

## Republic of the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Directors

Environmental Management Bureau

Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Biodiversity Management Bureau

FROM : The Undersecretary

Finance, Information Systems, and Climate Change

SUBJECT : Proposed Thesis Topics on Environmental Laws

DATE: September 24, 2021

This refers to the attached letter-request from Mr. Mikhail A. Macasaet, student of Ateneo Law School, on the possible thesis topics related to the laws being implemented by the DENR. May we request you to provide Mr. Macasaet areas for policy review which may help in improving existing implementation of laws and policies of your respective offices.

Please submit your suggestions directly to Mr. Macasaet with his email address, <u>mikhail.macasaet@obf.ateneo.edu</u>, copy furnished the Office of the undersigned (ccc@denr.gov.ph) on or before 30 September 2021.

ATTY. ANALIZA REBUELTA-TEH

cc: Mr. Mikhail A. Macasaet

mikhail.macasaet@obf.ateneo.edu

Let's Go Green!

MEMO NO. 2021 641



## Ateneo de Manila University School of Law

Atty. Analiza Rebuelta – Teh Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change Department of Environment and Natural Resources 5 Visayas Ave, Diliman, Quezon City, 1128 Metro Manila

Dear Atty. Teh,

I am Mikhail Amiel A. Macasaet. I am currently a 3rd year law student from the Ateneo de Manila Law School. The school requires students to submit their thesis topics and finish their thesis outlines by the end of the first semester of their 3rd year.

Thesis topics should be novel and should not be similar to thesis topics that are already in the school's archives. Based on the archives, previous students usually write about gaps in existing laws that are not addressed by other laws, implementing rules, or jurisprudence, among others. Some students wrote about proposing amendments to certain laws that would further enable such laws to achieve their purpose. For example, a previous student's thesis discussed who would be criminally liable when artificial intelligence or bots, representing a person or a company, commit a criminal act.

In line with the foregoing, I was hoping to look into potential thesis topics related to matters that the DENR is handling. Is the DENR conducting research to address gaps in laws, jurisprudence, or other legal matters that can affect operations? Are there any proposed amendments to certain laws or pending bills? Is the DENR aware of any laws, jurisprudence, or rules that do not serve its purpose or go against the Constitution or other laws?

Perhaps I may be able to derive my thesis topic from your responses and create a thesis that may be useful to your department.

I am looking forward to your response.

Thank you very much and stay safe!

Respectfully,

Mikhail A. Macasaet