

MALACAÑAN PALACE  
MANILA

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 500

**CONCURRENCE OF THE PRESIDENT IN THE DEPUTATION OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, FOR THE 01 DECEMBER 2012 PLEBISCITE TO RATIFY THE CONVERSION OF THE CITY OF CABANATUAN, IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIIJA, FROM A COMPONENT CITY INTO A HIGHLY-URBANIZED CITY**

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Proclamation No. 418 (s. 2012) provides for the conversion of the City of Cabanatuan into a highly-urbanized city;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), through its Resolution No. 9544 (s. 2012), resolved to request the concurrence of the President in the deputation of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the Philippine National Police (PNP), and other law enforcement agencies, in connection with the 01 December 2012 Plebiscite to ratify the conversion of the City of Cabanatuan, in the Province of Nueva Ecija, into a highly-urbanized city; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2 (4), Article IX-C of the Constitution, the COMELEC is empowered to deputize, with the concurrence of the President, law enforcement agencies and instrumentalities of the Government, including the Armed Forces of the Philippines, for the exclusive purpose of ensuring free, orderly, honest, peaceful, and credible elections.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution and existing laws, hereby concur with COMELEC Resolution No. 9544, deputizing AFP, PNP and other law enforcement agencies, to assist COMELEC in ensuring the free, orderly, honest, peaceful, and credible conduct of the 01 December 2012 Plebiscite to ratify the conversion of the City of Cabanatuan, in the Province of Nueva Ecija, into a highly-urbanized city.

The foregoing law enforcement agencies and other concerned agencies are hereby directed to coordinate and cooperate with the COMELEC in the performance of their duties and functions.

This Memorandum Order shall take effect immediately.

**DONE**, in the City of Manila, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twelve.

By the President:

**PAQUITO N. OCHOA, JR.**  
*Executive Secretary*



**CERTIFIED COPY**

**MARIANITU M. DIMAANDAL**