

## Republic of the Philippines Supreme Court Alanila OUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES PUBLIC DEFORMATION OFFICE PHILIPPINES

## EN BANC

COALITION OF ASSOCIATIONS
OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE
PHILIPPINES, INC. [SENIOR
CITIZENS PARTY-LIST],
represented herein by its
Chairperson & 1<sup>st</sup> Nominee,
FRANCISCO G. DATOL, JR.
Petitioner,

G.R. Nos. 206844-45

- versus -

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS, Respondent.

COALITION OF ASSOCIATIONS
OF SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE
PHILIPPINES, INC. [SENIOR
CITIZENS], represented by its
President and Incumbent
Representative in the House of
Representatives, ATTY.
GODOFREDO V. ARQUIZA,
Petitioner,

G.R. No. 206982

TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

- versus -

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS,

Respondent.

TO: \* COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (x) Intramuros, Manila

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## **GREETINGS:**

WHEREAS, Petitions for Certiorari with Prayer for Issuance of a Writ of Preliminary Injunction and Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) and/or Status Quo Ante Order (SQAO) were filed by separate counsels for petitioner;

WHEREAS, a very urgent motion to reiterate issuance of a TRO and/or SQAO was filed by counsel for petitioner in G.R. Nos. 206844-45;

WHEREAS, a supplement to the petition for certiorari with very urgent motion to reiterate the application for a TRO and writ of preliminary injunction and to admit the same was filed by counsel for petitioner in G.R. No. 206982;

WHEREAS, the petitions and supplemental petition appear to be sufficient in form and substance;

WHEREAS, respondent Commission on Elections (COMELEC) has already proclaimed thirty-eight groups entitled to fifty-three (53) seats from among the party-list candidates in the elections held on May 13, 2013;

WHEREAS, petitioner obtained a substantial number of votes such that it could materially affect the determination of the allocation of seats for party-list representatives;

WHEREAS, should respondent COMELEC continue proclaiming winners from among the remaining party-list candidates, grave prejudice could result, not only to the petitioner, but to other party-list candidates as well:

WHEREAS, considering the allegations contained, the issues raised and the arguments adduced in the petitions and supplemental petition, as well as the motions for issuance of a TRO, it is necessary and proper to (a) CONSOLIDATE the cases; (b) ISSUE a TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER; and (c) require the respondent to COMMENT on the petitions and the supplemental petition;

NOW, THEREFORE, You, respondent COMELEC, are hereby required to COMMENT on the petitions and the supplemental petition within a NON-EXTENDIBLE period of ten (10) days from notice hereof. Meanwhile, the cases are hereby CONSOLIDATED and a TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER is ISSUED, effective immediately and continuing until further orders from this Court, ordering You, respondent COMELEC, your agents, representatives, or persons acting in your place or

stead, to cease and desist from further proclaiming winners from among the party-list candidates.

GIVEN by authority of the Honorable Maria Lourdes P. A. Sereno, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, upon the written recommendation of the Member-in-Charge, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013, in Manila, Philippines.

ENRIQUETA E. VIDAL Clerk of Court

## COPY FURNISHED:

Atty. ROMEO C. MANALO (x) Counsel for Petitioner/206844-45 S-307 The One Executive Office Building No. 5 West Avenue Quezon City

Atty. HERNAN G. NICDAO (x) Counsel for Petitioner/206982 Nicdao Law Office 401 West Trade Center 132 West Avenue Quezon City

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (x) Supreme Court

- \* The SOLICITOR GENERAL 134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village Makati City
- With copy of petitions and and supplemental petition