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Republic of the Philippines,

Seizure Identification No. 2025-028

- versus -

Parcel with Tracking No. CR903176765DE, found to contain One (1) Foil Pouch containing One (1) Transparent Plastic Pouch containing more or less Two Hundred Fifty-Seven (257) Pieces of Peach Glitter-Colored Tablet with Broken Pieces, which arrived at Surface Mail Exchange Department (SMED) on 17 March 2025, from Jimmy Houwen of Hoherwall 38 44137 Dortmund,

ADREY MARK D. RAMIREZ.

Claimant.

DECISION

This resolves the seizure proceeding instituted against the above-mentioned goods pursuant to Sections 118, 119 (d) and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), in relation to Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9165 otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002";

The following are the antecedent facts, to wit:

On 17 March 2025, a Parcel with Tracking No. CR903176765DE arrived at Surface Mail Exchange Department (SMED) from Jimmy Houwen of Hoherwall 38 44137 Dortmund and consigned to **ADREY MARK D. RAMIREZ** of 571 Ignacio Compound Sta. Quiteria, Brgy. 162, City of Caloocan, NCR, Third District 704 Rizal Ave. Ext., Grace Park East, Caloocan, 1400 Metro Manila;

On 18 March 2025, the assigned customs examiner together with XIP, PhilPost-SMED, CIIS, ESS-CAIDTF and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) representative conducted physical examination of the subject parcel and was found to actually contain One (1) Foil Pouch containing One (1) Transparent Plastic Pouch containing more or less Two Hundred Fifty-Seven (257) Pieces of Peach Glitter-Colored Tablet with Broken Pieces;

Thereafter, upon confirmatory test conducted by PDEA on even date, the transparent plastic pouch was positive for the presence of 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), as evidence by Chemistry Report No. PDEA-NCR-25-0079 issued by Atty. Severino P. Uy, Jr., Chief, Examination Division;

Accordingly, in a Memorandum dated 21 March 2025, Pauline P. Rodriquez, COO III, Customs Postal Office, recommended the issuance of Warrant of Seizure and Detention (WSD) against the subject parcel in violation of Sections 118, 119(d) and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), in relation to R.A. 9165 also known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002";

Thus, finding existence of probable cause, Warrant of Seizure and Detention was issued by Alexander Gerard E. Alviar, District Collector, this Port, against the subject shipment docketed under Seizure Identification No. 2025-028 against the above-mentioned article for violation of Sections 118, 119 (d) and 1113 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), in relation to R.A. 9165 also known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002";

Consequently, the turnover of the prohibited items to PDEA was conducted and witnessed by the representatives of the XIP, PhilPost-SMED, CIIS, ESS-CAIDTF, Brgy. 651-68 and Media as evidenced by the Turn-Over Receipt with Tracking No. CR903176765DE;

In a Memorandum dated 31 March 2025, Special Agent I Alvin C. Rollon, and CEO II Alfred V. Toraja, CPD-ESS, returned the unserved Warrant of Seizure and Detention since the consignee could not be located at the provided address, as confirmed in the Certification dated 28 March 2025 issued and signed by Barangay Chairman Hon, Ronald L. Nagusara of Barangay 162, Sta. Quiteria Zone 14, District 1;

On 02 April 2025, a notice was posted at the Bureau of Customs website informing the owner/claimant that the District Collector of the Port of Manila issued a Warrant of Seizure and Detention docketed as Seizure Identification No. 2025-028;

Indubitably, the seized One (1) Foil Pouch containing One (1) Transparent Plastic Pouch containing more or less Two Hundred Fifty-Seven (257) Pieces of Peach Glitter-Colored Tablet with Broken Pieces that tested positive for methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) commonly known as ECSTACY is a dangerous drug under R.A. No. 9165 and the importation of which is prohibited pursuant to 118 of the CMTA.

"Section 4. Importation of Dangerous Drugs and/or Controlled Precursors and Essential Chemicals.- The penalty of life imprisonment to death and a ranging from Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) to Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00) shall be imposed upon any person, who, unless authorized by law, shall import or bring into the Philippines any dangerous drug, regardless of the quantity and purity involved, including any and all species of opium poppy or any part thereof or substances derived therefrom even for floral, decorative and culinary purposes.

The penalty of imprisonment ranging from twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years and a fine ranging from One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) to Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) shall be imposed upon any person, who, unless authorized by law, shall import any controlled precursor and essential chemical.

The maximum penalty provided for under this Section shall be imposed upon any person, who, unless authorized under this Act, shall import or bring into the Philippines any dangerous drug and/or controlled precursor and essential chemical through the use of a diplomatic passport, diplomatic facilities or any other means involving his/her official status intended to facilitate the unlawful entry of the same. In addition, the diplomatic passport shall be confiscated and canceled.

The maximum penalty provided for under this Section shall be imposed upon any person, who organizes, manages or acts as a "financier" of any of the illegal activities prescribed in this Section.

The penalty of twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years of imprisonment and a fine ranging from One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) to Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) shall be imposed upon any person, who acts as a "protector/coddler" of any violator of the provisions under this Section."

In relation to the above provision Sections 118 and 119 explicitly prohibit the importation of the subject articles, to wit:

"Sec. 118. Prohibited Importation and Exportation. – The importation and exportation of the following goods are prohibited:

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Sec. 119. Restricted Importation and Exportation of the following restricted goods are prohibited:

(d) Marijuana, opium, poppies, coca leaves, heroin or other narcotics or synthetic drugs which are or may hereafter be declared habit forming by the President of the Philippines, or any compound, manufactured salt, derivative, or preparation thereof, except when imported by the government of the Philippines or any person duly authorized by the Dangerous Drugs Board, for medicinal purposes;

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The restriction to import or export the above stated goods shall include the restriction on their transit." (Emphasis supplied)

Finally, Section 1113 (I) of the CMTA makes articles imported contrary to law subject to forfeiture, to wit:

"Section 1113. Property Subject to Seizure and Forfeiture. - Property that shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture include:

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(f) Goods, the importation or exportation of which are effected or attempted contrary to law, or any goods of prohibited importation or the District Collector, have been used, are or were entered to be used as instruments in the importation or the exportation of the former;

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(I) Goods sought to be imported or exported;

(3) Through a false declaration or affidavit executed by the owner, importer, exporter, or consignee concerning the importation of such,

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(4) On the strength of a false invoice or other document executed by the owner, importer, exporter, or consignee concerning the importation or exportation of such goods; or

(5) Through any other practice or device contrary to law by means of which such goods entered through a customs office to the prejudice of the government."

The subject prohibited drugs shall be disposed of as provided for by Section 1147 (d) of the CMTA,

which provides:

"SEC. 1147. Disposition of Restricted Goods. – Restricted goods as described in Section 119 of this Act shall be disposed as follows:

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(d) Marijuana, opium, poppies, coca leaves, heroin, or other narcotics or synthetic drugs which are or may hereafter be declared habit forming by the President of the Philippines, or any compound, manufactured salt, derivative, or preparation thereof, shall be turned over to the Dangerous Drugs Board;"

WHEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, it is hereby ordered and decreed that the Parcel with Tracking No. CR903176765DE, found to contain One (1) Foil Pouch containing One (1) Transparent Plastic Pouch containing more or less Two Hundred Fifty-Seven (257) Pieces of Peach Glitter-Colored Tablet with Broken Pieces, positive for methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) commonly known as ECSTACY, which arrived at Surface Mail Exchange Department (SMED) on 17 March 2025, from Jimmy Houwen of Hoherwall 38 44137 Dortmund and consigned to ADREY MARK D. RAMIREZ of 571 Ignacio Compound Sta. Quiteria, Brgy. 162, City of Caloocan, NCR, Third District 704 Rizal Ave. Ext., Grace Park East, Caloocan, 1400 Metro Manila, be FORFEITED in favor of the Government for violation of Sections 118, 119(d), and 1113 of R.A. No. 10863 otherwise known as the "Customs Modernization and Tariff Act" (CMTA) in relation to Section 04 Article II of R.A. No. 9165 "Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002" to be disposed of in the manner provided for by law.

Let copies of this guidance. Decision be furnished to all parties and offices concerned for their information and

SO ORDERED.

Port of Manila, Philippines, ___

MAY 3 0 2025

ALEXANDER GERARD E. ALVIAR
District Collector
Port of Manila