

**[ ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 259, December 12, 1970 ]**

**IMPOSING ON MUNICIPAL JUDGE FELIX M. CARIÑO OF TAYUM, ABRA, A FINE EQUIVALENT TO TWO (2) MONTHS' PAY**

This is an administrative case against Municipal Judge Felix M. Cariño of Tayum, Abra, filed by the spouses Gaspar and Caridad T. Bilan and investigated by District Judge Juan P. Aquino. The charges are:

1. That in Criminal Case No. 259, wherein the accused is respondent's nephew, respondent failed to order his arrest, delayed the hearing and failed to inhibit himself;
2. That respondent certified in his application for leave of absence that all cases and motions submitted to him for decision and resolution were decided within ninety (90) days, although many cases had been pending trial in his court for years;
3. That respondent unduly delayed the disposition of Criminal Case No. 112 wherein complainant Gaspar T. Bilan is the offended party;
4. That Criminal Cases Nos. 244 and 245 were remanded to the Court of First Instance much later than Criminal Case No. 246, as noted in a decision of that Court, because of respondent's relationship to the offended party in the latter case;
5. That respondent unduly delayed the disposition of Criminal Cases Nos. 210, 223, 224, 225, 243 and 253; and
6. That respondent unnecessarily inhibited himself in Criminal Cases Nos. 137 and 293 and Civil Case No. 19.

These charges were denied by respondent as follows:

1. That he issued a warrant for the arrest of the accused in Criminal Case No. 259; that the delay in hearing the case was due to attempts to settle the case amicably between the parties; and that he is not related to the accused within the sixth degree;
2. That the certificate refers only to case submitted for decision and not to cases pending trial.
3. That Criminal Case No. 112 which was filed on November 29, 1956, was dismissed upon motion of Gaspar Bilan on December 10, 1957;