

Republic of the Philippines COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS Manila

IN THE MATTER DEPUTIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), THE NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION (NAPOLCOM) AND OTHER LAW **ENFORCEMENT** AGENCIES. CERTAIN DEPARTMENTS UNDER THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENSURING FREE, ORDERLY, HONEST, PEACEFUL AND CREDIBLE CONDUCT OF THE MAY 12, 2025 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS (NLE) AND PARLIAMENTARY BARMM ELECTIONS (BPE)

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OF GARCIA, George Erwin M. INTING, Socorro B. CASQUEJO, Marlon S. THE FEROLINO, Aimee P. CAL BULAY, Rey E. MACEDA, JR. Ernesto Ferdinand P. CELIS, Nelson J. Chairman Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner

Promulgated: <u>September 13, 2024</u>

RESOLUTION NO. 11055

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WHEREAS, Article IX-C, Section 2(4) of the 1987 Constitution empowers the Commission on Elections (Commission) to deputize, with the concurrence of the President, law enforcement agencies and instrumentalities of the Government for the exclusive purpose of ensuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections; WHEREAS, on May 3, 2023, the Commission promulgated Resolution No. 10919 entitled, "In the Matter of Deputizing the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) for the Purpose of Ensuring Free, Orderly, Honest, Peaceful, and Credible Conduct of Regular Elections, Special Elections, Plebiscites, Initiatives, Referendums, Recalls and Other Electoral Exercises";

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WHEREAS, there is a need to deputize other law enforcement agencies, certain departments under the executive branch, other government agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations and financial institutions for the purpose of ensuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible conduct of the May 12, 2025 National and Local Elections (NLE) and BARMM Parliamentary Elections (BPE);

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, the Omnibus Election Code and other related election laws, has **RESOLVED**, as it hereby **RESOLVES**, to deputize with the concurrence of the President, the following law enforcement agencies, certain departments under the executive branch, other government agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations and financial institutions, in connection with the conduct of the May 12, 2025 NLE and BPE:

SECTION 1. The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM), Duties and Functions. - The DILG and NAPOLCOM are hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions:

- Authorize the provision of security to polling places, polling centers/voting centers, canvassing/ consolidation centers, and such other places or buildings, including election paraphernalia, equipment, forms and supplies, that will be used in connection with the elections;
- b) Authorize the provision of security to the personnel of the Commission, its deputies and other persons performing election-related functions;
- c) Deploy, at the least time possible, troops for election duty in coordination with the concerned Regional Election Director, Provincial Election Supervisor and Election Officer;

- d) Make available, at the least time possible, land, air and water-craft assets, communication systems and other equipment, in connection with the conduct of the elections;
- e) Make available and provide vehicles and designated drivers to assist the Commission for the deployment of election paraphernalia, supplies, forms and equipment, including the Automated Counting Machines (ACMs), for ACM demonstration and information campaign on the use of the ACM, per municipality;
- f) Provide access or make available covered courts and other facilities under its control and supervision, as temporary staging area for the ACMs, election paraphernalia, supplies, forms and equipment before its deployment or ingress to and egress from polling centers;
- g) Look into the existence of any armed group organized to commit, or which is committing or attempting to commit, acts of terrorism, or threats to intimidate or coerce any person to vote for or against a candidate, and to suppress or prevent said acts of terrorism or threats;
- h) Assist the Commission in implementing more effectively election laws and/or rules and regulations, particularly the laws governing prohibition against military, policemen and provincial guards acting as bodyguards or security guards for the public officials, candidates, or any other persons, and any of the latter who utilizes the services of the former as bodyguard or security guard, the use of armored land vehicles, air or water craft, and the prohibition on bearing, carrying or transporting firearms and other deadly weapons in public places;
- Allow the provision of security details to candidates for public office, including incumbent public officers seeking election to any public office, subject to the conditions and restrictions set forth by the Commission;
- j) Conduct a periodic assessment of the peace and order conditions in critical areas and recommend measures which may be adopted by the Commission in the interest of free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections;

- k) Comply with and/or implement directives or resolutions of the Commission, which shall take precedence over and above the orders and directives issued by any other office or agency of the Government, except the Supreme Court and those issued in *habeas corpus* proceedings;
- Render periodic reports on action taken in accordance with these guidelines to be submitted to the Commission, through the Committee on the Ban on Firearms and Security Concerns (CBFSC) via electronic mail (e-mail) at gunban@comelec.gov.ph;
- Mathematical methods and vote-selling in all local government units; and
- n) Perform such other functions and duties and render any other assistance to the Commission as it may deem necessary for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 2. Other Law Enforcement Agencies, Duties and Functions. -The following Law Enforcement Agencies are hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions:

SECTION 2.1 The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor). - The BJMP and BuCor shall:

a) Enforce the following provision of the Omnibus Election Code:

> "Sec. 261 (n). Illegal release of prisoners before and after election. - The Director of the Bureau of Prisons, any provincial warden, the keeper of the jail or the person or persons required by law to keep prisoner in their custody who illegally orders or allows any prisoner detained in the national penitentiary, or the provincial, city or municipal jail to leave the premises thereof sixty days before and thirty days after the election. The municipal or city warden, the provincial warden, the keeper of the jail or the person or persons required by law

to keep prisoners in their custody shall post in three conspicuous public places a list of the prisoners or detention prisoners under their care. Detention prisoners must be categorized as such."

- b) Comply with the orders and directives which the Commission may issue relative to the objective of ensuring the free, orderly, honest, peaceful, transparent and credible conduct of elections; and
- c) Perform such other functions as may deem necessary by the Commission for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 2.2 The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI). - Upon prior order of the Commission, the NBI shall:

- a) Deploy its agents to designated areas in order to effectively carry out the objective of this Resolution, furnishing the Commission with the list of said agents;
- b) Direct its agent to arrest any person who violates the provisions of the Omnibus Election Code and other pertinent election laws and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Commission, without prejudice to Section 266 of the Omnibus Election Code;
- c) Render periodic reports on action taken in accordance with this Resolution to be submitted to the Commission, through the CBFSC via electronic e-mail at gunban@comelec.gov.ph;
- d) Render assistance to the Commission for the implementation and enforcement of the prohibition on vote-buying and vote-selling under Section 261 (a) of the Omnibus Election Code;
- e) Comply with the orders, and directives of the Commission, which shall be given priority over orders and directives from other sources, except the Supreme Court and those issued in *habeas corpus* proceedings; and
- f) Perform such other functions as may deem necessary by the Commission for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 3. Departments Under the Executive Branch. - The Department of Education (DepEd) or Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Philippine Information Agency (PIA), and the Department of Health (DOH) are hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions:

SECTION 3.1. The Department of Education or the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE). - The DepEd/MBHTE shall:

- a) Comply with and enforce all orders and instructions of the Commission relative to the election duties and functions of its personnel as mandated by existing laws, rules and regulations;
- b) Allow the use of public school buildings as polling places/voting centers for election purposes;
- c) Not to hold, during the election period, conferences, seminars or any school activity, which might interfere, restrict, or prevent the performance of election duties of its personnel, except upon prior written authority from the Commission;
- d) Render assistance to the Commission for the implementation and enforcement of the prohibition on vote-buying and vote-selling under Section 261 (a) of the Omnibus Election Code; and
- e) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 3.2. The Department of Finance. - The DOF shall:

 a) Comply with and enforce all orders and instructions of the Commission relative to the election duties and functions of its personnel, in accordance with the Omnibus Election Code and other election-related laws, rules and regulations;

- b) Ensure that all provincial, city, municipal treasurers and assistant treasurers remain in their present assignments and neither transferred/ detailed, reassigned, whether temporary or permanently, to another province, city or municipality, nor allowed to go on leave of absence from office during the period starting two weeks before and two weeks after election day, except upon prior written authority/approval of the Commission;
- c) Not to designate temporary or casual employee as Acting Treasurer or Acting Assistant Treasurer; and
- d) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 3.3. The Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Department of Information and Communications (DICT). - The DOTr and DICT, including its attached agencies, shall:

- a) Disseminate, through memoranda circular, to all owners and operators of land and air transportation facilities and telecommunications services, holders of certificates of public convenience, franchises or other forms of authorization, that the following provisions under the Omnibus Election Code are election offenses:
 - Any person or organization giving or accepting transportation, free of charge, directly or indirectly during the five (5) hours before and after a public meeting on the day preceding the election and on election day (Sec. 89);
 - ii. Any person to solicit or receive any contribution from any of the persons or entities enumerated in Section 95 of the Omnibus Election Code;
 - iii. Any person or organization, whether civic or religious, directly or indirectly, to solicit and/or accept from any candidate for public

office, or from his campaign manager, agent or representative, or any person acting in their behalf, any gift, food, transportation, contribution or donation in cash or in kind from the commencement of the election period up to and including election day (Section 97);

- iv. Any person who uses under any guise whatsoever, directly or indirectly, (a) any printing press, radio or television station or audio-visual equipment operated by the government or by its subdivisions, instrumentalities, agencies or instrumentalities, including governmentowned or controlled corporations; or (b) any equipment, vehicle, facility, apparatus, or paraphernalia owned by the government or by political its subdivisions, agencies or including instrumentalities, governmentowned or controlled corporations, or by the Armed Forces of the Philippines for any election campaign of for any partisan political activity [Section 261 (o)]; and
- v. Any operator or employee of a public utility or transportation company operating under a certificate of public convenience who refuse to carry official election mail matters free of charge during the election period [Section 261 (dd) (4)].
- b) Require all transportation companies engaged in the operation of transportation facilities to report within thirty (30) days following the day of the election, the use, rental or hiring of their facilities by any candidate in connection with the election campaign, including the amount paid for such use, rental or hiring, as provided for and in accordance with existing rules and regulations of the Commission on campaign finance and disclosure in connection with the May 12, 2025 NLE and BPE;

- c) Render assistance to the Commission for the implementation and enforcement of the prohibition on vote-buying and vote-selling under Section 261 (a) of the Omnibus Election Code; and
- d) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of the Commission.

SECTION 3.4. The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). - The DPWH shall:

- Assist the Commission and coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), DILG, Philippine National Police (PNP), and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) in removing and tearing down all unlawful election materials, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations;
- b) Provide facilities and/ or equipment necessary in the tearing down of illegal propaganda materials; and
- c) Perform such other duties and functions as the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 3.5. The Philippine Information Agency (PIA). - The PIA shall:

- a) Assist the Commission in its education and information campaign in connection with the conduct of elections;
- b) Make available to the Commission its facilities and services of its personnel, as may be necessary to ensure implementation of the programs of activities or operation plans for the Commission's information campaign;
- c) Produce such information materials as the Commission may deem necessary to ensure the conduct of free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible national and local elections; provided, that in all cases:

- i. The Agency shall adhere strictly to the policy of the Commission that the education and information campaign must be absolutely impartial, objective and neutral;
- The expenses it may incur as such deputy for the information campaign of the Commission, i.e., production of information materials, shall be for the exclusive account of the Agency; and
- iii. Any information material which the Agency, as such deputy, shall produce upon the direction of the Commission, shall be published/ distributed/released only upon prior clearance from the Commission to ensure that nothing therein contained shall detract from or violate the policy of impartiality, objectivity and neutrality.
- d) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

Section 3.6. The Department of Health (DOH). - The DOH shall:

- a) Provide the necessary resources, essential medicines, appropriate number of personnel, and communication facility, in cities/municipalities, where there are established DOH-funded hospitals on election day to provide, free, timely and effective first-aid assistance to voters and persons rendering election-related services;
- b) Consult the Commission through the appropriate field offices, for the proper placement of health stations on election day;
- c) Implement any existing health and safety protocols during election day; and

d) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 4. The Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost) and the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), Duties and Functions. - The PHLPost and NTC are hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions:

- a) Instruct their respective personnel and the management of all private telecommunications firms to give special preference to, and effect immediate transmission and delivery of messages of the Commission, its field personnel and deputies during the election period;
- b) Disseminate and impress to its personnel and management that non-compliance with the provisions of Section 9 of the Omnibus Election Code on preferential transmissions of official mails and messages relative to the elections, constitutes an election offense punishable under Section 264 of said Code with imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than six (6) years and shall not be subject to probation. In addition, the guilty party shall be sentenced to suffer disqualification to hold public office and deprivation of the right of suffrage;
- c) Assign sufficient number of personnel to receive, transmit and deliver election messages ten (10) days before election day, on election day, and ten (10) days after election day;
- d) Make operational all its stations during election period; and
- e) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 5. Government Financial Institutions, other Government Agencies and other Government-Owned or Controlled Corporations, to Provide Means of Transportation in Connection with the Conduct of Elections. - The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Social Security System (SSS), Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC), Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), National Irrigation Administration (NIA), National Food Authority (NFA), National Electrification Administration (NEA), and Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) are hereby deputized to perform the followings duties and functions:

- a) They shall place at the disposal of the Commission their land, air and water craft, such as airplanes and helicopters, trucks, jeeps, vans, cars and the like, ships, launches, barges, and speedboats, and communication facilities and equipment, as the Commission may need from time to time, to ferry the personnel of the Commission and its deputized agencies in the performance of their election duties, and to transport election forms, paraphernalia, supplies and materials to their places of destination, particularly in areas with inadequate or without regular means of transportation;
- b) They shall provide the Commission with a list of available vehicles, together with the pilots/captains, shipmasters, or drivers designated in every craft or vehicle. These crafts or vehicles shall be at the disposal of the Commission immediately and until the end of the election period;
- c) Perform such other duties and functions which the Commission may prescribe from time to time for the conduct of elections.

SECTION 6. Provision of Sufficient Electrical Power Supply in Connection with the Conduct of Elections. – The National Electrification Administration (NEA), National Power Corporation (NPC), Local Electric Cooperatives (LEC), Department of Energy (DOE), DENR, DPWH, DILG, PNP, Department of National Defense (DND) and AFP are hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions:

- Ensure sufficient uninterrupted electrical power supply and secured transmission infrastructure and facilities during the critical days of the elections;
- b) Provide and maintain stable and continuous nationwide electric power requirements from the start of voting, until

the termination or conclusion of the canvassing of votes and the proclamation of the winning candidates;

- c) Provide sufficient personnel to secure the nationwide transmission lines, substations, and other related power facilities;
- d) Help and coordinate with the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) to implement clearing of the nationwide transmission facilities to include substations, towers and other related power facilities, in support of its systems operation functions. Towards, this end, the DENR shall facilitate the clearing of trees within the required transmission right-of-way, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations;
- e) Provide pertinent information to cause the prosecution of any person or offender for any election offense such as, but not limited to, violation of Section 261 (z)(11) which states that:

"Any person who, for the purpose of disrupting or obstructing the election process or causing confusion among the voters, propagates false and alarming reports or information or transmits or circulates false orders, directives or messages regarding any matter relating to the printing of official ballots, the postponement of the election, the transfer of polling place or the general conduct of the election."; and

f) Perform such other duties and functions as the Commission may provide in relation to the conduct of the elections.

SECTION 6.1. Support from COMELEC Field Offices. -All Commission field offices are directed to provide whatever support they can extend to the DOE and NGCP in the information dissemination of public awareness materials.

SECTION 7. The Civil Service Commission (CSC).- The CSC is hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions, shall:

a) Enforce the following provisions of Article IX (B) of the 1987 Constitution:

"Section 2. (1) xxx

(4) No officer or employee in the civil service shall engage, directly or indirectly, in any electioneering or partisan political campaign.

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Section 6. No candidate who has lost in any election, shall within one year after such election, be appointed to any office in the Government or any government-owned or controlled-corporation or in any of its subsidiaries."

b) Disseminate, through memoranda circular, trainings, seminars or any other means as it may deem proper, to all government offices, agencies or instrumentalities, whether national or local, including government-owned orcontrolled corporations, that the following provisions under the Omnibus Election Code in relation to the pertinent resolution of the Commission are election offenses:

"Section 261. Prohibited Acts. - The following shall be guilty of an election offense:

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g) Appointment of new employees, creation of new position, promotion, or giving salary increases. - During the period of forty-five days before a regular election and thirty days before a special election, (1) any head, official or appointing officer of a government office, agency or instrumentality, whether national or local, including government-owned or controlled corporations, who appoints or hires any new employee, whether provisional, temporary or casual, or creates and fills any new position, except upon prior authority of the Commission. The Commission shall not grant the authority sought unless, it is satisfied that the position to be filled is essential to the proper functioning of the office or agency concerned, and that the position shall not be filled in a manner that may influence the election.

As an exception to the foregoing provisions, a new employee may be appointed in case of urgent need: Provided, however, That notice of the appointment shall be given to the Commission within three days from the date of the appointment. Any appointment or hiring in violation of this provision shall be null and void.

(2) Any government official who promotes, or gives any increase of salary or remuneration or privilege to any government official or employee, including those in government-owned or controlled corporations.

h.) Transfer of officers and employees in the civil service. - Any public official who makes or causes any transfer or detail whatever of any officer or employee in the civil service including public school teachers, within the election period except upon prior approval of the Commission.

i.) Intervention of public officers and employees. -Any officer or employee in the civil service, except those holding political offices; any officer, employee, or member or the Armed Forces of the Philippines, or any police force, special forces, home defense forces, barangay self defense units and all other para-military units that now exist or which may hereafter be organized who, directly or indirectly, intervenes, in any election campaign or engages in any partisan political activity, except to vote or to preserve public order, if he is a peace officer."

c) Perform such other duties and functions as the Commission may provide in relation to the conduct of the elections.

SECTION 8. The Commission on Audit (COA) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM). - The COA and DBM are hereby deputized to perform the following duties and functions:

- a) Enforce the following provisions of the Omnibus Election Code:
 - i. Section 261 (v) which prohibits the release, disbursement or expenditures of public funds during the period of forty-five days before a regular election and thirty days before a special election; and
 - ii. Section 261 (w) which prohibits construction of public works, delivery of construction materials for public works and issuance of treasury warrants and similar devices during the period of forty-five days before a regular election and thirty days before a special election.
- b) Perform such other duties and functions as the Commission may provide in relation to the conduct of the elections.

SECTION 9. Precedence of Commission Orders. - Orders issued by the Commission in connection with the May 12, 2025 NLE and BPE shall take precedence over and above the orders and directives issued by any other office or agency of the Government.

However, nothing contained herein 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.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. - This Resolution shall take effect on the seventh (7th) day after its publication in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

SECTION 11. Publication and Dissemination. - The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this Resolution in at least two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, and disseminate this Resolution for the information of the public.

The Executive Director shall furnish copies of this Resolution to all the above deputized departments, agencies, or offices through their respective heads, and to all Regional Election Directors, Provincial Election Supervisors and Election Officers.

SO ORDERED.

GEORGE ERWIN M. GARCIA Chairman

SOCORRO B. INTING Commissioner

AIMEE P. FEROLINO Commissioner

ERNESTO FERDINAND P. MACEDA, JR. Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED for publication, September 13, 2024.

CONSUEI O B. DIOLA Director IV

Office of the Commission Secretary

This Resolution can be verified at this number (02)85272987; email address comsec@comelec.gov.ph.

MARLON S. CASQUEJO Commissioner

> REY E. BULAY Commissioner

NELSON J. CELIS Commissioner