

Barangay and SK elections

Timeline of Activities

25 September-10 November 2010s

ELECTION PERIOD

Gun and bodyguards ban.

14- 23 October 2010

Candidates campaign period.

18 October 2010

Last day for filing of disqualification cases.

18- 20 October- Inspection and verification of completeness of the Voters' Registration Records and sealing of the Book of Voters for each barangay and SK precinct

20 October- Last day of posting the Computerized Voters' List (CVL)

25 October 2010

Casting of votes from 7 a.m until 3 p.m.. Canvassing follows.

Comelec Resolutions

Resolution No. 9058- Clarification on the inspection, verification and sealing of the Book of Voters activity in relation to the precautionary protection order issued in PET Case No. 004 entitled "Manuel A. Roxas versus Jejomar C. Binay

Resolution No. 9057- In the matter of requesting the Honorable Secretary of Justice to assign prosecutors as member of a special tasks force to assist the Commission in the investigation and prosecution of election offenses in connection with the Oct. 25 elections.

Resolution No. 9056- Rules on the liquor ban in connection with the October 25 election

Resolution No. 9053- In the matter of the letter seeking clarification on the application of Sections 261 (V) and (W) of the Omnibus Election Code on the release, disbursement and expenditures of public funds

Resolution No. 9052- In the matter of amending Section 4 of the Comelec Resolution No. 9029 entitled "Guidelines on the filing of Certificates of Candidacy "

Source: www.comelec.gov.ph

Happy 27th anniversary NAMFREL volunteers!

- NAMFREL celebrates today its 27th founding anniversary. Formally organized in October 1983, its roots can be traced to as early as 1957 with the establishment of the Operations Registration Committee. The Citizens National Electoral Assembly (CNEA) formed in the 1960s and 1970s was also the precursor of NAMFREL. Today, NAMFREL continues the tradition of a citizens' group working for political and electoral reforms. In 1986, citizen vigilance in the snap elections showed what Filipinos can do to restore democracy in the country. 500,000 NAMFREL volunteers offered their time and energy, even their lives, to preserve the sanctity of the ballot. Since 1984, NAMFREL has participated in Philippine national and local elections as an accredited citizens' arm of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC). NAMFREL has also become involved in anti- corruption and good governance programs, and has been participating in bids and awards procedures of various government agencies. Internationally, NAMFREL volunteers have worked as trainers, observer team members, election administrators and resource persons in 31 countries so far. Its volunteers have also been directly involved in the creation of similar election monitoring organizations in some of these countries.

Barangay and SK polls still peaceful despite 400 gun ban violators

- Despite more than 400 arrests for violations of the electoral gun ban and a number of election-related violent incidents, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said on October 14 that its security measures for the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) election period are still in place as planned. The PNP has already arrested 411 individuals. Of these, 386 are private citizens, five are with the military, eight are police personnel, and 12 are government employees. Confiscated from the gun ban violators were a total of 356 firearms, five air guns, 86 bladed weapons, and 20 explosive grenades. At least 36 cases had already been filed against suspected gun ban violators, while 325 people are still undergoing investigation. The PNP stressed the need to intensify police visibility in the villages, especially those in the 2,301 areas under the PNP watch list, since they considered the Barangay and SK polls as more prone to security problems. The PNP has already deployed 85 percent of its 132,000 uniformed personnel nationwide.

No need for common poster areas

- The Commission on Elections (Comelec) Legal Department Chairman Ferdinand Rafanan yesterday expressed that the rule on the use of common poster areas for election candidates should be scrapped altogether as it just elicits scorn for the poll body. Candidates and their supporters continue to post their campaign materials in prohibited areas. The laws being violated by these candidates are Section 9 of the Fair Election Act which requires that lawful propaganda materials be placed only in designated common poster areas; and Section 7 of Comelec Resolution 9043 which provides that not more than 10 common poster areas, such as plazas, markets and barangay centers, should be designated in each barangay by election officers (EO). The same resolution strictly prohibits the posting of campaign materials on streets, bridges, public structures or buildings, trees, electric posts or wires, schools, shrines, and main thoroughfares. Those who violate the rule will be imprisoned for one to six years and the cancellation of their right to vote and be elected to public office. The futility of the common poster rule is not only caused by materials being posted in the prohibited areas but also caused by the rule allowing these materials to be posted in private places like houses, retail stores and the like provided that it has the consent of the owner (cited in Sec.6 Res. No. 9043). Most candidates can enjoy the benefit of widespread posting even outside the common poster area because of this rule. Hence such rule defeats the principle of equal campaigning if private individuals can permit them because it merely tolerates candidates who can reproduce more paraphernalia in his/her campaign. However, another reason why the law is violated is because of poor implementation of the law by Comelec election offices.

[Sources: Malaya National, GMA News, COMELEC data, NAMFREL data]

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