



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

04 MAY 2016

DepEd MEMORANDUM  
No. **72**, s. 2016

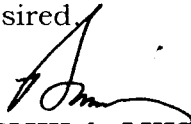
**DISSEMINATION OF COMELEC MINUTE RESOLUTION NO. 16-0231**

(In the Matter of the Joint Memorandum of Commissioners Christian Robert Lim and Luie Tito F. Guia Re: Minute Resolution Nos. 16-0164 and 16-0176)  
(COMELEC Employee T-shirts and BEI Uniforms)

To: Regional Directors  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Public Elementary and Secondary Schools Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. For the information and guidance of all concerned, enclosed is a copy of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Minute Resolution No. 16-0231 dated April 5, 2016 entitled **In the Matter of the Joint Memorandum of Commissioners Christian Robert Lim and Luie Tito F. Guia Re: Minute Resolution Nos. 16-0164 and 16-0176 (COMELEC Employee T-shirts and BEI Uniforms)** which is self explanatory.
2. The aforementioned Minute Resolution resolved among others:  

“1. x x x  
“2. To require the BEIs to wear instead their DepEd uniform during the May 9, 2016 National and Local Elections, together with their Election Day ID to be issued by the COMELEC;”
3. In view of the foregoing, all concerned are directed to disseminate this Minute Resolution to all board of election inspectors (BEIs), supervisors and support staff for their guidance and strict compliance.
4. All public school teachers who will serve during the 2016 National and Local Elections are also directed to coordinate with their respective city/municipal election officers for the issuance of their Election Day IDs.
5. All DepEd officials and personnel, being in the civil service, are reminded not to intervene directly or indirectly, in any election campaign or engage in any partisan political activity, except to vote.
6. Any other DepEd Memoranda, Orders, Circulars, and other issuances inconsistent with this Memorandum are deemed amended or repealed accordingly.
7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

  
**BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC**  
Secretary

Encl.:

As stated

Reference:

N o n e

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

ELECTIONS

OFFICIALS

RULES AND REGULATIONS

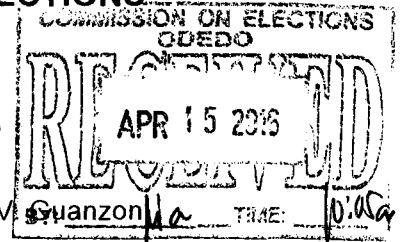
STRAND: Legal and Legislative Affairs

TEACHERS

Madel: Dissemination of COMELEC Resolution No. 16-0231  
0321-May 3, 2016



**EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR EN BANC MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS HELD ON APRIL 5, 2016**



**Present:**

Chairman J. Andres D. Bautista  
Commissioner Al A. Parreño  
Commissioner Luie Tito F. Guia  
Commissioner Ma. Rowena Amelia V. Guanzon

**On Official Business:**

Commissioner Christian Robert S. Lim  
Commissioner Arthur D. Lim  
Commissioner Sheriff M. Abas

xxx

xxx

xxx

*Handwritten signature*  
16-0231

**IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT MEMORANDUM OF COMMISSIONERS CHRISTIAN ROBERT S. LIM AND LUIE TITO F. GUIA RE: MINUTE RESOLUTIONS NOS. 16-0164 AND 16-0176 (COMELEC EMPLOYEE T-SHIRTS AND BEI UNIFORMS)**

This pertains to the Joint Memorandum dated March 31, 2016 of Commissioners Christian Robert S. Lim and Luie Tito F. Guia re: Minute Resolutions Nos. 16-0164 and 16-0176 (COMELEC employee t-shirts and BEI uniforms).

The Joint Memorandum of Commissioners Lim and Guia reads:

*"The Commission, conscious of the need to enhance the credibility of the electoral process and the Commission itself as an institution, approved a resolution directing the procurement, through competitive public bidding, of singlets for the members of the 92,509 Board of Election Inspectors (BEI) and their support staff and t-shirts for COMELEC employees. The approved ABC for the procurement of singlets runs to more than 26 million pesos.*

*When the procurement, however, became public, the COMELEC decision was generally met with negative reactions. Initially, the criticism was heavy in the social media. Thereafter, even the mainstream media came out with its critique of the procurement. Unfortunately, COMELEC's response to the issue was less than satisfactory, even prompting more insulting and accusatory reaction from the public. Undersigned expect that this will add to the recent public relation challenges that the Commission have been enduring. Thus, instead of enhancing credibility in the process, the decision may end up eroding public confidence to the same.*

*In this regard, undersigned respectfully recommend that the Commission En Banc revisits, re-assesses and/or reconsiders its decision to procure the singlets and the t-shirts. It is believed that there will be no harm done if the decision be reconsidered."*

On April 5, 2016, Commissioners Ma. Rowena Amelia V. Guanzon and Arthur D. Lim submitted their respective Memoranda on the matter which are hereunder quoted, to wit:

*Handwritten initials*

*"I urge you, my colleagues in the En Banc, to think about your decision to purchase P22M worth of uniforms for the BEIs. I saw a picture of what looks like a white bib, and I heard comments that the teachers do not like to wear it. Perhaps a big identification card will serve the same purpose of identifying who the BEIs are instead of spending so much public funds for what, to my mind, is not necessary.*

*We have the duty to comply with the Auditing Code of the Philippines to avoid unnecessary and extravagant expenditures. If this has been scheduled for bidding, the En Banc has the power to stop it. If it has been bidden, we have the option not to grant the Notice of Award, in the interest of the public.*

x x x."

xxx

xxx

xxx

*"I am reconsidering my vote for the procurement of T-shirts/uniforms for BEIs and COMELEC personnel. Reasons to be given upon my return from Hong Kong. x x x. Commissioner Sheriff Abas, likewise in Hong Kong, is joining this opinion."*

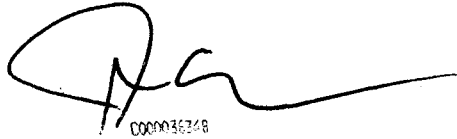
Considering the negative reactions from the public particularly on social media, and the comments/recommendation of Commissioners C.R. S. Lim, Guia, Guanzon, and A. D. Lim, to revisit/reconsider the procurement of t-shirts and bib vests (Election Day Uniforms) as approved in Minute Resolutions Nos. 16-0164 and 16-0176, the Commission **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, as follows:

1. To **cancel** the procurement of singlets/bib vests for the Election Day Uniform of the Boards of Election Inspectors (BEI) and their support staff;
2. To **require** the BEIs to wear instead their DepEd uniform during the May 9, 2016 National and Local Elections, together with the Election Day ID to be issued by the COMELEC;
3. To **proceed** with the procurement of 6,158 Election Day COMELEC employee polo shirts; and
4. To **direct** the Deputy Executive Director for Operations in coordination with the Office of the Chairman to work out the details of the Election Day IDs.

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Let the Bids and Awards Committee (AES-related procurement), the Deputy Executive Director for Operations, and the Office of the Chairman implement this Resolution.

SO ORDERED.



J. ANDRES D. BAUTISTA  
Chairman

(On Official Business)

CHRISTIAN ROBERT S. LIM  
Commissioner

*w/ reservation  
as expressed by  
the Comm. Guanzon*  
LUE TITO F. GUIA  
Commissioner

*w/ reservation  
do no 3. procurement/  
product of 10  
must apply  
w/ procurement  
law*  
AL A. PARREÑO  
Commissioner

(On Official Business)

ARTHUR D. LIM  
Commissioner



MA. ROWENA AMELIA V. GUANZON  
Commissioner

(On Official Business)  
SHERIFF M. ABAS  
Commissioner

*Note: P200 per shirt is expensive. Subject to bidding. I am concerned that the COA*

- cc: *will find this unnecessary.*
- Chairman
  - All Commissioners
  - Executive Director
  - Deputy Executive Director for Operations
  - Deputy Executive Director for Administration
  - Bids and Awards Committee
  - BAC TWG
  - BAC Secretariat
- } (AES-related procurement)

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