



DOCUMENTATION FORM

PART 1: INCIDENT REPORT

Case Number :
Type of case : Killing
Name : Arnel Manalo
Media affiliation : Dyaryo Veritas, People's Courier
Time and Date of Incident : August 5, 2004
Place of Incident : Bauan, Batangas
Perpetrators : Michael Garcia, a suspected member of a gun-for-hire group
Motive :
Witnesses (if any) : Apollo Manalo
Lawyer handling the case : Government prosecutor
Investigating Officer :
Reference/Contact Persons : Arnel Ozeata, president, Batangas Newswriters Association (BNA)

Account of Incident:

On August 5, 2004, Arnel Manalo was shot in the face and neck by two unidentified assailants while on board an owner-type jeepney along the national highway of Bauan, Batangas. He was pronounced dead at the Bauan Municipal Hospital.

He had just dropped off his two children to school and picked up his brother, Apollo, from a public market when he was attacked.

Manalo, together with two other local reporters, had interviewed a certain Ed Mendoza, a village chair in Bauan town, who had gone into hiding after being implicated in the killing of a top aide of an influential businessman and the rape of a minor.

The police theory is that Mendoza ordered Manalo killed after the village chief suspected the victim of informing the police of his whereabouts.

The victim's brother, Apollo, who was with him during the shooting incident, identified the triggerman as Michael Garcia, a suspected member of a gun-for-hire group. Garcia was identified as a bodyguard and nephew of Mendoza.

Task Force Newsmen reported that it had arrested Garcia on August 26, 2004 in Parañaque, Metro Manila on the basis of violating PD 1866 (Illegal Possession of Firearms). The suspect was brought to the Batangas police headquarters in Camp Miguel Malvar in Batangas City to present him to Apollo for identification. Mendoza, meanwhile, had surrendered to the National Investigation Bureau (NBI).

It must be noted however that NUJP received reports that point to another possible mastermind for Manalo's death. NUJP also has a separate and detailed documentation on related developments, such as on how law enforcers attempted to take shortcuts in the investigation of the case.

PART 2: VICTIM'S PROFILE

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| Name | : Arnel Manalo |
| Media affiliation | : Dyaryo Veritas, People's Courier |
| Position | : Correspondent, Columnist |
| Address | : Bauan, Batangas |
| Birthday | : |
| Single/Married | : Married |
| Children | : N/A |
| Background as journalist | : Manalo wrote for the Southern tagalong Public Forum based in Tanuan City and for Veritas based in Batangas City. He was auditor of the Batangas Newswriters Association (BNA). |