



Supreme Court of the Philippines  
Manila

FROM THE CHAMBERS OF:

*Reynato S. Puno*  
CHIEF JUSTICE

April 17, 2008

**STATEMENT OF CHIEF JUSTICE REYNATO S. PUNO**

I am denying the rumors and speculations that I will retire from the position of Chief Justice before May 17, 2010, when I will reach the constitutionally mandated retirement age of 70. The office of Chief Justice is a trust given by the people, and I will fulfill the trust until the end of my term by continuing to discharge my duties with independence and fairness. I was appointed Chief Justice on December 7, 2006 without any political conditions. I remain steadfast in my belief that the Supreme Court will continue to be the defender of the Rule of Law and the protector of our people's rights.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Reynato S. Puno".