



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 27
Series of 2020

AN ORDER PRESCRIBING SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES IN ENCLOSED SPACES SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO PENAL INSTITUTIONS, REFORMATION CENTERS AND ORPHANAGES IN THE PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDLs) TO UNDERGO COVID 19 TESTING BEFORE COMMITMENT OR RELEASE

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation No. 922 declaring a state of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines;

WHEREAS, there is an increasing number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in the Philippines particularly in Davao Region and the DOH confirmed that there has Local Transmission of COVID-19 in Davao City;

WHEREAS, the Department of Health recognizes the increased vulnerability in terms of fast transmission rate for enclosed setting facilities such as penal institutions, orphanages and the like

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government issued several memorandums relative to persons deprived of liberty to undergo COVID 19 testing before commitment or release;

WHEREAS, there is a need to issue pertinent guidelines and impose stricter measures to arrest the spread of COVID-19 specifically on areas with higher risk of transmission such as but not limited to penal institutions, reformation centers, orphanages. here in the province as also provided in previous issuance on the risk-based testing policy of the province.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NELSON L. DAYANGHIRANG, Governor of the Province of Davao Oriental, by virtue of the powers vested in me by laws, do hereby order the following:

Section 1. RISK BASED TESTING FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS IN ENCLOSED SETTINGS OF THE PROVINCE.

1.1 Following previous issuances on risk-based testing, five percent of the total population of an enclosed setting shall be tested. Giving priority to those at the vulnerable sector with consideration of age, comorbidities and presence of symptoms. This number shall include staff and/or workers assigned in such facility.

Section 2. MANDATORY TESTING OF COVID 19 FOR PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDLs).

It is hereby mandatory for PDLs to be tested for COVID 19 prior to being committed to penal institutions and, likewise, prior to being released from the same facility.



Section 3. GUIDELINES PRIOR TO THE COMMITMENT OF A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDLs) INTO PENAL INSTITUTIONS.

It is hereby mandatory for PDLs to be tested for COVID 19 prior to being committed to penal institutions and, likewise, prior to being released from the same facility. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of the PDL to the jail.

- a.) Following the issuance of a commitment order by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL into the jail, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID 19 testing to be conducted by the City/Municipal Health Department, in addition to the medical examination requirement. Schedule of the test shall be agreed by the City/Municipal Health Office and City/Municipal Health Office.
- b.) While the PDL is waiting for his/her COVID 19 test result, he/she shall be detained at the detention facility designed by the city/municipal office.;
- c.) Should the PDL be found positive for the COVID 19, he/she shall be placed in the designated quarantine facility inside the jail for isolation and treatment provided that he/she is asymptomatic or mild symptomatic, provided further that the isolation facility is compliant to DOH requirements. Only when he/she is cleared by the City/Municipal Health Office should he/she be permitted to be committed and enter the designated detention cells in jails for PDLs who have tested negative for the COVID 19;
- d.) Should the PDL be found positive for COVID 19 exhibiting signs and symptoms, he/she shall be placed in a hospital / referral facility upon the assessment and recommendation of a medical doctor.
- e.) Should the PDL be tested negative for the COVID 19, he/she shall immediately be committed in the designated detention cells in jails for PDLs who tested negative for the COVID 19

Section 3. GUIDELINES WHEN A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY IS DUE FOR RELEASE FROM JAILS.

The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the jail.

- a.) Before a PDL can be released therefrom, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID 19 testing to be conducted by the City/Municipal Office inside the jail facility. Schedule of the test shall be agreed by the jail warden and the C/MHO.
- b.) Should the PDL be found positive for COVID 19, he/she shall be placed in the designated Barangay Isolation Unit of the Barangay where he/she resides, as indicated in his/her records for isolation and treatment before he/she can be released to the community
- c.) Should the PDL be tested negative for COVID 19, he/she shall immediately be released to the community, with prior notice to the Punong Barangay of the barangay where he/she resides.



Section 4. PRESCRIBING MINIMUM HEALTH STANDARDS IN ENCLOSED AREAS

4.1 Minimum Health standards such as but not limited to wearing of masks, frequent hand hygiene, frequent disinfection shall be instituted in these enclosed settings.

4.2 Wardens, center managers and/or other staff and personnel shall see to it that these are observed by their PDLs, wards and/or residents.

4.3 Disinfection schedule of frequently touched surfaces and common areas shall also be put in place.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE. All orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect on starting June 08, 2020 and shall remain in full force unless otherwise, amended, superseded or recalled.

Done on the 8th day of June 2020 in Mati City, Davao Oriental, Philippines.

NELSON L. DAYANGHIRANG
Governor