



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
 Municipality of Mayorga
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Item No.: **73**
 Date: **28 2026 JUL**



OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

21 July 2026

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

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Date: **JUL 22 2026**
 By: *[Signature]*

ATTY. MILDRED JOY P. QUE

Chairperson, Committee on Boundary Disputes
 Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 Province of Leyte
 Leyte Provincial Government Complex
 Palo, Leyte

Madame:

Respectfully transmitting herewith to the Honorable Committee on Boundary Disputes of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte is the Final Memoranda from the Local Government Unit of Mayorga in response to the Petition filed by the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte over the contested area between Brgy. Union Mayorga, Leyte and Brgy. Tuyo MacArthur, Leyte.

Please find them in order. Your favorable action hereof is pure and simple dedication to serve.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
HANZEL L. CREBILLO
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA
Mayorga, Leyte

RE: BOUNDARY DISPUTE BETWEEN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR, LEYTE
AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA,
LEYTE INVOLVING BARANGAY TUYO AND
BARANGAY UNION

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
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Date: JUL 22 2026
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FOR: THE HONORABLE CHAIRPERSON AND
MEMBERS COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARY
DISPUTES SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
OF LEYTE

FINAL MEMORANDA
(FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA)

I. INTRODUCTION

The subject of this boundary dispute is the area covered under Case No. 14 of Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre), situated between Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga, Leyte and Barangay Tuyo, Municipality of MacArthur Leyte.

A location map, cadastral map and technical description of the disputed are attached as Exhibit "10" and made integral parts of this Memorandum.

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

1. The Municipality of Mayorga was created pursuant to Republic Act No. 1220 (1955) creating the Municipality of Mayorga which specifically includes the inclusion of Barangay Union as its constituent barrio.
2. And Republic Act No. 1690 (1957) which converted some of its sitios into barangays under the Municipality of Mayorga.
3. The disputed area falls within Case No.14, Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre), surveyed in 1989 and duly recorded with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).
4. The present claim as the respondent in this case is confined to the 38-hectare petition filed by the Municipality of MacArthur's

since the technical description represents only a portion of the originally identified and contested area.

5. Records on files establish that the contested area has been under the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mayorga as early as 1948, when the area was still part of the Municipality of Dulag, Leyte as evidenced by existing tax declarations and property tracers.
6. The Municipality of Mayorga has continuously exercised governmental authority over the disputed area, as evidenced by: implementation of infrastructure projects, delivery of national and local government programs, and presence of registered voters under Barangay Union; residency of barangay officials within the contested area.
7. The present boundary dispute traces back to the cadastral surveys conducted in 1987 to 1990, during which the Municipality of MacArthur was surveyed ahead of the Municipality of Mayorga.
8. During the said process, portion of land historically under Barangay Union, Mayorga were included in the cadastral coverage of MacArthur
9. In response, the Municipality of Mayorga protested the encroachment and filed Case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre), covering an area of approximately 338.5475 hectares considered with the principle that municipal boundaries must be determined by law, natural boundaries, or metes and bounds.
10. However, the technical description under case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre) currently on record with DENR reflects only approximately 38 hectares representing only a portion of the originally identified area, leaving a substantial difference that remains unexplained. Hence, this matter remains unresolved, necessitating the intervention of the Honorable Body.
11. Attempts to settle the matter through consultation, conference, and interlocal government discussion failed to produce an amicable settlement.
12. Consequently, the matter was elevated in the Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) for the resolution pursuant to Section 118 RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

III. ISSUES FOR RESOLUTION

The following issues are submitted for resolution:

1. What is the legally established boundary between the Municipality of Mayorga and Municipality of MacArthur;

2. Whether the disputed area forms part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of MacArthur;
3. Whether the evidence presented by the Municipality of MacArthur sufficiently establishes its claim over the disputed area;
4. Whether the contrary claims of the Municipality of Mayorga are supported by competent legal historical and technical evidence;

IV. LEGAL BASIS OF THE CLAIM

The Municipality of Mayorga's claim to the *res* in dispute is firmly anchored upon an unassailable statutory foundation, granting it *de jure* jurisdiction over the contested territory. Republic Act No. 1220 (1955), the enabling statute that breathed legal existence into the Municipality of Mayorga, categorically and unequivocally annexed Barrio Union as a constituent political subdivision. Said legislative fiat operates *erga omnes* and provides the primordial statutory warrant for Mayorga's territorial integrity. While the adverse party, the Municipality of MacArthur, traces its corporate charter to Executive Order No. 324 (1950), documentary exhibits—specifically, historical tax declarations and property tracers—conclusively evince that the disputed tract was *de facto* and *de jure* administered by the Municipality of Dulag as early as 1948. By operation of law, Mayorga lawfully succeeded to the jurisdictional rights of Dulag over Barrio Union. Furthermore, Republic Act No. 1690 (1957) ratified and fortified this territorial configuration, seamlessly satisfying the rigorous evidentiary thresholds mandated by Sections 118 and 119 of the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) for the resolution of boundary controversies.

A. Statutory Basis

1. Republic Act No. 1220 (1955)

Republic Act No. 1220, entitled "*An Act Creating the Municipality of Mayorga in the Province of Leyte*," expressly included Barrio Union among the constituent barrios of the newly created Municipality of Mayorga. This law constitutes the primary statutory basis of Mayorga's territorial jurisdiction over Barrio Union and all areas historically comprising the barrio.

The existence, contents, and authenticity of said law are established by **Exhibits 7 to 8-A**, consisting of duly authenticated copies of Republic Act No. 1220 and related legislative enactments.

2. Republic Act No. 1690 (1957)

Republic Act No. 1690 further organized and strengthened the territorial structure of the Municipality of Mayorga through the creation and recognition of additional barrios within its jurisdiction. This legislative act confirms the continued governmental recognition of the territorial extent of Mayorga, including areas historically associated with Barrio Union.

The law is likewise evidenced by **Exhibits 7 to 8-A**.

3. Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991), particularly Sections 118

Sections 118 of the Local Government Code provide the governing framework for the resolution of boundary disputes between local government units and require consideration of applicable laws, historical records, technical descriptions, official maps, and competent evidence in determining territorial jurisdiction.

The documentary and testimonial evidence presented by Mayorga fully satisfies these statutory requirements.

4. Applicable Surveying, Cadastral, and Land Administration Laws

The Municipality likewise relies upon cadastral records, technical descriptions, and survey documents prepared and maintained by the DENR and other government agencies pursuant to applicable surveying and land administration laws.

Such records are evidenced by:

- **Exhibits 9 to 9-C** – Mayorga Cadastre, Case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D, and plotted cadastral maps;
- **Exhibit 10** – Technical descriptions of the disputed area certified by DENR;
- **Exhibits 1 to 3-D** – Historical property tracers and tax declaration records.

These official records consistently place the disputed area within the territorial coverage historically administered as part of Barrio Union, Municipality of Mayorga.

B. Jurisprudential Basis

The Supreme Court has consistently held that, in resolving territorial and boundary disputes between local government units, the

primary and controlling consideration is the law creating the municipalities concerned. In *Municipality of Nueva Era, Ilocos Norte v. Municipality of Marcos, Ilocos Norte*, the Court treated the respective municipal charters and creation laws as the controlling "lodestars" in determining territorial jurisdiction. Where the law creating a municipality specifically enumerates the barrios or barangays comprising its territory, the territorial composition of the municipality must be determined from such legal descriptions. A transfer of territory cannot be presumed and must be supported by a valid legislative or executive act expressly effecting such transfer.

Applying this doctrine, Republic Act No. 1220, which created the Municipality of Mayorga, expressly included Barangay Union as part of the municipality's territorial composition. The legislative intent is clear and unequivocal. Conversely, Executive Order No. 324, which created the Municipality of MacArthur, does not include Barangay Union among the barrios or territories comprising the newly created municipality. Following the doctrine in *Municipality of Nueva Era*, the omission of Barangay Union from Executive Order No. 324 is significant and demonstrates that no legislative or executive act transferred Barangay Union from Mayorga to MacArthur. Accordingly, Barangay Union remains within the territorial jurisdiction of Mayorga.

The Supreme Court's ruling in *Municipality of Isabel, Leyte v. Municipality of Merida, Leyte* further reinforces this conclusion and undermines any reliance by MacArthur on tax declarations as proof of territorial ownership. In that case, the Court rejected the argument that tax declarations identifying properties as being located within a particular municipality were sufficient to establish territorial jurisdiction. The Court recognized that tax declarations are not conclusive proof of municipal boundaries and may merely reflect assumptions, administrative practices, or unilateral representations by declarants. As such, tax declarations cannot create, transfer, or modify legally established territorial boundaries.

The Court likewise considered evidence showing that elective officials of Barangay Benabaye resided in the disputed territory. This circumstance strengthened Merida's claim because the Local Government Code requires barangay elective officials to be residents and registered voters of the barangays they serve. While not conclusive by itself, such evidence served as persuasive corroboration of the long-standing recognition and administration of the disputed area as part of Barangay Benabaye, Merida. The Court considered this circumstance together with other indicators of actual territorial affiliation, including the exercise of governmental authority and the participation of residents in the political and civic affairs of the municipality.

The same reasoning applies in the present case. Any tax declarations indicating that properties within the disputed area are situated in MacArthur cannot prevail over the express provisions of Republic Act No. 1220 and Executive Order No. 324, which remain the controlling legal sources in determining municipal boundaries. Tax declarations are merely evidentiary indicia of possession or administrative recognition and do not establish territorial jurisdiction.

On the other hand, the fact that the residents of the disputed area have historically identified themselves as residents of Barangay Union, Mayorga, and have participated in the governmental and electoral affairs of Mayorga, constitutes persuasive evidence of actual territorial affiliation. Likewise, the exercise of authority by the duly elected officials of Barangay Union over the disputed area reinforces the long-standing recognition and administration of the territory as part of Mayorga. Consistent with the reasoning in *Municipality of Isabel v. Municipality of Merida*, these circumstances corroborate the conclusion that the disputed area has historically formed part of Barangay Union, Mayorga.

Taken together, the rulings in *Municipality of Nueva Era v. Municipality of Marcos* and *Municipality of Isabel v. Municipality of Merida* establish that: (1) the laws creating the municipalities are the primary and controlling determinants of territorial jurisdiction; (2) a transfer of territory cannot be presumed and must be supported by a valid legislative or executive act; (3) tax declarations cannot supersede or modify legally established municipal boundaries; and (4) the residency of inhabitants and elective officials, together with their participation in the governmental and electoral affairs of a municipality, constitute persuasive corroborative evidence of actual territorial affiliation. These principles strongly support the conclusion that Barangay Union, including the disputed area, remains an integral part of the Municipality of Mayorga.

C. Administrative Issuances

The Municipality likewise relies upon official certifications, surveys, maps, and governmental records, including:

1. DENR Records

The DENR-certified Mayorga Cadastre and technical descriptions are evidenced by:

- Exhibits 9 to 9-C
- Exhibit 10

These records identify the disputed area as falling within the Mayorga Cadastre.

2. Municipal Assessor Records

Historical tax records, property tracers, certifications, and supporting affidavits are evidenced by:

- **Exhibits 1 to 3-D**
- **Exhibits 11 to 11-000**

These documents demonstrate long-standing administrative treatment of the area as part of Mayorga.

3. COMELEC Records

The Municipality presents:

- **Exhibits 13 to 13-A** – 1971 COMELEC Precinct Map and COMELEC Certification;
- **Exhibits 22 to 22-D** – COMELEC Certifications on registered voters.

These establish that residents of the disputed area have historically participated in elections under Barangay Union, Mayorga.

4. DILG Records

The MLGOO Certification found in **Exhibit 14** confirms the existence of elected barangay officials residing within the disputed area and exercising authority under Barangay Union, Mayorga.

5. Other Government Certifications

Additional certifications relating to social services and local governance include:

- **Exhibit 20** – Certification of 4Ps beneficiaries;
- **Exhibit 21** – Certification of Social Pension beneficiaries.

These demonstrate governmental recognition and administration by Mayorga.

V. TECHNICAL EVIDENCE

In matters of territorial delimitation, the evidentiary weight tilts decisively in favor of the party possessing scientifically verifiable and officially authenticated technical data. Herein, the Municipality of Mayorga tenders superior technical evidence, rigorously corroborated by the official repository of cadastral records, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The thirty-eight (38) hectare *locus in quo* is squarely encompassed within the technical metes and bounds of Case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D, otherwise known as the Mayorga Cadastre.

The instant controversy was precipitated by an anomalous and asynchronous cadastral survey executed between 1987 and 1990, during which the Municipality of MacArthur unlawfully encroached upon the historical domain of Mayorga. To forestall this *ultra vires* cartographic annexation, Mayorga seasonably lodged a formal protest, culminating in the issuance of DENR-certified technical descriptions and plotted cadastral maps that accurately reflect the true bearings and distances. Conversely, the adverse party's technical submissions are bereft of probative value, relying upon unofficial, anachronistic maps that lack definitive technical descriptions and run contrary to approved governmental surveys.

The Municipality presents the following technical evidence:

1. **Case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre) (Exhibits 9 to 9-C);**
2. **DENR-certified technical descriptions (Exhibit 10);**
3. **Plotted cadastral maps (Exhibits 9 to 9-C);**
4. **Historical property tracers and tax declaration records (Exhibits 1 to 3-D);**
5. **Municipal Assessor certifications and supporting land records (Exhibits 11 to 11-000);**
6. **Historical COMELEC maps and certifications (Exhibits 13 to 13-A).**

The technical evidence consistently demonstrates that the disputed territory falls within the area historically identified and administered as part of Barrio Union, Municipality of Mayorga.

VI. NATURAL BOUNDARIES AND PHYSICAL LANDMARKS

Premises considered, the preponderance of legal, historical, and technical evidence impels the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of Leyte to grant formal recognition to the boundary delineated under Case No. 14 of Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre). This officially sanctioned cadastral line represents the sole, legally tenable demarcation that honors the legislative intent of Republic Acts No. 1220 and 1690, thereby preserving the *status quo ante litem* and the territorial integrity of the Municipality of Mayorga. To hold otherwise would be to ratify a cartographic error and sanction an illegal usurpation of municipal territory. Ergo, the Committee on Land Disputes is legally duty-bound to outrightly deny the baseless claims of the Municipality of MacArthur, declare the contested thirty-eight (38) hectare parcel as an inalienable component of Mayorga's jurisdiction, and issue a mandatory directive to all pertinent line agencies to rectify their respective records, thereby curing the

prevailing administrative anomaly and preventing deleterious overlapping taxation.

The Municipality of Mayorga likewise relies on physical, geographical, and man-made indicators reflected in official maps, cadastral surveys, government records, and actual field conditions demonstrating that the disputed area forms part of Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga.

These indicators include:

1. **Existing cadastral boundaries reflected in Case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre)**, as shown in the DENR-certified cadastral map and plotted map of the disputed area (**Exhibits 9 to 9-C**) and the corresponding DENR-certified technical descriptions (**Exhibit 10**), which identify and locate the disputed territory within the Mayorga Cadastre;
2. **Established settlement patterns historically associated with Barangay Union, Mayorga**, as evidenced by the sworn statements of heads of families residing within the disputed area (**Exhibits 12 to 12-QQ**), the sworn statement of Rolinda Velasco Acala (**Exhibit 23**), and the affidavits of landowners attached to the Municipal Assessor's certifications (**Exhibits 11 to 11-000**), all of whom consistently identify themselves as residents of Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga;
3. Sworn Statements of Caridad Gabrino and Glicerio Comora (**Exhibit 24-24A**) proving that the area they have been residing in for more than 70 years, according to their knowledge, is part of Mayorga, even before it became a Municipality.
4. **Physical improvements and public infrastructure constructed, installed, maintained, and supervised by the Municipality of Mayorga within the disputed area**, including:
 - o CCTV systems (**Exhibits 15 to 15-A**);
 - o Streetlights (**Exhibits 16 to 16-D**);
 - o Public Address Systems (**Exhibits 17 to 17-B**);
 - o Solar Streetlights (**Exhibits 18 to 18-D**); and
 - o Jetmatic Pumps (**Exhibits 19 to 19-C**).

These municipal projects constitute visible and continuing manifestations of governmental presence and control over the disputed territory;

5. **Community landmarks and recognized territorial references used by residents and local officials in identifying the area as part of Barangay Union, Mayorga**, as established by the sworn statements of residents (**Exhibits 12 to 12-QQ, Exhibit 23, and Exhibit 24-24A**), the MLGOO Certification regarding elected barangay officials residing within

the disputed area (**Exhibit 14**), and the COMELEC records showing the area's inclusion within the electoral jurisdiction of Barangay Union, Mayorga (**Exhibits 13 to 13-A and 22 to 22-D**);

6. **Geospatial and historical references reflected in government-generated maps and survey records**, including:
 - o The Mayorga Cadastre and cadastral maps (**Exhibits 9 to 9-C**);
 - o DENR-certified technical descriptions (**Exhibit 10**);
 - o Historical property tracers and tax declaration records (**Exhibits 1 to 3-D**);
 - o Historical Municipal Assessor records and certifications (**Exhibits 11 to 11-000**); and
 - o The 1971 COMELEC Precinct Map of Mayorga, Leyte (**Exhibits 13 to 13-A**).

Furthermore, the existence of government beneficiaries residing within the disputed territory, including beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) (**Exhibit 20**) and the Social Pension Program (**Exhibit 21**), further confirms the established community structure and continuing governmental recognition of the area as part of Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga.

Taken together, these physical landmarks, settlement patterns, infrastructure projects, cadastral references, electoral records, and governmental installations constitute substantial evidence that the disputed area has long been geographically, administratively, and functionally integrated with Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga. These physical and geographical indicators are therefore fully consistent with, and strongly supportive of, the Municipality's claim that the disputed territory falls within its lawful territorial jurisdiction.

VII. HISTORICAL JURISDICTION

Jurisprudence dictates that the continuous and uninterrupted exercise of *animus domini*—the intention and actual exertion of sovereign control—constitutes a formidable indicium of territorial jurisdiction. The Municipality of Mayorga has historically and continuously exercised overt acts of governmental dominion over the disputed enclave. Extant public records, encompassing unbroken chains of property tax assessments tracing back to 1948, establish a *prima facie* presumption of jurisdictional control that has not been validly rebutted by the opposing party. Beyond mere taxation, Mayorga has manifested its police power and general welfare mandate through the funding and introduction of substantial civic infrastructure, including closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems,

solar streetlights, jetmatic pumps, and public address systems. Furthermore, the seamless delivery of national social welfare interventions, such as the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and the Social Pension Program, is channeled exclusively through Mayorga's municipal apparatus. Electoral precinct mapping from 1971, corroborated by current COMELEC certifications, irrevocably places the registered electorate of the disputed zone within the political constituency of Barangay Union, Mayorga.

Historical jurisdiction is established through the following exhibits:

1. **Historical property tracers and tax declarations (Exhibits 1 to 3-D);**
2. **Municipal Assessor certifications and old tax records (Exhibits 11 to 11-000);**
3. **Affidavits of landowners (Exhibits 11 to 11-000);**
4. **Sworn statements of heads of families (Exhibits 12 to 12-QQ);**
5. **Sworn Statement of Rolinda Velasco Acala (Exhibit 23);**
6. **Sworn Statement of Caridad Gabrino and Glicerio Comora (Exhibit 24-24A);**
7. **Vintage COMELEC Precinct Map and Certification (Exhibits 13 to 13-A);**
8. **COMELEC voter certifications (Exhibits 22 to 22-D).**

Together, these records demonstrate uninterrupted recognition of the disputed territory as belonging to Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga.

VIII. ACTUAL EXERCISE OF GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY

Indicia of the Exercise of Governmental Authority (*Imperium*)

The exertion of governmental authority by a local government unit is legally manifested through the active and unimpeded discharge of its statutory mandates pursuant to the General Welfare Clause of the Local Government Code. The documentary evidence establishes Mayorga's *imperium* through the following determinative elements:

1. **Execution of Police Power and Civic Infrastructure:** The funding, introduction, and maintenance of vital public works—specifically CCTV systems, public address systems, and streetlighting apparatuses (Exhibits 15 to 19-C)—constitute overt, physical acts of sovereign dominion. These are not mere proprietary investments but constitute the continuous exercise of police power geared toward the preservation of public order, safety, and convenience.
2. **Fulfillment of the General Welfare Mandate:** Mayorga's role as the exclusive administrative conduit for national social amelioration initiatives, notably the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and the Social Pension Program (Exhibits 20 and 21), unequivocally demonstrates the delivery of governmental services to the constituents of the contested enclave.
3. **Jurisdictional and Electoral Subordination:** The seamless integration of the disputed territory into the political and administrative apparatus of Mayorga is absolute. COMELEC precinct mapping, registered voter certifications, and the verified residency of incumbent barangay officials within the disputed zone (Exhibits 13 to 14, 22 to 22-D) legally and politically bind the territory and its electorate to Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga.
4. **Societal Acquiescence to Sovereignty:** The sworn declarations of resident heads of families (Exhibits 12 to 12-QQ, 23) evince a continuous, voluntary, and collective submission to the jurisdictional authority of Mayorga, thereby negating any assertion of a jurisdictional vacuum.

The Legal Construct of Municipal Possession (*Animus Domini*)

In the realm of public law, municipal possession of territory is clearly distinguished from proprietary ownership (*dominium*); it represents the vested right of governance (*imperium*). To establish municipal possession, jurisprudence necessitates both the physical manifestation of administrative presence and the *animus domini*—the unequivocal intent to govern the territory as the lawful sovereign.

The Municipality of Mayorga has actualized this possession by continuously deploying municipal resources, executing public works,

and administering the electoral process within the disputed area. This unbroken chain of administrative possession operates as a public, notorious, and legal declaration of jurisdiction that binds the inhabitants and places the *locus in quo* squarely within the administrative custody of Mayorga, elevating its claim from a mere paper title to a realized sovereign fact.

Jurisprudential

Application:

**Exercise of
Authority to the
Exclusion of All
Others**

Well-entrenched jurisprudence in the jurisdiction of the Philippines dictates that a local government unit that openly, continuously, and exclusively exercises sovereign functions over a territory acquires a vested jurisdictional right that effectively bars dormant or competing claims. Mayorga's governance of the subject territory is held *erga omnes*—against the whole world—and specifically to the total exclusion of the Municipality of MacArthur.

1. **The Doctrine of Effective Control:** The Supreme Court accords paramount evidentiary weight to the *de facto* exercise of governmental powers. Mayorga has actively constructed infrastructure and administered essential social programs in the area (Exhibits 15 to 21), whereas MacArthur has entirely failed to introduce parallel infrastructure or deliver competing governmental services. This unilateral exercise of *imperium* legally establishes that Mayorga governs to the absolute exclusion of all others.
2. **Estoppel by Laches:** Equity aids the vigilant, not those who slumber on their rights (*vigilantibus non dormientibus jura subveniunt*). MacArthur's failure to historically assert its authority, while Mayorga continuously exercised police power, administered elections, and expended public funds within the territory for decades, constitutes equitable laches. MacArthur is legally estopped from disturbing the settled administrative boundaries based upon an asynchronous and belated cartographic survey.
3. **Exclusive Political Integration:** The electorate of the disputed area recognizes no dual sovereignty. By participating in the

electoral processes of Mayorga and submitting to the governance of Mayorga's duly elected barangay officials (Exhibits 13, 14, 22 to 22-D), the constituency categorically repudiates any jurisdictional pretension by MacArthur. This exclusive political subordination constitutes the highest threshold of legal proof that the Municipality of Mayorga reigns as the sole, recognized, and exclusive sovereign entity within the contested domain.

**The
Operationalization
of the General
Welfare Clause as
Incontrovertible
Proof of *Imperium***

The exercise of governmental authority is not established by mere statutory fiat or cartographic lines, but by the tangible, day-to-day operationalization of the General Welfare Clause enshrined in Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991. The Municipality of Mayorga has unequivocally discharged its *parens patriae* mandate over the *locus in quo* by ensuring the preservation of public order, the enhancement of economic prosperity, and the promotion of social justice.

The exclusive channeling of national social amelioration programs—specifically the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and the Social Pension Program (Exhibits 20 and 21)—through the municipal apparatus of Mayorga is legally dispositive. It irrefutably demonstrates that the National Government, through its line agencies, officially recognizes Mayorga as the sole, legitimate administrative conduit for the delivery of sovereign obligations to the residents of the disputed thirty-eight (38) hectare territory. The failure of the Municipality of MacArthur to introduce parallel or competing social welfare interventions underscores its total absence of administrative *animus* and its complete abandonment of any purported jurisdictional duties.

**Public Works as
Indicia of Absolute
Dominion**

In the adjudication of municipal boundary disputes, the permanent affixation of civic infrastructure serves as an indelible badge of territorial jurisdiction. The Municipality of Mayorga has not merely patrolled the contested area; it has physically annexed the territory into its municipal grid through substantial, continuous, and open fiscal expenditures.

The strategic installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems (Exhibits 15 to 15-A) and public address systems (Exhibits 17 to 17-B) constitutes an active, enduring exercise of the municipality's police power, designed to secure the general safety and maintain public order within its *de facto* borders.

The deployment of solar streetlights (Exhibits 18 to 18-D) and traditional streetlighting systems (Exhibits 16 to 16-D) evinces Mayorga's unwavering commitment to infrastructure development and public convenience.

The sinking of jetmatic water pumps (Exhibits 19 to 19-C) fulfills the fundamental municipal obligation to provide essential basic services under Section 17 of the Local Government Code.

These structural improvements are not transient; they are permanent sovereign footprints. By continuously appropriating public funds for the sustained development of the *res*, Mayorga has perfected its municipal possession. Conversely, MacArthur's utter lack of proprietary or infrastructural footprint within the zone renders its cartographic claims hollow and legally unavailing.

Suffrage and
Political
Subordination: The
Irrevocable
Estoppel in Pais

Jurisprudence recognizes that the act of suffrage is the most profound expression of political allegiance and territorial integration. The unbroken historical participation of the disputed area's residents in the electoral processes of Mayorga constitutes an irrevocable *estoppel in pais* against any competing sovereign claims.

1. The 1971 COMELEC Precinct Map and corresponding certifications (Exhibits 13 to 13-A) establish a decades-long,

state-sanctioned recognition of the territory as an integral electoral component of Mayorga.

2. Contemporary COMELEC voter certifications (Exhibits 22 to 22-D) reaffirm that the contemporary electorate continues to be legally registered and politically subordinated to Barangay Union, Mayorga.
3. Most compellingly, the MLGOO Certification (Exhibit 14) verifies that duly elected barangay officials actually reside within the disputed area, exercising their statutory mandates strictly under the banner of the Municipality of Mayorga.

This absolute political and administrative integration means the residents suffer from no split political loyalties. The inhabitants, through their sworn declarations (Exhibits 12 to 12-QQ, Exhibit 23) and their electoral conduct, have continuously recognized Mayorga as their sole sovereign. MacArthur cannot now retroactively subjugate an electorate that has been legally and democratically integrated into Mayorga for over half a century.

The Jurisprudential Anathema of Concurrent Territorial Jurisdiction

Doctrinal precepts in Philippine local government law dictate that two distinct municipal corporations cannot concurrently exercise *imperium* (sovereign governmental control) over the exact same territorial jurisdiction. The effective, continuous, and notorious exercise of governmental authority by one municipality necessarily operates to the total exclusion of all others.

Because Mayorga has continuously exercised police power, dispensed social services, levied property taxes, and administered elections over the contested territory without any interruption or interloperment by MacArthur, Mayorga's jurisdiction has crystallized into an absolute, exclusionary legal right.

MacArthur's historical silence and complete administrative paralysis over the area is fatal to its cause. By standing idly by while Mayorga expended municipal funds and governed the territory openly and notoriously, MacArthur has committed equitable laches. The law does not protect those who sleep on their rights. MacArthur is legally,

equitably, and irrevocably estopped from disturbing Mayorga's settled administrative boundaries based merely upon a highly contested, asynchronous cadastral survey executed decades after Mayorga had already perfected its municipal possession.

IX. ANALYSIS OF EVIDENCE PRESENTED BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR, LEYTE

The Municipality of Mayorga respectfully submits that the evidence presented by the Municipality of MacArthur is insufficient to establish territorial jurisdiction over the disputed area and fails to overcome the substantial legal, historical, technical, and administrative evidence supporting Mayorga's claim.

First, MacArthur has failed to identify any legislative or executive issuance expressly transferring Barangay Union or any portion thereof from Mayorga to MacArthur. The Supreme Court, in *Municipality of Nueva Era, Ilocos Norte v. Municipality of Marcos, Ilocos Norte*, emphasized that the laws creating municipalities are the primary and controlling determinants of territorial jurisdiction. Republic Act No. 1220 expressly included Barrio Union as a constituent barrio of the Municipality of Mayorga. In contrast, Executive Order No. 324, creating the Municipality of MacArthur, does not include Barrio Union among its component territories. Significantly, MacArthur has not presented any subsequent law, executive issuance, or governmental act effecting a transfer of Barangay Union from Mayorga to MacArthur. Absent such authority, its claim lacks legal foundation.

Second, the documentary evidence relied upon by MacArthur does not establish municipal jurisdiction over the disputed area. To the extent that MacArthur relies upon tax declarations, property records, or similar documents indicating that certain properties are located within MacArthur, such evidence is not conclusive proof of territorial jurisdiction. As held by the Supreme Court in *Municipality of Isabel, Leyte v. Municipality of Merida, Leyte*, tax declarations may reflect administrative practice, assumptions of declarants, or assessment records, but they do not establish municipal boundaries and cannot supersede the provisions of law defining territorial jurisdiction. At most, such documents constitute evidence of taxation or administrative assessment; they do not create, transfer, or modify municipal territory.

Third, MacArthur has failed to present competent technical evidence demonstrating that the disputed area lawfully falls within its territorial jurisdiction. The Municipality of Mayorga, on the other hand, presented DENR-certified technical descriptions, cadastral records,

and plotted maps under Case No. 14, Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre), which specifically identify and locate the disputed area. If MacArthur relies solely on maps, sketches, or survey references unsupported by corresponding technical descriptions, official cadastral records, or DENR certifications, such evidence cannot prevail over the official government records submitted by Mayorga.

Fourth, MacArthur has not demonstrated continuous and exclusive exercise of governmental authority over the disputed area. It presented no substantial evidence showing that it administered local government services, maintained public infrastructure, conducted barangay governance, supervised community affairs, or exercised political authority within the disputed territory. In contrast, Mayorga established through documentary and testimonial evidence that it has continuously exercised governmental functions in the area through the installation and maintenance of public infrastructure, implementation of government programs, delivery of social services, conduct of electoral processes, and supervision through duly elected Barangay Union officials.

Fifth, MacArthur's position is contradicted by official records from various government agencies. The COMELEC certifications and precinct records demonstrate that residents of the disputed area have historically participated in elections under Barangay Union, Mayorga. The MLGOO certification confirms that elected barangay officials of Barangay Union reside within and exercise authority over the disputed territory. Likewise, records relating to social welfare beneficiaries and municipal projects consistently show governmental administration by Mayorga. These independent governmental records are inconsistent with MacArthur's assertion that the disputed area falls within its territorial jurisdiction.

Finally, even assuming *arguendo* that MacArthur possesses documents indicating some form of administrative recognition of the disputed area, such documents cannot prevail over the combined force of: (a) the statutory provisions of Republic Act No. 1220; (b) the DENR-certified cadastral records and technical descriptions; (c) the COMELEC and DILG records establishing political and administrative integration with Mayorga; and (d) the long-standing and continuous exercise of governmental authority by the Municipality of Mayorga. The totality of the evidence overwhelmingly supports the conclusion that the disputed territory forms part of Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga.

Accordingly, the evidence presented by the Municipality of MacArthur fails to establish either a legal basis or a factual basis sufficient to defeat the superior claim of the Municipality of Mayorga.

X. TABLE OF EVIDENCE

EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE
1-3D	History tracer of some presented Tax Declaration by LGU MacArthur from the Provincial Assessor's Office	To establish the historical chain of ownership, taxation, and administrative records affecting the disputed area and to demonstrate that the properties originated from lands historically recognized under the jurisdiction of Mayorga (formerly Dulag).
Exhibit 4-4-J	Counter Sworn Statements against the presented Sworn Statements of LGU MacArthur	To rebut and discredit the factual assertions contained in the sworn statements presented by the Municipality of MacArthur and to clarify the actual territorial affiliation of the disputed area.
Exhibit 5-5-A	Death Certificates of Consolacion Abrahan and Camilo Flores	To establish the identity, residence, and historical connection of the deceased persons to Barangay Union, Mayorga, and to corroborate the historical occupancy of the disputed area.
Exhibit 6-6-C	Counter Sworn Statements of Julie Basibas and Jomar Flores and other Taxpayers	To refute claims of MacArthur regarding territorial jurisdiction and to affirm that the affiants recognize and have historically recognized the disputed area as part of Barangay Union, Mayorga.
Exhibit 7-8-A	Duly authenticated copy of Republic Act No. 1220, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE	To establish the statutory basis of Mayorga's territorial jurisdiction and to prove the legislative

	MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA IN THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE and Republic Act No. 1690, entitled: AN ACT CREATING CERTAIN BARRIOS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA IN THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE	inclusion of Barangay Union within the Municipality of Mayorga.
Exhibit 9-9-C	Cadastral Map of the Contested Area with Case No. 14 of Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre) duly certified by DENR, Chief Surveys Division on October 6, 2006, and a plotted map based on the bearings and distances of the contested area indicated in the technical descriptions	To establish the technical location, boundaries, and cadastral coverage of the disputed area and to demonstrate that the same falls within the Mayorga Cadastre.
Exhibit 10	Technical descriptions of the Contested Area duly certified by DENR	To establish the precise metes and bounds of the disputed area and provide official technical evidence of its location within the Mayorga Cadastre.
Exhibit 11-11-000	Written certification of the Municipal Assessor with old Tax Declarations as to the territorial jurisdiction over the disputed area with Affidavit of some of the Landowners	To establish long-standing administrative recognition, assessment, and treatment of the disputed area as part of the territorial jurisdiction of Mayorga.
Exhibit 12-12-QQ	Sworn Statements by the Head of the Families residing in the disputed Area	To establish actual residency, community recognition, and historical identification of the disputed area as part of Barangay Union, Mayorga.
Exhibit 13-13-A	Vintage Map of COMELEC Precincts of	To establish the historical inclusion of the disputed area within the electoral

	Mayorga Leyte, 1971 and COMELEC Certification	jurisdiction of Barangay Union, Mayorga.
Exhibit 14	MLGOO Certification on 3 elected Brgy. Officials residing in the disputed area	To establish that elected officials residing in the disputed area serve Barangay Union, Mayorga, thereby evidencing actual political and governmental jurisdiction.
Exhibit 15-15-A	Certification and Pictures of installed CCTVs in the disputed area	To establish the exercise of governmental authority and police power by the Municipality of Mayorga within the disputed area.
Exhibit 16-16-D	Certification and Pictures of installed Streetlights in the disputed area	To establish the construction and maintenance of public infrastructure by Mayorga within the disputed area as evidence of actual jurisdiction and governance.
Exhibit 17-17-B	Certification and Pictures of installed Public Address System in the disputed area	To establish the provision of public services and exercise of governmental authority by Mayorga within the disputed are
Exhibit 18-18-D	Certification and Pictures of installed Solar Streetlights in the disputed area	To establish continuing infrastructure development and governmental presence of Mayorga within the disputed area.
Exhibit 19-19-C	Certification and Pictures of installed Jet Matic Pumps in the disputed area	To establish the delivery of basic public services and exercise of municipal functions by Mayorga within the disputed area.
Exhibit 20	Municipal Link Certification of 4Ps beneficiaries in the disputed Area	To establish governmental recognition of residents of the disputed area as

		constituents of Mayorga and to demonstrate delivery of national government services through Mayorga.
Exhibit 21	MSWDO Certification of Social Pension beneficiaries in the disputed area	To establish governmental recognition and administration of social welfare services by Mayorga within the disputed area.
Exhibit 22-22-D	COMELEC Certification of the registered voters in the area	To establish that residents of the disputed area are registered voters of Barangay Union, Mayorga, demonstrating political and electoral integration with the Municipality of Mayorga.
Exhibit 23	Sworn Statement of Rolinda Velasco Acala	To establish personal knowledge regarding the history, residency, possession, and recognition of the disputed area as part of Barangay Union, Municipality of Mayorga.
Exhibit 24-24A	Sworn Statement of Caridad Gabrino and Glicerio Comora	To prove that the area they are residing in, according to their knowledge is part of Mayorga, even before it became a Municipality.

XI. PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

FINDINGS OF FACT

Based upon the exhaustive evaluation of the documentary, technical, and historical evidence formally offered and admitted into the records, the following factual antecedents are established by a clear preponderance of evidence:

**The Precise
Technical
Delineation and
Cartographic
Certainty of the
*Locus In Quo***

The disputed territory is not a nebulous geographic abstraction but a specifically identifiable, thirty-eight (38) hectare landmass that is entirely capable of exact technical delineation. The geospatial metes and bounds of this specific area have been definitively established, surveyed, and officially recorded under Case No. 14 of Cad. 1017-D, officially known as the Mayorga Cadastre. The technical descriptions and plotted cadastral maps submitted by the Municipality of Mayorga bear the official certification of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), endowing them with the presumption of regularity and official cartographic certainty. In stark contrast, the natural boundaries and physical landmarks on the ground perfectly correspond with the technical descriptions relied upon by Mayorga.

**The Overwhelming
Preponderance of
Corroborative
Historical and
Administrative
Evidence**

The Municipality of Mayorga possesses a superior, unbroken, and unimpeachable chain of legal, technical, historical, and administrative evidence supporting its jurisdictional claim. The documentary matrix traces the administrative custody of the land back to 1948—prior to the creation of the Municipality of MacArthur in 1950—when the area was under the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Dulag, from which Mayorga was lawfully carved out. This unbroken historical chain is corroborated by vintage property tracers, old tax declarations, and the sworn affidavits of landowners and resident heads of families who have historically recognized their inclusion in Barangay Union, Mayorga.

**The Continuous,
Uninterrupted, and
Exclusive Exercise
of *Imperium***

The Municipality of Mayorga has continuously, notoriously, and exclusively exercised actual governmental authority over the contested territory. This physical and administrative dominion is manifested through the permanent installation and maintenance of municipal public works, including CCTV systems, solar streetlights, jetmatic pumps, and public address systems. Furthermore, Mayorga serves as the sole recognized administrative conduit for the delivery of national social welfare interventions, specifically the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and the Social Pension Program, to the residents of the disputed area. The area is also thoroughly integrated into Mayorga's electoral administration, as evidenced by a 1971 COMELEC Precinct Map, contemporary voter certifications, and the verified residency of duly elected barangay officials who govern the area under the banner of Mayorga.

**The Fatal
Evidentiary
Insufficiency of the
Adverse Claim**

The evidentiary submissions tendered by the opposing party, the Municipality of MacArthur, are fundamentally defective, legally insufficient, and fail entirely to overcome the substantial evidence presented by Mayorga. The documents relied upon by MacArthur lack definitive technical descriptions that could establish ownership or jurisdiction, and the maps they submitted are unofficial, outdated, and inconsistent with approved government records. Moreover, MacArthur is entirely unable to demonstrate any continuous or exclusive exercise of governmental authority over the disputed thirty-eight (38) hectare zone.

**Declaration of
Absolute *De Jure*
and *De Facto*
Territorial
Jurisdiction**

By direct operation of statutory law—specifically Republic Act No. 1220 (1955) and Republic Act No. 1690 (1957)—the disputed area forms an integral and inalienable part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mayorga. Republic Act No. 1220 explicitly included Barrio Union as a constituent barrio of the newly created municipality, a legislative fiat that possesses supreme hierarchical authority.

Therefore, the erroneous, asynchronous cadastral survey conducted between 1987 and 1990, which temporarily and unlawfully encroached upon Mayorga's territory, cannot supersede, implicitly repeal, or diminish the express jurisdictional boundaries established by an Act of Congress.

The territorial claim of the Municipality of Mayorga strictly complies with and fully satisfies the rigorous evidentiary and procedural parameters prescribed by Sections 118 and 119 of the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) for the resolution of boundary disputes. Mayorga's claim is unequivocally supported by applicable statutory law, authenticated technical evidence, unbroken historical records, and the actual, exclusive exercise of governmental authority (*imperium*).

**Application of
Equitable Estoppel
and the Exclusion
of Competing
Claims**

Because the Municipality of Mayorga has continuously exercised police power, dispensed social services, levied property taxes, and administered elections over the contested territory to the exclusion of all others, its jurisdiction has crystallized into an absolute legal right. The Municipality of MacArthur, having failed to historically exercise governmental authority or introduce definitive technical evidence to the contrary, is legally and equitably estopped from asserting an *ex post facto* claim over the territory.

Consequently, the Honorable Committee on Land Disputes of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte is legally duty-bound to formally recognize the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mayorga over the disputed thirty-eight (38) hectare territory and must completely deny the claims of the Municipality of MacArthur. To cure the prevailing administrative anomaly and permanently enjoin the detrimental practice of overlapping taxation, the Committee must declare the area under Case No. 14 of Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre) as the lawful boundary. Furthermore, a mandatory directive must be issued compelling all appropriate national and local government line agencies—including the DENR and the Provincial Assessor—to immediately undertake the necessary correction of their

official records to conform to this recognized and legally binding municipal boundary.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The disputed area forms part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mayorga.
2. The claim of the Municipality of Mayorga is supported by applicable law, technical evidence, historical records, and actual exercise of governmental authority.
3. The Committee on Land Disputes should recognize the Municipality's jurisdiction over the disputed territory.

XII. RELIEF SOUGHT

1. Deny the claim of the Municipality of MacArthur, Leyte.
2. Declared that the disputed area under Case No. 14 of Cad. 1017-D (Mayorga Cadastre) forms part of the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Mayorga, Leyte.
3. DIRECT the appropriate government agencies to undertake necessary correction of official records and prevent overlapping taxation and administrative confusion.
4. Other reliefs just and equitable under the circumstances are likewise prayed for.

Respectfully Submitted this July 22, 2026.

By:


HON. ALEXANDER SALVADOR DE PAZ
MUNICIPAL MAYOR OF MAYORGA
Authorized Representative

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Republic of the Philippines)
Dulag, Leyte) S.S.

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public for and in the City of Tacloban, this 22nd day of July 2026, personally appeared the following:

Name	ID No.
ALEXANDER SALVADOR DE PAZ	Nat'l ID No. 2538-0216-2815-2687

known to me to be the same person who executed the foregoing **FINAL MEMORANDA**, consisting of twenty-seven (27) pages including the page on which this acknowledgment is written, who acknowledged to me that the same is his true, free, and voluntary act and deed.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL, at the place for and first above-written.

Doc. No. 708;
Page No. 46;
Book No. II;
Series of 2026.



ATTY. BALVIN C. QUILLOTES
Notary Public for Tacloban City, Leyte
Notarial Commission No. 01295561
Until December 31, 2026
Roll of Attorneys
ATTC No. 586293 / 65 to 66 Chapter
PTTC No. 01295561
M. T. L. Quillotes, Jr.
Quillotes, Jr. & Co. Inc.
Zone 3, Brgy. Asagro, Dulag, Leyte



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 43RD REGULAR SESSION
OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF
MAYORGA, LEYTE HELD AT THE SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE
BUILDING MAYORGA, LEYTE ON JUNE 22, 2026.

PRESENT:

HON. JAIRO C. BELTRAN	- SB Member/Floor Leader
HON. MARCIANO Z. ALICANDO	- SB Member
HON. MARK CLOYD M. TAN-PIENGCO	- SB Member/Pro-Tempore
HON. RONNIE S. SABALLA	- SB Member
HON. CRISANTO C. CABAObAO, JR.	- SB Member
HON. JOSEPH A. AMANTE	- SB Member
HON. HENRY B. LAGARTO	- SB Member
HON. ISRAEL C. LUMPAS	- SB Member
HON. NIÑA A. CADUCIO	- PnSK President Ex-Officio Member

ABSENT:

HON. SERGIO I. ZABALA	- Municipal Vice Mayor
HON. SOTERO G. ABRAHAN, JR.	- LnBP President Ex-Officio Member

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-69

**“A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING HONORABLE
ALEXANDER SALVADOR DE PAZ, MUNICIPAL MAYOR
OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA, LEYTE, TO
SIGN, EXECUTE, VERIFY, CERTIFY, AND FILE ALL
PLEADINGS, MOTIONS, MANIFESTATIONS,
AFFIDAVITS, CERTIFICATIONS, VERIFICATIONS,
MEMORANDA, APPEALS, AND OTHER LEGAL
DOCUMENTS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION WITH THE
ONGOING BOUNDARY DISPUTE CASE BETWEEN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF MAYORGA AND THE
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR, PROVINCE OF
LEYTE.”**

*Sponsor: Hon. Sergio I. Zabala
Co-Sponsors: Hon. Jairo C. Beltran
Hon. Marciano Z. Alicando
Hon. Mark Cloyd M. Tan-piengco
Hon. Ronnie S. Saballa
Hon. Crisanto C. Cabaobao, Jr.
Hon. Joseph Amante
Hon. Henry B. Lagarto
Hon. Israel C. Lumpas
Hon. Sotero G. Abraham, Jr.
Hon. Niña A. Caducio*

HANZEL I. CREBILLO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

HON. MARCIANO Z. ALICANDO
SB Member

HON. MARK CLOYD M. TAN-PIENGCO
SB Member/Pro Tempore

HON. RONNIE S. SABALLA
SB Member

HON. CRISANTO C. CABAObAO, JR.
SB Member

HON. JOSEPH A. AMANTE
SB Member

HON. HENRY B. LAGARTO
SB Member

HON. ISRAEL C. LUMPAS
SB Member

HON. NIÑA A. CADUCIO
PnSK President/Ex-Officio Member

APPROVED:

HON. JAIRO C. BELTRAN
SB Member
Temporary Presiding Officer


HANZEL L. CREBILLO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


HON. MARCIANO Z. ALICANDO
SB Member


HON. MARK CLOYD M. TAN-PIENGCO
SB Member/Pro Tempore


HON. RONNIE S. SABALLA
SB Member


HON. CRISANTO C. CABAObAO, JR.
SB Member

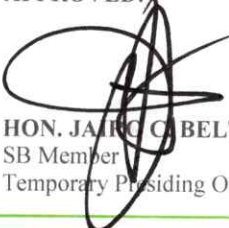

HON. JOSEPH A. AMANTE
SB Member


HON. HENRY B. LAGARTO
SB Member


HON. ISRAEL C. LUMPAS
SB Member


HON. NIÑA A. CADUCIO
PSK President/Ex-Officio Member

APPROVED:


HON. JAIME C. BELTRAN
SB Member
Temporary Presiding Officer

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Mayorga is presently involved in an ongoing boundary dispute case with the Municipality of MacArthur, Province of Leyte, involving the determination of the common territorial boundary and the adjudication of the contested area;

WHEREAS, the protection and preservation of the territorial integrity, jurisdiction, governmental authority, and patrimonial interests of the Municipality of Mayorga are matters of paramount public interest that require the timely and efficient prosecution and defense of the Municipality's legal position;

WHEREAS, various pleadings, motions, manifestations, affidavits, certifications, verifications, memoranda, appeals, and other legal documents are required to be executed and filed from time to time before the appropriate court, administrative agency, quasi-judicial body, or other tribunal having jurisdiction over the case;

WHEREAS, Section 444 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, designates the Municipal Mayor as the Chief Executive of the Municipality and empowers the Mayor to represent the Local Government Unit in all its official transactions and to ensure that its interests are adequately protected;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Bayan finds it necessary and appropriate to expressly authorize the Municipal Mayor to sign, execute, verify, certify, and file all legal documents necessary for the effective representation of the Municipality throughout the proceedings.

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of the **Honorable Mark Cloyd M. Tan-piengco**, duly seconded by the **Hon. Ronnie S. Saballa**; be it

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Mayorga, Leyte, in session duly assembled, to authorize, as it hereby authorizes, the Honorable Alexander Salvador De Paz, Municipal Mayor to sign, execute, verify, certify, acknowledge, and file, on behalf of the Municipality of Mayorga, all pleadings, motions, manifestations, affidavits, certifications, verifications, position papers, memoranda, appeals, petitions, comments, rejoinders, judicial affidavits, documentary submissions, and all other legal documents and instruments that may be required or deemed necessary in connection with the ongoing boundary dispute case between the Municipality of Mayorga and the Municipality of MacArthur, Province of Leyte.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the authority herein granted shall include the execution of:

1. Verification and Certification Against Forum Shopping;
2. Affidavits and sworn statements;
3. Special powers or written authorities required by procedural rules for the conduct of the litigation;
4. Certifications, authorizations, and other documents required by any court, administrative agency, quasi-judicial body, or government office having jurisdiction over the proceedings; and

5. Such other pleadings and legal instruments as may be necessary to effectively prosecute, defend, protect, and preserve the interests of the Municipality of Mayorga in the said boundary dispute.

ATTESTED:


HON. MARCIANO Z. ALICANDO
SB Member


HON. MARK CLOYD M. TAN-PIENGCO
SB Member/Pro Tempore


HON. RONNIE S. SABALLA
SB Member


HON. CRISANTO C. CABAObAO, JR.
SB Member

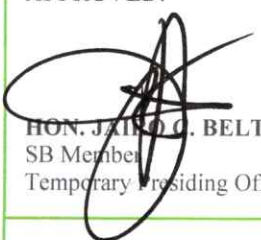

HON. JOSEPH A. AMANTE
SB Member


HON. HENRY B. LAGARTO
SB Member


HON. ISRAEL C. LUMPAS
SB Member


HON. NIÑA A. CADUCIO
PrSK President/Ex-Officio Member

APPROVED:


HON. JAIRO C. BELTRAN
SB Member
Temporary Presiding Officer

RESOLVED FURTHERMORE, that nothing in this Resolution shall be construed as authorizing the Municipal Mayor to enter into any compromise agreement, amicable settlement, waiver, quitclaim, admission against interest, relinquishment of territorial claim, or any act that would substantially affect or prejudice the Municipality's rights over the disputed territory without the prior authority and approval of the Sangguniang Bayan through an appropriate Resolution.

RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution be furnished to the Office of the Municipal Mayor and all other concerned offices and agencies for their information, guidance, and appropriate action.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. JUNE 22, 2026

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Resolution which was duly approved by the Sangguniang Bayan during its Regular Session held on June 22, 2026.


HANZEL L. CREBILLO
Secretary to the Sanggunian