo, and Atty. James G. Viernes, or in case of their admission, for them to be expunged from the records on the ground that the judicial affidavits were not submitted within five (5) days prior to the pre-trial proceedings, in violation of the rules.

To begin with, it bears noting that this is not the first time respondent raised before this Court the issue of the non-submission of the petitioner of the judicial affidavits of its witnesses. To recall, in his *Motion to Dismiss and Motion to Bar* dated April 21, 2022,²¹ Escaler prayed, among others, for the barring of the introduction of documentary evidence not attached to the petitioner's Pre-Trial Brief and the testimonial evidence of all of petitioner's witnesses for its failure to submit their judicial affidavits five (5) days prior to the pre-trial. In our **Resolution** promulgated on May 25, 2022,²² we ruled that notwithstanding the fact that the judicial affidavits of the petitioner's witnesses were not filed and served, the Judicial Affidavit Rule itself allows the late submission of judicial affidavits provided that the delay is for a valid reason, would not unduly prejudice the opposing party, and the defaulting party pays a fine.²³ To put simply, the five-day period before pre-trial is not a hard and fast rule, contrary to what respondent Escaler seems to imply.

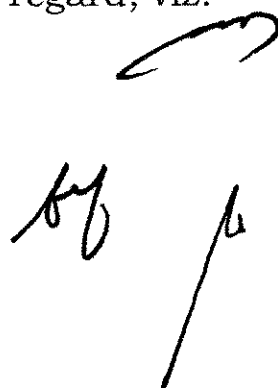
The case of *Lara's Gift and Decors, Inc. v. PNB General Insurers Co.*²⁴ is highly instructive in this regard, viz:

²¹ Record, Vol. VI, pp. 843-850

²² Record, Vol. VII, pp. 44-51

²³ Section 10, Judicial Affidavit Rule

²⁴ G.R. Nos. 230429-430, January 24, 2018

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Certainly, the parties are mandated under Sec. 2 of the JA Rule to file and serve the judicial affidavits of their witnesses, together with their documentary or object evidence, not later than five days before pre-trial or preliminary conference, to wit:

... ..

The documentary and testimonial evidence submitted will then be specified by the trial judge in the Pre-Trial Order. Concomitant thereto, Sec. 10 of the same Rule contains a caveat that the failure to timely submit the affidavits and documentary evidence shall be deemed to be a waiver of their submission, thus:

Section 10. Effect of non-compliance with the Judicial Affidavit Rule. - (a) A party who fails to submit the required judicial affidavits and exhibits on time shall be deemed to have waived their submission. The court may, however, allow only once the late submission of the same provided, the delay is for a valid reason, would not unduly prejudice the opposing party, and the defaulting party pays a fine of not less than P 1,000.00 nor more than P 5,000.00 at the discretion of the court.

It bears to note that Sec. 10 does not contain a blanket prohibition on the submission of additional evidence. However, the submission of evidence beyond the mandated period in the JA Rule is strictly subject to the conditions that: a) the court may allow the late submission of evidence only once; b) the party presenting the evidence proffers a valid reason for the delay; and c) the opposing party will not be prejudiced thereby.

Corollary thereto, the Guidelines on Pre-Trial instructs the parties to submit their respective



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pre-trial briefs at least three (3) days before the pre-trial, containing, inter alia, the documents or exhibits to be presented and to state the purposes thereof, viz:

I. Pre-Trial

A. Civil Cases

The parties shall submit, at least three (3) days before the pre-trial, pre-trial briefs containing the following:

... ..

d. The documents or exhibits to be presented, stating the purpose thereof (No evidence shall be allowed to be presented and offered during the trial in support of a party's evidence-in-chief other than those that had been earlier identified and pre-marked during the pre-trial, except if allowed by the court for good cause shown)

... ..

Notwithstanding the foregoing procedural prescription, the same rule confers upon the trial court the discretion to allow the introduction of additional evidence during trial other than those that had been previously marked and identified during the pre-trial, provided there are valid grounds.²⁵

To repeat, there is no question in this case that the petitioner failed to strictly comply with the Rules. Nevertheless, this Court ordered the petitioner to submit the judicial affidavits of its witnesses within fifteen (15) days from notice of the resolution upon finding that the reasons for the delay to be valid. Pursuant thereto, the petitioner filed the judicial affidavit of its witness, Atty. De Leon, on June 2, 2022, the judicial

²⁵ 853 SCRA 220, 234; Emphasis supplied

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affidavits of witnesses Encabo, Corrales, and Atty. Guillermo on June 10, 2022, and Atty. Viernes on June 15, 2022.

In its *Partial Motion for Reconsideration*, petitioner-Republic manifested that it received notice of the Court's Resolution dated May 25, 2022 on the same day.²⁶ Thus, it had until June 9, 2022, within which to submit the judicial affidavits of its witnesses. Prescinding from this, there is no doubt that the submission of the judicial affidavit of Atty. De Leon was within the period set by the Court as it was filed on June 2, 2022, or eight (8) days after the petitioner received the Resolution.²⁷ Thus, there is no reason to deny its admission since the submission was compliant with the Court's directive. Meanwhile, the judicial affidavits of Encabo, Corrales, Guillermo were belatedly filed by one (1) day, and Viernes by six (6) days. Under ordinary circumstances, this Court will deny the admission of these judicial affidavits for being non-compliant with its Order. However, considering that the trial proper has not yet begun, this Court admits them in the higher interest of substantial justice to give the parties the opportunity to fully present their case.

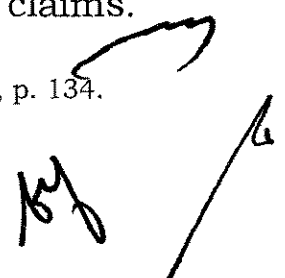
III. Motion for Partial Reconsideration

Finally, petitioner prays for an extension of the submission of the judicial affidavits of its other witnesses in this wise: (1) for those in the Philippines, until June 30, 2022, and (2) for those outside the Philippines, within five (5) days prior to their presentation as witness.

As to the petitioner's plea to extend the submission of the judicial affidavits of its witnesses in the Philippines to June 30, 2022, this has been rendered moot as the period had already lapsed. On the other hand, there is no merit to its prayer to allow the submission of the judicial affidavits of its witnesses outside the Philippines within five (5) days prior to their presentation. It must be underscored that the provision in the JAR allowing the submission of judicial affidavits five (5) days prior to the hearing pertains to motions and incidents, and not to the trial proper, contrary to what the petitioner claims.

²⁶ *Petitioner's Motion for Partial Reconsideration*, p. 1; Record, Vol. VIII, p. 134.

²⁷ Section 10, A.M. No. 12-8-8-SC

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Nonetheless, in the higher interest of justice, the Court is giving the petitioner **ONE FINAL OPPORTUNITY** to submit the judicial affidavits of all its witnesses to ensure that the merits of the case will be fully ventilated. It is well-settled that courts, in the exercise of its equity jurisdiction, may disregard procedural lapses, so that a case may be resolved on its merits based on the evidence presented by the parties.²⁸ No further extension shall be granted to the petitioner, considering that the petitioner had ample opportunity throughout the years to obtain the testimonies of its witnesses, even those not residing in the Philippines.

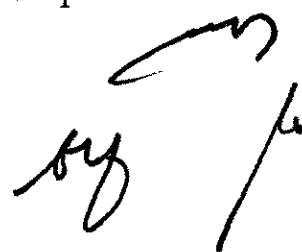
On a final note, as officers of the court, lawyers are expected to observe utmost respect and deference to the Court.²⁹ Thus, the petitioner is strictly enjoined to adhere to the provisions of the JAR, and to be more circumspect in the contents of its pleadings to ensure faithful compliance with procedural rules.

WHEREFORE, the Court hereby:

1. **GRANTS** Petitioner-Republic's "*Motion for Inclusion of Exhibits and Witnesses in the Pre-Trial Order*" dated May 31, 2022;
2. **DENIES** the following for lack of merit:
 - a. Respondent Ernest De Leon Escaler's "*Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records [To the Admission of/the Judicial Affidavit of Atty. Liezel de Leon]*" dated June 03, 2022, and
 - b. Respondent Ernest De Leon Escaler's "*Objection/Motion to Expunge from the Records [To the Admission of/the Judicial Affidavits of Ms. Hedeliza Quiambao Encabo, Mr. Bernard V. Corrales, Atty. Mary Susan S. Guillermo, and Atty. James G. Viernes]*" dated June 09, 2022; and
3. **PARTIALLY GRANTS** Petitioner-Republic's "*Motion for Partial Reconsideration (Of the Resolution dated May 25, 2022)*" dated June 09, 2022. The petitioner is hereby **ORDERED** to submit the judicial affidavits of ALL its witnesses within a **NON-EXTENDIBLE** period of

²⁸ *San Juan v. Sandiganbayan*, *supra* note 5

²⁹ Canon 11, Code of Professional Responsibility



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FIFTEEN (15) days from notice of this Resolution. All judicial affidavits submitted thereafter shall not be admitted.

SO ORDERED.

Quezon City, Metro Manila



AMPARO M. CABOTAJE-TANG

Presiding Justice
Chairperson

WE CONCUR:



BERNELITO R. FERNANDEZ

Associate Justice



RONALD B. MORENO

Associate Justice