
To: Chiefs, CID and SGOD
Section and Unit Heads
Private and Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads


2. All concerned are hereby directed to strictly adhere to the issuance and ensure dissemination thereof to their respective units. Further, everyone is advised to oversee compliance to the guidelines contained therein.

3. For immediate dissemination and compliance.

CRISTY C. EPE
Schools Division Superintendent

[Signature]

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AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROCLAMATION NO. 922 OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DECLARING THE STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AS A RESPONSE TO THE POSSIBLE CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) OUTBREAK

WHEREAS, recent updates revealed that the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) has already claimed the lives of more than 3,000 individuals with more than 100,000 confirmed cases worldwide;

WHEREAS, in the Philippines alone, the number of confirmed cases has risen to 20 as of March 9, 2020 and the number has been abruptly rising;

WHEREAS, the Secretary of the Department of Health has confirmed local transmission of Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the whole country has been placed under Code Red Sublevel 1 in relation to Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) epidemic;

WHEREAS, the protection of lives, safety, and well-being of the constituents of Davao del Sur, including the province's visitors, shall be promoted to the highest degree, above all other economic, social, and political agenda of this Administration.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proclamation No. 922 of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, signed on March 9, 2020, declaring the state of public health emergency throughout the country as a response to the possible Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak, it is hereby ordered that comprehensive guidelines on the implementation of the President's Proclamation be set and established covering the whole province of Davao del Sur.

NOW THEREFORE, I, DOUGLAS RA CAGAS, LLB, MBE, MNSA, Governor of the Province of Davao del Sur, by virtue of the power vested in me, do hereby order:

SECTION 1: Preventive Practices and Etiquette. The following preventive practices and etiquette shall be observed throughout the province.

1.a Proper Hand Washing. Frequent hand washing using clean water and soap for at least 20 seconds should be practiced. In the absence of water and soap, using of hand sanitizer and 70% rubbing alcohol is advised.

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1.b **Wearing of Face Masks.** If available, all residents and visitors of the province are advised to wear face masks especially in going to public places, riding public utility vehicles, and joining mass gatherings. All employees of government and private offices or establishments, students, church goers, market vendors, public utility vehicle drivers (e.g. bus, van, jeepney, multicab, pedicab, habal-habal) are advised to wear face masks.

1.c **Respiratory Etiquette.** All residents and visitors of the province are advised to cover their mouth and nose and stay away from other people when coughing or sneezing. They may use hankies, tissues, face towels, or the sleeves of their shirts in covering their mouth and nose.

1.d **Close Contact.** All residents and visitors of the province are advised to refrain from having close contact with other people such as handshaking, hugging, besu-besu, and the likes.

**SECTION 2: Home Quarantine.** All residents and visitors of the province are advised to stay at home or in their bedrooms if they have fever, cough, cold, and difficulty of breathing. All employees of government and private offices or establishments as well as students from any level, whether in public or private schools, should refrain from going to work or attending classes if they possess the above-stated symptoms, and perform self quarantine at home.

**SECTION 3: History of Travel.** All residents and visitors of the province, should they possess the symptoms enumerated in the preceding section, and have travelled abroad for the past days or weeks, should report to the nearest public hospital. Likewise, they should abide by the orders of the hospital authorities such as putting themselves under hospital or home quarantine being considered as Persons Under Investigation (PUI) or Persons Under Monitoring (PUM).

**SECTION 4: Mandatory Thermal Scanning.** All residents and visitors of the province shall submit themselves for mandatory thermal scanning via thermal cameras or Infrared temperature gun, in places and establishments that require such.

**SECTION 5: Mass Gatherings.** Celebration of fiestas, founding anniversaries, tribal festivals, sectoral celebrations (e.g. PWD, senior citizen’s, women’s month), medical missions, livelihood and project turn-overs, seminars, trainings, convocations, flag ceremonies, religious activities, parades, parties, and other mass gatherings shall be allowed provided that all attendees and participants shall observe the preventive practices and etiquette as enumerated in Section 1. However, in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the province, all mass gatherings shall be suspended until a subsequent advisory is issued lifting the suspension.

Monday convocations in the Provincial Capitol shall be deferred until further notice. Convocations of municipal and city governments shall be subject to the preventive measures set by respective local government units concerned.
SECTION 6: Mandatory Disinfection. All public and private offices and establishments throughout the province, including but not limited to those within barangay, municipal, and city halls, within Provincial Capitol, within National Government Agencies, malls, hotels, motels, lodging houses, fast food chains, restaurants, bars, fitness gyms, resorts, fish ports, and bus terminals, should perform regular disinfection of frequently touched apparatus, equipments, furniture and fixtures, such as but not limited to biometrics/finger scanner, toilet bowls, faucets, doors, door knobs, tables, chairs, computers, laptops, hand rails, elevators, escalators, push carts, grocery baskets, utensils, remote controls, microphones, and the likes. All schools, at any level, whether public or private, should also conduct regular disinfection. Likewise, all operators and drivers of public utility vehicles such as buses, jeepneys, multicabs, and pedicabs, should also conduct regular disinfection.

SECTION 7: Provision of Soap and 70% Alcohol. All public and private offices and establishments in all the 9 municipalities and 1 city should provide soap in their respective toilet and handwash areas, including clean hand towels. 70% rubbing alcohol should be made available in receiving areas or other places within or outside the office or establishment as may deem fit.

SECTION 8: Mandatory Rendering of Services in Government Hospitals. Pursuant to the Code Red Sublevel 1 status, all employees, including doctors, of Davao del Sur Provincial Hospital and Gregorio Matas District Hospital are mandated to render services as required by existing laws. Application for vacation leave shall not be allowed or approved.

SECTION 9. Government and Private Hospitals. All Level 2 and Level 3 hospitals shall attend to all persons under investigation (PUIs), per Department Memorandum No. 2020-0072 dated February 3, 2020. All hospitals and health facilities shall establish and maintain an Infection Prevention and Control committee in the facility. All Level 2 and 3 hospitals are hereby directed to attend to all patients including those suspected to have COVID-19, seeking consultations/treatment in these hospitals. Any refusal shall be dealt with accordingly as per Department Circular No. 2020-0023 issued by the Secretary of Health. All infirmaries and Level I facilities are strictly directed to attend to all patients including those suspected and have COVID-19 patients seeking consultations/treatment and immediately refer patients to a higher facilities.

SECTION 10. Places of Worship. Churches, mosques and the like must provide regulations to prevent transmission of the disease during worship.

SECTION 11: Price Monitoring and Control. The Provincial Price Coordinating Council (PPCC) shall conduct regular and/or random price monitoring of basic and prime commodities, including prices of surgical masks, hand sanitizers, and rubbing alcohol, throughout the province.

SECTION 12: COVID-19 Task Force. The existing Davao del Sur Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases (EREID) shall act as the concurrent COVID-19 Task Force. Its efforts in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak in the province shall be intensified.

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SECTION 13: Law Enforcement. The assistance of the Philippine National Police and other law enforcement agencies shall be called upon in addressing the possible COVID-19 outbreak in the province.

SECTION 14: Wearing of Face Masks in Provincial Government’s Offices and Facilities. All officials and employees of the Provincial Government of Davao del Sur are required to wear face masks when entering and while within the capitol premises, including the Executive Building, Provincial Coliseum, Sangguniang Panlabawigan Building, and offices situated within the capitol compound. Likewise, all visitors and clients are advised to abide by the said policy when transacting in any office within the above-stated buildings.

SECTION 15. Role of Local Government Units Within the Province. All the 9 municipalities and 1 city in the Province of Davao del Sur are hereby enjoined to render full cooperation and assistance and mobilize the necessary resources and funds to undertake critical, urgent and appropriate response and measures in a timely manner to address and curtail the COVID-19 threat.

SECTION 16. Miscellaneous Provisions. All are enjoined to observe the Department of Health (DOH) advisories pertaining to their respective organization, to wit:

Workplace – DOLE Labor Advisory # 4 Series of 2020 and DOH DM 2020-0056
Hospitals – DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0035
All Residential communities – DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0059
All Schools – DOH Dept. Memo 2020-0055 and DepEd Memo 15 s. 2020
All Hotels and other similar establishments – DOH Dept. Memo 24-2020-0057

SECTION 17: Duration. This order shall take effect unless otherwise earlier revoked by the undersigned following future declarations by proper authorities that COVID-19 is curtailed or until the threat is finally eliminated.

SECTION 18: Separability Clause. Should any provision of this Order be deemed invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 19: Effectivity. This order shall take effect immediately upon its signing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Provincial Government of Davao del Sur to be affixed, on this 10th day of March 2020 in Digos City, Davao del Sur.

DOUGLAS RA. CAGAS, LLB, MBE, MNSA
Provincial Governor

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