



Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Intramuros, Manila

RULES AND REGULATIONS
IMPLEMENTING
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
**THE “FAIR ELECTION
ACT”, IN CONNECTION**
WITH THE MAY 9, 2022
NATIONAL AND LOCAL
ELECTIONS.

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Promulgated: **November 17, 2021**

RESOLUTION NO. 10730

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9006, otherwise known as **the “Fair Elections Act”** provides for the holding of free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections through fair election practices;

WHEREAS, the said Act allows the publication or broadcast of political advertisements or propaganda for or against any candidate or political party;

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the said Act provides that election propaganda, whether on television, cable television, radio, newspapers or any other medium shall be subject to the supervision and regulation of the Commission on Elections (hereafter, **“COMELEC”**);

WHEREAS, Section 6.4 of the said Act directs the COMELEC, to supervise in all instances the use and employment of press, radio and television broadcasting facilities insofar as the placement of political advertisements is concerned so as to give candidates equal opportunity under equal circumstances to make known their qualifications and stand on public issues within the limits set forth in the Omnibus Election Code and Republic Act No. 7166¹;

WHEREAS, Section 13 of the same Act requires the COMELEC to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation thereof; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the COMELEC, by virtue of the powers vested in it by the Constitution, the Omnibus Election Code, the Fair Elections Act, Republic Act Nos. 6646², 7166³ and other related laws has RESOLVED, as it hereby RESOLVES, to promulgate the following Rules and Regulations.

¹ An Act Providing for Synchronized National and Local Elections and for Electoral Reforms, Authorizing Appropriations Therefor, and for Other Purposes [Synchronized Election Law], Republic Act 7166 (1991).

² An Act Introducing Additional Reforms in the Electoral System and for other Purposes [The Electoral Reforms Law of 1987], Republic Act 6646 (1987).

³ *Supra* at note 1.

SECTION 1. *Definitions* - As used in this Resolution:

1. **“Blog” and “collective blog” refer to websites on which** an individual or group of users, respectively, record news, opinions, and information, in varying degrees **of regularity. A “micro-blog” refers to a blogging format which allows users to** exchange small elements of content – referred to variously as posts, entries or status updates – such as short sentences, individual images, or links to video material uploaded to the Internet.
2. **“Candidate” refers to any person seeking an elective public office, who has filed** his or her certificate of candidacy, and who has not died, withdrawn his or her certificate of candidacy, had his or her certificate of candidacy denied due course or cancelled, or has been otherwise disqualified before the start of the campaign period for which he or she filed his certificate of candidacy. *Provided*, that, unlawful acts or omissions applicable to a candidate shall take effect only upon the start of the aforesaid campaign period.

It also refers to any registered national, regional, or sectoral party, organization or coalition thereof that has filed a manifestation of intent to participate under the party-list system, which has not withdrawn the said manifestation, or which has not been disqualified before the start of the campaign period.

3. **“Contractors” and “business firms” refer to any person, natural or juridical,** or firm to whom any electoral expenditure is made in accordance with Section 112 of the Omnibus Election Code, including but not limited, to media entities, media outlets, internet and social media platforms, advertising agencies, public relations firms and other intermediaries, event organizers, talent endorsers and their managers, digital influencers, and printing press for the purpose of entering into political advertisement contracts. **“Social media associates”** refer to contractors whose primary duty is to promote the election or defeat of any candidate through social media interactions and engagement.
4. **“Election campaign” or “partisan political activity” refers to an act** designed to promote the election or defeat of a particular candidate or candidates to a public office, and shall include any of the following:
 - a. Forming organizations, associations, clubs, committees or other groups of persons for the purpose of soliciting votes and/or undertaking any campaign for or against a candidate;
 - b. Creating on any social media platform, user groups or community pages, for the purpose of conducting campaigns or related partisan political activity;
 - c. Holding political caucuses, conferences, meetings, rallies, parades or other similar assemblies for the purpose of soliciting votes and/or undertaking any campaign or propaganda for or against a candidate;
 - d. Making speeches, announcements or commentaries, or holding interviews for or against the election of any candidate for public office;
 - e. Publishing, displaying or distributing campaign literature or materials designed to support or oppose the election of any candidate; or
 - f. Directly or indirectly soliciting votes, pledges or support for or against any candidate.

Personal opinions, views, and preferences for candidates, contained in blogs and micro-blogs shall not be considered as acts of election campaigning or partisan political activity unless expressed by government officials in the

Executive Department, the Legislative Department, the Judiciary, the Constitutional Commissions, and members of the Civil Service.

5. **“Election survey”** refers to the measurement of opinions and perceptions of the voters as regards a candidate’s popularity, qualifications, platforms or matters of public discussion in relation to the election, including voters’ preference for candidates or publicly discussed issues during the campaign period.
6. **“Electoral ads”** and **“electoral posts”** refers to advertisements and social media posts that have for their primary purpose the promotion of the victory or defeat of an official candidate.
7. **“E-rally”** refers to a rally under Article X of the Omnibus Election Code which is conducted for an online audience.
8. **“Exit polls”** refers to a species of election survey conducted by a qualified individual or a group of individuals for the purpose of determining the probable result of an election by confidentially asking randomly selected voters for the names of candidates they have voted for, immediately after they have officially cast their ballots.
9. **“Livestreaming”** refers the live broadcasting of an event over the internet.
10. **“Mass Media”** refers to diversified technologies, operating on various platforms, that have for their primary purpose the transmission of information and communication to a large audience. These platforms include broadcast, internet and mobile, print, and outdoor. **“Mass Media Entities”** refer to individuals and organizations that exercise control over these technologies and determine, whether directly or indirectly, the content being distributed using these technologies. **“Social media”** is a form of mass media.
11. **“Media practitioner”** refers to a person who is not employed by a media entity but performs similar functions or has control over what is printed or broadcast such as a talent or a block timer.

Persons who create online content for personal or collective blogs and micro-blogs shall be considered media practitioners for purposes of these Rules.
12. **“Microtargeting”** refers to a form of targeting online advertisements that uses recent technological developments to analyze a person’s online usage, to preferentially serve advertisements and other information that specifically reflect that individual user’s preferences and personality.
13. **“Online campaigning”** refers to the use of the internet to distribute campaign propaganda. This includes text-only posts on social media, pictures, audio clips, and video clips, regardless of duration, and all combinations of such formats.
14. A **“meme”** refers to an image or video, often of unknown or uncertain origin, that is spread by internet users on various social media networks.
15. **“Party”** refers to either a political party, whether national or sectoral party, or a coalition of parties, and party-list organizations duly registered/accredited with the COMELEC.
16. **“Political advertisement,”** or **“election propaganda”** refers to any matter broadcasted, published, printed, displayed or exhibited, in any medium, which contains the name, image, logo, brand, insignia, initials, and other symbol or

graphic representation that is capable of being associated with a candidate, and is exclusively intended to draw the attention of the public or a segment thereof to promote or oppose, directly or indirectly, the election of the said candidate or candidates to a public office. In broadcast media, political advertisements may take the form of spots, appearances on television shows and radio programs, live or taped announcements, teasers, and other forms of advertising messages or announcements used by commercial advertisers.

Political advertising includes endorsements, statements, declarations, or information graphics, appearing on any internet website, social network, blogging site, and micro-blogging site, which – when taken as a whole – has for its principal object the endorsement of a candidate only, or which were posted in return for consideration or are otherwise capable of pecuniary estimation.

17. **“Social Media”** refers to the collective of online communication channels, including websites and applications, that enable users to create and share content, collaborate, and interact with each other. For purposes of these Rules, video sharing sites which allow users to post comments on individual entries shall be considered as falling within the **broad category of “social media.”** **“Social Media Account”** refers to a user’s personalized access to a social networking site or application, typically using a username and password combination.” **A social media account allows a user to interact with other users** on the same social networking site. **“Social Media Post”** refers to any text, audio, or graphic content – or any combination thereof – published online using a social media account.

SECTION 2. *Campaign Period*-. - For purposes of the May 9, 2022 National and Local Elections, the campaign periods shall be:

Elective Office	Start	End
Candidates for President, Vice-President, Senator and Party-List groups participating in the party-list system of representation	February 8, 2022	May 7, 2022
Candidates for Members of the House of Representatives, regional, provincial, city and municipal officials	March 25, 2022	May 7, 2022

SECTION 3. *Prohibited Campaigning*. - It is unlawful for any person or for any political party, or association of persons to engage in an election campaign or partisan political activity on Maundy Thursday (April 14, 2022), Good Friday (April 15, 2022), the eve of election day (May 8, 2022) and on Election Day (May 9, 2022).

SECTION 4. *Prohibition against Foreign Intervention*. - It is unlawful for any foreigner, whether a juridical or natural person, to directly or indirectly aid any candidate, or political party, organization or coalition, or to take part in, or influence in any manner, any election, or to contribute or make any expenditure in connection with any election campaign or partisan political activity.

SECTION 5. *Authorized Expenses of Candidates and Parties*. - The aggregate amount that a candidate may spend for an election campaign shall be as follows:

- a. For candidates for President and Vice-President - Ten pesos (P10.00) for every registered voter

- b. For candidates with political party – Three pesos (P3.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency where the candidate filed his certificate of candidacy;
- c. For other candidates without any political party and without support from any political party – Five pesos (P5.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency where the candidate filed his certificate of candidacy; and
- d. For political parties and party-list groups – Five pesos (P5.00) for every voter currently registered in the constituency or constituencies where it has official candidates.

SECTION 6. *Lawful Election Propaganda.* - Election propaganda, whether on television or cable television, radio, newspaper, the internet or any other medium, is hereby allowed for all *bona fide* candidates seeking national and local elective positions, subject to the limitation on authorized expenses of candidates and parties, observation of truth in advertising, and to the supervision and regulation by the COMELEC.

Lawful election propaganda shall include:

- a. Pamphlets, leaflets, cards, decals, stickers or other written or printed materials the size of which does not exceed eight and one-half inches (8 ½”) in width and **fourteen inches (14”) in length;**
- b. Handwritten or printed letters urging voters to vote for or against any particular political party or candidate for public office;
- c. Cloth, paper or cardboard posters, whether framed or posted, with an area not exceeding two (2) feet by three (3) feet, except that, at the site and on the occasion of a public meeting or rally, or in announcing the holding of said meeting or rally, streamers not exceeding three (3) feet by eight (8) feet in size, shall be allowed: Provided, That said streamers may be displayed five (5) days before the date of the meeting or rally and shall be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after said meeting or rally;
- d. Paid advertisements in print or broadcast media: Provided, That the advertisements shall allow the requirements set forth in Section 9 hereof;
- e. All other forms of election propaganda not prohibited by the Omnibus Election Code or these rules, such as but not limited to:
 - 1. Social media posts, regardless of format, whether original or re-posted from some source, which may either be incidental to the **poster’s advocacies of social issues or which may have, for its primary purpose, the endorsement of a candidate only;**
 - 2. Paid advertisements in broadcast, internet, mobile, print or outdoor media subject to the requirements set forth in Section 9 hereof and the Fair Elections Act;
 - 3. Mobile units, vehicles, motorcades of all types, whether engine or manpower driven or animal drawn, with or without sound systems or loud speakers and with our without lights;
 - 4. In the headquarters and residences of candidates, lawful election paraphernalia may be displayed, but banners and streamers referred to in paragraph (c) above shall not be allowed;

Parties and candidates are hereby encouraged to use recyclable and environment-friendly materials and avoid those that contain hazardous chemicals and substances in the production of their campaign and election propaganda.

In local government units where local legislation governing the use of plastic and other similar materials exist, parties and candidates shall comply with the same.

Candidates and parties are required to incorporate sign language interpreters and closed captioning in broadcast election propaganda intended for exhibition on television and/or the internet, and are encouraged to ensure the availability of their respective printed campaign materials in Braille.

SECTION 7. *Prohibited Forms of Election Propaganda.* - During the campaign period, it is unlawful:

- a. To print, publish, post or distribute any newspaper, newsletter, newsweekly, gazette or magazine advertising, pamphlet, leaflet, card, decal, bumper sticker, poster, comic book, circular, handbill, streamer, sample list of candidates or any published or printed political matter and to air or broadcast any election propaganda or political advertisement by television or radio for or against a candidate or group of candidates to any public office, unless they bear and be **identified by the reasonably legible, or audible words “*political advertisement paid for,*” followed by the true and correct name and address of the candidate or party** for whose benefit the election propaganda was printed or aired. It shall likewise be unlawful to publish, print or distribute said campaign materials unless they bear, and are identified by, the reasonably legible, or audible words “*political advertisements paid by,*” followed by the true and correct name and address of the payor.
- b. To print, publish, broadcast, display, or exhibit any such election propaganda donated or given free of charge by any person or publishing firm or broadcast media entity to a candidate or party without the written acceptance of the said candidate or party, and unless they bear and be identified by the words “*printed free of charge,*” or “*airtime for this broadcast was provided free of charge by,*”, respectively, followed by the true and correct name and address of the said publishing firm or broadcast entity;
- c. To show, display or exhibit publicly in a theater, through a television station, a video sharing site, social media network, or any public forum any movie, cinematography or documentary, including concert or any type of performance portraying the life or biography of a candidate, or in which a character is portrayed by an actor or media personality who is himself or herself a candidate;
- d. For any newspaper or publication, radio, television or cable television station, or other mass media entity, or any person making use of the mass media to sell or give free of charge print or advertising space or airtime for campaign or election propaganda purposes to any candidate or party in excess of the size, duration or frequency authorized by law or these Rules. A newspaper or publication, radio, television or cable television station, or other mass media, or any person may require any buyer to warrant under oath that such purchase is not in excess of the size, duration or frequency authorized by law or these Rules;
- e. For any radio, television, cable television station, announcer or broadcaster to allow the scheduling of any program, or permit any sponsor to manifestly favor or oppose any candidate or party by unduly or repeatedly referring to, or unnecessarily mentioning his name, or including therein said candidate or party;

- f. To print, publish, post, show, display, distribute any election campaign or propaganda materials that are violative of gender sensitivity principles, is obscene, offensive, discriminatory, or otherwise constitutes a violation of the Magna Carta of Women; and
- g. To post, display or exhibit any election campaign or propaganda material outside of authorized common poster areas, in public places, or in private properties without the consent of the owner thereof;

Public places include any of the following:

1. Publicly-owned electronic announcement boards, such as light-emitting diode (LED) display boards located along highways and streets, liquid crystal display (LCD) monitors posted on walls of public buildings, and other similar devices which are owned by local government units, government-owned and controlled corporations, or any agency or instrumentality of the Government;
2. Motor vehicles used as patrol cars, ambulances, and for other similar purposes that are owned by local government units, government-owned and controlled corporations, and other agencies and instrumentalities of the Government, particularly those bearing government license plates;
3. Public transport vehicles owned and controlled by the government such as the Metro Rail Transit (MRT), Light Rail Transit (LRT), and Philippine National Railway trains and the like.
4. Waiting sheds, sidewalks, street and lamp posts, electric posts and wires, traffic signages and other signboards erected on public property, pedestrian overpasses and underpasses, flyovers and underpasses, bridges, main thoroughfares, center islands of roads and highways;
5. Schools, public shrines, barangay halls, government offices, health centers, public structures and buildings or any edifice thereof; and
6. Within the premises of public transport terminals, owned and controlled by the government, such as bus terminals, airports, seaports, docks, piers, train stations and the like.

The printing press, printer, or publisher who prints, reproduces or publishes said campaign materials, and the broadcaster, station manager, owner of the radio or television station, or content creator of a post, owner or administrator of any website who airs or shows the political advertisements, without the required data or having false information, in violation of these rules shall be criminally liable with the candidate under Sec. 264 of the Omnibus Election Code and, if applicable, further suffer the penalties of suspension or revocation of franchise or permit in accordance with law.

Nothing in these rules shall be construed as limiting the authority of the appropriate agencies and instrumentalities of the government to promulgate their own rules and regulations, regarding the posting of political print advertising on any regulated land, sea and air vehicle, including but not limited to public utility vehicles and tricycles.

SECTION 8. *Petition for Authority to Use Other Election Propaganda.* - Any person seeking authority to use other forms of election propaganda not covered by those enumerated in Sec. 6 hereof and not prohibited by law may file with the COMELEC, through the Clerk of the Commission, a verified petition in ten (10) legible copies, describing the election propaganda sought to be authorized with samples thereof.

Upon receipt of the petition, the Clerk of the Commission shall set it for hearing and shall send notice thereof to the petitioner. On the day following the receipt of the notice of hearing, the petitioner shall cause the publication of the petition, together with the notice of hearing, in two (2) newspapers of general circulation, and shall notify the COMELEC of such action.

If the COMELEC authorizes the use of the requested election propaganda, the authorization shall be published in two (2) newspapers of general circulation within one (1) week after the authorization has been granted.

SECTION 9. *Requirements and/or Limitations on the Use of Election Propaganda through Mass Media.*- All bona fide candidates shall have equal access to mass media time and space for their election propaganda during the campaign period subject to the following requirements and/or limitations:

a. Broadcast Election Propaganda

The duration of air time that a candidate or party may use for their broadcast advertisements or election propaganda shall be, as follows:

For Candidates/Registered Political Parties for a National Elective Position	Not more than a total of one hundred twenty (120) minutes of television advertising, on a per station basis, whether appearing on national, regional, or local, free or cable television, and one hundred eighty (180) minutes of radio advertising, on a per station basis, whether airing on national, regional, or local radio, whether by purchase or donation.
For Candidates for a Local Elective Position	Not more than a total of sixty (60) minutes of television advertising, on a per station basis, whether appearing on national, regional, or local, free or cable television, and ninety (90) minutes of radio advertising, on a per station basis, whether airing on national, regional, or local radio, whether by purchase or donation.

In cases where two or more candidates whose names, initials, images, brands, logos, insignias, symbols, or forms of graphical representations are displayed, exhibited, used, or mentioned together in the broadcast election propaganda or advertisements, the length of time during which they appear or are being mentioned or promoted will be counted against the airtime limits allotted for the said candidates or parties.

In like manner, the cost of the length of time during which individual candidates, groups of candidates, or parties appear or are being mentioned or promoted, shall be computed as a fraction of the total cost of the advertisement, and such fraction shall be considered their respective expenditures, to be deducted from the total cost of the advertisement.

The balance shall be counted against the expenditure limits of whoever paid for the advertisements or to whom the said advertisements were donated.

Appearance or guesting by a candidate on any bona fide newscast, bona fide news interview, bona fide news documentary, if the appearance of the candidate is incidental to the presentation of the subject or subjects covered by the news

documentary, or on-the-spot coverage of bona fide news events, including but not limited to events sanctioned by the COMELEC, political conventions, and similar activities, shall not be deemed to be broadcast election propaganda within the meaning of this provision. For purposes of monitoring by the COMELEC and ensuring that parties and candidates were afforded equal opportunities to promote their candidacy, the broadcast media entities shall give prior notice to the COMELEC, through the appropriate Regional Election Director (RED), or in the case of the National Capital Region (NCR), the Education and Information Department (EID). If such prior notice is not feasible or practicable, the notice shall be sent within twenty-four (24) hours from the first broadcast or publication. Nothing in the foregoing sentence shall be construed as relieving broadcasters, in connection with the presentation of newscasts, news interviews, news documentaries, and on-the-spot coverage of news events, from the obligation imposed upon them under Section 11 and 14 of these Rules.

b. Printed or Published Election Propaganda

The maximum size of print advertisements for each candidate, whether for a national or local elective positions, or party shall be, as follows:

In broadsheets	One fourth (1/4) page
In tabloids	One half (1/2) page

Two or more candidates, political parties, or party-list organizations may cause the publication of coordinated print advertisements, featuring more than one candidate, political party, or party-list organization provided that the size and frequency limitations provided for in this paragraph shall apply to each candidate, political party, or party-list organization appearing, mentioned or promoted in such a coordinated advertisement.

The cost of coordinated print advertisements shall be pro-rated among each candidate, political party, or party-list organization appearing in each advertisement, and shall be reported by them accordingly.

Print advertisements, whether procured by purchase or given free of charge, shall not be published more than three (3) times a week per newspaper, magazine or other publication during the campaign period.

c. Internet, mobile and social media propaganda

The use of the internet, mobile platforms, and social media for purposes of election propaganda shall be allowed subject to the following guidelines:

1. Each registered political party/coalitions and candidate shall register with the Education and Information Department of the COMELEC, the website name and web address of all platform-verified official accounts, websites, blogs and/or other social media pages of such political party or candidate within thirty (30) days from the last day of the period for the filing of the Certificates of Candidacy. Websites completing the verification process after the said period and other social media accounts established after the said period must be registered with the COMELEC-EID within five (5) days from its verification or registration.
2. Any other website, blog, or social media page not registered above but which, when taken as a whole, has for its primary purpose the endorsement of a candidate, whether or not directly maintained or

administered by the candidate or their official campaign representatives, shall be considered additional official websites, blogs or social media pages of the said candidate, for all regulatory purposes.

3. Only verified accounts, websites, blogs, and/or social media pages may run electoral ads, and boost or promote electoral posts.
4. Microtargeting of electoral ads shall not be allowed provided that electoral ads can be targeted using only the following criteria: geographical location, except radius around a specific location; age; and gender; provided further that contextual targeting options may also be used in combination with the above-mentioned criteria.
5. Information contained in online campaign propaganda shall be truthful and not misleading, nor shall it tend to unjustifiably cast doubt on the integrity of the electoral process.
6. All electoral ads must show a disclosure that identifies who paid for the ad. All electoral posts must show a disclosure that identifies it as a paid electoral ad, and discloses who paid for the ad.

d. Common requirements and/or limitations:

Any printed or published, and broadcast election propaganda for or against a candidate or group of candidates to any public office shall bear and be identified **by the reasonably legible or audible words “political advertisement paid for,”** followed by the true and correct name and address of the candidate or party for whose benefit the election propaganda was printed or aired. It shall also bear, **and be identified by, the reasonably legible, or audible words “political advertisement paid by,” followed by the true and correct name and address of the payor.** This rule shall also apply to online advertisements.

The notices required in the immediately preceding paragraph shall be considered reasonably legible on printed materials, if it complies with the following:

(i) The notice must be of sufficient type size to be clearly readable by the reader of the information.

A notice in twelve (12)-point type size satisfies the size requirement of this paragraph when it is used for signs, posters, flyers, newspapers, magazines, or other printed material that measure no more than two (2) feet by three (3) feet.

(ii) The notice must be contained in a printed box, set apart from the other contents of the sign, poster, flyer, or newspaper advertisement.

(iii) The notice must be printed with a reasonable degree of color contrast between the background and the printed statement. A notice satisfies the color contrast requirement of this paragraph if it is printed in black text on a white background or if the degree of color contrast between the background and the text of the notice is no less than the color contrast between the background and the largest text used in the communication.

The notices required in the immediately preceding paragraph shall be considered reasonably legible on television, if it complies with the following:

(i) The notice must appear in letters equal to or greater than four (4) percent of the vertical picture height;

(ii) The notice must be visible for the duration of the broadcast advertisement; and

(iii) The notice must appear with a reasonable degree of color contrast from the background. A notice satisfies the color contrast requirement of this paragraph if it is displayed in black text on a white background or if the degree of color contrast between the background and the text of the notice is no less than the color contrast between the background and the largest type size used in the communication.

If the space for printed or published election propaganda is donated by the publishing firm, or the airtime for broadcast election propaganda is given free of charge by the radio, or television station or cable television, they shall bear and **be identified by the reasonably legible or audible words “*printed free of charge,*” or “*airtime for this broadcast was provided free of charge by,*” respectively,** followed by the true and correct name and address of the said publishing firm or broadcast entity. This rule shall also apply to online advertisements.

All broadcast and digital mass media entities shall preserve their broadcast logs or analogous records for a period of five (5) years from the date of broadcast for submission to the COMELEC whenever required.

Certified true copies of broadcast logs, certificates of performance, and certificates of acceptance, or other analogous record shall be submitted, as follows:

Candidates for National Positions	1 st Report	<i>3 weeks after start of campaign period</i>	March 1, 2022
	2 nd Report	<i>3 weeks after 1st filing week</i>	March 22, 2022
	3 rd Report	<i>1 week before election day</i>	May 2, 2022
	Last Report	<i>Election week</i>	May 13, 2022
Candidates for Local Positions	1 st Report	<i>1 week after the start of campaign period</i>	April 1, 2022
	2 nd Report	<i>1 week after 1st filing week</i>	April 8, 2022
	3 rd Report	<i>Election week</i>	May 13, 2022
	Last Report	<i>1 week after election day</i>	May 16, 2022

For subsequent elections, the schedule for the submission of reports shall be prescribed by the COMELEC.

SECTION 10. *Written Acceptance of Election Propaganda and/or Political Advertisements.* –Election propaganda materials donated or contributed by any person to a candidate shall not be printed, published or broadcasted, or exhibited, unless they are accompanied by the written acceptance by said candidate or party, through the party treasurer.

Such written acceptance of the donated election propaganda materials must be personal to the candidate or party treasurer, and cannot be delegated to their duly authorized representatives designated to receive donations or contributions.

SECTION 11. *Reporting Requirements to be Submitted by Mass Media Entities, Contractors and Business Firms.*- Certified true copies of all contracts, reports and receipts, and other documents, accompanied by all its digitization copies, shall be submitted to the CFO through electronic means at campaignfinance@comelec.gov.ph.

Immediately after filing through email, they shall send the report, through the fastest means available, including mail or service courier, at the following address:

CAMPAIGN FINANCE OFFICE
3rd Floor, Shipping Center
707 A. Soriano Avenue, Intramuros, Manila.

For those outside NCR, they shall likewise furnish a copy of the report to the Office of the Regional Election Director.

a. *For Mass Media Entities:* All mass media entities shall furnish the CFO with a certified true copy of all contracts for advertising, promoting or opposing any political party, partylist group or the candidacy of any person for public office within five (5) days after its signing. In every case, it shall be signed by the donor, the candidate concerned or by the duly authorized representative of the political party or partylist group.

It shall also submit a Certified true copy of the broadcast logs, certificate of performance, affidavit of publication or other analogous records that can be generated after broadcast or publication, for review and verification of the frequency, date, time and duration of advertisements aired for candidate, political party or partylist group.

The report shall include contracts that were signed or executed before the start of the campaign period but to be printed, published, exhibited and broadcasted during the campaign period.

A copy of advertising contracts with the Summary Report of Advertising Contracts must be clear and legible and must contain the following information:

- i. the period when the political advertisement is scheduled to be published, broadcasted, or exhibited;
- ii. the date when the contract was entered into;
- iii. the name and signature of the person who placed the advertisement, regardless of whether said person is a contributor or donor, or the duly authorized representative of the candidate or party;
- iv. the name and signature of the candidate or party who will benefit from the advertisement as a sign of acceptance;
- v. the particulars of the political advertisement (e.g. the size of the advertisement as published on periodicals, duration of the advertisement as published on periodicals, duration of the advertisement in terms of airtime, frequency, number of spots, and program or timeslot, etc.);
- vi. the serial number of the official receipt issued to the candidate by the mass media entity; and
- vii. the amount or consideration paid for the advertisement contract.

It must likewise be supported by a copy of the official receipt issued to the contributor or donor, candidate, or representative of political party or partylist group who paid for the advertising contract.

b. *For Contractors and Business Firms:* Within thirty (30) days after the conduct of the election, every person or firm to whom any electoral expenditure has been made shall file a written Report of Contractors and Business Firms using the prescribed form which shall contain the following information and accompanied with the official receipt issued to the person with whom the contractor or business firm had transacted:

- i. The full name of the candidate who incurred such expenditures;
- ii. The nature or purpose of each expenditure;
- iii. The description of the goods or services provided by the contractor or business firm;
- iv. The date when the expenses were incurred;
- v. The amount or cost thereof;
- vi. The serial number of the official receipt, cash invoice, or other BIR-approved document issued.

Reportorial requirements shall apply to all contractors and business firms transacting or doing business in the Philippines, whether or not incorporated under the Philippine laws.

Social media associates including paid digital influencers and online content creators who use social media platforms to promote or defeat the election of any candidate, are considered individual contractors who are subject to reportorial requirements under this Section.

Agencies and other intermediaries between the media outlets or entities producing and placing online political advertisements and the candidate, political party or partylist group shall also submit a similar report.

The form and required contents for filing of the Report of Contractors and Business Firms may be downloaded from the Comelec website.

c. For Companies Providing Internet-related Services: Within the period provided by law, internet companies which includes social media companies, transacting or doing business in the Philippines, whether or not incorporated under the Philippine laws, which a candidate or party utilize to directly reach out to voters and mobilize support through the use of ads, paid promoted hashtags/trends, shall provide the CFO of the information or documents containing the following:

- i. The name of the candidate or party in the advertisement;
- ii. The name of the person or advertising agency /public relations firm who paid the advertisement;
- iii. Page Name or Account Name or Handle where the advertisement was posted, originated, or uploaded;
- iv. The particulars of the political advertisement; and
- v. The amount or cost of the advertisement

SECTION 12. *Fair and Accurate Reporting.* - All members of the news media, television, radio, print, or online, shall scrupulously report the news, taking care not to suppress essential facts or distort the truth by omission or improper emphasis. They shall recognize the duty to air the other side and the duty to correct substantive errors promptly and without prejudice to the right of said broadcast entities to air accounts of significant news or newsworthy events and views on matters of public interest.

SECTION 13. *Prohibition Against Suspension or Other Actions on the Franchise.* - No franchise or permit to operate a radio or television station shall be granted or issued, suspended or cancelled during the election period-

SECTION 14. *COMELEC Space and Time for Announcement of Candidates.* – The COMELEC shall procure print space and airtime as follows:

a. Print Space

The COMELEC, through the EID, shall procure print space upon payment of just compensation from at least three (3) national newspapers of general circulation, wherein candidates for national office can announce their candidacies. Such space shall be allocated free of charge equally and impartially among all candidates for national office on three different calendar days, as follows:

1 st day	Within the first week of the campaign period
2 nd day	Within the fifth week of the campaign period
3 rd day	Within the tenth week of the campaign period

b. Airtime

The COMELEC shall, through the EID, also procure free airtime from at least three (3) national and local television networks and three (3) national and local radio networks wherein candidates for national and local office can announce their candidacies.

Airtime shall be allocated free of charge equally and impartially to all candidates for national office on three (3) different calendar days, as follows:

1 st day	Within the first week of the campaign period
2 nd day	Within the fifth week of the campaign period
3 rd day	Within the tenth week of the campaign period

Each advertisement shall be for a maximum duration of thirty (30) seconds, or in the form of interviews or campaign speeches at time limits to be set by the COMELEC in consultation with the said candidates or the parties.

Costs of production for political advertisements shall be borne by the candidate or political party, but the speeches or interviews shall be free of charge and the moderator shall be a COMELEC Official, or one designated by the COMELEC for the purpose.

c. E-Rallies

The COMELEC, thru the EID shall provide a platform for free livestreaming of E-rallies of national candidates. E-rally airtime shall be allotted to each Presidential, Vice-Presidential, and Senatorial candidate, as well as to each Party-List Organization participating in the 2022 National and Local Candidates.

Presidential	10 minutes	3 slots/night
Vice-Presidential	10 minutes	3 slots/night
Senatorial	3 minutes	5 slots/night
Party-List Organization	3 minutes	5 slots/night
Political Parties	10 minutes	3 slots/night

Live streaming of e-rallies shall be conducted every night, beginning February 8, 2022, on the official social media channels of the COMELEC.

At the start of the Election Period, the EID shall release a schedule of e-rally time slots. There shall be three presidential and three vice presidential 10-minute slots every night. In addition, there shall be 5 senatorial 3-minute slots; and 10 PL 3-minute slots, per night.

The slots shall be assigned at random, based on the results of televised raffle of slots. The raffle shall take place on the 8th of January 2022.

The e-rally livestreams shall be posted on the COMELEC’s official social media pages. During each livestream, the candidate will be allowed to see live comments to his livestream. The candidate may or may not respond to live comments.

SECTION 15. *Space and Time for COMELEC Information Dissemination.* – The COMELEC shall furthermore procure print space and air time as follows:

a. Print Space

The COMELEC shall, through the RED, or in the case of the NCR, the EID, upon payment of just compensation, procure print space in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in every province or city which shall be known as **“COMELEC Space” to be utilized exclusively for public information** dissemination on election-related concerns. In the absence of said newspaper of general circulation, publication shall be done in any other magazine or periodical in the province or city.

b. Airtime

The COMELEC shall, through the RED, or in the case of the NCR, the EID, also procure airtime free of charge in at least one (1) major broadcasting station or **entity in every province or city which shall be known as “COMELEC Time” to be** utilized exclusively for public information dissemination on election-related concerns. In the absence of a major station or entity, broadcasting shall be done in any radio or television station in the province or city.

Each radio, television or broadcasting station chosen by the RED or the EID shall provide sixty (60) minutes daily.

SECTION 16. National Debates. – National television and radio networks shall sponsor at least three (3) national debates among presidential candidates and at least one (1) national debate among vice-presidential candidates. The debates among presidential candidates shall be scheduled on three different calendar days:

1st Debate	Within the first and second week of the campaign period for national position
2nd Debate	Within the fifth and sixth week of the campaign period for national position
3rd Debate	Within the tenth and eleventh week of the campaign period for national position

The sponsoring television or radio network may sell airtime for commercials and advertisements to interested advertisers and sponsors. The COMELEC shall promulgate rules and regulations for the holding of such debates.

SECTION 17. *Right to Reply.* - All registered parties and candidates shall have the right to reply to charges published or aired against them. The reply shall be given publicity by the newspaper, television, and/or radio station which first printed or aired the charges with the same prominence or in the same page or section, or in the same time slot as the first statement.

Registered parties and candidates may invoke the right to reply by submitting within a non-extendible period of thirty-six (36) hours from first broadcast or publication, a formal verified claim against the mass media entity to the COMELEC, through the appropriate RED, or in the case of the NCR, the EID. The claim shall include a detailed enumeration of the circumstances and occurrences which warrant the invocation of the right of reply and must be accompanied by supporting evidence, such as a copy of the publication or recording of the television or radio broadcast, as the case may be. The claimant must likewise furnish a copy of the verified claim and its attachments to the mass media entity concerned prior to the filing of the claim with the COMELEC.

The COMELEC, through the appropriate RED or the EID, shall review the formal verified claim within thirty-six (36) hours from receipt thereof, and if circumstances warrant, endorse the same to the mass media entity involved, which shall, within twenty-four (24) hours, submit its report to the RED or EID, as the case maybe, explaining the action it has taken to address the claim. The mass media entity must likewise furnish a copy of the said report to the claimant invoking the right to reply. Should the claimant insist that his/her right to reply was not addressed, he/she may file the appropriate petition and/or complaint before the Office of the Clerk of the Commission.

SECTION 18. *Rates for Political Propaganda.*⁴ - During the election period, media outlets shall give registered political parties and bona fide candidates a discounted rate for their election propaganda from the average of the published rates charged in the last three (3) calendar years prior to the election, as follows:

- a. For television – Fifty percent (50%);
- b. For radio – Forty percent (40%);
- c. For print - Ten percent (10%)

In no case shall rates charged to registered political parties and bona fide candidates be higher than rates charged to non-political advertisers.

Media outlets may give discounts higher than the above-mentioned rates. Provided, that the discount given to one candidate shall be the same given to other candidates for the same position.

For this purpose, media outlets shall submit on January 7, 2022 the average published rates charged in the last three calendar years prior to this elections.

It shall also submit a certification to the CFO that the above discounted rates or higher discounted rates were applied in charging the political parties, party list groups and coalitions or bona fide candidates on their election propaganda.

SECTION 19. *Regulation of Election Propaganda through Mass Media.* - In all instances, the COMELEC shall supervise the use and employment of press, radio, online, and television facilities insofar as the placement of political advertisements is concerned to ensure that candidates are given equal opportunity under equal circumstances to make known their qualifications and their stand on public issues within the limits set forth in the Omnibus Election Code, the Fair Election Act, and these Rules.

⁴ Commission on Elections, COMELEC Resolution No. 10517, Rules and Regulations Implementing the Fair Election Act in Relation to the May 11, 2019 Elections and Subsequent Elections, Republic Act No. 9006, (2019). *See also* Republic Act No. 11207

SECTION 20. *Posting of Campaign Materials.* – Parties and candidates may post lawful campaign material in:

- a. Authorized common poster areas in public places, subject to the requirements and/or limitations set forth in the next following section; and
- b. Private property, provided that the posting has the consent of the owner thereof and that the applicable provisions of Section 6 herein are complied with.

The posting of campaign materials in public places outside of the designated common poster areas, on private property without the consent of the owner, or in violation of Section 6 hereof, and in those places enumerated under Section 7 (f) of these Rules and the like, is prohibited. Persons posting the same shall be liable together with the candidates and other persons who caused the posting. It will be presumed that the candidates and parties caused the posting of campaign materials outside the common poster areas if they do not remove the same within three (3) days from notice issued by the Election Officer of the city or municipality where the election propaganda is posted or displayed. **(Annex “D” of COMELEC Resolution 9616, series of 2013)**

Members of the PNP and other law enforcement agencies called upon by the Election Officer or other COMELEC officials may file the appropriate charges against the violators of this Section.

SECTION 21. *Common Poster Areas.* –Parties and independent candidates may, upon authority of the COMELEC, through the City or Municipal Election Officer concerned, construct common poster areas, at their expense, wherein they can post, display, or exhibit their election propaganda to announce or further their candidacy subject to the following requirements and/or limitations:

- a. A common poster area does not refer to a post, a tree, the wall of a building or an existing public structure that is in active use, but a structure, the location and number of which are specified below, that is temporarily set up by the candidates for the exclusive purpose of displaying their campaign posters;
- b. In no instance shall an Election Officer designate as common poster areas, any trees, plants, shrubs located along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises or in any other public grounds. In cases where parties and candidates still persist in displaying, posting, or exhibiting their campaign or election propaganda on trees and plants, they shall be prosecuted for violation of these Rules, without prejudice to the institution of a criminal complaint for the violation of Republic Act No. 3571⁵;
- c. Each party and independent candidate, with prior consent from the COMELEC, may put up common poster areas in every barangay, subject to the following limitations:

5,000 registered voters or less	1 common poster area
For every increment of 5,000 registered voters, or a fraction thereof, thereafter	1 additional common poster area

⁵ An Act to Prohibit the Cutting, Destroying or Injuring of Planted or Growing Trees, Flowering Plants and Shrubs or Plants of Scenic Value Along Public Roads, in Plazas, Parks, School Premises or in Any Other Public Pleasure Ground, Republic Act 3571 (1963).

- d. Such common poster areas shall be allowed by the Election Officer only in selected public places such as plazas, markets, barangay centers and the like, where posters may be readily seen or read, and with the heaviest pedestrian and/or vehicular traffic in the city or municipality;
- e. The Election Officer shall make, and post in his office, a list of the common poster areas in each city or legislative district in said city or municipality, indicating therein their exact locations, and furnish each political party or candidate copies of **said list at the latter's expense, and also the Provincial Election Supervisor and the EID Director**;
- f. The Election Officer shall comply with his obligations in the immediately preceding paragraph not later than five (5) days before the start of the campaign period and failure to do so shall make him liable for gross neglect of duty;
- g. The size of each common poster area for candidates shall not exceed the following dimensions:
 - 1. *For political parties and party-list groups* – twelve (12) by sixteen (16) feet, or its equivalent but not exceeding a total area of 192 square feet; and
 - 2. *For independent candidates* - four (4) by six (6) feet or its equivalent but not exceeding a total area of twenty four (24) square feet.
- h. The sizes of individual posters that may be posted in each common poster area shall not exceed two (2) by three (3) feet. However, in case of space limitations, posters of candidates of political parties may be reduced to a uniform size to accommodate all candidates. This regulation is also violated by making single letters of names having the maximum size or lesser and then putting them together to form a size exceeding two (2) by three (3) feet;
- i. The common poster areas allocated to parties and independent candidates shall not be used by other parties and independent candidates even with the consent of the former;
- j. The common poster areas put up for party-list groups, organizations and/or coalitions thereof shall be allocated at the ratio of one (1) common poster area for every thirty-two (32) party-list groups, organizations and/or coalitions thereof;
- k. In case there are less than thirty-two (32) party-list groups, organizations and/or coalitions, applying to put up common poster areas, the Election Officer concerned shall reduce the size of the common poster area depending on the total number of applicants thereof, provided that each group is entitled to post one two (2) feet by three (3) feet poster;
- l. In case there are more than thirty-two (32) party-list groups, organizations and/or coalitions applying to put up the common poster areas, the Election Officer concerned shall determine the appropriate number and size of common poster areas to equitably accommodate the total number of applicants, subject to the provisions of the immediately two (2) preceding paragraphs;
- m. Parties and independent candidates shall file their applications to construct common poster areas with the Office of the City/Municipal Election Officer concerned within five (5) days from the effectivity of this Resolution; otherwise they must accept the listing prepared by the Election Officer;
- n. Within five (5) days after the elections and without need of notice, the parties and candidates who applied for the putting up of common poster areas shall tear down the same at their own expense and restore the site into its original

condition. Non-performance of this obligation shall be deemed a violation of the law and regulation on the observance of common poster areas for which the candidate or party concerned shall be liable;

- o. No lawful election propaganda materials shall be allowed outside the common poster areas except on private property with the consent of the owner or in such other places mentioned in these Rules and must comply with the allowable size (2ft x 3ft) requirements for posters. Any violation hereof shall be punishable as an election offense;
- p. In all cases, the parties shall agree among themselves how their individual posters in the common poster areas shall be placed. In case no agreement is reached, the Election Officer concerned shall determine said placement by drawing of lots.
- q. The Election Officer shall act on all applications for common poster areas within three (3) days from receipt thereof. For this purpose, he shall determine whether the proposed common poster area sites are public places with heavy pedestrian or vehicular traffic, or business or commercial centers, or densely populated areas, and equitably and impartially allocate the sites to ensure maximum exposure of the lawful propaganda materials of all parties and independent candidates.
- r. Any party or independent candidate aggrieved by the action of the Election Officer may appeal the same within two (2) days from receipt of the order of said Election Officer to:
 - 1. The Provincial Election Supervisors (PES); or
 - 2. The Regional Election Director (RED), in the case of the National Capital Region (NCR).
- s. The Provincial Election Supervisor (PES) or Regional Election Director (RED) concerned shall decide the appeal within two (2) days from receipt thereof, furnishing copies of the decision to the parties concerned and to the Law Department of the COMELEC. The decision shall be final and executory.

SECTION 22. *Establishment of Headquarters.* – Every registered political party, sectoral organization or coalition participating in the party-list system or candidate may be allowed to establish a limited number of headquarters subject to the following limitations:

- a. A registered party with national constituency and a national candidate may establish one (1) headquarters in each province or highly urbanized city;
- b. A registered political party with regional constituency may establish one (1) headquarters in each province or highly urbanized city in the region;
- c. A registered political party with provincial constituency and a provincial candidate may be allowed to establish one (1) headquarters in each municipality;
- d. Congressional candidates may be allowed to establish one (1) headquarters in the legislative district they seek to represent. Should their legislative district be composed of several municipalities, they may be allowed to establish one (1) headquarters per municipality;
- e. City candidates may be allowed to establish one (1) headquarters per councilor district;
- f. Municipal candidates may be allowed to establish one (1) headquarters for the entire municipality.

- g. Lawful election propaganda may be displayed at headquarters subject to the limitations provided in Sec. 7 (g) hereof.

SECTION 23. *Submission of List of Location of Headquarters.* – All parties and candidates shall submit within five (5) days from their establishment, the list showing the specific locations and addresses of all their headquarters, to the following offices:

- a. National parties and candidates – Law Department and EID
- b. Provincial parties and candidates – Provincial Election Supervisor
- c. City and Municipal parties and candidates – Election Officer
- d. Parties and Candidates in the NCR – Regional Election Director

The Official of the COMELEC in paragraph b, c, and d to whom the list of headquarters is submitted shall furnish copies thereof to the Law Department and the EID, within five (5) days from the receipt of the list.

SECTION 24. *Headquarters Signboard.* - Before the start of the campaign period, only one (1) signboard, not exceeding three (3) feet by eight (8) feet in size, identifying the place as the headquarters of the party or candidates is allowed to be displayed. Parties may put up the signboard announcing their headquarters not earlier than five (5) days before the start of the campaign period. Individual candidates may put up the signboard announcing their headquarters not earlier than the start of the campaign period. Only lawful election propaganda material may be displayed or posted therein and only during the campaign period.

SECTION 25. *Prohibition on the Removal, Destruction or Defacement of Lawful Election Propaganda.* - During the campaign period, it is unlawful for any person to remove, destroy, take down or, in any manner, deface or tamper with, or prevent the distribution of any lawful election propaganda enumerated in Section 6 hereof.

SECTION 26. *Removal, Confiscation, or Destruction of Prohibited Propaganda Materials.* - Any prohibited form of election propaganda shall be stopped, confiscated, removed, destroyed, or torn down by COMELEC representatives, at the expense of the candidate or political party for whose apparent benefit the prohibited election propaganda materials have been produced, displayed, and disseminated.

Any person, party, association, government agency may likewise report to the COMELEC any prohibited form of election propaganda for confiscation, removal, destruction and/or prevention of the distribution of any propaganda material on the ground that the same is illegal, as listed under Section 7 of this Resolution.

The COMELEC may, *motu proprio*, immediately order the removal, destruction and/or confiscation of any prohibited propaganda material, or those materials which contain statements or representations that are illegal.

SECTION 27. *Creation of Task Force to Tear Down and Remove Unlawful Election Materials.* - There is hereby created a task force in each city and municipality, to tear down and remove all unlawful election materials composed of the Election Officer as Chairman, the Chief of Police of the Philippine National Police (PNP) as Vice Chairman, and a representative from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) as Member. For NCR, a representative from the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) shall also be

designated as Member. The Chairman of the Task Force may include other agencies or organizations deputized by the COMELEC in the Task Force.

The Task Force shall have the following duties and functions:

- a. To tear down and remove campaign propaganda materials posted in public places outside the common poster areas;
- b. To tear down and remove all prohibited forms of campaign materials wherever posted or displayed;
- c. To monitor and watch out for persons posting or distributing said unlawful election paraphernalia; and
- d. To submit a report of said activities to the Office of the Regional Election Director (ORED).

SECTION 28. Removal, Confiscation, or Destruction of Prohibited Propaganda Materials. – Any prohibited form of election propaganda shall be summarily stopped, confiscated, removed, destroyed, or torn down by COMELEC representatives, at the expense of the candidate or political party for whose apparent benefit the prohibited election propaganda materials have been produced, displayed, and disseminated.

The Election Officer shall immediately prepare a notice to candidate or party of their violation on this section. Failure to remove the same within seventy-two (72) hours from notice, such candidate or party is presumed to be the owner or the person who causes such violation.

Any person, party, association, government agency may file with the COMELEC, through its field office, a petition to confiscate, remove, destroy and/or stop the distribution of any propaganda material on the ground that the same is offensive to public morals, libelous, illegal, or subversive.

The COMELEC, after summary hearing shall resolve the petition within three (3) days from the time it is submitted for decision. Where the parties concerned cannot be contacted or are unknown or refuse to appear at the hearing, the COMELEC may decide the petition ex parte.

The COMELEC, may motu proprio, immediately order the removal, destruction and/or confiscation of any prohibited

SECTION 29. Removal of Prohibited Propaganda Materials Before the Start of the Campaign Period. - All prohibited forms of election propaganda as described in Section 7 of these Rules shall be immediately removed, or caused to be removed, by said candidate or party before the start of the campaign period.

The prohibited forms of propaganda contemplated in this Section include any names, images, logos, brands, insignias, initials, and other forms of identifiable graphical representations placed by incumbent officials on any public structures or places as enumerated in Section 7 (g) of these Rules.

SECTION 30. Election Surveys. - During the election period, any person, whether natural or juridical, candidate or organization may conduct an election survey. Should they decide to publish the said survey for public consumption, they must likewise publish the following information:

- a. The name of the person, candidate, party or organization that commissioned, paid for, or subscribed to the survey;
- b. The name of the person, polling firm or survey organization who conducted the survey;
- c. The period during which the survey was conducted, the methodology used, including the number of individual respondents and the areas from which they were selected, and the specific questions asked;
- d. The margin of error of the survey;
- e. For each question where the margin of error is greater than that reported under paragraph d, the margin of error for that question; and
- f. A mailing address and telephone number at which the sponsor can be contacted to obtain a written report regarding the survey in accordance with the next succeeding paragraph.

The survey together with the raw data gathered to support its conclusions shall be available for inspection, copying and verification by the COMELEC. Any violation of this Section shall constitute an election offense.

SECTION 31. *Exit Polls.* - Exit polls may only be taken subject to the following requirements:

- a. Pollster shall not conduct their surveys within thirty (30) meters from the voting center;
- b. Pollsters shall wear distinctive clothing and prominently wear their identification cards issued by the organization they represent;
- c. Pollsters shall inform the voters that they may refuse to answer; and
- d. The results of the exit polls may be announced after the closing of the polls on election day, and must identify the total number of respondents, and the places where they were taken. Said announcement shall state that the same is unofficial and does not represent a trend.
- e. Both the pollster and the voter asked shall wear face mask and face shield during the entire interview;
- f. The polls shall be conducted without the pollster and the voter touching each other;
- g. Pollster must ask only short and necessary questions strictly observing at least one meter physical distancing;
- h. Polls shall be done in strict observance of proper respiratory (sneeze and cough) etiquette;
- i. Voter shall go immediately leave the place after the conduct of the exit polls;
- j. The conduct of the exit polls shall not block the ingress to and egress from the voting center of other voters or cause any traffic of either car or people or crowding of people; and
- k. Both pollster and voter shall strictly observe the minimum public health standards and protocols based on the level of quarantine status prevailing in the geographical area concerned at the time of the conduct of the exit polls.

SECTION 32. *Application for Permit to Hold Public Meetings, Rallies or Other Political Activities.* - All applications for permits to hold public meetings, rallies and other similar political activities shall be filed with the authorized city or municipal official who shall acknowledge receipt thereof in writing. Immediately after its filing, the application shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the city hall or municipal building.

The official before whom the application is filed shall submit to the Election Officer concerned on the first working day of each week the list of applications, if any, filed during the previous week and the action taken thereon.

SECTION 33. *Action on Application for Permit.* - Within three (3) days after the filing of an application for permit to hold public meetings, rallies or other political activities, the local authority concerned shall act in writing on said application. Any application not acted upon within three (3) days from the date of its filing shall be deemed approved.

In acting on the application, the approving official shall give all candidates and parties equal and fair opportunity as to date, time and place, to hold public political meetings or rallies. In the last week of the campaign period, all independent candidates and parties shall be entitled to hold at least one public meeting or rally, in the public plaza or place where public political meetings or rallies are usually held.

An application for permit shall be denied only on the ground that a prior written application by another candidate or party has been approved. Denial of any application may be appealed to the Provincial Election Supervisor or to the Regional Election Director, for cases in the National Capital Region, who shall decide the same within forty-eight (48) hours after the filing of the appeal, and shall give notice of the decision to the parties. The decision shall be final and executory.

SECTION 34. *Affidavit of Compliance with Health Protocols.* – Within 24 hours after the conclusion of any in-person campaign activity, the campaign organizing staff shall submit a notarized Affidavit of Compliance with Health Protocols to the COMELEC with territorial jurisdiction over the place where the in-person campaign activity was conducted.

Failure to submit an Affidavit of Compliance with Health Protocols shall constitute non-cooperation of the person or entities punishable under Section 9 par. (d) or (e), as the case may be, of Republic Act No. 11332, otherwise known as the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. (As introduced by Paragraph C of IATF Resolution no. 106-B, March 28, 2021)

SECTION 35. *Prohibited Acts During Public Meetings.* - It is unlawful for any candidate, party or any person to give or accept, free of charge, directly or indirectly, transportation, food and drinks, or anything of value during and within the five (5) hours before and after a public meeting, or to give or contribute, directly or indirectly, money or things of value for such purpose.

It shall likewise be unlawful for any candidate, party, or any person to act in a manner that violate the minimum health and safety protocols, and other applicable guidelines prescribed by the COMELEC and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases.

SECTION 36. *E-rallies and Livestreams Allowed.* - Any political party or any candidate, individually or jointly with other aspirants, may hold peaceful online political meetings, rallies or other similar activities during the campaign period. Such online political meetings, rallies, and similar activities are not covered by the limitations on broadcast advertising.

Live streaming on the candidates' social media platforms shall be considered a form of e-rally, subject to the following rules:

- a. All e-rallies shall include a disclosure that identifies it as a political meeting or rally, confirms compliance with minimum health protocols, and providing the relevant date, time, and location information. For this purpose, a live stream on the candidate's social media platforms shall be considered a political meeting or rally.
- b. Recordings of e-rallies shall be submitted to the Education and Information Department of the COMELEC within 72 hours from the airing of the same.
- c. Candidates may receive in-platform gifts and game currency but shall not be allowed to give gifts to livestream audiences, nor to run promotions and campaigns that will award in-platform gifts or game currency to platform users and livestream audiences.

SECTION 37. *Mass Media Columnist, Announcer or Personality Running for Public Office or is a Campaign Volunteer.* - Any mass media columnist, commentator, announcer, or reporter who is a candidate for any elective public office, a party-list nominee, or is a campaign volunteer for or employed or retained in any capacity by any candidate or party shall be deemed resigned, if so required by their employer, or shall take a leave of absence from his/her work as such during the campaign period; Provided, that after he/she has filed his certificate of candidacy but before the campaign period, it shall be his/her obligation not to use his media work for premature election campaign or partisan political activity: Provided, finally, that any media practitioner who, while not himself a candidate, is an official of a political party or a member of the campaign staff of a candidate or party shall not use his/her time or space to favor any candidate or party.

SECTION 38. *Deputation* - The COMELEC hereby deputizes the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) and enlist the assistance of Kapisanan ng mga Brodkasters ng Pilipinas (KBP), to assist the Commission, in coordination with the EID, in the dissemination of these Rules.

The COMELEC hereby deputizes local government units (LGUs), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to assist the Commission in removing and tearing down of unlawful election propaganda materials without any partiality and to provide facilities and/or equipment necessary in tearing down of illegal propaganda materials and perform such other duties and functions as the Commission may prescribe from time to time.

SECTION 39. *Applicability to Filipino Overseas Voting.* – This Resolution shall apply in a suppletory character wherever applicable to all resolutions on campaigning abroad under Republic Act No. 9189⁶, as amended by Republic Act 10590⁷. The rules on campaigning for abroad shall be issued separately.

Section 40. *Covid-19 Preventive Measures, Health and Safety Protocols.* The following measures and those issued pursuant to the guidelines published by the National Government, DOH, IATF-EID / MEID and Local Government Unit concerned, shall be observed at all times in all activities covered by this Resolution, including, but not limited to:

⁶ An Act Providing for a System of Overseas Absentee Voting by Qualified Citizens of the Philippines Abroad, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes [The Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003], Republic Act 9189 (2003) (as amended).

⁷ *Id.*

1. Wearing of face mask and face shield;
2. One-meter physical distancing;
3. Frequent disinfection of hands; and
4. Proper cough and sneezing etiquette.

SECTION 41. *Election Offense.* - Any violation of Fair Elections Act and these Rules shall constitute an election offense punishable under the first and second paragraph of Section 264 of the Omnibus Election Code and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations, whenever applicable. The Commission shall, through its duly authorized legal officers, have the power, concurrent with other prosecuting arms of the government, to conduct preliminary investigation of all election offenses and prosecute the same.

SECTION 42. *Effectivity.* - This Resolution shall take effect on the seventh (7th) day after its publication in two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines. This Resolution supersedes all previous resolutions inconsistent herewith.

SECTION 43. *Publication and Dissemination.* - The Education and Information Department shall cause the publication of this Resolution in at least two (2) daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, post the resolution in the COMELEC website, and furnish copies thereof to all field offices of the COMELEC-

SO ORDERED.

SHERIFF M. ABAS
Chairman

MA. ROWENA AMELIA V. GUANZON
Commissioner

SOCORRO B. INTING
Commissioner

MARLON S. CASQUEJO
Commissioner

ANTONIO T. KHO, JR.
Commissioner

AIMEE P. FEROLINO
Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

APPROVED by the Commission En Banc during its regular online meeting on **November 17, 2021**, pursuant to Comelec Resolution No. 10671, "Supplemental Resolution No. 9936 promulgated March 25, 2015, Rule on the Enactment and Promulgation of Executive or Administrative Resolutions providing for other format of meetings to include online meetings applicable in times of the COVID-19 pandemic and the imposition of Community Quarantines and similar emergency situations."


ATTY. CONSUELO B. DIOLA
Acting Comelec Secretary