

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5967, June 21, 1969]

AN ACT RAISING THE STATUS OF CITY JUDGES, ENLARGING THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY COURT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. No person shall be appointed City Judge unless he possesses the qualifications of a judge of the Court of First Instance: *Provided, however,* That this requirement of law shall not apply to incumbent judges.

SEC. 2. The City Court of chartered cities aside from its original and concurrent jurisdiction as provided in Section eighty-seven of Republic Act Numbered Two, hundred ninety-six, as amended, shall likewise have concurrent jurisdiction over offenses involving damage to property through reckless imprudence regardless of amount involved or the penalty to be imposed.

SEC. 3. Besides the civil cases over which the City Courts have jurisdiction under Section eighty-eight of Republic Act Numbered Two hundred ninety-six, as amended, it shall likewise have concurrent jurisdiction with the Court of First Instance over the following:

- (a) Petition for change of name of naturalized citizens after the judgment of naturalization has become final and executory;
- (b) Cancellation or correction of entries in the City Civil Registry where the corrections refer to typographical errors only; and
- (c) In ejection cases where the question of ownership is brought in issue in the pleadings. The issue of ownership shall therein be resolved in conjunction with the issue of possession.

SEC. 4. Subject to the provision of the next succeeding section, the City Court in chartered cities shall be courts of record and the City Judge thereof shall have the same incidental powers and prerogatives as are possessed by Judges of the Court of First Instance, and the power and authority to punish for contempt of Court committed before superior court or judges thereof in accordance with the provisions of Rule Seventy-one of the Revised Rules of Court and its judgment or order made in a case of contempt punished after written charge and hearing may be reviewed in the manner prescribed under the provisions of Section ten of said rule. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, processes and warrants of arrest issued by the City Judge in cases within its original or concurrent jurisdiction