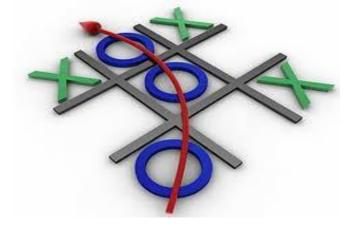
Includes 2016, 2017, 2018 up to February 2019 cases

## Election Law Reviewer

Alberto C. Agra
Ateneo Law School

May 13, 2019

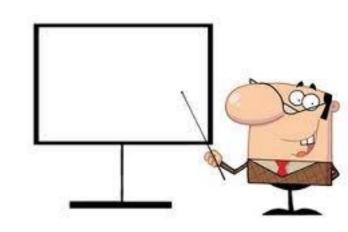
#### **Election Laws**



- 1. 1987 Constitution
- Omnibus Election Code (B.P. 881)
- 3. Automated Election Law (R.A. 9369 amending R.A 8436)
- 4. Synchronized Elections Act (R.A. 7166)
- 5. 1991 Local Government Code (R.A. 7160)
- 6. Initiative and Referendum (R.A. 6735)
- 7. Party-List System Act (R.A. 7941)

- 8. Fair Election Act (R.A. 9006)
- 9. Voter's Registration Act of 1996 (R.A 8189)
- 10. Overseas Absentee Voting (R.A.10590 amending R.A. 9189)
- 11. Biometrics (R.A. 10367)
- 12. Lone Candidate in Special Elections (R.A. 8295)
- 13. Official Sample Ballots (R.A.7004)
- 14. Citizenship Retention and Reacquisition Act (R.A. 9225)

#### **Topics for Discussion**



- —1) Philippine Elections
- 2) Commission on Elections and Election Tribunals
- 3) Voters and VoterRegistration
- 4) Elective Officials and Candidates
- —4.1) Party-List System
- —5) Campaign

- 6) Contributions and Expenditures
- 7) Postponement and Failure of Elections
- —8) Automated Elections
- —9) Pre-Proclamation Cases
- —10) Post-Proclamation Cases
- —11) Election Offenses
- 12) Dispute Resolution

### 1) Philippine Elections



- General
- Free
- Direct
- Equal
- Secret
- Choices (Person & Policy)
- Automated (or Manual)
- All Levels
- Synchronized conduct
- Regular

- Plurality Formula (and proportional representation)
- Regulated by Law
- Supervised by Comelec
- Clean, Honest, Orderly,
   Peaceful and Free (CHOPFE)
- Regulated Contributions and Expenditures
- Participated in by Political Parties
- Public Disclosures



- Independent 7-Person Constitutional Body (administrative agency, public office, 2 levels, fixed term, permanent appointments, Chairperson as Head of Agency)
- Plenary authority to decide all questions affecting elections except the question as to the right to vote (qualifications); commits grave abuse of discretion when it dismisses an initiative petition on the ground that there were no funds allocated for the purpose; has the power to determine whether the propositions in an initiative petition are within the powers of a concerned *sanggunian* to enact (2017)
- Enjoys **Fiscal Autonomy**



- Wide discretion in adopting means to carry out its mandate of ensuring CHOPFE (not straitjacketed by procedural rules), fix length and starting date of election period outside the 120-day default period, does not amount to undue delegation (2016)
- Enforcement Power: All election laws (persons and policies); exclusion of others; enforce, not amend laws (2016); power to investigate implied from power to enforce (2018)
- Judicial Power: Qualifications and Election Contests (excludes Suffrage)
- "Shall" to impose upon the COMELEC the duty to issue rules and regulations to implement the law (bearing of firearms) (2017)



- Control and Supervision: over BEIs and BOCs, over election officers since its agents (2016)
- Jurisdiction: Original (Regional, Provincial and City); and Appellate (Municipal, Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan)
- Remedies: En Banc (MR, administrative) and Division (1st instance, judicial)
- Process: Division MR to En Banc then Certiorari to SC
- Contempt: Judicial Proceedings (not Administrative); Indirect contempt for non-appearance pursuant to Comelec's Constitutional power to investigate and CHOPFE (2018)



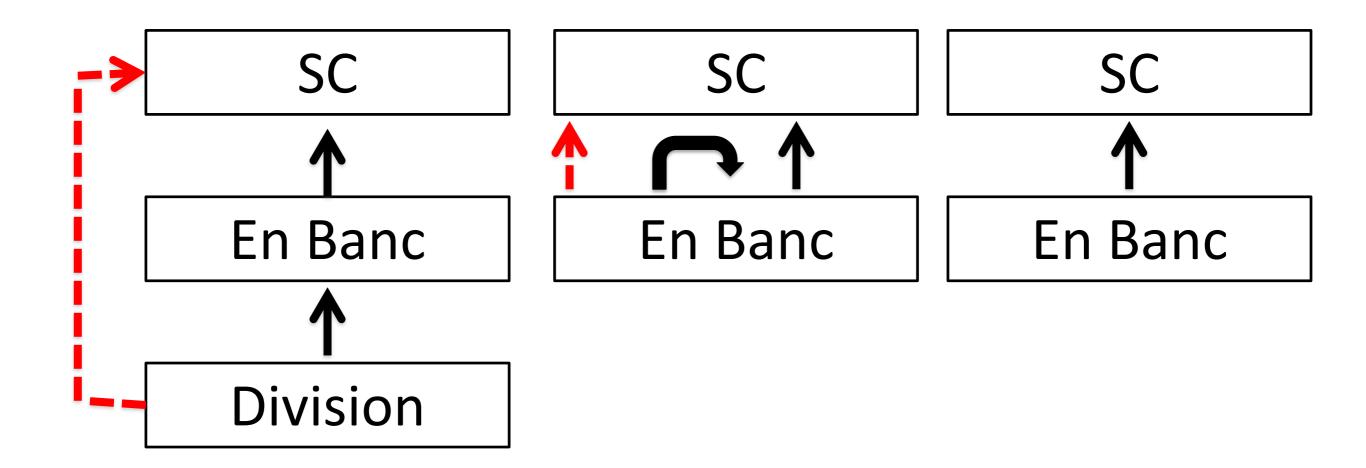
#### **Judicial (Division)**

- Disqualification
- Election Protest
- Quo Warranto
- Pre-Proclamation
- Annulment of Proclamation
- Intra- and inter-party
- Cancellation of a certificate of candidacy
- Leadership (not expulsion of member)
- Registration of Political Parties

#### **Administrative (En Banc)**

- Failure of Elections
- Postponement of Elections
- Election Offense (filing of information)
- Annulment of Book of Voters
- Cancellation of certificate of candidacy based on final judgment of conviction with ancillary penalty of DQ
- Allocation of party-list seats
- Accreditation of Major Parties





Judicial

Administr Election Laws, Alberto E.gra Rule-Making



## 3) Public Offices

Branch	Public Office
Regular Courts	Supreme Court (judicial review over SET and HRET, 2016) Court of Appeals Regional Trial Court Municipal Trial Court
Tribunals	Presidential Electoral Tribunal Senate Electoral Tribunal (exclusive and only task, 2016) House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (assumes jurisdiction when proclaimed and taken oath, 2016; can annul results in precincts, 2017); members from Judicial and Legislative branches indispensable for quorum (2018)
COMELEC	National Board of Canvassers En Banc Division (can become final without en banc confirmation, 2016) Board of Canvassers Board of Election Inspectors Law Department
Executive	Department of Justice





	Elective Positions							
Cases	Pres/VP	Senators	District	Part-List	Regional	Provincial	City	Municipal
			Reps.	Reps.	Officials	Officials	Officials	Officials
Disqualification		Comelec Division						
Proclamation	Congress	Comelec	Local/	Comelec	Comelec	Provincial	City	Municipal
		En Banc	District	En Banc	En Banc	Board of	Board of	Board of
			Board of			Canvassers	Canvassers	Canvassers
			Canvassers					
Annulment of	[Congress]	[Comelec	[Comelec	[Comelec	Comelec Division			
Proclamation		En Banc]	Division]	En Banc]				
Election	Presidential	Senate	House of Re	presentatives				Regional
Protests	Electoral	Electoral	Electoral	l Tribunal	Comelec Division Trial Cour			Trial Court
Quo <u>Warranto</u>	Tribunal	Tribunal						
Postponement								
of Elections	COMELEC En Banc							
Failure of								
Elections								
Election	[Immunity							
Offenses	after Proc.] (Comelec En Banc filing of Information; Regional Trial Court for Trial)							

#### 3) Voters: Concepts



- Who? Qualifications defined in Constitution;
  Disqualifications defined in Statute; Allow Absentee
  Voting, Dual Citizens, Disabled and Illiterates to Vote
- How? Procedural Requirements allowed to be imposed, Substantive not allowed
- —Distinguished from **Right to Register** (reckoned when apply for registration)

#### 3) Voters: Qualifications



- Filipino Citizen
- At least 18 years of age on election day
- Resident in Philippines for at least 1 year prior to election day (domicile; permanent residency)
- Resided in place wherein propose to vote for at least
   6 months prior to election day (permanent or temporary)
- Free from Disqualifications
- In order to vote, must be a registered voter

## 3) Voters: Disqualifications



- Sentenced by final judgment imprisonment of 1 year or more
- Sentenced to suffer accessory penalty political rights
- —Adjudged by final judgment crime involving disloyalty
- Court-declared insane and incompetent persons

#### 3) Voters: Registration



- Nature: Continuing
- Listing: Computerized List at all Levels
- Number: 200 Voter-Precinct (several precincts can be clustered)
- Biometrics: Mandatory for new; for registered voters, validation
- Changes: Permanent but subject to changes (+ or -)

### 3) Voters: Registration



#### Addition (+)

- New Voters
- Transfer of Residence to
- Reactivation
- Inclusion

#### **Deletion (-)**

- Cancellation (death)
- Transfer of Residence from
- Deactivation
- Exclusion
- Annulment of Book of Voters

#### 3) Voters: Deactivation



- Disqualified to Vote
- Failed to Vote in 2 preceding elections
- Registration Excluded by the Court
- Lose Filipino Citizenship
- Failure to have biometrics taken (validation)

#### 3) Voters: Opposition



- What? Applications not yet resolved
- Where Oppose? Election Registration Board
- Who may Oppose? Voter, Candidate or Political Party
- When? Specified Period
- How Oppose? File Written Opposition/ Challenge
- Why Oppose? Not Qualified, Fictitious
- Appearance? Mandatory if application opposed

## 3) Voters: Inclusion/ Exclusion



- What? Applications already acted upon
- Where File? MTC (not Comelec), then RTC (not Comelec), then SC (question of law)
- Grounds? Inclusion Disapproval or Name Stricken Out; Exclusion Not Qualified or Fictitious Voter
- **When?** Specified Period

## 3) Voters: Annulment of Book of Voters



- Annul What? Book of Voters per precinct
- When Filed? Normally, after period to file inclusion/ exclusion lapses
- What Grounds? (1) Book Prepared Improperly, Preparation Attended with Vice or Fraud, and (2) Book contains Statistically Improbable Data (not on substantive, qualification of voters)

#### 3) Voters: Election Day



#### **Illegal Voter**

Not registered; Use another name; Disqualified; Multiple Registrant (allowed to vote if properly identified)

#### Illegal Act

Vote-Buying; Vote-Selling; Vote-Betting: Promise to induce or withhold vote (allowed to vote if take oath)

### 4) Officials: Elective



#### **National Office**

President; Vice-President; Senators (24; 1/2);
 Representatives (District and Party-List)

#### **Local Office**

LCE: Regional Governor, Provincial Governor, City or Municipal Mayor and Punong Barangay

VLCE: Vice-Governor and Vice-Mayor; Sanggunian Members

## 4.1) Types of Representatives



Features	District Representatives	Party-List Representatives
Candidate	Natural Person	Party or Organization
Personalities	Directly, Personalities	Indirectly, Personalities
Portion of House	80%	20%
Formula	Plurality	Proportional Representation
Nominee Qualifications	Natural-Born; 25 yo; Literate; 1 year residency; Registered in District	Same; except 25-30 if youth; registered anywhere

### 4.1) Number of PL Seats



- 20% of House of Representatives
- All seats are "reserved" and must be filled up
- Formula: # of DRs/ 0.8 x 0.2
- So in 2019:

 $238/0.8 \times 0.2 = 59.5$  (59 or 60 seats)





National Parties/ Organizations	<ul> <li>need not be sectoral</li> <li>geographical presence/ track record</li> </ul>
Regional Parties/ Organizations	<ul> <li>need not be sectoral</li> <li>geographical presence/ track record</li> </ul>
Sectoral Parties/ Organizations	<ul> <li>principal advocacy</li> <li>no need to show track record</li> <li>represents 12 marginalized sectors</li> <li>list of 12 not exclusive</li> </ul>
Political Parties	<ul> <li>Register under system</li> <li>Not field district representatives</li> <li>If field district representatives, through sectoral wing</li> </ul>

#### Nominees

- 1. Membership: Belong to accredited party or organization *and* 
  - a) Must belong to the sector (organic) or
  - b) Must have track record of sectoral advocacy (synthetic)
- 2. Nominees must consent in writing
- 3. Possess qualifications under the Constitution
- 4. Qualifications/ fitness determined by Party (internal matter unless nominee disqualified)
- 5. Submit List of 5 Nominees

#### Nominees

- 6. Continuing requirement from appointment and during entire tenure (qualifications, party membership)
- 7. Nominated only in 1 Party
- Not losing candidate in 2016 elections (any position)
- 9. List in order of priority cannot be altered except when nominee:
  - a) Dies
  - b) Withdraws (party cannot unilaterally withdraw)
  - c) Incapacitated, then substituted by next in list

### 4.1) Disqualified Parties



Religious Sect

Advocates Violence

Adjunct of, Funded by Government Foreign or Foreign-Assisted Party





2% of 2<sup>nd</sup> votes per seat

Maximum
3 seats (only 1
party)

Real Threshold: <2%

#### **Procedure in Seat Allocation**

- 1. Rank parties according to plurality
- 2. Determine 1<sup>st</sup> Party (most number of votes)
- 3. Calculate <u>percentage</u> per Party: # of votes of Party/ total # of 2<sup>nd</sup> votes
- 4. Parties that obtain at least 2% gets 1 guaranteed seat (1<sup>st</sup> round)
- 5. No rounding-off
- 6. For <u>additional seats</u> (2<sup>nd</sup> round), # of votes of that party/ # of votes of first party x number of seats of 1st party
- 7. Only 1<sup>st</sup> Party gets <u>3 seats</u>

#### 4) Officials: Qualifications



Enumeration: Set by the Constitution (national) and statutes (local)

- Citizenship (naturalized elsewhere: oath and renounce, 2016; foundling presumed natural-born unless proven otherwise, 2016; clerical error in date of notarization of Affidavit of Renunciation [dual citizenship] not fatal, 2017)
- Age
- Residency (physical presence may be broken; not require 24/7, 2016)
- Registered Voter
- Literacy
- Free from Disqualifications
- —Not perpetually disqualified (grave misconduct; repeated failure to file SOCE, 2017)
- —[Undertake Drug Test under CDDA OF 2002, unconstitutional]

**Procedure:** Electoral aspect of DQ (administrative proceeding): summary

## 4) Specific Qualifications



Elective Position	Qualifications						Term
	Citizenship	Age	Literacy	Voter	Residency	(Years)	Limit
President and	Natural-Born	40	Read and Write	Registered	10 years in Phl	6	P-1
Vice President							VP-2
Senator	Natural-Born	35	Read and Write	Registered	2 years in Phl	6	2
District	Natural-Born	25	Read and Write	Registered in	1 year in District	3	3
Representatives				District			
Party-List	Natural-Born	25	Read and Write	Registered	1 year in Phl	3	3
Representatives		( <u>if</u> youth: 25-30)					
ARMM Governor	Natural-Born	35	Read and Write	Registered in	5 years in	3	3
				ARMM	ARMM		
ARMM	Natural-Born	21	Read and Write	Registered in	5 years in	3	3
Legislators				District	District		
Local Officials	Citizen	Prov/HUC: 23	Read and Write	Registered in	1 year in Locality	3	3
		Other Mayor/	Filipino or Local	Locality			
		VM: 21	dialect				
		Others: 18					

# 4) Candidate: Evolution of Definition (under AES)



Automated Election Law	Omnibus Election Code	Comelec Resolution	Comelec Resolution		
RA No. 9369 (January 23, 2007)	B.P. Bldg. 881 (December 3, 1985)	No. 9991 (October 2, 2015)	No. 10049 (February 1, 2016)		
1. Filed Certificate of Candidacy (CoC)	<ol> <li>Aspiring for elective office</li> <li>Filed CoC</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Aspiring for elective office</li> <li>Filed CoC</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Seeking elective office</li> <li>Filed CoC</li> </ol>		
2. Start of campaign period		3. Not withdrawn CoC before start of campaign period	<ol> <li>Not died, withdrawn CoC</li> <li>Not disqualified or CoC cancelled or denied due course before start of campaign period</li> </ol>		

### 4) Officials: Candidate



- Definition: Seeks public office *and* files certificate of candidacy *and* campaign period has started (under automated system); October 11 to 17, 2018 for May 13, 2019 elections (2019)
- Nature of CoC: only 1 CoC; announce and declare eligible (2016); if CoC void, candidate not considered a candidate even if cancelled after elections (2016); perpetual disqualification [guilty of grave misconduct] renders CoC void, cannot be re-elected (2017)
- Ministerial Duty: If filed in due form, ministerial duty to receive COC; Comelec may look into patent defects (appearing on the face) of CoCs
- Effect of Non-Filing: Not a candidate (not liable for unlawful acts and omissions before becoming a candidate; before start of campaign period)
- Effect of Filing: On Tenure of Incumbents (elective remain in office; appointive ipso facto resigned)

## 4) Officials: **Certificate of** Candidacy



#### Republic of the Philippines COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR SENATOR

Affix Latest Photo Here

Annex "F"

Passport Size

<ol> <li>File this in FIVE (5) LEGIBLE copies with the COMELEC Office concerned, during regular off on any day from October 1, 2015 to October 5, 2018.</li> <li>Attach to this certificate, the Certificate of Nomination and Acceptance (CONA), if any.</li> <li>This certificate shall be sworn before a notary public or any official authorized to administer oath, even in their capacities as Notary Public.</li> <li>No filing fee shall be imposed.</li> </ol>		
I hereby announce my candidacy for the position of SENATOR, Republic o 2019 National and Local Elections; and after having been sworn to in accordate following:	of the Philippines, in	n the May 13, reby state the
1. NAME :	AF CEMPER	T
1.1 Last Name	15. GENDER :	16. AGE :
	Male Female	
1.2 First Name	17. DATE OF BIRTH :	
1.3 Middle Name	LY. DATE OF BIRTH :	
		-11111
2. NICKNAME OR STAGENAME: (Indicate only one nickname or stage name)	Month Day	Year
	18. PLACE OF BIRTH	:
3. OFFICIALLY NOMINATED BY: (Attach Certificate of Nomination)	City/Mun	
	Province	
(Political Party/Coalition of Political Parties)		
4. Name to appear on the Official Ballot not to exceed thirty (30) characters :	19. CIVIL STATUS :	
	Single D	Nidaw/er
(Last Name, First Name OR Nickname and Acronym of Political Party Affiliation as stated in Items 1 to 3)		widowyer
(In case of a legally married female candidate, she has the option to choose either her maiden name, married name or both)	Married	
5. RESIDENCE/ADDRESS:	Full Name of Spouse, if married	
5.1 Province		
5.2 City/Municipality 5.3 Barangay		
5.4 House No./ Street / Subdivision	20. PROFESSION OR	OCCUPATION:
	21.	NOTED OF
6. ADDRESS FOR ELECTION PURPOSES: (Could be the same as No.5)	I WILL BE A REGIS	
·	Barangay	
. PERIOD OF RESIDENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES UP TO THE DAY BEFORE MAY 13, 2019 :	City/Mun.	
No. of Years No. of Months	7.44.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.4.	
	Province	
I AM A NATURAL BORN FILIPINO CITIZEN.     I AM NOT A PERMANENT RESIDENT OF, OR AN IMMIGRANT TO, A FOREIGN COUNTRY.	ROLLED THUM	BPRINT
10. I EXECUTED A SWORN RENUNCIATION OF FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP. (IF APPLICABLE, ATTACH A COPY)  11. I AM ELIGIBLE FOR THE OFFICE I SEEK TO BE ELECTED TO.		
12. I WILL FILE, WITH THE OFFICES OF THE COMMISSION, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER ELECTION DAY, MY FULL, TRUE AND ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES (SOCE) IN CONNECTION WITH THE ELECTION.		
13. I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND WILL MAINTAIN TRUE FAITH AND ALLEGIANCE THERETO. I WILL OBEY THE LAWS, LEGAL ORDERS AND DECREES PROMULGATED BY THE DULY		
CONSTITUTED AUTHORITIES. I IMPOSE THIS OBLIGATION UPON MYSELF VOLUNTARILY, WITHOUT MENTAL RESERVATION OR PURPOSE OF EVASION.		
14. I GIVE CONSENT TO THE PROCESSING OF THE INFORMATION STATED HEREIN BY THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS FOR	Thumbprir	nt
ELECTION AND OTHER PURPOSES AS MAY BE PROVIDED BY LAW, SUCH AS B.P. BLG. 881 AND R.A. NO. 10173 ALSO KNOWN AS THE DATA PRIVACY ACT OF 2012, AMONG OTHERS.		
hereby certify that the facts stated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.		
Signature of Candidate Over Printed Name OATH		
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this	to me an Identification document	t/card which contains a
oc. No;		
age No; ook No;	(Officer Authorized to Adminis	the Costs
ries of 2018.	Parisher Municipated to Adminis	sier Gauri)
THIS FORM CAN BE PHOTOCOPIED OR REPRODUCED AND IS AVAILABLE AT THE COMELEC OFFICES FREE OF CHARGE OR MAY BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE COMELEC OFFICIAL WEBSITE (www.comelec.gov.ph)		29 Aug 18

29 Aug 18

## 4) Officials: Substitution



- Grounds: (1) Death, (2) Withdrawal, and (3) Disqualification (not allowed if: (a) violate term limit; (b) not meet residency requirement; (c) CoC denied due course or cancelled (c.1) nuisance and (c.2) material misrepresentation); if invalid substitution not considered a candidate
- Who? Substitute must be Qualified; not allowed for independent candidate (PP/ Coalition can only nominate 1)
- When? Up to mid-day of election day (if withdrawal, not after November 29, 2018; death or final DQ decision, mid-day of May 13 provided same surname)
- **Substitute?** Qualified (not disqualified) and Same Party
- Limitations: Substituted candidate can still run for other elective positions; Withdrawal not affect liabilities



- Purpose of DQ: prevent candidate from running, or if elected, from serving; DQ distinct from administrative case (2016)
- Lack qualifications/ possess some disqualifications
- ─ Violate Term Rule (1-2-3 terms)
- Commission of an election offense
- Nuisance Candidate
- Sentenced by Final Judgment (accessory penalty)
- Willfully Commits Material Misrepresentation
- —No valid, timely and properly filed certificate of candidacy
- —Grounds under the 1991 LGC, for local elective officials



Lack of Qualifications (fact prevails over statements in CoC, 2016)

- Pleading? Petition to Disqualify a Candidate
- Grounds? Constitution or Statutes; for local officials under OEC and LGC (e.g. fugitives) (2016); suspension not a ground since law provides for removal (2017)
- Where File? Comelec Division
- When File? Before Proclamation
- Process? Summary, Due Process, requires a complaint/ petition; not motu propio unless there is final judgment
- If Not File? Quo Warranto



#### **Commission of Election Offenses**

- Pleading? Petition to Disqualify a Candidate
- What Offenses? Enumerated in Section 68 OEC (2 options DQ case or Election Offense criminal case): Vote-Buying, Terrorism, Unlawful Expenditures, Unlawful Campaign, Coercion of Subordinates, Threats, Prohibition against Release of Public Funds (other election offenses file EO case RTC hears)
- Where File? Comelec Division
- --- When File? Before Proclamation
- If Not File? Election Protest; Election Offense



#### **Nuisance Candidate**

- Petition? Petition to Declare a Candidate a Nuisance Candidate
- Who Is? Campaign Capability, Intention, Performance, Exposure, Platform, Party Affiliation, Organization, Profession, Income, Health, Education, Name
- Who Files? Real Parties-in-Interest, i.e., those with similar names with nuisance candidates, others are silent observers; vote for nuisance will be credited to legitimate candidate since nuisance was never a candidate (2018)
- Where File? Comelec Division (not HRET, 2016)
- When File? Within 5 days from Last Day Filing of Certificate of Candidacy
- If Not File? No remedy



#### Misrepresentation

— Pleading? Petition to Deny Due Course to or Cancel a Certificate of Candidacy

What? Misrepresentation must be Material (pertains to Qualifications and Disqualifications, also as to permanent residency (2016); knowing conviction of libel/ crime involving moral turpitude (2016); violation of 3-term rule [not petition to disqualify] (2017); not surname, profession, political party) and Willful/ Deliberate; Even if there is 'misrepresentation," if actually qualified, should not be disqualified

Where File? Comelec Division (summary nature, rule on patent misrepresentations, not make conclusions of law contrary to jurisprudence, 2016)

- When File? 25 days from Filing of CoC (2017)
- If Not File? Quo Warranto



#### Misrepresentation

Material Entries	Formal Entries
Qualification-related:	Non-Qualification-related:
1. Citizenship	1. Political Party
2. Residency	2. Profession
3. Registered Voter	3. Legitimacy or Illegitimacy
4. Age	4. Use of another surname
5. Literacy	5. Civil Status
<ul> <li>To be disqualified under Misrepresentation:</li> <li>1. The misrepresentation must be material, i.e., qualification-related</li> <li>2. The candidate had the intent to defraud the voters (deliberate)</li> <li>3. The candidate is not actually qualified</li> </ul>	

## 4) Compare and Contrast



		G	rounds		
Aspects	Lack of Qualifications, etc.	Commission of an Election Offense	Material Misrepresentation	Nuisance Candidate	
Pleading	Petition to Disqualify a Candidate	Petition to Disqualify a Candidate  Candidate committed any	Petition to Deny Due Course to or Cancel a Certificate of Candidacy (CoC)  1. Misrepresentation is	Petition to Declare a Candidate as a Nuisance Candidate (or Comelec initiates)	
Allegations	<ol> <li>Candidate does not possess all qualifications</li> <li>Candidate possesses some or all of disqualifications</li> <li>Candidate violated rule on term limits</li> </ol>	of enumerated election offenses:  1. Vote-Buying  2. Terrorism  3. Unlawful Expenditures  4. Unlawful Campaign  5. Coercion of Subordinates  6. Threats  7. Prohibition against Release of Public Funds  8. Failure to submit Statement of Contributions and Expenditures in at least 2 elections	<ol> <li>Misrepresentation is material, i.e., qualification-related</li> <li>Candidate intended to defraud the voters (deliberate)</li> <li>Candidate is not actually qualified</li> </ol>	CoC has been filed to:  1. put the election process in mockery or disrepute  2. cause confusion among the voters by the similarity of the names of the registered candidates  Candidate no bona fide intention since no/ not:  1. Campaign Capability  2. Bona fide intention to run for office  3. Track Record  4. Exposure  5. Platform  6. Party Affiliation  7. Funds  8. Good Health  9. Appropriate education	

## 4) Compare and Contrast



		Gı	ounds	
Aspects	Lack of	Commission of an	Material	Nuisance
	Qualifications, etc.	Election Offense	Misrepresentation	Candidate
Where File		Comel	ec Division	
When File	Any time before	Any time before	Within 25 days from	Within 5 days from Last Day
	proclamation	proclamation	Filing of CoC	Filing of Certificate of
				Candidacy
Who Files	Registered voter or	[Registered voter or	Registered voter or	Registered candidate for the
	registered political party	registered political party]	registered political party	same position
		Comelec Campaign Finance		
		Office, SEC-registered		
		NGOs and CSOs		
Remedy	Quo <u>Warranto</u> case	Election Offense	Quo <u>Warranto</u>	No remedy
After Period				
Substitution	Not allowed	Allowed	Not allowed	Not allowed
after				
Resolution				

## 4) Effect of DQ

#### Succession or Special Elections

Commission of an election offense



#### "2nd Placer"

- Violation of 3-term limit
- Not a voter (inclusion denied with finality)
- Conviction of criminal offense involving moral turpitude
- Not a Filipino citizen
- Dual Citizen (2016)
- Final decision on DQ before elections

## 5) Campaign: Concept



- Definition: Act designed to *promote* the election or *defeat* of a candidate; satire of political parties on social issues not election propaganda (2016)
- Operative Act: Intent/ Design material (not all acts of beneficence are considered campaigning) and Period (start of campaign)
- Application: All Candidates for All Elective Offices
- Framework: Regulated but Liberalized
- Period: 90 days for nationally-elected and 45 days for locally-elected (February 12 and March 29 for May 13, 2019 elections)

# 5) Campaign: Allowable Forms



- Forming Organizations
- Holding Rallies
- Making Speeches
- Distributing Campaign Materials
- —Soliciting Votes
- —Publishing Advertisements

## 5) Campaign: Propaganda



- Paid Political Advertisements (Comelec debates could be live-streamed, 2016)
- Free Space and Airtime
- —Use of Gadgets and Billboards
- Private Poster Areas
- Posting in Private Places, PUVs and terminals

### 5) Campaign: Forms



- Printed Materials (8.5"W x 14"L)
- ---Letters
- Posters (2' x 3') in Poster Areas (12' x 16')
- —Rally Streamers (3' x 8')

### 5) Campaign: Paid Ads



- Print: 1/4<sup>th</sup> page in broadsheet; ½ in tabloid 3x a week
- Television: 120 minutes (for national); 60 minutes (for local) per station (not overall, 2016)
- Radio: 180 minutes (for national); 90 minutes (for local)
- —(being in news not counted)

# 5) Campaign: Unlawful Acts



- —Foreign Intervention
- Removal or Destruction of Lawful Propaganda
- Materials not Disclose Payor
- Exceed Limits (Time and Space)
- —Transportation, Foods and Drinks During Rallies
- Movie or Video of or by Candidate

#### 6) Prohibited Contributions



- —All SEC-registered corporations (repealed by RA 11232[?], 2019)
- Financing Institutions
- Public Utility Operator
- Natural ResourcesExplorer
- GovernmentContractors

- Franchise Holders
- Donee Institution from Government (P100,000)
- Donee EducationalInstitutions (P100,000)
- Foreigners/ ForeignCorporations (reiterated under RA 11232, 2019)
- Civil Servants and AFP

#### 6) Other Prohibited Acts



- —Not reveal true name of contributor
- —Not report all contributions
- Exceed Limits (P10, P5, P3)
- Not file Statement of Contributions and Expenditures (perpetual DQ for repeated failure, 2016)
- Expenditures made by non-authorized persons

### 6) Lawful Expenditures



- —Use of Facilities
  - -[Travel
- Compensation
- Communications
- —Pollwatchers
- Office/ HQ

- -- Advertisements
- Meetings/ Rallies
- —Counsel\*
- Copying of List of Voters\*
- —Sample Ballots\*
- Volunteers
- (\* not included in cap)

## 7) Postponement of Elections



- Grounds: (1) Force majeure, (2) Violence, (3)
   Terrorism, (4) Loss or Destruction of Election
   Paraphernalia, and (5) Analogous Causes
- **Extent:** Serious *and* Impossible to have free and orderly elections
- Conditions: Grounds must exist before end of voting/ transmission
- Authority: Comelec en banc (petition or motu propio); not BEI or election officers
- Result: Special Elections within 30 days from cessation

#### 7) Failure of Elections



- Grounds: (1) Force majeure, (2) Violence, (3) Terrorism, (4) Fraud, and (5) Analogous Causes
- Extent: Failure to elect *and* affect results of elections; relates to entire elections (2016)
- Examples: Failure transfer of venue of counting without notice, ballots replaced/ burned; No Failure voting resumes after sporadic violence/ gun fire, fake ballots, landslide results, vote-buying, destruction of copies of ERs; convincing evidence showing will of people muted by causes (2016)
- Conditions: Election not held or suspended, After voting, During preparations or transmission of election returns, Canvassing
- Authority: Comelec en banc (petition)
- Result: Special Elections within 30 days from cessation (objective of declaration, 2016)





	Postponement of Elections	Failure of Elections				
Legal Bases	Section 5, Omnibus Election Code	Section 6, Omnibus Election Code				
	Section 4, RA No. 7166	Section 4, RA No. 7166				
Grounds	1. Force Majeure	1. Force Majeure				
	2. Violence	2. Violence				
	3. Terrorism	3. Terrorism				
	4. Loss or Destruction of Election Paraphernalia	4. Fraud				
	5. Analogous causes	5. Analogous causes				
Extent of	Serious and Impossibility to have free and orderly	y Failure to elect <i>and</i> affect results of elections (illegalit				
Cause	elections	must affect 50% of the votes)				
Basis	Expectancy/ potential Effect	Actual outcome/results				
Conditions	Grounds must exist before voting	1. Election not held or suspended				
		2. After voting or during preparation				
		3. Transmission				
		4. Canvassing				
Area	Any political subdivision	Any polling place				
Procedural	<ol> <li>Motu Propio or by Verified Petition</li> </ol>	1. Verified Petition				
Requirements	2. Notice and Due Process	2. Notice and Due Process				
Authority	Come	<u>lec</u> En Banc				
Effect if	Postpone elections	1. Declaration of failure of elections				
Petition	2. Conduct elections reasonable close to elections	2. Holding or continuation of elections reasonably close				
Granted	which was not held; but not later than 30 days	to elections which was not held; but not later than 30				
	from cessation of the cause	days from cessation of cause				



- When: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of election year (May 13, 2019)
- Statutory Bases: RA 9369 amending RA 8436
- Automated Election System: voting, counting, consolidating, canvassing, and transmission (not proclamation)
- Paper-Based or Direct Recording Election System: Ballots, Election Returns, Certificate of Canvass, Statement of Votes (25% shading threshold)
- Comelec Discretion: AES or AESs, Paper-Based or Direct Recording





Features: Use of Ballots, Stand-alone machine, with Audit Trails, Minimum Human Intervention and Security Measures

#### Processes:

- Casting, Counting and Transmission at Precinct Level
- Consolidation and Proclamation at Canvassing Levels

## 8) Vote-Counting Machines





- Precinct-Level Result: Printing of Elections Returns (30 copies) then Electronic Transmission to Board of Canvassers; Results loaded in Data Storage Devices
- Canvassing at BoC: Consolidation of Results in Data Storage Devices then Electronic Transmission to Comelec (Senate and Party-List) and Congress (President and Vice-President) and Proclamation
- Canvassing Periods: May 13 to 16, 2019 (city/municipal); May 17 to 19, 2019 (others)





- A. Preliminaries: 5:00 to 6:00 a.m.
- 1. BEI sets up Polling Place
- 2. Pollwatchers present credentials to BEI
- BEI posts Precinct Certified Voters List (PCVL)
- 4. BEI shows sealed Vote Counting Machine (VCM) and empty Ballot Box to public
- BEI turns on Vote Counting Machine (VCM) and logs in



- B. Voting Proper: 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (2019)
- Voters vote in the order of arrival
- Voter approaches BEI
- 3. BEI verifies Voter identity
- BEI checks if fingers unstained with Indelible Ink (if stained, cannot vote)
- 5. BEI announces name of Voter
- If no challenge or challenged dismissed, Voter signs in Election Day Computerized Voters List (EDCVL)



- 7. BEI Chair:
  - a) Signs Ballot in space provided
  - b) Gives Ballot inside Secrecy Folder and Marking Penton
     to voter
- 8. Voter votes by shading circles
- Voter inserts Ballot in the VCM
- 10. Ballot is accepted or rejected (given another Ballot):
  - a) Misread Ballot (re-fed in 4 different orientations)
  - b) Previously Read Ballot (diverted to Bin for Rejected Ballot)
  - c) Invalid Ballot





- 11. BEI applies Indelible Ink
- 12. Voter gets Voter Receipt
- 13. Voter returns Secrecy Folder and Marking Pen
- 14. Voter departs
- 15. Illiterates and Persons with Disability can be assisted by relative within 4<sup>th</sup> degree, person of confidence or BEI
- 16. No premature announcement of status of voting before close of polls



- C. Closing of Polls: 6:00 p.m. up
- 1.If there are Voters within 30-meter radius, they will be allowed to vote (must fall in line, fill-up sheet and called)
- 2.BEI prints 8 copies of National Election Returns (NERs) and 8 copies of Local Election Returns (LERs)
- 3.VCM transmits results to:
  - a) Comelec
  - b) Transparency Server (KBP)
  - c) City/ Municipal Board of Canvassers (C/ M BoC)





- 4. VCM prints 22 copies of NERs and 22 copies of LERs
- BEI signs all ERs and affixes thumbmarks and places 8 NERs and 8 LERs inside Envelopes
- Distribute all 30 NERs and 30 LERs (Next/ Higher Level of Canvassing, National and Local Political Parties, Media, Citizens' Arm, Ballot Box, Posted on Wall)
- 7. BEI shall post 1 copy of ER in a conspicuous place inside polling place





- 8. VCM prints Statistical and Audit Reports
- 9. Unused Ballots shall be disposed (torn lengthwise and placed in Envelopes)
- 10.BEI removes SD card (Slot A) and place inside Envelope (SD is Slot B not removed)
- 11.VCM shall be turned over to Logistics Provider or Election Officer
- 12. Deliver Ballot Box to the Local Treasurer

#### 9) Pre-Proclamation Cases



- Aspects: BoC-related (BoC or Comelec division, concurrent) and Results-related (BoC)
- Allowed: Objections pertaining to Proceedings and Composition of BoC; Pollwatchers-related; Data-Storage Delayed, Destroyed, Falsified (before canvass)

#### Not Expressly Allowed:

- 1. Material Defects, Manifest Errors, Omission, Discrepancy (not allowed under Comelec Resolution for AES, allowed for manual)
- 2. Rules of Appreciation; Violence; Voting Procedure; Eligibility of Voters (whether manual or AES)

# 10) Post-Proclamation: Election Protests



- Grounds: Fraud and Irregularities in Casting, Counting and Canvassing
- Documents in Question/ Evidence: Ballots, ERs, CoCs and Data-Storage Devices
- Venue: P/VP (PET); Senators (SET); Representatives (HRET); Regional; Province; City (Comelec Division); Municipality (RTC); Barangay (MTC)
- Requirements: Filed by candidate; Within period; Protestee proclaimed; Payment of filing fee; Allegations of fraud; Identify precincts; Verified; Certificate of non-forum shopping (liberal construed, 2019)

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# 10) Post-Proclamation: Election Protests



- Material Qualifications vs. Will of Electorate: former (2019)
- Procedure: Revision; Trial; range of shading thresholds; objective of the revision process of mimicking or verifying/confirming how the VCMs read or counted the votes can be achieved by referring to the ERs generated by the VCMs; decrypted ballot images where the integrity of the ballots and the ballot box was not preserved (2018) extreme caution in invalidating ballots (2018)
- If prosper: protestee removed, true winner proclaimed; rendered moot upon the occurrence of a subsequent election since it is impossible to assume office for the previous term (2018)

# 10) Post-Proclamation:Quo Warranto



Grounds: Disloyalty to Republic; Ineligibility

**Venue**: Same as Election Protest

If prosper: Respondent ousted; special elections or succession

Covers Impeachable Officers: quo warranto and impeachment can proceed independently and simultaneously; Constitution does not foreclose a quo warranto action against impeachable officers; To subscribe to the view that election of impeachable officers are outside judicial review is to cleanse their election of any possible defect pertaining to the Constitutionally-prescribed qualifications (2018)

# 10) Post-Proclamation: Annulment of Proclamation



- Grounds: Proclamation based on irregular and illegal canvass
- Period to File: 10 days from proclamation
- **Venue**: Comelec Division
- **Effect**: Proclamation annulled; re-canvass

## 11) Election Offenses



田				ELE	CTION PERIOD			
PHASE	PRE-ELECTION DAY			ELECTIO	ON DAY	ELI	CCTION DAY +1	POST-PROCLAMATION
P	CAMPAIGN PERIOD	EVE	VOTING	CASTING	TRANSMISSION	CANVASSING	PROCLAMATION	
	VOTE BUYING / SELLING OR CONS	PIRACY TO C	OMMIT ACT	]				
	V	VAGERING	UPON RESU	LTS OF ELEC	TION			
	COERCION OF SUBORDINATES	TO INFLUE	NCE VOTE					
	THREATS, FRAUD, OR TERRORISM	M TO INFLU	ENCE VOTE					
	CREATION OF NEW POSIT APPOINTMENT OF EMPLO PROMOTION, GIVING SAT INCREASE	DYEES, LARY						
ES	WITHIN 45 DAYS BEFORE ELEC	TION DAY	TRANSFER	OF EMPLOY	EES OR OFFICERS I	N CIVIL SERVI	`F	
OFFENSES	CIVIL SERVICE							
OFF	PROMISE/ SOLICIT EMPLOYEMEN							I
NO	UNLAWFUL ELECT	IONEERING	G					
ELECTION	PROHIBITION AGAIN	ST DISMIS	SAL OF EMPI	LOYEES, LAB	ORERS, OR TENANT	'S FOR REFUSI	NG OR FAILING TO VO	TE FOR A CANDIDATE
EL	APPOINTMENT OR USE OF	SPECIAL PO	OLICEMEN, A	AGENTS, COF	IDENTIAL AGENTS			
				ILLEGAL R	ELEASE OF DETENT	TION PRISONE	RS	
	USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR CAMPAIGN						WITHIN 30 DAYS A	FTER ELECTION DAY
	BEARING, CARRYIN	G, OR TRA	NSPORTING	FIREARMS O	UTSIDE RESIDENCE	OR BUSINESS	ES EVEN WITH PERMI	T TO CARRY
			CA	RRYING DEA	DLY WEAPONS WIT	HIN RADIUS (	F 100 METERS	
				USE OF A	ARMORED LAND, W	ATER, OR AIR	CRAFT	
	WEARING	UNIFORM	IS AND BEAR	ING ARMS O	URSIDE VICINITY C	F WORK PLAC	Е	
	USE	OF SECUR	ITY PERSON	NELS OR BO	DYGUARDS BY CAN	DIDATES, UNI	ESS AUTHORIZED	

# 11) Election Offenses



PHA	PRE-ELECTION DA	AY		ELECTIO	N DAY	ELEC	TION DAY +1	POST-PROCLAMATION	
þ	 CAMPAIGN PERIO	D EV	VOTING	CASTING	TRANSMISSION	CANVASSING	PROCLAMATION		
	ORG	GANIZATION	OR MAINTENAN	NCE OF REACT	ION FORCES, STRIK	E FORCES, OR C	OTHER SIMILAR FOR	CES	
	RELEASE OF F FOR PUBLIC W WELFARE, CO HUMAN SE	VORKS, SOCIA MMISSION OF TTLEMENTS	MORE THAN ONCE OR IN SUBSTIT						
	CONSTRUCT DELIVERY OF M		R OF ME		OR STALLS FOR SAL OR REFRESHMENT FERS RADIUS	E			
OFFENSES	 WITHIN 45 DAYS BE	FORE ELECTION	HORSE		OCKFIGHTS, BOXING BY OTHER SIMILAR TS				
)FFF		SUSP	ENSION OF ELE	CTIVE PUBLIC	OFFICIAL WITHOU	JT APPROVAL O	F COMELEC		
	•	ALTERA'	ION OF TERRIT	ORY OF A PRI	ECINCT OR ESTABLI	SHMENT OF A N	NEW PRECINCT		
JILL	GIVIN	IG DONATION	S OR GIFTS IN O	CASH OR IN K	IND				
FLECTION	CAMPAIGNING ON HOLY WEEK	SEL		NG, OFFERING INTOXICATI	G, BUYING, SERVING NG LIQUOR	<del>;</del> ,			
		GIV		G, FREE TRANS S OR THINGS	PORTATION, FOOD OF VALUE	),			
			(	CAMPAIGNING	3				
			SOLICITI NG VOTES OR BLACK PROPAGA NDA WITHIN						





Categories	Specific Cases
Electorate	<ul> <li>Opposition to Application for Registration</li> <li>Inclusion and Exclusion</li> <li>Annulment of Book of Voters</li> <li>Challenge on Election Day</li> <li>Election Offense</li> </ul>
Candidate	<ul> <li>Disqualification</li> <li>Quo Warranto</li> <li>Election Offense</li> </ul>
Election Integrity	<ul><li>Postponement of Elections</li><li>Failure of Elections</li></ul>
Pre-Proclamation	<ul><li>BoC-related</li><li>Consolidated Results-related</li></ul>
Election Protests/ Post-Proclamation	<ul> <li>Annulment of Proclamation</li> <li>Election Protest</li> <li>Quo Warranto</li> </ul>
Election Offenses	<ul><li>Against Candidates</li><li>Against Non-Candidates and Voters</li></ul>



					Cases	/ Disputes				
Aspects	Annul Book of Voters	DQ of Candidates	Postpone Elections	Failure of Elections	Voter Challenges	Pre-Proc.	Annul Proclamation	Election Protest	Quo Warranto	Election Offenses
Grounds	Book Prepared Improperly, Preparation Attended with Vice or Fraud; Book contains Statistically Improbable Data	Lack of Qualifications; Material Misrep. in CoC; Nuisance; Commission of Election Offense	Impossible to have free elections due to: Force Majeure Violence Terrorism Loss or Destruction of Election Paraphernalia Analogous causes	Failure to elect and affect outcome of elections due to: Force Majeure Violence Terrorism Fraud Analogous causes	Illegal Voter Illegal Acts	Illegal Composition and Proceedings of Board of Canvassers Irregularities affecting authenticity of Election Returns/ Certificates of Canvass (Data- Storage Delayed, Destroyed, Falsified)	Anomalies in the Proclamation	Fraud or irregularities in election (whole process)	Disloyalty to the Republic; Ineligibility	Offenses enumerated in Election Laws



					Cases	Disputes				
Aspects	Annul Book of Voters	DQ of Candidates	Postpone Elections	Failure of Elections	Voter Challenges	Pre-Proc.	Annul Proclamation	Election Protest	Quo Warranto	Election Offenses
Period	Pre-election	Filing of CoC to Pre-Proc.	Pre-election	Election Day to Pre-Proc.	Election Day	During Canvassing	After Proclamation	After Proclamation	After Proclamation	Pre-and Post- Election
Jurisdiction (1 <sup>st</sup> Instance)	Comelec En Banc	Comelec Division	Comelec En Banc	Comelec En Banc	Board of Election Inspectors	1st: Board of Canvassers or Comelec Division 2nd: Board of Canvassers	Comelec Division	P/ VP: SET Senate: SET Reps: HRET Reg'l, Prov'l and City: Comelec Division Municipal: RTC	P/ VP: SET Senate: SET Reps: HRET Reg'l, Prov'l and City: Comelec Division Municipal: RTC	Comelec Law Dept. or Prosecutors Comelec En Banc (for filing of information)
Period to File	[no order to execute within 90 days before election]	Lack of Q and Election Offense: Before Proc. Material Misrep: Within 25 from CoC filing Nuisance: Within 5 days from CoC deadline	Before or on Election Day	Before Proclamation	Before Voter casts ballot	1 <sup>st</sup> : When ground apparent 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Before canvass of ER/ CoC	10 days from proclamation/ within period to file Election Protest	P/VP: 30 days from proclamation Senate: 15 days from proclamation Others: 10 days from proclamation	10 days from proclamation	5 years from commission



Aspects	Annul Book of Voters	DQ of Candidates	Postpone Elections	Failure of Elections	Voter Challenges	Pre-Proc.	Annul Proclamation	Election Protest	Quo Warranto	Election Offenses
Procedure	Petition and hearing	Petition and hearing	Motu propio or Petition and hearing	Petition and hearing	Challenge recorded	1st: Petition and hearing; canvassing suspended during pendency 2nd: verbal and written objections at the same time, then evidence within 24 hours	Petition and hearing	Petition, hearing and revision	Petition and hearing	Complaint, Finding of Probable Cause, Filing of Information and Trial before RTC
Petitioner	Voter, election officer or political party	Lack of Q, Election Offense and Material Misrep: Registered voter or registered political party Nuisance: Registered candidate Election Offense: Comelec Campaign Finance Office, NGOs	Any interested party	Comelec motu propio or any interested party	Voter or watcher	Any candidate or political party	Any candidate or political party	P/ VP/ Municipal:  2 <sup>nd</sup> or 3 <sup>rd</sup> placer Others: Any candidate	Any voter	Any interested party/ Any voter



					Cases	/ Disputes				
Aspects	Annul	DQ of	Postpone	Failure of	Voter	Pre-Proc.	Annul	Election	Quo	Election
	Book of	Candidates	Elections	Elections	Challenges		Proclamation	Protest	Warranto	Offenses
	Voters									
Effect if	Book of	Prevent	Elections will	Declaration	Not allowed	1st: BoC	Proclamation	True winner	Incumbent	Conviction
Granted	Voters	candidate	be postponed	of failure (no	to vote	reconstituted	annulled and	proclaimed	ousted	Imprisonment
	annulled	from running,	in political	winner can		or rectifies	canvassing			DiQ to hold
		or if elected,	subdivision;	be		proceedings	anew			public office
		from serving;	Special	determined)		2 <sup>nd</sup> : ER/ CoC				Deprivation
		Can be	elections will	in affected		set aside and				of right of
		substituted if	be held not	polling place;		corrected				suffrage
		DQ based on	later than 30	elections will						
		commission of	days from	be held not						
		election	cessation of	later than 30						
		offense	cause	days from						
				cessation of						
				cause						

#### THANK YOU. GOOD LUCK.