

Hayden faces violence vs women raps

MANILA – Celebrity surgeon Hayden Kho Jr. was recommended for indictment before the Department of Justice (DOJ) on Friday in connection with the video recording of himself having sex with actress Katrina Halili.

The DOJ has received the recommendation of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) for the filing of charges of violation of Republic Act 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act) against Kho after completing an investigation on the complaint of the 23-year-old Halili.

In a transmittal forwarded to Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuño, the NBI recommended the filing of charges for violation of Section 5 (h) and (i) of RA 9262. Penalty is six years and one day to 12 years imprisonment, said NBI Director Nestor Mantaring during a press conference held late yesterday afternoon.

Investigation conducted by NBI Anti-Fraud and Computer Crimes and Division (AFCCD) showed that the recording of the sex video of Halili and Kho occurred at the Holiday Inn, Ortigas Center, Pasig City in Sep-

tember 2007.

The NBI based its report on the complaint of Halili, and affidavits of Kho and Dr. Vicki Belo.

In her sworn statement to NBI, Halili claimed that she met Kho sometime between June and July 2007 when she went to the Belo Medical Group, which is owned and operated by Belo, in order to have liposuction performed by Kho.

"That at first, her relationship with Dr. Kho was purely professional – one of doctor and patient, as it was common knowledge that the latter and Dr. Belo were sweethearts. That their courtship started immediately thereafter characterized by exchange of sweet nothings through text messages until they finally became sweethearts in August 2007. That being lovers they would discreetly see each other and they would engage in lovemaking," the complaint stated.

Halili added that "during the relationship, Dr. Kho repeatedly assured her that he loves her so much and explained that the matter of the latter's maintenance of two 'sweethearts' had something to do with his having two 'lives'

where in the second life, she was the girlfriend."

Halili decided to end her relationship with Kho out of respect for Dr. Belo but they continued to exchange text messages.

In January 2008, Halili decided to finally end their relationship despite Kho's insistence of reconciliation.

In recommending the filing of charges against Kho, Mantaring and NBI deputy director for special investigative services lawyer Victor Bessat cited the result of psychological evaluation made by their neuro-psychiatric division (NPD) as one of the grounds.

Halili, according to NBI findings, was found to be suffering from an adjustment disorder with depressed mood.

The NBI-NPD even recommended that Halili undergo psychotherapy to help her adapt to her current stressful situation.

Halili insisted that she did not know that the sex act was recorded.

Before the release of the sex video, Kho said in a popular showbiz magazine that there was no sex video and that the only video they had was the practice for a dance. (*Philstar.com*)

Some Arroyo allies in Mindanao vs Con-ass

by FRINSTON LIM
Inquirer.net

TAGUM CITY – Local officials, including allies of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, and people's organizations in Davao del Norte and Compostela Valley expressed their disappointment over the passage of the resolution convening Congress into a constituent assembly, calling the move ill-timed and tainted with "hidden agenda."

On Thursday, Compostela Valley Gov. Arturo Uy declared his disapproval of the passage of House Resolution 1109, saying politicians with vested interests were behind the move.

The House resolution calls for the convening of a constituent assembly with the House and the Senate voting jointly on amendments to the Constitution. The House has implied it would convene the constituent assembly even without the consent of the Senate to provoke the latter into filing a case at the Supreme Court and prompt a ruling on a gray area in the Constitution.

Uy, the provincial head of the administration's Lakas-Kampi party, feared politicians planning to tinker with the Constitution via Con-Ass would touch on provisions that could extend the terms of incumbent officials including the President, beyond 2010.

"I can't understand why they would push that hastily. What's the hidden agenda?" Uy asked.

His counterpart in Davao del Norte, Gov. Rodolfo del Rosario, another staunch Arroyo ally, echoed a similar sentiment.

Charter change without the Senate vote or approval, according to Del Rosario, "is infirmed."

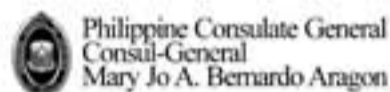
A representative of a new movement aimed at giving Mindanao a bigger voice on national issues said local officials should focus on more pressing concerns in the provinces.

"National politicians should first focus in helping us solve more urgent issues and concerns at the local level than hastily tinkering with the Constitution," said Francisco Tito, village chief of Mt. Diwata, in Monkayo, Compostela Valley, and a representative of the small-scale mining sector to the Mindanaoans for Mindanao (M4M) Movement, a non-political multi-sectoral group aiming for the economic, social and cultural development of Mindanao as a region.

Tagum City Mayor Rey Uy, a critic of the administration said the government should expect protests and mass actions against Charter change or the holding of a constituent assembly without the Senate.

"Cha-cha at this time is self-serving (to politicians advocating it)," said former Davao del Norte Vice Gov. Anthony del Rosario, son of the incumbent local chief executive.

"I would prefer if Cha-cha was done after the 2010 elections," the younger Del Rosario said. ■



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