

Republic of the Philippines Province of Pangasinan MUNICIPALITY OF BAYAMBANG

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 24

Series of 2023

"INSTITUTING THE POLICY ON THE UTILIZATION OF EMERGENCY AMBULANCE AND PATIENT TRANSPORT VEHICLES OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAYAMBANG, PANGASINAN AND REPEALING E.O. 61 series of 2022 FOR THIS PURPOSE"

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Constitution, declares that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, seeks to ensure that all Filipino are guaranteed equitable access to quality and affordable health care goods and services and are protected against financial risk;

WHEREAS, the Ambulance and Patient Transport Vehicle (PTV) services of the Municipality of Bayambang have made significant contributions to Bayambangueños, more particularly in emergency cases, by providing timely response and total quality service to those in need of it;

WHEREAS, the utilization of the ambulance vehicles is often misused to the detriment of the greater public. Even in situations that cannot be considered as emergency, people tend to request for ambulance services;

WHEREAS, the Barangay Officials, considered as the extension lines of the Local Government Unit and as a partner in the delivery of basic health services to the people in their localities, could also provide for the necessary transportation of patients in any medical health facilities in cases where the situation cannot be considered as emergency;

WHEREAS, Ambulance and PTV services are generally not allowed to transport patients outside of Pangasinan as the availability thereof within the Municipality is greatly needed by Bayambangueños;

WHEREAS, a policy must be passed for the proper utilization of Ambulance and PTV services so as not to defeat its primary purpose of providing health services exclusively for emergency cases.

"Baley ko, Pawilen ko, Aroen ko, tan Tulangan ko"





NOW THEREFORE, I, MARY CLARE JUDITH PHYLLIS JOSE-QUIAMBAO, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Bayambang, Pangasinan, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby order the promulgation of the policy on the utilization of ambulance vehicles, as follows:

SECTION I. PURPOSE.

This policy prescribes the procedures and guidelines governing the utilization of the ambulance and PTV services for the constituents of the Municipality of Bayambang.

SECTION II. OBJECTIVES.

- a. To ensure proper and efficient utilization of the Ambulance and PTV services during emergency and non-emergency cases.
- b. To monitor and see to it, as much as practicable, ambulance and PTV services are available to those who genuinely need them.
- c. To lengthen the serviceable life of the ambulance and PTV vehicles.
- d. To prohibit improper usage of Ambulance and PTVs like:
 - Ambulance and PTVs are being used by public officials or employees as office service vehicle or for personal use and other purposes.
 - Transporting cadavers to any point in Pangasinan.
 - Bringing back a patient from the hospital to his/her home, unless the Local Chief Executive or the Head of BPSO or attending physician requires an ambulance for the said purpose.

SECTION III. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

- a. Emergency Ambulance (Ambulance) a vehicle specially equipped for taking sick or injured people to and from the hospital, especially in emergencies.
- b. Patient Transport Vehicle (PTV) a vehicle for transporting patients to, from or between places of medical treatment, such as hospital or dialysis center, for non-urgent care. These can be vans, buses, or other vehicles designed for the purpose.
- c. Lay Rescuer someone who responds in emergencies and has met the training standards to perform a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

SECTION IV. GENERAL POLICY.

In order to effectively and efficiently utilize ambulance and PTV vehicles during emergency and non-emergency cases, the following guidelines shall be strictly observed:

1. All requests for Ambulance or PTV services within the Municipality of Bayambang or Province of Pangasinan, including those coming from different LGU offices (e.g. RHUs) shall be submitted to, processed, and approved by Bayambang Public Safety Office (BPSO). Provided, however, that in

emergency cases requiring ambulance transportation services whether within or outside of the Municipality of Bayambang or in any case as determined by the Local Chief Executive, request for ambulance services may be directly addressed to and outrightly approved or authorized by either the Local Chief Executive herself, the Municipal Administrator, or the Head of BPSO.

- 2. In general, ambulance services shall be availed of only in **emergency cases** which shall include, but not limited to, transporting a sick person in a critical or urgent situation necessitating prompt medical attention or intervention or an individual seriously injured by any man-made or natural incident.
 - 2.1 Except as authorized by either the Local Chief Executive, Municipal Administrator or the Head of BPSO, all patients with emergency cases shall be brought first to the Bayambang District Hospital (BDH) or the nearest medical facility or hospital within Bayambang. Thereafter, the attending doctor or resident physician on duty, upon assessment, shall recommend if transfer of the patients to any other hospital within or outside Pangasinan is proper.
 - 2.2 Should transfer be recommended, ambulance services may be extended to cater for the situation.
- 3. In **non-emergency cases**, the BPSO shall first endorse the request for transportation services to the concerned barangay officials for possible accommodation. Only when no such transportation services are available in the barangay that BPSO may recommend the services of the municipality's ambulance or PTV, whichever is appropriate and immediately disposable, to transport those patients who are bedridden or disabled and needing medical attention to BDH or nearest medical facility or hospital in Bayambang. In any other non-emergency cases, ambulance or PTV services may be availed of upon recommendation and endorsement by any authorized Rural Health Unit (RHU) doctor.
- 4. Ambulance or PTV services in both emergency and non-emergency cases shall be limited to dropping off of patients to the proper medical facility or hospital so as not to impede the availability of the transportation services for other emergency and non-emergency cases.
- 5. Except when permitted by the Local Chief Executive or Municipal Administrator or the Head of BPSO, or as recommended by the attending physician, ambulance or PTV services will not be allowed to be used to pick up a patient from the hospital back to his/her residence. Such request may instead be endorsed to and accommodated by the concerned barangay officials using their barangay's transportation services.

- 6. The general management, operation, maintenance and dispatch of the ambulance and PTV shall be transferred to and be the exclusive responsibility of BPSO, notwithstanding, the requirements for operating the ambulance shall still be sourced from the MDRRMO (e.g., driver, lay rescuer, fuel, and maintenance, among others).
- 7. A non-indigent patient requesting PTV services in non-emergency cases shall be required to pay **toll fees** and **fuel** as may be applicable. The fees to be paid for by the non-indigent patient shall be determined by the Local Finance Committee and shall be incorporated into the Local Revenue Code or any other appropriate ordinance.

SECTION V. USE OF AMBULANCE VEHICLES IN NON-EMERGENCY CASES.

Use of ambulance vehicles in non-emergency cases may be allowed in the following:

- a. Medical outreach mission.
- b. Relief and rescue operation.
- c. Transporting medical care providers as requested by the Municipal Health Unit (MHU), Rural Health Units (RHUs) or as required by the Local Chief Executive for the delivery of basic health services.

SECTION VI. REQUEST FOR AMBULANCE AND PTV SERVICES.

- a. Except as provided herein, all requests for ambulance and PTV services, including those coming from the LGU offices (e.g., RHUs), shall be coursed and submitted to the Bayambang Public Safety Office (BPSO) for approval. All such requests should be treated urgently and should be processed within such reasonable time.
- b. The utilization of an ambulance vehicle or PTV shall be supported by a proper and approved request with **Authority to Travel** and **Trip Tickets**. Drivers must be aware of all required documents before travelling.
- c. Requesting party shall provide request from an attending physician to transport patients in an ambulance or medical certificate stating therein the needs of ambulance vehicle.

SECTION VII. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

a. Drivers must:

1. Ensure the ambulance is in top running condition.

- 2. Be responsible for the regular maintenance of cleanliness and ensure that the ambulance is decontaminated before and after patients and medical care provider's transport.
- 3. Always drive safely and always check the patient-passenger's safety belt.
- 4. Not to be under the influence of liquor or prohibited substance.

b. Lay Rescuers shall:

- 1. Perform initial emergency medical care to the patient.
- 2. Determine and assign the level of priority of the call and take notes on the logbook.
- 3. Immediately relay the emergency cases to the Action Center or hotline.
- 4. Receive and respond to a variety of emergency calls and complaints.
- 5. Always identify the type of equipment or apparatus to be dispatched.
- 6. Always accompany dispatched Ambulance Vehicles.

SECTION VIII, ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

- a. All movements of an ambulance and PTV shall be coordinated to the BPSO Action Center for proper disposition.
- b. Dispatched rescuers must always submit reports with picture of all activities related to the evacuation of patients and other necessary documents needed.
- c. Driver and lay rescuers must be in complete uniform along with their issued ID.

SECTION IX. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of the Executive Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION X. REPEALING CLAUSE. E.O. 61 series of 2022, and all other orders, rules, regulations and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Order, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION XI. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This executive order shall take effect immediately and will continue until amended or revoked.

Let copies of this Order be furnished to all concerned departments/ offices and agencies for their guidance and information.

Done in the Municipality of Bayambang, Pangasinan, this day of 28th March 2023.

HON. MARY CLARE JUDITH PHYLLIS JOSE-QUIAMBAO
Municipal Mayor

