

**[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 212, November
27, 2007]**

**CREATING THE PRESIDENTIAL ANTI-COLORUM/KOTONG TASK
FORCE (PACKTAF).**

WHEREAS, Sec. 12, Art. XII of the Constitution provides that for the operation of public utilities a franchise or certificate is necessary.

WHEREAS, under Sec. 15, Commonwealth Act 146 the operation of public utility vehicles without a certificate of public convenience or a certificate of convenience and public necessity is contrary to law.

WHEREAS, the economic benefits of the legitimate operators of public utility vehicles are prejudiced by colorum operators and by people protecting such illegal activity.

WHEREAS, the safety of the riding public is of paramount interest of the government and colorum public utility vehicles evade safety inspections, inspection for antismoke-belching and good-repair standards set by the government.

WHEREAS, there is a rise in the incidents of extortion or "kotong" perpetrated against drivers or operators of public utility vehicles.

WHEREAS, extortion has a pernicious effect to the livelihood of transport groups and must be eliminated.

WHEREAS, the extortion or mulcting is a form of robbery as defined in Art. 293 and 294 of the Revised Penal Code and therefore punishable.

WHEREAS, enhanced coordination between and among agencies will lead to improve effectiveness and efficiency in the government's efforts to eradicate extortion and the operation of colorum public utility vehicles.

WHEREAS, there is a need for a coordinating body attached directly under the Office of the President that will pro-actively and exhaustively conduct coordinative efforts nationwide to solve the problem extortion and of colorum public utility vehicles plying the streets.

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for a sustained, relentless and dedicated campaign to address the problem of extortion and proliferation of colorum public utility vehicles.

WHEREAS, Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code of 1987 provides the President with continuing authority to organize the Office of the President.

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 17 of the Constitution provides that the President shall have control of all executive departments, bureaus, and offices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and the laws, do hereby order:

Section 1. *Creation* - The PRESIDENTIAL ANTI-COLORUM/ANTI-KOTONG TASK FORCE (PACKTAF) is hereby created under the Office of the President, pursuant to Article VII, Section 17 of the Constitution and Section 31, Chapter 10, Title III, Book III of the Administrative Code, to act with resolve and urgency in addressing the issue of extortion and colorum public utility vehicles.

Section 2. *Steering Committee* - There is hereby created a Steering Committee composed of the Secretary of Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Energy (DOE), and the Department of National Defense (DND).

Section 3. *Functions of the Steering Committee* - The Steering Committee shall provide policy direction and oversight to PACKTAF. It shall be headed by the DOE Secretary.

Section 4. *Task Force Head* - Undersecretary Roy V. Kymako is designated as the Task Force Head of PACKTAF, who shall be responsible for the day to day activities of the Task Force. He shall be monitoring the daily operations and reporting to the Steering Committee. He shall take appropriate measures and necessary actions to ensure compliance with the law, this Administrative Order and the policies formulated by the Steering Committee.

Section 5. *Committee* - The Task Force shall also be composed of representatives of the following government departments/agencies and transport groups as members;

- a. Department of Interior and Local Government
- b. Department of Transportation and Communication
- c. Department of Justice
- d. Department of Energy
- e. Department of National Defense
- f. Accredited Transport Sector;

Section 6. *Personnel* - The Task Force shall have a maximum total manpower of forty five (45) personnel, composed of fourteen (14) Officers and thirty one (31) Non-commissioned officers and civilian employees; the organizational structure and staffing shall be determined by the Task Force Head subject to the approval of the majority of the Steering Committee. Any changes in the organizational structure