



Leyte-Samar

# DAILY EXPRESS

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TACLOBAN  
RIZAL AVENUE

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TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021

P15.00 IN TACLOBAN

**Seen to hasten jabs campaign in the region**

# Over 140,000 doses of vacs delivered to EV

ROEL T. AMAZONA/LIZBETH ANN A. ABELLA

**TACLOBAN CITY-** The vaccination campaign in the region by the Department of Health (DOH) is expected to hasten with the arrival of close to 140,000 doses of additional vaccines on Monday (July 19).

The arrival of these vaccine, is by far, the biggest ever received by the region which is composed of 131, 200 doses of Janssen and 8,300 doses of AstraZeneca.

American-manufactured vaccine is the first time the region received such a brand.

Jelyn Lopez Malibago, information officer of the DOH, said that all six provinces and seven cities in the

region will be given their share of the Johnson and Johnson manufactured vaccine.

The newly-arrived vaccines, particularly Janssen,

see Over /page 10 ...

## In Mapanas, Northern Samar

## Team of vaccinators goes to remote villages as a way to ensure residents get the jabs

**TACLOBAN CITY-** Residents in interior villages in Mapanas town, Northern Samar need not go to their rural health unit to receive the vaccine against coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

A team of health personnel and other offices of the municipal government like its disaster risk reduction management office, goes to their remote villages to conduct the vaccination.

This way, these residents are ensured of the vaccines that will give them a shield against the infection, Joe Louis Gajutos, municipal disaster risk reduction management officer, said.

The municipal government, in particular, is targeting six of its most remote barangays, namely, San Jose, Jubusan, Sil-



The municipal government is making moves to ensure that even residents living in remote villages will receive the vaccine against COVID-19. Photo shows a man from Barangay Quezon getting the jabs.

(JOE LOUIS GAJUTOS)



Tacloban City Mayor Alfred Romualdez wheels a senior citizen who was scheduled for his jabs on Monday (July 19). The city mayor is personally supervising the vaccination campaign in the city to ensure a fast and orderly vaccination. Records from the Department of Health says that over 44,000 residents of the city have been inoculated of which more than 11,000 of them have received their second doses.

(ALFRED ROMUALDEZ FACEBOOK)

## City government of Tacloban joins rest of the country call for peace and justice



Bike enthusiasts from Tacloban City joined the rest of the country on call for peace and justice caravan on Saturday (July 17). (TCIO)

**TACLOBAN CITY-** In a simultaneous nationwide conduct of the fun and advocacy ride called

"Bike for Peace and Justice," an estimated 134 bikers from different parts of the city gathered at the grounds

of Balyuan Tower along Magsaysay Boulevard for the opening program last Saturday (July 17) at 5:00 am.

The approximately 14 to 15 kilometers completed route from Magsaysay Boulevard to Apitong and vice versa was a simultaneous cry for justice and peace, and a unified call to condemn the use of anti-personnel landmines which is a violation of International Humanitarian Law, and the brutal killing of Kieth Absalon, a 21-

see City /page 10 ..



# Mayor Gomez tests positive of COVID-19; says symptoms manageable and mild

TACLOBAN CITY- Ormoc City Mayor Richard Gomez has confirmed that he was tested positive for coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

The actor-turned mayor said that he suffered bad headache last July 12 and was swabbed on July 16.

“I’m just resting (now),” he said in text message.

And in a statement, Mayor Gomez said that he could have got the infection from his exposure to different people as he carries out his work.

“It could be my exposure from multiple people because of work do as mayor. But I will be ok. Symptoms are mild and manageable and I will go back to work as soon as doctors will give the clearance,” he said.

“I ask everyone to continue to be vigilant and safe,” Gomez, who is a health buff, said.

He is the third city mayor in the region to be tested positive for COVID-19.

The others were Tacloban City Mayor Alfred Romualdez and Catbalogan City Mayor Dexter Uy.

Ormoc City is experiencing a surge of COVID-19 cases with the Department of Health reporting of 33 new cases on Saturday.

As of Monday(July 19), Ormoc has now total COVID-19 cases of 2,058 with 193 active cases and 32 deaths.

(RONALD O. REYES)

# 134 bikers join fight for peace advocacy ride in Tacloban City

TACLOBAN CITY- At least 134 bicycle enthusiasts here in the city joined in the nationwide “Bike for Peace and Justice” ride for a cause Saturday (July 17).

“This event is not only a simple group ride but an advocacy ride joining the call to end violence that victimizes the youth,” said Mayor Alfred Romualdez in a prepared statement read by lawyer Agnes Pacheco.

“This event also promotes the general health, fitness, and camaraderie among Taclobanon cyclists and other cyclists from the neighboring towns,” the mayor added.

The cyclists started their route from Balyuan Tower along Magsaysay Boulevard to Apitong and vice versa, according to the Tacloban City Information Office.

They also condemned the use of anti-personnel landmines by rebel groups which led to the deaths of 21-year-old Far Eastern University football player Keith Absalon and his cousin, Nolgen who were biking along Barangay Anas, Masbate on June 6.

Participants from Philippine National Police, Philippine Information Agency, Department of Interior and Local Government, Philippine Army, non-government organizations, and city government also joined in the covenant signing to cap the event.

(RONALD O. REYES)

# Officials of 2 remote Basey villages seeks road network to address poverty and insurgency problems

TACLOBAN CITY - Residents in interior part of Basey town in Samar province are hoping that they soon will have a better access road to ease their burden in transporting their goods.

Nilda Pacaan, who is the chairwoman of Barangay Mabini which is composed of three sitios, said that villagers need to trek on muddy and slippery path during rainy days reason why they are requesting for a concrete road.

Mabini’s sitios are composed of Burabod which have 101 families or 86 households located 2 and 1/2 kilometers from village proper, Binugho with 37 families located three kilometers from village proper and Bagti with 93 families from 75 households, located seven kilometers from the village proper.

Residents from the three sub-villages rely on farming as their major source of income. During their harvest of their produce, farmers are facing dilemma in transporting their goods such as roots crops, vegetables, banana and copra to the village proper.



Leyte Governor Leopoldo Dominico “Mic” L. Petilla led in the ceremonial signing of a memorandum of undertaking of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) for the province of Leyte with Director Grace Subong of the Department of Social Welfare and Development on July 7, 2021. Present were Palo Mayor Frances Ann Petilla, president of the League of the Municipalities of the Philippines- Leyte chapter, Dir. Gemma Gabuya, 4 Ps national program manager, and Paula Unay, 4Ps division chief and 20 municipal mayors. The MOU signing was held at View deck, Macarthur Park, Candahug, Palo, Leyte. (GINA P. GEREZ)



Residents of the four sitios in Barangay Mabini and Manlilinao, two of the most remote villages of Basey, Samar, is calling for help to the government for a concrete road be constructed. A concrete road will not only help a faster delivery of their goods but at the same address insurgency problem besetting their areas. (ROEL T. AMAZONA)

“The residents are hoping that the construction of farm-to-market road will reach their place soon so will have access to vehicles that will deliver their goods to the town center,” Pacaan said.

Manlilinao village chairman Norli Solayao also shares the same sentiment of having a safe access road for residents in their village.

Manlilinao is around seven kilometers away from Mabini. The residents are also into farming, mostly depending on coconut and transporting their goods manually.

“There is no other way for us to deliver our products except by carrying them in our hand-woven baskets. If there is only a pave road that connects us to the proper of Mabini, this will help my residents ease their burden when delivering their goods to their buyers,” Solayao said.

The two officials are optimistic that the ongoing road opening from proper of Mabini to Burabod will help address their concern.

Once the road construction is done, this will not only help in easing the transport of goods but will also provide residents a better access to basic social and health services provided by the government, the two village officials said.

Solayao shares that with better road more children in his village will decide to finish their studies.

She added that having a good access road will also address problem in transporting

see Officials /page 3 ...

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## DA-8 intensifies efforts against ASF

TACLOBAN CITY-- The government has intensified its disease response against the African Swine Fever (ASF) as more municipalities and cities in Eastern Visayas are being affected.

During the Regional Inter-agency Task Force Meeting on Monday, Dr. Ernestine Ibañez, a veterinarian from the Department of Agriculture 8 (DA-8) said, the response efforts mean providing technical and support services to empower the local government units in the program implementation at the farm and community levels.

"In order to control and prevent ASF at the barangay level, some steps would involve disease surveillance and monitoring, disease reporting, disease investigation, disease response, implementation of biosecurity protocols, zoning, recovery and repopulation," Ibañez said.

Aside from stricter border inspection and the establishment of ASF command centers in various areas of the region, DA also conducted ASF Biosecurity Officers' Training wherein 151 were trained.

In Eastern Visayas, out of the 143 local government units, 26.6% have been affected by ASF comprising some 38 municipalities and cities.

Of the six provinces, Leyte has recorded the most number of cases with 25 municipalities and cities affected, five in Samar, three in Northern Samar, four in Eastern Samar, one in Southern Leyte while Biliran remains ASF-free.

To date, a total of 13,251 hogs were already culled in the region and some 1,311 hog raisers that were affected of the ASF have already availed of the indemnification program of DA.

(LDL/CBA/PIA-8)

### Officials...

...from Page 2

sick people and even pregnant women who are carried to the village proper through a hammock.

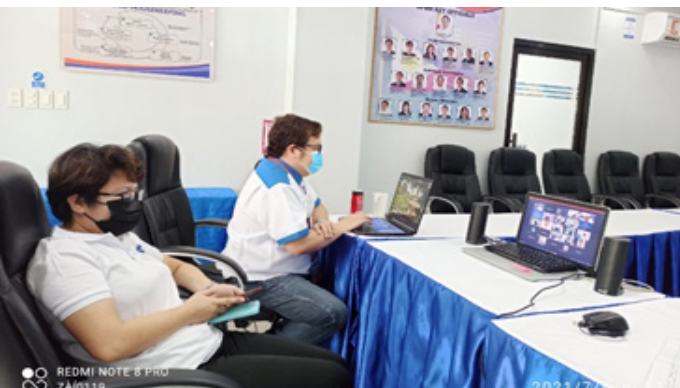
"I hope that this road project will be finish soon because as I observe living condition of the people improves

if they have a good road. They are able to finish their studies, and have better access to health and medical services," he added.

Aside from development, having an access road will also help address the insurgency problem of their villages, Solayao and Pacaanas said.

(ROEL T. AMAZONA)

## NSSDEO personnel attends 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021 RDC meeting



NSSDEO, Brgy. Burabud, Laoang, Northern Samar-The DPWH-Northern Samar Second District Engineering Office (NSSDEO) positively responded to the invitation through e-mail by RDC VIII Chairperson and Province of Leyte Governor, Leopoldo Dominico L. Petilla dated June 16, 2021 with the

subject "Second Quarter 2021 RDC VIII Full Council Meeting, for officers and members of RDC VIII.

Planning and Design Section Chief, Atty. Arthur Eric L. Sabong and Assistant Chief Fiona A. Anunciado participated in the 2nd Quarter 2021 RDC VIII Full Council meeting where all officer and members of



Three former rebels surrendered to the 1st Eastern Samar Provincial Mobile Force Company which headed by PLt.Col. Joy Leanza. Dolores Mayor Shonny Niño Carpeso vowed to help the former rebels in hastening the processing of the needed documents for them to avail the government assistance.

## 3 NPA members surrender to 1<sup>st</sup> Eastern Samar PMFC

In line with the steadfast campaign against insurgency, thru the effort of intelligence personnel, three regular members of a legal front of the CPP/NDF/NPA (Kabataan party-list/Makabayaan bloc) decided to return to the fold of the law and voluntary surrendered to PLt.Col.Joy G. Leanza, force commander of the 1st Eastern Samar PMFC at about 7:00 in the evening of July 16 and on July 17, 2021 respective-

ly at their headquarters in Barangay 15(Lunang), Dolores Eastern Samar.

The couple surrenderees were identified as alias "Banay" with live-in partner, a team leader of a Unit Militia of Front Guerilla Unit (FGU), Pier 3 (F3), Sub Regional Committee (EVPRC), New People's Army (NPA) under the command of Carlito Badulid @ Abdula/Lagas, and his live in partner alias "Menggay" a member of Women's association under the Barangay Organizing Party of @Goya of same committee organized by @ Ar-em/RM the wife of Colima @ Baytan an Ex- PNP member.

endorsement and approval and various sectoral and affiliate concerns.

This virtual meeting was held at NSSDEO Conference Room in Brgy. Burabud, Laoang, Northern Samar last July 8, 2021 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM.

(REY ORSUA/PR)

Another rebel who yielded a day later was identified as alias "Semar", a member of Militia ng Bayan (MB), courier of F3 SRC ARCTIC, EVPRC NPA under the command of Carlito Badulid alias "Abdula/Lagas" and consequently under the Arto/Roso of alleged Sub-regional Operation Command.

Their motivation of having to enjoy a peaceful and virtuous life was the reason for their surrender.

Having to consider the future of their children led to their decision to return to the arms of law and avail the program of the government as provided for in Executive Order Number 70 otherwise known as National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) and be cleared from any derogatory record.

The surrenderees who are residents of a suburb barangay of Dolores town were presented by PLt. Col. Leanza to Mayor Shonny Niño Carpeso on July 14, 2021 in Dolores Municipal Hall.

Mayor Carpeso was delighted with their choice to usher a new life and pledged that he will extend any assistance to the former rebels and will help the 1st Eastern Samar PMFC

to expedite the process of their documents necessary in claiming their benefits under E-CLIP.

"We encourage our misguided brothers and sisters to renounce the deceitful ideology of Joma Sison and to quit armed struggle. It's not by taking up arms against the government that you can make a difference. You can only make a difference if you live in harmony with the government and obey the rule of law," PLt.Col. Leanza said.

PLt. Col. Leanza encourages other NPA rebels to surrender and take advantage of the government's assistance program for returnees dubbed as Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) to live normal and decent life.

Moreover, PLt.Col. Leanza encourages the community to support their anti-terrorism campaign and their PCR drives.

Furthermore, should you have any inquires visit our camp or contact our Hotline number at 09613854010 and thru our Facebook account; Eastern Samar Pmfc Uno or Email us also at espplsclunang@yahoo.com. (Lt.CORTADO,AG A./PR)



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## Speaking of projects

**N**ow that the 'Build Build Build' program of the administration is about to end and plenty of worthwhile infrastructure projects were successfully put up, politicians are scrambling to claim the credits, or to have their names attached to these projects as part of their legacies.

Not just politicians but even their followers as well are getting noisy about these, ironically amid their ignorance. One such example is the claim spreading in social media that Manila Mayor Isko Moreno is the very one responsible for the cleaning, rehabilitation, and beautification of the controversial Manila Bay, now looking like Boracay with its embellishment of dolomite sand.

Funny but in the heat of criticism against this beautification effort, fierce critical darts were directed to the president, to his regime, and the good mayor never got a minute blame

for it, nor was he criticized for "pursuing" that ambitious, nearly-impossible project. But now that it's almost done and the beauty it radiates resembles the world's best beaches, someone else is being made to claim the glory.

That's one disadvantage of the president's prohibition to attach his name or his regime to the grand, massive projects that were built under them. Anyone even from the opposition can falsely claim the credits for having no names in them. The people, then, could be misled into thinking the claim is true and would thus glorify and support the wrong figures.

At any rate, the president is right. Politicians ought not to claim the credits for worthy projects even if the same were built under them. First, they were financed by the people's taxes. Secondly, it is part of the responsibilities of politicians in office to pursue developmental projects that could improve the economy and people's lives.



**Automatic  
for the  
People**

CLEMELLE MONTALLANA

## Challenges of the New Normal in Education (First of 3 parts)

*Education is simply the soul of society as it passes  
From one generation to another -G. Chesterton*

It is without a doubt that there is a crisis in education.

Happening here and now, the officials who are quick to dismiss this ob-

servation are those that are simply disgusted that the remark comes from an opposition leader, or those that feel that they are alluded to.

But prudent and pragmatically sane minds can see it without a doubt that there lies a crisis brewing, churning and mutating like the various virus variants.

For parents and other stakeholders the modular delivery is in itself a problem of pedagogy or lesson delivery and a problem of the environment. Modular delivery mode has some obvious drawbacks like mistakes

and errors pointed out by fault-finders and the use of words that constitutes obscenity. Some students and pupils take the modular lesson half-heartedly. The fact that the module can be accessed by elder member of the family is an invitation for these elders to do the exercises and eagerly assists the pupils and students. The overblown need for bond papers can trigger a crisis of having more needed pulp for the papers. The trees that are supposed to mature more, help the watershed, prevent see *Challenges/page 11 ...*





## Commentary

FR. ROY CIMAGALA

### With conversion there is no need for signs

"Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.' He said to them in reply, 'An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it except the sign of Jonah the prophet...'" (Mt 12,38-39)

If there is no faith, if we resist the need for conversion, we will never see the things of God and the rich reality of the truly spiritual and supernatural world, no matter how much we spin our human powers to capture this reality.

We need penance and conversion to get in touch with the things of God. And we have to realize that such need is constant. We

have to understand that repentance for our sins and conversion are a continuing affair for all of us in this life. We can never say, if we have to follow by what our Christian faith tells us, that we are good enough as to need conversion no more.

We are all sinners, St. John said. And even the just man, as the Bible said, falls seven times in a day.

Besides, it is this sense of continuing conversion that would really ensure us that whatever we do, whatever would happen to us, including our failures and defeats, would redound to what is truly good for the parties concerned and for everybody else in general.

That's because conversion brings us and every-

thing that we have done in life to a reconciliation with God, from whom we come and to whom we go.

In one of the post-resurrection appearances of Christ to his apostles, that time when it was said that Christ "opened their minds to understand the Scriptures," our Lord told them clearly:

"Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem." (Lk 24,46-47)

Yes, repentance for the forgiveness of sins has to be preached far and wide and constantly. These words show how much Christ is bent in saving us, in bringing us to our true dignity of a functioning child of God. This is his will for us. We just have to learn to correspond to that will, which is actually for our own true good.

We need to develop the virtue of penance. Precisely, the virtue of penance starts when we acknowledge our  
*see With conversion/ page 11 ...*

support tourism and reduce greenhouse to the atmosphere.

The research collaboration believe that "illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing costs the Philippines an estimated P63 billion a year and endangers the marine species that produce food and income for millions of Filipinos.

The author closes his article with this appeal: "With much at stake – sovereignty, food security and livelihoods – we must continue to do our utmost to protect our world's waters."

The ugly and filthy sight of the major piers in Catbalogan, Eastern Samar, and Tacloban, Leyte, were prominent until the time that Land Transportation between Manila and the Visayas became popular and reduced water transport to catering to cargoes, instead!

ooo000ooo

NEXT TOPIC : "On Philippine Benham Rise"

SHARE S & T THOUGHTS through E-mail: depacjr@yahoo.com.



## What's New Mr. Q?

TENTE U. QUINTERO

### The 'controversial' PDP-LABAN Assemblies

Yep, this Columnist uses the word "controversial" because while PDP-Laban was organized mainly to fight dictatorship during the Marcos regime, now there is a raging in-fighting within the political party.

"Controversial," because one faction says the scheduled 159-man PDP-Laban NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING scheduled July 16th and the huge PDP-Laban NATIONAL ASSEMBLY scheduled July 17th both at the Clark City Convention Center in Pampanga are definitely legal.

At least 141 allied senators, national officials, congressmen, governors, mayors -- all members of the national council attended the July 16th PDP-Laban National Council Meeting yesterday, either physically or virtually, according to (newly-reinstalled) Secretary-General Atty. Melvin Matibag.

No less than PDP-Laban Chairman President Rodrigo Duterte has confirmed his attendance and is expected to preside over the expected jam-packed PDP-Laban NATIONAL ASSEMBLY today, July 17th in the same venue in Pampanga. ..

On the other hand, the faction led by Acting President Senator Manny Pacquiao, backed up and supported by Acting Vice-Chairman Senator Koko Pimentel, both declared that the above-mentioned PDP-Laban Assemblies in Clark City ARE NOT OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED Party Gatherings, "even if Chairman, President Duterte presides over the July 17th PDP-Laban NATIONAL ASSEMBLY".

They both declared that

"BOTH THE PDP-Laban NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING & PDP-Laban NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WERE NOT IN COORDINATION WITH ACTING PRESIDENT MANNY PACQUIAO."

Now, before his departure a few days ago, for the United States to continue his boxing training, in a televised public announcement, Acting President Pacquiao urged PDP-Laban officials & members to boycott the party gatherings in Clark City.

Acting President Pacquiao even warned attendees with "corresponding sanctions" if anybody defies his "presidential order!"

But during the PDP-Laban National Council Meeting yesterday, the council members unanimously passed a resolution nullifying the "illegal" resolution signed by Acting President Manny Pacquiao, expelling Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi!

And not only that, the PDP-Laban National Council also reaffirmed its strong support for the continued leadership of Secretary Cusi as party vice-chairman, Undersecretary Astra Naik as Membership Committee Chair,

and Atty. Melvin Matibag as Acting Secretary.

During the meeting yesterday, the PDP-Laban national council also set the agenda of its national assembly, the party's highest policy-making body, touching on matters connected with President Duterte's State of the Nation Address scheduled in two weeks.

Yesterday, the PDP-Laban national council also opened the nominations for a new set of officers, in connection with the elections to be held later today (July 17th) during the National Assembly.

The move was carried out during the National Council meeting held yesterday (July 16th) led by (re-installed) party vice-chairman Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi.

As approved, the nomination was open until 10am Saturday (July 17th) wherein members submitted names of their nominees to the newly formed poll body chaired by former Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre.

-- WHAT IF --

On the other hand, during the elections set this afternoon (July 17th), what if Senator Manny Pacquiao (who is just an Acting President of the PDP-Laban, when Acting President Sen. Koko Pimentel also resigned from the presidency and turned over the acting presidency to neophyte Senator Manny Pacquiao, for reasons Sen. Koko still has to fully explain...) ... err... what if a new PDP-Laban party president is elected and Senator Manny Pacquiao is replaced?

.... Err... what happens if somehow, Acting Vice-Chairman Senator

*see The controversial/ page 11 ...*



## High-Powered Objective

(S&T Enhanced Nations Have Edge)

DR. PACIENTE CORDERO, JR.

### Trivia on RP - US joint project protecting Marine Seas

In an article "Exploring Philippine Seas Today, for the generations of tomorrow" (PhilStar, July 2021), the author, John Law, presented worthy data about several collaborative studies between Filipino and American marine science researchers. Some of the data published are deemed useful to future researchers considering the anemically documented Philippine seas. Thus:

1) In March 2021 – a Filipino oceanographer and an American explorer together reached the Philippine Deepest Trench unexplored for years! The area of the Philippine

Deep was named as EM-DEN DEEP, by the Filipino Dr. Onda and his American diving partner Victor Vescovo. From the Emden Deep, they surprised to find plastic debris;

2) Experts claim that the RP-US marine cooperation, one of the 'most productive endeavors, is expected to help improve waste management and develop innovations in packaging and recycling to keep plastic debris from leaching to the ocean floor!

3) The collaborative aquatic-based RP-US project will revive coral reefs, Strengthen fish populations, clean up the beaches,

### Prayer for the Nation and for Those who Serve in Public Office

God, our Father, you guide everything in wisdom and love. Accept the prayers we offer for our nation, by the wisdom of our leaders and integrity of our citizens, may harmony and justice be secured and may there be lasting prosperity and peace.

Almighty and eternal God, You know the longings of our hearts and You protect our rights in your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy freedom, security and peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen. (Courtesy of Daughters of St. Paul)



Pray the Holy Rosary daily for world peace and conversion of sinners (The family that prays together stays together)



Republic of the Philippines  
**SUPREME COURT**  
8th Judicial Region  
**REGIONAL TRIAL COURT**  
Branch 15  
Balyuan Building,  
Balyuan Grounds  
Magsaysay Blvd.,  
Tacloban City  
-oOo-  
**IN RE: PETITION FOR DECLARATION AS LEGAL BENEFICIARY OF THE DECEDENT-PENSIONER GORDIANO BANDOLON FELOMINA L. BANDOLON, maiden name FELOMINA B. LUDO, Petitioner, -versus- PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE RETIREMENT AND BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION (PRBS), Respondent**  
SP. PROC. No. R-TAC-21-00466-SP  
X- - - - - X  
**ORDER**  
The court received on June 21, 2021 the compliance to the Order dated June 1, 2021 with the Amended Petition attached. The filing thereof is duly noted. Before this court is the

above-mentioned Petition filed and raffled on May 19, 2021.  
Petition alleges that she was married to Gordiano Bandalon (*hereinafter Gordiano*) on 10 October 1979 in a civil ceremony; two years thereafter, on May 2, 1982 petitioner and Gordiano married in church, without opposition and issue. They begot six (6) children and been married for forty-one (41) years and had been openly and continuously cohabited with each other until Gordiano’s death on October 30, 2020. That during their entire marriage, petitioner and Gordiano were known and recognized by the community as husband and wife, and in all of Gordiano’s dealings, he recognized petitioner as his legal spouse. Petitioner further alleges that months after Gordiano’s death, she processed the application for survivorship/derivative pension, and one of the documentary requirement is CRS Form No. 5 - Advisory of Marriages of decedent. When petitioner secured a copy of the said Advisory of Marriages, she found out that decedent Gordiano was married to a certain Luzminda Tingzon Teves on November 10, 1978. Through her personal investigation, she found out that said Luzminda was married to Silverio Gempeson, Sr. in 1980, and Luzminda died in 2017. Petitioner further state that she is the Declared Legal Beneficiary of decedent-pensioner Gordiano, but respondent PRBS does not recognize petitioner as the legal spouse because of the said remarks appearing on the PSA

issued Advisory of Marriages. Hence, this action is resorted to so that she may be declared as the legal beneficiary of deceased Gordiano.  
Finding the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the same is hereby given due course and set for initial hearin on **August 31, 2021 at 1:30 o’clock in the afternoon** at the session hall of this Court, RTC Branch 45, Tacloban City, wherein on said date, time and place, any person or persons may appear and show cause if any they have, why this petition may not be granted.  
The herein respondent, is directed within fifteen (15) days from notice of the petition, to file their opposition thereto, furnishing copy thereof to petitioner’s counsel, who is given (5) days from notice within which to reply, if desired.  
Let a copy of this Order together with the petition posted in at least three (3) conspicuous places - in the Municipal Hall of Dulag, Leyte where the alleged marriage between Gordiano and Luzminda took place, the Barangay Hall of Brgy. Campetic, Palo, Leyte where petitioner is residing, and at the Bulletin Board of this Court.  
Likewise, let a copy of this Order be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Region 8 once a week for three (3) consecutive

weeks - all at Petitioner’s expense.  
Furnish copy of this Order to the Office of the Regional Director of the Philippine National Police RO8, the respondent PNP Retirement and Benefits Administration, the petitioner and her counsel.  
SO ORDERED.  
GIVEN in Chambers, this 29th day of June 2021 at Balyuan Grounds, Magsaysay Blvd., Tacloban City.  
**(Sgd.) GEORGINA UY PEREZ**  
Presiding Judge  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**EXTRAJUDICIAL PARTITION/SETTLEMENT WITH DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late SPS. RAMON HERAMIS AND ADELTRUDA VILLOCINO extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land, Lot No. 9976 with improvements thereon, situated in the Municipality of Baybay, Leyte, containing an area of 21,230 square meters, more or less, covered by TCT No. T-3132. A Deed of Sales was executed in favor of JOVELYN VILLOCINO ERHART as vendee for the above-described property; per Doc. No. 302, Page No. 61, Book No. I, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Eden B. Chavez - Butawan.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late VICENTE VELARDE and SALVACION VELARDE extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcels of land, described as: **1)** A parcel of Agricultural land located at Brgy. Blanca Aurora, San Jorge, Samar, designated at Lot No. 3953, Cad 444-D, having an area of 0-95-24 hectare more or less, under ARP No. 2005-25012-00218, having an assessed value of Php8,440.00; **2)** A parcel of agricultural land located at Brgy. Blanca Aurora, San Jorge, Samar, designated as Lot No. 3957, Cad -444-D, having an area of 0-15-86 hectare, more or less, under ARP No. 2005 No. 2005-25012-00223, having an assessed value of Php1,400.00. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of CATHERINE B. ROSALES married to BALTAZAR ROSALES as vendee for the above-described parcels; per Doc. No. 5949, Page No. 90, Book No. 383, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Ma. Rowena L. Urot.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT AND PARTITION AMONG HEIRS WITH SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late SPS. ANTONIO P. CAPANGPANGAN AND LUCENA MANAGBANAG CAPANGPANGAN extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land situated at Brgy. Mailhi, Baybay, Leyte containing 10,000 more or less covered by TD No. 07-0065-00185. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of LORETA P. BLORECIA as vendee of the above-described property, free from any liens and encumbrances whatsoever. Per Doc No. 04, Page No. 02, Book No. 206, Series of 2021. Notary Public Atty. John Domingo Ponce, Jr.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**DEED OF SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that SOPHIA IBANEZ-BITERBO, heir of the late SPS. DELFIN IBANEZ AND AQUILINA CASAS executed a Deed of Self-Adjudication over a parcel of land known as Lot No. 1166 with improvements thereon situated at Baybay, Leyte containing an area of 2,586sq.m., embraced by TCT No. T-8421. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of LORETA P. BLORECIA as vendee of the above-described property, free from any liens and encumbrances whatsoever. Per Doc No. 121, Page No. 26, Book No. XLVII, Series of 2020. Notary Public Atty. Eden B. Chavez-Butawan.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH ABSOLUTE SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late DAVID QUIJANO extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land known as Lot 25, Block 5, Pcs 08-000241 situated at Brgy. Diit, Tacloban, Leyte containing 120sq.m., more or less covered by TCT No. T-4999. A Deed of Absolute Sale was executed in favor of HARVEY G. RAMIREZ AND JANE ANN C. DOYOLA as vendee of the above-described property, free from any liens and encumbrances whatsoever. Per Doc No. 192, Page No. 40, Book No. XV, Series of 2021. Notary Public Atty. Kenneth De Veyra.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

Publication Notice  
RA 101.72 (LCRO)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In Compliance with the publication requirement and pursuant to OCRG Memorandum Circular No. 2013-1-Guidelines in the Implementation of Administrative Order No. 1 Series of 2012 (IRR on R.A. 10172), Notice is hereby served to the public that **WILMAR PELEGRIO PINCA** has filed with this Office a (*name of document owner*)  
petition for correction of entry in the date of birth from **“11 FEBRUARY 1987”** to **“11 NOVEMBER 1987”** in the certificate of live birth of **WILMAR PELEGRINO PINCA** at the Municipality of **LAOANG, NORTHERN SAMAR** and whose parents are **ROSALINA CANO PELEGRINO JUSTINIANO MODRIGO PINCA.**

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his/her written opposition with this office not later than **AUGUST 2, 2021.**

(Sgd.) **MANUEL D. ATENCIO**  
City/Municipal Civil Registrar

*LSDE: July 20 & 27, 2021*

**AFFIDAVIT OF SELF ADJUDICATION WITH DONATION & PARTITION**

NOTICE is hereby given that NONITA C. MALABUYOC, heirs of the late FELICISIMO CANALES AND GABINA B. CANALES executed an Affidavit of Self Adjudication over a parcel of land designated as Lot 10989, Cad 407 situated at Brgy. Guindapunan, Palo, Leyte containing an area of 3,299sq.m., and heirs hereby voluntarily GIVE by way of donation a portion of an area of 825sq.m., more or less each to AURORA P. SARDEÑA AND FELICISIMA F. REPASA from the above described property together with all the improvements found thereon, free from liens and encumbrances. Per Doc No. 280, Page No. 56, Book No. III, Series of 2017. Notary Public Atty. Lemuel R. Montes.  
*LSDE: July 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

**SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH ABSOLUTE SALE OF A PORTION OF A PARCEL OF LAND**

NOTICE is hereby given that VICTORIA C. LAZARTE, heirs of the late HILARIA LABADIA executed an Affidavit of Self Adjudication over a parcel of residential land designated as Cad Lot No. 325-A covered by TD No. 08-380004 00208 R13 containing an area of 178sq.m., located at Brgy. San Miguel, Tanauan, Leyte. A Deed of Absolute Sale was executed in favor of ROLANDO V. CINCO as vendee of a portion equivalent to 40sq.m., from the above-described property free from liens and encumbrances. Per Doc No. 424, Page No. 86, Book No. III, Series of 2020. Notary Public Atty. Granney R. Varona.  
*LSDE: July 6, 13 & 20, 2021*

**EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SALE**

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late SPS. ELISEA NUEVAS AND BARTOLOME C. NUEVAS extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land designated as Lot 1137 Case 13, CAD 822-D situated at Brgy. Cannogsay, Tolosa, Leyte containing an area of 1,206sq.m., Katibayan ng Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-66949. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of UNIE A. OLIMBERIO as vendee of the above-described parcel of land with no improvements thereon. Per Doc No. 149, Page No. 31, Book No. IX, Series of 2021. Notary Public Yoko Carolyn C. Watanabe.  
*LSDE: July 20, 27 & Aug 3, 2021*

**AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH SALE**

NOTICE is hereby given that GORGONIA B. MARTINADA, heir of the late FRANCISCO E. MARTINADA executed an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication over a motor vehicle described as; Make/Model: TOYOTA MINI BUS LITE-ACE, Engine No: 5K-1194804, Chassis No: KM30-9013118, Plate No: TTV677, Certificate of Registration No: 01728614. A Deed of Sale was executed in favor of RUPERTO ARANDILA, JR. as vendee of the above-described property. Per Doc No. 277, Page No. 56, Book No. I, Series of 2021. Notary Public Atty. Eric L. De Veyra, Jr.  
*LSDE: July 20, 27 & Aug 3, 2021*

**ADDENDUM TO THE EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS**

NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late HAROLD F. BALASOLLA extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over 2 bank accounts with Philippine Veterans Bank described as; 1) Account No. 0000000-16063, Balance per Bank Record: \$2,079.17; 2) Account No. 0052-348213-100, Balance per Bank Record: Php17,857.75 and heirs hereby WAIVED all share, claim and participation in the above-described money in favor of our grandmother, MILAGROS F. BALASOLLA. Per Doc No. 140, Page No. 30, Book No. IV, Series of 2021. Notary Public Atty. Henecito F. Balasolla.  
*LSDE: July 20, 27 & Aug 3, 2021*

**AFFIDAVIT OF ADJUDICATION**

NOTICE is hereby given that EMILIANA A. MAGAYONES heir of the late Emiliano P. Arpon executed an affidavit of Adjudication over a parcel of agricultural land covered and embraced by OCT No. P-22926, designated as Cad Lot No. 4368, located at Brgy. Bulod, Barugo, Leyte, with an area of 2.4771 hectares, more or less; per Doc. No. 215, Page No. 43, Book No. 40, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Ulpiano Arpon, Jr.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT WITH CONFIRMATION OF SALE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late FIDEL VALENZONA and MARCELINA DAMSEL, extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land, identified as Cad Lot No. 3187 located at Brgy Ulhbay, Javier, Leyte, covered by OCT No. P-7530, under Tax Dec. No. 0819028000198, with total area of 26,693 square meters and hereby confirmed the said sale; per Doc. No. 486, Page No. 98, Book No. 76, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Rosarie A. Peteros-Phua.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS**  
NOTICE is hereby given that heirs of the late VENERANDO BERUAN extrajudicially settled, partitioned and adjudicated over a parcel of land identified as Lot No. 3, Block No. 8 located at Brgy. 88, Fisherman’s Village, San Jose, Tacloban City, said decendant is a National Housing Authority (NHA) awardee and heirs hereby WAIVED all rights, shares and participation over the above-described property unto ROMULA BERUAN MOLAAN married to SEGUNDINO P. MOLAAN. Per Doc No. 103, Book No. 21, Page No. XII, Series of 2021. Notary Public Aluino O. Ala.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

**JOINT AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION**

NOTICE is hereby given that CATHERINE CAPANGPANGAN AND AMOR C. CANINDO, heirs of ANTONIO P. CAPANGPANGAN, who was the only child and sole heir of late SPS. CLAUDIO CAPANGPANGAN AND EUFROCINA PILAPIL CAPANGPANGAN executed a Joint Affidavit of Self-Adjudication over a parcel of land situated at Brgy. Mailhi, Baybay, Leyte containing 10,000sq.m., more or less covered by TD No. 07-0065-00185. Per Doc No. 24, Page No. 06, Book No. 206, Series of 2021. Notary Public Atty. John Domingo Ponce, Jr.  
*LSDE: July 13, 20 & 27, 2021*

Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE CIVIL REGISTRAR**  
Tacloban City

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance to Section 5 of R.A. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that

**CARMENCITA U. ARCENAS** has filed with this (*Complete name of petitioner*)

Office a petition for change of first name from **RHODORA SONIA HYDE** to **CARMENCITA** in the (*First name to be changed*) (*New first name to be adopted*)

Birth Certificate of **RHODORA SONIA HYDE ARCENAS** who was born on **JULY 16, 1956** at **Tacloban City** and whose parents are **FILOMENA URBINA** and **JOAQUIN ARCENAS.**

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **July 26, 2021.**

(Sgd.) **IMELDA A. ROA**  
City Civil Registrar

*LSDE: July 13 & 20, 2021*





AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE, SALE, DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISEMENT OF CIGARETTES AND OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES, IN CERTAIN PLACES, IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, TO INSTILL HEALTH CONSCIOUSNESS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SPONSOR: HON. BERYL SHARON G. TOLENTINO  
Committee on Health, Social Welfare and Community Development

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines declares that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, the Republic of the Philippines, under the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) to which she is a party, determined to give priority to the right to protect public health and to promote measures of tobacco control based on current and relevant scientific, technical and economic considerations, and agreed to implement the measures provided in the treaty;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) accords every local government unit power and authority to promote the general welfare within its territorial jurisdiction, including the promotion of health and safety of its constituents;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 (Republic Act No. 8749) declares the right of every citizen to breathe clean air, prohibits smoking inside enclosed public places including public vehicles and other means of transport, and directs local government units to implement this provision;

WHEREAS, the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003 (Republic Act No. 9211) prohibits smoking in certain public places whether enclosed or outdoors in certain places; prohibits the purchase and sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to and by minors and in certain places frequented by minors; imposes bans and restrictions on advertising, promotion and sponsorship activities of tobacco companies; and directs local government units to implement these provisions;

WHEREAS, the Civil Service Commission Memorandum (CSC) Circular No. 17 series of 2009 prohibits smoking in premises, buildings, and grounds of government agencies providing health, education or social welfare and development services such as hospitals, health centers, schools and universities and colleges; provides for specific requirements for designated smoking areas;

WHEREAS, the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) Memorandum Circular 2009-036 provides that drivers and operators of public utility vehicles are responsible for preventing smoking in public conveyances and posting specified "No Smoking" signs in their vehicles;

WHEREAS, the Lawaan LGU recognizes that local governments must act with urgency to denormalize the culture of smoking and tobacco consumption through comprehensive and proven effective tobacco control measures;

WHEREAS, the Civil Service Commission-Department of Health Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2010-01 prohibits government officials and personnel from interacting with the tobacco industry and those representing their interests unless strictly necessary to effectively regulate, control, or supervise them, and its guidelines shall be adhered to strictly;

WHEREAS, the Lawaan LGU recognizes the fundamental and irreconcilable conflict between the tobacco industry's interests and public health policy, and realizes the need to be alert, be informed and neutralize any efforts by the tobacco industry to undermine, challenge or subvert tobacco control efforts through bribery, intimidation and interference in local health policy implementation;

WHEREAS, scientific evidence has unequivocally established that tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke cause death, disease and disability; lead to devastating health, social, economic and environmental consequences; and places burdens on families, on the poor, and on national and local health systems;

WHEREAS, the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is a fundamental right of every human being, and that public health takes precedence over any commercial or business interest;

WHEREAS, an increasing number of Filipinos become afflicted with and die each year of tobacco-related diseases such as stroke, heart disease, emphysema, various cancers, and nicotine addiction, among others, and both the public and workers in facilities where smoking is allowed are most at risk from these and other tobacco-related diseases;

WHEREAS, scientific evidence has shown that there is no safe level of exposure to tobacco smoke; that effective measures to protect from exposure to it, under Article 8 of the FCTC, requires the total elimination of smoking and tobacco smoke; and that approaches other than 100% smoke-free environments, including ventilation, air filtration and the use of designated smoking areas (whether or not with separate ventilation systems) have repeatedly been shown to be ineffective;

WHEREAS, the WHO stated that evidence suggests that exhaled e-cigarette aerosol increases the background air level of some toxicants, nicotine and particulates. Reports show other harms in terms of electrical or mechanical malfunctions such as explosions or leakage, as well as accidental ingestions of the e-liquid or e-juice. Its other potential risks, in addition to addiction to nicotine, has not been fully determined and may pose further threat to public health.

WHEREAS, the Department of Health through Administrative Order 2014-0008 requires regulation and product registration of e-cigarettes and restricts use in public places already covered by smoking bans.

WHEREAS, it is well documented that tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship (TAPS) increase tobacco use, and that comprehensive bans on TAPS decrease tobacco use. Studies show that minors exposed to TAPS are also likely to initiate tobacco use. While it is the main thrust of RA 9211 to regulate and subsequently ban all tobacco advertisements and sponsorships, the provisions only provided a transition by way of partial bans and restrictions, and still continue to expose minors to tobacco advertising and promotions, often at point-of-sale and outdoors. An effective ban on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship should, as recognized by Parties to the FCTC in Articles 13.1 and 13.2, be comprehensive and applicable to all tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship.

WHEREAS, in order to minimize ease of access and affordability of tobacco products, particularly to minors, and in order to provide a more supportive environment for those who are attempting to quit tobacco use, there is a need to strengthen existing measures on access restriction, including the regulation of sales, distribution and availability, and those prescribed under Article 16 of the FCTC.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, AS IT IS HEREBY ENACTED, BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWERS VESTED IN IT BY LAW, THAT:

Section 1. Title. — This Ordinance shall be known as the "Comprehensive Smoke Free Ordinance of the Municipality of Lawaan, Eastern Samar.

Section 2. Purpose. — It is the purpose of this Ordinance to safeguard public health and ensure the well-being of all its constituents by protecting them from the harmful effects of smoking and tobacco consumption, reduce potential exposure to tobacco marketing and advertising, restrict its accessibility, and provide support and a conducive environment for tobacco users to quit.

Section 3. Coverage. — This Ordinance shall apply to all persons, whether natural or juridical, whether resident or not, and in all places, found within the territorial jurisdiction of Lawaan, Eastern Samar.

Section 4. Definition of Terms. — As used in this Ordinance, the terms below shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section. Any words or terms not defined shall be given their plain and customary meanings, unless the context requires otherwise, and shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the purpose and spirit of this Ordinance.

a. Advertising and promotion - means any form of commercial communication, recommendation or action with the aim, effect or likely effect of promoting a tobacco product or tobacco use either directly or indirectly. For purposes of this ordinance, it shall likewise apply to Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS).

b. Civil Society Organization (CSO) - refers to a legally constituted voluntary civic and social organization or institution created with no participation of government, including but not limited to, charities, development non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community groups, women's organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations, coalitions and advocacy groups duly recognized by the Office of the Mayor. As used in this Ordinance, CSO does not include organizations, or associations related to, or connected with, or front groups of the tobacco industry.

c. Designated Smoking/Vaping Area - refers to an outdoor space, duly approved by the Municipal Health Officer, where smoking and/or vaping, may be allowed without violating this ordinance, that meets the following requirements :

1) It shall be located in an open-space outside the building with no permanent or temporary roof or walls in an outdoor area.

2) It is not located in or within ten (10) meters from entrances, exits, or any place where people pass or congregate, or air intake ducts.

3) It shall not have an area larger than 10 square meters.

4) Food or drinks are not served in the designated smoking/vaping area.

5) No building shall have more than one designated smoking/vaping area.

6) Minors or persons below the age of 18 shall not be allowed inside.

7) The designated smoking/vaping area has the following signage highly visible and prominently displayed:

a. "Smoking Area"/"Vaping Area" signage with message showing "Minors not allowed within these premises"

b. Graphic health warnings on the effects/harms of tobacco/ENDS use or exposure

c. Information on cessation hotline and/or cessation clinic/services

8) It shall not be located in places where absolute smoking bans are in effect, such as, but not limited to: centers of youth activity such as play schools, preparatory schools, elementary schools, high schools, colleges and universities, youth hostels and recreational facilities for persons under eighteen (18) years old; elevators and stairwells; locations in which fire hazards are present, including gas stations and storage areas for flammable liquids, gas, explosives or combustible materials; within the buildings and premises of public and private hospitals, medical, dental, and optical clinics, health centers, nursing homes, dispensaries and laboratories; food preparation areas; public conveyances and in enclosed, partially enclosed and outdoor areas of transport terminals that are near entrances and exits or where people pass or congregate; within the buildings of all government facilities and premises of all offices of the Department of Health, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Civil Service Commission, and shall likewise include parks, plazas, playgrounds, sports and recreational facilities, and other facilities where an absolute smoking ban is imposed under special laws, ordinances, administrative and executive orders, memorandum circulars and related policies.

d. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) - [which shall include Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENNDS) for purposes of this regulation] means any device such as electronic cigarettes (e-cigaretttes), electronic shisha (e-shisha), vapes, vape pen, Heat-Not-Burn products, and other similar devices, whether or not it is used to deliver nicotine and/or other components to the user, which may be through the act of vaping or that which resembles smoking, and may have the outward appearance of smoking products.

e. Enclosed or partially enclosed - means being covered by a roof or enclosed by one or more walls or sides, regardless of the type of material used for the roof, wall or sides, and regardless of whether the structure is permanent or temporary.

f. Minor - refers to any person below eighteen (18) years old.

g. Outdoor advertisement - refers to any sign, model, placard, board, billboard, banner, bunting, poster, streamer, point-on, light display, device, structure or representation, employed outdoors or visible from outside, wholly or partially to advertise or promote a tobacco product or ENDS to the public.

h. Person-in-charge - refers to: in case of public places, public outdoor spaces, workplaces, and point-of-sale, the president/manager in case of a company, corporation, partnership or association, the owner/proprietor/operator in case of a single proprietorship, or the administrator in case of government property, facility, office or building; in case of public conveyances, the owner, driver, operator, conductor, or captain of the public conveyance; in case of schools, the municipal schools superintendent, school president, dean or principal.

i. Point-of-sale - refers to any location at which an individual can purchase or otherwise obtain tobacco products and/or ENDS.

j. Public conveyances - refers to modes of transportation servicing the general population, such

as, but not limited to, elevators, airplanes, ships, jeepneys, buses, taxicabs, rideshare service vehicles/Transport Network Vehicle Services, trains, light rail transits, tricycles and other similar vehicles.

k. Public places - means all places, fixed or mobile, that are accessible or open to the public or places for collective use, regardless of ownership or right to access, including but not limited to, schools, workplaces, government facilities, establishments that provide food and drinks, accommodation, merchandise, professional services, entertainment or other services. It also includes outdoor spaces where facilities are available for the public or where a crowd of people would gather, such as, but not limited to, playgrounds, sports grounds or centers, church grounds, health/hospital compounds, transportation terminals, markets, parks, resorts, walkways/sidewalks, entrance ways, waiting areas, and the like.

l. Second-hand smoke - means the smoke emitted from the burning end of a cigarette or from other tobacco products usually in combination with the smoke exhaled by the smoker.

m. Smoke free air - (for purposes of this ordinance) is air that is 100% free from tobacco smoke. This definition includes, but is not limited to, air in which tobacco smoke cannot be seen, smelled, sensed or measured.

n. Smoking - means being in possession or control of a lit tobacco product regardless of whether the smoke is being actively inhaled or exhaled.

o. Sponsorship - means any form of contribution to any event, activity or individual with the aim, effect or likely effect of promoting a tobacco product or tobacco use either directly or indirectly.

p. Tobacco Products - mean products entirely or partly made of the leaf tobacco as raw material which are manufactured to be used for smoking, sucking, chewing or snuffing, such as but not limited to cigarette, cigar, pipe, shisha/hookah and chew tobacco.

q. Tobacco Industry - refers to organizations, entities, associations, and individuals that work for on in behalf of the tobacco industry, such as, but not limited to, tobacco manufactures, wholesale distributors, importers of tobacco products, tobacco retailers, front groups and any other individuals or organizations, including, but not limited to lawyers, scientists and lobbyists that work to further the interests of the tobacco industry that compete with those of tobacco control.

r. Tobacco Industry Interference - refers to a broad array of tactics and strategies used by the tobacco industry to interfere with the setting and implementation of tobacco control measures.

s. Vaping - refers to the act of inhaling and exhaling aerosols or vapor produced by any Electronic Nicotine Delivery System (ENDS)/Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery System (ENNDS) or other electronic device whether or not it is used to deliver nicotine to the user, and mimics the act of smoking.

t. Workplace - means any place used by people during their employment or work, whether done for compensation or voluntarily, including all attached or associated places commonly used by the workers in the course of their work (for example, corridors, elevators, stairwells, toilets, lobbies, lounges). Vehicles used in the course of work are considered workplaces.

Section 5. Prohibited Acts. — The following acts are declared unlawful and prohibited by this Ordinance:

a. Smoking or vaping in enclosed or partially enclosed public places, workplaces, public conveyances (whether mobile or stationary), or other public places, such as those enumerated under Section 4 (k), except in Designated Smoking/Vaping Areas duly approved and fully compliant with the requirements under Section 4 (c);

b. For persons-in-charge to allow, abet or tolerate smoking or vaping in places enumerated in the preceding paragraph, outside of approved Designated Smoking/Vaping Area under Section 4 (c);

c. Selling or distributing tobacco products and/or ENDS to minors;

d. Purchasing tobacco products and/or ENDS from minors;

e. Ordering, instructing or compelling a minor to use, light up, buy, sell, distribute, deliver, advertise or promote tobacco products and/or ENDS;

f. Selling or distributing tobacco products and/or ENDS in a school, public playground or other facility frequented by minors, offices of the Department of Health (DOH) and attached agencies, hospitals and health facilities, or within 100 meters from any point in the perimeter of these places;

g. Selling of tobacco products and/or ENDS within premises of a government facility, and establishments that serve food and drinks or provide accommodation and entertainment;

h. Selling tobacco products and/or ENDS without a municipal permit to sell tobacco products or ENDS;

i. Selling of tobacco products and/or ENDS as individual pieces or per stick, or in tobacco product packs containing less than 20 sticks/pieces;

j. Selling of tobacco products and/or ENDS removed from its original product packaging or without the proper government-regulated and approved health warning;

k. Selling tobacco products and/or ENDS by ambulant or street vendors, including other mobile or temporary stalls, kiosks, stations or units;

l. Selling or distributing of sweets, snacks, toys or any other objects in the form of tobacco products and/or ENDS which may appeal to minors or bearing resemblance to their logo/indicia/packaging;

m. Placing cinema or outdoor advertisements of tobacco products and/or ENDS;

n. Placing, posting, displaying or distributing advertisement and promotional materials of tobacco products or ENDS, such as but not limited to leaflets, posters, display structures and other materials within an establishment when such establishment or its location is prohibited from selling tobacco products and/or ENDS;

o. Placing, posting, displaying or distributing advertisement and promotional materials of tobacco products or ENDS, such as but not limited to leaflets, posters, display structures and other materials that show a tobacco/ENDS brand's name (including company name), logo or indicia, such as in a point-of-sale establishment, where minors are allowed entry;

p. Conducting promotional activities, campaigns, events, product sampling, and the like, where the establishment or its location is prohibited from selling or unauthorized to sell tobacco products and/or ENDS, and/or where minors are allowed entry;

q. Displaying and placing tobacco products and/or ENDS in open store shelves/racks, except in enclosed, opaque and single-colored storages/containers;

r. Facilitation, participation or partnership engaged by any government official or personnel of LGU Lawaan regardless of employment status (permanent, casual, contractual, job order, consultant or special appointment) in any form of contribution, sponsorship or corporate social responsibility (CSR) activity, event, program or project by a tobacco/ENDS company, tobacco/ENDS industry front groups, or any representation working to protect tobacco/ENDS industry interests, executed for or within the territorial jurisdiction of Lawaan, Eastern Samar, with the aim, effect or likely effect of promoting a tobacco product and/or ENDS, its use either directly or indirectly.

Persons in charge shall be held similarly liable for the above acts if they are found to have allowed, abetted, or tolerated the same.

Section 6. Designation of Smoking/Vaping Area - The Local Chief Executive shall designate a smoking/vaping area within their sphere of jurisdiction.

1. It shall be located in an open-space outside the building with no permanent or temporary roof or walls in an outdoor area.

2. It is not located in or within ten (10) meters from entrances, exits, or any place where people pass or congregate, or air intake ducts.

3. It shall not have an area larger than 10 square meters.

4. Food or drinks are not served in the designated smoking/vaping area.

5. No building shall have more than one designated smoking/vaping area.

6. Minors or persons below the age of 18 shall not be allowed inside.

7. Designated smoking/vaping area has the following signage highly visible and prominently displayed:

a. "Smoking Area"/"Vaping Area" signage with message showing "Minors not allowed within these premises"




b. Graphic health warnings on the effects/harms of tobacco/ENDS use or exposure

c. Information on cessation hotline and/ or cessation clinic/services

8. It shall not be located in places where absolute smoking bans are in effect, such as, but not limited to: centers of youth activity such as play schools, preparatory schools, elementary schools, high schools, colleges and university, youth hostels and recreational facilities for persons under eighteen (18) years old; elevators and stairwells; locations in which fire hazards are present, including gas stations and storage areas for flammable liquids, gas, explosives or combustible materials; within the building and premises of public and private hospitals, medical, dental, and optical clinic, health centers, nursing homes, dispensaries and laboratories; food preparation areas; public conveyances and in enclosed, partially enclosed and outdoor areas of transport terminals that are near entrances and exits or where people pass or congregate; within the buildings of all government facilities and premises of all offices of the Department of Health, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Social Welfare and Development and the Civil Service Commission, and shall likewise include parks, plazas, playgrounds, sports and recreational facilities, and other facilities where an absolute smoking ban is imposed under special laws, ordinances, administrative and executive orders, memorandum circulars and related policies.

Section 7. Duties and Obligations of Persons-in-Charge. — Persons-in-charge shall:

a. Prominently post and display the "No Smoking" signage, which may include a "No Vaping" symbol illustrated separately or combined, in the locations most visible to the public in the areas where smoking and vaping is prohibited. At the very least, the "No Smoking" and "No Vaping" signage must be posted at the entrance to the area, which shall be at least 8 x 11 inches in size, where the symbol/s shall occupy no less than 60% of the signage. The remaining 40% of the signage shall show the following information:

ex:  and/or  or as a combined symbol 

**STRICTLY NO SMOKING AND NO VAPING**  
As per ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
Violators can be fined up to \_\_\_\_\_  
Report violations to [ Hotline Number ]

As for the Designated Smoking/Vaping Area, after complying with the specifications in Section 4 (c), prominently display the following elements in the signage:

**"DESIGNATED SMOKING/VAPING AREA" or "SMOKING/VAPING AREA"**  
"Minors not allowed within these premises"

[ place Graphic/Picture-Based Health Warning on the effects of tobacco use and/or health risks of ENDS use within the signage ]  
[ If available, place number of Smoking Cessation Hotline ]

b. Prominently post and display the "No Smoking" and "No Vaping" signage in the most conspicuous location within the public conveyance. At the very least, a three and a half (3.5) square inch "No Smoking" and "No Vaping" signage shall be placed on the windshield and a ten (10) square inch "No Smoking" sign at the driver's back seat;

c. Ashtrays and any other receptacles for disposing of cigarette or other tobacco product refuse must be provided in the approved Designated Smoking/Vaping Areas, and shall be removed from all places where smoking/vaping is prohibited;

d. For persons-in-charge of government premises intending to establish a Designated Smoking/Vaping Areas (DSAs/DVAs), secure a certification/permit from the duly authorized officer or representative of the Civil Service Commission; while for persons-in-charge of commercial establishments/buildings or other non-government facilities intending to establish a DSA/DVA, to secure a certification/permit from the Building/Engineering and Health Officers, after complying with the requirements for a DSA/DVA, as stated in Section 4 (c);

e. For persons-in-charge of schools, public playgrounds or other facilities frequented by minors, offices of the DOH and attached agencies, hospitals and health facilities, post the following statement in a clear and conspicuous manner:  
**SELLING, ADVERTISING AND PROMOTING CIGARETTES OR OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS INCLUDING E-CIGARETTES NOT ALLOWED WITHIN 100 METERS FROM ANY POINT IN THE PERIMETER OF [name of SCHOOL / PLAYGROUND / FACILITY FOR MINORS / HEALTH FACILITY / ETC.]**

f. For persons-in-charge of schools, public playgrounds or other facilities frequented by minors, offices of the DOH and attached agencies, hospitals and health facilities, report to the Smoke Free Task Force any tobacco product/ENDS selling, advertising and/or promotion located within 100 meters of its perimeter;

g. For persons-in-charge of establishments intending to sell tobacco products and/or ENDS, secure a permit to retail/wholesale from the Business Permits and Licensing Office;

h. For persons-in-charge of approved point-of-sale establishments, post the following notice, together with a graphic/picture-based health warning on the health consequences of tobacco use, as prescribed by the Municipal Health Office, in a clear and conspicuous manner:

SALE/DISTRIBUTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

AND E-CIGARETTES TO MINORS IS UNLAWFUL

i. For persons-in-charge of point-of-sale establishments, remove all forms of tobacco or ENDS advertisement/promotions paraphernalia deemed prohibited by this Ordinance;

j. For persons-in-charge of point-of-sale establishments, secure approval from the Municipal Health Officer for storages or containments of tobacco products and/or ENDS. Only a listing of available tobacco and/or ENDS brands/variants sold at the point-of-sale establishment are allowed to appear outside of the storage or containment, where such listing shall only be written/printed in any plain font, and devoid of any recognizable product or brand typefaces, logo, indicia or markings. Such list shall not occupy more than (25%) of the exposed side of the storage or containment;

k. For persons-in-charge of point-of-sale establishments, ensure that storages or containments of tobacco products and/or ENDS are only opened by a store personnel/manager at the counter during actual purchase by an adult customer, or when being replenished, cleaned or inspected;

l. Establish internal procedure and measures through which this Ordinance shall be implemented and enforced within the area of which he or she is in charge. This includes compliance to the sales, distribution, advertising and promotions restrictions, i.e. warning smoking/vaping violators in banned areas and requesting them to stop smoking/vaping, and if they refuse to comply, asking them to leave the premises, and if they still refuse to comply, reporting the incident to the Municipal Health Officer, the nearest peace officer, or to any member of the Smoke Free Task Force through its hotline or by other means;

m. Ensure that all the employees in the establishment are aware of this Ordinance and the procedure and measures for implementing and enforcing it;

n. Allow inspectors acting under Sections 14 and 15 hereof, which may include other members of the Task Force and the designated civil society organization under Section 16, entry into the establishment or public conveyance during regular business hours for the purpose of inspecting its compliance with this Ordinance;

o. For all signage required to be posted under (a), (b), (e), and (h) above, provide for versions of them in the local dialect or in English;

Section 8. Persons Liable. — The following persons shall be liable under this Ordinance:

a. Any person or entity who commits any of the prohibited acts stated in Section 5 hereof;

b. Persons-in-charge who knowingly allow, abet, authorize or tolerate the prohibited acts enumerated in Section 5, or who otherwise fails to fulfill the duties and obligations enumerated in Section 6 hereof;

c. If the violator is a minor, the enforcer of this Ordinance shall report the incident to the school principal/dean exercising jurisdiction over the minor-offender where he shall be required to comply with disciplinary measures under the school where he/she is enrolled, and/or to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office for appropriate action or intervention, pursuant to Republic Act 9344. Should the school have no policy for offenses committed by their pupils outside school premises or if the minor is an out-of-school youth, the enforcer shall present the minor to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office, which may likewise involve the parents or guardians and/or a Barangay Official where the minor is a resident.

Section 9. Penalties. — The following penalties shall be imposed on violators of this Ordinance:

a. **Violation of Section 5 (a), (b) Smoking or Vaping and Section 7**

i. First Offense	Reprimand + 2 hours community service
ii. Second Offense	P 1,000.00
iii. Third and Subsequent Offenses	P 2,500.00, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 1 month, or both at the discretion of the court.

Suspension or revocation of business license or permit may be prescribed (in case of a business entity or establishment), if applicable.

b. **Violation of Section 5 (c) to (q) Sales/Access Restriction and Advertising and Promotions Ban**

i. First Offense	P 1,000.00
ii. Second Offense	P 1,500.00
iii. Third and Subsequent Offenses	P 2,500.00, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 1 month, or both at the discretion of the court.

Suspension or revocation of business license or permit may be prescribed (in case of a business entity or establishment), if applicable.

c. **Violation of Section 5 (r). Sponsorship/Contribution/Partnership with the Tobacco Industry Involving Government Officials/Personnel**

Apply Rules and Sanctions as prescribed by the CSC-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular 2010-01 pursuant to RA 3019, RA 6713, and the Revised Penal Code (1932).

d. **Closure Order:** The Health Department shall recommend to the appropriate office, Municipal Mayor, immediate closure of establishments that:

1. Continue operations despite the suspension of the license/permit;

2. Fail to take corrective action despite the receipt of two (2) notices in the form of warnings or citation tickets, within (10) calendar days from the receipt of the second notice; or

3. Reinstall or re-post/distribute a removed/confiscated tobacco advertising

e. If the violator of the prohibited acts enumerated in this Ordinance is a minor: he/she shall be properly dealt with in accord with the provisions of the Child and Youth Welfare Code and Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006.

f. If the violator of this Ordinance is the operator and/or driver of any public conveyance: the imposition of penalties enumerated under Section 9 hereof shall not prejudice the imposition of penalties as provided under Memorandum Circular dated 2009-036 of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), Re: "100% Smoke Free Public Utility Vehicles (PUV's) and Public Land Transportation Terminals".

g. If the violator of is a government official or employee: in addition to the applicable penalties provided under this Section, he/she shall be dealt with administrative sanction, as per CSC MC No.17, series of 2009.

h. **Revocation or Suspension of License/Permit.** The license/permit to sell (tobacco products/ENDS) or to operate of any establishment or of any public conveyance covered by this Ordinance shall also be suspended for at least one (1) week but not more than one (1) month, or revoked, should the same fail to perform the necessary action within fifteen (15) days upon receipt of violation notice or fail to pay within seven (7) working days the corresponding penalty as stated in the Citation Ticket for the violation committed. Should the license/permit found to be in violation of this ordinance, fall outside of the jurisdiction of the respective Local Government Unit (LGU), the recommendation for revocation or suspension of license/permit shall be forwarded to the appropriate LGU, agency or governing body. The suspension or revocation of the license/permit of the erring establishment or public conveyance shall only be lifted once all the requirements set forth upon re-inspection and evaluation of the Health Officer, Building/Engineering Office, Business Permits and Licensing Office and/or the appropriate agency or governing body has been fully complied with. Any Task Force member may recommend the revocation or suspension of license or permit of an erring establishment to the appropriate office.

i. **Community Service.** If a violator is unable to pay the fines imposed, he or she may choose to render community service within the municipality. For every hour of community service rendered, his/her outstanding fine shall be reduced by an amount equivalent to triple the hourly minimum wage (or other computations/fixed amount per hour for the total number of hours needed to be rendered) in the municipality.

j. **Confiscation or Removal.** Tobacco products, ENDS and their advertising/promotions paraphernalia associated with any violation of the prohibited acts in this ordinance may be subject to confiscation and/or removal.

k. **No Contest Provision.** Persons liable who have been apprehended or cited for violation of any of the prohibited acts of this Ordinance, except for Section 5 (f), and who do not wish to contest the violation, and is willing to pay voluntarily the administrative penalty imposed upon him/her for the first and second offenses enumerated in Section 8 a. and b. prior to the filing of formal charges with the proper court shall be allowed to pay the penalty with the Municipal Treasurer's Office, within five (5) regular business days from apprehension, to avoid being criminally prosecuted. Otherwise, the case shall be prosecuted in court. The "No Contest Provision" can no longer be availed for third and subsequent offenses. The proceeds from payment of the herein penalties imposed shall be subject to the provision on Funding in Section 20 of this Ordinance.

l. **Subsidiary Imprisonment Provision.** Subsidiary imprisonment may be imposed by the court in the event that the offender, who is found guilty of violating the provisions of this Ordinance, is unable to pay the fine which he is sentenced to pay.

m. **Proper Identification.** Persons found in violation of this ordinance must present correct and valid identification. In case any valid and sufficient form of identification is not presented, he/she shall be brought to the nearest police station for proper identification, then to the Smoke Free Task Force for the payment of penalty or rendition of community service.

Section 10. **LIFTING OF THE SUSPENSION/ CLOSURE ORDER** - Such order shall be lifted only after the erring establishment or public land transport terminal has complied with the following requirements:

a) submission of a written request to the Health Department for re-inspection;

b) payment of re-inspection fee of Php 100.00;

c) upon re-inspection, the establishment must be in full compliance with the Ordinance;

d) secure from the Health Department an endorsement to lift the suspension/closure order to be forwarded to the proper office for approval.

Section 11. **Citation Ticket System.** — Violators of this Ordinance shall be informed of their violation and the penalty associated with it by means of a Citation Ticket System with the following guidelines:

a. Official booklets of Citation Tickets shall be issued by the Treasurer to duly authorized enforcers within ninety (90) calendar days of the effectivity of this Ordinance.

b. A Citation Ticket shall be issued to the person/s liable for any violation of this Ordinance upon finding of the violation by duly authorized enforcers.

c. A Citation Ticket shall contain the following information:

1) checklist of the violations under this Ordinance;

2) the fines associated with each violation;

3) option to render community service in case violator is unable to pay fine;

4) due date for compliance with the obligations imposed by the ticket

d. When a Citation Ticket is issued to a violator, the violator shall report to the Treasurer's Office or its duly authorized collecting agent, within five (5) regular business days after such issuance, where he or she shall either pay the fine imposed or render community service under Section 8 (e) hereof.

e. The Treasurer's Office shall keep a duplicate of all Citation Tickets issued to violators as well as all other records of violations of this Ordinance.

Section 12. **Smoking Cessation and Livelihood Assistance Programs.** — The Municipal Health Officer, with the assistance of the Health Education and Promotion Officer, or other members of the Smoke Free Task Force, which includes the CSO representative designated under Section 16 hereof, shall develop, promote and implement a Smoking Cessation Program and encourage the participation therein of public and private facilities which may be able to provide for its requirements. Smokers who are willing to quit including those who may be dual users of tobacco or ENDS products, or ENDS product users who may have developed dependence, and those found violating this Ordinance may be referred to the Smoking Cessation Program and its facilities.

Persons involved in selling prior to the effectivity of this ordinance, such as ambulant vendors whose economic activity shall be affected or displaced by the prohibitions on sales, shall be referred for enrollment and given assistance in the livelihood programs of the municipality or other appropriate agency.

ENFORCEMENT

Section 13. **Smokefree Task Force.** — A Task Force shall be created to aid in the implementation, enforcement and monitoring of this Ordinance, and to protect the same from tobacco/ENDS industry interference at all times, as well as to conduct educational awareness campaigns, information dissemination programs, and capacity building programs, that will inform the constituents and train enforcement officers.

The Task Force chaired by the Mayor shall have the following as members and may designate a vice-chair to serve as overall coordinator:

a. Health Officer;

b. Health Education and Promotion Officer/or equivalent designate;

c. Building/Engineering Officer;

d. Legal Officer;

e. Information Officer;

f. Business Permits and Licensing Officer;

g. Representative/s of one or more civil society organizations (CSO) designated by the Health Officer, under Section 16 hereof;

h. Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief of Police;

i. Treasurer;

j. Environment and Natural Resources Officer (ENRO) from the LGU or from DENR;



k. Representative/s from DepED, CHED and/or academic institution;
l. Local President of the Liga ng mga Barangay ng Pilipinas;
m. Public Order and Safety Officer;
n. Social Welfare and Development Officer
o. Human Resources Management Officer
p. Municipal Administrator
q. Coordinator of the Task Force Unit or Office (if other than the above officers)
r. Other member/s identified by the chair or vice-chair (whose specific function in the LGU and role may serve to effectively implement this Ordinance)

The Task Force shall not include as its member any person or entity upholding or accommodating tobacco industry interests or is connected in any way to the tobacco/ENDS industry, in order to protect the primary health objectives of this Ordinance from any and all interests prejudicial to tobacco control policies and to preserve its integrity. No member of the Task Force shall also receive for himself or for other individuals, beneficiaries or groups, any contribution or compensation, directly or indirectly, whether financial or otherwise, from the tobacco/ENDS industry. Non-compliance of this provision, governing the Task Force, shall serve as grounds for the removal of the erring Task Force member/s. If the erring Task Force member is likewise a public officials or government personnel, he/she shall also be subject to sanctions prescribed under the CSC-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular 2010-001.

**Section 14. Duties and Responsibilities of the Task Force.**— Other than (1) receiving, reviewing and processing reports and complaints, serving of citations and notices, and filing of appropriate charges for violations under this Ordinance (2) attending regular Task Force meetings, and (3) deputizing enforcers under Sections 13 to 16 hereof, and enforcing the other provisions of this Ordinance, the Task Force, headed by the Mayor, shall have the following respective duties and responsibilities:
a. The Health Officer shall:

- 1) Make tobacco control, including the implementation of this Ordinance, a part of the health program and propose funding under the general budget of the LGU;
2) Establish baseline (preferably) annual data on tobacco use prevalence and other related studies, and recommend further action on the findings of such data;
3) Monitor, together with the Sanitary Inspector, Enforcers and/or Task Force members, the compliance of this Ordinance in public places, establishments, conveyances, point-of-sale, and including the approval/disapproval of permits in Designated Smoking/ Vaping Areas (DSAs/DVAs) as well as permits/licenses for tobacco/ENDS point-of-sale;
4) Facilitate, together with the Sanitary Inspector, Enforcers and/or Task Force members, the serving of notices, imposition of fines, suspension, or revocation of permits/licenses for violations;
5) Assign a hotline or any other number and email address to which violations of this Ordinance may be reported by email, phone call or SMS, or other means, and a person to operate the line and record reports, while another hotline may be assigned for accepting calls or messages for Smoking Cessation counseling;
6) Develop, promote and implement a Smoking Cessation Program, stated in Section 10;
7) Assist hospitals and other health facilities including any office of the DOH within the LGU, together with the Sanitary Inspector, Enforcers and/or Task Force members, in the monitoring of tobacco/ENDS products' sales, advertisements and promotions within 100 meters from the perimeter of schools, public playgrounds, facilities frequented by minors and health facilities.

b. The Health Education and Promotion Officer shall:

- 1) Develop and produce information, education and communication materials and conduct activities on Tobacco Control, such as the harms of smoking and second-hand smoke, as well as on the provisions of this Ordinance;
2) Encourage constituents to monitor and report violations of this Ordinance;
3) Assist the Health Officer in developing, promoting and implementing a Smoking Cessation Program.
c. The Building/Engineering Officer shall:
1) Conduct, together with the Health Officer or on its own, inspection activities as provided in this Ordinance;
2) Determine whether or not enclosed/partially enclosed public places, workplaces, other public places, and point-of-sale establishments, comply with this Ordinance;
3) Recommend the approval, suspension or revocation of licenses/permits for establishments/facilities, in compliance with this Ordinance.

d. The Legal Officer shall:

- 1) Assist the Task Force in reviewing reports of and complaints for violations of this Ordinance and in determining liability or appropriate cases to file;
2) Extend any legal assistance and/or file cases on matters pertaining to this Ordinance.

e. The Information Officer shall:

- 1) Assist in disseminating information pertaining to all aspects of this Ordinance including the printing and distribution of copies of this Ordinance to the public;
2) Make a primer summarizing the provisions of this Ordinance, and facilitate the development of related information materials and required signage;
3) Publicize activities and reports related to implementation and enforcement.

f. The Business Permits and Licenses Officer shall:

- 1) Order the suspension or revocation of licenses/permits of establishments found to have violated this Ordinance, subject to the provisions of Section 8 hereof;
2) Deny renewal of licenses/permits of repeat violators of this Ordinance;
3) Establish procedure for identifying, informing and marking establishments covered by the 100-meter ban on sale, distribution and advertising of tobacco products and ENDS.

g. The CSO Representative/s shall:

- 1) Assist in inspections and in monitoring violations of this Ordinance;
2) Assist in promoting awareness of this Ordinance and in encouraging public support and participation for its implementation and enforcement;
3) Assist in promoting and, if capable, implementing a Smoking Cessation Program;
4) Assist in developing and conducting orientation and training seminars for enforcers;
5) Assist in evaluating the performance of the Task Force and the effectiveness of the implementation and enforcement of this Ordinance.

h. The PNP Chief of Police shall:

- 1) Direct the Local PNP in the orderly enforcement of this Ordinance;
2) Ensure apprehension of violators in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and other rules and procedures of engagement;
3) Assist Task Force members, LGU officials and deputized civilians in apprehending violators and in filing the appropriate complaints when necessary;
4) Assist in promoting awareness of this Ordinance and in encouraging public support and participation in its implementation and enforcement;
5) Employ the assistance of other members of the Task Force and other police enforcers, such as those from other LGUs, during enforcement when coordination is necessary;
6) Refer minors caught in violation of this Ordinance to the Social Welfare and Development Office and/or to the school authorities where the minor is enrolled;
7) Use the Citation Tickets during apprehensions and maintain a record or log of violations/apprehensions made within particular periods, for purposes of reporting.

i. The Treasurer shall:

- 1) Facilitate the printing and reprinting of Citation Tickets;
2) Issue booklets of the Citation Tickets to the LGU enforcers and other deputized enforcers, as appropriate;
3) Collect/receive fines paid by violators and submit reports on its collection;
4) Designate collection agents and guidelines for collections as necessary to assist in efficient collection of fines from the Municipality;
5) Facilitate the release and allocation of funds, and the remuneration of enforcers share in accordance with the provision for the sharing of proceeds, derived from the collection of fines, penalties, generated resources and appropriated budget.

j. The Environment and Natural Resources Officer shall:

- 1) Assist in promoting awareness of this Ordinance as a component in the protection and conservation of the environment and in encouraging public support and participation in its implementation and enforcement;
2) Assist in inspection and monitoring violations of the Ordinance on its own or with any other member of the Task Force;
3) Conduct timely monitoring of air, water, soil quality and other studies pertinent to determining levels of exposure to tobacco smoke, ENDS vapor, residues, byproducts and litter, among others;
4) Provide expertise in the application and management of appropriate technologies to avert environmental/health risks, accidents and damage posed by tobacco smoke, ENDS vapor, residues, by-products, disposal and litter, among others.

k. The Representative from DepED, CHED and/or Academic institution shall:

- 1) Implement the Department/Commission Orders on the integration of tobacco control education into the school curricula;
2) Ensure strict compliance of the Memos and Orders on the protection of the bureaucracy from Tobacco Industry interference as per FCTC Article 5.3;
3) Ensure strict compliance of schools in enforcing 100% smokefree campuses and school facilities including the schools' vehicles;
4) Assist in the monitoring of tobacco/ENDS products' sales, advertisements and promotions within 100 meters from the perimeter of schools, public playgrounds and facilities frequented by minors;
5) Ensure the posting in clear and conspicuous manner "No Smoking" signs, and notices for the sales ban of Tobacco Products within 100 meters from the perimeter of schools, public playgrounds, facilities frequented by minors and health facilities.

l. The Local President of the *Liga ng mga Barangay ng Pilipinas* shall:

- 1) Assist in promoting awareness of this Ordinance in encouraging public support and participation in its implementation and enforcement;
2) Coordinate with all Barangay Captains and the PNP, or other members of the Task Force, in monitoring violations of the Ordinance within their jurisdictions;
3) Provide the necessary coordination among the Barangay Health Workers, Kagawads and Tanods and other enforcers (i.e. Coast Guards) for the implementation of activities pertinent to the Ordinance;
4) Assist in the facilitation of and referrals to the Smoking Cessation Program at the Barangay Level, if applicable.

m. The Public Order and Safety Officer shall:

- 1) Assist in promoting awareness of this Ordinance in encouraging public support and participation in its implementation and enforcement;
2) Monitor compliance in public places, establishments, conveyances, point-of-sale, Designated Smoking/Vaping Areas (DSAs/DVAs), together with other members of the Task Force;
3) Coordinate with enforcers and/or Task Force members regarding the imposition of fines, suspension or revocation of licenses/permits for violations;
n. The Social Welfare and Development Officer:

- 1) Assist in the enforcement of this Ordinance when minors are involved;
2) Provide the necessary interventions for minors implicated in violations.

o. The Human Resources and Management Officer or equivalent officer/LGU point-person for the Civil Service Commission:

- 1) Oversee the strict implementation of smokefree government facilities;
2) Evaluate for approval the proper establishment of Designated Smoking/Vaping Areas in government facilities where it may apply;
3) Oversee the strict implementation of policy preventing Tobacco Industry Interference, pursuant to the CSC-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular 2010-01;
4) Monitor, supervise and report on all concerns pertaining to Tobacco Industry activities, communications, and other related concerns;
5) Assist in matters related to tobacco control policies as it applies to the performance of functions and duties affecting government officials/personnel.

p. The Municipal Administrator:

- 1) Assist the Mayor in overseeing the implementation and enforcement of this Ordinance, in close coordination with other members of the Task Force;
2) Provide regular updates to the Mayor as to the status of implementation and enforcement of the Ordinance.

q. The Coordinator, in case of a separate Coordinating Unit or Office of the Task Force, under the authority of the Mayor:

- 1) Perform any of the functions assigned to it by the Mayor pertaining to the implementation, enforcement and promotion of this Ordinance;
2) Coordinate with any/all members of the Municipal Task Force as necessary, facilitate trainings, assist in enforcement/promotion/monitoring/research, and attend to any related function as required/

instructed by the Mayor;

3) Provide regular updates to the Mayor as to the status of implementation of Tobacco Control in the LGU and of the Ordinance.

**Section 15. Enforcement on Individuals.** — Members of the PNP and/or persons duly deputized by the Mayor/Task Force shall apprehend and issue Citation Tickets against persons found in violation or have failed to comply with any provision enumerated under Sections 5 and 6 hereof. They shall forward copies of the tickets they issue violators to the Treasurer's Office regularly or per week. If the violator is a minor (person below 18), he or she must be turned over for dispensation of appropriate action to the nearest Social Welfare and Development Officer or its appointed designates, subject to RA 9344 (Juvenile Justice and Welfare Law), and/or to the school authorities at the school where the minor is enrolled, and/or to the Barangay Office where the minor is a resident, and where the parents or guardians maybe called. In case any valid or sufficient form of identification is not presented, he/she shall be brought to the nearest police station for proper identification, then to the Smoke Free Task Force for the payment of penalty or rendition of community service.

**Section 16. Enforcement on Public Conveyances.** — Members of the PNP and/or persons duly deputized by the Task Force shall inspect public conveyances during their regular hours of operation and shall issue Citation Tickets upon discovery of any violation of this Ordinance. They shall forward copies of the tickets they issue violators to the Treasurer's Office regularly or at least once a week.

**Section 17. Enforcement on Establishments.** — Ninety (90) calendar days after the effectivity of this Ordinance, an inspection team composed of representatives from the Health Office, Engineer's Office, Permits and Licenses Office, and other members of the Task Force, shall conduct inspections of establishments and buildings to determine their compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

Regular inspection shall thereafter be conducted at least once every month or simultaneously with other regular inspections done by the appropriate office or department, whichever is more frequent, during normal hours of operation of the establishment.

The inspection team shall issue a Citation Ticket against the establishment upon finding of non-compliance with or of any violation of this Ordinance. A Citation Ticket may be issued for each day that the establishment is found to be non-compliant.

Re-inspection of the establishment shall be done on any day after the issuance of the Citation Ticket, but in no case more than ten (10) calendar days after such issuance. If the establishment fails to comply with the obligations stated in the Citation Ticket upon re-inspection, the inspection team shall recommend the suspension of its license/permit, consistent with Section 8 (e) hereof.

In the course of inspection, the inspection team may apprehend individual violators and request the assistance of the PNP in doing so.

**Section 18. Civilian Participation in Enforcement.** — Within thirty (30) calendar days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the Task Force/Health Office shall designate, with the approval of the Office of the Mayor, one or more civil society organizations (CSO), not connected/represents interests of the Tobacco Industry, to discharge the duties and responsibilities enumerated in Section 14 (g) hereof.

The Mayor may deputize qualified civilians to also serve as enforcers of this Ordinance. Any person can file with the Task Force a report or complaint, or present evidence for any violation of this Ordinance, or be assigned other duties pursuant to the attainment of its effective implementation.

**INFORMATION CAMPAIGN**

**Section 19. Information Dissemination.** — Within sixty (60) calendar days of the effectivity of this Ordinance, the Task Force shall:

a. In coordination with the Office of the Mayor:

- 1) provide at least two (2) copies of this Ordinance to every PNP station or precinct in the jurisdiction of the respective LGUs;
2) provide a primer on this Ordinance for every officer of the PNP/deputized enforcers; and
3) conduct lectures to brief officers of the PNP and other enforcers, the provisions of this Ordinance and of their responsibilities with respect to its enforcement.

b. In coordination with the Permits and Licenses Office, provide a copy of this Ordinance and its primer to all existing establishments that are licensed to operate, as well as to those applying for new licenses or permits to operate, and/or permits to sell tobacco/ENDS products.

c. In coordination with the Information Office, provide a copy of this Ordinance and its primer to all public utility vehicle operators plying within and through the territorial jurisdiction of Lawaan, Eastern Samar, and for other sectors as necessary.

**Section 20. Public Billboards, Notices in Barangays.** — Upon effectivity of this Ordinance, the Engineer's Office shall put up billboards in conspicuous places within the LGU to notify the public of the restrictions and sanctions imposed by the ordinance. The Information Office shall also immediately issue for dissemination at the barangay level notices on obligations of persons under the ordinance.

**Section 21. Conduct of Orientation Seminars and Trainings.** -- Within sixty (60) calendar days from the effectivity of this Ordinance and periodically thereafter, the Health Officer, with the assistance of the Health Education and Promotion Officer, and the CSO representative designated under Section 18 hereof, with other members of the Task Force, shall develop and conduct a series of orientation seminars and trainings for the enforcers of this Ordinance, at least one for each group, including but not limited to, deputized enforcers like barangay health workers, barangay tanods, and the local PNP.

**FINANCING**

**Section 22. Funding.** — An initial funding to defray the expenses necessary for or incidental to the implementation of this Ordinance and Tobacco Control Program of Lawaan, Eastern Samar in the amount of P150,000.00 shall be sourced from the fund of the Municipal Government, and is hereby allocated. Every year thereafter, at least P50,000.00 shall automatically be included in the Annual Budget of the municipality for the implementation and enforcement of this Ordinance and the municipality's Tobacco Control Program.

The initial funding, annual budget appropriated for this purpose, and funds generated from other sources, such as, but not limited to, the proceeds from administrative penalties, shall be placed in a Trust Fund, specifically intended to defray expenses and operationalize activities of this Ordinance and the municipality's Tobacco Control Program. The Task Force shall be empowered to determine how the Trust Fund is to be utilized in furtherance of this Ordinance, subject however to the usual government accounting and auditing procedures.

The above expenses may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Cost of printing copies of this Ordinance, the Citation Tickets, and information, education and communication materials pertaining to tobacco control;
b. Cost of regular or periodic meetings of the Smoke Free Task Force;
c. Cost of inspection and enforcement by the Smoke Free Task Force, including allowances for meals and transportation, the amounts of which shall be set by the Office of the Mayor;
d. Remuneration for the apprehending enforcer's share of the proceeds from penalties paid;
e. Incentive or reward for private citizens who report violations of this Ordinance;
f. Institutional and operating expenses of the smoking cessation program and facility;
g. Other expenses associated with the implementation and enforcement of this Ordinance.
h. Hiring of coordinator/staff/agents who shall be involved in day to day operations.\*

**Sharing of Proceeds from the Administrative Penalties.** — The amount of the corresponding penalty paid by a violator to the Treasurer's Office shall be apportioned where the equivalent of Sixty Percent (60%) shall accrue to the Municipality, Twenty Percent (20%) to the barangay and Twenty Percent (20%) to the apprehending officer or deputized enforcer as an incentive.

**Section 23. Repealing Clause.** — All ordinances contrary to or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 24. Separability Clause.** — If any part or provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other parts or provisions hereof.

**Section 25. Effectivity Clause.** — This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of local or general circulation or posting in at least two (2) conspicuous places within the municipality.

**APPROVED ON ITS THIRD AND FINAL READING:** July 14, 2021 at Lawaan, Eastern Samar, Philippines.

<b>HON. BERYL SHARON G. TOLENTINO</b> <i>SB Member</i>	<b>HON. ERICO O. DACUNO, JR.</b> <i>SB Member</i>
<b>HON. RAUL C. GADE</b> <i>SB Member</i>	<b>HON. ROLANDO G. GAYLON, JR.</b> <i>SB Member</i>
<b>HON. QUIRICO C. ECALDRE</b> <i>SB Member</i>	<b>HON. NELIA G. MIRALLES</b> <i>SB Member</i>
<b>HON. MARILYN G. ABAYAN</b> <i>SB Member</i>	<b>HON. FRITZIE E. GACHO</b> <i>SB Member</i>
<b>HON. ROGER A. EDER</b> <i>Liga President/Ex-Officio Member</i>	<b>HON. IVY NATHALIE B. GAÑAS</b> <i>SKF President/Ex-Officio Member</i>

**I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE FORGOING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 03, SERIES OF 2021 WHICH WAS APPROVED ON ITS THIRD AND FINAL READING BY THE COUNCIL ON JULY 14, 2021.**



**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF ROADS, PROVIDING FOR THE SPEED LIMIT FOR ALL KINDS OF MOTOR VEHICLES WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF LAWAAN, EASTERN SAMAR IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF, MANDATING THE COLLECTION OF ROAD CRASH DATA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE.**

Introduced by: HON. ROLANDO G. GAYLON, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE					
<b>WHEREAS</b> , every year, an estimated 1.2 million die and over 50 million are injured in road crashes across the world, with around 85% of these numbers coming from low- and middle-income countries;					
<b>WHEREAS</b> , in 2011, the Philippines, through the Department of Transportation (DOTR), developed the Philippine Road Safety Action Plan (PRSAP) 2011 to 2020, with the goal of reducing the number of road crashes in the Philippines by 50% by 2020;					
<b>WHEREAS</b> , since the development of the PRSAP, the number of road crashes has been steadily rising;					
<b>WHEREAS</b> , in the Municipality of Lawaan, the number of road crashes is of significant concern, to wit:					
<b>Vehicular Accident</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Fatalities	1	2	2	1	0
Physical injuries	6	5	9	13	4
Damage to property	10	7	12	12	5

Data Source: Lawaan PNP

**WHEREAS**, speeding is the most important contributor to road fatalities and is at the core of the road injury problem, as it influences both crash risk and crash severity which significantly affects vulnerable road users;

**WHEREAS**, WHO prescribes the setting and strong enforcement of speed limits as one of the most effective interventions in reducing road crashes and road crash fatalities and injuries;

**WHEREAS**, Sections 35 and 38 of Republic Act No. 4136, otherwise known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, prescribes the maximum allowable speed for specific road classes and motor vehicles, and mandates local government units to classify roads within their jurisdiction for traffic purposes;

**WHEREAS**, under Sections 447 (a)[5](vi) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, municipalities have the power to regulate traffic in all streets and bridges within their territorial boundaries, and to enact measures that will enhance public health, safety, convenience, maintain peace and order, and promote the general welfare of their inhabitants;

**WHEREAS**, in order to reduce the number of road crashes in the Municipality of Lawaan and/or minimize their severity, there is a need to regulate speed limits on roads within its territorial jurisdiction and apply speed management strategies such as limiting the access of specific types of motor vehicles on roads where there is high pedestrian volume;

**WHEREAS**, in view of the mandate of this Sanggunian to classify roads and to regulate all streets and bridges within the local government unit's territorial jurisdiction, under RA No. 4136 and RA No. 7160, this Body conducted series of consultations with the Land Transportation Office and the Department of Public Works and Highways, and a public hearing where all of the participants signified their consensus, to classify roads and to determine the appropriate speed limits that would ensure the safety and convenience of all of its inhabitants and road users;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, on motion of Hon. Rolando G. Gaylon Jr. and seconded by. Hon. Raul C. Gade and Hon. Erico O. Dacuno, Jr.,

**BE IT ORDAINED, BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED THAT:**

**Section 1. Short Title.**

This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "Speed Limit Ordinance of the Municipality of Lawaan, Eastern Samar.

**Section 2. Purpose.**

This Ordinance is enacted to safeguard all road users within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipal Government of Lawaan and to promote public health, safety, and convenience.

**Section 3. Coverage.**

This Ordinance shall apply to all types of motor vehicles driven within, or passing through, the Municipality of Lawaan, and the drivers and owners thereof.

**Section 4. Interpretation.**

Words and phrases not defined in this Ordinance shall be given their plain or customary meanings, unless the context requires otherwise. All words, phrases, and provisions shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the purpose and spirit of this Ordinance.

**Section 5. Definition of Terms.**

As used in this Ordinance, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this Section:

a) "Municipal Streets" shall refer to roads within the Poblacion, roads that connect to the National and Provincial Roads, and roads that provide inter-barangay connections to major Municipal Infrastructure without traversing Provincial roads, within the jurisdiction of the Municipal Government of Lawaan, not otherwise designated as National Roads, Provincial Roads, Barangay Roads, and Crowded Streets.

b) "Crowded streets" shall refer to streets with heavy pedestrian traffic, including all streets within a one-kilometer radius of the perimeter of schools, public transportation terminals, markets, government buildings, churches and other places of worship, recreational places, facilities frequented by the youth, parks, shopping malls, Palawan Pawnshop, Mlhuillier, restaurants, and other public places as may be determined by the Province or municipality. In case of linear strips of crowded areas, the reckoning point for the five hundred (500)-meter radius shall be the first and the last crowded public place.

c) "Driver" shall refer to any person operating a motor vehicle.

d) "Impoundment" shall refer to the act of placing a motor vehicle in a designated impoundment or holding lot by an authorized traffic law enforcement officer.

e) "Law Enforcement Officer" shall, as appropriate, refer to members of the Philippine National Police (PNP), members of the Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO), and other public officers, such as barangay captains or barangay officials, barangay tanod authorized by this Municipal Government to enforce this Ordinance.

f) "Motor Vehicle" shall refer to any vehicle propelled by any power other than muscular power using the public highways, but excepting road rollers, trolley cars, street-sweepers, sprinklers, lawn mowers, bulldozers, graders, fork-lifts, amphibian trucks, and cranes if not used on public highways, vehicles that run only on rails or tracks, and tractors, trailers and traction engines of all kinds used exclusively for agricultural purposes. Private cars, utility mini-buses, passenger jeepneys, trucks of all kinds, motorcycles, and tricycles, vans, electric motorcycles, and electric cars shall be considered as vehicles.

g) "Owner" shall refer to the person in whose name the motor vehicle is registered, as indicated on the Certificate of Registration issued by the Land Transportation Office.

h) "Road" shall refer to any public highway, street, thoroughfare, alley, boulevard, and the likes within the Municipality of Lawaan.

i) "Speed gun" shall refer to a speed measuring device using radar detection and ranging (RADAR) or light detection and ranging (LIDAR) technologies for the purpose of determining the speed of motor vehicles.

j) "Speed enforcement camera" shall refer to camera-based speed enforcement systems that may be installed on highways or used by law enforcers to determine the speed of motor vehicles for purposes of detecting violations of speed limits.

k) "Traffic Citation Ticket" or "TCT" shall mean the ticket issued by law enforcement officers in the Municipal Government of Lawaan for a violation of its traffic ordinance/s.

l) "Barangay Roads" are minor roads that are outside the town proper or urban areas.

m) "Municipal Roads" is which a category of roads which are owned and/or maintained by the Municipalities.

- and minor roads within town proper.

**Section 6. Speeding.**

a. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on any road in this Municipality at a rate of speed greater than that permitted by this Ordinance.

b. No person shall drive a motor vehicle at a speed that is not appropriate for the width, traffic, grades, crossing, curvatures, visibility, or other condition of the road, as to endanger the safety of road users and their property.

c. No person shall drive a motor vehicle at a speed greater than that which will permit the vehicle to stop within the assured clear distance ahead, in order to prevent a road crash.

d. No person shall drive a motor vehicle without driver license.

e. Minors shall not be allowed to drive motor vehicle.

**Section 7. Classification of Roads and Speed Limits.**

a.)Subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph and unless otherwise provided herein, the speed limit shall be 30 kilometers per hour (kph) on all municipal streets and 20 kph for barangay roads for all motor vehicles. Municipal streets and barangay roads of this Municipality are hereby classified as follows:

<b>ALL MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	<b>SPEED</b>
1. National Roads outside poblacion and regular barangay proper within the municipal jurisdiction.	80 km. per hour
2. National road within the poblacion and regular barangay proper	30 km. per hour
3. Municipal/provincial roads within the municipal jurisdiction	20 km. per hour
4. Barangay roads within the municipal jurisdiction	20 km. per hour

**Section 8. Exceptions.**

The speed limits prescribed under Section 7 hereof shall not apply to drivers or owners in the following circumstances, provided that these exemptions shall not be construed to allow unnecessary fast driving or endanger the life, health, or property of any person:

a) The driver of a motor vehicle carrying a physician or health worker who is responding to an emergency call;

b) The driver of a hospital ambulance or emergency vehicle on the way to and from the place of a road crash or other emergency;

c) Any driver bringing a wounded, injured, or sick person for emergency treatment to a hospital, clinic or any other similar place;

d) The driver of a motor vehicle belonging to the Armed Forces, while in use for official purposes in times of riot, insurrection or invasion;

e) The driver of a motor vehicle, when he/she is in pursuit of a criminal;

f) A law enforcement officer who is trying to overtake or apprehend a violator of traffic laws;

g) The driver officially operating a motor vehicle of any fire department, while responding to an emergency.

h) Convoy of dignitaries.

**Section 9. Lead Agencies.**

The Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) is hereby designated as the lead agency for the implementation and enforcement of this Ordinance and shall be responsible for the general supervision of and coordination with support agencies and offices.

Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LMTO):		
Municipal Mayor	:	Chairman
Committee on Transportation	:	Vice Chairman
Chairman Committee on Finance	:	Member
Chairman Committee on Ways and Means	:	Member
Municipal Engineer	:	Member
Municipal Treasurer	:	Member
Municipal Planning and Dev't Coordinator	:	Member
Municipal Legal Officer	:	Member
Chief of Police, PNP	:	Member
Deputized Traffic Police	:	Member
Municipal DRR	:	Member
MHO	:	Member
ERT	:	Member
ABC	:	Member
DSWD	:	Member
BFP	:	Member
AFP	:	Member



e) Train law enforcement officers on the use of speed guns, speed enforcement cameras, and other speed enforcement strategies, in coordination with the LTO.

**Section 10.2 Data collection, planning, and coordination.**

a) Collect road crash data, including road crash fatalities, injuries, and other relevant information, to be submitted quarterly to the Sangguniang Bayan and the Office of the Mayor for the purpose of developing road safety policies and to the DOTr;

b) Submit a speed management plan to the Municipal Mayor annually, identifying “traffic black-spots” or roads with high road crash incidence, and proposing measures to address the same, and proposing appropriate speed limits for roads within the Municipality to improve road safety;

c) Submit an annual budget plan in accordance with Section 18 hereof, for the implementation and enforcement of speed limits, which shall include, among others, the installation and maintenance of speed limit signs, procurement and maintenance of speed guns and speed enforcement cameras, construction of speed management infrastructure, and other speed calming engineering treatments, and information and education campaigns;

d) Coordinate with the Municipal Engineer’s Office and DPWH on the construction of infrastructure and other engineering treatments designed to manage or calm speed; and

e) Ensure connectivity with the current LTO Information Systems (IT) to allow for uploading of the details of drivers who fail to pay their fines and other penalties, and failed to redeem their driver’s license. In cases where the connection with the LTO IT system has not yet been established, the Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) shall submit a quarterly report to the Provincial, LTO containing the relevant information.

**Section 10.3. Public information campaign and other tasks.**

a) Conduct public information campaigns on speed limit enforcement and road safety; and

b) Perform other tasks as may be assigned by the Mayor for the purpose of implementing this Ordinance.

**Section 11. Speed Limit Signs.**

The Mayor in coordination with the Municipal Engineer’s Office, is hereby tasked to install appropriate traffic signs indicating the speed limits on all roads within the Municipality. For National Roads, the Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) shall coordinate with the DPWH Provincial Office on the installation of appropriate speed limit signs. The speed limit signs shall conform to the standards prescribed by the DPWH Manual on Highway Safety Design Standards.

In areas where no speed limit sign is installed, the default speed limit provided in Section 7 (a) of this Ordinance shall be observed.

**Section 12. Enforcement Procedure.**

The enforcement of speed limits within the Municipality of Lawaan shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedures:

**Section 12.1. Violation of Section 6(a) detected using speed guns.**

a) Upon detection of a violation of Section 6 (a) using speed guns, the law enforcement officer shall flag down the offending driver or motor vehicle.

b) Upon apprehension, the law enforcement officer shall inform the offending driver of the violation and show him the speed detected by the speed gun. The law enforcement officer shall demand the presentation of the driver’s license of the offending driver and motor vehicle certificate of registration and official receipt of registration.

c) The law enforcement officer shall indicate the following details on the TCT:

i. name and address of the driver

ii. driver’s license number and date and place of issuance

iii. driver’s birth date

iv. name of motor vehicle owner

v. certificate of registration number

vi. speed registered on the speed gun

vii. speed limit on the road where the violation was committed

d) The driver shall have seven (7) days within which to settle the fine or to file a protest in accordance with Section 14. Failure to file a protest within the period shall be deemed a waiver of the right to protest and shall result in the automatic resolution of the violation against the registered owner.

e) Upon issuing the TCT to the Local offending driver, the TCT shall be valid as a temporary operator’s permit for a period of seventy-two (72) hours from the time of its issuance for violators who have complete travel documents.

f) Apprehension to non local offending drivers or violators are required to pay the penalty immediately after, showing him/her the speed detected by the speed gun by the law enforcer.

**Section 12.2. Violation of Section 6(a) detected using speed enforcement cameras.**

a) Upon detection of a violation of Section 6(a) using speed enforcement cameras, the Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) shall issue a notice to the registered owner of the motor vehicle via registered mail.

b) The notice shall indicate the speed limit of the road where the violation was committed and shall include a photograph of the vehicle with the speed detected by the camera at the time of violation legibly shown.

c) The registered owner shall be presumed to be the driver of the motor vehicle unless he / she can prove that the motor vehicle was driven by another person.

d) The registered owner shall have seven (7) days from the date of receipt of the notice within which to settle the fine indicated in the notice, or to file a protest in accordance with Section 14. Failure to file a protest within the period shall be deemed a waiver of the right to protest, and shall result in the automatic resolution of the violation against the registered owner.

e) In case of a protest based on the identity of the driver, the registered owner shall have the duty to provide under oath the name of the driver of the motor vehicle, his known address, and other

details as may be required by the LTMO. Except in cases where the protest is based on stolen vehicles, no protest based on the identity of the driver shall be allowed unless the alleged driver at the time of violation is identified.

f) Upon a finding that the registered owner is not the driver of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation, the LTMO shall send a notice to the driver, as identified by the registered owner, subject to the requirements of Sections 13.2(b) and 13.2(d).

**Section 12.3 Apprehension for speeding under Section 6 (b) and (c).**

a) Where a driver is found to have violated Section 6(b) and (c) of this Ordinance, the offense shall be considered “reckless driving.” The law enforcement officer shall flag down the driver and inform him of the violation and the circumstances surrounding the violation.

b) Upon apprehension, the law enforcement officer shall inform the offending driver of the violation, demand the presentation of the driver’s license of the offending driver and motor vehicle certificate of registration and official receipt of registration.

c) The law enforcement officer shall indicate the following details on the TCT:

i. name and address of the driver

ii. driver’s license number and date and place of issuance

iii. name of motor vehicle owner

iv. certificate of registration number

d) Upon issuing the TCT to the offending driver, the law enforcement officer shall confiscate the driver’s license. The TCT shall be valid as a temporary operator’s permit for a period of seventy-two (72) hours from the time of its issuance.

e) The driver shall have seven (7) days within which to settle the fine or to file a protest in accordance with Section 14. Failure to file a protest within the period shall be deemed a waiver of the right to protest and shall result in the automatic resolution of the violation against the registered owner.

**Section 13. Protest adjudication.**

All protests shall be lodged with the LTMO. The Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) shall conduct investigation and hearing, and shall have the authority to issue summons to law enforcement officers and registered owners of motor vehicles, and receive evidence in relation to the protest.

In case of dismissal of the protest, the driver or registered owner shall have seven (7) days within which to settle the fine indicated in the decision. Otherwise, the driver or registered owner shall be issued a clearance by the LTMO, indicating that the driver / registered owner has been cleared of the violation, cancelling the TCT, and directing the appropriate office to return the confiscated license.

**Section 14. Fines and Penalties.**

Any person who violates this Ordinance shall be subject to the following penalties:

OFFENSE	FINE
A. First Offense	Php1,000.00
B. Second Offense	Php1,500.00
C. Third Offense	Php2,500.00

**Section 14.1 Impoundment.**

In the event that the motor vehicle involved in a speeding violation is found to have been involved in a violation of Section 6 of this Ordinance for the third and subsequent offenses, the vehicle shall be impounded for five (5) days. The driver’s license of the driver of the offending motor vehicle shall not be released until the term of the impoundment of the motor vehicle has been served. The offending driver shall present the offending motor vehicle for impoundment at the LTMO’s designated impoundment lot.

**Section 15. Effect of failure to settle fines and serve penalties.**

In the event of failure to settle the fines or penalties within the period provided in this Ordinance, the LTMO shall file a complaint before the appropriate court for the enforcement of said fines or penalties. The LTMO shall also submit the details of the offending driver and registered owner to the Land Transportation Office, requesting the said office to hold in abeyance the registration of the motor vehicle involved in the violation until such time that the fine is settled or the penalty is served.

The unpaid fine shall be subject to an interest rate of one percent (1%) per month, but shall in no case exceed 72 Hours.

**Section 16. Connection to the LTO IT System.**

The Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) shall endeavor to integrate its system to the LTO IT System to facilitate the submission of details of offending drivers.

**Section 17. Appropriation.**

To effectively carry out the implementation of the Municipality Speed Limit Ordinance, the Municipal Government shall include in its annual appropriation sufficient amount for this purpose on the first year of implementation.

**Section 18. Procurement.**

The Office of the Mayor is hereby authorized to cause the procurement of speed guns, speed enforcement cameras, speed limit signs, and TCTs in accordance with the above budget program and in compliance with Republic Act No. 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act.

**Section 19. Data Collection, Monitoring and Evaluation.**

All traffic citation tickets shall be submitted by the apprehending law enforcement officer to the LTMO, within 24 hours from the time of issuance thereof.

The LTMO shall collect road crash data from police reports and other data sources such as hospitals,

barangay reports, etc. and shall monitor and evaluate the impact of this Ordinance on the number of road crashes, road crash fatalities and injuries, and traffic flow. The LTMO shall likewise collect data on the number of apprehensions, fines collected, cases resolved, and other relevant data pertaining to the enforcement of this Ordinance.

Road crash data shall be collected and encoded by LTMO using the DOTr Data for Road Incident Visualization Evaluation and Reporting (DRIVER) system. Other enforcement data and results of monitoring and evaluation shall be maintained in a database by the LTMO and submitted to the Sangguniang Bayan and Office of the Mayor on or before 30 January of the succeeding year, and annually thereafter, for purpose of the development of road safety policies.

**Section 20. Review of speed limits.**

The LawaanTraffic Management Office (LTMO) shall conduct a review of the speed limits provided in this Ordinance every three (3) years to ensure that the speed limits are appropriate for the actual road conditions.

**Section 21. Information, Education, and Communication Campaign.**

The Lawaan Traffic Management Office (LTMO) shall conduct a continuing information, education, and communication campaign on the speed limits within the Municipality of Lawaan, the impact of the implementation of this Ordinance, and other speed enforcement activities.

**Section 22. Repealing Clause.**

All municipal ordinances, implementing rules and regulations, and executive orders, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**Section 23. Separability Clause.**

If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 24. Effectivity Clause.**

This Ordinance shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in a newspaper of regional circulation and after posting of copies of this Ordinance in atleast 3 conspicuous locations within the Municipality of Lawaan, Eastern Samar, Philippines.

APPROVED ON ITS THIRD AND FINAL READING: JULY 14, 2021 AT LAWAAN, EASTERN SAMAR, PHILIPPINES.

(Sgd.) **HON. BERYL SHARON G. TOLENTINO**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. ERICO O. DACUNO, JR.**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. RAUL C. GADE**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. ROLANDO G. GAYLON, JR.**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. QUIRICO C. ECALDRE**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. NELIA G. MIRALLES**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. MARILYN G. ABAYAN**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. FRITZIE E. GACHO**  
SB Member

(Sgd.) **HON. ROGER A. EDER**  
LIGA President/Ex-Officio Member

(Sgd.) **HON. IVY NATHALIE B. GAÑAS**  
SKF-President/Ex-Officio Member

I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THE FORGOING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 04, SERIES OF 2021 WHICH WAS APPROVED ON ITS THIRD AND FINAL READING BY THE COUNCIL ON JULY 14, 2021.

(Sgd.) **EVA G. GAYDA**  
SB Secretary

Attested:

(Sgd.) **HON. RAVI PARKER G. INCISO**  
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

(Sgd.) **HON. ATHENE L. MENDROS**  
Municipal Mayor

# 2 red fighters surrender in Eastern Samar

TACLOBAN CITY- Two alleged rebel members surrendered to the authorities in Eastern Samar last week.

The surrenderers were identified as alias Banay, 31, and alias Menggay, 30.

Authorities said the two were residents of Dolores town.

Personnel of First Eastern Samar Provincial Mobile Force Company (ES-PMFC) facilitated their voluntary surrender.

The surrenderers are now awaiting the result of the validation, verification, and approval of the Joint Armed Forces of the Philippines and Philippine National Police Intelligence Committee (JAPIC) and the entitlement of the government’s assistance program, according to the information released by the Police Regional Office-Eastern Visayas.

They are under the temporary custody of the First ESPMFC headquarters. **(RONALD O.REYES)**

# U.S. provides more than 3.2 Million Johnson & Johnson vaccines to the Philippines

Manila-On July 16 and 17, the United States delivered a total of 3,240,850 one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccines to the Philippines as part of its worldwide effort to help end COVID-19.

This is the first time the Philippines has received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, a safe, trusted, and easy to store shot widely used in the United States.

The shipment was provided directly to the Philippines by the U.S. government, with delivery via the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility, a global initiative to support equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines.

U.S. Embassy in the Philippines Chargé d’Affaires John Lawand, acting USAID Mission Director Sean Callahan joined Secretary of Foreign Affairs Teodoro Locsin Jr., Secretary of Health Francisco Duque III, IATF Chief Implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez, Secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority Karl Chua, and other stakeholders at Ninoy Aquino International Airport to welcome the arrival of the Johnson & Johnson vaccines on July 16 and 17.

“This U.S. donation of vaccines from our domestic supply to the Philippines, our oldest treaty ally in Asia, demonstrates our close and abiding relationship, and how important this partnership is to us. This one-shot, easy to store vaccine will protect millions of lives across the country,” said Chargé d’Affaires Law.

The Philippines has previously received more than 7 million vaccine doses through the COVAX Advance Market Commitment (AMC), a global initiative run by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance to support equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines.

# 98 percent of available vaccine doses distributed in Eastern Visayas

PALO, Leyte- A total of 98 percent or 513,979 out of 524,450 doses of the available vaccine doses for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) have been distributed in Eastern Visayas, the Department of Health (DOH-8) said Saturday, July 17, 2021.

The 513,979 doses were distributed to Biliran (26,002 doses), Eastern Samar (63,606), Leyte (123,233), Northern Samar (76,004), Samar (68,644), Southern Leyte (61,404, Tacloban City (53,524), and Ormoc City (41,562).

The total number of vaccine doses administered has already reached

376,407.

“265,578 or 88.09 percent of the 301,474 allocated first doses have already been administered. While 49.70 percent of the second doses have already been administered, equating to 110,829 administered doses,” the regional health reported.

Meanwhile, health officials reminded the public to coordinate with their respective local government units for vaccine registration, following the government’s prioritization framework.

As of Friday, July 16, the region had 340 sites for inoculation activities as the government intensified its vaccination

drive for priority groups A1 to A3.

**(RONALD O. REYES)**



has worked closely with Philippine stakeholders throughout the pandemic to protect public health and support the local response to COVID-19.

To date, total U.S. government COVID-19 assistance to the Philippines amounts to over Php1.38 billion (\$27.5 million). **(PR)**



## Man arrested for shabu, marijuana possession

TACLOBAN CITY- Joint operatives arrested a gasoline pump boy for alleged selling and possession of illegal drugs this city last Friday (July 16).

Suspect Frank Lennon Arciaga, 23, allegedly sold a sachet believed to be containing shabu.

Authorities also confiscated from his possession a sachet containing suspected shabu, two sachets containing suspected dried marijuana leaves plant material, buy-bust money, coin purse, and a

motorcycle.

The recovered items have an estimated weight of one gram for the suspected shabu and one gram for the suspected dried marijuana leaves plant material, police said in the report.

The drug items have an estimated market value of P4,400.

Arciaga was subjected to drug test examination and temporarily detained at Tacloban Police Station 2-Abucay.

**(RONALD O. REYES)**

## City...

...from Page 1

year old football player who died from a mine explosion by the roadside of Masbate when he was biking with his friends 40 days ago.

"This event is not only a simple group ride but an advocacy ride joining the call to end violence that victimizes the youth," says Mayor Alfred S. Romualdez in his message read by Atty. Agnes Pacheco.

He further emphasized the importance of biking activity as it has become tremendously big as an avenue for peo-

ple to distress and come together during the pandemic.

"This event also promotes the general health, fitness, and camaraderie among Taclobanon cyclists and other cyclists from the neighboring towns," the city mayor added.

Meanwhile, the advocacy event which was a collaboration among the City Government of Tacloban, Philippine Information Agency (PIA-VIII), JRTE-ELCAC, DILG Tacloban, Hands of Our Children-EV, 8ID-PA, and TCPO ended with a covenant signing. **(TACLOBAN CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)**

## Over...

...from Page 1

will be distributed to far-flung areas with those belonging to the A2 and A3 groups, she said.

The 8,300 doses of AstraZeneca were intended for Ormoc City and Palompon, Leyte which these local government units have procured.

Malibago said that with the arrival of additional vaccines, the vaccination campaign of the department with the cooperation of the local government units would be fast track.

"This new delivery of vaccines will give the regional COVID-19 vaccination program a fresh boost with the new vaccine, Janssen, only administered on a single dose," she said.

"(And) since it is a single dose vaccine, this may address problem of people like on fare going to the vaccination sites, and other factors that resulted to low vaccination turnout.

But they must still follow the prioritization framework," Malibago added.

Since it is a single dose vaccines, this may address problem of people on fare going to vaccination site, and other factors that resulted to low vaccination turn-out. But they must still follow the prioritization framework," she added.

The arrival of the vaccines on Monday brings a total of 663,950 COVID-19 doses of vaccines since the rollout started March of this year.

Of the total vaccines delivered to the region, 361,010 doses were of Sinovac; 167,000 doses were of AstraZeneca; 2,400 doses, Gamaleya Sputnik V; 2,340 doses, Pfizer; and 131, 200, Janssen.

As of July 17, 376,407 individuals across the region have been inoculated of which 256,578 of them have received the jabs with the remaining 110,829 getting their second doses.

# Army builds library for kids in Northern Samar town



*Soldiers belonging to the 543rd Engineer Construction Battalion built a library inside their headquarter in Allen town, Northern Samar for children not only to help them on reading comprehension but to help them cope up stress during this time of pandemic caused by COVID-19. (Contributed Photo)*

TACLOBAN CITY-A library that is to benefit children living in a village of Allen town in Northern Samar province was constructed by an Army engineering battalion to help kids in their reading comprehension and cope with stress brought by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

The 'Aklatang Pambatang Kawal Inhenyero' (Children's Library of Army Engineer), located inside the 543rd Engineer Construction Battalion camp in Allen town, was constructed as an addition to the on-going feeding program of the Army engineering to more than 60 children who lives inside the Gawad Kalinga village of the municipality.

## Team...

...from Page 1

jagon, Naparasan, Quezon, and Magsaysay which have a combined population of more than 4,700 people.

Gajutos said that they have so far visited the villages of Jubasan, Naparasan, and Quezon, vaccinating more than 160 residents, many of

"This started after we implemented the feeding program to the children because we saw that some of them are malnourish," Lieutenant Colonel Vedasto Cabales, head of the group, said.

"Then as we implement it, we think of something that can help them learn and develop their reading habit even with the pandemic. This is how the library was created," he added.

The library was opened last June 27 and was constructed through the 'bayanihan' concept and is divided into two section, the reading area and the playground area.

The books are provided Ramil Sumangil, founder

them were seniors.

The three villages have a combined number of residents of over 2,200.

Gajutos admitted that during their visit to these villages, several residents have declined to be vaccinated.

"They are hesitant to receive the vaccine for some reasons, especially the seniors," Gajutos,

of Book For A Cause with the help of LtCol Tertuliano Pinggal Jr, 2nd Calvary Division Commander, Armor Division who delivered them to the 543rd camp.

Since it was opened in June, soldiers are assigned to read a book to children, every Tuesday and Friday.

Due to the positive feedback from the stakeholders, some civilians had also volunteer to lend their time as book readers to the children, according to Lt-Col Cabales.

"I can see the willingness of the children but as of the moment we cannot make assessment yet on their comprehensions since we just started," he added.

The library has also six

tablets that the children may use for one hour based on their schedule.

"If we connect this project to the anti-insurgency campaign of the government, as soldiers, no matter what we do and how we try to decrease the strength of the CPP/NPA their recruitment will continue. They can still replenish their people if the youth which is their target and pool of sources are uneducated," Cabales said.

"So we need to educate them, teach them how to read and write and to discern what is good and bad to avoid being recruited and joining the communist group," he added. **(ROEL T. AMAZONA)**

whose office is part of the team which visits the remote villages, said.

For one, those who are hesitant to receive the vaccines are afraid of possible adverse effects, he said.

But despite of this hesitancy, they are doing their all to encourage them and receive the vaccines, Gajutos added.

Since the municipality started their rollout last March of this year, over 570 individuals have received their doses of which 176 have been administered with the second dose.

Mapanas has more than 14,000 residents spread on its 13 barangays. **(JOEY A. GABIETA)**



## DSWD allots P239-M to crisis-hit poor families in Region 8

TACLOBAN CITY – At least P239.24 million has been distributed this year by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) for poor families in Eastern Visayas badly affected by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

Funded under the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act (Bayanihan 2), the financial aid has benefited 50,953 families in the region, including the 15,541 households listed as Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program recipients, said DSWD 8 (Eastern Visayas) information officer Abelardo Bibat in a phone interview Friday.

Bibat said the region is one of the first areas in the country that completed the distribution ahead of the June 30, 2021 deadline set to disburse the cash aid. The DSWD kicked off the program on Nov. 21, 2020.

“We ended the cash distribution on Feb. 20, 2021, but we have extended the implementation since there are local government units that declared granular lockdowns even up to May. We catered to them also,” he added.

Each family received P5,000 under the Bayanihan 2. Recipients are those residing in villages, blocks, neighborhoods, streets, residential buildings, or houses declared under the critical zone of the Department of the Interior and

Local Government (DILG) and approved by the regional inter-agency task force addressing COVID-19.

Also included in the distribution are low-income families who did not receive the same amount during the first tranche of the government’s social amelioration program (SAP).

On July 12, DSWD Secretary Rolando Joselito Bautista commended the regional office here for the successful delivery and completion of SAP in the region.

DSWD Eastern Visayas regional director Grace Subong accepted the certificate of recognition in a meeting.

She thanked all the SAP task force at all levels, the regional inter-agency task force, and partner local governments for untiring support to the program.

“We are overjoyed that finally, we have concluded the Bayanihan 1 & 2 implementation. We have witnessed the commitment to the work of all the staff by thinking outside the box, for facing and finding solutions to the challenges especially during the times when situations are out of control. This will not be possible without the teamwork, sustained collaboration, and systems installed to ensure that we can make it together,” she said during the ceremony.

(SARWELL Q.MENIANO/PNA)

## DOST8-CEST awards P1 million to ESSU for its extension services

BORONGAN CITY- The Department of Science and Technology 8 - Community Empowerment through Science and Technology (DOET-CEST) awarded the Eastern Samar State University with P1 million for its extension services last June 12.

DOST Regional Director Ernesto Granada personally handed the check to ESSU president Andres Pagatpatan in the presence of university officials and Dr. Ramil Uy, DOST-8 CEST coordinator, and DOST Provincial Head, Dr. Arnaldo Amosco.

Granada was happy to note that the ultimate beneficiaries are farmers needing to expand their agricultural enterprise while observing environmental protection and climate change adaptation.

The university through its extension program targets four farmers’ associations that have proven worthy of managing their agricultural ventures.

They are the San Gabriel Agrarian Reform Beneficiary Cooperative and the San Gabriel Integrated Farmers Association from Brgy. San Gabriel, Borongan City.

see DOST/page 13 ...

## Army’s engineering battalion based in Tacloban City has new chief

TACLOBAN CITY - The 546th Engineer Construction Battalion (ECB) based here has now a new battalion commander after its former head, Colonel Ricnon Carolasan, was named as the acting chief of staff of the 53rd ECB based in Cebu City.

The new chief is Lieutenant Colonel Joel Almendral who was the former assistant chief of staff for operation of the 53rd Engineer Brigade.

Mindful that the 546th ECB received recognitions during the helm of Carolasan, the new chief said that he would continue all the programs implemented by his predecessor.

“I will continue that was started to ensure that we are able to properly serve the people who are under our jurisdiction,” Almendral said in a speech during the simple turnover rites held at their camp at Kuta Kankabato, San Jose this city last July 16.

“My primary goal for the troops is to provide support to other military



The 546th Engineer Construction Battalion based in San Jose district, Tacloban City has a new head in Lt. Col. Joel Almendral(right), replacing Col. Ricnon Carolasan. Brigade commander, B/Gen. Gerardo Catindoy, presided the turnover rites held last July 16. (ROEL T. AMAZONA)

and units under the Philippine National Police, and at the same time, provide support to the national development program of the national government implemented by national government agencies and local government units,” he added.

Almendral stressed that they will also continue to support the implementation of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), through the support to the barangay development program.

“As part of the Philip-

pine Army, we have the capability to implement infrastructure project that can support the needs of LGUs,” he added.

The 546th ECB covers some parts of Samar Island, and the whole island of Leyte and Biliran. (ROEL T. AMAZONA)

### The controversial...

...from Page 5

Koko Pimentel is also replaced (a “lighter” word, as compared to the word “ousted”?)

And on the side, facing reporters, PDP-Laban Vice-Chairman said “if somehow, depending on party developments, President Duterte gets so disgusted with developments and (God forbid) leaves PDP-Laban, eh baka wala ng matira sa partido...!”

Upon hearing this statement, this Columnist immediately dug into his files, and found a statement made by former Vice-President Jejomar Binay, who said in 2011 --

“The late Blas Ople (former Labor Secretary & former Foreign Affairs Secretary) once described Partido Demokratikong Pilipino - Laban ng Bayan (PDP-Laban), now the ruling party, as a Volkswagen Party (then) because

all its members (then), all accounted for, could fit inside the tiny car.”

(Binay was once the PDP-Laban’s chairman, but he resigned in 2016 to run for president under the United National Alliance (UNA). So, upon Binay’s resignation, Senator Koko Pimentel

### With conversion...

...from Page 5

sinful condition. We should be humble enough to accept this reality.

But the virtue of penance goes farther than that. It grows when we put up the necessary defenses against these enemies of our soul and wage a lifelong ascetical struggle. Yes, our life will be and should be a life of warfare, a war of peace and love that will also give us certain consolations in spite of the tension.

And for this penance to be a true virtue, it has to in-

cluded as Acting President.

(Mr. Q’s Note This Column was written at 9:00am 17 July 2021, while waiting for news & “political fireworks” in the PDP-Laban meetings.)

So please join me -- abangan natin an Susunod na kabanata!

clude an indomitable hope that can survive even in the worst of scenarios. In fact, this hope gets stronger the uglier also the warfare gets. It’s a hope based on God’s never-sparing mercy. Some relevant words of St. Paul: “I am sure that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” (Phil 1,6) It would be good if these Pauline assurance forms the deep attitude we should have toward our fragile human condition.

That way, we get to see the things of God more clearly!


### Challenges...

...from Page 4

run off and erosion are sacrificed early due to the high demand of pulp used in creating papers. And these phenomena is worldwide, the demand for papers especially in modular learning is staggering and it creates a future imbalance of trees sacrificed in the altar of modular delivery mode. The main challenges that the students have encountered are self-studying, poor internet connection, lack of sleep and time to answer all the modules due to the great number of activities, distractions, and lack of focus. On top of the fact that modular approach is taking away much needed interaction in the classroom.

(To be continued)...





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### NOTICE OF DECISION

SPS. MARCELINO DEL SOCORRO & CONCEPCION DEL SOCORRO, Landowners, X- ----- X  
 DARAB CASE NO. **LV-0801-0013-2017**  
 FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0013-2017, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE**, finding that the computation is based on the existing laws and policies, the aforesaid amount is the valuation of the land.

The Land Bank of the Philippines is directed to pay the said amount to **SPS. MARCELINO DEL SOCORRO AND CONCEPCION DEL SOCORRO**, or to any of their authorized representative, in accordance with existing laws and policies.


**SO ORDERED.**

17 September 2019.

**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 RARAD/Provincial Adjudicator

[Signature]  
**MESALINA M. PAMAT**  
 Clerk of the Adjudicator

LSDE: July 20, 27 & August 3, 2021



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### NOTICE OF DECISION

SUSAN RUEDAS married to DESIDERIO RUEDAS, Landowners, X- ----- X  
 DARAB CASE NO. **LV-0801-0012-2017**  
 FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0012-2017, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE**, decision is rendered ordering the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to pay the landowner or his legal heirs or representatives the above-mentioned amount in accordance with existing laws, jurisprudence and policies.


**SO ORDERED.**

DAR Provincial Office, Sto. Niño Extension, Tacloban City, 5 November 2019.

**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator/  
 Provincial Adjudicator (Leyte/Biliran)

[Signature]  
**VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator

LSDE: July 20, 27 & August 3, 2021



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### NOTICE OF DECISION

REGINO BURCA married to ROSITA BURCA, Landowners, X- ----- X  
 DARAB CASE NO. **LV-0801-0005-2017**  
 FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0005-2017, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE**, as the computation by the Land Bank of the Philippines is based on the existing laws and policies, the aforesaid amount is the valuation of the land.

The Land Bank of the Philippines is directed to pay the landowner or authorized representative the aforesaid amount pursuant to existing laws and policies.


**SO ORDERED.**

4 October 2019.

**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator/  
 Provincial Adjudicator (Leyte/Biliran)

[Signature]  
**VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator

LSDE: July 20, 27 & August 3, 2021



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### NOTICE OF DECISION

DANIEL DULAY and ANDRESA YAHOT, Landowners, X- ----- X  
 DARAB CASE NO. **LV-0801-0001-2017**  
 FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0001-2017, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE**, the Land Bank of the Philippines is directed to pay the landowners or their legal heirs or representatives the amount stated in accordance with existing laws, rules and policies.

**SO ORDERED.**

03 October 2019.

**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator/  
 Provincial Adjudicator (Leyte/Biliran)

[Signature]  
**VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator

LSDE: July 20, 27 & August 3, 2021



# SPCR PE assures project completion by Dec 2021



NSSDEO, Brgy. Burabud, Laoang, Northern Samar-Located in Brgy. Simora, Palapag, Northern Samar, the contractor of one of the high impact projects in the second district of Northern Samar, Samar Pacific Coastal Road (SPCR) has provided the NSSDEO their latest monthly accomplishment report covering the period May 26 to June 25, 2021, the project has actual cumulative accomplishment of 52.260% stating though that they are behind schedule.

At present, their specific work components are embankment preparation from the beginning point of the project which is partially complete and is now being utilized as access road to Abutment A of Simora Bridge.

Other activities include driving of H-Piles column of crane way for the Simora Bridge, preparation for bored piling at Abutment A and placing and compaction of subbase materials for trial section in preparation for PCCP in-between stations.

The SPCR project aims

Pacific towns is expected to lessen substantially.

During the visit of Project Engineer Raul J. Nuqui of the Unified Project Management Office Road Management Cluster (RMC II-UPMO Multilateral) at the NSSDEO, Nuqui assured that the project will be completed by the end of



to construct an 18.6472-kilometer Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (PCCP) including the construction of three (3) bridges located in Barangays Simora and Jangtud with total length of 261.0 linear meters.

It will directly connect by land travel poblacion Palapag with Brgy. Simora in the mainland Northern Samar province.

Once completed it will become a major road link between the neighbor provinces of Northern and Eastern Samar and finally completes the circumferential/loop road of the whole Samar Island. Moreover, travel time from the mainland province including the capital town Catarman to the

this year.

"Our target is on Dec. 2021 depends on the weather condition, sometimes nadi-delay ang trabaho dahil sa sama ng panahon.", Engr. Nuqui.

The latter also stated the reasons of delay such as lack of manpower and shortage of essential construction materials. Also, the remaining time to complete the project is 188 calendar days.

As of June 2021, 205 meters of road has been completed. (REY M. ORSUA/PR)



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MANILA BANKING CORPORATION,

Landowner,

X-----X

DARAB CASE NO. LV-0801-0003-2017

FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0003-2017, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**"WHEREFORE,** decision is rendered ordering the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to pay the landowner or assignee or representatives the amount stated above in accordance with the existing laws and policies.

**SO ORDERED.**

DAR Provincial Office, Sto. Niño Extension, Tacloban City, 3 October 2019.

**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
Regional Adjudicator/  
Provincial Adjudicator-Leyte"

*Mesalina M. Pamat*  
**MESALINA M. PAMAT**  
Clerk of the Adjudicator

LSDE: July 20, 27 & August 3, 2021

## DOST...

...from Page 11

Also included in the list are the Borongan Cacao Producers and Processors and the Balacdas Vegetable Farmers Association, still in Borongan City.

ESSU Pres. Pagatpatan assured the donors that the grant will benefit the farmers.

"ESSU's extension program and capability building are sure to re-

duce poverty," Pagatpatan said.

In his message, Dr. Uy said that farmers do not need rocket science but simple technology.

The package of S&T interventions to build communities will empower them to be progressive and resilient, he added.

For Dr. Rhodora Mendoza, vice-president for

research and extension, "The CEST fund for the four farmers associations will sustain economic dynamism for the target barangays."

The CEST fund also aims to contribute to the Task Force ELCAC through its Poverty Reduction Livelihood and Employment Cluster. (NBQ/PIA-8/Eastern Samar)



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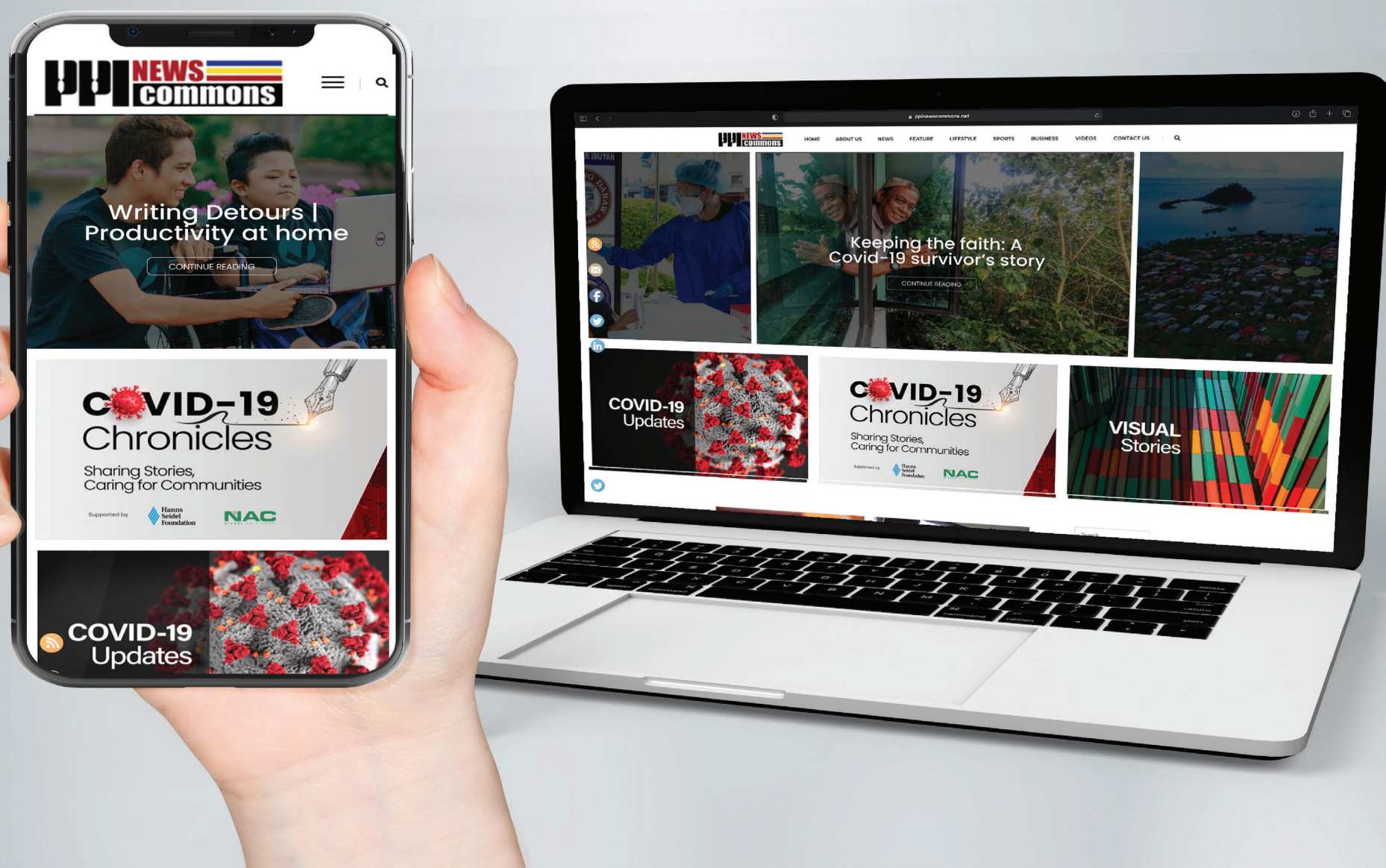


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