



Republic of the Philippines
National Police Commission
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF, PNP**
PNP HUMAN RIGHTS AFFAIRS OFFICE
Camp Crame, Quezon City
Telefax 7230401 loc 3668/3678



MEMORANDUM

FOR : All RDs of PROs
All Directors of NSUs

FROM : C, HRAO

SUBJECT : **Strict Observance of Human Rights-Based Policing, Police Operational Procedures, and Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) during Martial Law**

DATE : June 5, 2017

1. References:

- a. LOI PAMANA otherwise known as the "PNP Human Rights Development Program;
- b. 2013 Revised POP Manual; and
- c. Declaration of Martial Law by the President in Mindanao.

2. In line with President RODRIGO R DUTERTE's declaration in placing Mindanao under Martial Law by reason of clashes that broke out between government forces and terrorist groups in the City of Marawi, all Police Regional Offices and NOSUs are enjoined to strictly observe and adhere to the following Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and the Police Operational Procedures (POP):

- a. All PNP personnel **shall respect the human rights and dignity of the suspect/s during police operations;**
- b. As servant and protector of the People, the PNP shall **respect and uphold the rights of all persons at all times**, and not just those of the suspect/s during police operations;
- c. The State, and the PNP in particular, shall uphold the **three human rights obligations**, at all times, to wit:
 1. **To respect human rights** (which refers to the act of refraining from interfering with the enjoyment of people's rights);
 2. **To protect human rights** (which refers to the implementation of laws that provide equal protection to all persons from human rights violations by state and non-state actors); and
 3. **To fulfill human rights** (which refers to the act of establishing policies, mechanisms, systems, or institutions that enable people to enjoy their rights);

3. On the other hand, the State, and the PNP in particular, have the duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to **Internally Displaced Persons (also known as "IDPs")** who were forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict. Concerned PROs are enjoined to observe the following:

- a. Provide guidance to IDPs on how to prevent future incidents of violence;
- b. IDPs must be treated humanely and shall not be discriminated against on the grounds of their displacement or for any other reason;
- c. Adequate number of properly trained female police officers (WCPD investigators) shall be deployed to provide assistance to IDPs in case of gender-based violations;
- d. Ensure police visibility and deployment of Police Community Relations Team in the area of IDPs in order to prevent the access of unknown persons for the safety and protection of IDPs as well as women and children who face threats of sexual abuse;
- e. Ensure that Patrol Operations Sections/Units (POS/POUs) in all Police Stations nationwide are activated and operationalized; and
- f. Promote confidence-building between police and the community through the conduct of meetings and information sharing, information sessions about laws and protections on IDPs, and to continuously collaborate with concerned Local Government Units on issues of common interest.

4. Non-conformance to the POP and HRBP often leads to human rights violations and other forms of abuse of police powers. Such violations will be dealt with accordingly based on existing PNP disciplinary rules and pertinent laws.

5. For strict compliance and widest dissemination.


DENNIS A SIERVO
Police Chief Superintendent

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TDO