



P N P News Release

Authority : Philippine National Police
Public Information Office, Camp Crame, Quezon City
Tel: +6327253179 Fax: +6327255115
Date : 27 October 2000

STIFF PENALTIES FOR UNAUTHORIZED USE OF PNP UNIFORMS, INSIGNIAS

President Estrada has issued Executive Order No. 297, prohibiting the unauthorized manufacture, sale, distribution and use of uniforms, insignias, and other accoutrements of the Philippine National Police.

The regulation was prompted by persistent reports of the rampant unauthorized production and misuse of PNP uniforms and insignias.

EO 297, in effect, complements Article 179 of the Revised Penal Code (RA 3815) which penalizes "any person who shall publicly and improperly make use of insignia, uniforms or dress pertaining to an office not a member."

The Executive Order gives more teeth to Article 179 by including illegal manufacture, sale and distribution in the prohibition.

In signing the Order, the Chief Executive noted that PNP uniforms and insignias are easily available to any person including unscrupulous and lawless individuals who make a mockery of their use of unlawful purpose or personal gain.

"The use or wearing of PNP uniforms, insignias and other accoutrements projects at the very first instance an identity that establishes a distinctive recognition to every policeman and the PNP," according to the President.

EO 297 orders the "immediate closure of the establishment, plant or office where the uniforms and other items are illegally manufactured, stored, sold or distributed."

The erring establishment also faces cancellation of its business license or permit, and the confiscation of all paraphernalia used or intended to be used in the manufacture, sale and distribution.

Only those establishments which are accredited by the PNP and the National Historical Institute are authorized to manufacture, sell or distribute PNP uniforms and insignias.

The Executive Order also directs the PNP to adopt its own uniforms, insignias and other accoutrements for the exclusive use of its personnel subject to inspection and acceptance procedures of the PNP with each design and specification approved by the PNP Uniform and Equipment Standardization Board (UESB).

PNP Spokesman, Senior Superintendent Nicanor A Bartolome announced, the PNP now formulating the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for the effective implementation of EO 297.