



**NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS
OF THE PHILIPPINES**
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DOCUMENTATION FORM

PART 1: INCIDENT REPORT

Case Number :
Type of case : Killing
Name : Fernando "Dong" Batul
Media affiliation : DYPR (Palawan Broadcasting Corp.), Puerto Princesa City,
Palawan
Time and Date of Incident : 2006 - May 22
Place of Incident : Valencia St. near Duchess Pension House, Puerto Princesa City, around
6:30am
Perpetrators : PO1 Aaron Madamay Golifardo, mastermind/s unknown
Motive : For his commentaries on radio
Witnesses (if any) : Police has summoned at least four(4) witnesses to testify during
the court proceedings
Lawyer handling the case : Atty. Edwin Gastanes (lead), Atty. Joselito Alisuag, Atty. Dennis
Socrates
Investigating Officer : Task Force Batul headed by PNP Provincial Director
Reference/Contact Persons : Leticia Batul-Cabusao
Telephone Number :
Address : Bgy. San Manuel, Puerto Princesa City
Relation to Victim/Incident : Sister

Account of Incident:

Fernando Batul, who was on his way to air his 6.30 am program over dyPR, was shot in different parts of his body including the face, chest and back; police found 12 gunshot wounds in all.

The police said the two assailants, who were on board a motorcycle and wearing helmets, ambushed Batul's vehicle some 100 meters from the radio station.

Exactly four weeks ago, two grenades were lobbed at Batul's home, both of which were found and safely detonated by the police. Along with the grenades, whose safety pins had already been removed before being placed on their yard and balcony, was a note warning him against continuing his exposés.

Prior to the attack, Batul had been discussing the condition of several contract workers from Palawan who had been allegedly maltreated in Taiwan. The Puerto Princesa City Public Employment and Services Office had facilitated the employment of the said workers.

On May 25, 2006, Police arrested **PO1 Aaron Madamay Golifardo** as one of the suspected gunmen at Camp Crame, PNP's headquarters.

A murder case was filed against him and one (1) John Doe before the City Prosecutor's Office, docketed under IS Nr. 2006-392.

The case was raffled to Judge Toribio Ilaog of RTC Branch 52.

Witnesses gave testimonies during the first trial on Sept.8, 2006.

Suspect is presently detained at the Puerto Princesa City Jail and is officially dismissed from the PNP service effective May 26, 2006.

The other suspect/s and the mastermind are still unidentified.

On the second week of November 2006, NBI deputy director Esmeralda told over local radio station dyPR that another gunman, identified only as "Ferrer" was already in the custody of NBI. Esmeralda added that he will personally bring Ferrer to Palawan in time for the Nov. 17, 2006 hearing.

In Nov 17, the cross-examination of the prosecution's witnesses with continue.

PART 2: VICTIM'S PROFILE

Name : Fernando "Dong" Batul, 36
Media affiliation : dyPR (Palawan Broadcasting Corp.), Puerto Princesa, Palawan
Position : Commentator
Address : Bgy San Manuel, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan
Birthday : May. 24, 1969
Single/Married : Single
Children :
Background as journalist : Batul took up Political Science as a Bachelor's degree at the Palawan State University. While at the University, he was an active student leader. He had his first taste of the media when he became a student reporter at dyPR, the oldest radio station in Palawan.

When Batul's boss at the Crocodile Farming Institute Dr Gerry Ortega had a program at dyPR in the 1990s, Batul sat in for him when he was not around. Later, in 1997, Batul hosted a program with another partner, Bong Rabago, on dySP Super Radyo (the local radio station of GMA Network) called "Kulog at Kidlat." (Thunder and Lightning) After Rabago left, he continued on with his program at DYSP.

In 2001, he ran for vice-mayor of the City and won but a year before the end of his term, he was removed from office because of an electoral protest.

In 2004, Batul again ran for vice mayor but lost to his former opponent Vice Mayor Lucilo Bayron, brother-in-law of Mayor Edward Hagedorn.

After the elections, Batul continued his radio program. In February 2005, he took the prime time morning program (6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.) with a new name "Bastonero." He said the name was fitting for a hard-hitting commentator.