

*District 3830
Executive Committee*

*Ed 'Boyet' Limon
District Governor*

*Rene Aguirre
District Secretary*

*Fritz Ocampo
District Treasurer*

*Alex Yague
SAG – Operations*

*Ed Alvarez
SAG – Membership*

*Joji Tan
SAG- Service Projects
Club, International & Youth*

*Edna Sutter
SAG- Service Projects
Community & Vocational*

*PDG Tony Quila
Chairman – TRF*

*PDG Sonny Coloma
District Trainer
Rotary Academy*

*Sally Tongson
SAG & Exec Director
Rotary Academy & Awards*

*Chochit Tobias
SAG-Public Relations*

*Fred Sarabia
SAG – Ways & Means*

Statement From The District Legal Counsel

GUIDELINES FOR CONCURRENCES AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF CONCURRENCES

Colleagues in Rotary:

The formal announcement of challenge by the governor ushered in the “concurrency” phase of the DGN selection process. The announcement also set forth the district’s guiding principle in regard to concurrences:

“...a resolution of concurrency presumptively represents the solemn and sovereign action of a club acting in obeisance to the Four Way Test, and may hence be withdrawn or set aside only through another resolution duly adopted by the club and filed with the governor’s office not later than 5:00 PM of 13 April 2009.”

By direction of the governor, I invite attention to the following norms that enforce the guiding principle quoted above. These norms shall serve as the governor’s guidelines in addressing controversies that may arise pertaining to concurrences, that may be brought to his attention and that may be within his authority to resolve. They are as follows:

FIRST: As with the right to challenge, the right to concur is vested by the Bylaws of Rotary International only and exclusively in Rotary Clubs. Thus, unless specifically and expressly allowed and authorized by his or her club, no individual Rotarian may presume to exercise this high prerogative, no matter his or her office or position in the club or district. For the same reason, unless specifically and expressly allowed or authorized by the club, not even its board of directors may concur for it.

SECOND: By express command of the RI Bylaws, a club may exercise its right to concur only and exclusively through the adoption of a club resolution during a regular meeting of its members. Consequently, the club’s right to concur may validly be exercised only through the officers’ and members’ dutiful compliance with all the requirements and procedures found in the club’s constitution and by-laws pertaining to the conduct of regular meetings and the deliberation, passage, and documentation of club resolutions. Take note that in this matter at least, RI disallows any easy and convenient short-cuts toward the official expression of the club’s sovereign will.



THIRD: Because of their grave and solemn nature, RI has made club concurrences difficult to muster and engineer. By parity of principle, it is the sense of the district that the withdrawals of concurrences should be no less difficult to muster and engineer. Thus, no attempt to withdraw a concurrence previously filed shall be honored, unless documented through another resolution also duly adopted by the club and filed with the governor's office on or before the 5:00 PM of 13 April 2009.

FINALLY: Whether in the process of mustering concurrences or withdrawals of concurrences, any attempt to usurp club rights, misrepresent club acts, or circumvent club constitutional processes and requirements shall NOT be tolerated in this district, and erring Rotarians shall most certainly be called to task. Upon validation of appropriately substantiated complaints, even beyond the April 13 deadline, the office of the governor shall address these misdeeds squarely and without equivocation. Obedience to the Four Way Test requires nothing more and demands nothing less.

The ongoing concurrence phase is a time of utmost political engagement, with attention and activity rapidly focusing upon a few potential sources of club concurrences. It may indeed unravel the ties that bind, or perhaps, if the Four Way Test should continue as our north star and fighting faith, lead to an even stronger unity among clubs and Rotarians in District 3830. Dickens wrote, "it was the best of times, it was the worst of times" and indeed, by our own actions in the coming days shall the choice be made.

01 April 2009, Makati City.

(original signed)
PP RAFFY AQUINO
Counsel for RI District 3830
RY 2008-2009