# Republic of the Philippines REGIONAL TRIAL COURT

Fourth Judicial Region Branch 163, Coron, Pal<u>awan</u>

BCT TRADING AND CONSTRUCTION AND 428 HITECH GROUP, INC.,

Plaintiffs,

DENR MIMAROPA
RECORDS SECTION

MAY 03 2023

INCOMING OUTGOING

BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATS NO. \_\_\_\_\_
TIME:

- versus -

Civil Case CRN-1084 For: Injunction & Damages

ROBERTO B. MAGALLANES AND JOSE B. MAGALLANES, JR., ET AL.

Defendants.

### **MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

(to file ANSWER)

Defendant PHILIPPINE RECLAMATION AUTHORITY (PRA), by counsel, respectfully states:

- 1. PRA received a copy of the Summons on 22 March 2023. Under the Rules, it has 30 days from 22 March 2023 or until 21 April 2023 within which to file its Answer.
- 2. Under the 2019 Amendments to the Rules of Civil Court, the judicial affidavits of the witnesses intended to be presented shall be attached to the Answer. Section 6, Rule 7 states:

Section 6. Contents. – Every pleading stating a party's claims or defenses shall, in addition to those mandated by Section 2, Rule 7, state the following:

(a) Names of witnesses who will be presented to prove a party's claim or defense;

- (b) Summary of the witnesses' intended testimonies, provided that the judicial affidavits of said witnesses shall be attached to the pleading and form an integral part thereof. Only witnesses whose judicial affidavits are attached to the pleading shall be presented by the parties during trial. Except if a party presents meritorious reasons as basis for the admission of additional witnesses, no other witness or affidavit shall be heard or admitted by the court; and
- (c) Documentary and object evidence in support of the allegations contained in the pleading. (Emphasis supplied)
- 3. The case has been referred to undersigned counsel's Office on 24 March 2023 only. However, the need to complete and collate documents to be attached to the Answer; the necessity of meeting with witnesses and other persons knowledgeable of the circumstances in this case; and the logistic limitations at this time due to the COVID-19, PRA anticipates that it will not be able to file its Answer during the original period and is constrained to pray for additional period of time.
- 4. Section 11, Rule 11 of the same amended rules allows for an extension of the Answer:

Section 11. Extension of time to file an answer. – A defendant may, for meritorious reasons, be granted an additional period of not more than thirty (30) calendar days to file an answer. A defendant is only allowed to file one (1) motion for extension of time to file an answer.

A motion for extension to file any pleading, other than an answer, is prohibited and considered a mere scrap of paper. The court, however, may allow any other pleading to be filed after the time fixed by these Rules.

- 5. Hence, PRA respectfully prays that it be given an additional period of 30 days from 21 April 2023, or until 21 May 2023, within which to file its Answer.
- 6. This *Motion* is prompted solely by the foregoing reasons and is not intended to delay the proceedings in the above-captioned case.

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, premises considered, PRA respectfully prays that it be given a period of 30 days from 21 April 2023, or <u>until 21 May 2023</u>, within which to file its Answer.

Other equitable reliefs are likewise prayed for.

Quezon City for Coron, Palawan, 19 April 2023.

#### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CORPORATE COUNSEL

Counsel for PRA

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IBP Life Member Roll 09032; 4/07/10; RSM MCLE Compliance VII-0006098, 11/23/21

Copy furnished:

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Counsel for the Plaintiffs

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# ROBERTO B. MAGALLANES JOSE B. MAGALLANES

Defendants
Nueva Street, Brgy. Poblacion IV,
Coron, Palawan

# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES-MIMAROPA

Defendant
1515 Roxas Blvd.,
Ermita, Manila
mimaroparegion@denr.gov.ph

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & HIGHWAYS-MIMAROPA

Defendant
790 Epifanio de Los Santos Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City
pacanan.gerald@dpwh.gov.ph

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF CORON, PALAWAN c/o OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Defendant Municipal Hall of Coron, Palawan

#### **EXPLANATION**

Due to constraints in time, distance and manpower, copies of the foregoing *Motion* shall be filed and served to the other parties by REGISTERED MAIL, personal service not being practicable under the circumstances. In accordance with par. 4 of Administrative Circular No. 41-2020 dated 29 May 2020, a copy of this *Motion* is also filed via EMAIL.

TENNY G. LIBUTAQUE

## REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES **AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE**

I, **JOEL C. CALDERON**, of the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel, with office address at 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, MWSS Administration Building, Katipunan Avenue, Old Balara, Quezon City, after being duly sworn to, depose and say:

That on 20 April 2023, I served a copy of the following pleading/paper:

# NATURE OF PLEADINGS/PAPER MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

In Civil Case CRN-1084 entitled "BCT TRADING AND CONSTRUCTION AND 428 HI-TECH GROUP, INC., vs. ROBERTO B. MAGALLANES AND JOSE B. MAGALLANES, JR., ET AL." pursuant to Section 3, 4, 5 and 10, Rule 13 of the Rules of Court, as follows:

By personal service to:	By delivery personally a copy to the party of
	his/her attorney on as show up
By Ordinary Mail to/Special Delivery to: By Registered Mail to:	on p
	By leaving a copy of in his/her office with
	his/her clerk or with a person having charge
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT	thereof onas
Fourth Judicial Region	shown on p
Branch 163, Coron, Palawan	
	By delivery a copy of the Court/Tribunal/Office
ALAMPAY AND TAMASE LAW OFFICE	onshown on p
TEMM AT AND TAMAGE EAW OFFICE	•
ROBERTO B. MAGALLANES	By depositing on a copy in the
JOSE B. MAGALLANES	post office at in a sealed envelope,
	plainly addressed to the party or his/her attorney
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT &	at his/her office/residence with postage fully
NATURAL RESOURCES-MIMAROPA	paid and with instruction to the postmasters to
	return the mail to the sender after ten (10) days if
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS &	undelivered.
HIGHWAYS-	
MIMAROPA	By depositing a copy on in the
	post office at as evidences
LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF CORON,	by Registry Receipts(s) No. (s) of
PALAWAN	the addressee(s) and with instructions to the
c/o OFFICE OF THE MAYOR	postmaster to return the mail to sender after ten
	(10) days if undelivered.

Quezon City, for Coron, Palawan, 20 April 2023.

JOEL C. CALDERON
Affiant

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 20 April 2023, affiant personally appeared before me and exhibited to me his ID No. 125.

ATTY JANE D. FERRERIA

NOTARY PUBLIC FOR AND IN QUEZON CITY

3RD FLR. MWSS BLDG., KATIPUNAN AVE., QUEZON CITY ADM. MATTER NO. NO. 356

ROLL NO. 69297 IBP LIFETIME NO. 016602; 05/23/2019; QUEZON CITY PTR NO. 4401651; 03/21/2023; QUEZON CITY MCLE COMPLIANCE NO. VII-0006112; 4/14/25 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES ON 31 DECEMBER 2023

Doc. No. 10; Page No. 03; Book No. 1; Series of 2023.