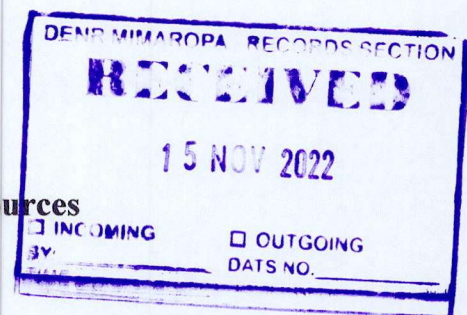


Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
1515 L& S Building
Roxas Boulevard Ermita, Manila



LORNELYN E. CLAUDIO
CESO IV
OIC –Regional
Executive Director

November 07, 2022

LETTER OF EXPLANATION AND REQUEST TO PERMANENTLY RELEASE
CONVEYANCE VEHICLE FROM CASH BOND AND DENR CUSTODY

Good Day Maam,

I write this letter to Inform and explain to your Good Office the facts regarding the seized illegal lumbers in the Van which is registered to me and which I own. Hereto attached as **Annex “A” and “A-1”** is the Certificate of Registration and Official receipt of the said Van.

The facts are the following, I own the van and is registered under my name. That the said van is for tourism business ONLY. I have a notarized memorandum of agreement with my driver Mr. Mark Anthony Amorin a resident of 82 mabini st. Brgy. Maunlad, Puerto Princesa City. Hereto attached is the said MOA as Annex **“B”**. Mr. Amorin have been a van driver driving my van for a long time and I trust him with taking care of the Van that is why even though it is at his custody always I do not mind it since we have a MOA and I am happy that I received regular income from what Mr. Amorin remits to me based on the MOA.

I do not know the driver (Mr. Jay Piojo) who was caught driving the van with the illegal lumbers. I do not know any relationship or transaction between Mr. Amorin and Mr. Piojo. Based on the Notarized sinumpaang salaysay that both Mark Amorin and Jay Piojo submitted in court it could be summarized that both of them were the one who have any transaction with the owner of the illegal lumber Mr. Roldan Lozada. Hereto attached as Annex **“C” and “D”** respectively are the sinumpaang salaysay of both individuals. What I Only know is that Mr. Mark Anthony Amorin and I have a notarized MOA and signed between owner and driver and the possession and custody of the van is always with Mr. Amorin which is why I was surprised when I saw the pictures that even the seat of the van was removed and my van which should only transport people was fully loaded with lumber.

A case was filed only against Mr. Jay Piojo the driver of the van when it was caught transporting the illegal lumbers, and the Conveyance vehicle which I own was placed under the Puerto Princesa City DENR-CENRO custody.

Recently Mr. Jay Piojo as accused in the case pleaded guilty and a SENTENCE dated August 04, 2022 was made finding him guilty, subsequently a ORDER dated September 13, 2022 was made after the termination of the case finding that DENR –CENRO is in custody of the conveyance vehicle and the court deems it proper for the DENR-CENRO to act on the matter hence this letter of Request. Hereto attached are the Sentence and Order of the court as Annex **“E” and “F”** respectively.

I am trying to gather funds to pay the cash bond for the temporary release of my vehicle in the amount of P609, 244. 60 which has a very large financial burden to me and my family.

I have been a victim by trusting to much in my Long time driver Mr. Mark Amorin and relying with our MOA. Now that the criminal case has been terminated I am the one left with all the financial troubles as the van is still under DENR Custody and it is rotting away.

The said van is my source of livelihood, I am respectfully requesting from your good Office the release of the said Van permanently by also releasing also the cash bond that I have paid for the temporary release of my Van.

Hope for your immediate and kind consideration.

Thank you, Respectfully



GLORIA B. PAREDES

Van Owner (09989755721)

Barangay San Miguel, Puerto Princesa City

Copy Furnished:

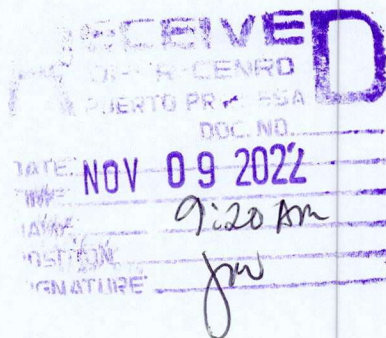
PEDRO A. VELASCO

Development Management Officer IV

Officer in Charge-CENRO.

DENR Compound ,

Brgy. Sta. Monica Puerto Princesa City





Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City
Field Office: Palawan District Office



CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

CR No. 203179653

DATE: 11/10/2014
(MM-DD-YYYY)

MV FILE NO. 0460-00000106577	PLATE NO.	ENGINE NO. 2KDA089893	CHASSIS NO. JTFJS02P605016500
DENOMINATION UTILITY VEHICLE	PISTON DISPLACEMENT 2494	NO. OF CYLINDERS 4	FUEL DIESEL
MAKE Toyota	SERIES HIACE COMMUTER	BODY TYPE VAN	BODY NO. YEAR MODEL 2013
GROSS WT. 3050	NET WT. 1525	SHIPPING WT. 1525	NET CAPACITY 1525

COMPLETE OWNERS NAME
GLORIA B PAREDES

TELEPHONE NO./CONTACT DETAILS
-/-

COMPLETE ADDRESS (No., Street, City/Municipality, Province)
WESCOM ROAD SAN MIGUEL PUERTO PRINCESA CITY (Capital) PALAWAN REGION 4

ENCUMBERED TO

DETAILS OF FIRST REGISTRATION
O.R. No. 000201238153880
O.R. DATE 05/22/2013
AMT. 7,627.18

This is to certify that the Motor Vehicle described herein is duly registered. This certificate is VALID only when signed by authorized LTO Officials, Properly sealed and accompanied by Official Receipt as proof of payment. Any unauthorized erasure or alteration hereon will invalidate this document.

REGISTRANT'S SIGNATURE

ATTY. ALFONSO V. TAN, JR.

BY:

CHIEF OF OFFICE
Signature/Date



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE
East Avenue, Quezon City

LTO Form No. 2B

Field Office: Palawan District Office Field Office Code: 0460

OFFICIAL RECEIPT

1578946375

DATE: 01/31/2019

RECEIVED FROM (Last name, First name, MI)

PAREDES, GLORIA B

ADDRESS (No., Street, City, Municipality, Province Zip Code)
Capital PALAWAN

PAYMENT DETAILS	BREAKDOWN OF PAYMENT
Transaction: VREN01	Cost of Stickers 50.00
VRST01	Legal Research Fund 10.00
010450013120190311 - 01	MVUC 1,800.00
Posted: Jan 31 2019	Comp Fee 159.06
FOR HIRE Utility Vehicle/UV/	Nothing Follows
DIESEL/White	
File No. 046000000106577	
Plate No.	
Gross Weight 3050	
CASH	
2019 +	
NO STICKER AVAILABLE	
A.R. R1343	
GLENDIA P. HEREDERO	
0910 350 5897	
Not valid if not accompanied by CR and CPC II for hire.	
TOTAL AMOUNT PAID	2,029.06
THE SUM OF (in pesos)	Two Thousand Twenty Nine And 06/100 Pesos Only
MODE OF PAYMENT	CASH
ABDela Cruz 01/31/2019	
CHIEF OF OFFICE	CASHIER
Electronic Signature/Date	Signature/Date

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT:

This AGREEMENT OF LEASE, executed entered into by between:

GLORIA BLANCO PAREDES of legal age, married and with address at Purok Pag-ibig, Bgy. San Pedro, Puerto Princesa City referred to as the LESSOR;

-and -

MARK ANTHONY AMORIN of legal age, married and with address at 82 Mabini Street, Bgy. Maunlad, Puerto Princesa City, referred to as the LESSEE

WITNESSETH

That the LESSOR is the owner of a certain vehicle hereafter describe as follows:

Make	:	Toyota
Type	:	HI-ACE COMMUTER VAN
Chassis No.	:	JTFJS02P605016500
Engine No.	:	2KDA089893
Plate No.	:	046001

That the LESSOR HEREBY lets and leases unto the LEASEE THE aforesaid vehicle and the latter hereby accepts the aforesaid vehicle under the following terms and conditions.

1. TERM OF LEASE

January 23, 2018 the LESSEE started renting the van with no expiry date LESSEE agreed that the LESSOR can terminate the service rental at any point of time.

2. RENTAL

The rental will be based as per LESSEE and LESSOR agreement of Twenty Five thousand (P25,000.00) pesos monthly.

3. PAYMENT

The LESSEE shall pay in cash to the LESSOR the full amount at every 23rd of the month without fail.

4. USE OF THE VEHICLE AND PROHIBITION ON SUB-LEASE AND ASSIGNMENT

The LESSEE hereby expressly agrees and warrants that the leases vehicle shall be used exclusively for TOURS only and shall not assign, transfer, or sublets its right in this contract to any person or party without first consulting the LESSOR. The LESSEE will provide a well-trusted driver on permanent basis to operate the vehicle. Wherein, all decision from LESSEE shall be subjected to the LESSORS approval.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY FROM ORIGINAL FILE

ATTY. DAVID CHAIM R. MEREGILLANO

5. REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

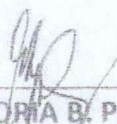
The van is handed in a very good condition and with no defects at all. All minor repairs and maintenance will be accounted to the LESSEE including small road accidents while on trips. Consequently on unforeseen vehicle accidents or road mishaps the LESSEE also take account the responsibilities to resolve the issue.

6. EXPIRATION OF TERMS

Failure of the LESSEE to pay in full within two (2) consecutive months shall be subject for the pull out of the van.

The LESSOR should pull out the vehicle from the LESSEE in the same condition, in all respects as the same now are, reasonable wear and tear expected.

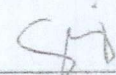
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, these premises are signed at the City of Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Philippines on this AUG 12 2019 day of AUGUST 2019.


GLORIA B. PAREDES


MARK ANTHONY AMORIN



- signed in the presence -



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Republic of the Philippines)
City of Puerto Princesa) S.S

BEFORE ME, a notary public for in Puerto Princesa City, came and appeared:

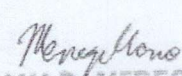
	CTC No.:	Issued on:	Issued at:
GLORIA B. PAREDES	<u>PAG 41216 ID # 1212-1671-8893</u>		
MARK ANTHONY AMORIN	<u>UD ID # D11-12-003054</u>		

Known to me and known to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument and they acknowledged to me that the same their free and voluntary act and dead.

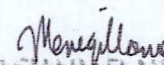
This instrument consisting of two (2) pages, including the page whereon this acknowledgement is written, has been signed by the parties and there instrumental witnesses on each and very page thereof and relates to a CONTRACT OF LEASE over a vehicle.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL:

Doc. No. 177
Page No. 077
Book No. 04
Series of WA


ATTY. DAVID CHAIM R. MEREGILLANO
NOTARY PUBLIC
PTR NO. 128-905-1111 NO. 61621
IBP NO. 000447 TIN NO. 926-447-160

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY FROM ORIGINAL FILE


ATTY. DAVID CHAIM R. MEREGILLANO

SINUMPAANG SALAYSAY

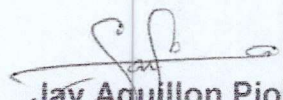
Ako si **Jay Aguillon Piojo**, nasa hustong taong gulang, residente ng Poblacion, Taytay, Palawan at conductor/driver ng ZITI MAY #57 transport Van na may plakang 046001 na manunumpa sa ilalim ng batas, ay nagsasaad na:

1. Na, noong humigit kumulang ika-6:31 PM ng hapon ng Pebrero 27, 2022, ay nakatangap ako ng text message mula kay Mark Anthony Amorin driver ng van na nagsasabi: na mag side trip ako sa stock pile, Roxas, Palawan pabalik dito sa Puerto Princesa City. Na kung saan ako ay kasalukuyang nakaparada sa Puerto Princesa City Terminal sa Brgy. San Jose, Puerto Princesa City mula sa aking byahe galing ng El Nido, Palawan;
2. Na, matapos ko matanggap ang kanyang text message ay agad akong naghanda para magbyahe at dumating din si Mark Anthony Amorin sa terminal at doon ay nag paalam na ako sa kanya na ako ay aalis na patungong stock pile, Brgy. Dumarao, Roxas, Palawan mga humigit kumulang ika 7:00 PM ng gabi na ang tanging bilin nya lang sa akin ay mayroon akong susunduin na pasahero sa nasabing lugar para sa pag hire ng van;
3. Na, dumating ako sa nasabing lugar humigit kumulang mga ika-10:00 PM ng gabi. At pagdating ko sa nasabing lugar ay agad na sumalubong sa akin si Roldan Tedoco Lozada na siyang maghire ng van at mayroon siyang mga ikakargang kahoy;
4. Matapos maikaraga ang mahigit kumulang animnapung pirasong kahoy sa aking dalang van ay nagsabi si Roldan Tedoco Lozada na ako ay kanilang sasabayan/convoy sa pagbyahe sakay ng kanyang motorsiklo na KLX sport Motorcycle na kulay berde at itim at walang plaka patungong Puerto Princesa City kasama ang isa niyang angkas na di ko nakilala na magsisilbing look out sa dadaanang mga check/choke point;
5. Na, Pagkatapos maikarga ganap na ika-11:00 PM ng gabi ay agad na akong umalis sa stock pile, Roxas, Palawan habang naka convoy sa akin si Roldan patungong Puerto Princesa City;
6. Na, ganap na ika-1:30 ng madaling araw ng Pebrero 28, 2022 ay napadaan ako sa isang Choke Point/Control Monitoring ng DENR-CENRO na nakabase sa Brgy. Sta Lourdes, Puerto Princesa City na kung saan ay may mga pinapahintong mga sasakyan na kasalukuyang sinisiyasat ng mga kawani ng PNP Maritime at DENR-CENRO personnel ngunit ako ay nagpatuloy sa pagpatakbo habang nakikita kung kumakaway ng pagpapahinto ang mga tauhan ng PNP Maritime at DENR-CENRO dahil iyon ang sabi sa akin ni Roldan Tedoco Lozada na pag may check/ choke point ay kailangan kung bilisan ang pagpatakbo habang siya ay aking sinusundan patungo sa may Santol Road, Brgy. San Jose, Puerto Princesa City;
8. Mga humigit kumulang ika-1:40 ng umaga ng Pebrero 28, 2022, ay nakarating ako sa Santol Rd. Brgy. San Jose na kung saan ay hindi ako kaagad nakaalis dahil sa may nakaharang na dalawang truck na kasalukuyang may kinakarga. At doon nga ay may pumara sa akin na mga tauhan ng PNP Maritime at DENR-CENRO at agad siniyasat ang aking van na at pinabuksan sa akin ang likurang bahagi ng van na may markang ZITI MAY 57 na may plakang 046001 lulan ang mga kahoy na pagmamay ari ni Roldan Tedoco Lozada at agad nila akong hinanapan ng mga kaukulang papeles o dokumento ng mga nasabing kahoy ngunit wala akong maipakita;
9. Matapos akong pahintuin ng mga tauhan ng DENR-CENRO ay hindi ko na nakita si Roldan Tedoco Lozada hanggang sa ako ay makarating sa tanggapan ng Pnp Maritime

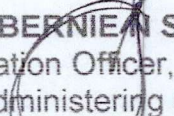
na matatagpuan sa Brgy. Sta. Lourdes, Puerto Princesa City at doon ay agad akong tumawag kay Mark Anthony Amarin na ako ay nahuli kasama ng mga kahoy ni Roldan Tedoco Lozada ng mga awtoridad at agad din akong tumawag kay Roldan Tedoco Lozada ngunit siya ay hindi ko na matawagan;

10. Ang sinumpaang salaysay na ito ay ginagawa ko nang malaya at boluntaryo upang patotohanan ang mga nakasaad dito.

BILANG PATUNAY, nilalagdaan ko ang Sinumpaang Salaysay na ito na binubuo ng isang (1) pahina sa, 2nd SOU-MG, ngayong ika-isa ng Marso 2022.


Jay Aguilon Piojo
Nagsasalaysay

SINUMPAAN AT PINATOTOHANAN sa harap ko ngayon ika 2 ng Marso 2022, sa lungsod ng Puerto Princesa City, Palawan at Pinatutunayan ko na ang nagsalaysay ay aking nasiyasat at ako ay may sapat na paniniwala na siya ay kusa at malayang nagsalaysay.

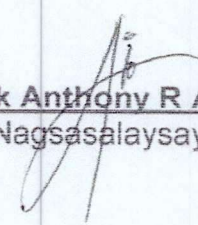

PMAJ BERNIER SALDET JR
Investigation Officer, 2nd SOU-MG
Administering Officer

SINUMPAANG SALAYSAY


Ako si **Mark Anthony Relox Amorin**, nasa hustong taong gulang, residente ng 82. Mabini St, Brgy. Maunlad, Puerto Princesa City Palawan at Manage/Driver ng ZITI MAY #57 transport Van na may plakang 046001 na manunumpa sa ilalim ng batas, ay nagsasaad na:

1. Na, noong humigit kumulang ika-4:30 PM ng hapon ng Pebrero 27, 2022, ay nakatangap ako ng tawag mula kay Roldan Tedoco Lozada taga Stock pile, Roxas, Palawan na nagsasabi na maghire siya ng van ko para sa kanyang mga pangarga mula sa stock pile, Dumarao, Roxas, Palawan;
2. Na, matapos ko matanggap ang kanyang tawag na nagrerequest ng van ay nagpunta ako sa Terminal sa Brgy. San Jose upang makipagkita sa driver ko na si Jay Piojo na noon ay kararating lang galing sa byahe;
3. Na nang mga sandaling iyon ay nag alinlangan akong tanggapin ang request na iyon ni Roldan Tedoco Lozada dahil hindi nya sinasabi sa akin kung anu ang kanyang ikakarga sa van ko at dahil baka iligal na pangarga ang kanyang isasakay;
4. At doon ay aking sinabihan si Roldan Tedoco Lozada na hindi ako ang kasalukuyang driver ng van kasi ako ay nagpapahinga at masama ang aking pakiramdam ng mga sandaling iyon agad niyang sinabi na basta paakyat mo ang van sa stock pile, Roxas, Palawan at aarkilahin ko ang van mo sa halagang pitong libo (Php 7,000). At doon ay ibinigay ko na ang kanyang numero sa aking driver na si Jay Piojo;
5. Humigit kumulang ika-2:00 AM ng madaling araw ng Pebrero 28, 2022 ay nakatangap ako ng tawag mula sa aking driver na si Jay na siya ay nahuli ng mga kawani ng PNP Maritime at DENR CENRO sa may Santol Rd, Brgy. San Jose, Puerto Princesa City;
6. Nang matanggap ko ang tawag ng driver ko ay agad ko na tinawagan si Roldan upang ipaalam ko sa kanya ang nangyari ngunit siya ay hindi ko makontak at di na matawagan. Kung kaya agad ko siyang pinuntahan sa kanyang bahay sa Santol Rd. Barangay San Jose upang ayusin ang problemang binigay niya sa van ko at sa driver ko;
7. Ganap na ika-4:00 AM ng umaga ay nagpunta kami sa station ng PNP Maritime kasama si Roldan Lozada sa Station ng PNP Maritime upang harapin kung anumang pagkakamali ang kanyang ginawa. Ngunit Pagdating namin sa station ay agad siyang nag alinlangang pumasok sa himpilan bagkus siya ay nanatili lang sa labas;
8. Matapos ang ilang sandali ay agad siyang nag teks sa akin na nagsasabing **"Akuin Unlang pai para di na magtagal, at text ka skin Qung magkano Bigay skanila" "at sabihin nyo lang pambahay mo"** at patuloy siya sa pagteks ng **"pai sabihin nyo Qung pwidi ibaba Unlang yong kahoy jan surinder mnlang parang abandon lang"**;
9. Mga humigit kumulang ika 6:00 AM ng umaga ay biglang umalis si Roldan na hindi na nagpaalam sa akin at ako ay kanyang iniwanan sa PNP Maritime matapos nun ay hindi ko na siya makontak sa kanyang telepono;
10. Ang sinumpaang salaysay na ito ay ginagawa ko nang malaya at boluntaryo upang patotohanan ang mga nakasaad dito.

BILANG PATUNAY, nilalagdaan ko ang Sinumpaang Salaysay na ito na binubuo ng isang (1) pahina sa, 2nd SOU-MG, ngayong ika-isa ng Marso 2022.


Mark Anthony R Amorin
Nagsasalaysay

SINUMPAAN AT PINATOTOHANAN sa harap ko ngayon ika ~~2nd~~ ng Marso 2022, sa lungsod ng Puerto Princesa City, Palawan at Pinatutunayan ko na ang nagsalaysay ay aking nasiyasat at ako ay may sapat na paniniwala na siya ay kusa at malayang nagsalaysay.


PMAJ BERNIE M SALDET JR
Investigation Officer, 2nd SOU-MG
Administering Officer

Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF PALAWAN
AND PUERTO PRINCESA CITY
Fourth Judicial Region
BRANCH 51
rtc1prp051@judiciary.gov.ph
+639084164058

PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES,
Plaintiff,

CRIMINAL CASE NO. 12349

for

-versus-

CUTTING, GATHERING, AND/OR
COLLECTING TIMBER OR OTHER
FOREST PRODUCTS WITHOUT
LICENSE, AS PROVIDED UNDER SEC.
77 OF P.D. NO. 705 AS AMENDED

JAY AGUILLON PIOJO and
JOHN DOE,

Accused.

X-----X

SENTENCE

Accused Jay Aguillon Piojo was charged with Violation of Section 77 of Presidential Decree No. 705, as amended, in the Information dated 12 May 2022 which is hereby quoted as follows, to wit:

That on or about the 28th day of February 2022 along Santol Road, Barangay San Jose, Puerto Princesa City, Philippines and within the jurisdiction of this Honorable Court, the said accused, with intent to gain, and without first securing the necessary permit and/or license from the proper authorities, conspiring, confederating and mutually helping each other, did then and there wilfully, unlawfully and feloniously possess, collect, gather and transport and /or caused to be collected, gathered and transported and/or caused to be collected, gathered, transported Sixty-three (63) assorted sizes of Ipil lumber with a total volume of Seven Hundred Fifteen Point Sixty Seven (715.67) board feet, with total market value of Eighty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Pesos and Forty Centavos (P85,880.40), and the corresponding total regular forest charges, surcharges, and environmental damages amounting to Eight Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-two Pesos and One Centavo (P892,562.01), to the damage and prejudice of the government.

CONTRARY TO LAW.

Accused Piojo, thru counsel, filed a Proposal for Plea Bargaining. The accused would like to plead guilty of to the lesser offense of Violation of Section 78¹ of P.D. No. 705, as amended, wherein the imposable penalty is a payment of a fine in an amount of not less than five hundred pesos (P500.00) nor more than

¹ **Section 78. Unlawful occupation or destruction of forest lands.** Any person who enters and occupies or possesses, or makes kaingin for his own private use or for others any forest land without authority under a license agreement, lease, license or permit, or in any manner destroys such forest land or part thereof, or causes any damage to the timber stand and other products and forest growths found therein, or who assists, aids or abets any other person to do so, or sets a fire, or negligently permits a fire to be set in any forest land shall, upon conviction, be fined in an amount of not less than five hundred pesos (P500.00) nor more than twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and imprisoned for not less than six (6) months nor more than two (2) years for each such offense x x x

X

twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and imprisonment for not less than six (6) months nor more than two (2) years.

The prosecution, thru Prosecutor Expedito M. Anigan, and the arresting officer, PMSg James Bue, interposed no objection to the said proposal. Hence, the Court granted the same.

On 28 July 2022, accused Piojo was re-arraigned with the assistance of his counsel, Atty. Arlando G. Arlando, and in the presence of the government prosecutor. He voluntarily and freely pleaded GUILTY to the lower offense of Violation of Section 78 of P.D. No. 705, as amended

Considering that accused Piojo pleaded guilty to the lesser offense of Violation of Section 78 of P.D. No. 705, as amended, there is therefore, no need on the part of the prosecution to prove the guilt of the said accused beyond reasonable doubt.

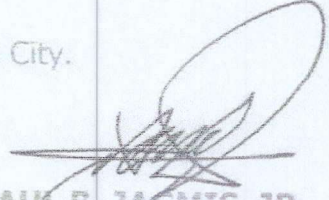
WHEREFORE, premises considered, the Court finds accused JAY AGUILLON PIOJO **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt for Violation of Section 78 of P.D. No. 705, as amended, and hereby sentenced to suffer the penalty of imprisonment ranging from six (6) months to two (2) years and to pay a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00).

In case of non-payment of fine, he shall suffer subsidiary imprisonment.

Let the subject lumbers be forfeited in favor of the Government.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

This 4th day of August 2022 in Puerto Princesa City.



PAUL B. JAGMIS, JR.
Acting Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

1. Pros. Expedito M. Anigan
2. Atty. Arlando G. Arlando
3. The City Parole and Probation Officer
4. file

Republic of the Philippines
**REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF PALAWAN
AND PUERTO PRINCESA CITY**
Fourth Judicial Region
BRANCH 51
rtc1prp051@judiciary.gov.ph
+639084164058

PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES,
Plaintiff,

CRIMINAL CASE NOS. 42349

for

-versus-

JAY AGUILLON PIOJO and
JOHN DOE,

VIOLATION OF SECTION 77 OF
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 705, AS
AMENDED

Accused.

X-----X

ORDER

Before the Court is a *Motion to Release Vehicle* filed by Gloria B. Paredes seeking the release of her Toyota Hi-Ace Commuter Van which is the subject of this case.

In her motion, the movant avers that she is the registered owner of the subject commuter vehicle with Plate No. 04600 as evidenced by the Official Receipt and Certificate of Registration issued by the Land Transportation Office¹. Currently, the subject vehicle is under the custody of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (DENR-CENRO) in Puerto Princesa City.

On 25 August 2022, the Court promulgated the sentence against the herein accused and ordered the forfeiture of the seized lumbers in favor of the government. No pronouncement was made as to the vehicle involved in the case. Thus, the movant prays that the subject vehicle be released to her as the registered owner.

The records reveal that the subject vehicle is not in *custodia legis*. It was not formally offered in Court or submitted to the prosecution as evidence. The subject vehicle was placed under the custody of DENR-CENRO². The Court or the prosecution did not acquire legal authority to take custody of the subject vehicle. Hence, the DENR-CENRO retained the legal custody and responsibility over the subject vehicle.

¹ Annexes "A" and "A-1"

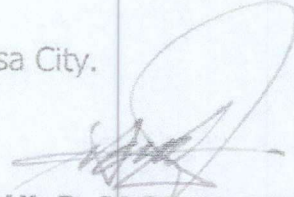
² Seizure Receipt issued by DENR-CENRO and dated February 28, 2022.

Considering that the case has been terminated and the legal custody of the subject vehicle is with the DENR-CENRO, the Court deems it proper for the DENR-CENRO to act on the matter.

WHEREFORE, in view of the foregoing, the instant Motion is hereby DENIED.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

This 13th day of September 2022 in Puerto Princesa City.



PAUL B. JAGMIS, JR.
Acting Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:
Pros. Expedito M. Anigan
Atty. Arlando Arlando
Pedro A. Velasco, DENR-CENRO
File