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CIRCULATED NATIONWIDE

July 30 - August 5, 2025



MPT South extends aid to Habagat, Typhoon-hit CAVITEX and CALAX Communities

July 25, 2025 – In the wake of the recent typhoon and intensified southwest monsoon (Habagat) that battered parts of Metro Manila, Cavite, and Laguna, Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), a unit of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), has launched immediate relief operations to assist severely affected communities along the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) and Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX).

MPT South swiftly coordinated with local government units of its expressways' alignment communities to distribute a total of 3,000 relief packs to families temporarily displaced by the widespread flooding. The company also announced plans to extend support to public utility vehicle (PUV) drivers and operators plying CAVITEX whose livelihood and mobility were disrupted by days of relentless rains.

"We're more than just a tollway operator. We are part of these communities—committed partners and neighbors who show up, especially in times of crisis," said Elnora D. Rumawak, Officer-in-Charge of MPT South. "We understand the hardships that our communities are facing, and we are here to help ease their burden."

The relief initiative forms part of MPT South's broader commitment to corporate social responsibility and disaster response, reinforcing its role not only in infrastructure but also in community care.

About MPT South

MPT South is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the infrastructure arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). Aside from the CALAX and CAVITEX network of toll roads, MPTC's domestic portfolio includes the concessions for the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.



Cebu Province concerns drop on Korean tourist arrivals by 18%

Cebu's 4th District Leaders backs Gov PAM



Pamamahagi ng Tulong Para sa Ating Mga Kababayan: Nagsimula na pong bumisita ang inyong lingkod sa mga evacuation centers sa lungsod ng Imus at Bacoor, at sa mga bayan ng General Mariano Alvarez (GMA), Naic, at Kawit, upang mamahagi ng relief supplies at hygiene kits para sa ating mga kababayang pansamantalang inilikas mula sa kanilang mga tahanan dahil sa lakas ng pag-ulan at pagbaha. Tulong na may malasakit—mula sa bayan, para sa bayan. #Cavite #MulaSaBayanParaSaBayan



In his inaugural official meeting with the Finance Secretary, Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno, accompanied by prominent Bureau of Customs officials, addressed essential operational and financial issues concerning the Bureau. This meeting is pivotal in establishing the agency's strategic course for the remaining months of 2025 and receives explicit direction from the Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary, Ralph G. Recto. It also introduced a catch-up and action plan aimed at enhancing operational efficiency and optimizing revenue to achieve the Bureau's collection targets for the year 2025. Under the leadership of DOF Undersecretary Atty. Charlito Martin R. Mendoza, the Revenue Operations Group (ROG) provided strategic insights to assist the BOC in refining its revenue generation strategies and fulfilling its annual objectives. Concurrently, both current and newly appointed Deputy Commissioners and District Collectors took an oath before Secretary Recto, committing to a collaborative effort towards the ongoing transformation of the BOC into a more effective institution that prioritizes efficient, accountable, and people-centered governance, with a steadfast commitment to public interest above all. (Source: BOC/posted by Reynante Salgado)

Remember, you may choose your sin, but you cannot choose the consequences.

P1.2-B Hybrid Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) launched

ON THE WATCH

Rico Osmeña



The Aboitiz Power Corporation and its subsidiary East Asia Utilities Corporation(EAUC) launched on 17 July 2025 a 30- Megawatt Hybrid Battery Energy Storage System valued at P1.2 billion inside the Mactan Economic Zone 1(MEZ1).

BESS is a large scale hybrid project in Central Visayas that will be an ancillary support for power stability in the Visayas grid.

"This project enables real-time response to imbalances, helping the grid absorb fluctuations and reduce the risk of disruptions," said Ronaldo Ramos, the Chief Operating Officer(COO) for Operated Assets of

Aboitiz Power Transition BusinessGroup.

"Integrating BESS with our existing assets will materially boost our ability to deliver faster and more efficient responses," he stressed.

The projects was approved by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Director General Tereso Panga in January 2025.

As Panga emphasized that reliable energy infrastructure needed especially Ecozone investors.

Cebu Governor Pamela Baricuatro lauded AboitizPower for its visionary leadership and deep commitment to sustainable development.

"First of all, huge congratulations to AboitizPower on the launch of your Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) here in Cebu --- one of the first large-scale facilities of its kind in Central Visayas," the governor said.

"More than this milestone, I commend Aboitiz for your consistent and meaningful commitment to development -- not just through electricity, but through your investments in people, sustainability, and the future," she added.

"As Governor of Cebu, I have made it my promise to deliver premier public services in healthcare, tourism,

infrastructure, and most especially, in economic development.

But I cannot do it alone. We need partners who believe in the same vision. And today, I am glad to say that Aboitiz is one of those partners," she cited.

"This project is expected to boost supply reliability and support the growing demands of our economy, especially in our economic zones and industrial corridors," the governor added.

"This supports my dream and promise to bring Cebu to greater heights of inclusive growth -- where opportunities are created, businesses thrive, and no Cebuano is left behind," she emphasized.

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For informations/ comments/ feedback/ complaints/ advises/ suggestions... please email at rico.osmena@yahoo.com or text at 09273788432. Thank you very much. GOD bless our FAMILIES!

Cebu Province concerns drop on Korean tourist arrivals by 18%

South Korean tourists has topped the list of foreign visitors in Cebu. But yesterday, Cebu Provincial Administrator Atty Joseph Ace Durano disclosed that it has dropped to 18 percent the arrivals of Korean tourists.

Durano, who served as Tourism Secretary from 2004 to 2010 under President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, described it as "drastic drop."

He stressed for an urgent sector-wide response. "This needs to be addressed immediately

because during my time in DOT (Department of Tourism), I've never seen anything like that -- this kind of drastic drop," he told DAILY TRIBUNE.

Governor Pamela Baricuatro assured though that Cebu Provincial Government is now prioritizing efforts to retain and regain the Korean tourism market.

South Korean market is now number 1 in foreign tourist arrivals in Cebu.

Durano cited Vietnam has being aggressive in its

tourism promotions, package offerings, and pricing strategies, with four-to-five-day packages from Korea costing half as much as Cebu packages.

"Part of their aggressiveness as their pricing," he added. Airfares and accommodations are considered part in the decline in tourist arrivals.

"Aside from airline and hotel costs, we must also look at the added fees in our attractions and destinations," Durano said. **(By RICO MIRASOL OSMENA)**

Cebu's 4th District Leaders backs Gov PAM

Cebu Province's political realignment has begun as Fourth district political leaders led by Congressman Sun Shimura met with Governor Pamela Baricuatro.

Shimura with Bantayan Mayor Alex Layese, San Remigio Mayor Mariano Martinez and Madridejos Mayor Romeo Villaceran with Vice Mayor Vincent Villacrusis and Dalaguete Mayor Bembie Tambis were present.

"You are the experts in your own spheres. I am

here to empower you, not to overpower you," Baricuatro stressed.

She asserted her administration's commitment to supporting local government units and emphasized her collaborative leadership style.

Among the concerns raised were the improvement of healthcare services, the construction of school buildings, and the development of tourism sites

across their areas.

For Mayor Tambis, she reminded the plan of Governor Pam on putting up cold storage facility in Dalaguete.

The governor emphasized that the provincial government will continue to assist in capacitating municipalities to better manage and implement programs that directly benefit their constituents. **(By RICO MIRASOL OSMENA)**

37 Cebu Vice Mayors backs Cebu Gov PAM

37 out of 51 Vice Mayors in the Province of Cebu on Thursday has expressed its full support to the administration of Governor Pamela Baricuatro.

"It could be an impossible dream that I could make you love me this early, but ang akola lang, trabaho ta, maghiusa ta (but my only goal is for us to work together)," said Governor Baricuatro.

In thw the get-to-know-you dialogue, the governor has set aside politics and make way for genuine public

service.

"You will always have my support if our aim is to help the people," she stressed.

As long as public welfare, the governor assured her full support.

The discussions centered on critical areas such as improving healthcare services at the local government level, skills training for constituents, priority programs and projects, and environmental protection efforts.

"I am seeking your help, let's help each other to attain the tasks ahead," Baricuatro.

During the meeting, a consensus has been adopted to retain Balamban Vice Alfie Binghay as the president of the Vice Mayors League -Cebu Chapter.

The Vice Mayors raised several issues with the governor such as medicine needs in their LGUs, skills training programs for constituents and others.

The governor disclosed that her administration came up with skills training programs until employment. **(By RICO MIRASOL OSMENA)**

Magna Carta Bills, ire-file para sa mga karapatan ng Health Workers at Barangay Officials



KATROPA N'YO
Vic Billones III

Si Congressman Salvador Pleyto ng 6th District ng Lalawigan ng Bulacan, ay nagnanais ire-file muli ang dalawang landmark bill: ang Magna Carta para sa mga Barangay Health Workers at ang Magna. Carta para sa Barangay Officials.

Naglalayong iangat ang grassroots governance at healthcare, ang mga hakbang na ito ay naglalayong tugunan ang matagal nang mga agwat sa kompensasyon, benepisyo, at imprastraktura para sa mga tauhan ng barangay. Binigyang-diin ni Congressman Pleyto ang agarang pagpasa ng mga batas na ito, na hinihimok ang mabilis na deliberasyon sa Senado, na susundan ng pag-apruba ng Pangulo ng Pilipinas. "Ang ating mga manggagawa at opisyal sa barangay ay ang gulugod ng lokal na serbisyo, karapat-dapat sila sa seguridad, dignidad, at patas na suporta," sabi niya, na binabalangkas ang mga panukalang batas bilang kritikal sa pambansang pag-unlad.

Ang Magna Carta para sa mga Manggagawang Pangkalusugan ng Barangay ay ginagawang pormal ang kanilang tungkulin bilang mahahalagang tagapagbigay ng pangangalagang pangkalusugan. Tinitiyak nito ang

buwanang honorarium na PHP 3,000, civil service eligibility pagkatapos ng limang taon ng serbisyo, at mga insentibo tulad ng hazard pay, transportation allowance, health benefits at cash gifts.

Ang Kagawaran ng Kalusugan ay mangangasiwa sa patuloy na mga programa sa edukasyon, habang ang mga lokal na pamahalaan ay magpopondo sa saklaw ng insurance. Kasama rin ang mga insentibo sa pagreretro, maternity leave, at mga karapatan sa bakasyon upang mapabuti ang pagpapanatili at moral. Binigyang-diin ni Congressman Plato na ang mga probisyong ito ay magsisiguro ng "sustainable, community-driven healthcare" sa buong bansa.

Ang kasamang Magna Carta para sa mga Opisyal ng Barangay ay nag-uutos ng pantay na suweldo: Ang mga suweldo ng Punong Barangay ay tutugma sa mga miyembro ng Sangguniang Bayan, habang ang mga konsehal at kawani ay kumikita ng 80% o 75% ng benchmark na ito.

Ang mga Barangay Tanod ay nakakakuha ng mga co-terminus appointment na may mga benepisyo tulad ng PHP 1,000 na mga Christmas bonus, pangangalagang medikal, at mga scholarship para sa kanilang mga anak. Ang panukalang batas ay nangangailangan din ng bawat barangay na magkaroon ng mga paaralan, health center, malinis na tubig, at mga pasilidad sa transportasyon. Ang awtonomiya sa pananalapi ay priyoridad, na may awtomatikong pagpapadala ng mga bahagi ng pambansang buwis nang direkta sa mga pondo ng barangay para sa mga proyektong pang-imprastraktura.

Tsk! Tsk! Tsk! Iniisip ni Congressman Pleyto ang

mga repormang ito bilang isang "blueprint para sa nagbabanat, at umaasa sa sarili na komunidad" na nakahanay sa mga layunin ng pambansang kaunlaran. Hanggang sa muli!



Kudos Port of MICP! BOC at PNP laban sa smuggling paghuhusayin, BOC-Clark, Congrats!

Tutok Aduana

ni Reynante Salgado

Bilang pagpapakita ni Customs Commissioner Ariel Nepomuceno ang kanyang matatag na pangako sa pagpapatupad at seguridad sa hangganan, ay pinangunahan niya ang ang pag-inspeksyon sa isang pinagsama-samang kargamento na natagpuang naglalaman ng ilegal na droga sa Manila International Container Port nitong nakaraang linggo.

Ayon sa BOC ay ay naglabas ng Alert Order sa isang 1x40-ft container na idineklara bilang mga balikbayan box. Sa 100% inspeksyon, natuklasan ang 110.24 kg ng methamphetamine hydrochloride (shabu) na nakatago sa loob ng apat (4) na kahon, na may tinatayang halaga na PHP 749.63 milyon.

Kaya naman agad kumuha ng mga sample at isinumite sa Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency para sa confirmatory testing at nakumpirma nila sa kanilang Laboratory na talagang methamphetamine hydrochloride ang nahuli nila sa MICP.

Ang mga nasabat na illegal drugs ay ipinasa na sa PDEA para sa karagdagang imbestigasyon, kaugnay ng mga paglabag sa Republic Act (RA) No. 9165, o Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, at R.A. No. 10863, o ang Customs Modernization and Tariff Act.

Congratulations sa lahat ng mga taga Manila International Container Port dahil sa kanilang magandang accomplishment.

Pinuri ni MICP District Collector Rizalino Jose C. Torralba ang pagbabantay at kooperasyon ng mga enforcement unit, at binanggit na ang tagumpay ng operasyong ito ay sumasalamin sa bisa ng pinalakas na mga hakbang sa profiling at inter-agency na koordinasyon ng BOC.

Binigyang-diin ni Commissioner Nepomuceno na

ang BOC ay mananatiling hindi sumusuko sa kanilang kampanya laban sa pagpupuslit ng droga, sa pagsasabing: "Hindi natin hahayaan ang mga kriminal na elemento na pagsamantalahan ang mga pribilehiyo ng balikbayan at sirain ang tiwala ng ating mga overseas Filipinos. This seizure underscores our commitment to protect the country and its people." Aniya!

Kudos sa inyong lahat sa Bureau of Customs!

Bumisita si PNP Chief Police General Nicolas D. Torre sa Bureau of Customs, para mai-renew ang pangako ng Philippine National Police na suportahan ang BOC sa pagsisikap nitong labanan ang katiwalian, smuggling, at mga banta sa pambansang seguridad.

Itinatampok ng pagbisita ang patuloy na kahalagahan ng pagtutulungan ng mga ahensya sa pagsusulong ng mga reporma sa serbisyo publiko at pagbuo ng tiwala ng publiko sa gobyerno.

Sa kanyang pagbisita sa BOC ay sumali sa flag-raising ceremony, at muling pinagtibay ang suporta ng PNP sa mga hakbangin sa reporma ng Bureau sa ilalim ni Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno.

Ayon kay PNP chief Being here at your flag-raising ceremony is not just a gesture of respect between our agencies; it is a strong statement of unity. Binigyang-diin niya ang papel ng PNP sa pagsuporta sa BOC sa pamamagitan ng intelligence sharing, joint operations, at pagprotektang sa mga tauhan ng BOC.

Pinaalalahanan din ni PGen.Torre ang mga pampublikong tagapaglingkod sa kanilang tungkulin na mamuno nang may integridad at magtulungan upang maibalik ang tiwala ng mga tao. Sa bawat laban ninyo, kaagapay ninyo ang PNP.

Hindi lang to laban ng Customs at hindi lang to laban ng PNP, laban ito ng buong bayan, and the only way we win is if we stay united, focused, and uncompromising in our values, Dagdag nito.

Bilang tugon, ay muling pinagtibay ni Commissioner Nepomuceno ang kanyang pangako na isulong ang mga reporma sa loob ng BOC, alinsunod sa vision ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. para sa isang mas transparent, accountable, at mahusay na pamahalaan. Sabi ni Comm. Nepomuceno Inutusan ako ni

Pangulong Bongbong kung ano ang dapat gawin dito, pagbutihin natin, and his intention to pursue good governance, especially for the Bureau, Let's not second guess his intention, therefore, don't second guess my programs. What I'm doing on day one will be the same things I will pursue until I leave the Bureau. dagdag pa niya. Nagpahayag din ng pasasalamat si Commissioner Nepomuceno sa PGEN. Torre at PNP para sa kanilang patuloy na pakikipagtulungan, na idiniin na ang mga makabuluhang reporma at pambansang layunin ay maisasakatuparan lamang sa pamamagitan ng sama-samang pagsisikap at pagkakaisa sa mga institusyon ng gobyerno. Binigyang-diin niya na ang paglaban sa smuggling, katiwalian, at inefficiencies sa Customs ay maaari lamang mapagtagumpayan sa pamamagitan ng isang malakas, nagkakaisang prente.

Ang pagbisita ay nagpapatibay sa iisang pangako ng BOC at PNP sa paglilingkod sa sambayanang Pilipino nang may integridad, transparency, at dedikasyon sa pambansang seguridad. Keep up the good work BOC at PNP! God bless us all!

Lumampas ang Bureau of Customs Port of Clark sa nakatalagang revenue collection target para sa Hunyo 2025 sa pamamagitan ng pagkolekta ng Php 427,375,640.64, na lampasan ang target na Php 424,499,091.93.

Ang pagganap na ito ay nagresulta sa labis na Php 2,876,548.71, na higit na nagpapalakas sa pareparehong track record ng Port sa pagpupulong at paglampas sa mga layunin ng kita.

Binigyang-diin ni District Collector Jairus Reyes na ang tagumpay na ito ay sumasalamin sa dedikasyon at pagsusumikap ng buong koponan ng Port of Clark sa pagtiyak ng tumpak at legal na pangongolekta ng kita. Sabi niya

Our consistent revenue performance contributes significantly to the government's ability to fund critical infrastructure projects, social services, and public programs that benefit the Filipino people. We remain committed to upholding transparency, integrity, and efficiency in our operations as we continue to serve the nation. Kudos sa lahat ng taga BOC-Clark!

2nd Batch of KMME-MME Online Rolls Out for CALABARZON MSMEs

To further empower micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the CALABARZON region, the Department of Trade and Industry Region 4-A, in partnership with the Philippine Center for Entrepreneurship (PCE) – Go Negosyo, successfully launched the 2nd batch of the 2025 Kapatid Mentor ME – Money and Market Encounter (KMME-MME) Online on July 24, 2025 via Zoom, undeterred by inclement weather. A total of 51

mentees from diverse industry clusters—including agribusiness, coconut, processed food, health and wellness, homestyle, and services—were officially welcomed into the program. The mentees will undergo a four-phase learning journey composed of module sessions and a government forum, one-on-one coaching, a business improvement plan (BIP) presentation, and graduation.

The KMME-MME Online is a public-private

partnership that integrates mentorship and market access opportunities to equip MSMEs with the tools and mindset to navigate today's evolving business landscape. The program features ten core modules and webinars focused on digital transformation and business resilience.

Interested entrepreneurs may inquire at their nearest DTI Provincial Office or Negosyo Center nationwide to learn more about the program.



SM City Dasmariñas Showcases Over 500 Artworks in “Art for Everyone” Exhibit



In celebration of local creativity and culture, SM City Dasmariñas launches the Art for Everyone exhibit, featuring more than 500 art pieces including sculptures from the iconic Castrillo Legacy Art Studio. The exhibit runs from July 20 to 31 at the Annex Event Center, bringing together five prominent art groups that represent the heart of Cavite's vibrant art scene.

The event is part of SM's nationwide Art for Everyone campaign, which aims to make art more accessible to the public while celebrating the talents of Filipino artists. Visitors are invited to explore and support local artistry throughout the two-week fair.

The participating groups include Urban Sketchers Cavite Heritage Artists Community, Castrillo Legacy Art Studio, Alitaptap Artists Community, United Artists by Lance Daliva, and Dasmariñas Art Group.

Urban Sketchers Cavite Heritage Artists Community – Artists committed to capturing Cavite's heritage and everyday moments through on-location sketching.

Castrillo Legacy Art Studio – Carrying the legacy of National Artist Eduardo Castrillo, the studio is recognized for its powerful sculptures and public monuments.

Alitaptap Artists Community – A collective of multidisciplinary artists known for their community-driven projects and international collaborations.

United Artists by Lance Daliva – A dynamic group of young creatives mentored by artist Lance Daliva, known for their bold and contemporary expressions.

Dasmariñas Art Group – Composed of homegrown talents dedicated to promoting the city's rich identity through visual arts.

NOLI BOY DE LANA RAMIL a.k.a RONNIE
versus Crime Case No. 20085-19 For MURDER; and Crime Case No. 20087-19 FOR VIOL. OF SEC. 3 of RA 10863 (NEW ANTI-CARNAPPING ACT OF 2016) RTC Branch 21, IMUS CITY, CAVITE
A NATIVE OF CARRANGLAN, NUEVA ECLIA and TEMPORARY RESIDENCE: SITIO KIKO ROSA, SAN FRANCISCO, GEN. TRIAS CITY CAVITE. FAMILY BELIEVES THERE ARE MORE THAN 2 PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE CRIME.
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From Capitan Del Puerto to Commissioner Nepomuceno: A century of Customs



Prior to the discovery of the islands in the Pacific by Spain, the inhabitants of what is now the Philippines were ruled by village chieftains called *datus*. Chinese merchants came to the islands and traded silk, porcelain and other Chinese items. The *datus* collected tributes from these Chinese merchants.

After Spain colonized the islands, trading continued and the first port of entry under Spanish rule was established in Cebu. The head of the port took the title of *Capitan del Puerto* (Captain of the Port). In 1891, the Spanish Tariff law was enacted which was also enforced in what was named as the *Islas Filipinas* (Philippine Islands).

In 1898, Spain ceded the Philippines to the Americans in exchange for twenty million US dollars (US \$20 million). Under American rule the Tariff Revision Law was passed and the title *Capitan del Puerto* was changed to Collector of Customs. There were Collectors of Customs in various ports of entry — Cebu, Iloilo and Manila. The Collector of the Port of Manila was also the national Head of Customs.

The first national Collector of Customs was an American. In 1902, the Philippine Customs Service (patterned after the U.S. Customs Service) was established. US Customs Law was enforced. However, importation into the Philippines from the United States were free from payment of customs duties while importations from the Philippines to the US were subject to Customs duties. In 1903, the Philippine Customs Service was renamed to Bureau of Customs and Immigration under the Department of Finance and Justice. The title of national Collector of Customs was changed to Commissioner of Customs.

The Philippines gained its independence from the United States on July 4, 1946. It was only in 1957 that the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines (TCCP) was passed by the Philippine legislature. The TCCP was the first expression of an independent Customs and Tariff policy. Among the most notable former Commissioners of Customs is the current Presidential Legal Counsel and former Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile who was concurrently the Secretary of Finance. Another notable former Commissioner was Rolando E. Geotina who served the BOC as Commissioner for 9 years. The first military officer appointed as Commissioner of Customs was Major General Ramon J. Farolan. He was appointed by former President Ferdinand E. Marcos, Sr. while the country was under martial law. Farolan was known to be strict yet “mabait”. He was able to suppress rampant smuggling and served BOC for more than nine (9) years until the EDSA I revolution in 1986.

Two succeeding Customs Commissioners under former President Corazon Aquino served only for six (6) months each, while the other two served for 2-3 years. The first Customs Commissioner appointee of President Joseph Ejercito Estrada was Pedro Mendoza who was allegedly appointed because he was Estrada’s “kababata”. Mendoza landed in the headline of *The Philippine Daily Inquirer*, *Philippine Star* and other major newspapers when he became “Customs Commissioner went ballistic” because he pointed his gun on Manila Hotel guests while he was intoxicated. He was fired by President Estrada on the same day.

Commissioner Guillermo Parayno was the only Customs Chief appointee of former President Fidel V. Ramos. During his rein, the Philippine Bureau of Customs was adjudged by the World Customs Organization (WCO) officials as the world’s most improved customs administration. That was BOC’s proudest moment.

Former Gloria Macapagal Arroyo’s tenure as President lasted for nine (9) years but her Customs Commissioners only served for an average of six (6) months to one (1) year each except for Napoleon “Boy” Morales who was in office for four (4) years. Boy Morales was well-loved by Customs employees. His service was

well appreciated by importers and Customs brokers.

Former President Benigno Aquino had four (4) Customs Commissioners who succeeded each other serving an average of 1 ½ years each. None of them hit their annual collection target. Further, the IMF-World Bank published a report that the biggest amount of smuggled goods entered the Philippines during Aquino’s presidency, nineteen (19) billion US dollars were smuggled in three (3) years.

International Criminal Court detainee, former President Rodrigo R. Duterte appointed four (4) commissioners with two (2) of them serving for 1 ½ years each, and were implicated in shabu smuggling (Nicanor Faeldon and Isidro Lapeña). Succeeding Lapeña was Commissioner Rey Leonardo Guerrero who served BOC for three (3) years and transformed the BOC into an “Island of Good Governance”. The BOC received four (4) Gold Trailblazer Awards from the Institute of Solidarity in Asia (ISA).

I have served twenty Commissioners of Customs and the average tenure of each is 1 ½ years. Why is that? For the following reasons: failure to hit collection targets, rampant smuggling, corruption, drug smuggling, incompetence, disagreement with the President. The Bureau of Customs is the most complex and most complicated agency in the entire Philippine bureaucracy. Customs officers perform diverse tasks: 1. Collection of duties and taxes; 2. Enforcement of anti-smuggling laws 3. Facilitation of international trade; 4. Controlling the borders; 5. Regulate customs bonded warehouses, customs brokers, entities dealing with importations; 6. Prosecution of smugglers.

The BOC is also the most politicized agency. Senators, congressmen, deputy secretaries dip their fingers into Customs — demanding appointments and designations for their proteges, asking favors for their importations and special treatment for brokerage firms connected to them. If the Commissioner refused their requests, the lawmaker would deliver a privilege speech and file a resolution to investigate Customs transactions. Thus, Commissioners were frequently replaced.

The BOC has traditionally been used as a source of campaign funds obtained from the protection money/extortion money/bribe money given to Customs officers. Thus, smuggling became rampant. It was public knowledge in BOC from 2016 to 2022, that smuggling was controlled by the Davao group headed by Congressman Paolo Duterte. This was testified to during the QuadCom hearings by former Customs Intelligence Officer Jimmy Gubban and corroborated by fixer Mark Taguba.

In 2017 and 2018, during the tenure of Commissioner Nicanor Faeldon and Isidro Lapeña, shipments of methamphetamine hydrochloride (shabu) were apprehended. The seizures were made as a result of information provided by the Chinese Customs and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA). The contraband were concealed in a metal cylinder and magnetic lifters. Both Faeldon and Lapeña were dragged into the controversy for their alleged negligence, incompetence or collusion. It is worthy to note that Commissioner Nepomuceno who was then Assistant Commissioner resigned from the BOC before the scandal happened.

The current Customs Commissioner was just recently appointed by President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. Nepomuceno is a magna cum laude AB History graduate of

the University of the Philippines in Diliman. He was awarded the Most Outstanding Graduate of the UP College of Social Sciences in 1986 and was a Presidential Scholarship Awardee from 1989 to 1990. He was a Philippine Military Academy cadet and went to the Asian Institute of Management for his Master in Business Management course prior to becoming Commissioner of Customs, he was the Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and Undersecretary of the Department of National Defense. He was the Executive Director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). This is not his first employment in the BOC. He was a Deputy Commissioner of Enforcement in 2013 and later the Assistant Commissioner for Post Clearance Audit Group in 2017.

As I have earlier pointed out, the BOC is the most complicated government agency with diverse functions, for which reason many previous Commissioners failed and sometimes were embroiled in controversy and infamy.

Commissioner Nepomuceno has just taken the reins of the BOC three weeks ago but he has already made earth-shaking actions to eliminate corruption and malpractices. First, he suspended the issuance and implementation of Letters of Authority (LOA). An LOA is a document issued by the Commissioner of Customs addressed to the owner of a shop or warehouse where imported goods are being sold or stored, demanding the presentation of proof of payment of duties and taxes, pursuant to Section 224 of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA). This is equivalent to a search warrant. Failure to produce evidence of payment of duties and taxes shall result in the seizure of the goods found in the shop or warehouses. Prior to Commissioner Nepomuceno’s assumption of the Customs post, there have been complaints from businessmen that the LOA was being used for extortion. Reportedly, these complaints reached the President, which may have been one of the reasons for the purging of the top officials in the BOC.

The Commissioner’s next earth-shaking act was the issuance of a Memorandum to all Customs employees prohibiting them and their relatives from engaging in the Customs brokerage business or any transaction with the BOC. Republic Act No. 6713 also known as the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees prohibits government employees and their relatives from transacting with the public office where they are employed. While some Customs employees were shocked and displeased, the officers and members of the Philippine Chamber of Customs Brokers, Inc. (PCCBI) thanked Commissioner Nepomuceno.

The latest commendable act of the Commissioner in his directive to amend Customs Administrative (CAO) Order 07-2022 on the Accreditation of Importers. In response to stakeholders’ sentiments and to improve ease of doing business, he ordered the amendment of the CAO in order to extend the validity of the accreditation from one (1) year to three (3) years.

With his academic credentials and management experience, I am confident that Commissioner Nepomuceno will successfully steer the Bureau of Customs in the performance of its mission of strengthened border control, enhanced trade facilitation and improved revenue collection. I am also optimistic that under his leadership the BOC will attain its vision of becoming a “Modernized and credible Customs administration that is among the world’s best”.



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REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK,
In its capacity as assignee-mortgagee
of PNB Savings Bank,
Mortgagee,

-versus- FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-377-25

SPOUSES KRIS ALBIN B. GONZALES
AND MARNIE JOY A. GONZALES,
Debtors/Mortgagors.

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK**, In its capacity as assignee-mortgagee of PNB Savings Bank, with business address at PNB Financial Center, Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City, against the Debtors/Mortgagors, **SPOUSES KRIS ALBIN B. GONZALES AND MARNIE JOY A. GONZALES**, with residence and postal addresses at (a) 1583 D FRANCO ST., BRGY. 75 2-6 TONDO, MANILA; and (b) BLOCK 8 LOT 29 KENSINGTON 16 LANCASTER ESTATES, BRGY. NAVARRO, GENERAL TRIAS, CAVITE, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of 31 March 2025 amounts to **TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX AND 34/100 (P2,464,686.34)**, inclusive of interest but exclusive of foreclosure expenses, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on **August 12, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** until 12:00 noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2017030806

LOT NO: 29, BLOCK NO: 8, PLAN NO: PCS-04-029826
PORTION OF: THE CONS/SUBD OF LOTS 78 & 80 BLOCK 2, PCS-04-028598; BLOCK 11, PCS-04-028596 & LOT 1716 & 1717, SAN FRANCISCO DE MALABON ESTATE, DECREED NO. 4270; LRC REC. NO. 5964
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF NAVARRO, MUNICIPALITY OF GEN. TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE

BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	SW	LOT 28, BLOCK 8, PCS-04-029826
2-3	NW	ROAD LOT 13, PCS-04-029826
3-4-5	NE	ROAD LOT 10, PCS-04-029826
5-1	SE	LOT 27, BLOCK 8, PCS-04-029826

AREA: SEVENTY SQUARE METERS (70), MORE OR LESS

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **AUGUST 26, 2025** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Trece Martires City, July 11, 2025.

(SGD) RICARDO A. TOLEDO
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK, In its capacity as assignee-mortgagee of PNB Savings Bank, PNB Financial Center, Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City

c/o **ATTY. SIMEON P. MADRID**
S.P. Madrid & Associates
17th Floor Chatham House Condominium Valero Street cor. V.A. Rufino Street Makati City, Metro Manila

SPOUSES KRIS ALBIN B. GONZALES AND MARNIE JOY A. GONZALES
(a) 1583 D FRANCO ST., BRGY. 75 2-6 TONDO, MANILA; and (b) BLOCK 8 LOT 29 KENSINGTON 16 LANCASTER ESTATES, BRGY. NAVARRO, GENERAL TRIAS, CAVITE

WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE, DEFACE OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF SALE

WATERFRONTNEWS:
July 16, 23 & 30, 2025

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK,
In its capacity as assignee-mortgagee
of PNB Savings Bank,
Mortgagee,

-versus- FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-378-25

SPS. FERNANDO B. PAGUNSAN, JR.
AND WINNIE JOY P. PAGUNSAN,
Debtors/Mortgagors.

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK**, In its capacity as assignee-mortgagee of PNB Savings Bank, with business address at PNB Financial Center, Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City, against the Debtors/Mortgagors, **SPS. FERNANDO B. PAGUNSAN, JR. AND WINNIE JOY P. PAGUNSAN**, with residence and postal addresses at (a) BLOCK 1 LOT 2, APITONG ST., WELCOME VILLAGE, SAN ANTONIO VALLEY I, SUCAT, PARAÑAQUE CITY; and (b) LOT 9 BLOCK 18, ROAD LOT 3 SOMERSET VILLAGE PHASE 14, LANCASTER ESTATES, BRGY. NAVARRO, GENERAL TRIAS, CAVITE, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of 31 March 2025 amounts to **SIX MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE AND 39/100 (P6,856,855.39)**, inclusive of interest but exclusive of foreclosure expenses, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on **August 12, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** until 12:00 noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2018008776

LOT NO: 9, BLOCK NO: 18, PLAN NO: PCS-04-028981
PORTION OF: THE CONS/SUBD OF LOTS 1, 2 & 3, PCS-04-011336; LOT 2457-B-3, PSD-04-024243; LOT 2469-A, PSD-04-233225; LOT 2457-A, LOT 2457-C, FLS-1228-D; LOT 2458, FRS-04-005325; LOT 2468 ALL OF SAN FRANCISCO, DE MALABON ESTATE, DECREED NO. 4270; LRC REC. NO. 5964
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF: NAVARRO MUNICIPALITY OF: GEN. TRIAS PROVINCE OF: CAVITE

BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	NE	ROAD LOT 3, PCS-04-028981
2-3	SE	LOT 11, BLOCK 18, PCS-04-028981
3-4	SW	LOT 27, BLOCK 18, PCS-04-028981
4-1	NW	LOT 7, BLOCK 18, PCS-04-028981

AREA: NINETY TWO SQUARE METERS (92), MORE OR LESS

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **AUGUST 26, 2025** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Trece Martires City, July 11, 2025.

(SGD) JOSELITO A. ARANDA
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BANK, In its capacity as assignee-mortgagee of PNB Savings Bank, PNB Financial Center, Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City

c/o **ATTY. SIMEON P. MADRID**
S.P. Madrid & Associates
17th Floor Chatham House Condominium Valero Street cor. V.A. Rufino Street Makati City, Metro Manila

FERNANDO B. PAGUNSAN, JR. AND WINNIE JOY P. PAGUNSAN
(a) BLOCK 1 LOT 2, APITONG ST., WELCOME VILLAGE, SAN ANTONIO VALLEY I, SUCAT, PARAÑAQUE CITY; and (b) LOT 9 BLOCK 18, ROAD LOT 3 SOMERSET VILLAGE PHASE 14, LANCASTER ESTATES, BRGY. NAVARRO,



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**EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF
ESTATE OF THE LATE ABELARDO IGNO
DELA CRUZ**

Notice is hereby given to the public that the late **ABELARDO IGNO DELA CRUZ** who died on March 9, 2005 at Tanza Cavite, who died in the intestate without leaving any last will, left a one Parcel of Land located in Binakayan Kawit Cavite with Transfer Certificate of Title No. T- 0028583 (Formerly T-1022247) containing an area of Three Hundred Eighty (380) Sq. Meters, and was Extra-Judicially Settled among the undersigned legal heirs, **LUCITA N. DELA CRUZ** and **RICHARD ANGELO D. SAMALA** resident of Binakayan Kawit Cavite, Philippines, et al, executed before Notary Public **ATTY. ANDRES JOSE M. ALBA**, Doc. No. 124, Page No. 25, Book No. CVI, Series of 2025.

WATERFRONTNEWS:
JULY 16, 23 & 30, 2025

GENERAL TRIAS, CAVITE

WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE, DEFACE OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF SALE

WATERFRONTNEWS:
July 16, 23 & 30, 2025






GO BAG

ISANG PAALALA MULA KAY
MAYOR STRIKE B. REVILLA
CHAIRPERSON, CITY DRM COUNCIL

Ang GO Bag ay naglalaman ng mahalagang kagamitan para matiyak ang kaligtasan ng isang indibidwal o pamilya sa loob ng hanggang 72 oras.





Bakit ganito katagal? Ito ay dahil nais nating paghandaan ang maaarong pagkakataong na ang agarang tulong at serbisyo kagaya ng relief operations ay maaaring tumagal ng kaunting oras bago makarating sa sa bawat tahananang Bacooreño dahil sa laki ng pinsalang dulot ng sakuna.

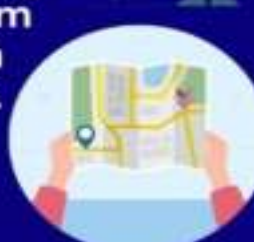




KAPAG MAY BANTA NG PANGANIB:

Pumunta sa higit na ligtas na lugar.

Huwag kalimutang dalhin ang GO BAG ng pamilya at siguruhing ang family preparedness plan ay alam at malinaw na naipaliwanag sa bawat isang parte ng pamilya.



GO-BAG LIST

- First-aid Kit
- Important Documents
- Flashlight, whistle
- Radio
- Pera o Barya
- Items for Seniors, PWD, infant

- Ready-to-eat food
- Drinking Water
- Electronic gadgets for communication
- Damit at sanitary supplies
- Sleeping Bags
- Lubid, ecobags
- Medicine
- Emergency Contact Information

Suportahan natin ang mga aktibidad at programa ngayong

NATIONAL DEWORMING MONTH

Hulyo 2025



Ang pagde-deworm ay isang simple ngunit epektibong paraan para iwasan ang mga sakit sa kabataan dulot ng mga worms o bulate.

Mga kundisyong sanhi ng worms:

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- Malnutrisyon
- Diarrhea
- Pagbaba ng timbang






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Vol. XV: No. 3 P10 CIRCULATED NATIONWIDE July 30 - August 5, 2025



July 26, 2025 We were invited to the launching of ART FOR EVERYONE gallery held at SM BF. With Mayor Edwin Olivarez, Councilor Paolo Olivarez of District One.



Visited the fire victims evacuees at the City of Dasmariñas Socio-Civic Center with the Sangguniang Panlungsod Members and Vice Mayor Third Barzaga #OnwardForwardCityofDasmariñas #SulongNaSulongPaDasmariñas #ManatiligLigtasDasmariñenos #JABWellDone



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Today, we delivered food packs to a total of 1,468 families from Barangay Toclong II-B, Medicion II-A, and Medicion II-C. We continue to rotate to personally deliver help and ensure it reaches every family in need. Thank you very much to our distribution partners—City Government of Imus employees, barangay officials, and most of all, volunteers who continuously spend their time and energy for fellow Imuseños. #AAngatAngImus #AlagangAdvincula



**Let your hopes,
not your hurts,
shape your future.**

- Robert H. Schuller

**VICE MAYOR
AGUINALDO**  @mayoraguinaldo

Sunod-sunod na bagyo po ang ating hinarap, dagdag pa sa pagiging low-lying area ng ating Kawit dahil para sa pagbabaha sa ating bayan. Hindi po matatapos sa relief operation ang ating aksyon dahil kasama si Mayor Armie, at ang Sangguniang Bayan, muli nating bubusisiin ang mga isinasagawa nating flood mitigation katuwang ang unang distrito at si Cong. Jolo Revilla. Nawa'y maging ligtas at tuloy-tuloy na ang recovery ng lahat sa mga susunod na araw. Isang maaraw na Linggo po sa lahat. #RatedTripleA #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit #ViceMayorAginaldo



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