

CLERK OF COURT
SUPERIOR COURT
FILED
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DATE: 3/21/24 TIME: 9:27
JESMY CLERK OF COURT
p/s

Commonwealth of the Northern
Mariana Islands]
Plaintiff]
VS.]
SHAYNE BLANCO]
VILLANUEVA]
D.O.B: 07/26/1982]
Defendant,]

COURT CASE NO.: _____
PITA No. 24-10

**DECLARATION OF PROBABLE
CAUSE IN SUPPORT OF THE
ISSUANCE OF AN ARREST
WARRANT**

Your Affiant, Investigator Ikluk T. Masayos, makes the following declaration, deposes, and says:

Your Affiant is an Investigator with the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Office of the Attorney General and has been so employed for five years and assigned to the OAG Investigative Division. Your Affiant is well skilled in analyzing and investigating any and all criminal violations under the CNMI Criminal Code. Your Affiant has five years of Local and Federal Law Enforcement experiences and has investigated numerous criminal activities and made numerous arrests for the same. Your affiant graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Criminal Justice and Criminology. Your Affiant has received numerous in-house training and educational courses from Local and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies.

1. On March 8, 2024, the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the Commonwealth Legislature transmitted to Attorney General Edward Manibusan a signed Certification of Statement of Contempt ("Statement") for Shayne B. Villanueva, ("VILLANUEVA"), according to 1 CMC 1306(b). On the same date, the AG Manibusan referred the case to the Task Force comprising the Office of the Public Auditor, the OAG, and the Department of Public Safety, of which affiant is Commander.
2. The Statement alleged that on March 5, 2024, during the House Special Committee on Federal Assistance and Disaster-Related Funding (FADRF) investigatory meeting regarding Subpoena Ad Testificandum H.S.C. FADRF No. 0009, issued to ROIL SOIL Marketing and VILLANUEVA, Villanueva failed to answer questions posed by the Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" T. Attao (Rep. Attao).
3. After refusing to answer questions, Vice-Chairman Edwin K. Propst and Chairman Ralph N. Yumul advised VILLANUEVA that his failure to respond to the questions subjected him to contempt of the legislature and prosecution by the Attorney General.

4. Affiant was present in the House Chamber for the March 5, 2024 hearing, which was streamed online. Affiant personally observed the questions and answers and has reviewed the transcript of the hearing.
5. Accompanying the certified Statement was a Special Standing Report No. 23-1, which reviewed the facts and background leading to the recommendation for prosecution for Contempt.
6. In response to the first question from Rep. Attao, which was “Can you please tell us a little bit about your post-secondary educational background?” VILLANUEVA replied with the phrase “On the advice of my counsel, I respectfully invoke my Fifth Amendment privilege, therefoew I respectfully decline to answer your question at this time.”
7. VILLANUEVA used that phrase eight times, refusing to answer the question about post-secondary education. Asking for confirmation that VILLANUEVA would be refusing to answer any of the questions, VILLANUEVA repeated the phrase.
8. After admonishment, Rep. Attao asked “do you have a degree or any certification in marketing or advertising?” VILLANUEVA refused to answer.
9. Rep. Attao asked “Please share with us your professional credentials.” VILLANUEVA refused to answer.
10. Rep. Attao asked “What is Roil Soil and where is it physically located?” VILLANUEVA refused to testify.
11. Vice-chair Propst asked “are you unwilling to answer any of our questions that we are going to ask you from this point forward?” to which VILLANUEVA replied “I respectfully invoke my Fifth Amendment privilege, therefore I respectfully decline to answer your question.”

Based on the information contained in paragraphs 1 thru 11, your Affiant believes that probable cause exists to support the charges of **Contempt 1 CMC § 1306** in violation of the laws of the **Commonwealth**.

Affiant therefore requests that this court issue an arrest warrant for **SHAYNE BLANCO VILLANUEVA** for the indicated charges and that this court set bail at the amount it finds suitable to fit these charges.

Your Affiant DECLARES UNDER OATH that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of your Affiant's knowledge, and that this declaration was executed on this _____ day of _____ 2024 on _____, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.


Signature of Affiant

3/11/2024
Date

Reviewed by:


Jim Johnson
Assistant Attorney General:

3/11/24
Date:


Kenneth A. Lovett
SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

3/11/24
DATE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands]
] Plaintiff,
] VS.
] SHAYNE BLANCO
] VILLANUEVA
] D.O.B: 07/26/1982
] Defendant,

CRIMINAL CASE# : _____
PITA# 24-10

ARREST WARRANT

To Any Police Officer, Detective, Marshall, or Any Peace Officer in the Commonwealth, approved by written declaration provided before me by Chief Investigator Ikluk T. Masayos on this date, here is a **Warrant of Arrest** issued for the above-mentioned Defendant for the charges of **Contempt 1 CMC § 1306** in violation of the laws of the **Commonwealth Code**.

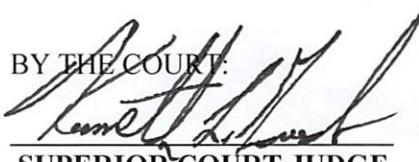
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to arrest the above-named Defendant and bring him before a judge without unnecessary delay.

Confiscate Travel Documents.

Cash bail of \$1,000 USD.

This warrant is issued on this 11th day of March 2024 at 10:55 (a.m.) p.m. in the village of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

BY THE COURT:


SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

RETURN OF OFFICER: I hereby certify that I have issued this **Warrant of Arrest** to the above named Defendant at 0900 a.m. / p.m., on the 22nd day of March 2024 in the village of Saipan.


Law Enforcement Officer