



## **P N P News Release**

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### **PNP MOVES TO INSURE SAFETY IN THE FIRECRACKER INDUSTRY**

The Philippine National Police met today with leading manufacturers and dealers of firecracker and pyrotechnic products to discuss the strict implementation of government regulation to insure safety in the industry.

PNP Chief, Director General Hermogenes E Ebdane Jr. earlier directed the strict implementation of existing rules to regulate the manufacture, distribution, sale and use of firecrackers and pyrotechnic products to minimize related injuries, which has been a perennial experience at the onset of the holiday season.

A meeting in Camp Crame was presided today by Chief Superintendent Wilfredo Garcia, PNP Deputy Director for Operations, with representatives from the Philippine Pyrotechnic Manufacturers and Dealers Association Inc. (PPMDAI).

Also present in the meeting were Senior Superintendent Geary Barias, Chief of the PNP Firearms and Explosives Office (FED), and representatives from the PNP Civil Security Group.

According to Garcia, preparations and coordination are being made this early to insure the safety measures are observed in the manufacture of firecrackers to preclude accidents.

During the meeting, PNP and PPMDAI officials raised some apprehension over the decrease in number of local licensed manufacturers in the country.

They are concerned that some manufacturers may have gone "underground" for failure to comply with the strict licensing requirements.

Garcia said further coordination will be made with the Department of Health, local government units, and other government agencies to insure success of the campaign for a safe observance of the holiday season.

This year, the PNP will again implement the setting up of "firecracker safety zones" to minimize injuries and damages.

Since the adoption of "firecracker safety zones" last year, the PNP noted a significant decrease in firecracker related injuries.