

## Republic of the Philippines Province of Benguet

## Municipality of Itogon OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 10 Series of 2020

## "AN ORDER REQUIRING PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) TO UNDERGO COVID-19 TESTING BEFORE COMMITMENT OR RELEASE FROM JAIL/S IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ITOGON"

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, recognizing that the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic constitutes a threat to national security, declared a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines through Proclamation No. 929;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 11469, or the "Bayanihan to Heal as One Act" states that there is an urgent need to mitigate, if not contain, the transmission of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, detention facilities/jails within the municipality are not spared for possible COVID-19 cases, as Persons Deprived of Liberty come and go depending on the outcome of their cases filed in court;

**WHEREAS**, the possible transmission of COVID-19 in Persons Deprived of Liberty could be mitigated or contained through the conduct of COVID-19 testing before commitment or release from any detention facility;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, **ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN**, Mayor of the Municipality of Itogon, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. MANDATORY TESTING OF COVID-19 FOR PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL).** It is hereby mandatory for PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) to be tested for the COVID-19 prior to being committed into the Itogon Municipal Jail and, likewise, prior to being released from the same facility.

SECTION 2. GUIDELINES PRIOR TO THE COMMITMENT OF A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY INTO THE ITOGON MUNICIPAL JAIL. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the Itogon Municipal Jail.

- A. Following the issuance of a Commitment Order by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL into the Itogon Municipal Jail, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 testing to be conducted by the Itogon Municipal Health Services Office, in addition to the medical examination requirement at the Itogon Municipal Jail. Schedule of the test shall be agreed by the Itogon Municipal Police Office and the Itogon Municipal Health Services Office;
- B. While the PDL is waiting for his/her COVID-19 test result, he/she shall be detained at the detention facility designated by the Itogon Municipal Police Office;
- C. Should the PDL be found positive for the COVID-19, he/she shall be placed in the designated Quarantine Facility inside Itogon Municipal Jail for isolation and treatment. Only when he/she cleared by the Itogon Municipal Health Services Office should he/she be permitted to be committed and enter the designated detention cells in Itogon municipal Jails for PDLs who have tested negative for the COVID-19;

D. Should the PDL be tested negative for the COVID-19, he/she shall immediately be committed in the designated detention cells in the Itogon Municipal Jail for PDLs who have tested negative for the COVID-19.

SECTION 3. GUIDELINES WHEN A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL) IS DUE FOR RELEASE FROM THE ITOGON MUNICIPAL JAIL. The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the Itogon Municipal Jail.

- A. Before a PDL in the Itogon Municipal Jail can be released therefrom, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 testing to be conducted by the Itogon Municipal Health Services Office inside the jail facility. Schedule of the test shall be agreed by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology and the Itogon Municipal Health Services Office:
- B. Should the PDL be found positive for the COVID-19, he/she shall be placed in the designated Barangay Isolation Center (BIC) of the barangay where he/she resides, as indicated in his/her records for isolation and treatment before he/ahe can be released to the community;
- C. If a PDL is a non-resident of the Municipality of Itogon but a resident of a municipality within the same island as that of the Municipality of Itogon, he/she shall be taken to the quarantine facility of the Local Government Unit where he/she resides, in coordination with the officials of the said LGU. However, if a PDL is not a resident of the Municipality of Itogon and also not a resident of an LGU within the island of the Municipality of Itogon, he/she shall be taken to the Quarantine Facility designated by the Municipality of Itogon.
- D. Should the PDL be tested negative for the COVID-19, he/she shall immediately be released to the community, with prior notice to the Barangay Captain of the barangay where he/she resides.

**SECTION 4. ENFORCEMENT**. The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) in cooperation with the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Health (DOH), Itogon Municipal Health Services are hereby directed to enforce the above-mentioned guidelines.

**SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**. Should any provision of this Executive Order be declared by a court of competent authority as invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not otherwise adversely affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE**. Any and all executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, memorandum of the Municipality of Itogon or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signing hereof and shall remain effective until revoked.

Done in the Municipality of Itogon this 15th day of May, 2020.

ATTY. VICTORIO T. PALANGDAN
Municipal Mayor