

# Presidential Candidate

## 1. ABELLA, ERNIE

INDEPENDENT

Ernie Abella, 72, is a businessman, writer and pastor who is a long-time supporter of President Rodrigo Duterte. He also briefly served as the president's spokesperson.

He is running as an independent candidate, seeking to promote the participation of ordinary citizens and small entrepreneurs in governance, better access to food and healthcare services to children and senior citizens.



### Platform and Policy

The candidate's top priorities if elected to office, tracked against previous promises and accomplishments, if any

#### Governance

##### Related Policy Proposal:

Participation by ordinary or private citizens and small entrepreneurs in government, including establishment of a "listening" government

##### Track Record/Accomplishment:

##### Previous Platform:

##### Deviation from Previous Platform:

#### Access to services

##### Related Policy Proposal:

Provide children and senior citizens better access to food and healthcare services

##### Track Record/Accomplishment:

##### Previous Platform:

##### Deviation from Previous Platform:



### Major Accomplishments

The candidate's top five accomplishments and contributions for the last 15 years or so



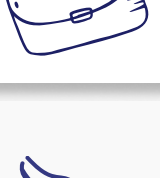

#### Public Office

Abella is a long-time friend and supporter of Duterte who negotiated his release from kidnappers in 1996 when he was Davao City mayor. After winning the presidency, Duterte appointed Abella as his spokesperson but replaced him after a year when he allegedly grew dissatisfied with his handling of issues faced by the administration.

Abella remained vocal in his support of the Duterte administration following his appointment in the Department of Foreign Affairs as an undersecretary.

Title	Description	Position / Date	Status
 Handled communications duties on behalf of the president		Undersecretary for Strategic Communications and Research, DFA, Oct. 2017 to Oct. 2021	Resigned to file candidacy for president
 Handled communications duties on behalf of the president		Presidential spokesperson, June 2016 to Oct. 2017	Replaced by Herminio "Harry" Roque

#### Private Office

Title	Description	Position / Date	Status
 Writer		Columnist, SunStar Davao	
 Formed a cooperative and a secondary school		Founder	
 Headed private businesses		CEO, 2004 to 2013	
 Founder of the Hope of Asia and Jesus Fellowship, Inc, a charismatic group, and		Founder	Left in 2004 to work in private business

### Actions and / or Proceedings

Actions and/or proceedings pending against or resolved in courts or tribunals involving the candidate, based on publicly available information

**There is no publicly available information on this matter at this time. Requested information from the candidate was not provided.**

### Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth

Also known as SALN, this document is a declaration of one's personal finances. Philippine Law requires the SALN to be submitted by all public officials and employees to the Ombudsman. Public officials and employees may opt to voluntarily disclose their SALN to the public.

**There is no publicly available information on this matter at this time. Requested information from the candidate was not provided.**

### Campaign Details

Key details about the candidate's campaign

#### Campaign Manager:

#### Alliances and Endorsements:

#### Party History:

Running as an independent candidate in 2022

### Major Advocacies

The candidate's top advocacies in the last 15 years or so

**There is no publicly available information on this matter at this time. Requested information from the candidate was not provided.**

### Major Donors

Candidate's major donors and campaign funding sources

**There is no publicly available information on this matter at this time. Requested information from the candidate was not provided.**

### Personal Details

Basic information on the candidate's family, background and work experience



**Name to appear on the ballot:** ABELLA, ERNIE

**Full Name:** Ernesto Corpus Abella

**Birthdate:**

**Birthplace:** Davao City, Davao

**Residence:** Davao City, Philippines  
Tagaytay, Cavite, Philippines

**Religion:**

**Languages Spoken:** Filipino, English

**Parents:**

**Siblings:**

**Marital Status:**

**Children:**

#### Education:

- B.A. in Pre-Medicine, Ateneo de Davao University, 196
- Masters in Divinity, Siliman University, 1984
- Masters in Social Development, Asian Institute of Management, 2005

#### Work Experience:

- Undersecretary of Strategic Communications and Research, Department of Foreign Affairs (October 2017–October 8, 2021)
- Presidential spokesperson, Oct. 2016 to Oct. 2017
- Founder, One ACCORD Credit Cooperative
- Founder, Southpoint secondary school
- Columnist, Sunstar Davao
- CEO, F&P Agri-inputs, 2011 to 213
- CEO, AZ Agri-Products, 2004 to 2007
- Columnist, San Pedro Express
- Professor, Ateneo de Davao University

Last edited : March 10, 2022

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