

All set for Maguindanao's 45th founding anniversary

By ALI G. MACABALANG

BULUAN, Maguindanao – Major roads and strategic spots in this bustling town have been spruced up since last week with flyers, streamers and other colorful decors for the celebration of the 45th founding anniversary on Nov. 22.

Host officials yesterday said they were as opting for “simple, but meaningful” commemorative events since the

anniversary day proper falls on the eve of emotion-packed events for the ninth year of reckoning of the killing of 58 people in the so-called “Maguindanao massacre” on Nov. 24, 2009.

Event organizers, led by Governor Esmar “Toto” Mangudadatu, have lined up activities meant to “touch lives” and improve the province’s socio-cultural and economic landscape, Engr. Abdulrahman Asim, provincial administrator, told the Bulletin over the phone.

From the usual inter-municipal mode for the 36 component towns, sports competitions were done in the last five days only among the different divisions and departments of the provincial government, Asim said.

He said one of the celebration highlights set will be the symbolic graduation of 220 ex-combatants of the outlawed Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) in a series of skills trainings held lately after they laid down arms and pledged allegiance

to a “peaceful and productive life.” Livelihood packages related to agriculture and vocations chosen by the ex-rebels during the trainings will be given individually on the graduation ceremony, Asim said.

He said most of other major activities will be held within the vicinity of the newly-completed modern provincial capitol building touted by residents here as the “White House” of Maguindanao. The building construction, forming part

of the provincial capitol complex programmed with P500-million allocation on a 12-hectare land along the highway here began in November last year and was completed lately.

A symbolic transfer of provincial government departments from the Rajah Buayan Peace Center (RBPC) to the new building will be done on Nov. 22 in an inauguration ceremony that may possibly have the attendance of a prominent national dignitary, Asim said.

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SEC. 22. Revocation or Suspension of the Certificate of Registration and Cancellation of Temporary/Special Permit. – The Board shall have the power, upon notice and hearing, to revoke or suspend the certificate of registration of a registered criminologist or to cancel a temporary/special permit granted to foreign criminologist for the commission of any of the following acts:

- (a) Violation of any provision of this Act, its IRR, the Code of Ethics, the Code of Good Governance, or policy of the Board and/or the Commission;
- (b) Conviction of a crime with finality involving moral turpitude;
- (c) Perpetration or use of fraud in obtaining one's certificate of registration, professional identification card or temporary/special permit;
- (d) Gross incompetence, negligence or ignorance resulting to death or injury of a person, or damage to property;
- (e) Nonrenewal of the professional identification card for a period of six (6) years with the PRC without justifiable cause;
- (f) Aiding or abetting the illegal practice of a non-registered criminologist by allowing the use of one's certificate of registration and/or professional identification card or temporary/special permit;
- (g) Illegally practicing the profession during the suspension from the practice thereof;
- (h) Addiction to drugs or alcohol impairing one's ability to practice the profession or a declaration by a court of competent jurisdiction that the registrant is of unsound mind; and
- (i) Noncompliance with the CPD and APO requirements, unless one is exempted therefrom, for the renewal of the professional identification card. The Board shall periodically evaluate the aforementioned grounds and revise or exclude or add new ones as the need arises subject to approval by the Commission.

Any person, firm or association may file charge/s in accordance with the provision of this section against any

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registrant, and the Board may investigate the commission of any of the abovementioned causes. Affidavit-complaint shall be filed together with the affidavits of witnesses and other documentary evidence with the Board through the Legal and Investigation Office. The conduct of an investigation *motu proprio* shall be embodied in a formal charge to be signed by at least majority of the members of the Board. The rules on administrative investigation issued by the Commission shall govern the hearing or investigation, subject to applicable provisions of this Act, Republic Act No. 8981 and the Rules of Court.

SEC. 23. Reissuance of Revoked Certificate of Registration, Replacement of Lost or Damaged Certificate of Registration, Professional Identification Card or Temporary/Special Permit. – The Board may, upon a verified petition, reinstate or reissue a revoked certificate of registration after two (2) years from the effectivity of the period for revocation, which is the date of surrender of the certificate and/or the professional identification card if still valid to the Board and/or the Commission. The petitioner shall prove to the Board that one has valid reason/s to practice anew the profession. In the granting of the petition, the Board shall issue a Board resolution, subject to approval by the Commission.

A certificate of registration, professional identification card or temporary/special permit that has been declared lost may be reissued in accordance with the rules thereon and upon payment of the prescribed fees.

SEC. 24. Nonpayment of the Annual Registration Fees. – The Board shall suspend a registered criminologist from the practice of the profession whether in government service, or have used the license as eligibility equivalent for promotion in government service, or in the private sector, for nonpayment of the registration fees for two (2) consecutive registration periods from the last or previous year of payment. Other surcharges shall be determined and charged by the Commission.

SEC. 25. Renewal of Professional Identification Card. – The professional identification card shall be renewed only upon the completion of the prescribed minimum units of the CPD program by the registrant from the APO or any accredited provider authorized by the Commission.

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SEC. 26. Vested Rights; Automatic Registration. – All criminologists registered at the effectivity of this Act shall automatically be registered hereunder, subject to the provisions herein set forth as to future requirements. Certificates of registration and professional identification cards or temporary/special permits held by such persons in good standing at such effectivity date shall have the same force and effect as though they were issued on or after the said effectivity.

ARTICLE IV PRACTICE OF CRIMINOLOGY

SEC. 27. Lawful Practitioners of Criminology. – The following persons shall be authorized to practice the criminology profession:

- (a) Natural persons:
 - (1) Duly registered criminologists and holders of valid certificates of registration and valid professional identification cards issued by the Board and the Commission pursuant to this Act; and
 - (2) Holders of valid temporary/special permits issued by the Board and the Commission to foreign licensed criminologists pursuant to this Act.
- (b) Juridical persons:
 - (1) Single proprietorship whose owner and technical staff are registered criminologists;
 - (2) Partnership duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as professional partnership pursuant to the Civil Code and composed of partners majority of whom are registered criminologists;
 - (3) Corporation duly registered with the SEC as engaged in the practice of criminology and with officers and Board of Directors who are all registered criminologists; and
 - (4) Association and cooperative duly registered with the appropriate government agency as a non-stock corporation

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These juridical persons shall also be registered with the Board and the Commission in accordance with the rules and regulations thereon.

SEC. 28. Seal, Issuance and Use of Seal. – There shall be a seal to be exclusively and legitimately used by the practitioners of the criminology profession which shall be distributed by the Board through the APO.

SEC. 29. Foreign Reciprocity. – No foreigner shall be allowed to take the licensure examination for criminologists, register, receive one's certificate of registration and professional identification card, and practice criminology in the Philippines unless the requirements for the licensure examination and/or registration and practice of criminology imposed under the laws and regulations in the foreign country/state are substantially the same as those required and contemplated by the Philippine laws and regulations, and unless the foreign laws and regulations allow Philippine citizens to practice criminology within the territory of the foreign country/state on the same basis and grant the same privileges as those enjoyed by the citizens, subjects or nationals thereof.

SEC. 30. Practice Through Temporary/Special Permit. – Temporary/Special permit may be issued by the Board subject to the approval by the Commission and payment of the latter has prescribed and charged thereof to the following:

- (a) Registered criminologists from foreign countries/states whose services are rendered either for free or for a fee:
 - (1) If they are internationally known criminologists or experts in any branch, specialty or allied field of criminology; and
 - (2) If their services are urgently and importantly required for lack or inadequacy of available local specialists or experts; or for the promotion or advancement of the practice of criminology through transfer of technology;
- (b) Registered criminologists from foreign countries/states whose services shall be free and limited to indigent patients in a particular hospital, center or clinic; and
- (c) Registered criminologists from foreign countries/states employed as exchange professors in a branch, specialty or allied

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field of criminology, in schools, colleges or universities offering the course of criminology.

The permit shall, among other things, contain these limitations and conditions for a period of not more than one (1) year subject to renewal: the branch or specialty of criminology and the specific place of practice such as clinic, hospital, center, school, college or university offering the course of criminology. The Board, subject to the approval of the Commission, shall promulgate rules and regulations on the implementation of this particular section.

SEC. 31. Indication of Numbers: Certificate of Registration, Professional Tax Receipt and APO Membership. – The practitioner of the criminology profession shall be required to indicate the certificate of registration number and date of issuance, the expiry of the current professional identification card, the professional tax receipt number and date, and the APO membership number and date with official receipt number and date of membership payment (annual/lifetime) on the documents one signs, uses or issues in connection with the practice of the profession.

SEC. 32. Roster of Registered Criminologists. – The Board shall prepare and maintain a roster showing the names, residence and/or office address of all registered criminologists, which shall be updated annually in cooperation with the APO, indicating therein the status of the certificate of registration, professional identification card and APO membership. The roster shall be made available to any party as may be deemed necessary.

SEC. 33. Integration of Registered Criminologists. – The registered criminologists shall be integrated into one (1) national organization of criminologists that is duly registered with the SEC. The Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, shall accredit the organization as the one and only integrated and accredited national organization of criminologists: *Provided*, That its continued accreditation is subject to compliance with the periodic requirements and standards set forth by the Commission.

All criminologists whose names appear in the Registry Book of Criminologists shall *ipso facto* or automatically become members thereof and shall receive therefrom, all the benefits and privileges upon payment of APO membership fees and

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dues. Membership in an affiliate organization of criminologists shall not be barred.

ARTICLE V

PRIVILEGES OF REGISTERED CRIMINOLOGISTS

SEC. 34. Privileges of Registered Criminologists. – All registered criminologists shall be exempt from taking any other entrance or qualifying government or civil service examinations and shall be considered civil service eligible to the following government positions, among others: (1) Dactylographer; (2) Ballistician; (3) Questioned Document Examiner; (4) Forensic Photographer; (5) Polygraph Examiner; (6) Probation Officer; (7) Parole Officer; (8) Special Investigator; (9) Special Agent; (10) Investigative Agent; (11) Intelligence Agent; (12) Law Enforcement Evaluation Officer; (13) National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) Inspector; (14) Traffic Operation Officer; (15) Associate Graft Investigation Officer; (16) Special Police Officer; (17) Safekeeping Officer; (18) Sheriff; (19) Security Officer; (20) Criminal Investigator; (21) Warden; (22) Reformation Officer; (23) Firefighter; (24) Fire Marshall; (25) Jail Officer up to the rank of Jail Superintendent; (26) Police Officer up to the rank of Police Superintendent and other law enforcement agencies, and agencies under the Criminal Justice System.

SEC. 35. Preference of Appointment in Government Criminal Justice and Other Government Institutions. – Registered criminologists shall enjoy priority of appointment and shall not be required to take any qualifying or entrance examinations in the PNP, the NBI, the BJMP, the BFP, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and other government positions related to criminology, police and law enforcement work, investigations and security, corrections and public safety of the following bureaus, departments, institutions or agencies of the government: the Department of Justice (DOJ); the Commission on Human Rights (CHR); the Office of the Ombudsman; the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA); the Commission on Elections (COMELEC); the Bureau of Treasury (BoT); the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR); the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR); the Department of Tourism (DOT); the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); the Armed Forces

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Transportation Office (ATO); the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP); the BSP; the BIR; the CHED; the City/Municipal Security Office; the Provincial Jail; the Provincial Security Office; the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA); the Supreme Court and lower courts; the Security Consultation; the Social Security System; the NAPOLCOM; the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM); the Optical Media Board; the Intellectual Property Rights Office; the PDEA; the Public Attorney's Office (PAO); the PPC; government-owned and -controlled corporations and other government agencies with positions involving the practice of criminology.

SEC. 36. Lateral Entry of Registered Criminologists. – Registered criminologists who are not in the government service shall be eligible and given preference for appointment via lateral entry as Police, Fire, and Jail Inspectors or its equivalent in the PDEA, NBI, and other law enforcement agencies: *Provided*, That they possess the general qualifications for appointment as provided in the existing laws on appointment of Police Officers in the PNP, BJMP, BFP, PDEA, or NBI: *Provided, further*, That those who are already in the police, fire, and jail service as non-commissioned officers and who are already registered and licensed criminologists shall be given preference for lateral entry.

SEC. 37. Penal Clause. – A fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) nor more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00), or imprisonment for not less than two (2) years and one (1) day nor more than six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of the court shall be imposed upon any person who shall commit any of the following acts:

- (a) Practicing criminology without valid certificate of registration and a valid professional identification card or a valid temporary/special permit;
- (b) Attempting to use the seal, certificate of registration and professional identification card of a registered criminologist or temporary/special permit issued to a foreign criminologist;
- (c) Abetting the illegal practice of criminology by an unregistered or unauthorized person;
- (d) Securing through false information or fraudulent means certificate of registration and professional identification card or temporary/special permit;
- (e) Impersonating a registered criminologist or a holder of a temporary/special permit; and
- (f) Violating any provision of this Act or the IRR thereof. Where the violator is a juridical person, the Board of Directors and other responsible officers of the corporation shall be held liable.

SEC. 38. Enforcement. – In carrying out the provisions of this Act, the Board shall be assisted by the Commission, the APO, duly constituted government agencies and authorities and private organizations in the industry.

SEC. 39. Appropriations. – The Chairperson of the PRC shall immediately include in the Commission's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 40. Transitory Provision. – The incumbent Board shall, in an interim capacity, continue to operate or function by carrying out the provisions of this Act without need of new appointments of the Chairperson and members thereof until the first Board created under this Act shall have been constituted or organized pursuant thereto.

SEC. 41. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Board, subject to approval by the Commission, and in coordination with the APO, shall prescribe, promulgate and issue a Board Resolution on the IRR of this Act and which shall be effective fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

SEC. 42. Separability Clause. – If any provision, section or part of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or impair any other provisions, sections or parts hereof.

SEC. 43. Repealing Clause. – Republic Act No. 6506, otherwise known as “An Act Creating the Board of Examiners for Criminologists in the Philippines and for Other Purposes”, is hereby repealed. All other laws, Republic Acts, decrees, orders, letters of instruction, rules and regulations or other issuances, and parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are likewise repealed or modified accordingly.

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SEC. 44. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO Speaker of the House of Representatives
VICENTE C. SOTTO III President of the Senate

This Act was passed by the Senate of the Philippines as Senate Bill No. 452 on March 12, 2018, and was adopted by the House of Representatives as an amendment to House Bill No. 7191 on September 11, 2018.

DANTE ROBERTO P. MALING Acting Secretary General House of Representatives
MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA Secretary of the Senate

Approved: NOV 08 2018

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE President of the Philippines



appropriate government agency as a non-stock corporation where majority of the officers, Board of Trustees and members are registered criminologists.

Department of Justice (DOJ), the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP); the Bureau of Immigration (BI); the BoC; the Department of Transportation (DOTr); the Air

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