



P N P News Release

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PGMA lauds PNP for anti-kidnap drive **NEW ANTI-CRIME**

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo today commended Philippine National Police for the arrest of five suspects behind the kidnapping of a school principal in Mindoro Oriental.

The Chief Executive was in Camp Crame today to personally assess the progress of the PNP's renewed campaign against kidnapping and other heinous crimes.

The president sited the successful police operation that led to the arrest of five kidnapers of public school head Romeo Bayanay who was snatched last July 1 in Bongabong, Oriental Mindoro.

PNP Chief Deputy Director General Hermogenes E Ebdane Jr reported to the president that the five suspects were arrested in a series of operations launched July 6 and 8 by the PNP Intelligence Group Under Chief Superintendent Robert Delfin.

During the visit, the Chief PNP Briefed the President on the initial results of the ongoing validation workshop on kidnap-for-ransom groups in the PNP's target list.

The PNP is continuously validating and updating information on at least 21 KFR groups listed in its Order of Battle.

But Ebdane explained the the PNP is initially focusing on two of the more notorious syndicates-- the Bocala and Fajardo groups which were tagged as responsible for some of the latest kidnapping incidents in Metro Manila.

Later in a news conference, Ebdane announced the creation of the Police Anti-Crime Emergency Response (PACER), a police unit dedicated to special operations against syndicate crime particularly kidnapping for ransom.

Ebdane said the PACER is the re-constituted composite PNP, Armed Forces and National Bureau of Investigation task force against organized Crime.

The Organization and composition of the Pacer is still being finalized, but its creation has been approved in principle by the president, Ebdane said.