



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
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RECEIVED
24 JUL 2022
INCOMING
OUTGOING
DATE NO.

MEMORANDUM

July 12, 2022

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA Region
1515 L & S Bldg., Roxas, Blvd., Ermita, Manila

FROM : The Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer

SUBJECT : **LETTER DATED JULY 7, 2022 FROM ATTY. ROBERT A. CHAN RE: REQUEST IF THE PNNI COULD TURN OVER THE CONFISCATED FIREARMS INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL LOGGING ACTIVITIES TO THE DEPARTMENT**


This is in relation to the letter dated July 7, 2022 from Atty. Robert A. Chan of Palawan NGO Network, Inc. relative the above subject.

Per letter, Atty. Chan is seeking a legal opinion on the issue of their confiscated firearms involved in illegal logging to turn over to DENR (Department). Considering that previous PENRO advised the PNNI to turn over the said firearms to the Office of Philippine National Police who has jurisdiction over firearms in relation to Republic Act. 10591 (*An Act providing for a comprehensive law on firearms and ammunition and providing penalties for violations thereof*).

In view hereof, we are endorsing the letter of PNNI to seek legal opinion pertaining their intention to turn over the confiscated firearms to the department.

For information and further instruction.

Copy Furnished:
File/2022-019ACG/MES Doc. Ref. No. 2022-6105


FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC

DENR-PALAWAN
PENRO-RECORDS
RELEASED
By 14 JUL 2022
Date: CN 22-1713

July 7, 2022


FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC
DENR-PENRO
Palawan



Dear PENRO

Peace!

DENR PENRO
PALAWAN RECORDS
RECEIVED

BY: 
DATE: 07-07-2022 22:6105

As part of our NGO's advocacy in augmenting government efforts in suppressing illegal logging and illegal fishing, PNNI continues to patrol, enforce, and confiscate chainsaws involved in illegal logging, despite the pending liens on confiscated items and tools for our expenses, owed by government under DENR DAO 97-32. This we do bearing in mind that ultimately, our communities bear the brunt of calamities brought about by logging, whether or not we are reimbursed for costs.

Throughout the years of confiscating chainsaws involved in illegal logging, our NGO has also confiscated firearms which have accompanied the illegal logging operations for which we have issued the corresponding seizure receipts and have filed with the Department in the past, as tools/equipment of the logging operation.

In line with our recent concurrence of turning over confiscated chainsaws in our custody to the Department, we would similarly request if we could turn over the confiscated firearms involved in illegal logging, to your good office. While your predecessors have refused the same in the past, contending that the same should be turned over to the PNP, under DAO 97-32, the same falls within the definition of tools, equipment, and implements under the Department (*section 2(b) in relation to section 4(3) (c) DAO 97-32*).

May we request your good office to forward this request for a legal opinion on this issue to the Office of the Secretary of the Department in order for the same to expediently be resolved, so we can turn over the same to the appropriate agency.

As usual, you have our full support from the NGO Network and from Palawan's Civil Society.

Yours in Christ,



ATTY. ROBERT A. CHAN
Executive Director

CC: City PNP and Provincial PNP