Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1475

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE JOY MYRA S. TAMBUITING

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN
AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE KILLING OF MOTHER AND SON SONYA RUFINO
GREGORIO AND FRANK ANTHONY GREGORIO BY POLICE SENIOR MASTER
SERGEANT JONEL NUEZCA IN PANIQUI, TARLAC, AND, TO INVESTIGATE OTHER
INCIDENTS OF BRUTALITY COMMITTED BY THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE

WHEREAS, in December 20, 2020, mother and son Sonya Rufino Gregorio, 52, and Frank
Anthony Gregorio, 25, were shot dead in Paniqui, Tarlac by Police Senior Master Sergeant Jonel
Nuezca after a brief confrontation between Nuezca and the mother-and-son tandem upon
Nuezca’s visit to the Gregorios to investigate who were using boga¹ in the area;

WHEREAS, in the footage of the incident circulating online, Frank Gregorio appeared to
be inebriated and was being hindered by Sonya Gregorio from engaging in an argument with
Nuezca who was trying to arrest him;

WHEREAS, after a brief verbal altercation between the three, Nuezca threatened to killed
Sonya Gregorio and within a few seconds shot the woman in the head then shot Frank Nuezca
twice and then shot Sonya for a second time, in front of the victim’s family and relatives;

WHEREAS, Nuezca has since surrendered and been charged with double murder and
two counts of murder;

WHEREAS, this incident, together with several reports of killings and/or physical abuse
committed by law enforcers over the year reignites the national debate on police impunity;

WHEREAS, ultimately, the Philippine National Police has the duty to serve and protect
the public, recent incidents on police killings, physical abuse, abuse of authority, among others
however does not reflect this;

WHEREAS, according to Human Rights Watch data, there are reportedly fifty percent
more people who died in police operations between April to July 2020 than the previous four-
month period;

¹ an improvised canon which makes a loud sound and is usually used for New Year celebrations
WHEREAS, this alarming increase in fatalities in police operations bring into question the capacity of the Philippine National Police and its law enforcement personnel to uphold the rule of law, and respect, protect and fulfill the rights of its citizens;

WHEREAS, the recent Tarlac shooting and the Winston Ragos shooting earlier in 2020 shows that there is clearly a need to look into the agency’s policies for the training of its personnel, particularly on the respectful treatment of suspects, the observation of maximum tolerance policy in police operations;

WHEREAS, considering the many benefits and privileges the PNP and its personnel enjoy, it is only proper that the agency ensures that their agents and personnel fulfill their duties with utmost professionalism and integrity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives direct the appropriate House Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the killing of mother and son Sonya Rufino Gregorio and Frank Anthony Gregorio and other incidents of brutality committed by the Philippine National Police.

Adopted,

[Signature]

JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING