



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20  
Series of 2013

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER MAKING GENERAL SANTOS CITY A GUN-FREE ZONE DURING THE DURATION OF THE 2013 TUNA FESTIVAL CELEBRATION AND OTHER MATTERS.

WHEREAS, General Santos City is currently celebrating the 15<sup>th</sup> Tuna Festival which annual event had commenced last August 15, 2013 and will continue until September 15, 2013;

WHEREAS, from the intelligence reports gathered and proximity to the city of those places where the series of bombing incidents took place just this recent, the Honorable Members of the 17<sup>th</sup> Sanggunian of the City on August 27, 2013 took the cudgels of declaring the entire city into a gun-free zone for the remaining days of the 15<sup>th</sup> Tuna Festival celebration, prohibiting therefore the carrying of firearms within the city perimeter especially in areas where the activities of the Tuna Fest is being held;

WHEREAS, the City Mayor, being the deputized representative of the National Police Commission, is expressly granted the general and operational control and supervision over local police forces in the city in accordance with R.A. No. 6975 per Section 455 (b)(2)(v) of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Philippine National Police Memorandum Circular No. 2010-008, Rationalizing the Policies on Possession, Bearing and Carrying of Firearms, Local Government Units are encouraged to declare their respective territorial jurisdiction as "gun-free zone";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **RONNEL C. RIVERA**, City Mayor of General Santos City, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law and by the sovereign will of the people, do hereby order:

**SECTION 1. FULL AND INTENSIFIED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIREARMS LAWS.** General Santos City being a gun-free zone from August 27, 2013 to September 15, 2013 in connection with the city's celebration of this year's Tuna Fest, the Philippine National Police and all other law enforcement agencies are therefore directed to fully and intensify the implementation of RA 9516, otherwise known as "Codifying the laws on Illegal/Unlawful Possession, Manufacture, Dealing In, Acquisition or Disposition, of firearms, Ammunition or Explosives or Instruments Used in the Manufacture of Firearms, ammunition or Explosives, and Imposing Stiffer Penalties for Certain Violations Thereof and for Relevant Purposes," amending PD 1866, and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

**SECTION 2. PERIMETER CHECKPOINTS AND BODILY SEARCH OF PUBLIC IN GENERAL.** The PNP and other law enforcement agencies of the government are therefore directed to conduct regular and stiffer perimeter checkpoints, and conduct, as the situation may warrant, lawful body search of the public in general, especially in places where the activities of the Tuna Fest is being held.

**SECTION 3. SCRUTINY OF PEOPLE IN POSSESSION OF FIREARMS; ARREST FOR PROSECUTION OF VIOLATORS.** In case anyone is found in possession and/or carrying firearms outside of his residence, the apprehending officer shall ask the person of his authority to possess and/or carry the same, and if found wanting of the necessary license shall be arrested immediately and accosted to the nearest police precinct for their proper prosecution in court.

**SECTION 3. CONSISTENT POLICE VISIBILITY.** The City Police Office, through the City Director, is directed to assign on the regular basis PNP personnel in public places especially in areas where the Tuna Fest activities are being held to enforce this Order.

**SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All orders, memoranda, rules and regulations, or any part(s) thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby revoked or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Order not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY.** This order shall take effect immediately.

Done this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 2013 in General Santos City, Philippines.



**RONNEL C. RIVERA**  
City Mayor