



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
CITY OF ISABELA  
Province of Basilan  
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR  
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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 024  
Series of 2020<sup>gd</sup>

**“AN ORDER REQUIRING PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDLs) TO UNDERGO COVID-19 TESTING BEFORE BEING COMMITTED OR RELEASED FROM JAIL OR DETENTION FACILITY IN THE CITY OF ISABELA, BASILAN**

**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 thru Proclamation No. 929;

**WHEREAS**, for the past few months since the start of the pandemic, the City of Isabela had been under General Community Quarantine (GCQ) with appropriate guidelines in place to prevent the spread of corona virus;

**WHEREAS**, the quarantine approach has proven to be effective in the prevention of the spread of the said deadly virus with Zero (0) confirmed case in the City of Isabela;

**WHEREAS**, while there is no reported confirmed case of COVID-19 in the city, other areas in the country are still reporting new or fresh positive cases of the deadly disease, especially among Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs).

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to still implement precautionary measures in the whole city so as to prevent the spread and transmission of corona virus;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the 1987 Constitution and Section 16 of the Local Government Code of 1991, the City Government of Isabela shall be primarily responsible for the promotion of the general welfare of its constituents;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to supplement the guidelines provided under Executive Order No. 20, Series of 2020;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SITTI DJALIA A. TURABIN-HATAMAN**, mayor of the City of Isabela, Basilan, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the law, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. MANDATORY TESTING OF COVID-19 FOR PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY (PDL).** The testing for COVID-19 shall be mandatory for all Persons Deprived

of Liberty (PDLs) prior to being committed into the city jail and/or detention or rehabilitation facilities. The same testing shall also be conducted to PDLs prior to being released from the same facility.

**SECTION 2. GUIDELINES PRIOR TO THE COMMITMENT OF A PERSON DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY INTO THE CITY JAIL AND/OR DETENTION OR REHABILITATION FACILITIES.** The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL to the city jail and/or detention or rehabilitation facilities.

- A. Following the issuance of a Commitment Order by the proper court for the commitment of a PDL into the city jail and/or detention or rehabilitation facilities, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 testing to be conducted by the City Health Office, its authorized entities, the Department of Health, or any authorized medical professionals or institutions, in addition to other appropriate medical examination requirements. The schedule of the test shall be determined by the handling or assigned medical professional or institution;
- B. While the PDL is waiting for his/her COVID-19 test result, he/she shall be detained at the detention facility designated for the purpose;
- C. Should the PDL be found positive for the COVID-19, he/she shall be placed in the designated Quarantine Facility inside the city jail and/or detention or rehabilitation facilities for isolation and treatment;

Only when he/she is cleared by the City Health Office or the authorized medical institution should he/she be permitted to be committed and enter the designated detention cell in the city jail and/or detention or rehabilitation facilities 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 cell in the city jail and/or detention or rehabilitation facilities 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 CITY JAIL AND/OR DETENTION OR REHABILITATION FACILITIES.** The following guidelines shall be observed when an order is issued by the proper court for the release of a PDL from detention:

- A. Before a PDL can be released from any detention or rehabilitation facilities, the PDL must undergo a mandatory COVID-19 testing to be conducted by the City Health Office, its authorized entities, the Department of Health, or any authorized medical professionals or institutions while inside the said detention facility where he had been detained;
- B. Should the PDL be found positive of being infected with the Corona Virus, he/she shall be placed in the designated quarantine facility or designated hospital or medical facility for isolation and treatment before he/she can be released to the community;
- C. If a PDL is a non-resident of Isabela City but a resident of another city or municipality within the Province of Basilan, 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 and subject to the assessment and discretion of handling medical professionals especially on the matter of treatment of the patient and the risk of spreading the virus. However, if a PDL is not a resident of Isabela City and also not a resident of an LGU within the Province of Basilan, he/she shall be taken to the Quarantine Facility designated for the purpose within the City, subject to the assessment and discretion of the handling medical experts.

- 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 coordination with the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Health (DOH), and Isabela City Health Office 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 jurisdiction 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, issuance, rules, and regulations, memorandum of the City of Isabela or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provision 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 by competent authority.

Done in the City of Isabela, Basilan this 22 day of June in the year 2020.

  
**SITTI DJALIA A. TURABIN-HATAMAN**  
City Mayor

