

## **Major General Romeo C. Prestoza AFP (Ret)**

MAJOR GENERAL ROMEO C. PRESTOZA AFP (Ret) is the current President of Basic Holdings Corporation, Fortune Tobacco, and Head Security of the Lucio Tan Group of Companies and Affiliates. He is also a security consultant for Feedmix Specialist Inc. II.

General Prestoza had served in the Armed Forces of the Philippines for thirty-six years. His extensive and distinguished career includes being the head of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ISAFP) from June 2008 up to his retirement from the military service in July 2010. Prior to that he was the Commander of the Presidential Security Group (PSG) from July 2006 to June 2008, under Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. He was the Sergeant-at-Arms in the Philippine House of Representatives from July 2018 to July 2019. From January 2003 to December 2005, he served as the Air Force Attaché in Washington, D.C. He was also the Philippine Force Representative (PFR) in the United Nations Command (Rear) based in Tokyo, Japan from November 1996 to December 1997.

He had spent the majority of his military career in the Intelligence Service. He was the Group Commander of MIG 24, ISAFP Anti-Criminality Task Group, from July 2002 to December 2002. He was the Group Commander of MIG 19, (Foreign Intelligence) concurrent with his role as Task Force Commander of Anti-Kidnapping Task Force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines from December 2001 to June 2002. General Prestoza was the Operations Officer of Task Force Aduana, Anti-Smuggling Task Force from January 2001 to October 2001. He had served as the Chief of Operations and Intelligence Division (OID) of ISAFP from March 1998 to November 2001. He was also the Group Commander of MIG 21, ISAFP Technical Group from October 1993 to October 1996.

He graduated in an intelligence officers training course with the Australian Secret Intelligence Service at Melbourne, Australia on April 1990. He had also acted as an Instructor Pilot and Flight Commander of the Philippine Air Force Flying School at Lipa City from January 1980 to January 1982.

He had earned many honors and awards, with a total of eighty-seven (87) medals of distinction and numerous letters of commendation. The most notable are: the Order of Lakandula (Maringal na Pinuno), awarded by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Presidential Merit Medal from the United States Government, awarded by the US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, General Staff Course (GSC) Distinguished Graduate Award, Outstanding Achievement Medal, the highest award given by the Secretary of National Defense, Distinguished Service Star Medals, Bronze Cross Medals, Silver Wing Medal, Military Merit Medals, Military Commendation Medals, and United Nations Service Medal.

He is married to Lilian Prestoza née Obillo and has three children, namely Michelle, Leslie Marie, and Romeo Jr. He is the current chairman of the Board of Trustees, Philippine Military Academy Makatarungan Class of 1978.