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Republic of the Philippines
Department of the Interior and Local Government
NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
Makati, Metro Manila

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 93-002

SUBJECT: Guidelines for the Observance of FNP Members in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) in connection with the election of officials thereat on 22 February 1993 pursuant to COMELEC Resolution No. 2524 dated 18 November 1992.

TO : PNP Chief
PNP Regional Director, ARMM
PNP Provincial Directors, ARMM
Station Commanders

By virtue of the Commission on Elections' Resolution No. 2524 promulgated on 18 November 1992, deputizing, among others, the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) to assist the COMELEC in its constitutional function of ensuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections on 22 February 1993, including the registration of voters on 5 December 1992 and, the revision of the list of voters on 30 January 1993, the NAPOLCOM has been tasked, inter alia, "to issue a memorandum circular containing specific guidelines for the observance of the various police forces in the areas where the elections shall be held".

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In compliance therewith, the following guidelines are hereby issued and promulgated for the observance of all members of the FNP in the area before and during the 22 February 1993 elections of officials in the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao.

1. All Station Commanders in their respective areas of responsibility shall see to it that adequate policemen are assigned to preserve peace and order

at public meetings in connection with the elections, and also, at strategic places on the day of the elections;

2. All Station Commanders shall, when warranted, assist in the investigation of election-related complaints, including the arrest of person/s violating the laws, rules and resolutions of the COMELEC in connection therewith;
3. All arrests made regarding violations of laws and regulations relative to the conduct of the elections shall be investigated expeditiously and referred to the nearest COMELEC Election official for dispositive action pursuant to the Omnibus Election Code of the Philippines;
4. All Station Commanders shall see to it that all orders issued by the COMELEC in connection with the forthcoming elections shall take precedence over and above other orders or directives from whatever source: except the Supreme Court and those issued in habeas corpus proceedings: Provided, That, nothing herein contained shall be construed as in any manner affecting or constituting an impairment of the constitutional powers of the President on the general safekeeping functions of the PNP;
5. All Station Commanders shall be held responsible for the strict enforcement of firearms ban during the elections which is a purely civilian process and an absolutely civil affair requiring the least

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intervention of the PNP except to preserve peace and order, enforce applicable laws and related issuances of the COMELEC. Accordingly, PNP members shall assist the Election Registrar in the latter's function to prohibit civilians, including members of the registration board from carrying firearms in the Office of the Election Registrar and in voting places; relatedly, armed members of the PNP, special policemen, special/confidential agents or any armed men are prohibited from staying in the Office of the Election Registrar or in voting places, except when they are authorized to stay therein to give security to the person of the Registrar or his staff;

6. All Station Commanders shall be held responsible for the strict implementation of the liquor ban;
7. No member of the PNP shall participate directly or indirectly in partisan political management, campaign or activities except to vote;
8. No member of the PNP shall directly or indirectly accompany, unduly assist, bring or in any manner influence any voter before and during the aforementioned elections;
9. All members of the PNP shall help in the dissemination of notices regarding the location of polling places;

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10. All communication systems installed in police stations shall be manned twenty-four (24) hours daily and the use thereof shall be extended to COMELEC personnel;
11. No member of the PNP shall be moved or assigned or reassigned to areas other than their original place of assignment at the time of receipt of this Memorandum Circular, except in the exigency of the service relative to the elections and, upon prior permission of the COMELEC;
12. All members of the PNP shall observe proper conduct and strict impartiality in performing their duties;
13. PNP members detailed to perform duties in connection with said elections shall be in complete prescribed uniform at all times;
14. Maximum coordination/consultation with COMELEC and its deputies at all levels is enjoined;
15. All members of the PNP shall obey and follow all COMELEC orders, rules and regulations promulgated in connection with the above subject matter.

Any member of the PNP who refuses or neglects to comply with, and observe any, or all of the above guidelines shall be prosecuted immediately, either criminally and/or administratively. In addition, the Station Commander of the erring policeman shall likewise incur administrative liability for negligence based on the principle of command responsibility if it is shown that he had knowledge of the infraction and failed to take corrective measure therefor.

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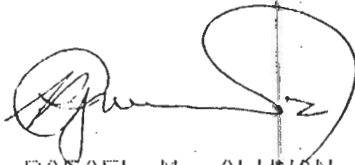
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The hearing of all administrative cases which may be filed against any policeman arising out of any violation of this Memorandum Circular shall be given top priority.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

Issued at Makati, Metro Manila, this 8th day of January 1993.



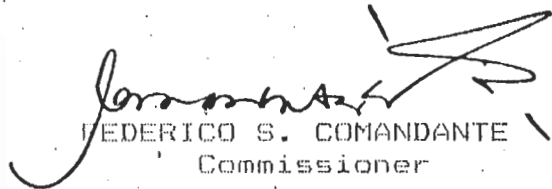
RAFAEL M. ALUNAN III
Secretary, Department of the Interior
& Local Government and Chairman,
National Police Commission



GUILLERMO P. ENRIQUEZ, JR.
Commissioner
OIC, Office of the Vice-Chairman
& Executive Officer

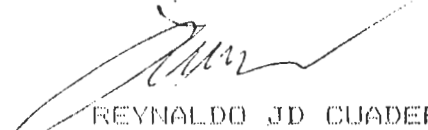


EDGAR DILA TORRES
Commissioner



FEDERICO S. COMANDANTE
Commissioner

Attested by:



REYNALDO JD CUADERNO
Deputy Executive Director IV

/appr