

## DBM APPOINTS ATTY. UAYAN

AS NEW PROCUREMENT SERVICE HEAD

### AT A GLANCE:

- DBM Secretary Wendel E. Avisado designates Atty. Jasonmer L. Uayan as the new OIC-Executive Director of the Procurement Service
- Atty. Uayan says he wants to focus on the resolution of issues involving AOMs, out-of-stock, and unserved APRs
- Empathizing with employees, Atty. Uayan says he will also address the concerns about security of tenure in PS-DBM



A crucial change in the leadership of the Procurement Service – Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM) has recently taken effect, following the issuance of DBM Office Order No. 229 S. 2021. On May 31, Atty. Jasonmer L. Uayan was designated as the new Officer-in-Charge – Executive Director of the agency.

As the former Director of the PS-DBM Procurement Group, his name definitely rings a bell. Whether it is through email messages, virtual meetings, or personal encounter, we all must have come to know him at some point—but only to some extent. Atty. Uayan's modesty and self-effacement, most obvious in the way he deals with matters that attract a certain level of exposure, are a proof that he has no penchant for publicity. After all, what matters to him is not the recognition, but the fulfilment of tasks.

"Dapat output-oriented," Atty. Uayan says when asked to describe his style of leadership. In accordance with existing rules and prescribed regulations, transparency must also always be observed. "All transactions must be transparent, 'yan ang most important talaga," he adds.

Despite his initial reservations for an interview, Atty. Uayan walked his talk. In a casual conversation, he was what he said his leadership would be: transparent.

Walking down the memory lane, Atty. Uayan journeyed back to Davao, his hometown, to tell a little more about himself and his life before PS-DBM.





# UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

A graduate of the Philippine Science High School Eastern Mindanao Campus, now known as Southern Mindanao Campus, Atty. Uayan had to take a science and technology-related degree in college in line with the limited course offerings of the Department of Science and Technology. He took his undergraduate studies at the Ateneo de Davao, and finished Chemical Engineering in 2001. The following year, in 2002, he became a licensed chemical engineer.

It is most likely through his inclination towards the scientific field that he developed an affinity for anything science; his hobbies include either reading books or watching videos about science fictions, nature and environment, and advancements in science and technology, among others.

Atty. Uayan, however, admits to having qualms about his early academic decisions. “Kaunti lang ang industries na naghi-hire ng

chemical engineers sa Davao,” he says. This led him to pursue another scholastic endeavour—one that his family is very much familiar with. “Both my father and my older brother are lawyers,” he shares.

After three years at the same university as his tertiary education, he transferred to Cor Jesus College in Digos City to finish law in 2012. The journey to actually become a lawyer was not a walk in the park, though. “My law school was quite colourful,” he recalls. Roughly 17 years from when he became a licensed engineer, he passed the Philippine Bar Examination in 2020, becoming one of the lawyers who emerged victorious amid—and despite—the COVID-19 pandemic.

At 43, Atty. Uayan has quite a many distinctions tucked under his belt, the latest of which is his assumption to duty as the new head of PS-DBM designated by Budget Secretary Wendel E. Avisado.

## AT WORK AS A PROFESSIONAL

A change of leadership halfway through the year seems abrupt, but Uayan already has his eyes set on issues and concerns that need to be urgently addressed—including but are not limited to the Audit Observation Memorandums (AOM), Out-of-Stock Common-use Supplies and Equipment (CSE), and unserved Agency Procurement Requests (APR).

For Uayan, these matters are ultimately a result of lack in manpower.

“In marching order ko sa HRDD, I asked them to fill up the available positions sa Procurement Group and the Comptroller Division,” he says. Atty. Uayan wants the new hires to assist mostly in administrative tasks and other legwork of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) secretariats, which he considers “kaunti and overworked.”





TEAM OED (L-R): Mr. Oscar T. Aton, Mr. Joshua Felino Julian F. Dulce, Ms. Joann Marie L. Alicbusan, Ms. Thea Marie B. Factor, Ms. Ruth T. Ibarrola, Mr. Kashmir Francis A. Grasparyl, and Mr. Jonas E. Bacho

When the posts are occupied, work will be properly delegated and efficiently performed. The unserved APRs that accumulated over the years, for example, must be reevaluated to determine if they are still viable for procurement and to check if their funding source can still be used considering the ageing of the account.

Aside from the usual procurement activities that PS-DBM regularly undertakes, Atty. Uayan also wants to focus on the agency's contribution to the development and accomplishment of the administration's Build Build Build Flagship Program. He asserts that all contracts related to such must be awarded during the remaining months of the Rodrigo Duterte presidency.

Not only that these contracts and projects would benefit the people, Atty. Uayan says it would also jumpstart the economy, "Kailangan talaga matapos 'yan... Kasi construction activities will boost economic growth, and increase domestic spending and the purchasing power of the Philippine Peso."

All these efforts and initiatives are in favour of the client-agencies, suppliers, partner merchants, and other stakeholders including the public. And while these are a testament to our commitment to serve the public, incumbent upon government employees in accordance to ethical standards and civil service rules, Atty. Uayan also promises to prioritize the employees themselves.

"It is high time that the security of tenure of PS-DBM employees must be addressed," he declares. The contractual positions, he believes, are among the reasons why employees eventually decide to leave—which he understands.

"Once our employees are trained in procurement activities, become well-versed in RA 9184, mag-a-apply sa ibang agencies, kukunin talaga nila 'yan... So the regularization or conversion of PS employees into plantilla positions must be addressed," he reiterates.

Atty. Uayan also empathizes with people who struggle to make ends meet, especially at the time of a global health crisis, "Mga tao rito, ilang years na... You are not sure of your tenure, so every end of contract, magwo-worry ka... Pandemic ngayon, we need stable source of income."

This proclamation will surely ignite hope among the members of the PS-DBM Community, and Atty. Uayan appears to be dedicated to not turn this into a false hope. With this assertion come inevitable expectations from the people he leads. Asked about his message to all PS-DBM officials and employees, he says he only wants them to show dedication to work.

"They should love their work. Take it to account that we are servants of government; ang mga boss natin talaga ay 'yung mga taxpayers," he concludes.

After some moment of connection, manifesting transparency in a personal level, Atty. Uayan was quick to revert to his usual unassuming self. The Team's request for photos was initially met with subtle dismissal accompanied by a shy smile. But he accommodated nonetheless.

"Sige na, para matapos na 'to, marami pa akong aayusin," he utters.

This perhaps also forms part of his leadership style; despite his reservations, he gets the job done. And that is all that matters.

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