

## BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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**MEMORANDUM** 

TO

KARREN APRIL A NOROÑIO-GABION

Officer-in-Charge

Public Information and Assistance Division (PIAD)

THRU

:

ATTY. MARIA YASMIN M. OBILLOS-MAPA

District Collector, BOC-NAIA

FROM

ATTY. WALKY ANN D. YUMUL

Acting Chief, Law Division

**SUBJECT** 

PUBLICATION IN THE BOC WEBSITE OF THE ISSUED

**WARRANT OF SEIZURE AND DETENTION (WSD)** 

**DATE** 

:

**23 SEPTEMBER 2024** 

This refers to the herein attached Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD):

- 1. **SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. 207-2024 (NAIA):** Republic of the Philippines vs. Eighty-Nine Thousand Pesos (Php89,000.00) Philippine Currency intercepted from incoming passenger **RITZ MAX MARIUS** who arrived on 06 July 2024;
- 2. **SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. 208-2024 (NAIA):** Republic of the Philippines vs. Two Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Pesos (Php273,570.00) brought in by incoming traveler **ZHIGANG ZHANG** on 14 July 2024; and
- 3. SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. 209-2024 (NAIA): Republic of the Philippines vs. Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Pesos (Php312,900.00) intercepted from incoming traveler JASON MAR KWOK MENG on 31 July 2024.

As the aforementioned passengers/claimants have indicated insufficient addresses in the Philippines, the WSDs must be served by posting in the bulletin board of this Port and by electronic posting in the BOC website for fifteen days, as provided under Section 6.5.2 of CAO No. 10-2020, to wit:

**6.5.2.** To the owner of the goods or his authorized representative.

For the purpose of serving the WSD, the importer, consignee, named in the bill of lading or arway bill, or possessor shall be deemed the owner of the goods.



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23 September 2024

MR. RITZ MAX MARIUS

**General Santos** 

Subject: Seizure Identification No. 207-2024 (NAIA)

Republic of the Philippines vs. Eighty-Nine Thousand Pesos (Php89,000.00) Philippine Currency intercepted from incoming passenger RITZ MAX MARIUS who arrived on 06 July 2024

Dear Mr. Ritz Max Marius

This refers to the seized goods which is covered by Seizure Identification No. 207-2024 (NAIA) issued on September 20, 2024 by the District Collector, this Port. A copy of the Warrant of Seizure and Detention is attached for reference.

As part of the on-going seizure and forfeiture proceedings for the aforementioned seized goods, you are hereby directed to submit a Verified Position Paper within seven (7) days from receipt hereof, copy furnished the Government Prosecutor, Prosecution and Litigation Division, Legal Service, Bureau of Customs, Port Area, Manila, to discuss the following:

- 1. Issues of the Case;
- 2. Proposed Stipulation and Admission:
- 3. Arguments;
- 4. Exhibits; and
- 5. Possibility of settlement.

Kindly send your Verified Position Paper, with pertinent attachments to lawdivision.naia@gmail.com/naia-boc.cares@dustoms.gov.ph.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. EMILIO Y LAGASPI IV
Officer on-case



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### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

-versus-

SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. <u>204-2024</u> (NAIA)

Eighty-Nine Thousand Pesos (Php89,000.00) Philippine Currency intercepted from incoming passenger RITZ MAX MARIUS who arrived on 06 July 2024.

## WARRANT OF SEIZURE AND DETENTION

TO: The District Commander ESS-CPD, NAIA District Office

WHEREAS, on 06 July 2024, Ritz Max Marius, an Australian traveler and holder of Passport No. PA3019373, arrived at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 1 on board Philippine Airlines Flight PR 212 from Australia.

WHEREAS, his carry-on bag underwent the non-intrusive examination conducted by XIP Inspector Edgardo Soriano, who, together with SAI Archer Peniza of the Enforcement and Security Service (ESS), referred him to the Customs Examiner on duty for verification and physical examination thereof.

WHEREAS, before conducting an actual examination, Customs Examiner Katrina Lea Raneses explained to passenger Marius that his carry-on bag will undergo physical examination for verification. He was then requested to submit his e-Travel generated QR code and passport. Passenger Marius replied he did not have the QR Code but instead submitted his duly accomplished Customs Baggage Declaration Form (CBDF). Customs Examiner Raneses noted that passenger Marius answered "NO" to all the items in the General Declaration except for Item No. 1 thereof which pertains to Philippine Currency in excess of the threshold amount of Php50,000.00. He was also asked by Customs Examiner Raneses if he has Philippine Currency in excess of Php50,000.00 and he replied in the affirmative. When asked how much Philippine Currency he had in his possession, (Php139,000.00). Thereafter, Customs Examiner Raneses explained to passenger Marius that he is only allowed to carry the amount of Php50,000.00 and any excess thereof would require prior authorization from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

WHEREAS, Customs Examiner Raneses conducted an actual examination of the carry-on luggage in the presence of passenger Marius and witnessed by Flight Supervisor Rosalinda Ros and ESS Operative Peniza. The actual amount counted and verified by Php50,000.00 was returned to passenger Marius and thereafter, the amount of Marius and Held Baggage Receipt No. turned over to the In Bond Section, Baggage Assistance Division, for custody and

WHEREAS, in a Memorandum dated 01 August 2024, Customs Examiner Katrina Lea Raneses and Flight Supervisor Rosalinda Ros, thru Atty. Danilo M. Campos, Jr., Chief, Arrival Operations Division, Mark Jhon O. Almase, Ph.D., Assistant Deputy Collector for Passenger Service, and Mr. Norsalem Raymond M. Mama-o, Deputy Collector for Passenger Service, reported the incident and recommended that the amount of Philipped Collection and Philipped Collectio



of BSP Circular No. 1146 series of 2022, referring to the Amendments to the Rules of Cross-Border Transfer of Local and Foreign Currencies, and for violation of Section 117 in relation to Section 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

WHEREAS, Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions (updated as of May 2023), states:

### Section 4. Cross-Border Transfer of Local and Foreign Currencies.

"1. Local Currency. A person may import or export, or bring into or take out of the Philippines, or electronically transfer, legal tender Philippine notes and coins, checks, money order and other bills of exchange drawn in pesos against banks operating in exceeding Php50,000.00 without prior authorization by the BSP.

Amounts in excess of aforementioned authorization from the BSP; and (b) in case of Physical cross-border transfer of Philippine currency, declaration of the whole amount brought into or taken out of the Philippines using prescribed Currency Declaration Form (Annex K)."

WHEREAS, after a careful evaluation of the documents submitted and applicable customs laws, rules and regulations, the NAIA District Collector finds probable cause for the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the subject currencies for violation of Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions, in relation to Sections 117 and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

WHEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested by law in this Office, and in compliance with applicable customs laws, rules, and regulations, you, together with the representatives of the concerned offices, are hereby ordered to seize the subject currencies intercepted from passenger RITZ MAX MARIUS for violation of Sections 117 and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions (as amended by BSP Circular Nos. 794 dated 18 April 2013, 874 dated 08 April 2015; 922 dated 23 August 2016 and 1146 dated 26 May 2022), and Republic Act No. 7653 dated 14 June 1993 (The New Central Bank Act); and to turn over the same to the Collection Division for custody and safekeeping, pending the resolution of the seizure case by the Law Division, and/or until ordered by the

Strict compliance with Customs Administrative Order (CAO) No. 10-2020, particularly on the matter of making a return of service and the submission of the Inventory Report or list of the articles seized within the period indicated therein, is likewise directed. Failure to do so shall render this Warrant of Seizure and Detention *ipso facto* considered null and void and shall subject the defaulting officer to the appropriate administrative charges and penalties in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

SO ORDERED.

BOC-NAIA, Pasay City, SEP 2 1 2024.

ATTY. MARIA YASMIN M. OBALOS District Collector, BOC-NAIA

Law/wady/eyllV



# DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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23 September 2024

**MR. ZHIGANG ZHANG** 

Solaire

Subject: Seizure Identification No. 208-2024 (NAIA)

Republic of the Philippines vs. Two Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Pesos (Php273,570.00) brought in by incoming traveler **ZHIGANG ZHANG** on 14 July

2024

Dear Mr. Zhigang Zhang

This refers to the seized goods which is covered by Seizure Identification No. 208-2024 (NAIA) issued on September 20, 2024 by the District Collector, this Port. A copy of the Warrant of Seizure and Detention is attached for reference.

As part of the on-going seizure and forfeiture proceedings for the aforementioned seized goods, you are hereby directed to submit a Verified Position Paper within seven (7) days from receipt hereof, copy furnished the Government Prosecutor, Prosecution and Litigation Division, Legal Service, Bureau of Customs, Port Area, Manila, to discuss the following:

- 1. Issues of the Case;
- 2. Proposed Stipulation and Admission
- 3. Arguments:
- 4. Exhibits; and
- 5. Possibility of settlement.

Kindly send your Verified Position Paper, with pertinent attachments to <a href="mailto:lawdivision.naia@gmail.com/naia-boc.cares@customs.gov.ph">lawdivision.naia@gmail.com/naia-boc.cares@customs.gov.ph</a>.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. MANUEL O. ZURBITO JR.
Officer-on-Case

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#### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

-versus-

SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. 208-2024 (NAIA)

Two Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Pesos (Php273,570.00) brought in by incoming traveler **ZHIGANG ZHANG** on 14 July 2024

#### **WARRANT OF SEIZURE AND DETENTION**

TO: The District Commander ESS-CPD, NAIA District Office

WHEREAS, on 11 July 2024 at around 0115H, Male Chinese Traveler named Zhigang Zhang with Passport Number EE0041834 together with her daughter Chenning Zhang with Passport Number EA0909869 arrived at Ninoy Aquino International Airport on board flight CA 179 from China.

WHEREAS, Zhigang Zhang hand-carried baggage underwent a non-intrusive examination by XIP Inspector Edgardo Soriano. Thereafter, the baggage was referred by ESS SA1 Archer Peniza to Customs Examiner Katrina Lea Raneses for physical examination.

WHEREAS, before conducting the Raneses explained to the traveler that his examination. The traveler was asked to show his e-travel generated QR code and passport. Upon checking the information in the electronic Customs Baggage Declaration Form (E-CBDF), it was noted that the traveler answered "NO" to all questions in the General Declaration.

WHEREAS, the Customs Examiner Raneses together with ESS SA1 Peniza and Flight Supervisor Regina D. Santos, invited the traveler Zhang to the exclusion room for the physical examination of his hand carried luggage.

WHEREAS, the physical count yielded an actual amount of Three Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Pesos (Php373,570.00). After verified counting, the amount of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000.00) was returned to Mr. Zhang since he was also accompanied by his daughter Ms. Chenning Zhang.

WHEREAS, a Held Baggage Receipt No. 00100008391 was issued for the excess amount of Two Hundred Seventy Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Pesos (Php273,570.00). The confiscated Philippine Currency was turned over to Annaliza Reyes of the In-Bond Unit, Baggage Assistance Division for Safekeeping.

WHEREAS, in a Memorandum for the District Collector, this Port, dated 01 August 2024, Customs Examiner Katrina Lea Raneses and Flight Supervisor Regina D. Santos, thru Atty. Danilo M. Campos Jr., Chief, Arrival Operations Division, Mark Jhon O. Almase, Ph.D., Assistant Deputy Collector for Passenger Service, and Norsalem Raymond M. Mama-o. Acting Deputy Collector for Passenger Service, recommended for the issuance

of Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD) against the amount of Php273,570.00 for violation of Section 117 in relation to Section 1113 (f) of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Circular No. 1146, series of 2022, entitled "Amendments to the Rules on Cross-Border Transfer of Local and Foreign Currencies".

WHEREAS, Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions (updated as of May 2023), states:

### Section 4. Cross-Border Transfer of Local and Foreign Currencies.

"1. Local Currency. A person may import or export, or bring into or take out of the Philippines, or electronically transfer, legal tender Philippine notes and coins, checks, money order and other bills of exchange drawn in pesos against banks operating in the Philippines in an amount not exceeding Php50,000.00 without prior authorization by the BSP.

Amounts in excess of aforementioned limit shall require: (a) prior written authorization from the BSP; and (b) in case of Physical cross-border transfer of Philippine currency, declaration of the whole amount brought into or taken out of the Philippines using prescribed Currency Declaration Form (Annex K)."

WHEREAS, after a careful evaluation of the documents submitted and applicable customs laws, rules and regulations, the NAIA District Collector finds probable cause for the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the subject currencies for violation of Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions, in relation to Sections 117 and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

WHEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested by law in this Office, and in compliance with applicable customs laws, rules and regulations, you, together with the representatives of the concerned offices, are hereby ordered to seize the subject currencies intercepted from passenger ZHIGANG ZHANG for violation of Sections 117 and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions (as amended by BSP Circular Nos. 794 dated 18 April 2013, 874 dated 08 April 2015; 922 dated 23 August 2016 and 1146 dated 26 May 2022), and Republic Act No. 7653 dated 14 June 1993 (The New Central Bank Act); and to turn over the same to the Collection Division for custody and safekeeping, pending the resolution of the seizure case by the Law Division, and/or until ordered by the District Collector, this Port.

Strict compliance with Customs Administrative Order (CAO) No. 10-2020, particularly on the matter of making a return of service and the submission of the Inventory Report or list of the articles seized within the period indicated therein, is likewise directed. Failure to do so shall render this Warrant of Seizure and Detention ipso facto considered null and void and shall subject the defaulting officer to the appropriate administrative charges and penalties in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

SO ORDERED.

SEP 2 0 2024 BOC-NAIA, Pasay City, eptember 2024.

> ATTY MARIA YASMIN M. d District Collector, BOC-NAIA



# DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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23 September 2024

MR. JASON MAR KWOK MENG

Kingford Hotel

Subject: Seizure Identification No. 209-2024 (NAIA)

Republic of the Philippines vs. Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Pesos (Php312,900.00) intercepted from incoming traveler **JASON MAR KWOK MENG** on 31 July

2024

Dear Mr. Jason Mar Kwok

This refers to the seized goods which is covered by Seizure Identification No. 209-2024 (NAIA) issued on September 20, 2024 by the District Collector, this Port. A copy of the Warrant of Seizure and Detention is attached for reference.

As part of the on-going seizure and forfeiture proceedings for the aforementioned seized goods, you are hereby directed to submit a Verified Position Paper within seven (7) days from receipt hereof, copy furnished the Government Prosecutor, Prosecution and Litigation Division, Legal Service, Bureau of Customs, Port Area, Manila, to discuss the following:

- 1. Issues of the Case;
- 2. Proposed Stipulation and Admission:
- 3. Arguments:
- 4. Exhibits; and
- 5. Possibility of settlement.

Kindly send your Verified Position Paper, with pertinent attachments to lawdivision.naia@gmail.com/naia-boc.cares@customs.gov.ph.

Very truly yours,





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#### REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. <u>209 - 2024</u> (NAIA)

-versus-

Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Pesos (Php312,900.00) intercepted from incoming traveler JASON MAR KWOK MENG on 31 July 2024.

## WARRANT OF SEIZURE AND DETENTION

TO: The District Commander ESS-CPD, NAIA District Office

WHEREAS, on or about 1100H of 31 July 2024, the carry-on baggage of a male Singaporean traveler named Jason Mar Kwok Meng, with passport number K1792674A, on board flight 3K 761 from Singapore was referred by the X-ray Inspection Project (XIP) Operator Joshua Zurbito to Acting Customs Examiner Melody D. Garcia for physical examination.

WHEREAS, before conducting the physical examination, Customs Examiner Garcia asked the passenger's e-Travel QR Code for scanning. It was noted that the traveler answered "No" to all items in the General Declaration of the electronic Customs Baggage Declaration Form (e-CBDF). Customs Examiner Garcia then proceeded with the physical examination.

WHEREAS, the physical examination yielded to the discovery of undeclared Philippine Peso amounting to Three Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Pesos (Php362,900.00) bills. The Customs Examiner explained to the traveler that Philippine Currency in excess of Fifty Thousand pesos (Php50,000.00) requires a prior authorization from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

WHEREAS, Customs Examiner proceeded with the actual counting of the Philippine Currency in the presence of the traveler. The procedure was witnessed by SA1 Mark Jason A Jupuri, CIIS Agent Ediex D. Liwanag and was supervised by Flight Supervisor Patrick G. Guerrero. The actual amount counted and verified by the Customs Examiner is Three Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Pesos (Php362,900.00).

WHEREAS, after the verified counting, Customs Examiner Garcia returned to the traveler a total amount of Fifty Thousand pesos (Php50,000.00) while the remaining and turned-over to Jonathan Mesa of the In-Bond Unit, Baggage Assistance Division for Kwok Meng.

WHEREAS, in a Memorandum dated 01 August 2024, Acting Customs Examiner Patrick G. Guerrero, thru Atty. Danilo M. Campos Collector for Passenger Service, and Collector for Passenger Service, reported to the District Collector, this Port, the said

incident and recommended for the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the amount of Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred pesos (Php312,900.00) in violation of Section 117 of the CMTA on Regulated Importation and Exportation; and BSP Circular No. 1146 Series of 2022 entitled "Amendments to the Rules on Cross-Border Transfer of Local and Foreign Currencies".

WHEREAS, Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions (updated as of May 2023), states:

## Section 4. Cross-Border Transfer of Local and Foreign Currencies.

"1. Local Currency. A person may import or export, or bring into or take out of the Philippines, or electronically transfer, legal tender Philippine notes and coins, checks, money order and other bills of exchange drawn in pesos against banks operating in the Philippines in an amount not exceeding Php50,000.00 without prior authorization by the BSP.

Amounts in excess of aforementioned limit shall require: (a) prior written authorization from the BSP; and (b) in case of Physical cross-border transfer of Philippine currency, declaration of the whole amount brought into or taken out of the Philippines using prescribed Currency Declaration Form (Annex K)."

WHEREAS, after a careful evaluation of the documents submitted and applicable customs laws, rules and regulations, the NAIA District Collector finds probable cause for the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the subject currencies for violation of Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions, in relation to Sections 117 and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

WHEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested by law in this Office, and in compliance with applicable customs laws, rules, and regulations, you, together with the representatives of the concerned offices, are hereby ordered to seize the subject currencies intercepted from passenger JASON MAR KWOK MENG for violation of Sections 117 and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, Section 4 of the Manual of Regulations on Foreign Exchange Transactions (as amended by BSP Circular Nos. 794 dated 18 April 2013, 874 dated 08 April 2015; 922 dated 23 August 2016 and 1146 dated 26 May 2022), and Republic Act No. 7653 dated 14 June 1993 (The New safekeeping, pending the resolution of the seizure case by the Law Division, and/or until ordered by the District Collector, this Port.

Strict compliance with Custom's Administrative Order (CAO) No. 10-2020, particularly on the matter of making a return of service and the submission of the Inventory Report or list of the articles seized within the period indicated therein, is likewise directed. Failure to do so shall render this Warrant of Seizure and Detention *ipso facto* considered null and void and shall subject the defaulting officer to the appropriate administrative charges and penalties in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

SO ORDERED.			
BOC-NAIA, Pasay City,	SEP	2 C	<b>2024</b> , September 2024

District Collector, BOC-NAIA

Law/wady/ham