

Philippine Election Laws

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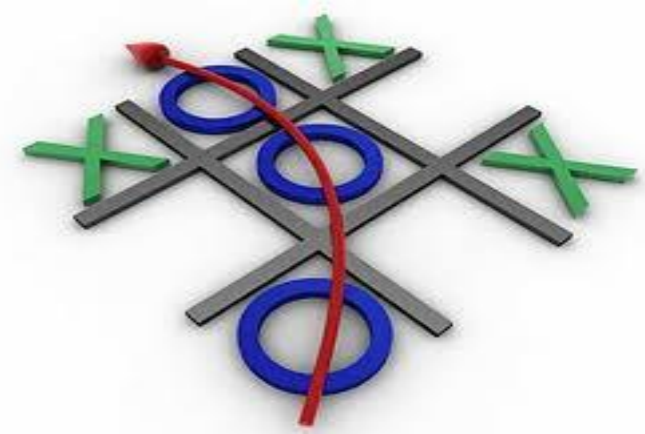
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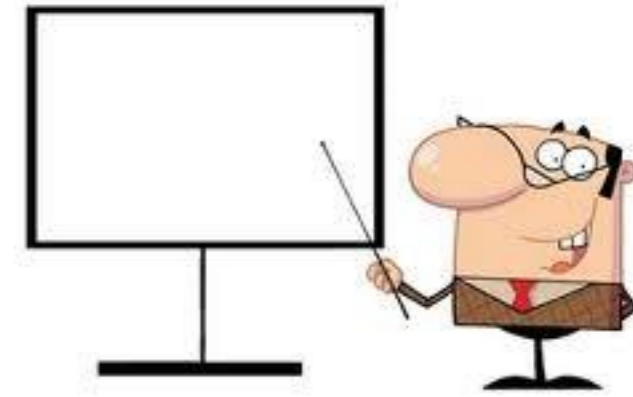
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Election Laws



1. 1987 Constitution
2. 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 Re-acquisition Act (R.A. 9225)

Topics for Discussion



- [1) Philippine Elections
- [2) Commission on Elections and Election Tribunals
- [3) Voters and Voter Registration
- [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
- All Levels
- Synchronized conduct
- Regular
- Plurality Formula
- Regulated by Law
- Supervised by Comelec
- Honest, Orderly and Peaceful
- Clean and Fair
- Inexpensive
- Participated in by Political Parties
- Public Disclosures

1) Philippine Elections



Figures

- Registered Voters: 54,363,844
- Established Precincts: 369,133
- Clustered Precincts: 92,509 (not more than 7 precincts and 800 voters)
- Vote-Counting Machines (VCMs): 97,517 (Phl 92,509; Overseas 120, Contingency 4,888)
- Major Political Parties: 14 (2 dominant parties; 10 major national and 2 major local)

Elective Offices

- President: 1
- Vice-President: 1
- Senators: 12 (of 24)
- District Representatives: 235
- Party-List Representatives: 58 (59)
- Autonomous Region: 1
- Provinces: 81
- Cities: 144
- Municipalities: 1,490

2) Commission on Elections



- **Independent 7-Person Constitutional Body**
(administrative agency, public office, fixed term, permanent appointments)
- **Plenary authority** to decide all questions affecting elections except the question as to the right to vote
- **Enjoys Fiscal Autonomy**
- **Wide** discretion in adopting means to carry out its mandate of ensuring **HOPE** (not straitjacketed by procedural rules)

2) Commission on Elections



- **Enforcement Power:** All election laws (persons and policies); exclusion of others
- **Judicial Power:** Qualifications and Election Contests (excludes Suffrage)
- **Jurisdiction:** Original (Regional, Provincial and City); and Appellate (Municipal, Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan)

2) Commission on Elections



- **Remedies:** En Banc (MR, administrative) and Division (1st instance, judicial)
- **Process:** Division - MR to En Banc then Certiorari to SC
- **Contempt:** Judicial (not Administrative)

2) Commission on Elections



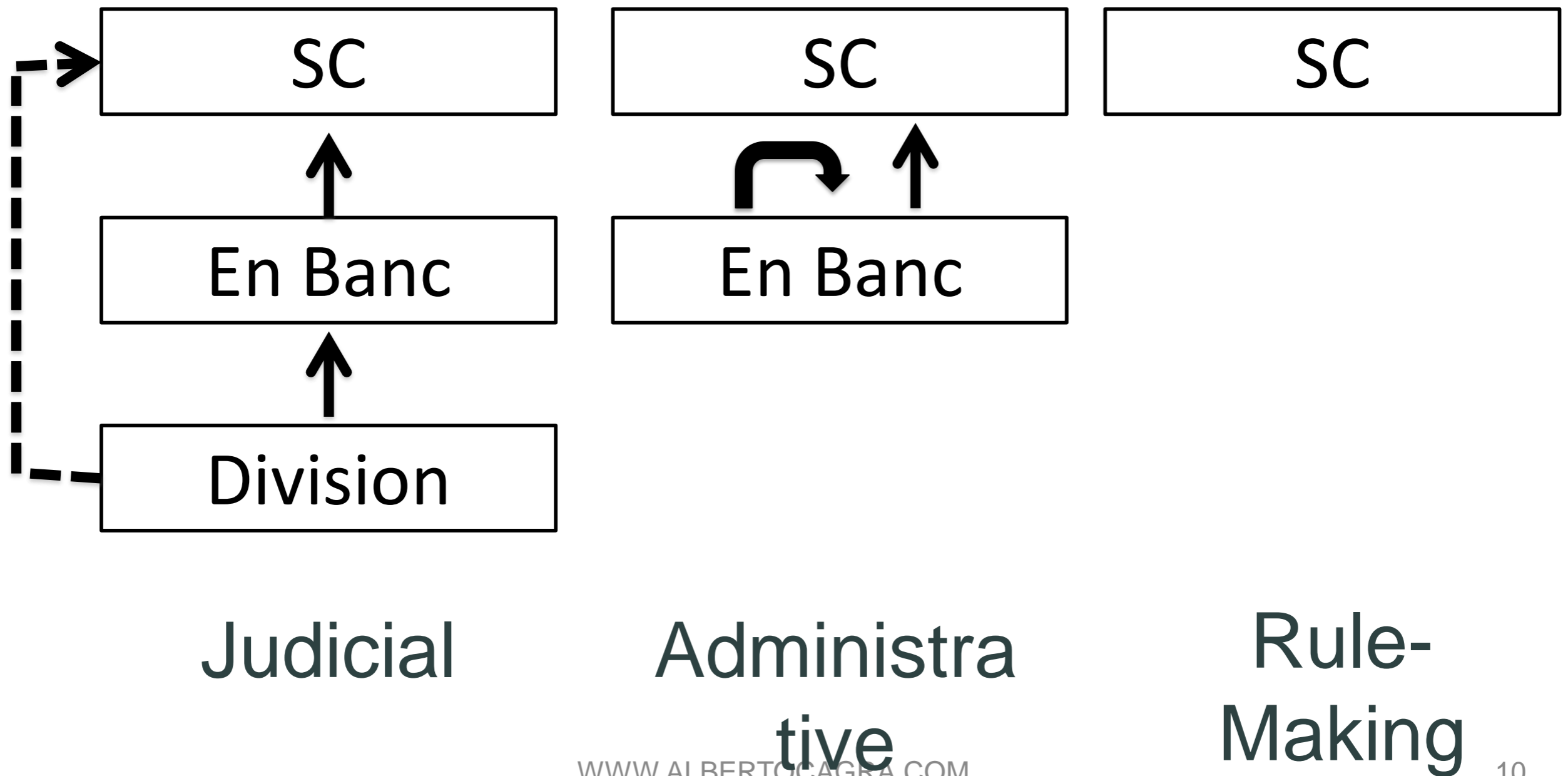
Judicial (Division)

- 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 on conviction with ancillary penalty of DQ
- Allocation of party-list seats
- Accreditation of Major Parties

2) Commission on Elections



3) Public Offices



Branch	Public Office
Regular Courts	Supreme Court Court of Appeals Regional Trial Court Municipal Trial Court
Tribunals	Presidential Electoral Tribunal Senate Electoral Tribunal House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal
COMELEC	National Board of Canvassers En Banc Division Board of Canvassers Board of Election Inspectors Law Department
Executive	Department of Justice

3) Election Tribunals



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

3) Voters: Concepts



- **What?** Suffrage is a Right (not an obligation)
- **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**

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 (unless 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?** Disapproval or Name Stricken Out (Inclusion); Not Qualified or Voter Not Real (Exclusion)
- **When?** Specified Period

3) Voters:

Annulment of Book of Voters



- **Annul What?** Book of Voters per precinct
- **Where File?** Comelec
- **When Filed?** Normally, after period to file inclusion/ exclusion lapses
- **Who Files?** Any Voter, EO or Party
- **What Grounds?** (1) Book Prepared Improperly, Preparation Attended with Vice or Fraud, and (2) Book contains Statistically Improbable Data (not 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) Officials: Qualifications



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

- [Citizenship
- [Age
- [Residency
- [Registered Voter
- [Literacy
- [Free from Disqualifications
- [Undertake Drug Test under CDDA OF 2002, unconstitutional]

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

4) Specific Qualifications



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

4) Candidate: Evolution of Definition



<i>Automated Election Law</i> <i>RA No. 9369</i> <i>(January 23, 2007)</i>	<i>Omnibus Election Code</i> <i>B.P. Bldg. 881</i> <i>(December 3, 1985)</i>	<u><i>Comelec Resolution</i></u> <i>No. 9991</i> <i>(October 2, 2015)</i>	<u><i>Comelec Resolution</i></u> <i>No. 10049</i> <i>(February 1, 2016)</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Filed Certificate of Candidacy (<u>CoC</u>) 2. Start of campaign period 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aspiring for elective office 2. Filed <u>CoC</u> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aspiring for elective office 2. Filed <u>CoC</u> 3. Not withdrawn <u>CoC</u> before start of campaign period 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seeking elective office 2. Filed <u>CoC</u> 3. Not died, withdrawn <u>CoC</u> 4. Not disqualified or <u>CoC</u> cancelled or denied due course before start of campaign period

4) Officials: Candidate



- [**Definition:** Seeks public office *and* files certificate of candidacy *and* campaign period has started
- [**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) Incumbents: Advantages



1. Elective officials not considered resigned regardless of elective position sought (appointive officials considered ipso facto resigned upon filing of certificate of candidacy)
2. Electioneering does not extend to acts of governance, provided no intention to campaign for or against a candidate (not all acts of beneficence is considered campaigning)
3. News about incumbents not considered campaigning, thus, not covered in caps on campaign media exposure
4. Governance collaterals and announcements may not be required to be removed since not considered campaigning without intent to campaign
5. Rules of Appreciations favor incumbents (*no longer applicable in an automated election where names are printed on ballots*)

4) Incumbents: Offenses



- Vote-buying
- Coercion of subordinates
- Appointment of new employees, creation of new positions, promotions, or gives salary increases
- Transfer of officers and employees in the civil service
- Intervention of public officers and employees
- Undue influence
- Appointment or use of special policemen, special agents, confidential agents or the like
- Illegal release of prisoners before and after election
- Use of public funds, money deposited in trust, equipment, facilities owned or controlled by the government for an election campaign
- Use of armoured land, water or air craft
- Use of Policemen and provincial guards acting as bodyguards or security guards
- Release, disbursement or expenditure of public funds
- Construction of public works, delivery of materials for public works and issuance of treasury warrants and similar devices
- Suspension of elective provincial, city, municipal or barangay officer

4) Officials: Substitution



- **Grounds:** (1) Death, (2) Withdrawal, and (3) Disqualification (*not allowed:* (a) if 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
- **When?** Up to mid-day of election day (if withdrawal, on or before December 10, 2015)
- **Substitute?** Qualified (not disqualified) and Same Party
- **Limitations:** Substituted candidate can still run for other elective positions; Withdrawal not affect liabilities

4) Officials: Disqualifications



- [Purpose of DQ: prevent candidate from running, or if elected, from serving
- [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

4) Officials: Disqualifications



Lack of Qualifications

- **Pleading?** Petition to Disqualify a Candidate
- **Grounds?** Constitution or Statutes
- **Where File?** Comelec Division
- **When File?** Before Proclamation
- **Process?** Summary, Due Process, requires a complaint/petition; not motu proprio unless there is final judgment
- **If Not File?** Quo Warranto

4) Officials: Disqualifications



Commission of Election Offenses

- **Pleading?** Petition to Disqualify a Candidate
- **What Offenses?** 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

4) Officials: Disqualifications



Nuisance Candidate

- **Petition?** Petition to Declare a Candidate as a Nuisance Candidate
- **Who Is?** Campaign Capability, Intention, Performance, Exposure, Platform, Party Affiliation, Organization, Profession, Income, Health, Education, Name
- **Where File?** Comelec Division
- **When File?** Within 5 days from Last Day Filing of Certificate of Candidacy
- **If Not File?** No remedy

4) Officials: Disqualifications



Misrepresentation

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

— **What?** Misrepresentation must be Material (pertains to Qualifications and Disqualifications; not surname, profession, political party) and Willful/ Deliberate; Even if there is ‘misrepresentation,’ if actually qualified, should not be disqualified

— **Where File?** Comelec Division

— **When File?** 25 days from Filing of CoC

— **If Not File?** Quo Warranto

4) Officials: Disqualifications



Misrepresentation

<i>Material Entries</i>	<i>Formal Entries</i>
<p>Qualification-related:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Citizenship2. Residency3. Registered Voter4. Age5. Literacy <p>To be disqualified under Misrepresentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The misrepresentation must be material, i.e., qualification-related2. The candidate had the intent to defraud the voters (deliberate)3. The candidate is not actually qualified	<p>Non-Qualification-related:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Political Party2. Profession3. Legitimacy or Illegitimacy4. Use of another surname5. Civil Status

4) Compare and Contrast



	Grounds			
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	Petition to Deny Due Course to or Cancel a Certificate of Candidacy (CoC)	Petition to Declare a Candidate as a Nuisance Candidate (or <u>Comelec</u> initiates)
Allegations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Candidate does not possess all qualifications 2. Candidate possesses some or all of disqualifications 3. Candidate violated rule on term limits 	Candidate committed any of enumerated election offenses: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Misrepresentation is material, i.e., qualification-related 2. Candidate intended to defraud the voters (deliberate) 3. Candidate is not actually qualified 	<u>CoC</u> has been filed to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>put</u> the election process in mockery or disrepute 2. <u>cause</u> confusion among the voters by the similarity of the names of the registered candidates Candidate no bona fide intention since no/ not: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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



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

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
- Final decision on DQ before elections

1st placer not a legitimate candidate at the beginning

5) Campaign: Concept



- [**Definition:** Act designed to *promote* the election or *defeat* of a candidate
- [**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

5) Campaign: Allowable Forms



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

5) Campaign: Propaganda



- [Paid Political Advertisements
- [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:** 1/4th page in broadsheet; 1/2 in tabloid 3x a week
- **Television:** 120 minutes (for national); 60 minutes (for local)
- **Radio:** 180 minutes (for national); 90 minutes (for local)

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
- [Financing Institutions
- [Public Utility Operator
- [Natural Resources Explorer
- [Government Contractors
- [Franchise Holders
- [Donee Institution from Government (P100,000)
- [Donee Educational Institutions (P100,000)
- [Foreigners/ Foreign Corporations
- [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
- [Expenditures made by non-authorized persons

6) Lawful Expenditures



- [Use of Facilities
- [Travel
- [Compensation
- [Communications
- [Written Materials
- [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 proprio); 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
- [**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
- [**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



7) Compare and Contrast

	<i>Postponement of Elections</i>	<i>Failure of Elections</i>
Legal Bases	Section 5, Omnibus Election Code Section 4, RA No. 7166	Section 6, Omnibus Election Code Section 4, RA No. 7166
Grounds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Force Majeure 2. Violence 3. Terrorism 4. Loss or Destruction of Election Paraphernalia 5. Analogous causes 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Force Majeure 2. Violence 3. Terrorism 4. Fraud 5. Analogous causes
Extent of Cause	Serious <i>and</i> Impossibility to have free and orderly elections	Failure to elect <i>and</i> affect results of elections (illegality must affect 50% of the votes)
Basis	Expectancy/ potential Effect	Actual outcome/results
Conditions	Grounds must exist before voting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Election not held or suspended 2. After voting or during preparation 3. Transmission 4. Canvassing
Area	Any political subdivision	Any polling place
Procedural Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Motu Propio</u> or by Verified Petition 2. Notice and Due Process 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verified Petition 2. Notice and Due Process
Authority	<u>Comelec</u> En Banc	
Effect if Petition Granted	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Postpone elections 2. Conduct elections reasonable close to elections which was not held; but not later than 30 days from cessation of the cause 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Declaration of failure of elections 2. Holding or continuation of elections reasonably close to elections which was not held; but not later than 30 days from cessation of cause

8) Automated Elections



- **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
- **Comelec Discretion:** AES or AESs, Paper-Based or Direct Recording

8) Automated Elections



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

— **Processes:**

1. Casting, Counting and Transmission at Precinct Level
2. Consolidation and Proclamation at Canvassing Levels

8) Vote-Counting Machines



- USES PASSWORDS & PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS (PIN)
- USES 3 DIGITAL SIGNATURES



8) Automated Elections



- [**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

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Comelec Website



Central Server



ER

ER

ER



C/M BOC

COC



Prov BOC

COC



Natl BOC
Comelec

COC

COC

COC

Transparency Server



ER



Backup Server

ER

ER



LP



UNA



Citizens
Arm



KBP



NAMFREL
& Others

8) Automated Elections



- A. **Preliminaries: 6:00 to 7:00 a.m.**
 1. BEI sets up Polling Place
 2. Pollwatchers present credentials to BEI
 3. BEI posts Precinct Certified Voters List (PCVL)
 4. BEI shows sealed Vote Counting Machine (VCM) and empty Ballot Box to public
 5. BEI turns on Vote Counting Machine (VCM) and logs in

8) Automated Elections



- B. **Voting Proper: 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
 - 1. Voters vote in the order of arrival
 - 2. Voter approaches BEI
 - 3. BEI verifies Voter identity
 - 4. BEI checks if fingers unstained with Indelible Ink (if stained, cannot vote)
 - 5. BEI announces name of Voter
 - 6. If no challenge or challenged dismissed, Voter signs in Election Day Computerized Voters List (EDCVL)

8) Automated Elections



7. BEI Chair:
 - a) Signs Ballot in space provided
 - b) Gives Ballot inside Secrecy Folder and Marking Pen to voter
8. Voter votes by shading circles
9. 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

8) Automated Elections



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

8) Automated Elections



C. Closing of Polls: 5:00 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)

8) Automated Elections



4. VCM prints 22 copies of NERs and 22 copies of LERs
5. BEI signs all ERs and affixes thumbmarks and places 8 NERs and 8 LERs inside Envelopes
6. 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) Automated Elections



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 and Results-related
- [**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
 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
- **Procedure:** Revision; Trial
- **If prosper:** protestee removed, true winner proclaimed

10) Post-Proclamation: Quo Warranto



- [**Grounds:** Disloyalty to Republic; Ineligibility
- [**Venue:** Same as Election Protest
- [**If prosper:** Respondent ousted; special elections or succession

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



PHASE	ELECTION PERIOD							
	PRE-ELECTION DAY		ELECTION DAY			ELECTION DAY +1		POST-PROCLAMATION
	CAMPAIGN PERIOD	EVE	VOTING	CASTING	TRANSMISSION	CANVASSING	PROCLAMATION	
ELECTION OFFENSES	VOTE BUYING / SELLING OR CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ACT							
	WAGERING UPON RESULTS OF ELECTION							
	COERCION OF SUBORDINATES TO INFLUENCE VOTE							
	THREATS, FRAUD, OR TERRORISM TO INFLUENCE VOTE							
	COERCION OF ELECTION OFFICIALS							
	CREATION OF NEW POSITION, APPOINTMENT OF EMPLOYEES, PROMOTION, GIVING SALARY INCREASE							
	WITHIN 45 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY							
	TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEES OR OFFICERS IN CIVIL SERVICE							
	CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS OR EMPLOYEES ENGAGING IN PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES							
	PROMISE/ SOLICIT EMPLOYEMENT TO INFLUENCE VOTING							
	UNLAWFUL ELECTIONEERING							
	PROHIBITION AGAINST DISMISSAL OF EMPLOYEES, LABORERS, OR TENANTS FOR REFUSING OR FAILING TO VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE							
	APPOINTMENT OR USE OF SPECIAL POLICEMEN, AGENTS, COFIDENTIAL AGENTS							
	ILLEGAL RELEASE OF DETENTION PRISONERS							
	WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY			WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER ELECTION DAY				
	USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR CAMPAIGN							
	BEARING, CARRYING, OR TRANSPORTING FIREARMS OUTSIDE RESIDENCE OR BUSINESSES EVEN WITH PERMIT TO CARRY							
					CARRYING DEADLY WEAPONS WITHIN RADIUS OF 100 METERS			
					USE OF ARMORED LAND, WATER, OR AIR CRAFT			
WEARING UNIFORMS AND BEARING ARMS OURSIDE VICINITY OF WORK PLACE								
USE OF SECURITY PERSONNELS OR BODYGUARDS BY CANDIDATES, UNLESS AUTHORIZED								

11) Election Offenses



PHA	PRE-ELECTION DAY		ELECTION DAY			ELECTION DAY +1	POST-PROCLAMATION
	CAMPAIGN PERIOD	EVE	VOTING	CASTING	TRANSMISSION	CANVASSING	PROCLAMATION
ELECTION OFFENSES	ORGANIZATION OR MAINTENANCE OF REACTION FORCES, STRIKE FORCES, OR OTHER SIMILAR FORCES						
	RELEASE OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PUBLIC WORKS, SOCIAL WELFARE, COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS		VOTING MORE THAN ONCE OR IN SUBSTITUTION				
	WITHIN 45 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY						
	CONSTRUCTION AND DELIVERY OF MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC WORKS, ISSUANCE OF TREASURY WARRANTS		OPENING OF BOOTHS OR STALLS FOR SALE OF MERCHANDISE OR REFRESHMENT WITHIN 30 METERS RADIUS				
	WITHIN 45 DAYS BEFORE ELECTION DAY		HOLDING OF FAIRS, COCKFIGHTS, BOXING, HORSE RACES, OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR SPORTS				
	SUSPENSION OF ELECTIVE PUBLIC OFFICIAL WITHOUT APPROVAL OF COMELEC						
	ALTERATION OF TERRITORY OF A PRECINCT OR ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PRECINCT						
	GIVING DONATIONS OR GIFTS IN CASH OR IN KIND						
	CAMPAIGNING ON HOLY WEEK		SELLING, FURNISHING, OFFERING, BUYING, SERVING, OR TAKING INTOXICATING LIQUOR				
			GIVING, ACCEPTING, FREE TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, OR DRINKS OR THINGS OF VALUE				
		CAMPAIGNING					
		SOLICITING VOTES OR BLACK PROPAGANDA WITHIN					

12) Cases per Category



Categories	Specific Cases
<i>Electorate</i>	Inclusion and Exclusion Annulment of Book of Voters
<i>Candidate</i>	Disqualification
<i>Election Integrity</i>	Postponement of Elections Failure of Elections
<i>Pre-Proclamation</i>	BoC-related Consolidated Results-related
<i>Election Protests/ Post-Proclamation</i>	Election Protest Quo Warranto
<i>Election Offenses</i>	Against Candidates Against Non-Candidates and Voters

12) Public Offices



Branch	Public Office
Regular Courts	Supreme Court Court of Appeals Regional Trial Court Municipal Trial Court
Tribunals	Presidential Electoral Tribunal Senate Electoral Tribunal House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal
COMELEC	National Board of Canvassers En Banc Division Board of Canvassers Board of Election Inspectors Law Department
Executive	Department of Justice

12) Dispute Resolution



	<i>Cases/ Disputes</i>									
<i>Aspects</i>	<i>Annul Book of Voters</i>	<i>DQ of Candidates</i>	<i>Postpone Elections</i>	<i>Failure of Elections</i>	<i>Voter Challenges</i>	<i>Pre-Proc.</i>	<i>Annul Proclamation</i>	<i>Election Protest</i>	<i>Quo Warranto</i>	<i>Election Offenses</i>
<i>Grounds</i>	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

12) Dispute Resolution



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

12) Dispute Resolution



<i>Aspects</i>	<i>Annul Book of Voters</i>	<i>DQ of Candidates</i>	<i>Postpone Elections</i>	<i>Failure of Elections</i>	<i>Voter Challenges</i>	<i>Pre-Proc.</i>	<i>Annul Proclamation</i>	<i>Election Protest</i>	<i>Quo Warranto</i>	<i>Election Offenses</i>
Procedure	Petition and hearing	Petition and hearing	<u>Motu proprio</u> or Petition and hearing	Petition and hearing	Challenge recorded	1 st : Petition and hearing; canvassing suspended during pendency 2 nd : 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: <u>Comelec</u> Campaign Finance Office, NGOs	Any interested party	<u>Comelec motu proprio</u> or any interested party	Voter or watcher	Any candidate or political party	Any candidate or political party	P/ VP/ Municipal: 2 nd or 3 rd placer Others: Any candidate	Any voter	Any interested party/ Any voter

12) Dispute Resolution



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

THANK YOU. GOOD LUCK.