LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PMP)

Memorandum Circular No. 2017-134 October 9, 2017

1.0 Background

- 1.1. The promotion of peace and order and public safety is a shared responsibility among the community and the various government offices at the national and local levels.
- 1.2. It has been noted that members of the AFP and PNP face great danger and become highly vulnerable as they perform non-combat or non-police work, like purchasing supplies from public markets or do other routine activities in public places.
- 1.3. The President, aware of this risk upon the lives of the soldiers and policemen, has directed the local government units to provide assistance to the members of the AFP and the PNP, to minimize their undue exposure to danger.
- 1.4. In view of the foregoing, Local Chief Executives are hereby enjoined to extend necessary and appropriate assistance to the AFP and the PNP in their communities, relative to this matter.

2.0 Purpose

This Circular aims to ensure that local governments efficiently facilitate, for and in behalf of the AFP and the PNP assigned within their territorial jurisdiction, the purchase of supplies and other needs from public markets or some other routine activities in public places.

3.0 Legal Compliance

- 3.1. The Constitution mandates that the government shall promote the quality of life of the people. Towards this end, Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991 provides that local government units shall pursue undertakings to improve public morals and maintain peace and order, and public safety, among other concerns.
- 3.2. This Circular is also issued in connection with the national thrust of the government, and in support of overall government efforts to address peace and order and public safety.

4.0 Scope/Coverage

All Provincial Governors, City and Municipal Mayors, DILG Regional Directors, ARMM Regional Governor, and all others concerned

5.0 Policy Content and Guidelines

- 5.1. In recognition of the sacrifices, and to protect the lives, of the members of the AFP and PNP, who are working hard to promote and maintain peace and order, and public safety in the communities nationwide, all Provincial Governors, City Mayors, and Municipal Mayors are enjoined to:
 - 5.1.1. Facilitate and provide necessary assistance to the AFP and PNP units, as they perform non-combat or non-police work, like purchasing supplies from public markets or do other routine activities in public places, to prevent undue exposure which would become potential situation for ambuscades, thereby endangering the lives of the soldiers and the police; and
 - 5.1.2. Coordinate with the AFP and PNP units in their locality to establish a mechanism (which may include but not limited to, an LGU-composed market or purchasing committee to work for and in behalf of the AFP or the PNP, with designated pick-up points for the goods or supplies purchased), to implement this Circular.
 - 5.1.3. That all other matters pertaining to the details and other working mechanisms be brought up and be deliberated upon during regular Peace and Order Council meetings.
- 5.2. It is of the mutual understanding of all parties involved, however, that budgetary requirements for the marketing and other routine activities by the AFP and PNP, shall be chargeable against their own respective funds, subject to the usual and applicable accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
- 5.3. All DILG Regional Directors are directed to disseminate this Circular to all Local Chief Executives within their regional assignments and to see to it that the intent of this Circular is effectively implemented, and to report to the Officer-In-Charge, Office of the Secretary, concerned Local Chief Executives who refuse to comply with this Circular.

6.0 Effectivity

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

7.0 Approving Authority

Officer-In-Charge

DILG-OSEC DIDIEDIS-19556

8.0 Feedback

For related queries, kindly contact the Interim National Peace and Order Council Secretariat, through the Policy Compliance Monitoring Division of the Bureau of Local Government Supervision at Tel Nos. (02) 928 9181 or (02) 925 0351 or at email address at blgspcmd@gmail.com.

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