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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

April 29, 2022

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

No. **408**, s. 2022

**INCLUSION IN THE PRIORITY LANE FOR PUBLIC  
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE LAWYERS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a letter of Atty. Noli R. Pipo, Director IV, Commission on Elections (COMELEC), relative to the request of the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) of including their lawyers in the priority lane to vote during the 2022 National and Local Elections
2. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

  
**EVELYN R. FETALVERO, CESO IV**  
Regional Director 

Enclosure: As stated

Reference: As stated

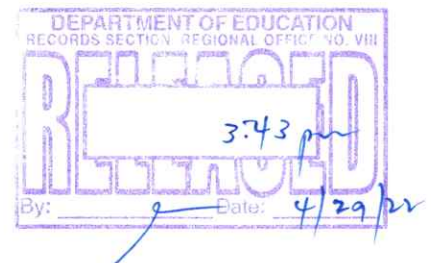
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

COMELEC

PRIORITY LANE

REQUEST

AD-PS-EDR





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS**  
*Office of the Regional Election Director – Region 8*  
 2F Cerbito Building, 128 Paterno St., Tacloban City 6500  
 Telefax: (053) 523-4044 / (053) 523-1081  
 E-mail: redo\_region8@comelec.gov.ph / [comelec\\_region8@yahoo.com.ph](mailto:comelec_region8@yahoo.com.ph)



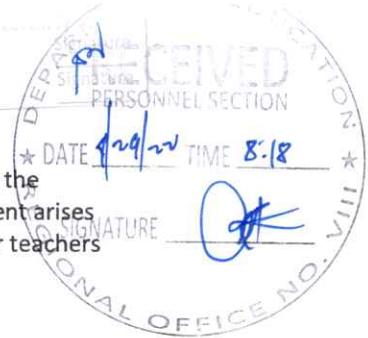
**DIR. EVELYN R. FETALVERO**  
 Regional Director – Region 8  
 Department of Education  
 Regional Office No. VIII  
 Palo, Leyte

Ma'am:

The Public Attorney's Office (PAO) is requesting that their lawyers be included in the priority lane to vote as they are required to report to office on Election Day if an incident arises to give legal assistance to the Electoral Boards (EB). For this, kindly disseminate to our teachers who will serve in the election of the request of the Public Attorney's Office.

Thank you and GOD bless.

4/28/22 4:45  
 Date and Time Received



Very truly yours,  
  
 Digitally signed by  
 Pipo Noli Rafol  
 Date: 2022.04.28  
 10:01:17 +08'00'

**NOLI R. PIPO**  
 Regional Election Director

Encl:

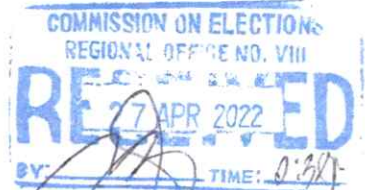
1. Request of PAO

cc:

- Executive Director
- Deputy Executive Director for Operations
- ARED – Region 8
- All PESS – Region 8



Republika ng Pilipinas  
Kagawaran ng Katarungan  
Tanggapan ng Manananggol Pambayan  
(Public Attorney's Office)  
Regional Office No. VIII  
Tacloban City



April 27, 2022

**ATTY. NOLI R. PIPO**  
**Regional Election Director**  
Commission on Elections Regional Office 8  
Tacloban City

Dear Sir:

Greetings!

Foremost, PAO Region 8 thanks your good office for your untiring service and dedication to ensure a truthful and honest National and Local Elections this May 9, 2022.

It is in this light that our office respectfully reminds you that last April 29, 2016, the Public Attorney's Office (PAO), the Department of Education (DepEd), and the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) forged a Memorandum of Agreement essentially stating that public school teachers who are appointed as Board of Election Inspectors (BEI) and are being sued and harassed in relation to their performance of the said function during and after the elections, shall be represented by and be entitled to avail of the free legal services of the PAO.

In fact, the Chief Public Attorney Dr. Persida V. Rueda-Acosta just issued Office Order No. 046 Series of 2022, directing all Public Attorneys and staff nationwide to report for office duty in case any incident arises involving the harassment of Board of Election Inspectors (BEI). Both the Memorandum of Agreement and Office Order No. 046 Series of 2022 are attached to this letter for your perusal.

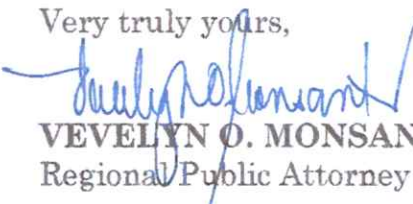
Anent this, we humbly request that our PAO lawyers and staff be allowed to vote on the day of the elections without queueing or falling in line with the rest of the voters. If we are allowed to immediately cast our votes upon arrival at our respective polling precincts, we will be able to

promptly report to our offices at 8:00 in the morning and assist any client who might urgently require our legal services. Moreover, this will surely help PAO employees who shall report for duty at a district office far from where they are registered to vote.

Rest assured that your approval of this request will surely aid our PAO lawyers and staff to efficiently deliver prompt and free legal services to our public school teachers and other indigent clients. Should you need further clarification regarding our request, you may contact our office at **(053) 888-5432** or **(053) 839-5486**.

Thank you for your kind consideration and favorable action.

Very truly yours,



**VEVELYN O. MONSANTO**  
Regional Public Attorney

*Copy Furnished:*

File



Republic of the Philippines  
**PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**  
Tanggapan ng Manananggol Pambayan  
Kagawaran ng Katarungan

DOJ Agencies Building, NIA Road corner East Avenue, 1104 Quezon City  
Telephone No. (02) 8929-94-36 ; Fax Nos. (02) 8927-68-10 ; (02) 8926-29178

**OFFICE ORDER**

NO. 046  
Series of 2022

**SUBJECT : DUTY DURING THE MAY 9, 2022 NATIONAL  
AND LOCAL ELECTIONS**

In the exigency of the service, and in consonance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) dated April 29, 2016<sup>1</sup> entered into by and among the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), Department of Education (DepED) and the Public Attorney's Office (PAO), one of which is to ensure free legal assistance to public school teachers and Board of Election Inspectors who may be harassed by complaining adverse parties while in the performance of their election duties, all Public Attorneys and staff nationwide are hereby directed to report for office duty during the May 9, 2022 National and Local Elections, subject to the following guidelines/directives, to wit:

- To ensure that all PAO offices will be properly manned, all PAO employees shall be at their respective poll precincts before their opening time to cast their votes early. After which, they shall report for office duty from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. at the nearest PAO regional or district office;
- The PAO-Central Office Monitoring Team shall conduct a random on-the-spot inspection at PAO-NCR and nearby Regional/District Offices to monitor compliance herewith;
- For the regions, the Regional Office Monitoring Team (composed of the Regional Public Attorney, Administrative Officer/designee and one [1] lawyer) shall do the same random on-the-spot-inspection in their nearby district offices. For far-flung district offices, the Team shall call them via landline or cellphone;
- The respective Regional Public Attorneys/Regional Officers-in-Charge and district heads are hereby directed to record the attendance and issue the corresponding certificate of appearance of those who shall comply with this directive and immediately submit the same, together with the names of those who failed to comply, to the Human Resource Management and Development Division, Administrative Service, PAO-Central office, for accounting/auditing and record purposes;

<sup>1</sup> A copy is hereto attached

2

- The names of those who failed to comply shall be forwarded to the Legal Research Service (LRS) for its proper disposition;
- All Public Attorneys and staff concerned shall be required to record their attendance by using their respective biometric time recorder (for the PAO Regional and district offices) or the bundy clock (for the PAO-Central Office)

It is understood that this directive is being issued only for the purpose of ensuring the availability of legal assistance to said teachers during the election period

All Regional Public Attorneys/Regional Officers-in-Charge and District Public Attorneys/District Officers-in-Charge are hereby required to submit a written report to the Office of the Chief Public Attorney regarding the cases handled in relation hereto within ten (10) working days from the May 9, 2022 elections.

The concerned Regional Public Attorney/Regional Officer-in-Charge and Administrative Officer V/designee shall be responsible for the proper dissemination of this Order in their respective jurisdictions.

All prior Office issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked/rescinded accordingly

Let all concerned be furnished with a copy of this Order for their information and guidance

Quezon City, Metro Manila  
April 26, 2022.

  
**SILVESTRE A. MOSING**  
Deputy Chief Public Attorney

by furnished

- HON. SAIDAMEN R. PANGARUNGAN  
Chairman  
Commission of Elections  
Intramuros, Manila
- HON. MENARDO I. GUEVARA  
Secretary  
Department of Justice  
Padre Faura Street, Manila
- HON. LEONOR M. BRIONES  
Secretary  
Department of Education  
DepEd Complex, Marikina Avenue  
Pangasinan, Metro Manila
- ALL DCPAs, RPAs, Regional OICs,  
Service OICs
- PAFFCOA Resident Auditor

CIT:  
MSB/nrb

## MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

1. This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into by and between the undersigned parties...

2. The undersigned parties have agreed to cooperate in the following manner...

3. The undersigned parties have agreed to share information...

4. The undersigned parties have agreed to...

5. The undersigned parties have agreed to...

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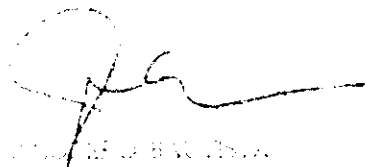
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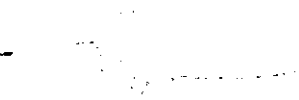


1. The first part of the document is the title page, which contains the title, author, and date of publication.

2. The second part of the document is the abstract, which provides a brief summary of the main findings of the study.

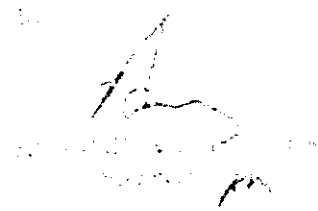


Dr. J. H. B. Smith  
Department of Biology  
University of California, Berkeley



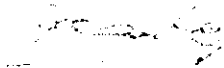
Dr. J. H. B. Smith  
Department of Biology  
University of California, Berkeley

3. The third part of the document is the introduction, which discusses the background and objectives of the study.



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University of California, Berkeley

4. The fourth part of the document is the methods section, which describes the procedures used in the study.



Dr. J. H. B. Smith  
Department of Biology  
University of California, Berkeley

Dr. J. H. B. Smith  
Department of Biology  
University of California, Berkeley

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