

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

ILOILO SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION CASE NO. <u>002-2024</u>

-versus-

TWO (2) CASES CANON MENTHOL CIGARETTE
TWO (2) CASES NEW ORLEANS CIGARETTE
ONE (1) CASE MILLION MENTHOL CIGARETTE (48 REAMS ONLY)
TWO (2) CASES MODERN CIGARETTE
ONE (1) CASE CHESTER FIELD CIGARETTE (47 REAMS ONLY)
THREE (3) REAMS CHESTER FIELD CIGARETTE
THREE (3) REAMS CANON MENTHOL CIGARETTE

NORODIN AMEROL OLAMA
ESMAITING MACASINDEL TOMANOR
Brgy. Mantulang, Passi City
Claimant/ Interested Party

WARRANT OF SEIZURE AND DETENTION

ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY SERVICE

IL SEFICE

TO: The District Commander

ESS-CPD, Port of Iloilo DATE OF 199/2029

RECEIVED BY SATRAH MAE D. CONCON

WHEREAS, on or about 2100H, 09 August 2024, the Office of the Field Station Chief, Customs Intelligence and Investigation Services (CIIS)-Port of Iloilo (POI), Antero R. Prado Jr., received a phone call from PSGT Verne Bruna, PNP Maritime Police Region 6, informing that the PNP Maritime Intelligence will conduct a buy bust operation on the alleged smuggled cigarettes at Passi City, Iloilo, and requested for a joint operation with the Bureau of Customs (BOC);

WHEREAS, a Mission Order No.08-01-24¹ dated 09 August 2024, signed by the District Collector Ciriaco DG. Ugay, LCB was issued for us to coordinate with the PNP Operatives in pursuit of the reported activity.

WHEREAS, at around 2300H on the same day, a Team from BOC-POI, composed of representatives from the CIIS, Enforcement Security Services (ESS), Water Patrol Division (WPD) – ESS, proceeded to Passi City to link up with the PNP operatives;

WHEREAS, the PNP Operatives with the use of marked and boodle money conducted the buy bust operation at Brgy. Mantulang, Passi City that resulted to the arrest of Mr. Norodin Amerol Olama, and Mr. Esmaiting Macasindel Tomanor, and confiscated cases of various brand of cigarettes ²;

² See PNP Certificate of Inventory of Seized Items marked as Annex "B"





¹ See Mission Order dated 9 August 2024 marked as Annex "A"



DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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WHEREAS, on 10 August 2024, the same BOC Team with Acting Customs Examiner Kheycee U. Orteza proceeded at Iloilo Maritime Police Station for the inventory of cigarettes;

WHEREAS, the inventory³ yielded with the following details, to wit:

Item No.	Quantity	Unit	Description
1	2	Case	Canon Menthol Cigarette
2	2	Case	New Orleans Cigarette
3	1	Case	Million Menthol Cigarette (48 Reams Only)
4	2	Case	Modern Cigarette
5	1	Case	Chester Field Cigarette (47 Reams Only)
6	3	Ream	Chester Field Cigarette
7	3	Ream	Canon Menthol Cigarette

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned cigarettes has a total market value of Php 465,276.00;

WHEREAS, on 10 August 2024, the BOC Team requested the assistance of Philip Morris Fortune Tobacco Company (PFMTC) in identifying the legitimacy of eighty (80) cigarettes samples bearing the name Chester Field, a brand under Philip Morris;

WHEREAS, on 10 August 2024, PFMTC issued a letter confirming that the samples in question that they examined were not produced by or with the permission of Philip Morris International and are therefore counterfeit⁴;

WHEREAS, on 13 August 2024, the office of the Field Station Chief, CIIS-POI, Antero R. Prado Jr., issued a Memorandum with complete necessary attachments, received by the Office of the District Collector on same date, requested that the subject goods be seized for lack of Import Permit/Clearances or any other pertinent documents to support the importation of the subject goods⁵;

WHEREAS, on 16 August 2024 the District Collector issued a Notice of Summary Proceedings⁶ directing the claimant/interested party to attend the hearing on 19 August 2024 at 10AM at the Office of the District Collector, for the determination of the existence of probable cause to warrant the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD) against the above-mentioned cigarettes;

WHEREAS, Mr. Olama and Mr. Tomanor failed to appear, and present the required documents to support the valid importation of the above-captioned cigarettes found in their custody during the conduct of the buy bust operation on the alleged smuggled cigarettes at Passi City, Iloilo;

WHEREAS, after an Ex-Parte presentation of the evidence⁷, and a careful examination of the same with the application of customs laws, rules and regulations, the District Collector finds probable cause for the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the subject goods for violation of Section 1401 in relation to Section 400, and 117 of the CMTA, National Tobacco Administration (NTA) Memorandum

⁷ See Minutes of the proceeding in the determination of probable cause, marked as Annex "G" and series



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³ See Acting Examiner's inventory of confiscated cigarettes, and chain of custody report, marked as annex "C" and series.

⁴ See PMFTC Examination sample, marked as Annex D

⁵ See Revenue Memorandum circular No. 46-2024, marked as Annex "E"

⁶ See Notice of Summary Proceeding, marked as Annex "F"



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Circular No.002, Series of 2020, Customs Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 20-2006 and Section 129, 145, 254 and 263 (d) of Republic Act No. 8424, as amended, known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997 (NIRC), as amended;

WHEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, and in compliance with pertinent Customs laws, rules, and regulations, it is hereby ordered to forthwith seize the aforementioned articles and have them under constructive custody⁸ of ESS-CPD Port of Iloilo and be stored for safekeeping until the same has been disposed of in accordance with law. Compliance with Customs Memorandum Order No. 8-84 in relation to Customs Administrative Order No. 10 - 2020, particularly on the matter of making a return of service and the submission of the Inventory Report is to be strictly observed.

SO ORDERED.

Port of ILOILO, Iloilo City, Philippines, 19 August 2024.

CIPIACO DG. UGAY, LCI

District Collector

Cc:

- Office of the Commissioner
- Acting Chief, Legal Service
- Chief, Accounts Management Office
- Chief, ACDU
- Law Division, Port of Iloilo
- Chief. CIIS Field Station, Port of Iloilo
- Claimant
- Resident Auditor

⁸ See chain of Custody and progress report, marked as Annex "H"

