



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESOLUTION
TO COMELEC RESOLUTION
NO. 11116 ENTITLED "ANTI-
DISCRIMINATION AND FAIR
CAMPAIGNING GUIDELINES
FOR PURPOSES OF THE 12 MAY
2025 NATIONAL, AND LOCAL
ELECTIONS, AND BARMM
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS"
AND DECLARATION OF ALL
ELECTION RELATED
ACTIVITIES AND VENUES
INCLUDING CAMPAIGN
RALLIES, CAUCUSES, POLLING
PLACES, PRECINCTS,
CANVASSING CENTERS, AND
ONLINE PLATFORMS AS SAFE
SPACES**

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Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

Promulgated: April 8, 2025

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Erwin M. Garcia", written over the promulgation date.

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RESOLUTION No. 11127

WHEREAS, Section 52 (b) of the Omnibus Election Code (OEC) states that the COMELEC shall have exclusive charge of the enforcement and administration of all laws relative to the conduct of elections for the purpose of ensuring free, orderly and honest elections;

WHEREAS, COMELEC Resolution No. 11116, promulgated on February 19, 2025, lists as an election offense, the commission, directly or indirectly of acts of bullying on the basis of HIV status, coercion, discrimination against women, discrimination against PWDs on the use of public accommodations, gender-based harassment, labeling, public ridicule against PWDs, vilification of PWDs, violation of an anti-discrimination ordinance, and/or violation of rights to religious, cultural sites and ceremonies pursuant to Section 13 of Republic Act No. 9006 (RA 9006) and Section 261 (e) of the OEC and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations;

WHEREAS, there is a need to expand said list, refine the provisions, and institutionalize measures for further protection of marginalized and vulnerable sectors;

WHEREAS, Section 2, Article II of the Constitution also known as the Incorporation Clause provides that the Philippines adopts the generally accepted principles of international law as part of the law of the land;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court ruling in *International School Alliance of Educators v. Quisumbing*¹ and *Poe-Llamanzares v. COMELEC*² held that the Philippines recognizes general principles of international law which include principles of equity, i.e., the general principles of fairness and justice, based on the test of what is reasonable. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Discrimination in Education, the Convention (No. 111) Concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation – all embody the general principle against discrimination, the very antithesis of fairness and justice. The Philippines, through its Constitution, has incorporated this principle as part of its national laws;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a State Party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, among others;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8346 also known as the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act states that consistent with the equal protection clause of the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, the Charter of the United Nations, the UDHR including the CEDAW and International Human Rights Law, the State shall, with due recognition of their distinct characteristics and identity accord to the members of the Indigenous Cultural Communities/ Indigenous Peoples (ICCs/IPs) the rights, protections and privileges enjoyed by the rest of the citizenry.

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7610 also known as the “Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act” states that it is the policy of the State to provide special protection to children

¹ G.R. No. 128845, June 1, 2000.

² G.R. Nos. 221697 and 221698-700, March 8, 2016.

from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty exploitation and discrimination and other conditions, prejudicial to their development; provide sanctions for their commission and carry out a program for prevention and deterrence of and crisis intervention in situations of child abuse, exploitation and discrimination;

WHEREAS, Section 2(4), Article IX-C of the Constitution empowers the Commission on Elections to deputize, with the concurrence of the President, instrumentalities of the government to perform duties relative to the conduct of elections;

WHEREAS, on September 13, 2024, the Commission promulgated Resolution No. 11055 entitled "In the Matter of Deputizing the Department of the 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 BARMM Parliamentary Elections";

NOW THEREFORE, The Commission, by virtue of the power vested by the Constitution, the OEC, and other election laws, **RESOLVED**, and as it hereby **RESOLVES** to promulgate the following guidelines:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of COMELEC Resolution 11116 is amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. *Definition of Terms.* As used in its Resolution:

- (a) **Act of Bullying on the basis of HIV status** - refers to bullying in all forms, including but not limited to name-calling and the use of offensive, demeaning or otherwise derogatory terms to refer to an individual or a group of individuals based on actual, perceived, or suspected HIV status, in social media and other online portals or websites, during the election period, for any election-related activity such as voting and campaign activities.
- (b) **Candidate** - refers to any person seeking an elective public office, who has filed his or her certificate of candidacy, and who has not died, withdrawn his or her certificate of candidacy, had his or her certificate of candidacy denied due course or canceled, or has been

otherwise disqualified before the start of the campaign period for which he or she filed his/her certificate of candidacy.

It also refers to any registered national, regional, or sectoral party, organization or coalition thereof that has filed a manifestation of intent to participate under the party-list system, which has not withdrawn the said manifestation, or which has not been disqualified before the start of the campaign period.

(c) **Cause-Oriented Groups and Organizations** – refers to any group, organization or association who represents the marginalized and discriminated sectors such as but not limited to indigenous peoples, LGBTQIA+ persons, persons living with HIV, persons with disabilities, and women.

(d) **Child abuse** – refers to the maltreatment, whether habitual or not, of a child in any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities which includes any of the following:

- i. Psychological and physical abuse, neglect, cruelty, sexual abuse and emotional maltreatment;
- ii. Any act by deeds or words which debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of a child as a human being;
- iii. Unreasonable deprivation of a child's basic needs for survival, such as food and shelter;
- iv. Failure to immediately give medical treatment to an injured child resulting in serious impairment of his growth and development or in his permanent incapacity or death; or
- v. Any other acts of cruelty or exploitation or to be responsible for other conditions prejudicial to a child's development.

(e) **Coercion** – refers to an act imposed upon any person who, without any authority of law, shall, by means of violence, threats, or intimidation, prevent another from doing something not prohibited by law, or compel him to do something against his or her will, whether it be right or wrong, which causes undue disadvantage and thereby affecting or tending to affect his or her right to campaign, or undertake any election related activity identified in Section 261(e) of the OEC.

- (f) **Discrimination** – refers to distinction of any kind, on the basis of race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
- (g) **Discrimination against Women** - refers to any gender-based distinction, exclusion, or restriction which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment, or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil, or any other field during the election period, for any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities.

It includes any act or omission, including by law, policy, administrative measure, or practice, that directly or indirectly excludes or restricts women in the recognition and promotion of their rights and their access to and enjoyment of opportunities, benefits, or privileges.

A measure or practice of general application is discrimination against women if it fails to provide for mechanisms to offset or address sex or gender-based disadvantages or limitations of women, as a result of which women are denied or restricted in the recognition and protection of their rights and in their access to and enjoyment of opportunities, benefits, or privileges; or women, more than men, are shown to have suffered the greater adverse effects of those measures or practices.

Provided, finally, that discrimination compounded by or intersecting with other grounds, status, or condition, such as ethnicity, age, poverty, or religion shall be considered discrimination against women.

- (h) **Discrimination against PWDs on the Use of Public Accommodations** – means that no disabled person shall be discriminated on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any person who owns, leases, or operates a place of public accommodation, during the election period, for any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities.

The following constitute acts of discrimination:

- i. denying disabled persons, directly or through contractual, licensing, or other arrangement, the opportunity to participate in or benefit from the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of an entity by reason of their disability;
 - ii. affording disabled persons, on the basis of their disability, directly or through contractual, licensing, or other arrangement, with the opportunity to participate in or benefit from a good service, facility, privilege, advantage, or accommodation that is not equal to that afforded to other able-bodied persons; and
 - iii. providing disabled persons, on the basis of their disability, directly or through contractual, licensing, or other arrangement, with a good, service, facility, advantage, privilege, or accommodation that is different or separate from that provided to other able-bodied persons unless such action is necessary to provide the disabled person with a good, service, facility, advantage, privilege, or accommodation, or other opportunity that is as effective as that provided to others;
- (i) **Election Period** – for purposes of the 12 May 2025 NLE and BPE, the election period is from 12 January 2025 (Sunday) to 11 June 2025 (Wednesday).
- (j) **Gender-based harassment** - refers to any unwanted and uninvited sexual actions or remarks against any person regardless of the motive, whether in-person or online, broadcast or in print, during the election period, for any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities, including but not limited to the following:
- i. Physical, psychological, and emotional threats, unwanted sexual misogynistic, transphobic, homophobic and sexist remarks and comments whether publicly or through direct and private communications or messages;
 - ii. Invasion of the person's privacy through stalking and incessant messaging, whether online or personally;
 - iii. Uploading and sharing without the consent of the person any form of media that contains photos, voice, or video with sexual content;

- iv. Any unauthorized/unlawful recording and sharing of any of the person's photos, videos or any information online;
- v. Impersonating identities of persons online, publishing or posting lies about candidates and immediate family members to harm their reputation;
- vi. Catcalling, wolf-whistling, unwanted invitations, misogynistic, transphobic, homophobic, and sexist slurs;
- vii. Persistent uninvited comments or gestures on a person's appearance, gender orientation, and gender identity;
- viii. Relentless requests for personal details;
- ix. Statement of sexual comments and suggestions;
- x. Lewd sexual actions;
- xi. Persistent telling of sexual jokes, use of sexual names; and
- xii. Any acts or advances, whether verbal or physical, that are unwanted and have threatened one's sense of personal space and physical safety including cursing, leering and intrusive gazing, and taunting.

(k) **Immoral doctrines, obscene publications, exhibitions and indecent shows** – refers to the following in relation to an election-related activity:

- i. expounding or proclaiming doctrines openly contrary to public morals;
- ii. authoring obscene literature, published with their knowledge in any form, or publishing such literature;
- iii. in theaters, fairs cinematographs or any other place, exhibiting indecent or immoral plays, scenes, acts or shows, whether live or in film , which are prescribed by virtue hereof, shall include those which:
 - (1) glorify criminals or condone crimes;
 - (2) serve no other purpose but to satisfy the market for violence, lust or pornography;
 - (3) offend any race or religion;
 - (4) tend to abet traffic in and the use of prohibited drugs;

(5) are contrary to law, public order, morals, good customs, established policies, lawful orders, decrees, edicts.

iv. giving away exhibit prints, engravings, sculptures or literature which are offensive to morals.

Provided, that in applicable cases, the evaluation of an alleged violation shall be based on the following:

1. Whether the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to prurient interest;
 2. Whether the work depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined by applicable law; and
 3. Whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.³
- ii. **Incitement** – refers to an advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that leads to the promotion of discrimination, hostility or violence.
- iii. **Individuals or class of individuals** refer to the clients or customers of the covered public accommodation that enters into the contractual, licensing or other arrangement who will use said public accommodation during the election period, for any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities.
- iv. **Labeling** - refers to the act of categorizing, classifying, tagging, branding, associating, naming, and accusing individuals, groups and/or organizations as communist or subversive group sympathizers or terrorists, or belonging to a criminal group/syndicate without evidence, whether in-person or online, broadcast or in print, during the election period, and in connection with or in relation to any election-related activity, including but not limited to campaign activities, shall include, among others:

³ See *Demata v. People of the Philippines*, G.R. No. 228583, September 15, 2021.

- i. Posting of articles or photos or videos or audio clips in any social media platforms, websites, podcasts, blogs, vlogs, and other online and internet-based platforms, labeling, or associating a candidate as or with a criminal, any subversive or terrorist group;
 - ii. Posting of materials in public areas which contain photographs or words pertaining to criminals, membership to or member of subversive groups, or terrorists with the name or photograph of a candidate;
 - iii. Unauthorized/unlawful inclusion of the name of a candidate in any article, whether published online or in print, which labels or brands the former as a criminal, or associates him/her with any subversive or terrorist group;
 - iv. Publishing contents, making speeches, or during an interview which labels or brands the candidate as a criminal or associates him/her to any subversive or terrorist group; and
 - v. Causing to advertise, publish or distribute in any form of media, whether through broadcast media, social media, radio, newspaper or published articles against a candidate which labels or brands him/her as a criminal or associate him/her to subversive or terrorist group or belonging to a criminal group/syndicate.
- (o) **Public Ridicule against PWDs** - shall be defined as an act of making fun or contemptuous imitating or making mockery of persons with disability whether in writing, or in words, or in action due to their impairment/s.
- (p) **Racial Discrimination** - any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, color, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life.
- (q) **Vilification of PWDs** - the utterance of slanderous and abusive statements against a person with disability; and/or an activity in public which incites hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of persons with disability.

- (r) **Violation of an Anti-Discrimination Ordinance** – refers to any act, during the election period, in connection with or in relation to any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities, falling under the prohibited acts of an Anti-Discrimination Ordinance committed within the territorial jurisdiction of a local government unit implementing said ordinance.
- (s) **Violation of Rights to Religious, Cultural Sites, and Ceremonies** – refers to the defacement, removal or otherwise destruction, during the election period, for any election-related activity including but not limited to campaign activities, of artifacts which are of great importance to the ICCs/IPs for the preservation of their cultural heritage.”

SECTION 2. Section 3 of COMELEC Resolution No. 11116 is amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 3. *Election Offense.* - During the election period, any person who, directly or indirectly, commits acts of bullying on the basis of HIV status, child abuse, coercion, discrimination, discrimination against women, discrimination against PWDs on the use of public accommodations, gender-based harassment, immoral doctrines, obscene publications, exhibitions and indecent shows incitement, labeling, public ridicule against PWDs, racial discrimination, vilification of PWDs, violation of an anti-discrimination ordinance, violation of rights to religious, cultural sites and ceremonies as defined under Section 2 of this Resolution and other analogous acts shall be liable for an election offense pursuant to Section 13 of RA 9006 and Section 261 (e) of the OEC and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations.”

SECTION 3. Section 4 of COMELEC Resolution No. 11116 is amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 4. *Modes of Committing the Punishable Acts.* – The acts mentioned in Section 2 (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (q) and (r) may be committed in person, through radio and/or television, newspaper publication, internet, and other similar media. Section 2 (s) may be committed in person. ”

SECTION 4. Section 6 of COMELEC Resolution No. 11116 is amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 6. Declaration of All Election-Related Activities and Venues as Safe Spaces. All election-related activities and platforms including but not limited to campaign rallies, caucuses, polling places, precincts, canvassing centers, and online election-related platforms including social media are hereby declared as safe spaces. The Commission shall undertake the necessary steps to realize such declaration including but not limited to:

- (a) **Duty of COMELEC Personnel, Electoral Boards, Boards of Canvassers, DepEd Supervising Officer (DESO) and DESO-Technical Support Staff (TSS).** – To ensure that all election-related activities are maintained as safe spaces, COMELEC personnel, electoral boards, boards of canvassers, DESO, and DESO-TSS are reminded to abide by this Resolution, monitor and report any violations of the Resolution to the proper office or task force.
- (b) **Use of Gender-Fair Language and Etiquette** – The Commission shall promote the use of gender-fair language and etiquette in all election-related activities including but not limited to campaign rallies, caucuses, polling places, precincts, canvassing centers, and online election-related platforms. For this purpose, this Commission shall use as reference the applicable portions of A.M. No. 21-11-25-SC or the Guidelines on the Use of Gender-Fair Language in the Judiciary and Gender-Fair Courtroom Etiquette as well as Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular 12 series of 2005.
- (c) **Provision of Support Services and Reasonable Accommodations** – Through this Commission’s Vulnerable Sectors Office and other frontline services, as far as practicable, support services and reasonable accommodations shall be provided to persons with disabilities and other marginalized and vulnerable sectors in any election-related activity conducted by the Commission.

Political parties and candidates are encouraged to provide support services and reasonable accommodations to said sectors in rallies, caucuses, and online campaign platforms.
- (d) **Partnerships with Cause-Oriented Groups, Organizations** - The Commission shall endeavor to forge partnerships with cause-oriented groups and organizations to implement projects and help educate the voters, including candidates and political parties, on diversity, equity, and inclusion, including gender sensitivity, during the elections.

(e) *Partnerships and/or Deputization of Government Agencies.* - The Commission shall likewise partner with the chief implementors of the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997, Safe Spaces Act, The Philippine HIV and AIDS Policy Act, Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, Magna Carta of Women and various Anti-Discrimination Ordinances namely: the Commission on Human Rights, the Department Social Welfare and Development, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Development Academy of the Philippines the Local Government Academy, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, the National Council on Disability Affairs, the Philippine Commission on Women, the Philippine National AIDS Council, the Metro Manila Development Authority, and the local government units to implement the provisions of this Resolution, to develop complementary policies and to educate stakeholders diversity, equity, and inclusion, including gender sensitivity, during elections.

In appropriate cases, the Commission may deputize any government agency to address potential, ongoing and/or consummated violations of this Resolution."

SECTION 5. *Creation of the Special Task Force.* - The Commission *En Banc* approved the creation of the Special Task Force on Safeguarding Against Fear and Exclusion in Elections (Task Force SAFE), on February 24, 2025.

SECTION 6. *Functions of Task Force SAFE* - Task Force SAFE shall have the following functions:

- (a) To receive complaints, issue show cause orders, conduct investigations, including the conduct of clarificatory hearings where necessary, and initiate prosecution of election offenses as outlined in COMELEC Resolution No. 11116 ("Resolution 11116");
- (b) To undertake activities, including partnerships and consultations with cause-oriented groups, and organizations, publication of primers, information drives and promotional activities in relation to Resolution 11116, and the promotion of diversity, equity, and inclusion during the elections;

- (c) To draft and recommend to the Chairman and/or the Commission *En Banc*, in the appropriate cases, any additional guidelines or initiatives in relation to Resolution 11116, other relevant laws, rules, regulations and international human rights standards.

SECTION 7. *Reports and Where to File.* – Reports for commission of any of the prohibited acts under Section 3 of Resolution 11116, in relation to Article III of these Guidelines shall be in writing and submitted either:

- (a) **In person** to the Task Force SAFE desk located at the Palacio del Gobernador, Intramuros, Manila; **or**
- (b) **Email** of Task Force SAFE at taskforcesafe@comelec.gov.ph

SECTION 8. *Required Information in Reports.* – Reports should contain the detailed information and specific prohibited act/s committed, the person who committed such prohibited act/s, and supporting evidence, if available.

Supporting evidence may be in the form sworn affidavits of witnesses and other traditional forms of documentary evidence, photographic and video evidence, website links, screenshots or screencaps thereof, and other similar evidence.

SECTION 9. *Procedure after filing of a Report.* – When a Report is filed, the following procedure is as follows:

- (a) The Task Force SAFE shall evaluate the Report for completeness, in accordance with the preceding section.
- (b) Should the Task Force SAFE find the Report to be complete, the Task Force shall issue a **Show Cause Order** to the person alleged to have committed the violation directing them to explain within three (3) days from receipt thereof why a complaint for violation of Resolution 11116, an election offense and/or a petition for disqualification, as the case may be, should *not* be filed against them.

If the Task Force SAFE finds the Report to be incomplete in accordance with Section 8 hereof, the Task Force SAFE shall conduct further investigation, and issue a **Recommendation** on the proposed action for the Report.

- (c) If the Task Force SAFE determines that there is at least substantial evidence to prove the violation of Resolution 11116, it shall issue a **Resolution** to file a *motu proprio* **Petition for Disqualification** in relation to Section 8 hereof. The **Resolution** shall state the findings of facts and the law supporting his action, together with the record of the case.

Task Force SAFE shall then proceed with the *motu proprio* filing of the **Petition for Disqualification** and transmit one (1) original copy of the Complaint and all its supporting documents and files to the Law Department for the latter's appropriate action in connection with the election offense.

- (d) If the body of evidence failed to meet substantial evidence to prove the violation of Resolution 11116, a fact-finding investigation may be conducted to gather more evidence to support the Complaint, and the Task Force SAFE shall issue a **Resolution** on the appropriate action to be taken in relation to the Report.

SECTION 10. *Initiation of Complaint for Prohibited Acts under Article III.* - Complaints for election offenses in violation of Section 3 hereof in relation to Section 261(e) of the OEC may be initiated upon written complaint by any citizen of the Philippines, candidate, registered political party, coalition of political parties or organization under the party-list system or any accredited citizens' arms of the Commission.

SECTION 11. *Motu Proprio Complaints.* - The Task Force SAFE may file a *motu proprio* complaint before the Law Department in cases of violation of Section 3 hereof in relation to Section 261(e) of the OEC, pursuant to Reports filed under Sections 7 and 8 hereof.

SECTION 12. *Complaints Where to File.* - Complaints for commission of the prohibited acts under Section 3 of Resolution 11116 may be filed with the Commission through Task Force SAFE.

If the Complaint is filed by Task Force, the same shall be signed by the Head of the Task Force SAFE. The filing thereof shall be exempt from payment of filing fees and other legal fees with the Commission.

SECTION 13. *Form of Complaint.* – Complaints for commission of the prohibited acts under Section 3 hereof shall be duly subscribed and sworn to before a public prosecutor or a notary public and supported by affidavits and/or any other evidence.

In localities where there are no public prosecutors or notaries public available, the EO of the place where the alleged election offense took place shall have the authority to administer an oath for purposes of filing a complaint.

SECTION 14. *Evidence to Support Complaint.* – In addition to sworn affidavits of witnesses and other traditional forms of documentary evidence, the Commission shall also accept photographic and video evidence, website links, screenshots or screencaps thereof, and other similar evidence.

SECTION 15. *How to File with the Commission.* – Complaints may be filed, either:

- (a) **In Person** filing with Task Force SAFE located at the Palacio del Gobernador, Intramuros, Manila; or
- (b) **Email** in PDF to the official e-mail address of the Task Force SAFE at taskforcesafe@comelec.gov.ph. All other supporting documents including affidavits of witnesses, if any, shall also be scanned and emailed together with the complaint.

Immediately after the filing through e-mail, the party shall send, through the fastest means available, including registered mail or any courier service, all originals of pleadings, answers, motions, comments, notices, and other relevant documents, with complete annexes in two (2) hard copies.

The date of receipt of the complaint via email shall be considered the date of filing.

SECTION 16. *Non-compliant Complaints.* – Complaints which do not comply with the preceding paragraphs shall not be accepted and/ or docketed as a Complaint, but shall instead be considered as a Report under Section 7 hereof.

SECTION 17. *Determination of Violation by Task Force SAFE.* – Upon receipt of a Complaint for violation of Resolution 11116, the Task Force shall issue a **Show Cause Order** to the Respondent directing them to explain within three (3) days from receipt thereof why a *Petition for Disqualification* under Section 68 of the OEC in relation to Section 261(e) thereof and Section 13 of Republic Act No. 9006 or the Fair Elections Act should not be filed against them.

After the period for the filing of the **Explanation** has lapsed, Task Force SAFE shall also proceed to conduct a fact-finding investigation, including the conduct of clarificatory hearings, where necessary, for purposes of evaluating the submissions and case files.

If the Task Force SAFE finds that there is substantial evidence to support a finding of a violation of Resolution 11116, it shall issue a **Resolution** to file a *motu proprio* **Petition for Disqualification** in relation to Section 8 hereof. The **Resolution** shall state the findings of facts and the law supporting his action, together with the record of the case.

Task Force SAFE shall then proceed with the *motu proprio* filing of the **Petition for Disqualification** and transmit one (1) original copy of the Complaint and all its supporting documents and files to the Law Department for the latter's appropriate action in connection with the election offense.

SECTION 18. *Other Causes of Action.* The filing of a Complaint under Sections 11 and 12 hereof is without prejudice to any other action that may be filed on the basis of the same acts, under the Revised Penal Code or other applicable laws.

SECTION 19. *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 20. *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, post the resolution in the COMELEC website, and furnish copies thereof to all field offices of the COMELEC.

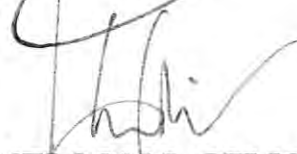
SO ORDERED.


GEORGE ERWIN M. GARCIA
C000051460
Chairman


AIMEE P. FEROLINO
Commissioner


REY E. BULAY
Commissioner


ERNESTO FERDINAND P. MACEDA, JR.
Commissioner



NELSON J. CELIS
Commissioner


MARIA NORINA S. TANGARO-CASINGAL
Commissioner


NOLI R. PIPO
Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED for publication on April 8, 2025.


CONSUELO B. DIOLA
Director IV
Office of the Commission Secretary

This Resolution can be verified at this number (02)8527-2987; email address at comsec@comelec.gov.ph.