

# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1861, March 23, 1983 ]

## AMENDING THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1606 AND BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129 RELATIVE TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE SANDIGANBAYAN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**WHEREAS**, Batas Pambansa Blg. 129 has simplified the rules on jurisdiction by, among- others, abolishing the concurrent jurisdiction of the Sandiganbayan and the regular courts;

**WHEREAS**, Batas Pambansa Blg. 129 expanded the exclusive original jurisdiction of the Sandiganbayan over the offenses enumerated in Section 4 of Presidential Decree No. 1606 to embrace all offenses irrespective of the imposable penalty;

**WHEREAS**, there has been a proliferation and marked increase in the filing of cases before the Sandiganbayan where the offense charged is punishable by a penalty not higher than prison correccional or its equivalent; and

**WHEREAS**, to insure that the prosecution of offenses committed by public officers and employees, including those employed in government-owned or controlled corporations, shall be as inexpensive and as expeditious as possible, and in keeping with the constitutional mandate constituting the Sandiganbayan as a special court to try cases involving graft and corruption, and other offenses committed by public officers and employees in relation to their office, it is necessary and desirable that certain cases shall be triable by the appropriate courts, with appellate jurisdiction over these cases to be vested in the Sandiganbayan;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Section 4 of Presidential Decree No. 1606 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. 4. Jurisdiction.** — The Sandiganbayan shall exercise:

"(a) Exclusive original jurisdiction in all cases involving:

1. Violations of Republic Act No. 3019, as amended, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, Republic Act No. 1379, and Chapter II, Section 2, Title VII of the Revised Penal Code;
2. Other offenses or felonies committed by public officers and employees in relation to their office, including those employed in government-owned or controlled corporations, whether simple or complexed with other crimes, where the penalty prescribed by law is higher than prison correccional or imprisonment for six (6) years, or a fine of P6,000.00: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER*, that offenses or felonies mentioned in this paragraph where the penalty prescribed by law does not exceed prison correccional or imprisonment for six (6) years or a fine of P6,000.00 shall be tried by the proper