

BASIC : LETTER DATED JANUARY 15, 2009, FROM PUNONG BARANGAY ISABELO R. BUHANGHANG OF NAIBA, SAN JOSE, NEGROS ORIENTAL

2nd Indorsement
January 27, 2009

Respectfully returned to Mr. Jofralito L. Lorico, Provincial Director, DILG Negros Oriental Provincial Office, the herein basic communication (and all its attachments) from Punong Barangay Isabelo R. Buhanghang of Naiba, San Jose, Negros Oriental on the reported inaction and/or refusal to perform the duties and functions of a sangguniang barangay for no apparent reason.

Let it be stressed that a public office is a public trust. The performance of a public official or employee of his duties and functions should not depend on his moods, whims and caprices. Public officials and employees shall always uphold the public interest over and above personal interest. They shall enter public service with utmost devotion and dedication to duty.

A public official or employee who fails to perform his mandated tasks may be held liable for neglect of duty. If such failure or refusal to perform his duties and functions is tainted with bad faith, he could be liable for a more serious offense punishable under the Local Government Code of 1991, the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, the Civil Service Law and the Revised Penal Code. The administrative complaint against the erring sangguniang barangay member may be filed before the sangguniang bayan of the municipality where the concerned barangay belongs or before the Office of the Ombudsman (Visayas). The criminal complaint may be filed before the Office of the City/Provincial Prosecutor's Office or with the Office of the Ombudsman (Visayas).

In connection with the allegations of Punong Barangay Isabelo R. Buhanghang, the DILG Negros Oriental Provincial Office is hereby directed to cause the conduct of an inquiry. A report on the results of such inquiry shall be submitted to this level on or before February 15, 2009. If the report will validate the complaint of PB Buhanghang, it will be forwarded to the Office of the Ombudsman (Visayas) for its appropriate action.

PEDRO A. NOVAL, JR.
Regional Director

.w/attachments

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