

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 326

AMENDING SECTION 6 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 856 AND  
REORGANIZING AND REACTIVATING THE PROVINCIAL/  
CITY COMMITTEES ON JUSTICE CREATED THEREUNDER.

WHEREAS, congestion and overcrowding continue to be a problem in local jails brought about by slow disposition of cases in certain instances, and the inability of those apprehended to secure their provisional liberty;

WHEREAS, Provincial/City Committees were created under Executive Order No. 856 precisely to help decongest local jails and to ensure, among others, that equal, prompt and humanized dispensation of justice is made available to all, especially to the poor and the helpless;

WHEREAS, the Provincial/City Committees on Justice have become moribund and inactive, with the change in the political structure of the government brought about by the ratification of the 1987 Constitution, doing away with the Office of the Prime Minister which formerly exercised supervision over said committees; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to reactivate once more said Provincial/City Committees on Justice to help alleviate the living conditions of detainees and prisoners and decongest local jails;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CORAZON C. AQUINO, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Section 6 of Executive Order No. 856 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 6. Supervision. The Provincial/City Committees on Justice shall be under the supervision of the Secretary of Justice. quarterly accomplishment reports shall be submitted to the Office of the Secretary of Justice."

"SECTION 2. This Order shall take effect immediately."

Done in the City of Manila, this 1st day of June in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and eighty-eight.

*Armando B. Aquino*

By the President:

*Catalino Macaraig, Jr.*  
CATALINO MACARAIG, JR.  
Executive Secretary