

THIRD DIVISION

CTA Case No. 10693

-versus-

MANAHAN, Chairperson,
REYES-FAJARDO, and
ANGELES, JJ.

Promulgated:

Respondent.

FEB 03 2025

1:00 p.m.

X - - - - - 1.06 p.m. - - - - - X

RESOLUTION

Petitioner asserts the following in the instant motion:

- (1) The instant case is not on all fours with the *Wintelecom* case;
- (2) The delay between the actual date of filing of petitioner's Formal Offer of Evidence (FOE) and the date prayed for its filing in its Motion for Extension of Time is not significant or substantial;
- (3) The rigid application of procedural rules undermines the pursuit of substantial justice;
- (4) The Court's mandate in ensuring that cases are decided on the merits is better served if the Court allows petitioner to formally offer its evidence; and
- (5) The summary denial of petitioner's subject motion deprives it of its right to due process.

RESOLUTION

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After careful consideration, the Court resolves to deny the present motion.

To reiterate, petitioner filed its *first* Motion for Extension (*MotEx*) on May 16, 2024, to extend the date of the filing of its FOE until **May 26, 2024**. Yet, even the *second MotEx* was **belatedly filed on May 27, 2024**. In both instances, counsels for petitioner advanced the excuse of “heavy workload” to justify the delay in its filing.

Evidently, petitioner’s inexcusable laxity in observing its own prayer in the subject motion, *i.e.*, to extend the filing of its FOE until May 26, 2024, and yet filing the second *MotEx* one (1) day late on May 27, 2024 due to “heavy workload,” clearly undermines the power of the Court to control the proceedings which contributes to the needless delay and derailment of the speedy administration of justice.

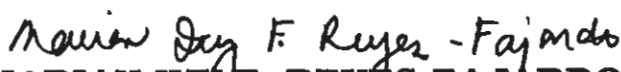
Hence, the Court finds no error in the assailed Resolution denying: (1) petitioner’s first and second *MotEx*; and (2) the admission of the subject FOE.

FOR THESE REASONS, petitioner’s *Motion for Reconsideration (Of the Resolution dated 22 July 2024)* is **DENIED**, for lack of merit.

SO ORDERED.




CATHERINE T. MANAHAN
Associate Justice


MARIAN IVY F. REYES-FAJARDO
Associate Justice


HENRY S. ANGELES
Associate Justice