



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Zamboanga Sibugay
MUNICIPALITY OF NAGA
Local Government Unit
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OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 10

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ADOPTING THE GUIDELINES ON THE
MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS FOR PATIENT UNDER
INVESTIGATION (PUI) AND CONFIRMED CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019
(COVID-19) CASES**

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) issued a Memorandum Circular No. 2020-063 which was an *Interim Guidelines on the Management of Human Remains for Patient Under Investigation (PUI) and Confirmed Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) cases*;

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2020, a Joint Memorandum Circular No. 01 series of 2020 was issued by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) which was a *Suppletory Guidelines on the Management of Human Remains for Patient Under Investigation (PUI) and Confirmed COVID-19 cases*;

WHEREAS, as per the Department of Health's record, COVID-19 related deaths are growing and as of April 29, 2020, there were already **558** deaths throughout the country;

WHEREAS, Section 16 of RA 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991, states that every Local Government Unit (LGU) shall exercise the powers essential to the promotion of the general welfare or otherwise known as the General Welfare Clause and that LGUs shall promote health and safety of their inhabitants;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RINO O. DELOS REYES, Municipal Mayor of Naga, Zamboanga Sibugay, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1: ADOPTION OF THE INTERIM AND SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDELINES ON THE MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN REMAINS FOR PATIENT UNDER INVESTIGATION (PUI) AND CONFIRMED CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) CASES. To ensure the health and safety of the community, particularly in the Municipality of Naga, Zamboanga Sibugay, it is incumbent upon this Municipality to have proper guidelines in the management of infectious human remains especially those who succumbed without confirmation of the infection of Corona Virus in order to contain the spread of such highly contagious disease.

To this end, the said guidelines are hereby adopted for the Municipality's guidance and process in the approach of any infectious human remains.

SECTION 2. GUIDELINES, REITERATION. Having adopted all guidelines issued by the DILG and DOH on the Management of Human Remains for Patient Under Investigation (PUI) and Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Cases, here are some reiteration of such guidelines deemed to be of utmost importance:

- a. The identity and other personal details of the deceased shall be respected at all times and remain confidential. However, disclosure of the personal information of the deceased shall be allowed in the following cases:
 - i. A written consent was secured from the deceased while he/she was still alive or from a preferred legitimate and rightful claimant;
 - ii. For purposes of contact tracing; or
 - iii. If due to political and/or social status of the deceased, there is a need to disclose his name and health status to the public.
- b. All personnel handling the dead body/body parts are required to wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) while performing their tasks. All PPEs shall be properly disposed of.
- c. All healthcare facilities shall not hamper the release of the human remains of the deceased, even if it is due to non-payment of hospital bills.
- d. The inherent dignity of the dead shall be observed at all times.
- e. It shall be unlawful for any person to take, capture, upload, or share a photo or video of the last image of the human remains who died due to COVID-19 and/or its complications in any media or social media platform;
- f. It shall be unlawful for any person who shall say or commit an act which aims to blacken or defame the image of those who died due to COVID-19 and/or its complications;
- g. No remains, whether claimed or unclaimed, shall be permitted to be used for scientific or medical purposes and/or medical studies;
- h. No health care facilities and its personnel/s shall withhold the release and burial of the remains of those who died of COVID-19 and its certificate of death;

SECTION 3. INCORPORATION. All issuances, circulars, memorandums, guidelines and other related laws and policies, in connection with the subject of this Executive Order, not otherwise invalid and illegal, are considered automatically incorporated herein.

SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE. If for any reason, any part or provision hereof shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the Municipality of Naga, Zamboanga Sibugay, this 30th day of April, 2020.


RINO O. DELOS REYES
MUNICIPAL MAYOR