

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 125, February 05, 2021]

CREATION OF THE NATIONAL AMNESTY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the peace policy of the Government of the Philippines includes nurturing a climate conducive for peace and the implementation of programs for reconciliation and reintegration of rebels into mainstream society;

WHEREAS, an amnesty program for rebels and insurgents is an integral component of the government's comprehensive peace efforts to bring long-term peace and stability to the country;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 19, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution, the President of the Philippines issued proclamations granting amnesty to various groups of rebels and insurgents, which shall take effect upon concurrence by a majority of all the members of the Congress as provided for by the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the proclamations provided for the creation of an Amnesty Commission which shall receive and process applications for amnesty and determine whether the applicants who shall apply therefor are entitled to amnesty;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, do hereby order:

Section 1. National Amnesty Commission. - There is hereby created the National Amnesty Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, which shall be primarily tasked with receiving and processing applications for amnesty and determining whether the applicants are entitled to amnesty under Proclamation Nos. 1090, 109X, 1092, and 1093.

Section 2. Powers of the Commission. - in pursuit of its functions, the Commission shall have the following powers:

- a. Issue a Certificate of Amnesty to qualified applicants with the approval of the President;
- b. Administer oaths, summon witnesses, and require the production of documents by *subpoena duces tecum*; Provided, that the testimonies of the applicant and his witnesses for a grant of amnesty, and any evidence presented by him before the Commission not otherwise available to the prosecution, shall not be used as evidence against the applicant in any other proceeding where the amnesty is not in issue, except for perjury committed in so testifying;
- c. Promulgate rules and regulations relative to the implementation of the amnesty proclamations promulgated by the President;