



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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25 April 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : All DENR Regional Executive Directors

ATTN : All Chiefs
DENR Regional Strategic Communication and Initiatives Group

FROM : The Assistant Secretary
Human Resources, Strategic Communication and Sectoral Initiatives

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON OPERATION BAKLAS OF ELECTION CAMPAIGN MATERIALS**

This has reference to the directive of DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna to strictly enforce the prohibition of posting election campaign materials on trees and to ensure their proper disposal.

This is in compliance with Section 9 of Republic Act (RA) 9006 or the Fair Election Act of 2001 which states that posting campaign materials "may only be allowed in common poster areas in public places such as plazas, markets, barangay centers, and the like," and Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) 2013-01 signed by the DENR, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Commission on Election (Comelec) in 2013 that enjoins political parties, partylist groups, and individual candidates to enforce relevant provisions of RA 9006 and RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

Further, Section 21(B) of the Comelec Resolution No. 10730 dated November 17, 2021 states that "in no instance shall an election officer designate as common poster areas any trees, plants, shrubs in any public grounds."

Section 3 of RA 3571 dated June 21, 1963, emphasized and expanded through Presidential Decree No. 903 dated July 6, 1976 also particularly states that "any person who cuts, destroys, damages, or injures, naturally growing or planted trees of any kind shall be punished with a penalty ranging from six months to two years imprisonment and a fine up to P5,000."

In line with these, kindly submit your report on the Secretary's directive on the above subject to this office, copy furnished the Director, Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service on or before 26 April 2022. Indicate the volume of campaign materials removed.

For immediate compliance.


HIRO V. MASUDA, DBA, CESO III