

Republic of the Philippines Supreme Court Office of the Court Administrator Manila

FROM THE DESK OF:

HON. JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ

Court Administrator

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Mr. Amado R. Macasaet

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Dear Mr. Macasaet:

This is to clarify certain matters raised in the article "Former chief justice rates a leak in WikiLeaks" bylined by Ellen Tordesillas appearing in page B1 of today's issue of *Malaya*. The same reports that a cable from Paul Jones, who served as deputy chief of mission of the US Embassy in Manila, "indicated that former Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban was the protector of Filipino Chinese businessman Mariano Nocom, whose malls were said to have been selling pirated goods" and that Judge Antonio Eugenio, who had promptly approved majority of warrant applications for violations of Intellectual Property (IP) Laws, was by directive of the Supreme Court reassigned to another court where he would no longer handle IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) cases.

I received a phone call from former Chief Justice Panganiban, who is now abroad, categorically denying being Mr. Nocom's "protector" as he hardly knows the man and stressing that Mr. Nocom does not exert any influence on him. As to Judge Eugenio, he was never replaced as a commercial court judge, and as such, remains to date a judge of a commercial court where he continues to hear IP cases.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Jose Midas P. Marquez