DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

SEIZURE IDENTIFICATION NO. 151-202S (NAIA)

-versus-

Twelve Thousand Philippine Pesos (PHP12,000.00) confiscated from an Australian traveler **BENJAMIN PARKER BRIAN PERRY** on 10 March 2025 and held in custody under Held Baggage Receipt No. 00100012802.

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WARRANT OF SEIZURE AND DETENTION

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

WHEREAS, on 10 March 2025, a male Australian traveler named Benjamin Parker. Brian Perry with Passport Number RA5694970, arrived at the NAIA Terminal 3 on board Cebu Pacific 5J40 from Sydney, Australia, approached the Customs Examination Lane and scanned his e-Travel QR Code.

WHEREAS, Customs Examiner Von Carlo O. Arsenio observed that the subject traveler had a Currency Declaration on his Electronic Customs Baggage Declaration Form (e-CBDF). Upon further verification of the scanned QR Code, it was confirmed that the traveler declared an amount of Seventy Thousand Pesos (PHP70,000.00).

WHEREAS, the Customs Examiner informed the traveler that although he did declare the Philippine Pesos that he was carrying on his e-CBDF, he still violated Section 117 of the Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), in relation to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Circular No. 1146 series of 2022, because he failed to secure before his arrival prior authorization from the BSP, for amounts exceeding Fifty Thousand Pesos (PHP50,000.00). The traveler was then invited to the exclusion room for verification and counting of the money.

WHEREAS, the physical count yielded an actual amount of Sixty-Two Thousand Pesos (PHP62,000.00) only. After verified counting of the Philippine Currency, the allowable amount of Fifty Thousand Pesos (PHP50,000.00) was returned to the subject traveler. The amount of Twelve Thousand Pesos (PHP12,000.00) was held due to non-presentation of a prior written authorization from the BSP. A Held Baggage Receipt with number 00100012802 was issued for the excess amount of Twelve Thousand Pesos (PHP12,000.00). The confiscated Philippine Currency was turned over to Jonathan Mesa of the In-Bond Unit of the Baggage Assistance Division.

WHEREAS, the procedure was done by Customs Examiner Arsenio in the presence of the subject traveler, Benjamin Parker Brian Perry, witnessed by representatives from the C!IS and ESS, SA1 Hashoba Sarip, and SA1 Dean Oran, respectively and supervised by Flight Supervisor COOV Patrick Guerrero.

WHEREAS, on 24 March 2025, Customs Examiner Von Carlo O. Arsenio, and Flight Supervisor Patrick G. Guerrero, through the Acting Deputy Collector for Passenger Service, Norsalem Raymond M. Mama-o, Assistant Deputy Collector for Passenger Service, Mark John O. Almase, Ph.D., and the Chief, Arrival Operations Division, Atty. Danilo M. Campos,

Jr., submitted their incident report to the District collector, this Port, and recommended for the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention against the subject currencies for violation of Section 117 (Regulated Importation and Exportation) of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), in relation to 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 the 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 BENJAMIN PARKER BRIAN PERRY 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.

BOC-NAIA, Pasay City, _____, April 2025

ATTY. MARIA YASMIN M. 🌢

District Collector, ΒΦC-NAIA

Wdy∕law/ham

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30 April 2025

MR. BENJAMIN PARKER BRIAN PERRY

Alliya Buton St. Baler Aurora, Philippines

Subject:

Seizure Identification No. 151-2025 (NAIA)

Republic of the Philippines vs. Twelve Thousand Philippine Pesos (Php12,000.00) confiscated from an Australian traveler **BENJAMIN PARKER BRIAN PERRY** on 10 March 2025 and held in custody

under Held Baggage Receipt No. 00100012802.

To: Mr. Benjamin Parker Brian Perry

This refers to the seized goods which is covered by Seizure Identification No. 151-2025 (NAIA) issued on April 29, 2025 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 attend the Preliminary Conference scheduled on May 9, 2025 (Friday), 09:00 am at the Law Division, Room 304, NAIA Customhouse Bldg. Pasay City. In the alternative, a Verified Position Paper may be submitted 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. Statement of Facts;
- 2. Issues of the Case:
- 3. Proposed Stipulations and Admission;
- 4. Arguments; and
- 5. Exhibits.

Should you opt to attend the Preliminary Conference, your attendance must be confirmed by contacting John Victoriano D. Villanueva III, through Mobile# 0966 8350713.

On the other hand, the Verified Position Paper, with pertinent attachments, may be submitted to the Office of the Law Division, Third Floor, Bureau of Customs – NAIA Building, Old MIA Road, Pasay City and through electronic means sent to the naia-lawdivision@customs.goc.ph.com and naia-boc.cares@customs.gov.ph.

Your preferential attention on the matter is requested.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. HYACINTH A. MIRANDA
Officer-on-Case V12021