

SENATE
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RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid**

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO
THE FAMILIES OF THE FIVE FALLEN RESCUERS OF BULACAN WHO
SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTY
DURING THE FLOODS BROUGHT BY SUPER TYPHOON KARDING AND
COMMENDING THEM FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY COURAGE AND HEROISM

WHEREAS, part of the mandate of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRRMC) of Bulacan is to "take the lead in preparing for, responding to and recovering from the effects of any disaster..", rescuing citizens in distress due to the effects of natural catastrophes is part of that job, pursuant to Republic Act No. 10121;

WHEREAS, on September 26, at around 4:00AM, a five-man team comprised by Jerson Resureccion, George Agustin, Troy Justin Agustin, Narciso Calayag Jr. and Marby Bartolome of the Bulacan PDRRMC were deployed to the area of Sitio Galas in Barangay Kamias, in the Municipality of San Miguel to respond to calls of distress;

WHEREAS, due to the heavy torrential rains brought by Super Typhoon Karding, the municipality of San Miguel, like many other areas, was left flooded with ravaging waters as high as six to seven feet, submerging most of the homes of residents leaving many at high risk of drowning;

WHEREAS, at around 3 o'clock in the morning, in response to the distress calls received by the PDRRMC from the residents of Sitio Galas, they immediately mapped out the area and deployed the five-man team to conduct a search and rescue operation;

WHEREAS, due to the extreme conditions, the headquarters unfortunately lost all communications with the Team at around 4:30AM, leaving them helpless amidst the peak of the super typhoon in their area where signal no. 5 was raised;

WHEREAS, according to the local police who were also on the ground at the time, eyewitnesses claimed that the rescuers were in the middle of their operation and coasting the flooded area in search of stranded residents when a wall where they nearby suddenly collapsed and in turn pushed their boat into the vicious current;

WHEREAS, the strength of the current proved to be too much for their boat and the rescuers tragically perished in the line of duty;

WHEREAS, the courage, bravery, humanitarian spirit and selflessness of Jerson Resureccion, George Agustin, Troy Justin Agustin, Narciso Calayag Jr. and Marby Bartolome of the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council should be held in the highest regard, paying the ultimate sacrifice in the name of duty;

WHEREAS, together with the other members of our rescue forces who have perished or survived, but who all risk their lives to save their fellow men deserve all the accolades the Filipino nation can offer;

WHEREAS, their heroism embodies their love of country and love of their people, and their noble expression of valor and gallantry serve as an inspiration to their comrades not only in the field of rescue, but also in the field of service to the people;

WHEREAS, the ultimate sacrifice of the five PDRRMC personnel in service of their people merit the admiration, respect and gratitude not only of the persons they have saved but of the entire country as well;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, for the Senate of the Philippines to commend and honor the lives of Jerson Resureccion, George Agustin, Troy Justin Agustin, Narciso Calayag Jr. and Marby Bartolome of the Bulacan PDRRMC for the heroic performance of their duties in rescuing victims of Super Typhoon Karding in Bulacan, sacrificing their own lives in the line of duty, and exhibiting the heroism of Filipinos.

Adopted,


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator