

IGNACIO CAMPOS, ET AL., PETITIONERS VS. MANILA RAILROAD COMPANY, ET AL., RESPONDENTS.

G. R. No. L-17905. May 25, 1962

Ponente: BAUTISTA ANGELO, J.

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/a58e8101c623/>

BAUTISTA ANGELO, J.:

Ignacio Campos, who since 1920 was in the employ of the Manila Railroad Company, was implicated in a criminal case filed before the Municipal Court of Manila for which reason he was summarily dismissed from the service over the protest of the Kapisanan Ng Mga Manggagawa Sa MRR Co. to which he belongs.

On August 20, 1960, after his acquittal, Campos, thru his union, requested that he be reinstated to his former employment with back wages, and when the request was refused, the union filed in his behalf a petition before the Court of Industrial Relations praying for his reinstatement with back wages on the plea that his separation was unwise and illegal.

Respondent corporation moved to dismiss the petition on the ground of lack of jurisdiction, which was objected to by petitioner. On October 14, 1960, the industrial court dismissed the petition, sustaining the plea of lack of jurisdiction. In substance it held that mere claim for reinstatement without being accompanied by other claims related to conditions of employment is not cognizable by the Court of Industrial Relations. Hence the present petition for review.

Under the law and jurisprudence pertaining to labor disputes, the Court of Industrial Relations' jurisdiction extends only to cases involving (a) labor disputes affecting an industry which is indispensable to national interest and is so certified by the President to the court (Section 10, Republic Act 875) ; (b) controversy about the Minimum Wage Law (Republic Act No. 602) ; (c) hours of employment under the Eight-Hour Labor Law (Commonwealth Act No. 144); and (d) unfair labor practice (Section 5 [a], Republic Act 875). And such disputes, to fall under the jurisdiction of the CIR, must arise while the employer-employee relationship between the parties exists, or the employee seeks reinstatement. When such relationship is over and the employee does not seek reinstatement, all claims become money claims that fall under the jurisdiction of the regular courts. (Sy Huan vs. Judge Bautista, et al., 112 Phil., 914 See also the cases cited therein).

In PRISCO vs. Court of Industrial Relations, 108 Phil., 134 this Court, after analyzing all previous cases rendered on labor disputes, made the following pronouncement: "The underlying principle, it will be noted in all of them, though not stated in express terms, is that where the employer-employee relationship is still existing or is sought to be reestablished because of its wrongful severance (as where the employee seeks reinstatement), the Court of Industrial Relations has jurisdiction over all claims arising out of, or in connection with the employment, such as those related to the Minimum Wage Law and the Eight Hour Law.

We may, therefore, restate, for the benefit of the bench and the bar, that in order that the Court of Industrial Relations may acquire jurisdiction over a controversy in the light of Republic Act No. 875, the following circumstances must be present: (a) there must exist between the parties an employer-employee relationship, or the

claimant must seek his reinstatement; and (b) the controversy must relate to a case certified by the President to the CIR as one involving national interest, or must have a bearing on an unfair labor practice charge, or must arise either under the Eight-Hour Labor Law, or under the Minimum Wage Law. In default of any of these circumstances, the claim becomes a mere money claim that comes under the jurisdiction of the regular courts.

In the case at bar, it is undisputed that petitioner merely seeks his reinstatement with back wages. He does not claim any salary differential nor overtime pay that may his case come either under the Eight-Hour Labor Law or the Minimum Wage Law. Neither does he prefer any unfair labor practice charge against his employer.

Consequently, the Court of Industrial Relations has no power to act on his claim for the same is a mere money claim that comes under the jurisdiction of the regular courts.

Wherefore, the order appealed from is affirmed. No costs.

Padilla, Labrador, Concepcion, Reyes, J. B. L., Barrera, Paredes and Dizon, JJ., concur.

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.