



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 36, SERIES OF 2021

AN ORDER PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL ESSENTIAL AND INDISPENSABLE GUIDELINES TO CURTAIL THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN THE CITY OF SORSOGON AND DIRECTING THE STRICT IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF

WHEREAS, in its latest bulletin, the Department of Health (DOH) has placed the Province of Sorsogon under Alert Level 4 – High Risk Category on account of the surge in the number of Covid-19 cases in the locality;

WHEREAS, random sampling conducted by same agency has detected the presence of the highly-transmissible Delta Variant in the City of Sorsogon and in the neighboring Municipality of Prieto-Diaz;

WHEREAS, the presence of the more transmissible Delta Variant as compared to the other variants in the city poses a threat to the community thereby requiring a much stricter implementation of mandatory health protocols;

WHEREAS, despite stringent measures, Sorsogon City continues to register an escalating number of Covid-19 positive cases, with an average of twenty two (22) new cases per day since the onset of September, 2021;

WHEREAS, the City of Sorsogon recorded a total number of seventeen (17) deaths in the month of August, 2021 and registered ten (10) deaths within the first thirteen (13) days of September prompting the Local IATF to conduct an emergency meeting and recommend the implementation of additional guidelines to restrain the spread of COVID19;

WHEREAS, there is a need to restrict the movement of people to curtail the transmission of the virus, facilitate the conduct of active case finding and contact tracing and so as not to overburden the healthcare system as well as to essentially reduce chances of transmission in the community;

NOW THEREFORE, I, MA. ESTER E. HAMOR, Mayor of the City of Sorsogon, by the powers vested in me by law, in line with the mandate to ensure and support the promotion of health and safety of our people, do hereby order the strict implementation of additional essential and indispensable guidelines to curtail the spread of COVID19, as follows:

Section 1. IMPOSITION OF A WEEKEND LOCKDOWN IN THE CITY OF SORSOGON. All barangays in the City of Sorsogon shall be placed under lockdown on weekends to restrict unnecessary movement of people and to facilitate an efficient and expeditious contact tracing. Only healthcare workers, frontliners, essential workers and authorized persons outside of residences and those seeking essential medical services shall be allowed to leave their respective residences/communities on weekends.

Authorized Persons Outside of Residence (APORs), as defined by the Inter – Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases shall include but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Persons traveling to access essential goods and services and for medical or humanitarian reasons, including those leaving their residence to be vaccinated (with proof of schedule);
2. Employees/workers of public and private hospitals, health emergency and frontline services, including those working in hospital, dialysis centers, chemotherapy centers, HMOs/ health insurance providers, as well as disaster risk reduction management officers, public safety officers, and uniformed personnel;
3. Employees/ workers in industries involved in agriculture, forestry, fishery, and such other components of the food value chain and their workers, including farmers and fisherfolks;

4. Employees/ workers of logistics service providers;
5. Employees/ workers in essential priority construction projects, whether public or private, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), including contractors, subcontractors, and consultants of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) for the construction of the "Build Build Build" flagship infrastructure projects;
6. Employees/ workers in essential retail trade and service establishments such as public markets, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies or drug stores, hardware, office supplies, bicycle shops, laundry shops, and water-refilling stations;
7. Employees/workers in food preparation establishments such as kiosks, commissaries, restaurants and eateries;
8. Public transport providers and public utility vehicle operators, and their workers (i.e. Drivers, Conductors, Terminal Workers);
9. Employees/ workers in banks, money transfer services, including pawn shops (only for money transfer functions), microfinance institutions, and credit cooperatives, including their armored vehicle services;
10. Employees/ workers of water utilities including their third-party contractors and service providers, building utility services, janitorial/sanitation services and facilities including waste disposal services and property management services;
11. Employees/ workers in energy sector establishments (oil, gas and power companies) and their third-party contractors and service providers including electric transmission and distribution, electric power plant and line maintenance, electricity market and retail suppliers, and those involved in the exploration, operations trading, and delivery of any kind of fuel to produce power, such as gasoline stations, refineries, liquefied petroleum gas stations, and depots;
12. Employees/ workers in telecommunications companies, internet service providers, cable television providers, including those who perform indirect services such as technical, sales, and other support personnel, as well as the employees of their third-party contractors doing sales, installation, maintenance, and repair works;
13. Employees/ workers involved in the repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment;
14. Employees/ workers involved in the repair and maintenance of motorized and non-motorized vehicles, including the sale of spare parts;
15. Teachers, Professors, and other staff for purposes of conducting online/offline and flexible classes, completion of grades, and processing of student credentials, requirements, and documents;
16. Lawyers only when required to provide on-site legal representation necessary to protect rights of persons, whether natural or juridical;
17. Employees/ workers in agencies and instrumentalities of the government required to work on-site, including government officials and employees on official travel;
18. Employees/ workers of hotels and accommodation establishments under pertinent rules of the Department of Tourism (DOT);
19. Pastors, priest, rabbis, imams, or other religious ministers and their assistants conducting religious services in their place of worship as long as they comply with the existing policy mandating thirty percent (30%) seating capacity only;
20. Payroll managers and other employees required for the processing of payroll;
21. Persons going to and from the airport including Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) carrying Overseas Employment Certificates;

Essential travel shall be limited to the following:

- a. Purchase of food, medicine and other essential items;
- b. Travel for work and study;
- c. Medical Emergencies; and
- d. Travel for humanitarian reasons.

Section 2. CURFEW. Curfew hours shall be from 7:00 in the evening to 5:00 in the morning. All business establishments, except those providing essential services as enumerated in the preceding section, are directed to adjust business hours in consideration of the new curfew hours.

Section 3. LIQUOR BAN. The modified liquor ban as defined in Executive Order No. 34, Series of 2021 shall continue to be in effect in the City of Sorsogon until further notice.

Section 4. MASS GATHERINGS. All mass gatherings and assemblies within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Sorsogon shall be suspended until further notice.

It is hereby reiterated that all other activities such as festivals, seminars, workshops, meetings, mass physical fitness, indoor and outdoor activities of more than twenty (20) attendees and such other similar undertakings are suspended until further notice except for the following;

- a. Forums relative to COVID 19;
- b. Provision of health services, government services or humanitarian activities authorized by the appropriate government agency or instrumentality shall be allowed;
- c. Gatherings for necrological services, wakes, inurn ment, funerals for those who died of causes other than COVID19 shall be limited to immediate family members with full compliance with prescribed minimum public health standards.

Section 5. RELIGIOUS SERVICES. Religious services shall be allowed up to thirty percent (30%) of the church's seating capacity. Only one (1) mass/service shall be allowed per day. The congregation shall not be allowed to attend services outside the place of worship.

The Sorsogon City PNP and the *Seguridad, Kaayusan, Katranquillohan asin Kauswagan* (SK3) shall be in charge of ensuring compliance in churches while barangay chapels shall be the lookout of the *barangay tanods* and the Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs).

Section 6. REGULATED INDUSTRIES. The operation of the following establishments shall remain regulated and consistently monitored by the Sorsogon City PNP, SK3, City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO) and the *Sangguniang Barangay* in order to ensure compliance with minimum public health standards and pertinent issuances:

1. Entertainment venues with live performers;
2. Recreational venues;
3. Indoor visitor or tourist attractions, libraries, archives, museums, galleries, cultural shows and exhibits;
4. Outdoor tourist attractions;
5. Venues for meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions;
6. Personal care services;

Section 7. SPORTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES. Contact Sports and group sports shall not be allowed in order to avoid the possibility of unnecessary gatherings. Thus, the following venues and activities likewise be regulated and consistently monitored:

1. Outdoor sports courts or venues for contact sports;
2. Indoor sports courts or venues, fitness studios, gyms, spas or other indoor leisure centers or facilities and swimming pools;
3. Cockfighting and operation of cockpits, lottery and betting shops and other gaming establishments except for the draws conducted by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO);

* Individual outdoor exercises such as outdoor walks, jogging, running or biking are allowed within the general area of their residence, the barangay, purok, subdivision, and/or village; and they must comply with public health protocols like proper wearing of face masks (surgical) and observe physical distancing.

*All sports, athletic and recreational activities such as tournaments, cockfighting, fiesta celebrations including benefit dances such as *barayle*, zumba, Mr. and Miss of *Missis – Missis*, pageants and beer plaza, videoke sessions, concerts and public exhibitions or preparations in relation thereto which would entail a gathering of people shall likewise be prohibited,

*The Sorsogon City PNP, SK3 and the *Sangguniang Barangay* shall be responsible for the removal of basketball rings and monitoring of sport related activities to ensure compliance with this section.

Section 8. HEALTH PROTOCOLS IN THE WORKPLACE. In addition to the strict observance of minimum public health standards and compliance with the APAT DAPAT Checklist in offices as stated in EO 34, S. 2021, personnel manifesting flu-like symptoms or not feeling well shall not be allowed to report for work.

The designated Infection Control and Prevention Point Person shall immediately report employees on sick leave and those manifesting symptoms to the midwife manning the barangay health station, who shall, in turn, provide a report to the District Health Officer.

Human Resource Officer and/or Administrative Officers shall conduct random monitoring activities of offices especially during lunch time to ensure that employees refrain from taking meals together and continuously observe social distancing even during breaks.

Offices are highly encouraged to open their windows to allow fresh air circulation in the workplace and implement alternative work arrangements such as but not limited to the following:

1. Work from Home Scheme for those aged sixty (60) and above as well as those with comorbidities;
2. Four day work week;
3. Skeletal work arrangement.

Provided, that the total number of required work hours per week would not be less than 40 hours and that the office shall remain functional so as not to hinder the delivery of services to our people.

Provided further, that this Section shall not apply to government health offices, hospitals, rural health units, CDRRMO, CSWD, SK3 and such other offices that are necessary in connection with the fight against COVID-19;

Section 9. ENFORCEMENT. The Sorsogon City Police, *Seguridad, Kauswagan, Katranquillohan asin Kauswagan*, City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CDRRMO), Barangay Officials and the Barangay Police shall be tasked with the enforcement of the stipulations of this Order.

Section 10. PENAL CLAUSE. Violations of this Executive Order shall be meted with penalties imposed by the IATF and existing issuances and ordinances such as community services, fines and penalties, as prescribed.

Section 11. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE this 13th day of September, 2021 at Sorsogon City, Philippines.


MA. ESTER E. HAMOR
City Mayor