

[OP ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 159, November 25, 1994]

AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 23, DATED DECEMBER 17, 1992, WHICH PRESCRIBES THE RULES AND PROCEDURES ON THE INVESTIGATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISCIPLINARY CASES AGAINST ELECTIVE LOCAL OFFICIALS OF PROVINCES, HIGHLY URBANIZED CITIES, INDEPENDENT COMPONENT CITIES, COMPONENT CITIES, AND CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES IN METROPOLITAN MANILA

I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3, Rule 1 of Administrative Order No. 23 dated December 17, 1992, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. Disciplining Authority. — All administrative complaints, duly verified, against elective local officials mentioned in the preceding Section shall be acted upon by the President. The President, who may act through the Executive Secretary, shall hereinafter be referred to as the Disciplining Authority."

"Sec. 3. Investigating Authority. — The Secretary of the Interior and Local Government is hereby designated as the Investigating Authority. He may constitute an Investigating Committee in the Department of the Interior and Local Government for the purpose."

"The Disciplining Authority may, however, in the interest of the service, constitute a Special Investigating Committee in lieu of the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government."

SECTION 2. Items (d) and (h) of Section 1, Rule 2, of Administrative Order No. 23 are hereby amended to read as follows:

"(d) Commission of any offense involving moral turpitude or any offense punishable by at least *prision mayor*, which is from six (6) years and one (1) day to twelve (12) years imprisonment;"

"(h) Such other grounds as may be provided by the Local Government Code of 1991; Republic Act No. 6713; Republic Act No. 3019; Administrative Code of 1987; Revised Penal Code; and all other applicable general and special laws."

SECTION 3. Section 7, Rule 5, of Administrative Order No. 23 is hereby amended to read as follows: