

Court of Appeals defers ruling on Neri's case

by EDU PUNAY
Philstar.com

THE Court of Appeals (CA) deferred last Oct. 12 its ruling on the petition of Social Security System (SSS) president Romulo Neri seeking to stop the implementation of the six-month suspension order of the Office of the Ombudsman in connection with his role in the canceled \$329-million national broadband network (NBN) contract between the government and Chinese firm ZTE Corp.

After hearing arguments of both sides last Oct. 12, the 10th division of the appellate court ordered respondents from the Ombudsman and the group Concerned Citizens Movement (CCM) led by Rep. Teofisto Guingona III to submit their respective comments on the petition.

Neri's lawyer Paul Lentejas clarified during the hearing that they were not questioning the suspension order of the Ombudsman but only the recent move of the anti-graft office asking the Office of Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita to immediately implement the suspension of Neri pending the resolution of his appeal.

"We are not questioning the merit of the decision of the Ombudsman. We just want to stop immediate execution of the order," he explained.

Although Lentejas admitted in open court that Ermita has declared that the suspension would not be implemented pending appeal at the Ombudsman, he argued that a temporary restraining order from the CA is still necessary because of the possibility of Ermita resigning to join next year's elections that may pave the way for the implementation of the order.

But counsels for CCM and the Ombudsman objected, arguing that Neri's move to seek relief from the CA was clearly forum shopping.

CCM lawyer Harry Roque Jr. said asking for a TRO from the CA would preempt the resolution of the Ombudsman on Neri's pending motion for reconsideration.

He also argued that the admitted refusal of Ermita to implement the suspension order only shows that there is no urgency in granting relief.

Roque told reporters that they plan to sue Secretary Ermita before the Ombudsman for disregarding the suspension order issued against Neri.

CA justices grilled Ombudsman's lawyer Maribeth Padios after the Ombudsman failed to resolve the appeal of Neri that was filed last Sept. 1 considering that under the rules, resolution of motion for reconsideration should be done within five days only.

Padios replied: "I can't comment on that, your honor, because there's a separate panel handling the case."

Associate Justices Pampio Abarintos, Juan Enriquez Jr. and Francisco Acosta are handling Neri's appeal that accused the Ombudsman of abusing its discretion when it pushed for his suspension even pending resolution of his appeal.

During the Senate inquiry last year, Neri alleged that former Commission on Elections chairman Benjamin Abalos Sr. offered him a P200-million bribe when he was still the head of National Economic and Development Authority that reviewed the NBN deal. But he refused to divulge information about his conversation with President Arroyo regarding the bribe offer on the ZTE contract.

Police release sketches of Neri attackers
Police investigators released yesterday the sketches of four of the suspects that apparently belonged to a well-funded gang that shot at the house of Neri last Friday in Quezon City.

Chief Superintendent Elmo San Diego, director of the Quezon City Police District, said the sketches made by a police artist based on descriptions of eye witnesses included the suspect who commandeered the two vans used as getaway vehicles by the suspects, the overseer of the gang's hideout where the driver of one of the carjacked vans was held, and the person who rented a ware-

house in Quezon City. The two carjacked Hyundai vans were used by the armed men who shot at Neri's house on Palali Street in Barangay Siena just before 9am last Oct. 9 while the official was preparing to go to work.

Investigators said the armed men fled and abandoned the two vans along a street a few blocks away from Neri's house and transferred to an L300 van and a Hi-Ace van.

QCPD Intelligence Division head Superintendent Nestor Abalos said the suspects were allegedly part of a well-funded operation to terrorize Neri since the gang even made a down payment of P105,000 to rent the warehouse that was turned into a hideout in Barangay Manresa.

"We don't know yet what the real purpose was for renting the warehouse. (But based on the money spent just for it, we can say that) the group was well-funded or at least they're trying to create an impression that they were well-funded," Abalos told reporters in an interview.

Chief Inspector Benjamin Elenzano, deputy head of the QCPD-Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit, said one of the suspects was identified based on the artist's sketch as a certain Robert Romo, who rented the warehouse where the driver of a maroon Hyundai van from Pampanga was brought after the vehicle was carjacked.

Elenzano noted that Romo is dark, of medium build, and about 5'6" in height and in his early 30s.

The driver of the carjacked van also described one of the two men as being about 5'5" in height, with fair complexion, medium build, and about 30 years old.

The driver whose identity is being withheld, said the suspects hitched a ride with him from Pampanga and later carjacked the vehicle at around 5am in La Loma, Quezon City.

He said the suspects blindfolded him and brought him to the warehouse. He managed to escape at about 2pm when the suspects left him alone.

FROM THE GODFATHER OF CARGO FORWARDERS

Alpha Sino? ALPHA CARGO

OTI-NVOCC BONDED REGISTERED & LICENSED issued by the US FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION No 12297N

"Sinisiguro, Garantisado"***

In **20 to 27 Days*** From Vessel Departure Date *

DELIVERED**

CALL TOLL FREE
1-888-72-25742
1-888-SA ALPHA

PAALALA
Kayang MABABA ang PRESTYO, may CATCH ito...!
Kung hindi MABAGA ang paghahatid ng inyong Cargo, maraming KARULANGAN ito sa SERBISYO...! MANGGULO na nakasulat sa resibo ang halaga ng INSURANCE ng ginapadala ninyo...
PARA PAG NASIRA o HINDI NAKARATING ITO, MAY HABOL KAYO.
BIKARAN panalo sa resibo na nakasulat ang PETSA kung kailan ang DEPARTURE DATE ng inyong ginapadaling CARGO para MAAKASIGURO kung kailan kikitayin ito ng ginadahan nyo. Pwedeng MAKIPAGSAPALARAN kayo sa mababang PRESTYO, ngunit kayo ang palaging TRILD.

WEEKLY SHIPPING SCHEDULES

DEPARTURES** California—USA	DELIVERY PERIOD* Philippines
October 2, 2009	Oct 24 - Oct 29, 2009
October 9, 2009	Oct 31 - Nov 05, 2009
October 16, 2009	Nov 07 - Nov 12, 2009
October 23, 2009	Nov 14 - Nov 19, 2009
October 30, 2009	Nov 21 - Nov 26, 2009
November 6, 2009	Nov 28 - Dec 3, 2009
November 13, 2009	Dec 5 - Dec 10, 2009
November 20, 2009	Dec 12 - Dec 17, 2009
November 27, 2009	Dec 19 - Dec 24, 2009

Pick-up cut-off date is 3 days before each published departure date

"Dahil Ang Cargo Mo, Kargo Ko!" SM

Your Consumer Tip Corner
WHEN SHOPPING FOR A CARGO FORWARDER... DON'T JUST COMPARE RATES... COMPARE THEIR SERVICES TOO...!

CODE VALUE	FREIGHT W/ BARRA (USD)	DOOR PICK-UP Customer's (USD)	INSURANCE PRINTED ON BILL OF LADING (USD)	PROOF OF DELIVERY WITH PICTURE (USD)	REPLACEMENT BOX DOUBLE WALL (USD)	STAFFINGS AND SECURITY SEAL (USD)	WEEKLY SHIPPING SCHEDULES PUBLICATION	30-DAY DELIVERY TIME FROM DEPARTURE	SCHEDULED PICK-UP DAY (YES/NO) TIME ONLY
ALPHA CARGO	\$59	YES	YES *\$500	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
DATHAN CARGO	\$60/ \$65	YES	YES \$200	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
BAGUIHAN CARGO	\$49 / \$55	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
GAYAGAYA CARGO	\$45	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO
HULOG MO CARGO	\$38	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO

* Add 1 to 7 days from DELIVERY PERIOD SCHEDULES for Cagayan Valley, Ilocos and Bicol Regions, Visayas, Mindanao, Palawan, and other islands.
** Subject to delays on SHIPPING LINE'S vessel voyage DEPARTURE and ARRIVAL SCHEDULES, TYPHOONS, FLOODS and other CALAMITIES.

BPI Express Remittance Corporation

Panahon na para MAGSAYA!

ANNOUNCEMENT Extended Hours - From October 15 to December 31, 2009.

Seafood City branches (West Covina, North Hills, Las Vegas, Union City, San Jose, Vallejo, Sacramento)
Mondays to Saturdays - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Sundays - 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Regular branches - New York, Los Angeles, So. San Francisco, San Diego, Milpitas
Mondays to Saturdays - 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Sundays - San Diego, Milpitas and NY Woodside - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Los Angeles, So. San Francisco - Starting November, 2009.

Mula Sa Puso Draw - Ongoing up to February 14, 2010
One Round trip plane ticket to the Philippines

BPI Inoy Real Thrills Promo - Ongoing up to March 15, 2010
Jollibee Spaghetti, Burger Steak or Chicken Joy to Beneficiary in the Philippines. Please see promo mechanics at all BPI Express Remittance Offices and Agents.

Refer a Friend Program - Ongoing
Get \$2.00 discount on service fee for every referral.

Loyalty Program
Starting November 1, 2009 to February 28, 2010- Remittance to BPI or BPIFB PESO account - Pay only \$4.00 on the fourth remittance; On the 8th FREE!

4 Ways to remit

- Direct Credit-to-Account
- Branch Pick-up (Pesos or Dollars)
- Door-to-Door Delivery
- Bank-to-Bank

BPI Remittance

BPI Inoy

For more information call or visit your nearest BPI Express Remittance Center

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| Las Vegas Seafood City
Tel. No.: (702) 733-7813 | Milpitas
Tel. No.: (408) 946-8510 | North Hills Seafood City
Tel. No.: (818) 672-8206/8018 | San Diego
Tel. No.: (619) 470-9399/9499 | San Jose seafood City
Tel. No.: (408) 923-1626 | Vallejo Seafood City
Tel. No.: (707) 554-3528 |
| Los Angeles
Tel. No.: (213) 380-9833/34 | New York
Tel. No.: (212) 644-6700/06 | Sacramento Seafood City
Tel. No.: (916) 429-9077 | San Francisco
Tel. No.: (650) 878-0292 | Union city Seafood City
Tel. No.: (510) 441-0103 | west covina Seafood City
Tel. No.: (626) 964-8711 |