

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of the Interior and Local Government  
**NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION**  
Makati City

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2000-001**

**SUBJECT :** GUIDELINES FOR THE OBSERVANCE OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE APRIL 15, 2000 RECALL ELECTIONS FOR THE MAYOR OF PASAY CITY, MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERCEDES, CAMARINES NORTE, AND THE VICE-MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF JIMALALUD, NEGROS ORIENTAL AND THE VICE-MAYOR AND FOUR (4) SANGGUNIANG BAYAN KAGAWADS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF GENERAL TINIO, NUEVA ECIJA.

**TO :** PNP CHIEF  
NAPOLCOM REGIONAL DIRECTORS OF NCR, REGIONS III, V, AND VII  
PNP REGIONAL DIRECTORS / EQUIVALENT SUPERVISORS OF NCR, REGIONS III, V, AND VII  
PNP DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF SOUTHERN POLICE DISTRICT, NCRPO  
PNP PROVINCIAL DIRECTORS / EQUIVALENT SUPERVISORS OF CAMARINES NORTE, NEGROS ORIENTAL, NUEVA ECIJA  
CHIEF OF POLICE / EQUIVALENT SUPERVISORS OF PASAY CITY; MERCEDES, CAMARINES NORTE; JIMALALUD, NEGROS ORIENTAL; GENERAL TINIO, NUEVA ECIJA.  
ALL PNP PERSONNEL CONCERNED.

By virtue of the Commission on Elections Resolution Nos. 3125, 3126, 3128 and 3129 promulgated on March 21, 2000 for the purpose of ensuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible conduct of recall elections for the Mayor of Pasay City, the Mayor of Mercedes, Camarines Norte, the Vice-Mayor of Jimalalud, Negros Oriental and the Vice Mayor and four (4) Sangguniang Bayan Kagawads of General Tinio, Nueva Ecija, scheduled on April 15, 2000, the National Police Commission, among others, was deputized by the Commission on Election, and placed under its control and supervision, and as such, hereby enjoins all concerned to strictly observe letter D, Section 2 of COMELEC Resolution No. 3129, to wit:

"D. The Department of the Interior and Local Governments, National Police Commission and Philippine National Police as deputies are hereby placed under the direct control and supervision of the Commission on Elections (Commission) and directed to:

1. Effect no changes, during the recall elections period (March 15, 2000 to April 28, 2000), in the assignments of regional, district, city, station and unit commanders and all the PNP personnel under their command in the National Capital Region, Region III, Region V

and Region VII without prior written permission of the Commission.

2. Bring to the attention of each and every member of the PNP in Pasay City, Metro Manila, Mercedes, Camarines Norte, General Tinio, Nueva Ecija and Jimalalud, Negros Oriental, the following basic considerations:
  - a) The conduct of the recall elections is purely a civilian process which however, requires the cooperation of the PNP, regional, district, city or municipal police forces and agencies; and
  - b) Orders issued by the Commission in connection with the recall elections, shall take precedence over and above the orders and directives issued by any other office or agency of the government; Provided, That, nothing herein contained shall be construed as in any manner affecting or constituting an impairment of the constitutional powers of the President of the Philippines to conduct and direct the general peace-keeping functions of the PNP.
3. The PNP Chief and the officers and enlisted personnel in the National Capital Region, Regions III, V and VII under his command are directed to perform the following duties and functions:
  - a. Provide security to election officers (EO's), polling places, the members of the election committee and the voters whenever the need therefor arises, or whenever the Commission on Elections through its EO or election law enforcement teams so require;
  - b. Provide security to personnel and representatives of the Commission on Elections performing duties and functions in connection with the recall election whenever a request is made or when required by the Commission on Elections;
  - c. Take steps to protect voters from threats, intimidation, coercion, harassment or reprisal;
  - d. Enforce the provisions of Section 261 of the Omnibus Election Code on the following prohibited acts:
    - (1) Paragraph (m) on appointment or use of special policemen, special agents, confidential agents or the like;
    - (2) Paragraph (p) on possession of deadly weapons (Subject of the herein attached COMELEC Resolution No. 3125 promulgated on March 21, 2000);
    - (3) Paragraph (q) on carrying of firearms outside residence or place of business (Subject of the herein attached COMELEC Resolution No. 3125 promulgated on March 21, 2000);
    - (4) Paragraph (r) on the use of armored, land-water or aircraft;
    - (5) Paragraph (s), as amended by Section 32 of Republic Act No. 7166, on wearing of uniforms and bearing of arms (Subject of the herein attached COMELEC Resolution No. 3125 promulgated on March 21, 2000);
    - (6) Paragraph (t), as amended by Section 33 of Republic Act No. 7166, on policemen and provincial guards

acting as bodyguards or security guards (Subject of the herein attached COMELEC Resolution No. 3125 promulgated on March 21, 2000);

- (7) Paragraph (u) on reaction, strike forces or similar forces (Subject of the herein attached COMELEC Resolution No. 3125 promulgated on March 21, 2000); and
  - (8) Ban on dispensing, selling and taking intoxicating liquor;
  - (9) Ban on appointment or hiring or filling of new positions, giving any salary increase or transferring or detailing any officer or employee in the civil service, and suspension of elective local officials (Subject of the herein attached COMELEC Resolution No. 3126 promulgated on March 21, 2000).
- e. Take effective measures to prevent members of civilian vigilante units and barangay tanods from engaging in partisan political activities or any act of terrorism, intimidation, coercion, harassment, or reprisal;
  - f. Take steps to prevent private security agencies from acting as private armies of campaigners for terroristic or violent acts against persons in connection with the recall elections;
  - g. Enforce specific orders of the Commission to confiscate or tear down prohibited election propaganda or advertisement; and
  - h. Perform such other functions and duties or implement such other directives as the Commission may issue.

The PNP Chief shall submit a report of actions taken in accordance with this deputation seven (7) days after the recall elections."

In addition to the foregoing, any member of the PNP who refuses or neglects to comply with, and observe any, or all of the duties and functions assigned to him/her as COMELEC representative shall be prosecuted immediately, either criminally and/or administratively. Further, the Commanding Officer of the erring police personnel 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. The hearing of all administrative cases that 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 this 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2000 at Makati City.

  
**ALFREDO S. LIM**  
Chairperson

LEO S. MAGAHUM  
Commissioner  
Vice Chairperson and Executive Officer

  
ROMEO L. CAIRME  
Commissioner

  
CLEOFE M. FACTORAN  
Commissioner

  
PANFILO M. LACSON  
Chief, PNP  
Commissioner

Attested by:

  
REYNALDO JD CUADERNO  
Deputy Executive Officer IV

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