

## ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : The Principle Authority and Duties of  
the State Attornies : A case study of  
the civil rights protection and legal  
aid

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The principle authority and duties of the Office of the Attorney General concern three aspects, i.e. to provide justice, to protect the interests of the state, and to provide legal aid and civil rights protection. These duties have a directly effect upon the peace of the country and the well being of the people.

The dual responsibilities of the Office of the Attorney General for providing legal aid and civil rights protection, may be considered as very vital aspects of their duties, because of the pxverty in the rural area,

the people's ignorance of laws, the frequency in which they are and their loss of property and liberty.

The Office of the Attorney General is therefore very well aware of its responsibilities. It subsequently established the Office of Legal Aid and Civil Rights Protection, prescribing its authority and duties, rules of practice and appointed certain state attorneys to discharge these duties in order to fulfill its objective. But there were certain obstacles, such as scarcity of personnel, budget constraints, the conceptualization of its own authority and duties by the state attorneys themselves, as well as the provisions of the law. As such the exercise of the authority and duties of the Office of the Attorney General and the state attorneys, for legal aid and civil rights protection, were not as satisfactory as they should have been.

From the research, it was revealed that these should be improvements within the organization itself in order to provide greater flexibility in their administration, to provide a larger budget and number of personnel, to create a better appreciation of their authority and duties, and to have better morale, including amendment of laws which obstruct the discharge of official duties. As a results,

it is hoped that legal aid and civil rights protection for the general public order can be guaranteed by the office of the Attorney General and the state attorneys in carrying out their duties.