

## **“UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW”**

**Statement of the Board of Governors  
of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines  
November 18, 2011**

**Resolution Expressing Concern Over the Failure of the Department of Justice and the Bureau of Immigration to Comply with the Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) issued by the Honorable Supreme Court Against the Watchlist Orders (WLOs) in G.R. Nos. 199034 and 199046.**

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2011 the Supreme Court En Banc issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) enjoining the Department of Justice and the Bureau of Immigration from enforcing the WLO Nos. ASM-11-237 dated August 9, 2011, 2011-422 dated September 6, 2011 and 2011-573 dated October 27, 2011;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the issuance of the TRO, the DOJ continues to prevent the travel of the petitioners in the cited cases;

WHEREAS, the failure of the DOJ to comply with the TRO has created a national controversy, with serious repercussions on the Rule of Law and the authority of the Supreme Court as the arbiter of constitutional disputes;

WHEREAS, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, as the official organization of lawyers in the Philippines, is committed to the promotion of the Rule of Law;

WHEREAS, the continuing refusal of the DOJ to comply with the TRO issued by the Supreme Court amounts to an affront to the Rule of Law which could erode public confidence on the authority of the Supreme Court.

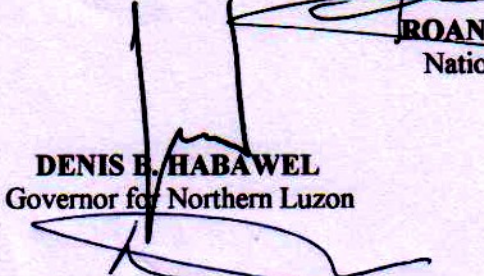
NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED, by the Board of Governors of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, to express concern over the failure of the Department of Justice to comply with the TRO and other orders of the Supreme Court, and to call upon the Secretary of Justice and other officials and instrumentalities of government to uphold the Rule of Law.

It is further RESOLVED to call upon all members of the legal profession to UPHOLD THE RULE OF LAW and to reject all attempts to seriously undermine the authority of the Supreme Court that could result in chaos and the erosion of the Rule of Law.

Unanimously adopted, November 18, 2011.



**ROAN I. LIBARIOS**  
National President



**DENIS B. HABAWEL**  
Governor for Northern Luzon



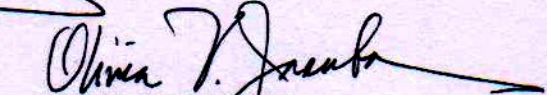
**VICENTE M. JOYAS**  
Governor for Southern Luzon




**LEONOR L. GERONA-ROMEO**  
Governor for Bicolandia



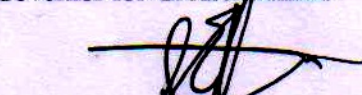
**ISRAELITO P. TORREON**  
Governor for Eastern Mindanao



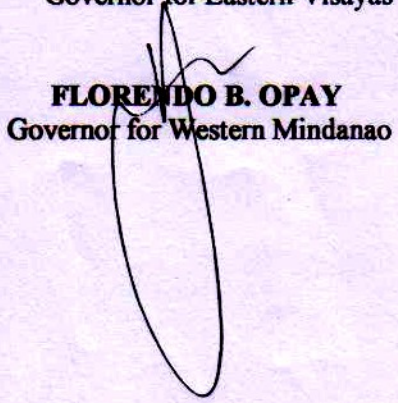
**OLIVIA V. JACOBA**  
Governor for Central Luzon



**DOMINIC C.M. SOLIS**  
Governor for Greater Manila



**MANUEL L. ENAGE, JR.**  
Governor for Eastern Visayas



**FLORENDO B. OPAY**  
Governor for Western Mindanao