Residence is Everywhere Petitioner Has Been

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The Article discusses the reason behind the need for strict compliance with the legal requirements in naturalization proceedings, particularly, the need for applicants to indicate in their petitions for Philippine citizenship their former and present places of residence. With residence, the law means each and every place where the applicant lived or is currently living. The discussion was done by looking at a string of judicial decisions on the said matter.

Strict compliance with this requirement is necessary to facilitate the checking up on the prior and present activities of the applicant, including any misbehavior, if any. This is in light of the fact that a high degree of prudence and care is required before vesting citizenship, a political status, to aliens. Hence, an oversight, even in good faith, is not considered as a valid excuse for the omission of the said information.