

Department of Justice
Annual Report
2010

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Manila, Philippines



The year 2010 ended with a host of accomplishments for the Department of Justice (DOJ). Various landmark achievements and events during the year have greatly helped in regaining the people’s trust and confidence in the DOJ as an institution charged with the administration and dispensation of justice.

In the same year, as Filipinos welcomed a new and promising government, the DOJ received a boost from no less than newly elected President Benigno S. Aquino III when he stressed among his government’s priorities during his inaugural address to render “complete and true justice to all”. This statement continues to serve as a mantra for the hardworking and dedicated men and women of the DOJ as they carried on their task of protecting the rights of the people. Institutional reforms were appreciatively and eagerly implemented, with everyone looking forward to realizing the vision of serving the ends of justice and consequently ushering in a progressive Philippines.

As we look forward to another year, let us not be content with what we have so far achieved during the past year. We strive for more accomplishments so we can truly serve our mandate and involve the people to work with us towards a more effective and efficient justice system. This will only happen if we regain the people’s trust in the very institutions tasked to administer justice. And it is the DOJ and its agencies that have been mandated to ensure that every person is given his due no matter what his station in life is or whatever political or social affiliation he belongs to. This is a tough job for all of us but with zeal and sincerity to realize this mandate, I know that we can carry out this mission in the end.

Let the DOJ carry the torch that will light the straight path that the Aquino Administration has decided to take.

May God bless us all.

LEILA M. DE LIMA (Sgd.)
Secretary

1 Strategic Thrust of the Philippine Justice System



“When we allow crimes to go unpunished, we give consent to their occurring over and over again. Secretary de Lima, you have your marching orders. Begin the process of providing true and complete justice for all.”

- President Benigno S. Aquino III



In his inaugural speech on 30 June 2010, President Benigno S. Aquino III emphatically pointed out the need to begin the process of providing “true and complete justice for all”.

A clearer message could not have been given as marching orders for the Department of Justice under his administration. President Aquino’s platform, exemplified in his *Social Contract with the Filipino People*, specified changes leading to transparent and accountable governance, empowerment of the poor and vulnerable, sustained peace, justice and security, and the integrity of natural resources, even as it called on every Filipino to choose to do what is right, give value to excellence and integrity, and reject mediocrity and dishonesty.

President Aquino’s *Social Contract* will soon be operationalized in the Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016, the successor plan for the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP). The Plan provides for three broad strategies to achieve inclusive growth: high and sustained economic growth, equal access to development opportunities, and effective and responsive social safety nets. High and sustained growth can be attained through a stable macroeconomic environment, rapid growth of industry, investments in infrastructure, good governance, minimizing corruption and enforcing the rule of law. A human rights-based approach to development is one of the new features of the Plan.

The new leadership of the Department of Justice (DOJ) is committed to pursuing President Aquino’s Social Contract. Secretary Leila De Lima has outlined her priorities as the new Secretary of Justice. These are:

- Eradication of graft and corruption;
- Resolution of cases targeting 90% disposition rate, and
- Increase in the conviction rate, focusing on priority cases such as human trafficking, illegal drugs, extra-legal killings, tax evasion, and smuggling.

2 Major Accomplishments and Most Significant Changes in 2010



Sec. Agnes VST Devanadera



Sec. Alberto C. Agra



Sec. Leila M. De Lima

Three Justice Secretaries in 2010

It is a rare feat for the DOJ in its 113 years of existence to have three (3) Secretaries in a single year. In 2010 three capable officials served as Secretary of the Department of Justice: Secretary Agnes VST Devanadera, who started her term in 2009; Secretary Alberto C. Agra who took over from Secretary Devanadera 09 March, and Secretary Leila M. De Lima who was installed 01 July 2010.

Secretary Devanadera, who was concurrently the Solicitor General, succeeded former Secretary Raul M. Gonzalez in 2009. During her stint, the DOJ achieved notable accomplishments in less than a year which were reflective of her 24/7, hands-on approach to management. To name a few, these are:

- **Launching of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9285**, known as the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The IRR was promulgated to prescribe the procedures and guidelines for the

implementation of the ADR Act, which is expected to promote out-of-court resolution of disputes, expedite impartial justice, as well as declog court dockets;

- **Sprucing up of the DOJ Action Center (DOJAC)** and transferring its office to a more accessible location for all clients who follow up cases or need legal assistance; and
- **Implementation of a "No Lunch Break" policy**, so that services are not disrupted and every client who goes to DOJ offices is attended to by pleasant staff and lawyers even during lunch breaks.

Secretary Devanadera resigned to pursue her Congressional bid in Quezon Province during the 2010 elections, and turned over the reigns of the DOJ to Alberto C. Agra on 09 March 2010.

Like Secretary Devanadera, Secretary Agra also served as the concurrent Solicitor General and Secretary of Justice, but only for a period of four months.

During his term, the DOJ was able to provide financial assistance worth PHP55 million to relatives of the Maguindanao Massacre victims. The package of programs was sponsored by the Federation of Philippine Industries (FPI) and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). It provided academic scholarships, health and medical assistance, and livelihood projects for the victims' families.

On 27 June 2010, Secretary Agra issued Department Circular No. 50 providing for the Implementing Guidelines of Republic Act No. 10071 - An Act Strengthening and Rationalizing the National Prosecution Service (NPS). The law provides for a better compensation package for prosecutors in order to raise their performance standards and improve public service delivery. It aims to attract brilliant lawyers to join the Prosecution Service which currently suffers from a high vacancy rate.

With the assumption of the Aquino Administration, the



Secretary Leila M. De Lima receives the DOJ flag from outgoing Secretary Alberto C. Agra during the turnover ceremony on 01 July 2010 at the DOJ.

reigns of the DOJ were turned over to Secretary Leila M. De Lima, then Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR). She assumed the DOJ leadership after accepting the offer from the newly elected President Benigno S. Aquino III. In his inaugural speech on 30 June 2010, President Aquino gave the marching orders to Secretary De Lima: to begin the process of providing **“true and complete justice for all.”**

Since then, Secretary De Lima continuously inspires, energizes, and mobilizes the DOJ bureaucracy to work

for a strengthened rule of law through an effective, expeditious, accessible and impartial justice system. This new environment will definitely renew public trust and confidence in the DOJ and the entire justice system.

During the year, the DOJ started formulating its Development Plan that will outline the road map towards attaining President Aquino’s 16-point Agenda as embodied in his *Social Contract with the Filipino People*. Consistent with the comprehensive development concerns identified in this *Social*

Contract, the Department ensures that seeking justice should go beyond the criminal justice system and include social and political dimensions.

Strengthening and Rationalizing the National Prosecution Service (RA 10071)

Republic Act No. 10071 or the Prosecution Service Act of 2010 was signed into law on 06 April 2010. It sought to reorganize and enhance the National Prosecution Service (NPS) of the DOJ. Before the end of 2010, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) authorized the release of Php25.2 million to pay for the salaries and other compensation differentials of government prosecutors as provided by RA 10071.

Secretary De Lima observed that the budget release shows how the Aquino government has finally come to appreciate and acknowledge the hard work, dedication and sacrifices of prosecutors, who are the frontliners in DOJ’s fight against criminality and lawlessness. She said it is but right that prosecutors finally receive

what Congress has already determined to be rightfully due to them, and expressed confidence that this will inspire them to perform better.

RA 10071 provides for

- additional plantilla positions and increased benefits of prosecutors (formerly called fiscals) to attract more lawyers to government service;
- reorganization of the Prosecution Staff to be headed by a Prosecutor-General (formerly known as Chief State Prosecutor), and assisted by 5 senior deputy state prosecutors, 5 deputy state prosecutors, 35 senior assistant state prosecutors, 80 assistant prosecutors, and 20 prosecution attorneys;
- establishment of a regional prosecution office in each administrative region except for the NCR, headed by a Regional Prosecutor who supervises all provincial and city prosecutors and prosecutes cases arising within the region;
- entitlement of prosecutors to allowances from their respective local governments, in amounts not exceeding 50 percent of their basic salaries;
- automatic increase of retired prosecutors’ pension benefits with any increase in the salary and allowance of the position from which they retired;
- entitlement of prosecutor who retires after 15 years of service or at age 65 to a retirement pension based on the highest salary and highest monthly aggregate of allowances.



Former President now Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo appears before the DOJ panel in connection with the plunder charges filed against her.

Codes of Conduct for the Prosecution Service

Committed to deliver effective public governance anchored on public trust, the Department launched its Codes of Conduct for the Prosecution Service on 23 December 2010. These are the prescribed guidelines on the norms and conduct of prosecutors and staff in the performance of their duties as public servants.

Secretary De Lima, whose advocacy is for good governance and accountability, said the implementation of the codes is a big step towards promoting the high standards of conduct expected of prosecutors as responsible officers in the dispensation

of justice as vanguards of the rights of the people.

She also stressed that *“fairness, dignity, impartiality, integrity and professionalism* are all of what should epitomize those serving under the National Prosecution Service.”

Regular Management Meetings

Weekly Executive Committee (EXECOM) meetings and monthly Management Committee (MANCOM) meetings, with the Secretary as presiding officer, are regularly held to closely monitor the various affairs and to immediately attend to pressing concerns of the Department.

The EXECOM, composed of Undersecretaries, Assistant



Courtesy visits of Indonesian delegates (left photo) and the Brazilian Ambassador (center photo), October 2010.



Secretary De Lima (extreme right) during the launch of the Codes of Conduct for the Prosecution Service.



Prosecutor General Claro A. Arellano discusses some of the legal options the Department would undertake following a short dialogue with the witnesses in the Maguindanao massacre.

Secretaries, the Prosecutor General, and the Chief State Counsel as its members, holds its weekly meeting every Monday at the DOJ central office.

On the other hand, the MANCOM, with all the heads of attached agencies as its members, holds its monthly meetings every first Monday of the month.

Interagency Implementation of RATE and RATS

To support the National Government's effort to increase revenue collection needed to sustain government operations, the DOJ collaborates with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and Bureau of Customs (BOC), in sustained implementation of Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) and Run After Tax Smugglers (RATS).

Tax evasion and/or smuggling cases filed weekly by the BIR / BOC with the DOJ for investigation and prosecution are being strictly monitored to ensure swift and expeditious action.

Some of the tax evasion cases filed before the DOJ involve

high-ranking government officials and well-known entertainment personalities.

In the campaign against smuggling, the biggest case filed with the DOJ was a Php24 billion technical smuggling complaint against a multinational company. This was received by the DOJ on 13 October 2010.



BIR Presscon RATE, 09 September 2010

Since the campaign started in July 2010, 18 smuggling cases and 23 tax evasion cases have been filed with the DOJ.

Investigation of Manila Hostage Crisis

In the aftermath of the Manila Hostage Crisis on 23 August 2010, which killed eight and injured seventeen Chinese Hong Kong tourists, President Aquino formed the Joint Incident

Investigation and Review Committee (IIRC) headed by Secretary De Lima.

The task of IIRC consisted of two parts:

1. To make a comprehensive account of the sequence of events leading to the killing of the hostages and the hostage-taker, evaluate police action and the response of offices and private entities to the incident, and recommend the filing of appropriate charges against those found culpable as intermediate actions focused on the hostage-taking incident, and
2. To review operational plans and procedures, conduct a detailed audit and inventory of the training and equipment of responsible agencies, review the Philippine National Police (PNP) standards and procedures in administrative cases involving police officers and personnel, and recommend comprehensive policies and programs as a final and complete report on institutional recommendations.



DOJ Executive Planning Session, 26-28 November 2010.

The Committee completed the "First Report of the Incident Investigation and Review Committee on the 23 August 2010 Rizal Park Hostage-taking Incident: Sequence of Events, Evaluation and Recommendations" last 17 September 2010, which was submitted to the Office of the President on the same day. It recommended administrative and/or criminal charges against 15 individuals and three broadcasting networks.

As of the drafting of this report, the IIRC had completed and submitted its second report pertaining to its second mandate.

The DOJ Action Center (DOJAC)

At the forefront of the services of the DOJ is an Action Center, which was set up primarily to provide free legal assistance to the people especially the marginalized sector. The DOJAC assists in the speedy resolution/



The DOJ Action Center (DOJAC)

action of problems these groups encounter with DOJ offices and agencies or any other government office. Walk-in clients and callers can talk to a lawyer or paralegal officer for needed assistance.

In 2010, DOJAC at the DOJ central office extended various legal assistance/services to a total of 9,885 clients. The nature of the client's requests and complaints ranged from legal

advice to solutions of problems involving land titles, follow-up on various cases, financial claims, and others.

Regional and provincial offices have put up their own DOJACs to provide provincial clients access to free legal assistance and other DOJ services. About 200,000 clients were assisted/served by the DOJAC for the period January to December 2010.



The IIRC during the investigation of the Manila Hostage Crisis at DOJ Manila



DOJ-PNP Case Conference re handling of cases, budget, and logistics, 13 July 2010

Organizational Changes

On 28 June 2010, DBM approved the DOJ (Office of the Secretary) Rationalization Plan pursuant to Executive Order No. 366 dated 04 October 2004.

The goal of the Rationalization Program is to transform the Executive Branch into a more effective and efficient government. It aims to focus government efforts on its vital functions and channel its resources to core public services, and improve the efficiency of services within affordable levels and in the most accountable manner. Implementation of the DOJ Ratplan resulted in the following organizational changes:

■ Deactivation of the Commission on the Settlement of Land Problems (COSLAP)

The DBM-approved and modified DOJ Rationalization Plan deactivated the COSLAP because according to the DBM, its functions duplicate and are already being performed by the courts, Land Registration Authority, Department of Agrarian Reform, and other government agencies and offices. All vacant positions were

abolished and all filled positions were made coterminous with the incumbent. In effect, all incumbent COSLAP personnel were transferred to DOJ where their services can be maximized and their potentials tapped.

Funds saved from the deactivation of the COSLAP have been re-channeled to the priorities of the DOJ, such as the creation of the Internal Audit Service (IAS) and strengthening of the Legal Staff and Technical Staff. The NPS revised staffing pattern has yet to be approved by the DBM.

Ninety-nine (99) vacant positions in COSLAP have been abolished, and the funds saved were realigned to the DOJ central office to augment its approved staffing modifications, which include, among others, the creation of 11 State Counsel positions in the Legal Staff to

Table 1. Changes in the Organizational Structure and Staffing due to the implementation of the DOJ Ratplan

Particulars	Authorized	Filled	Proposed	Approved
No. of organization units	25	-	32	27
No. of regular positions	448	381	499	486

assist the Secretary of Justice as the Attorney General of the Philippines and as ex-officio legal adviser of government-owned or controlled corporations.

Before the COSLAP ceased its operations, however it was able to resolve 2,174 cases more than its target of 1,700, exceeding the agency's performance target by approximately 28%.

■ Creation of Internal Audit Service (IAS)

The creation of IAS was an original proposal of DOJ that was favorably considered by the DBM. The IAS was created to improve the efficiency and accountability of DOJ's services and to strengthen its internal control system. It shall assist the DOJ Secretary on matters relating to management and operations audits.

■ Changes in Structure and Staffing Complement

Implementation of the DBM-approved DOJ Ratplan resulted in changes in the organizational structure and staffing complement of the DOJ. These are summarized in the table below.

3 DOJ Functional Clusters



The DOJ is at the forefront of the Philippine justice system as it provides various justice services to the public and legal services to the government, in partnership with other Executive Agencies, Judiciary, and Legislature.

Executive Order No. 292 s. 1987, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, provides the following general mandates for the Department:

1. Serve as the principal law agency of the government, both as legal counsel and prosecution arm;
2. Administer the criminal justice system in accordance with the accepted processes in the investigation of crimes, prosecution of offenders, and administration of the correctional system;

3. Implement the laws on the admission/stay of aliens and on citizenship; and
4. Provide free legal services to indigent members of society.

The organizational framework of DOJ is based on functional clusters from where the functional mandates of the Department's Agencies, Services, and special programs are derived. These are:

- Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Public Defense, and Corrections Services;
- Legal Services, and
- Special Protection and Other Services.

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PROSECUTION, PUBLIC DEFENSE, AND CORRECTIONS SERVICES

This cluster consists of interrelated processes covering protection of and remedies for the rights of the offended and the accused.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement includes detection and investigation of crimes, which are a primary function of the National Bureau

of Investigation (NBI). The Bureau of Immigration (BI) specifically enforces the Philippine Immigration Law

and takes part in detection of offenders through alien registration and monitoring and border management.

National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)

Mandated to investigate and detect crimes and other offenses in violation of Philippine laws and to establish and maintain a modern, effective and efficient investigative and intelligence service, the NBI under the present leadership has reaffirmed its enduring commitment as a professionalized investigative agency in the service of the people.

In 2010, the Investigative and Intelligence Service including the Regional and District Offices of the Bureau received a total of 50,619 cases of which 11,771 were criminal. Out of these criminal cases 11,013 were recommended for prosecution.

In addition, 228 persons were located by NBI agents and special investigators by virtue of orders and warrants of arrest issued by courts nationwide and through requests to locate missing persons.

In forensic medicine and chemistry, questioned documents, ballistics, polygraphy, dactyloscopy, and investigative photography, the Bureau terminated 15,244 cases with 1,585 court appearances. A



total of 23,752 specimens were examined and analyzed.

Touted as the government's premier investigating agency that serves as the national clearinghouse of criminal cases,



NBI Deputy Director Ruel Lasala (right) holds part of the three kilos of cocaine seized from suspected drug pushers (standing behind him) during a press conference at the NBI headquarters.

the NBI processed and issued a total of 5,145,500 clearances to applicants nationwide.

Significant Accomplishments

Drug-Related Cases

- Arrested a wealthy businessman and his business partner who were caught in the act of selling about 3 kg of cocaine worth PhP15 million during a buy-bust operation in a 5-star hotel in Ortigas Center, Pasig City.
- Recovered a large quantity

AT A GLANCE

Name of Agency	National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
Head of Agency	Atty. MAGTANGGOL B. GATDULA
Year Established	1936
Overall Mandate	To investigate crimes
No. of Officials and Employees	1,544
2010 Budget	Php 913,995,995.92



Sec. De Lima with the men and women of NBI



of high-grade cocaine worth PhP1.5 million in Salcedo, Eastern Samar on 26 January 2010.

- Apprehended and charged members of a West African drug syndicate operating in Angeles City, Pampanga, recruiting Filipinos to act as drug "mules" in smuggling dangerous and prohibited drugs to other countries.
- Arrested a suspected illegal drug syndicate member who yielded 1 kg of cocaine estimated at PhP4.5 million during an entrapment operation in Catarman, Samar.
- Arrested an owner of a chain of restaurants, for trafficking 15 g of opium in Manila in mid-November 2010.

High-Profile Cases

- Arrest of fugitive Jason Aguilar Ivler on 19 January 2010, in connection with the deadly shooting of Renato Ebarle, Jr. over a minor traffic incident on 18 November 2010. Ivler was

arrested after a gun battle resulting in the wounding of two NBI Agents.



MESSAGE

The year was especially meaningful for the Department of Justice as it took cognizance of high-profile cases, most notably the bus hostage crisis at the Quirino Grandstand in August 2010.

The DOJ was among the members of the Incident Investigation Review Committee tasked to probe the events leading to the crisis. DOJ proved equal to expectations.

Other significant cases DOJ handled include the La Salle post-bar examination blast, wherein one identified suspect and several 'John Does' were charged for Multiple Frustrated Murder and Multiple Attempted Murder, and the ongoing probe against four Maguindanao politicians charged for the death of Barrira town vice-mayor Alexander Tomawis in November 2010.

The DOJ indeed has lived up to its ideals as the government's agency mandated to dispense justice to the people.

(Sgd) ATTY. MAGTANGGOL B. GATDULA

Director

National Bureau of Investigation

- Recommended the prosecution of Anthony Nepomuceno and several John Does in connection with the alleged bombing incident in front of De La Salle University, Manila during the last day of the Bar Examinations on 26 September 2010.

Other Accomplishments

- Near completion of the construction of the new NBI Clearance Building at its main office on Taft Ave., Manila which will serve as the permanent house for clearance processing.
- Launched the *NBI Code of Conduct for Officials and Employees*.

Bureau of Immigration (BI)

The BI is involved in law enforcement by 1) preventing the entry of foreign terrorists and those involved in transnational crimes; 2) monitoring aliens within the Philippine territory; and 3) working with other law enforcement agencies to arrest suspected international terrorists, illegal aliens, and other foreign offenders.

In 2010, the BI processed a total of 122,415 alien registrations; issued 1,795 IDs to recognized, naturalized and/or admitted Filipinos; released 27,879 certificates of residence, and processed and issued 65,214 travel documents.

It also screened and checked a total of 6,811,199 incoming and outgoing aliens; boarded 10,781

AT A GLANCE	
Name of Agency	Bureau of Immigration (BI)
Head of Agency	Atty. RONALDO P. LEDESMA (OIC)
Year Established	1940
Overall Mandate	To undertake the administration and enforcement of immigration and citizenship laws of the Philippines
No. of Officials and Employees	1,017
2010 Budget	Php 411,562,770.00

vessels upon arrival and cleared 10,732 for departure, and received and processed 400,238 requests for extension of stay.

In just a year, the Intelligence and Security Services of BI detected a total of 809 cases, which included 163 arrests, 154 aliens detained, and 130 illegal aliens deported.

Significant Accomplishments

- The Bureau generated

almost PhP2.12 billion from its operations, which is 4.3% higher than its 2009 revenue (PhP2.027 billion).

- Under the Special Visa for Employment Program, BI has at present 350 employment visa-holding aliens and 196 of their dependents have availed of the said program. This program has generated 38,761 jobs for Filipinos.



MESSAGE

Year 2010 was an auspicious year for Filipinos who witnessed the assumption into the highest office of the land the son of a great

Filipino martyr and a much beloved President, the first Filipina to hold the position. This was the year when President-elect Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III rekindled the hopes of his countrymen for a noble leadership that would transform the lives of his people.

The Bureau of Immigration took the cue from the President. As the primary agency tasked to undertake the administration and enforcement of Philippine immigration and citizenship laws, the Bureau set into motion concrete operational mechanisms that further enhanced its effectiveness in strengthening national security and territorial integrity. We have exerted our level best to create a climate conducive to business, investment, and tourism.

In my short stint as caretaker of the Bureau of Immigration, I take pride in the fact that the agency continues to be a staunch partner in the Aquino administration's avowed goal to minimize, if not totally eradicate, corruption. Our efforts toward this end were inspired by the unwavering support and dynamic leadership of the Secretary of the Department of Justice, Hon. Leila M. De Lima.

Finally, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the men and women of the Bureau of Immigration who stood by me in times of struggle, challenges and sacrifice. Their contributions have transformed into reality our intention of mobilizing a corps of dedicated public servants who find significance through their calling as they derive satisfaction from the quality service they deliver.

Mabuhay!

(Sgd) RONALDO P. LEDESMA
Officer-in-Charge
Bureau of Immigration

PROSECUTION

Prosecution of offenders – determination of probable cause and prosecution before

the courts – is the mandate of the National Prosecution Service. The Witness Protection, Security and Benefits Program

(WPSBP) supports this function by providing protection and incentives to state witnesses.

National Prosecution Service (NPS)

As of the end of CY 2010, the NPS was manned by 1,863 prosecution officers (prosecutors and prosecution attorneys) or 544 officers, 23% less than its 2,405 plantilla positions. There were also 1,602 administrative support staff out of 1,945 plantilla positions (343 or 18% vacancies). The NPS staff was augmented by around 900 support personnel provided by local government units (LGUs) and other sources.

An estimated 340,000 cases handled by the NPS were for preliminary investigation (reports from prosecution offices nationwide for 2010 are still for completion). This constitutes the bulk of the workload of prosecution officers. On the average, a prosecutor handled 183 preliminary investigation cases for the entire year. This

figure does not include pleadings and reopened cases through motions, petitions for review, and court orders which are essentially part of the prosecutors' tasks. Out of the said preliminary investigation caseload, an estimated 74% or 260,000 cases were resolved during 2010. These are summarized in Table 2.

Besides the heavy investigation workload, prosecutors nationwide attended to an estimated 950,000 criminal cases (Table 3) in the first and second-level trial courts (including those appealed before regional trial courts) based on data provided by the Supreme Court. On the average, a prosecutor handled about 510 court cases in 2010. This figure does not include civil/family court cases that have been handled by prosecutors, cases of

land disputes, and legal counsel functions for local government units.

Significant Accomplishments

- Development of *Codes of Conduct* for prosecutors and staff
- Development of Performance Standards
- Development of the NPS Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure, with the following completed or ongoing projects:
 - At least 2,000 computers with printers provided nationwide (2006-2010);
 - Regional IT literacy trainings conducted (2009-2010); and
 - Development of the Electronic Prosecution Case Management System (ePCMS) (2009-2010)

Table 2. Investigation Workload of Prosecution Officers

Particulars	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<u>Caseload</u>						
Total	391,382	406,243	393,521	415,535	339,107	340,000
Prosecution Officers	1,397	1,584	1,728	1,827	1,908	1,863
Average per Prosecutor	280	256	228	227	178	183
<u>Disposition</u>						
Resolved cases	298,147	317,602	312,153	320,806	252,111	255,000
Disposition rate	76%	78%	79%	77%	74%	75%
<u>Pending cases</u>	93,325	88,641	81,368	94,729	86,996	85,000

Table 3. Criminal Prosecution Workload of Prosecution Officers

Particulars	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total caseload	1,187,690	1,120,184	1,073,776	1,053,744	990,467	950,000
Average/Prosecutor	850	707	621	577	519	510

Witness Protection Security and Benefits Program (WPSBP)



Participants in the Seminar on Securing Protection and Cooperation of Witnesses and Whistle Blowers 07-09 December 2010

From only six (6) admissions at its inception in 1991, the WPSBP has expanded its operations through the years. Out of the 179 applications filed with the Program in 2010, 133 applicant witnesses were admitted and added to the 465 witnesses the Program already maintains nationwide.

The significant increase in the number of witnesses in 2010 was partly due to the infamous Maguindanao Massacre, which claimed fifty-seven (57) innocent lives. Consequently, Program resources had to be applied above customary levels to this case, which had gained national interest.

WPSBP's support against terrorism also took up a large part of its funds. Considering the mobility of suspected terrorists and the numerous cases they are involved in across the country, WPSBP had to deploy and re-deploy material witnesses for them to testify in various courts in Metro Manila



Maguindano Massacre suspect Andal Ampatuan Jr., during an investigation at DOJ Manila.

Table 4. WPSBP Conviction Rate for the period 1991 to 2010

Indicators	Number of Cases	Percentage(%)
Total cases handled	1,018	100%
Dismissal/Acquittal	247	24.26%
Conviction	771	75.74%

Table 5. WPSBP Conviction Rate for 2010

Indicators	Number of Cases	Percentage(%)
Total cases handled	66	100%
Dismissal/Acquittal	19	28.79%
Conviction	47	71.21%

and Mindanao, and relocate them elsewhere to ensure confidentiality and security.

Despite these, the prosecution succeeded in securing convictions such as in cases against the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) and MILF Commander Tahir Alonto and other co-accused.

From January to December 2010, the Program obtained a total of 47 convictions out of 66 accused, or a conviction rate of 71%.

Since 1991, the WPSBP had secured a total of 771 convictions out of 1,018 cases, or a conviction rate of 75.74%.

For 2011, WPSBP is determined to further improve its services by increasing the benefits of qualified witnesses to include: 1) increase in financial benefits; 2) provision of PhilHealth card for witnesses and their families; and 3) livelihood training for witnesses in partnership with TESDA, TLRC, and NGOs to prepare them for re-joining mainstream society and to lessen their dependence on the Program after their discharge.

PUBLIC DEFENSE

Public Attorney's Office (PAO)



PAO Chief Public Attorney Persida Rueda-Acosta in action.

Public defense is a function of the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) that relates to providing legal counsel for the accused, especially those who do not have access to the services of a lawyer.

PAO's manpower complement of 1,404 Public Attorneys handles criminal and civil cases before 2,187 courts nationwide, and appeals cases before the Court of Appeals, Supreme Court, and the Office of the President. Handling these cases, however, is but one of the Public Attorney's functions. PAO lawyers also appear in and handle administrative and labor cases or the so-called non-judicial cases.

The statistics in Table 6 show the total number of indigent clients assisted and the total number of cases handled by public attorneys in 2010 and their distribution among the 1,404 PAO lawyers.

In spite of their overwhelming caseload, the public attorneys ably represented indigents accused in court and managed to obtain 148,467 favorable

dispositions. The breakdown of these dispositions is shown in Table 7.

Out of 152,117 criminal cases terminated, the PAO obtained 112,113 or about 74% favorable dispositions for indigent clients they were representing.

Likewise, of 27,705 terminated



Reviewing the Vizconde case: (counter clockwise) Sec. De Lima, Atty. Erwin Erfe, PAO Forensic Consultant, Chief Acosta, Mr. Jimenez of VACC and Mr. Lauro Vizconde.

cases involving women clients, PAO obtained 17,602 or 63.53% favorable dispositions. Also, of 3,405 terminated cases involving Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL), 2,609 or 76.62% were also favorably disposed through efforts of the PAO.

Significant Accomplishments

- Legal assistance to Mr. Lauro Vizconde, now a jobless citizen, in filing a Motion for Reconsideration with the Supreme Court on 29 December 2010 in connection with the Vizconde massacre case.
- Legal assistance to and release of SPO2 Gregorio Mendoza, who was accused of a criminal offense due to his alleged act of penetrating

Table 6. Clients assisted and cases handled by PAO

Total clients assisted	4,802,494
Total cases handled	632,524
Average no. of clients assisted by each PAO Lawyer	3,420
Average no. of cases handled by each PAO Lawyer	452

Table 7. Dispositions obtained in court

Acquittal	12,562
Demurer to evidence granted	1,562
Cases provisionally dismissed	40,029
Cases permanently dismissed	31,151
Motions to quash granted	1,142
Released on bail	23,439
Motions for release on recognizance granted	9,116
Released in accordance with Art. 29, RPC	7,483
Granted probation	4,952
Released on other grounds	17,031
Total	148,467



Chief Persida V. Rueda-Acosta shows part of the human remains retrieved from the capsized vessel M/V Princess of the Stars

against the owners and management of Sulpicio Lines, Inc. with RTC Branch 51, Manila; 64 civil cases with RTC Branch 10, Cebu City; and administrative and criminal cases with the Maritime Industry

Authority (MARINA) and the Department of Justice.

- Validation of the Code of Conduct for the Public Attorneys and employees of PAO, PAO Operations Manual and PAO Legal Forms Manual.

AT A GLANCE	
Name of Agency	Public Attorney's Office (PAO)
Head of Agency	Atty. PERSIDA V. RUEDA-ACOSTA
Year Established	1972 (Formerly Citizens' Legal Assistance Office)
Overall Mandate	The principal law office of the government in extending free legal assistance to indigent persons in criminal, civil, labor, administrative and other quasi-judicial cases (Sec. 2, RA 9406)
No. of Officials and Employees	2,373 (1,407 lawyers)
2010 Budget	Php 825,121,000

the cordoned area during the Manila Hostage Crisis on 23 August 2010.

- In connection with the M/V Princess of the Stars maritime tragedy, the following cases have been filed as of 07 December 2010: 71 civil cases



MESSAGE

The improvement of the life of all is the Aquino administration's clarion call.

H. E. President Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III exalts justice, social reform, and equitable governance as vital tools in giving the Filipinos a better life. As public servants and officers of the Department of Justice (DOJ) family we wield the capacity, sincerity, and integrity in following the beacon leading to the straight path of genuine public service.

The Annual Report of the DOJ is a testimony of its commitment in making justice a reality that is felt by Filipinos, especially the indigent and marginalized sectors of society. Its pages that are replete with accomplishments are also wrought with sacrifices. Each victory is a reminder of the values that have reaped for us our successes. Nonetheless, the same also

serves as a caveat against complacency, for the battles ahead of us will not be easy.

Be that as it may, the DOJ family remains undaunted. Our weapon is the law and we say: *"Lex nil frustra facit"* – *The law does nothing in vain.* And our hope abounds in us – for good reason.

Ang atin pong pag-asa ay ang ating kalakasan. At tama po ang ating mahal na Pangulo sa kanyang tinuran na "hinding-hindi po tayo titigil sa tuwid na landas. Unti-unti na pong natutupad and ating mga pangarap."

Sa mga mambabasa nitong Report, umasa po kayo na ang inyong Punong Manananggol Pambayan at ang buong puwersa ng Tanggapan ng Manananggol Pambayan (Public Attorney's Office) ay kasama ng pamilyang DOJ sa patuloy na pagpupunyagi para sa katuparan ng mga pangarap na pangkatarungan ng ating sambayanan.

(Sgd) PERSIDA V. RUEDA-ACOSTA
 Chief Public Attorney
 Public Attorney's Office (PAO)

CORRECTIONS

Correction entails reparation and rehabilitation of convicted offenders as well as their reintegration into the mainstream society.

The Bureau of Corrections

(BUCOR) ensures that offenders fully serve their sentence and are rehabilitated while in custody in preparation for their reintegration into society. The Board of Pardons and Parole (BPP) evaluates qualified offenders for the grant of parole and pardon or

Executive Clemency. The Parole and Probation Administration (PPA) supervises parolees and pardon convicts as well as those granted probation by the courts. The aim is to help ensure their proper reintegration and rehabilitation outside of prison.

Bureau of Corrections (BUCOR)



Within 2010, a total of 1,945 NBP inmates had been transferred to other prisons and penal farms, not only as an alternative remedy to ease the congestion, but also to provide manpower to improve the production capability of the penal farms.

As to the BUCOR's manpower complement, the agency has 2,362 authorized positions comprised of 1,461 custodial (1,344 filled) and 901 civilian. Back in 1989, the inmate

As of December 2010, a total of 35,937 inmates were being maintained under the custody of the BUCOR, distributed among its seven prisons and penal farms.

In 2010, the agency tallied a total of 5,038 admissions, classified into 4,034 first-time offenders and 1,004 recidivists. In comparison, total releases during the period numbered 4,342. Recidivists are those who were already released from the penitentiary but were readmitted upon conviction of another crime. The rate of recidivism has significantly increased from 5% in 2004 to 19% in 2010.

The total inmate population in 2010 was 35,937 while the total capacity of BUCOR prisons

and penal farms was only 21,750. This implies congestion in our prison facilities nationwide. The New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa City, the largest facility of BUCOR, can accommodate up to 9,000 inmates only but is now holding 19,960 inmates. It has a congestion rate of 122% - the highest in the country.

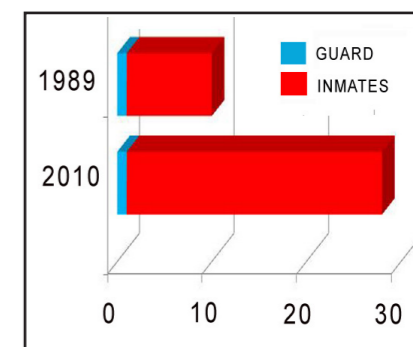


Figure 1. Guard-to-inmate ratio

AT A GLANCE	
Name of Agency (BUCOR)	Bureau of Corrections
Head of Agency	Director ERNESTO L. DIOKNO
Year Established	1905
Overall Mandate	To accomplish the effective safekeeping and rehabilitation of national prisoners
No. of Officials and Employees	2,063
2010 Budget	Php 1,418,321,643.45

population was only 12,970 and guard-to-inmate ratio was 1:9. Today after 21 years, the inmate population has grown to 35,937 or an average growth rate of 5% per annum while the BUCOR is still manned by the same personnel complement of 2,362. Thus, current guard-to-inmate ratio is 1:27.

To institutionalize the much-needed reforms in the Bureau of Corrections, the agency proposed an Executive Order that will provide for its modernization.

It shall essentially serve as the charter of the BUCOR to further professionalize its ranks and accelerate its modernization, making it at par with other correctional services in Southeast Asia. This will be done through: salary standardization, upgrading of positions and creation of additional plantilla items; and



Facade of the New Bilibid Prison

modernization of facilities, equipment and work systems/processes/procedure.



MESSAGE

The Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), under the Department of Justice, is a primary correctional agency that provides custody and rehabilitation of convicted prisoners who are sentenced to serve more than 3 years' imprisonment. Those who are sentenced to suffer 3 years and below of imprisonment serve their punishment at the provincial/district/municipal jails under the local government units (LGUs) and/or Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), all under the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

BuCor today is tempered with compassionate justice characterized by a safer and more humane custody. The inmates' service of time is done with multi-pronged disciplines and approaches directed to develop the totality of a person with respect but not limited to their moral values, discipline, skills, training, and education.

The BuCor's rehabilitation strategy is designed for today's widely accepted practices and modern technologies. Among the rehabilitation programs being provided are: Training and Education Program that focuses on vocational and skills training; Sports and Recreation Program aimed at promoting physical fitness and fostering

camaraderie among inmates; Moral and Spiritual Program, a commitment to the reformation process of inmates where BuCor, together with religious organizations and civic volunteers, continue to sustain the spiritual needs of inmates; Medical and Dental Care Program provided to inmate-patients in prison hospitals and infirmaries; Behavior Modification Program, which includes the Therapeutic Community Program, a modality that develops positive outlook in life; and the BuCor's Work and Livelihood Program that enhances productivity and livelihood skills that inmates can utilize as means of livelihood upon release from prison.

The Bureau continues to encourage prison-based factories for more employment opportunities for the inmates and to utilize their talents and skills as part of the livelihood program of the institution.

With the modern, secure, and professional correctional institution characterized by a responsive prison system that is geared towards humane and spiritually-guided rehabilitation of inmates, we foresee reformed inmates ready to rejoin the mainstream of society upon release from prison.

(Sgd) GEN. ERNESTO L. DIOKNO
Director
Bureau of Corrections

Board of Pardons and Parole (BPP)

For CY 2010, BPP posted a 93% disposition rate for cases involving parole and recommendations for executive clemency (EC). Out of the total 6,741 carpetas received, 6,247 cases were acted upon, that is, either resolutions were issued for parole and executive clemency or carpetas were returned for being premature.

BPP responded to 1,720 out of 1,830 Summary Reports, attaining a 94% disposition rate and exceeding its target of 90%. It also acted on 376 out of 383 Infraction Reports and 542 out of 555 requests for transfer of residence. Its 98% disposition rate exceeded its yearend target of 90% by 8%.

These high disposition rates were achieved by the BPP despite organizational and operational challenges. The insufficiency of manpower resulted from the approval of the DOJ Rationalization Plan, which streamlined and abolished 18 BPP plantilla positions.

For 2011, BPP plans to increase



Sec. Agra (right) meets with the officials and Board Members of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

the disposition of prisoners' carpetas so that more qualified prisoners will be released to save on government expenses for prisoner maintenance. It also intends to schedule more visits to penal colonies and local jails to interview prisoners and facilitate in their release and reintegration into the mainstream of society.



NBP Prison Maximum Compound



Board of Pardons and Parole Chair Natividad Dizon and Executive Director Reynaldo Bayang together with members of the Board during their courtesy call with Justice Secretary De Lima at the DOJ main office in Manila.

Parole and Probation Administration (PPA)

Advantages and benefits accruing to the government, in particular, and society, in general, are ample proof that parole and probation systems are more viable alternatives to incarceration aside from conforming with modern penological trends. The goals, accomplishments, and activities of the PPA after 35 years of implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Probation and parole are cheaper alternatives to incarceration.** In 2010, a total of 7,866 offenders applied for probation or parole. In its 35 years of operation, the systems have saved the government a total of PhP5.817 billion in terms of prisoners' maintenance.
- Probation and parole are more viable alternatives to custodial rehabilitation.** PPA has rehabilitated 43,287 offenders for the year 2010. Some 10,046 unemployed offenders have found job placements, or were referred to prospective employers by probation and parole officers; 4,872 have undergone skills training; 45,459 have been actively involved in community and civic projects, and almost all have participated in seminars for social and moral reformation.
- Probation and parole are effective measures of protecting society.** The Philippines' annual revocation rate of 1.9% among probationers and recommitment rate of



Former PPA Administrator Ismael Herradura (extreme right), sits as ex-officio member of the Board of Pardons and Parole.

1.92% among parolees and pardoned offenders are considered to be one of the lowest in the world.

Probation and parole preserve family unity and offenders' self worth and dignity.



Officials and staff of the Board of Pardons and Parole visit the inmates of the New Bilibid Prison. They also visited other penal colonies.

AT A GLANCE	
Name of Agency	Parole and Probation Administration (PPA)
Head of Agency	Administrator MANUEL G. CO
Year Established	1976
Overall Mandate	To conserve and/or redeem convicted offenders and prisoners who are under the probation and parole system.
No. of Officials and Employees	1,065
2010 Budget	PhP 498,214,888.00



MESSAGE

The 2010 Annual Report of the Department of Justice (DOJ) puts together all the accomplishments of the Department and all its attached agencies. It shows that DOJ is now capable of providing improved statistical services to meet the current and emerging needs of national and local development despite the prevailing resource constraints the government is facing.

Last year was a period of remarkable change in the Philippine political as well as social system. Reforms in almost all important aspects of development were instituted and in line with the government's social programs, laws were amended and new ones were passed to effectively secure the rights and privileges of our people. Thus, this Annual Report reflects those remarkable changes implemented by the Department as well as its attached agencies namely, Board of Pardons and Parole, Bureau of Corrections, Bureau of Immigration, Commission on the Settlement of Land Problems, National Bureau of Investigation, Office of the Government Corporate Counsel, Office of the Solicitor General, Parole and Probation Administration, and Public Attorney's Office. Consequently, this report will provide adequate, timely, relevant, accurate, and accessible information for development planning and decision-making by both the government and private sectors and the general public as a whole.

Correspondingly, the social and economic changes that accompanied the process of national development gave rise to parallel changes in correctional policies. Thus, plans and programs for the treatment and correction of offenders under the Parole and Probation Administration's jurisdiction were formulated within the overall framework of national economic and social goals, and utilized an integrated approach with three major components: 1) Restorative Justice (RJ) as the philosophical foundation or conceptual framework; 2) Therapeutic Community (TC) as treatment modality; and 3) Volunteer Probation Aide (VPA) as the lead community resource. This integrated approach took into account the relevant factors of urbanization, population movements, social welfare programs, and education and employment opportunities on the one hand, and criminal justice priorities for speedy jail decongestion and enhanced productivity of released offenders on the other.

Needless to say, nothing could have been achieved without the faith, dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm of the personnel belonging to the DOJ family including the volunteer probation aides of the Parole and Probation Administration; the support coming from the Department Secretary, and the humanitarian concern and commitment of the President, and most of all, Divine Guidance.

Through this report, let me commend all officials and personnel under the DOJ for their undeniable contribution to nation-building.

(Sgd) MANUEL G. CO

Administrator
Parole and Probation Administration

Jail Visitation and Decongestion Program

The DOJ Corrections Cluster is committed to sustain the Jail Visitation and Decongestion Program, which was established in 1992 to relieve the overcrowding of the country's jails and to alleviate misery among inmates who live in subhuman conditions.

Initially launched in 1993, the program has reinvented its services with the addition of medical, dental, and optical missions. PAO has facilitated the release of 2,013 inmates nationwide through the Jail Visitation and Decongestion Program.

In 2010, the BPP Board Members and support staff visited the New Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City and Correctional Institution for Women in Mandaluyong City and interviewed 390 prisoners qualified for parole/executive clemency.

LEGAL SERVICES

Legal Services include providing legal services to the government, government corporations, and the public. The Office of the Solicitor

General (OSG) and the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC) serve as legal counsel of the government and its corporations, respectively.

The PAO extends free legal services to indigents and the PCGG serves as the legal arm of the government in the recovery of Marcos ill-gotten wealth.

DOJ Legal Staff



The DOJ Legal Staff

From January to December 2010, the Legal Staff responded to requests by national government functionaries including the Office of the President, various legislative committees, as well as senior officials of the Department of Justice. It rendered 229 opinions, memoranda,

comments and legal studies on difficult questions of law that have economic, social, and political implications.

The Legal Staff also prepared 14,396 decisions, orders and resolutions in aid of the Secretary of Justice's exercise of authority; 127 replies and/or legal advice at the instance

of private parties and minor government officials and employees, and 1,433 legal studies as well as working drafts for ad hoc bodies/committees where they represent the Secretary or the Department.

The pertinent requests and legal services rendered are summarized in Table 8.

Table 8. DOJ Legal Staff Performance

Indicators	Requests/Cases for Disposition	Acted upon/ Disposed	Pending	Disposition Rate (%)
Opinions prepared	59	229	30	88.42%
Replies/legal advice prepared/ issued to private parties / minor gov't officials and employees	132	127	5	96.21%
Special services/studies conducted/prepared	1,443	1,433	10	99.31%
Total	16.513	16.185	328	98.01%

Office of the Solicitor (OSG)

Since the passage of Republic Act No. 9417 otherwise known as "An Act to Strengthen the Office of the Solicitor General by Expanding and Streamlining its Bureaucracy, Upgrading Employee Skills, and Augmenting Benefits, and Appropriating Funds therefore and for Other Purposes" on 30 March 2007, OSG's legal staff had increased by 175%, from 144 in 2007 to 251 by the end of 2010.

In 2010, the number of OSG cases resolved by the various courts was 19,738, or a 14% increase from the number of cases resolved in 2009 (17,292). However, the number of cases resolved for 2010 was less than the target set for 2010 (37,999). In 2009 the targets were doubled due to the increase in resolved cases in 2008, which went as high as almost 34,000 cases. In 2009 and 2010, however, the number of cases resolved returned to its normal range of 17,000 - 23,000. Thus, it may be practical to set a lower target of 17,365 for 2011 to enable the agency to perform more realistically.

Also, it is worth mentioning that resolution of cases is not an actual function of the agency. It is the courts that resolve or decide on cases. OSG can only make sure that its pleadings are filed on time so as not to contribute to the

AT A GLANCE	
Name of Agency	Office of the Solicitor General (OSG)
Head of Agency	Atty. JOSE ANSELMO I. CADIZ
Year Established	1901
Overall Mandate	To represent the People of the Philippines as the "Tribune of the People" and the Government; its attached agencies and instrumentalities, Officials and Agents in any litigation or matter requiring the services of a lawyer.
No. of Officials and Employees	672
2010 Budget	Php 363,980,000.00

delay of resolution of cases by the courts. The table below presents total numbers of cases resolved and legal services rendered by OSG in the last seven years.

At end of 2010, OSG rendered a total of 56,493 legal services (pleadings filed, instructions sent to prosecutors and official communications sent) to its various clients (courts, government agencies, public). This represents a 19% increase from the previous year. This also surpassed the target set, which was 48,758.

Significant Accomplishments

Aside from run-of-the-mill cases that represent a big chunk of the total caseload of the agency, OSG handles cases that make it to the news headlines. Some of these involve questions on the legality or constitutionality of actions by the President or other

government agencies that have been filed with the Supreme Court. The participation of OSG in resolving these cases helps the government remove legal obstacles in pursuing its development agenda for the country and the people.

The year 2010 for the OSG was highlighted by defending the Government on the following issues/cases:

- Constitutionality of Executive Order No. 1 or the creation of the Philippine Truth Commission;
- Constitutionality of Executive Order No. 2, which dismissed all midnight appointments.
- Constitutionality of Executive Order No. 3 or the revocation of EO 883 granting CESO rank to government lawyers;
- Constitutionality of Executive Order No. 7,

Table 9. OSG Management of Cases

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cases resolved	19,734	21,983	23,002	19,040	33,927	17,292	19,738
Legal services rendered	37,696	45,002	43,974	39,360	43,544	47,338	56,493

- which rationalized the compensation and position classification system in GOCCs and GFIs, and
 - Legality of impeachment proceedings against the Ombudsman.
- OSG also made the following significant accomplishments
 - Publication of the *OSG Solicitors' Manual*. The manual will serve as the guidebook for all lawyers and legal officers of the agency.
 - Establishment of Quality Management Systems.
 - Continuous monitoring and audits on the performance of the Docket Management Service in relation to their ISO 9001:2008 certification.



MESSAGE

On behalf of the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), I am very happy to present to you

the 2010 Annual Report of the Department of Justice, which aims to highlight the goals and achievements of the Department and its attached agencies.

As the People's Tribune, the OSG is mandated to uphold the Rule of Law in its role to protect and defend the interests of the Philippine Government and the Filipino People.

A noteworthy testament of our commitment to the honest pursuit of a corrupt-free government, the OSG has resolutely defended the Government in some notable legal obstacles that span subjects of high-profile cases involving tax, procurements, international arbitration, peace efforts, and corruption, to name a few. For instance, as the legal counsel of the House of Representatives Committee on Justice, the OSG recently triumphed as the Supreme Court ruled to proceed with the impeachment case involving Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez. Together with the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), the OSG also spearheads efforts of the State to recover the ill-gotten wealth of the Marcoses.

Apart from the high-profile cases, the resolutions of run-of-the-mill cases represented by the Office have also gained favorable momentum. I am pleased to report that for the year 2010,

there was a significant increase in the number of cases resolved by the various courts and the number of legal services rendered by the Office.

In our commitment to the continued improvement of the administration of our services, we constantly strive to find various programs and trainings that will help promote and develop the skills of our employees. Furthermore, we have completed the preparation and now anticipate the formal launch of the *OSG Solicitor's Manual* for the benefit of our lawyers and legal officers. We continue to work towards the development of our Information Technology capability to better address the needs of our stakeholders. In fact, we have recently overhauled our website in line with our efforts to fully utilize the Internet as a platform that will help the Office enjoin the public to support us in our mandate.

We hope that this coming year would bear more fruitful opportunities and partnerships for the Department of Justice and its attached agencies, so that we can be at the forefront of our nation's efforts to prosper and reach greater heights. I encourage each and every one of us to take part in the crusade to work towards achieving a more transparent and responsive justice system.

Thank you and Godspeed.

(Sgd) JOSE ANSELMO I. CADIZ
Solicitor General
Office of the Solicitor General (OSG)

Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC)

The OGCC acts as the principal law office of all Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs). It is the statutory legal counsel of government corporations (GCs); thus, all important legal questions for opinion, advice and determination, all proposed contracts, as well as all important court cases are referred to the OGCC.

In 2010, the OGCC handled a total of 3,342 cases before various judicial and quasi-judicial bodies, of which 315 were newly received cases. At the end of the year, OGCC rendered 87 Entries of Judgment out of the 3,342 cases for disposition, garnering a disposition rate of 2.67%.

In addition, the Office received 452 requests for Contract Reviews, 268 Opinions, and 5,363 other requests.

The year-end accomplishment of OGCC may be summarized as follows:

Out of the 87 Entries of Judgment, OGCC received a total of 40 favorable judgments on different issues of law and saved/collected millions of pesos for the client GC.

AT A GLANCE	
Name of Agency	Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC)
Head of Agency	Atty. RAOUL C. CREENCIA
Year Established	1935
Overall Mandate	The statutory and principal law office of all government – owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs), their subsidiaries, other corporate offsprings, government instrumentalities and government – acquired asset corporations, including government instrumentalities exercising corporate powers, government corporate entities, as well as agencies, offices under whose charter, the OGCC is the principal law office.
No. of Officials and Employees	115
2010 Budget	Php 69,064,000.00

Significant Accomplishment

For the protection of the GCs in their line of business, OGCC reviewed several contracts and Memoranda of Agreement entered

into by the GCs. Total business and economic value of these contracts

and MOAs amounted to Php3,120,726,084.74. These consisted primarily of development and infrastructure projects of the government.



Table 10. OGCC Case Management

Services	Requests of Client Corporations	Rendered Services	Pending	Compliance/ Disposition Rate
Cases handled	315 new cases (3,027 carried-over from 2009)	87 Entries of Judgment	3,255	2.67%
Contract review	452	438	14	96.90%
Opinion	268	244	24	91.04%
Other services	5,363	5,363	0	100%
Total	6,938	9,072	3,293	



MESSAGE

The Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC) is proud to be a part of,

and contribute its humble share to, the 2010 accomplishments of the Department of Justice.

When I joined the team in November 2010, I was immediately electrified by the dynamism and high morale that radiates from the officers of the justice sector. This is the same synergy that is being exuded by the pages of the 2010 Annual Report, and the same unified vision that portends better years ahead. Of course, all these are traceable to the able and active leadership of Graphic Magazine’s “Man of the Year” – Secretary Leila M. De Lima. To quote this magazine: “to say that 2011 is going to be an action-packed year is an understatement. When we talk about the word ‘action’, then the man to be watched is the SOJ.”

The Department continues to evolve, and the strides in the second half of 2010 signal the beginning. As my colleagues and I hurdle the present pressing and future challenges of the Justice sector, let me offer this short invocation:

Heavenly Father, we humbly offer our 2010 accomplishments to You, as we are always mindful that we are nothing without You. Enkindle in us the ennobling bonds of true partnership and fellowship, so that we may always be united in our vision, dedicated to our mission, and unflinchingly congruent in our actions.

Just as the eagle gracefully spreads its wings and glides through the unblemished skies to

realize its fullness, may You also allow us to soar and realize the plans and full potentials of the Justice sector. May You open our minds, ignite our thoughts and inspire us to leave no stone unturned, to be true to our calling, and to enter our real career as public servants.

Give us the wisdom to know what is right, the courage to avoid what is wrong, and the will to strengthen these virtues.

We lift up to the entire DOJ team, as well as our beacon and leader – SOJ de Lima. May everything we do reflect your goodness and greater glory, and be our humble share and service to our countrymen.

Amen.

Once again, I congratulate all my partners in the Justice sector, especially Secretary Leila M. De Lima, for a job well done in turning the Department around, for redirecting its vision, and for inspiring us all to push ourselves beyond our normal limitations.

Finis opus coronat.

(Sgd) RAOUL C. CREENCIA
Acting Government Corporate Counsel
Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC)

Public Attorney’s Office (PAO)



PAO Chief Public Attorney Persida Rueda-Acosta provides legal counsel to a community member.



Chief Acosta with SPO2 Gregorio Mendoza at the back

The public attorneys and staff of the PAO Central Office have been providing legal and inquest proceedings assistance even during night time, weekends, and holidays.

From January to December 2010, a total of 6,534 clients benefited from these services consisting of inquest assistance, legal advice/counseling, and documentation.

In terms of non-judicial services, Tables 11 and 12 show the outputs delivered by PAO versus its targets for 2010.

Other Significant Projects/ Accomplishments

- **Global Pinoy Center.** In cooperation with SM Supermalls, PAO rendered **free legal assistance to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) as well as their dependents and beneficiaries. This was done every Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at every SM Mall with Global Pinoy centers for the whole month of October 2010.**

A total of 104 clients were provided free legal services.

- **Intensified Information Dissemination.** In its effort to strengthen and sustain its legal services operations, PAO has cooperated with broadcast media (radio and television) and established linkages with print media, both for public education and information dissemination. PAO

continuously provides on-the-air legal counseling over 12 radio/television stations.



Table 11. Non-Judicial Services

Particulars	Output	Target
Legal documentation	862,050	612,909
Clients counseled	1,060,072	749,110
Oaths administered	656,135	476,706

Table 12. Mediation and Conciliation Services

Mediation and Conciliation	Output	Target
Disputes handled	349,042	249,703
A. Carry-over	97,496	
B. Newly received	251,546	
Disputes resolved	247,700	181,602
Pending at end of 2010	101,342	

Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG)



Chairman Bautista (center) and the Commissioners of the PCGG

The new leadership of the PCGG has implemented reforms that dramatically brought about positive changes that will help overcome criticisms relating to its perceived or apparent failure in the past to deliver on its mandate.

Despite these criticisms, it is important to note that outside of the Philippines, the efforts of the PCGG have been lauded as among the “most important and successful asset recovery cases in the last 20 years.” (http://www.baselgovernance.org/fileadmin/docs/publications/workingpapers/Managing_Proceeds_of_AR_Final.pdf, p.6.

Moreover, the Marcos case

“marks the starting point for the Government’s asset recovery agenda.” Unknown to most Filipinos, the PCGG’s work has had a positive and lasting impact on Swiss legislation (An Introduction to the Conclusion: 100 Days Report and Plan of Action of the PCGG).

But even as these are true, the new leadership has seen a dire need for reforms, thus starting the implementation of austerity and cost-cutting measures in order to recognize the fact that “every peso counts.” (“Ang bawat pisong ginagastos sa gobyerno ay pinag-aambag-ambagan ng

milyun-milyong Pilipino.”) Each account or transaction requiring the disbursement of public funds is closely scrutinized. The following practices are representative of these efforts:

- **Foreign Travel.** Confined only to extremely meritorious cases requiring urgent and personal attention (and on Economy class), supported by a lean complement of only the most essential Commission official/s;
- **Contract and Transactions.** Subjected contracts to close scrutiny and review, at times resorting to re-negotiation in order to ensure that the best deal is obtained in favor of the government. Procurement and purchasing policies are strictly monitored, with a view towards achieving cost-efficiency without sacrificing quality;
- **Consultants and employees.** Greatly reduced the number of consultants from two hundred sixty-four (264) personnel to one hundred eighty-four (184) generating considerable recurring savings;
- **Cash advances, allowances and allocations.** Reduced cash advances for special disbursing officers (in order to ensure greater transparency and accountability), as well as the excessive allowances and allocations that have been subject of Commission on Audit reports);
- **Unconscionable expenses.** The Commission has

drastically reduced the newspaper allocations to each office, enforced simple and achievable energy-saving measures, and reduced wastage and stopped wasteful practices. Stocking of supplies was re-assessed, in certain instances, reducing and discontinuing certain unnecessary provisions;

- **Unprofessional behavior.** Adhering to high ethical standards allows the new leadership to demand the same of others, putting in hours above and beyond the call of duty. The

present officials are well aware that their conduct, both inside and outside the office, also reflects upon the Commission.

Compensation for Marcos Human Rights Victims

The amount of PhP10 billion pesos was set aside for victims of human rights violations, taken from the PhP35 billion Marcos Swiss accounts remitted in 2004 (as confirmed by the Bureau of Treasury).

The PCGG has effectively liaised with Congress for the passage

of the long pending Human Rights Compensation Bill. By the time this report has been finalized, Congress passed the bill and the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) has started awarding compensation to the intended beneficiaries.

Putting an end to cases on the Marcos ill-gotten wealth

Cases on the Marcos ill-gotten wealth are presently pending in court for quite some time. In order to bring these to an orderly and meaningful close, the PCCG has already:

- Strengthened the internal capacity of its legal department;



Part of the sequestered jewels

- Created clusters of cases to facilitate case management;
- Coordinated with the Solicitor General and the 13 Assistant Solicitors General handling PCGG cases; and
- Developed a performance measurement system.

Efforts were also made to push for the creation of a special division in the Sandiganbayan to exclusively hear and try PCGG cases within a prescribed short-term timeline.



MESSAGE

The cooperation between the Presidential Commission on Good Government and the Department of Justice is symbolic of the kind of partnership crucial to the Aquino administration’s platform of good governance. The fight against corruption can be won and the path towards a culture of good governance paved through inter-sector and multi-dimensional alliances that break through the traditional silos of the bureaucracy.

The President has aptly framed the issue in a way that resonates with and makes it relevant to the people. It is now up to the Department of Justice and its partner-agencies such as the Presidential Commission on Good Government to promote the pillars of good governance—transparency, accountability, integrity, voice/participation, and the rule of law—to prevent corruption and, in so doing, eradicate poverty.

This new Commission is prepared to forge ahead in realizing its vision and achieving its full potential to become the Filipino people’s model agency for good governance.

(Sgd) ATTY. JUAN ANDRES D. BAUTISTA
Chairman
Presidential Commission on Good Government

AT A GLANCE

Name of Agency	Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG)
Head of Agency	Atty. JUAN ANDRES D. BAUTISTA
Year Established	1986
Overall Mandate	Created three days after the EDSA People Power Revolution of 1986, the Commission was mandated to recover ill-gotten wealth, investigate cases of graft and corruption (as may be assigned by the President), and to prevent the occurrence of corruption in government.
No. of Officials and Employees	193 (as of 5 April 2011)
2010 Budget	PhP 85.251M

SPECIAL PROTECTION AND OTHER SERVICES

DOJ is mandated to provide services and/or protection to certain groups. The Department provides monetary compensation to victims of violent crimes and unjust imprisonment through the Victims Compensation Program.

The Department leads in providing special protection measures for women and children and against trafficking in persons and political violence through inter-agency councils/committees attached to or headed by the Department. These are the Special Committee for the Protection of Children created by EO 275 s. 1995); Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council by RA 9344; Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking by RA 9208, and Task Force Against Political Violence created by AO 211 s. 2007.

Victims Compensation Program (VCP)

The Victims Compensation Program, administered by the Board of Claims that was created by virtue of RA 7309, provides a certain amount of monetary compensation to victims of unjust imprisonment or detention and victims who suffered injustice from the



JJWC Chairperson U/Sec Alicia R. Bala of DSWD (center), Dep. ED Ma. Elena S. Caraballo of CWC and Mr. Micheal Diamond of Plan International discuss JJWC concerns.

government and lawlessness in society.

From January to December 2010, the Program had a total of 2,916 applications for disposition. Out of this number 2,386 were acted upon and 530 were pending, with a disposition rate of 81.82%.

Special Committee for the Protection of Children (SCPC)

The SCPC was created to ensure the effective implementation of RA 7610 or the "Anti-Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act". It operates under the principles of non-discrimination, best interest,

respect for children's views, and the right to life.

SCPC ensures that all children in the Philippines are provided legal protection within a child-sensitive justice system, through monitoring of child abuse and exploitation cases.

During the year 2010, SCPC was able to monitor a total of 15,830 child-related cases.

SCPC also has accomplished the following:

- Maintenance of the Offenders' Database for effective monitoring of cases.** The year closed with 15,830 child abuse and exploitation cases that prosecution offices investigated and prosecuted.
- Formulation of new terms of reference for the SCPC and its member agencies.** Each member-agency's role was clarified and common working references were established, which made

clear the functions of each agency in the SCPC.

- Local implementation of the Comprehensive Program for Child Protection (CPCP).** The CPCP was introduced in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan as one of the pilot areas with high incidence of child abuse, exploitation, and discrimination. Preparation and coordination with the local governments were also done in Tagbilaran City and Panglao in Bohol.
- Protocol among service providers in dealing with children's cases.** A forum and workshop was conducted to assess existing practices in the handling of cases of rescued child victims of abuse and exploitation, which was attended by representatives from the courts, Philippine National Police, National Bureau Investigation, National Prosecution Service and partner non-government organizations.

Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT)

The IACAT is a body created by RA No. 9208, otherwise known as the "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003". It is mandated to formulate, promulgate, initiate, coordinate, and monitor policies, programs, projects, activities and other courses of action that will prevent and control trafficking in persons (TIP) as well as monitor/coordinate the implementation of RA 9208.

The Council is composed of the Secretary of Justice as chairperson, DSWD Secretary as

Table 13. TIP cases filed per year

Year	Number of Cases Filed
2003-2004	92
2005	156
2006	129
2007	157
2008	176
2009	149
2010	117
Total	976

Table 14. Status of TIP cases

Particulars	Total
Filed in court	338
For resolution	301
Filed under other penal laws	210
Dismissed, Dropped, Withdrawn	190
Archived	85
Acquitted	2
Convictions	39
Total	976

co-chair, heads of six (6) other departments and agencies, and three (3) representatives from children, women, and overseas Filipino worker sectors as members. The Secretariat for the Council is also with the DOJ.

In 2010, the Office of the President granted the DOJ a PhP5 million budget for its efforts in anti-trafficking in persons.

Prosecution

Per inventory of cases filed before the Department of Justice from 2003-2010, there are a total of 976 trafficking-in-persons (TIP) cases being prosecuted, categorized as follows:

- Trafficking for sexual exploitation - 930
- Organ trafficking - 1
- Labor trafficking - 45

Conviction

In 2010, TIP cases yielded a total of 19 convictions involving 18 traffickers, while during the period from 2003 to 2011 there was a total of 39 convictions involving 41 traffickers.

Law Enforcement/ Investigation of TIP Cases

To further enhance the law enforcement response of these task forces, IACAT formed a quick response team (QRT) composed of prosecutors (DOJ), law enforcement officers (NBI/PNP), social welfare officers (DSWD), and non-government organizations (NGOs).

To strengthen and expand coverage, Regional Task Forces were organized in Region V. Region VII and XI task forces are still in the organization stage, considering that their operations will cover international airports, seaports, and land transportation terminals.

Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (JJWC)

In the fourth year of the implementation of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006 or RA 9344, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (JJWC) continued to comply with its mandate through programs and projects in collaboration with its member agencies, partner child rights networks and organizations, and local government units.

JJWC is the inter-agency council mandated to oversee, coordinate, and monitor the implementation of RA 9344. It has focused on localization of the law through capacity





Misamis Oriental Gov. Oscar Moreno accepts check from the JJWC for the construction of the province's first Bahay Pag-asa Project



The inter-agency visiting team, headed by U/Sec Linda Malenab-Hornilla of DOJ in CRADLE, 28 January 2010

building training-seminars for cities of Mindanao and National Capital Region. Initiatives on harnessing its partnerships with local government leagues and units became its top priority.

For the year 2010, JJWC's significant accomplishments are the following:

■ **Policy formulation and program development.**

- JJWC reviewed and approved the following manuals and monitoring tool:
 - a) Police Manual on the Management of Cases of Children in Conflict with the Law: Simplified Rules in the Apprehension and Investigation of CICL;
 - b) Monitoring Tool for LGU's Compliance with RA 9344;
 - c) Self-Instructional Manual for Social Workers in Assessing Discernment of CICL, and
 - d) Training Module for BCPC on the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act: A Child that Cries for Another Chance.

■ **Inventory/Data banking.**

Nine thousand one hundred fourteen (9,114) CICL cases have been reported to JJWC. Of this number, 2,108 involve children have been released from youth homes/detention facilities run by an LGU, DSWD, BJMP and other service providers.

■ **Coordination with the courts.**

a) In response to SC OCA Circular 152-2009, the JJWC Secretariat has completed recording and segregating reports from 192 Family Courts and Regional Trial Courts. According to the inventory submitted, from 2006 to December 2009, a total of 418 cases were already resolved and 349 cases are still pending.

■ **Capability building and assistance to agencies and LGUs**

a) Two (2) regional training seminars for Local Council for the Protection Children (LCPC) officials and members

were conducted in Mindanao.

- b) One hundred and thirty (130) local social welfare and PNP women and children desk officers from the provinces of Sarangani, North Cotabato, South Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat participated in the 3-day Region XII seminar held in Lake Sebu, North Cotabato on 17-20 November 2010.
- c) JJWC's commitment to provide funds and technical assistance for the establishment of Bahay Pag-asa to the Provincial Government of Misamis Oriental was fulfilled on 06 December 2010. A check amounting to P2.5 Million was handed by the Officer-in-Charge of the JJWC to the officials of the province led by Governor Oscar S. Moreno and Vice-Governor Noris C. Babiera. A Bahay Pag-asa for disadvantaged children and CICL shall be constructed on a

2,000 square-meter lot donated by the Municipality of Claveria, Cagayan.

In its fourth year of existence, the JJWC has reaffirmed its commitment to meaningful and full implementation of the law. In succeeding years, it shall enhance and sustain its partnership with both government agencies and non-government organizations who passionately and continuously provide services and programs for disadvantaged children. The need to build up its massive information drive and capacity building initiatives down to the local level remains imperative. Indeed, the journey to the fulfillment of JJWC's mission and reason for existence is a continuing quest that needs the full support of Philippine society.

Special Task Force to Address Extralegal Killings and Enforced Disappearances or STF (formerly Task Force 211)

Task Force Against Political Violence, also known as Task

Force 211, was created under Administrative Order No. 211 dated 26 November 2007. It handles cases on media killings, political violence, and extralegal killings.

Task Force 211 is mandated to harness and mobilize government agencies, political groups, the religious, civil society, and sector organizations, as well as the public, for the following purposes:

- prevention, investigation, prosecution, and punishment of political violence;
- care and protection of people and communities victimized and threatened; and
- promotion of a culture opposed to violence and the advancement of reconciliation and peace.

As of July 2010, Task Force 211 has handled more than 200 cases since its inception in

2007. Of these cases, 53 have moved/progressed through the justice system. The said cases do not include the murder and rebellion cases that stemmed from the Maguindanao Massacre, some of which have been filed in court while some are still pending before the prosecutor's office.

To address prevalent extralegal violence, the DOJ issued on 10 December 2010 *Department Order No. 848*, which created a Special Task Force to Address Extralegal Killings and Enforced Disappearances, released in time for Human Rights Day. The Special Task Force carries the mandates of Administrative Order 211, series of 2007.

Significant Accomplishment

- The Task Force was able to secure **4 convictions**, particularly in the killings of *Bayan Muna* Secretary General Jose Doton, Young Officers Union Spokesman Baron Cervantes, and media men Armando Pace and Klein Cantoneros.

Conclusion

The year 2010 saw several changing-of-the-guards at the DOJ. But it is encouraging to note that each leadership, had but one thing in mind – good governance and the rule of law. This way, the DOJ has lived up to its mandate to administer justice to all and delivered the needed services to those whose rights have been transgressed and trampled upon. In short, the DOJ has been the vanguard of the people's rights as shown by the programs it pursued and the numerous achievements it has accomplished in a matter of one year.

It has stood on guard to protect the legal interests of the State and has been a major contributor in turning the wheels of justice so the people's rights and welfare are upheld at all times.

Truly a great institution, the DOJ shall continue to upgrade its services and serve the ends of justice, deserving of the people's trust as defender and enforcer of the law, compassionate in its dealings with the oppressed and forgiving to those who truly exhibit remorse in starting over a new life.

4

DOJ Development Plan (2011-2016)



DOJ Development Plan (2011-2016)

In line with the thrusts of the government as contained in the Social Contract Agenda and the Philippine Development Plan, the Department has formulated its own development plan for the years 2011-2016.

The Plan will serve as the road map for reforms, innovations and priorities in the administration of justice towards the aim of strengthening the rule of law in the country.

Sector Goal: Strengthened Rule of Law

The Department shall pursue a strategic framework that is built in the spirit of the Philippine Constitution, working toward the ultimate goal of a humane and just society. Towards this end, the DOJ will take part in the sector goal of a strengthened rule of law particularly in terms of the following principles:

1. Equitable, fair, and impartial administration of justice – administration of justice that applies the law and resolves conflict without prejudice resulting from political influence, corruption, discrimination, insensitivity and institutional deficiencies; and
2. Available, accessible, and acceptable justice system – a system that is adequate, inclusive, responsive, and sensitive to human rights including those of the victims and marginalized/vulnerable groups requiring special protection and/or services.

Organizational Goals and Targets

In this context, the Department shall focus its strategies, plans, and resources on the following organizational goals/outcomes:

1. Enhanced transparency, accountability, effectiveness, and expediency in the administration of justice; and
2. Improved access to justice especially by the poor and by vulnerable groups.

Attainment of said goals and desired outcomes shall be measured by the following indicators:

1. Increased public trust in the Department and the justice system – in terms of the Department’s achievement of the above sector and organizational goals;
2. Expeditious resolution of cases – in terms of cases investigated and resolved/decided at the level of the Department;
3. Improved conviction rates – in terms of convictions out of the cases decided by the courts; and
4. Decreased recidivism rate – in terms of prisoner admissions (recidivists and new convicted offenders) in national penitentiaries

Strategies

To achieve these goals and targets, the following strategies shall be collectively and individually pursued by the DOJ agencies and units.

1. Good governance in the system
 - Professionalize the Department’s bureaucracy
 - Implement good governance reforms
 - Institute measures to combat graft and corruption within the institution
2. Enhance the detection and investigation of crimes/offenses, and prosecution and rehabilitation of offenders
3. Ensure adequate, accessible, fair, stable, and predictable legal framework and services
 - Increase service capability through adequate resources
 - Strengthen and integrate capacity building and justice policy development
 - Curb and discourage influence peddling
 - Improve internal management and support through information and Communication Technology
 - Strengthen criminal policy research and development
 - Increase access to justice especially by the poor and by vulnerable groups
 - Strengthen alternative dispute resolution
4. Strengthen special protection measures
 - Priority cases: corruption, extra-legal killings, human

- Enhance the effectiveness of criminal investigation and prosecution
- Strengthen measures against foreign terrorists, offenders, and unwanted aliens through effective immigration enforcement and border management
- Improve prison management and offenders rehabilitation
- Strengthen cooperation, collaboration, and partnerships among agencies and stakeholders

- trafficking, illegal drugs, tax evasion, smuggling
- Land ownership rights
- Juvenile justice
- Economic justice
- Environmental protection
- Measures against cyber crime

investment program requires the infusion of fresh capital and additional funding on top of the annual operating budget. This shall be in the following areas:

1. Operations and services – additional resources for implementation of vital programs and projects
2. Organization and manpower – adequate and professionalized

bureaucracy in terms of organizational structures, systems, and personnel

3. Physical infrastructure – additional office buildings and service facilities including crime laboratories and prison dormitories
4. Information and communication technology – to automate and/or support operations and management

Public Investment Program

To enable the implementation of the Plan, the DOJ's

STRATEGY	COST ESTIMATES (in PhP thousands)					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	TOTAL
Enhance the detection and investigation of crimes/ offenses, prosecution and rehabilitation of offenders	320,726	266,731	134,803	46,777	47,364	816,412
Ensure adequate, acceptable, fair, stable, and predictable legal framework and services	4,089,789	2,573,291	1,627,176	1,207,556	1,074,186	16,571,997
Strengthen special protection measures	77.500	13.000				90,500
GRAND TOTAL	4,488,015	2,853,022	1,761,980	1,254,333	1,121,550	17,478,899

A Call for Partnership and Support

With the fresh vision of a new government dedicated to the pursuit of democratic, economic, and social development in the country, the DOJ pursues its Development Plan as its contribution to this national development effort. Its men and women stand committed to the administration of equal and impartial justice and the implementation of a justice system that is inclusive and responsive, particularly to the marginalized and vulnerable.

The Department of Justice boldly seeks to implement this Plan enabled by the support of the National Government and its constituent agencies and by the synergy of partnership with other government institutions and agencies in the justice system. In tandem with these institutions and agencies, the DOJ is optimistic that it can overcome the crisis in the system and achieve what every Filipino aspires for – a just, humane, and prosperous Philippine society.