

PRC MARINE BOARDS NOW UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE CHAIR OF PRC

The Chairman of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) officially assumed supervision and control over the Marine Boards (Deck and Engine) effective today. This move is compliant to the government rationalization plan aimed to improve the services of the Marine Board.

There are benefits under Chair Lapena: the delivery of services will be quicker; the decision time on issues affecting the profession will be shorter; the layers of approving authority in certification and licensing will reduce; the requirements in certification will simplify; and WES will be a priority.

It has been the practice in PRC the past 10 years that Assistant Commissioner Aristogerson Gesmundo put shackles on the Marine Boards and STCW resulting to delays, if not “red tape”, within PRC harmful to ship officers. Amigos-Marino strongly opposed the Management Level Course, Interim Courses, and Simulator assessment, SSBT with BRM made part of certification. All these cost seafarers hundreds of thousands, bumped-off crew rotation plan, and breakdown of families to name some; creating artificial shortage of officers.

MARAMING SALAMAT Po! Chair Nicolas Lapena

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