



Republic of the Philippines  
**City Government of Meycauayan**  
Province of Bulacan

## Office of the City Mayor

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 013  
*Series of 2020*

**AN ORDER PROHIBITING ANY ACT OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS UNDER INVESTIGATION AND PERSONS UNDER MONITORING DUE TO COVID-19, CONFIRMED COVID-19 POSITIVE, FRONTLINERS AND SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO HOSPITALS AND TREATMENT FACILITIES.**

**WHEREAS**, the President of the Republic of the Philippines has placed the country under State of Public Health Emergency through Proclamation No. 922, brought about by the COVID-19 global pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, because of the increasing number of persons under investigation and monitoring due to COVID-19, and patients who are COVID-19 positive, people are being labeled, stereotyped, and discriminated for their status as a result of such negative association with the disease;

**WHEREAS**, reports were received regarding incidents of blatant discrimination against PUMs, PUIs, recoverees of COVID-19, and frontliners tending to COVID-19 patients, where their persons are identified and attacked in the social media, negatively labeled in their communities, and degrading rumors about their health and personal circumstances are feasted upon by their own neighbors, with some being evicted from their residences by reason of their current status related to the virus, while others are physically harmed, maligned, and refused services due to the public's irrational paranoia and fear of infection;

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to eliminate the stigma of this unwanted disease, and to protect the people from unjust discrimination and harmful stereotypes brought about by the panic or wrong beliefs of the public;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, and R.A. 9356, also known as the Charter of the City of Meycauayan, authorize the City Mayor to carry out such emergency measures as may be

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necessary during and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities;

**WHEREAS**, the City Mayor has the power and duty to adopt measures to protect the inhabitants of the city from the harmful effects of man-made or natural disasters and calamities, which curtail a person's Constitutional right to life, liberty, and security of person and privacy, and the right to be free from discrimination.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the power vested in me by law, I, **LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA**, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. ANTI-COVID-19 DISCRIMINATION COVERAGE.** The following persons shall be protected under this Executive Order:

**1.1. PERSONS UNDER MONITORING.** Person under Monitoring (PUM)<sup>1</sup> is a person who is asymptomatic with any of the following:

- i. Travel history in the last 14 days to countries with local transmission and high risk of importation of COVID-19; or
- ii. History of exposure to a known confirmed COVID-19 case within 14 days.  
History of exposure means:
  - a. Providing direct care without proper PPE to confirmed COVID-19;
  - b. Staying in the same close environment (including workplace, classroom, household, gatherings);
  - c. Travelling together in close proximity (1 meter or 3 feet) in any kind of conveyance.

**1.2. PERSON UNDER INVESTIGATION.** Patient under Investigation (PUI)<sup>2</sup> is a patient:

- i. who has fever and/or respiratory illness (e.g. cough or shortness of breath) and/or diarrhea, with any of the following:
  - a. Travel history in the last 14 days to countries with local transmission of COVID-19; or
  - b. Has exposure from a known confirmed COVID-19 case;
- ii. With severe acute respiratory infection or atypical pneumonia AND requiring hospitalization AND with no other

<sup>1</sup> per DOH Admin Order No. 2020-012.

<sup>2</sup> per DOH Admin Order No. 2020-012.



etiology to fully explain the clinical presentation, regardless of exposure history; OR

- iii. With severe acute respiratory infection or atypical pneumonia AND residing or working where there is clustering of influenza-like illness (ILI) cases.

These classifications shall also include the following persons defined under the recently issued DOH Admin Order No. 2020-0013:

**1.3. SUSPECT.** A patient will be classified as "suspect" if they fall under any of the three:

A. Patient has the following symptoms:

- Fever of at least 38 degrees C
- Cough
- Throat Pain

And either of the two:

- Has travel history or lives in community with local COVID-19 transmission within 14 days since start of symptoms; OR
- Had close contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case within 14 days since start of symptoms.

B. Patient has the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing

And is any of the following:

- 60 years old and above
- Has preexisting condition
- Has sensitive pregnancy
- A health worker

C. Patient experiences sudden onset of lung illness with severe symptoms of unknown origin and needs hospitalization

**1.4. PROBABLE.** A person will be classified as "probable" if he/she was earlier tagged as a "suspect" and:

- has still undetermined COVID-19 results;
- his/her test was not done in an official laboratory with RT-PCR test (reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, considered the "gold standard" in COVID-19 testing); or
- remains untested

**1.5. CONFIRMED.** A person will be considered a confirmed COVID-19 case if RT-PCR testing shows positive result for coronavirus.

**1.6. HEALTHCARE WORKERS.** Those who deliver care and services to the sick and ailing, either directly or indirectly. They include, among others, but not limited to, doctors, nurses, hospital and clinic aides, laboratory technicians, ambulance drivers, and pharmacists.



**1.7. FRONTLINERS.** They include officers and members of the PNP, AFP, and instrumentalities of the government rendering emergency frontline services, border control, sanitation and other critical services. Frontliners also include service workers who are working in private establishments providing basic necessities and such activities related to food and medicine production, such as but not limited to public markets, supermarkets, groceries, convenience stores, hospitals, medical clinics, pharmacies, drug stores, food preparation and delivery services, water refilling stations, manufacturing and processing plants for basic food products and services, banks, money transfer services, power, energy, telecommunications, water supplies, and other related facilities.

**SECTION 2. PROHIBITIONS.** All persons within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Meycauayan are prohibited from performing any act, or delivering a statement, remark, expression, announcement, or declaration which causes or tends to humiliate, shame, harass, discriminate, or stigmatize any of the persons mentioned in Section 1 hereof. Acts such as, but not limited to, the denial of access to any place or service, including housing, utilities, food, establishments and transportation due to suspected infection or exposure to COVID-19, shall likewise be prohibited.

Further, any public officer who fails to assist a person falling under Section 2 hereof, who intends to return to his place of residence after being cleared of COVID-19 by the City Health Officer or any authorized health official, shall be liable for violation of this Order.

Finally, all UNAUTHORIZED persons are prohibited from disclosing the identity or personal information of any of the persons mentioned in Section 1 hereof.

**SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT.** The Punong Barangay, barangay tanods, and the Meycauayan PNP shall implement this Order.

Any person found committing any of the prohibitions under this Executive Order shall be penalized under Republic Act No. 11332, The Data Privacy Act, Cybercrime Prevention Act, the Revised Penal Code, and such other applicable laws and ordinances.

Any public officer or government employee, whether or not duty-bound to enforce this Order, who shall knowingly prevent, prohibit, refuse, or violate the implementation hereof shall be held criminally, as well as, administratively liable.

**SECTION 4. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** Should any provision of this Order be declared unconstitutional or inconsistent with law, the other remaining parts thereof shall remain valid in full force and effect.



**SECTION 5. EFFECTIVITY.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately. Any previous executive orders inconsistent with this shall be deemed repealed.

Done this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020, here at the City of Meycauayan, Bulacan.

SO ORDERED.



**LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA**  
City Mayor