



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 24
Series of 2020

"AN ORDER REQUIRING PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) TO UNDERGO COVID-19 TESTING BEFORE COMMITMENT OF RELEASE FROM JAIL/S IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DUPAX DEL NORTE"

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, recognizing that the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic constitutes a threat to national security, declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines through proclamation No. 929:

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991." States that Municipalities shall exercise powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance and those which are essential to the promotion of general welfare, health, and safety, including the provisions of services to control communicable disease;

WHEREAS, prisons and jails produces or reinforces a host of problems which are hygiene-related and even infectious diseases, thereby creating the need for a mandatory testing of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL) to maintain the Municipality of Dupax del Norte as COVID-19 free;

NOW THEREFORE, I, TIMOTHY JOSEPH E. CAYTON, Mayor of Dupax del Norte, by virtue of the powers, vested in me by law, do hereby order:

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

SECTION 2. GUIDELINES PRIOR TO THE COMMITMENT OF A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY INTO THE DUPAX DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL POLICE STATION JAIL. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail.

- A. Following the issuance of a Commitment Order by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL into the Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 testing to be conducted by the Municipal Health Department, in addition to the medical examination requirement at accredited hospitals. Schedule of the test shall be agreed by the Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station and the Municipal Health Department;
- B. While the PDL is waiting for his/her COVID-19 test result, he/she shall be detained at the detention facility designated by the Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station;

- C. Should the PDL be found positive for the COVID-19, he/she shall be placed in the designated Quarantine Facility inside Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail for isolation and treatment.

Only when he/she is cleared by the Municipal Health Department should he/she be permitted to be committed and enter the designated detention cells in Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail for PDLs who have tested negative for the COVID-19;

- D. Should the PDL be tested negative for the COVID-19, he/she shall immediately be committed in the designated detention cells in Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail for PDLs who have tested negative for the COVID-19.

SECTION 3. GUIDELINES WHEN A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) IS DUE FOR RELEASE FROM THE DUPAX DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL POLICE STATION JAIL. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail.

- A. Before a PDL in Dupax del Norte Municipal Police Station Jail can be released therefrom, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 testing to be conducted by the Municipal Health Department inside the jail facility. Schedule of the test shall be agreed by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology and the Municipal Health Department;
- B. Should the PDL be found positive for the COVID-19, he/she shall be placed in the designated Barangay Isolation Center (BIC) 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. If a PDL is a non-resident of the Municipality but a resident of another municipality or province, he/she shall be taken to the quarantine facility of the Local Government Unit where he/she resides, in coordination with the officials of the said LGU, he/she shall be taken to the Quarantine Facility designated by the that Municipality.
- D. Should the PDL be tested negative for the COVID-19, he/she shall immediately be released to the community, with prior notice to the Barangay Captain of the 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), Dupax del Norte Municipal Health Department are hereby directed to enforce the above-mentioned guidelines.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provision of this Executive Order be declared by court of 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 Dupax del Norte 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.

Done in the Municipality of Dupax del Norte this 1st day of June in the year 2020.


ATTY. TIMOTHY JOSEPH E. CAYTON
Municipal Mayor