
RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS, TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE DRUG RAID OPERATIONS CONDUCTED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN BRGY. PINDASAN, MABINI, DAVAO DE ORO AND THE ALLEGED COVER-UP ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE FORMER DAVAO CITY INFORMATION OFFICER JEFRY TUPAS AND SEVERAL OTHER PERSONALITIES

WHEREAS, last November 6, 2021, operatives from the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA)-Davao, the National Bureau of Investigation–Southern Mindanao Region (NBI-SEMRO), and Mabini Municipal Police Station conducted a joint drug raid operation on a beach party at a resort in Brgy. Pindasan, Mabini, Davao de Oro. The raiding law enforcement agents thereafter presented to the public 17 arrested individuals and the confiscated P1.5 million-worth of shabu and illegal party drugs;

WHEREAS, the said anti-drug operations caught the attention of the public because of the supposed involvement of Jefry Tupas, a close associate and long-time aide of Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte. In a media interview last November 8, Tupas admitted that he attended the party, but he allegedly left before the raid was made;¹

WHEREAS, Mayor Sara Duterte released a statement dated November 9, 2021 saying that “the former City Information Officer Jefry Tupas, of the City Government of Davao was involved in a drug raid last November 6 in Municipality of Mabini, Province of Davao de Oro.” She also said that “last Sunday, Jefry signified his resignation and on the same moment he was informed that he is terminated from work with the City Government of Davao;”²

WHEREAS, the suspects arrested during the said drug raid, however, claimed in an interview with online media outlet, Newsline Philippines, that the law enforcers made a cover-up by allowing Jefry Tupas and other partygoers to leave the resort

¹ https://www.rappler.com/nation/sara-duterte-info-officer-admits-presence-beach-party-later-raided-for-drugs
during the raid. The suspects claim that there are at least 50 partygoers when the authorities staged the raid;³

WHEREAS, while the arrested suspects are sprawled on the ground, they claimed that they heard law enforcer agents calling several names, including the names of Jefry Tupas, her boyfriend and another companion. The group of Tupas, they claimed, was then later on allowed to leave the resort. Another suspect also claimed that the confiscated and inventoried items came from Tupas and her companions, but the raiding team later on presented such illegal materials as the possessions of the arrested individuals;

WHEREAS, these allegations related to this recent drug raid operations conducted in Davao de Oro is emblematic of the failed bloody anti-illegal drug campaign of the Duterte administration. The administration’s anti-drug campaign reeks of double standard or of selective justice, where alleged ringleaders of drug cartels, big-time drug lords, high-value personalities and their alleged protectors in the government have escaped the anti-drug campaign, while thousands of suspected small-fry dealers and victim-users have been targeted, and, worst, killed. This “war on drugs” has already claimed the lives of innocent citizens mostly from poor families, including minors and youth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives, through the Committee on Dangerous Drugs, investigate in aid of legislation, the drug raid operations conducted by law enforcement agencies in Brgy. Pindasan, Mabini, Davao de Oro and the alleged cover-up in the involvement of Davao City Information Officer Jefry Tupas and several other suspects.

Adopted,

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Kabataan Party-list

Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Party-list

Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Party-list

Rep. FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Party-list

Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriela Women’s Party

Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
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