

Secretary Jesus Crispin C. Remulla
Department of Justice, Padre Faura Street
Ermita, Manila 10020
PHILIPPINES

Leila de Lima

Dear Secretary,

I urge you to impartially review the charges against former senator Leila de Lima, who has been charged with drug-related offences and has been detained at the PNP Custodial Centre in Camp Crame, Quezon City, Metro Manila since then. Since Leila de Lima has repeatedly criticized the Duterte administration of human rights violations in the context of the so-called 'war on drugs' initiated by President Duterte, those charges appear to have been trumped up and politically motivated.

In April and May, three witnesses against Senator Leila de Lima revoked their testimonies against her. They have all stated that they were threatened by the police and high-level government officials to falsely testify against the senator for illegal drug trade activities.

In light of the above, I call on the new administration to carry out the review of Senator Leila de Lima's case urgently and impartially, with a view to dropping the charges against her and ensuring her immediate release.

Also ask you to investigate allegations by witnesses who say they were coerced to commit perjury and ensure that those responsible for her arbitrary detention are prosecuted.

Sincerely yours,