



Republic of the Philippines
MUNICIPALITY OF PANIQUI
Province of Tarlac



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 4

Series of 2020

AN ORDER REQUIRING PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) TO UNDERGO COVID-19 TESTING BEFORE COMMITMENT OR RELEASE FROM BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY-PANIQUI TARLAC AND TARLAC PROVINCIAL JAIL

WHEREAS, following the sharp increase in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the country, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922 dated March 08, 2020, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines and placed the entire Luzon under Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) dated March 16, 2020;

WHEREAS, the unabated spread of the virus despite efforts to contain it by all means should create a sense of urgency among us to act with dispatch and efficacy;

WHEREAS, under the circumstances, stringent measures are hereby promulgated to preclude the spread of virus, which include among others, mass testing among vulnerable groups, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine;

WHEREAS, to mitigate the possible transmission of COVID-19 among Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL), it is but indispensable that appropriate diagnostic test be employed among PDLs before their commitment or release from designated municipal jail;

NOW THEREFORE I, LEONARDO M. ROXAS, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law as **MUNICIPAL MAYOR of PANIQUI, TARLAC** do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1. MANDATORY TESTING OF COVID-19 FOR PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL), it is hereby mandatory for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) to be tested for COVID-19 prior to being committed into the BJMP-Paniqui, Tarlac and likewise prior to being released from the same facilities.

SECTION 2. GUIDELINES PRIOR TO COMMITMENT OF A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY INTO JAIL FACILITIES. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the Bureau of Jail Management Penology (BJMP)-Paniqui, Tarlac of Tarlac Provincial Jail (TPJ):

- A. Following the issuance of a Commitment Order by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL into the BJMP-Paniqui, Tarlac or Tarlac Provincial Jail (TPJ), the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 Rapid Diagnostic Testing (RTD) to be conducted by the Tarlac Provincial Health Office, in addition to the medical examination requirements at Paniqui Municipal Health Office. Schedule of the test shall be agreed upon by the Paniqui Municipal Police Station, Provincial Health Office and Municipal Health Office;
- B. Should the PDL tests REACTIVE for COVID-19 RDT, he/she shall be placed in the designated Quarantine Facility of Paniqui for isolation and monitoring for 14 days before being committed at the BJMP Paniqui or TPJ;
- C. PDL who test reactive for RDT may be subjected to RT-PCR swab test to confirm COVID-19 diagnosis. In such case, the PDL shall stay at the Municipal Quarantine Facility until after the RT-PCR result is released.
- D. Should the PDL tested non-reactive for COVID-19 RDT, he/she shall immediately be committed in the designated detention cells in BJMP - Paniqui, Tarlac or TPJ.

- E. Only when he/she is cleared by the Paniqui Municipal Health Office should he/she be permitted to be committed and enter the designated detention cells in BJMP - Paniqui, Tarlac or TPJ for PDLs who have tested non-reactive for COVID-19;

SECTION 3. GUIDELINES WHEN A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) IS DUE FOR RELEASE FROM JAIL FACILITIES. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the release of a PDL from BJMP - Paniqui, Tarlac or Tarlac Provincial Jail.

- A. Before a PDL in BJMP - Paniqui, Tarlac or TPJ can be released therefrom, the same must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 rapid diagnostic testing to be conducted by the jail facility, as indicated in the Memorandum of Agreement thereof.
- B. Should the PDL be found reactive for COVID-19 RDT, he/she shall be placed in the designated Quarantine Facility of the BJMP or TPJ for 14 days before he/she can be released to the community;
- C. Should the PDL tested non-reactive for COVID-19 RDT, he/she shall immediately be released to the community, with prior notice to Paniqui Police Station, Municipal Health Office and the Punong Barangay where he/she resides.

SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT. The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) in cooperation with the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Health (DOH), Paniqui Municipal Health Office (MHO) are hereby directed to enforce the abovementioned guidelines.

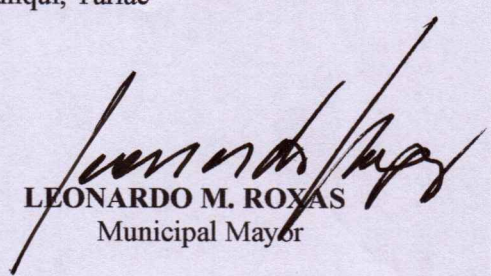
SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provision of this Executive Order be declared by a court competent authority as invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not otherwise adversely affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE. Any and all executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, memorandum of the Municipality of Paniqui or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signing hereof and shall remain effective until revoked.

SO ORDERED.

Done this 2nd day of June, 2020 in the Municipality of Paniqui, Tarlac


LEONARDO M. ROXAS
Municipal Mayor