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QUALIFICATION STANDARDS FOR CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

(Guidelines for Election/Appointment of Government Leaders)

Prepared by the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPC-RV) and by the Task Force on Responsible Voting of the Council of the Laity of the Philippines (CLP).

These guidelines set the disqualifications and qualifications of the candidates. The guidelines for disqualification will help identify the candidates who are not worthy of being voted at all. On the other hand, the guidelines for qualification will help voters to identify the most deserving candidates to be voted. There are three general categories for rating the candidates:

(A) PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

(What He/She is),

(B) SERVICE AND PLATFORM

(What He/She Stands For), and

(C) HIS/HER TRACK RECORD

(What He/She has Done).

Obviously, the standards set forth are high. These are the ideal, hence, the candidates need not rate a 100%. Realistically, some candidates may rate 90%, 80% or 70%. The one who rates the highest gets the choice. To assist in the rating of candidates, the following weights are suggested: 20% for A, 40% for B, and 40% for C. Voters are free to change these weights.

Aside from being mere guidelines in the choice of those still aspiring for public office, these statements can indeed become standards for public service which incumbent public servants should, day by day, endeavor to achieve.

I. DISQUALIFICATIONS

(What he/she must not be)

- 1. Graft and Corruption** - shown by his dishonesty and unexplained wealth.
- 2. 3 G's** - a record or reputation for using guns, goons and gold in the electoral processes or in his work.

II. QUALIFICATIONS

A. PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

(What He/She is)

- 20%

1. Man/Woman of God. (MAKA-DIYOS)

- who is above all committed to God's will.
- who lives the Gospel values, if Christian.
- who practices his religion faithfully, if non-Catholic or non-Christian. (For example, if Muslim, he follows the Koran faithfully.)
- who is not materialistic and sexually promiscuous; does not have *vices* as shown by shady deals, extravagant spending, riotous living, gambling, womanizing, excessive drinking.
- who is of strong moral character and inspires others to be so.

2. Service-Oriented (MAKA-BAYAN)

- aspires for public office out of a genuine desire to serve with dedication and selflessness; is not power hungry and does not practice nepotism and/or favoritism.
- shows, through his personal, family and work life and involvement in public/private associations, his disposition to serve others unselfishly
- uses authority constructively, creatively - - to give life and not to destroy, to heal and not to divide, to serve and not to be served.

**3. A Person of Peace, Justice and Love
(MAKA-TAO)**

- a) who reconciles opposing views while maintaining his basic principles.
- b) who condemns violence and vice in no uncertain terms, but spares no effort in bringing back the wayward to the ways of peace and virtue.
- c) who dispenses justice for all by listening to all sides prior to conclusion and action, and shows detachment from excessive filial or personal relationships.
- d) who is concerned with the swift and fair administration of justice and enforcement of the law.
- e) who tempers justice with love, avoiding alienation of the "other person".

4. A Person of Integrity and Transparency

- a) who is honest in all his ways - a person of integrity in thought, word, deed -thereby earning the respect and trust of others.
- b) whose honesty and integrity characterize his family and professional life, his private and public transactions.
- c) whose transparency allows and encourages close scrutiny of all his acts and decisions.

**5. A Competent Person. A Man of Action.
(MAGALING)**

- a) who qualifies for the specific position he is seeking through his academic/work experience and by way of a good mind which can easily grasp and analyze the essential points of a situation and come up with practical workable plans to address said situation.
- b) who can communicate effectively.

- c) who has a sense of urgency in getting things done, but tempers this with acting on the basis of fact and analysis of data.
- d) whose leadership unfolds an aptitude for team effort and a strong sense of community.

B. SERVICE AND PLATFORM

(What He/She Stands for) - 40%

1. Pro-Constitution. Pro-democracy. Pro-Country. (MAKA-BAYAN)

- a) upholds and is willing to defend the Philippine Constitution and democratic institutions at all costs.
- b) awakens in the citizenry that sense of nationhood and national pride which go beyond personal, family and regional bonds.
- c) instills in others love for country - inspiring them to work together for its development.

2. Pro-Poor. Pro-People. (MAKA-TAO)

- a) prefers the cause of the poor and underprivileged.
- b) animates others - - through his words, works, witness - - towards a commitment.
 - 1) to share with the poor.
 - 2) to serve the poor.
 - 3) to live simply so that the poor may simply live.
 - 4) to being with, working with and learning from the poor.
- c) uses his possessions and means primarily for the common good and not just for personal gain.

3. Pro-Life, Pro-Non-Violence (MAKA-TAO)

- a) believes in the primacy of life; hence, is against all practices of ending, shortening and/or preventing life.

- b) **promotes an uncompromising reverence for life and works for a society that does not glorify violence, sex, drugs and other forms of abuse to the dignity of human life.**
- c) **concretely manifests his pro-life conviction/commitment by working for the dismantling of structures that perpetuate such abuses.**

4. *Pro-Church*

- a) **shows no discrimination against other religion, considering them as God's children under the love of the same Father.**
- b) **generally maintains good relations with the Catholic Church even if non-Catholic.**

5. *Program of Government (MAKA-BAYAN)*

- a) **as a man/woman of vision, he/she integrates all the desired qualifications - maka-tao, maka-bayan, maka-Diyos - and translates these into a concrete plan of action.**
- b) **as a candidate for President, Governor, Mayor, he/she is guided by his/her vision in coming up with concrete plan of action/program of government considering major political, economic and social issues.**
- c) **his/her concrete plan of action/program of government is articulated in clear goals with necessary support projects and having realistic and efficient timetable for results.**
- d) **his/her concrete plan of action/program of government must work for the empowerment of the people.**
- e) **he/she must have the ability to select a competent staff which can work as a team and which shares his/her vision and program of government.**

C. HIS/HER TRACK RECORD

(What he/she has done)

- 40%

1. A Tested Leader (MAGALING)

- a) who is guided by all the qualifications herein mentioned.
- b) whose performance in his public and private involvements attest to his ability as a leader.

2. He Displays Good Judgement (MAGALING)

- a) who is capable of good judgment in sensitive positions.
- b) who is sincere, open-minded, has respect for ideas of others.
- c) whose work experiences have presented him with difficult dilemmas and show his exercise of good judgements.

3. His Life Is A Testimony of His Beliefs

- a) Whose life, career and lifestyle give testimony to what he is and what he stands for.
- b) "Yes Man" - can take a stand or be committed to a cause; not a "yes man" for expediency or convenience.

RATING: A = 20% B = 40% C = 40%

RATE YOUR CANDIDATES:

STANDARDS	Cand. A	Cand. B
Personal Attributes (20%)		
Service & Platform (40%)		
Track Record (40%)		
TOTAL SCORE		

(November 24, 1991 Edition)