Barangay and SK campaign period starts today

- The official campaign period officially starts today, October 14. Commission on Elections (Comelec) Resolution No. 9043 states that the campaign period for the October 25 polls is from October 14 to October 23, 2010. The posting of campaign materials in public places outside of the designated common poster areas such as streets, bridges, public structures or buildings, trees, electric posts or wires, schools, shrines, main thoroughfares and the like is prohibited. The campaign materials should be according to the prescribed size. For flyers 8 ½ x 14 inches, for posters 2x3 feet and for streamers 3x8 feet.

Also, Comelec Resolution No. 9019 prohibits the use of armored land, water, air craft; appointing or using special policemen, special and confidential agents or the like; and construction or maintenance of provincial, city, municipal or barangay-funded roads and bridges. Any violation of the said resolution shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than one year but not more than six (6) years and shall not be subject to probation. In addition, the guilty party shall also be disqualified to hold public office and deprived of the right of suffrage.

NAMFREL voters’ education materials for Barangay and SK elections

- NAMFREL will be distributing voters’ education materials to its provincial chapters for voters’ consumption. The materials cover the following topics: qualification of a leader; importance of the barangay; politicization of the barangay; revenue and its utilization; the essence of the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK); and Election Day guidelines. NAMFREL hopes that the flyers could enlighten voters in the importance of participating in the election and help them decide intelligently in whom to vote for. These materials will be sent also in soft copies to allow each chapter to reproduce, translate them into their own language or dialect. NAMFREL also encourages the chapters to send reports or any irregularities of the polls in their area. To send reports call (02) 4847590; SMS 09279611524 (Globe), 09193389344 (Smart); or they can send photos and videos through the NAMFREL website email www.namfrel.com.ph/inamfrel/sendreport.htm or through email bantayngbayan@namfrel.com.ph

NAMFREL - DOH Medicine Monitoring Project updates

- NAMFREL observers attended a Pre-Bid conference on October 8, 2010 at the Rizal Medical Center (RMC, Pasig City) in connection with the repair and renovation projects at the Center. The projects Approve Budget for the Contract (ABC) is worth Php 26,647,028.96. A total of eight (8) bidders attended the proceedings. This monitoring is in line with NAMFREL’s and the Department of Health’s (DOH) Medicine Monitoring Project, which covers the monitoring of not only the procurement of drugs and medicine, but also infrastructure and consulting services. The observers are of the opinion that the pre-bid conference followed the procedures stipulated in the bidding documents as well as the government-prescribed rules of procurement (GPRRA no. 9184). A detailed report on the activities observed shall be submitted by the NAMFREL observers to the RMC’s Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat at the end of the bidding process.

[Sources: Manila Bulletin, COMELEC data, NAMFREL data]

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