

Item No.: 22  
Date: 07 2025 JAN



Republic of the Philippines  
**PROVINCE OF LEYTE**  
Provincial Capitol  
Tacloban City

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**PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE**

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Legal Office  
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Date: 12-17-24

SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
DEC 23 2024  
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**2<sup>nd</sup> INDORSEMENT**  
December 9, 2024

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 197(221) of the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte.

**Issues/concerns for review/recommendation/legal opinion is/are as follows:**

- Ordinance No. 197(221) entitled: "An Ordinance regulating the game of Mahjong in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte."

**REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:**

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Sections 447(a)(4)(i) and (vii)<sup>1</sup> of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160). Hence, we recommend for the declaration of its validity.

We hope to have assisted you with this request. Please note that the opinion rendered by this Office are based on the facts available and may vary or change when additional facts and documents are presented or changed. This opinion is likewise without prejudice to the opinions rendered by higher and competent authorities and/or the courts.

**ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL**  
Asst. Provincial Legal Officer *[Signature]*

<sup>1</sup>(4) Regulate activities relative to the use of land, buildings and structures within the municipality in order to promote the general welfare and for said purpose shall:  
(i) Declare, prevent or abate any nuisance;

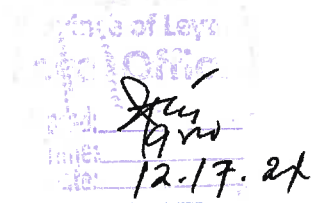
(vii) Regulate the establishment, operation, and maintenance of entertainment or amusement facilities, including theatrical performances, circuses, billiards pools, public dancing schools, public dance halls, sauna baths, massage parlors, and other places of entertainment or amusement; regulate such other events or activities for amusement or entertainment, particularly those which tend to disturb the community or annoy the inhabitants, or require the suspension or suppression of the same; or, prohibit certain forms of amusement or entertainment in order to protect the social and moral welfare of the community;



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**REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:**

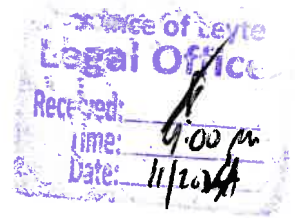
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*Asst. Provincial Legal Officer* ✕

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Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
Palo, Leyte

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**

1<sup>ST</sup> INDORSEMENT  
19 November 2024

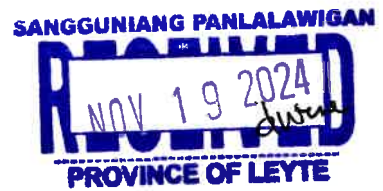
The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No.197 (221)** of the **Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance regulating the game of Mahjong in the Municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte.**

**FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
**MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB**  
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

INDORSEMENT  
November 18, 2024




HONORABLE LEONARDO "SANDY" JAVIER  
Vice-Governor  
Presiding Officer  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte

Sir:

Respectfully forwarding to your good office the herein attached "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE GAME OF MAHJONG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.", of the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte for review and approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan.

Very truly yours,

  
ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA  
Secretary to the Sanggunian



"The Town of United and Happy People"

ONE LGU Matag-ob, Leyte

MacArthur St. New SB Building,  
Municipal Government Complex,  
Barangay San Guillermo, Matag-ob, Leyte  
6532 Philippines



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROVINCE OF LEYTE

**MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB**

**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**


**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG**

**CERTIFICATION OF POSTING**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that copies of the Municipal Ordinance No. 197 series 2024, entitled "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE GAME OF MAHJONG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.", of the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte are posted in Three (3) conspicuous places within the municipality of Matag-ob, Leyte for three consecutive weeks from November 18, 2024:


This certification is issued in compliance with Section 59 of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

Issued this October 18<sup>th</sup>. day of November, 2024.


  
ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA  
Secretary to the Sanggunian



"The Town of United and Happy People"

 ONE LGU Matag-ob, Leyte



 MacArthur St., New SB Building,  
Municipal Government Complex,  
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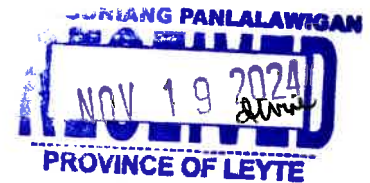


EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 42<sup>nd</sup>. REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGUNIANG BAYAN OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE FOR CY 2024, HELD AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION HALL ON OCTOBER 30, 2024.

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 197 (221)**

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE GAME OF MAHJONG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.**

Author : Hon. Honorable Joel N. Denoy  
 Co-authors : Hon. Orlando G. Viacrusis  
 : Hon. Artemio T. Almoroto  
 Hon. Eduardo E. Toledo  
 Hon. Joel G. Tacoy



Be it ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte, in regular session assembled that:

**SECTION 1.** Definition of Terms.- The following terms when used in this ordinance, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, thus:

- a. MAHJONG – a Chinese game for (4) players played with 144 decorated pieces called tiles; by discarding and drawing tiles each player attempts to obtain (4) sets of (3) tiles each together with one pair;
- b. PERMITTEE – one permit per residential house only regardless of how many households are living in the residence.

**SECTION 2.** MAHJONG AREA. – there shall be established/assigned a specific mahjong area within the his/her premises/household wherein the game is conducted. The mahjong area shall be exclusively designed/designated area for playing mahjong and equipped with a comfort room for proper sanitation.

**SECTION 3.** MAHJONG GAME TIME. Mahjong Game shall be allowed within the following hours of play:

- During Ordinary days – 10AM to 10PM;
- Holidays and Weekends – whole day

**SECTION 4. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.** The following terms and conditions shall be strictly observed by Mahjong Permittee:

- 4.1 Only one set of mahjong table shall be allowed for every permit holder.
- 4.2 The Permittee shall ensure that no betting/gambling is allowed during any mahjong game and that his/her place will not be made a gambling den.



4.3 The Permittee shall provide mahjong chips to be used by the players during a mahjong game.

4.4 Mahjong game shall not be played in open public but only in a private place not visible to the general public

4.5 An inspection shall be conducted by the Inspection Team prior to issuance of a Permit to Operate.

**SECTION 5. PERMIT FEE.** The permit fee in the amount of Two Thousand (P2,000.00) Pesos per table per annum shall be collected from the Permittee. The First issuance shall be on the date that the permit is secured, provided however, that the next issuance of permit shall be renewed on or before January 20 of every year.

No person shall own, maintain or operate any Mahjong game in which persons are permitted to play without first having obtained a permit.

The permit shall not be transferrable. Only residents of a certain barangay may apply for a mahjong operation permit in their respective barangay.

**SECTION 6. PUBLIC DISTURBANCE.** The Permittee shall ensure that the operation of mahjong shall not cause public disturbance.

**SECTION 7. PROHIBITIONS** – the following prohibitions shall be observed during mahjong game:

7.1. No students and minors shall be allowed to play, view or observe during playing of mahjong at any time.

7.2. Strictly no smoking shall be allowed during any mahjong game.

**SECTION 8. EXEMPTIONS.** The playing of mahjong during wake shall be exempt from the enforcement of this ordinance. It shall be the responsibility of the bereaved family to ensure that no game shall be allowed while novena/mass is on-going.

**SECTION 9. PENAL PROVISIONS.** - Any person/s found violating any provision of this ordinance shall be penalized as follows:

- a. FIRST OFFENSE – a fine of One Thousand pesos (P1,000.00);
- b. SECOND OFFENSE – a fine of Two Thousand pesos (Php2,000.00);
- c. THIRD OFFENSE – a fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P2,500.00), and cancellation of permit and perpetual disqualification to apply for a mahjong permit.

**SECTION 10. ENFORCING OFFICERS**

The PNP, in coordination with the Barangay Officials and Barangay Tanods are directed to strictly enforce this ordinance.



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**MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB**

**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

The PNP shall be authorized to issue Citation Tickets to violators. It shall also be their duty to file the corresponding case against any violator in any court of jurisdiction.

**SECTION 11. INSPECTION TEAM.** There shall be created an Inspection Team to be composed of the following:

Chairman	: PNP
Vice-Chairman	: BPLO
Members	: Punong Barangay of the Permittee MENRO Sanitary Inspector Municipal Engineer

**SECTION 12. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE INSPECTION TEAM.** The following shall be the duties and functions of the Inspection Team created for the purpose of implementing this ordinance:

12.1 Conduct inspection of the mahjong room/area;

12.2. Ensure that provisions stipulated in Section 2 of this ordinance are strictly followed.

12.3. Shall issue a Certificate of Compliance in pursuant to Section 2 of this ordinance.

**SECTION 13. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

If for whatever reason any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared illegal or unconstitutional, other section/s and/or provision hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 14. REPEALING CLAUSE.**

All ordinances, resolutions, or executive orders not consistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 15. AMENDMENT CLAUSE.** This ordinance may be amended or modified as necessary through the appropriate legislative process.

**SECTION 16. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.-** This ordinance shall take effect 30days after its approval.





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE  
**MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB**  
**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

Carried Unanimously.

ENACTED this 30<sup>th</sup>. day of October, 2024

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

  
 ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA  
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

Voting on this Ordinance were as follows:

**AYES - 8**

- |                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hon. Artemio T. Almoroto       | - Senior SB Member |
| 2. Hon. Joel N. Denoy             | - SB Member        |
| 3. Hon. Evangeline C. Carno       | - SB Member        |
| 4. Hon. Orlando G. Viacrusis      | - SB Member        |
| 5. Hon. Eduardo I. Toledo         | - SB Member        |
| 6. Hon. Paolo Antonio C. Laurente | - SB Member        |
| 7. Hon. Ricardo L. Giva           | - SB Member        |
| 8. Hon. Ana Love D. Borden        | - SK Fed. Pres.    |

**NAYES - None**  
**ABSTAIN - None**

**ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED  
 TO BE DULY ENACTED:**

  
 HONORABLE ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO  
 Senior SB Member

  
 HONORABLE JOEL N. DENOY  
 SB Member

  
 HONORABLE EVANGELINE C. CARNO  
 SB Member

  
 HONORABLE ORLANDO G. VIACRUSIS  
 SB Member

  
 HONORABLE EDUARDO I. TOLEDO  
 SB Member



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROVINCE OF LEYTE

**MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB**

**SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

*P to C.O.*

**HONORABLE PAOLO ANTONIO C. LAURENTE**  
SB Member

*[Signature]*

**HONORABLE RICARDO L. GIVA**  
SB Member

*[Signature]*

**HONORABLE ANA LOVE D. BORDEN**  
Ex-Officio Member, SK Federation President

**HONORABLE ROMEO N. ALBARIDA**  
Municipal Vice-Mayor  
Presiding Officer

CONFORME:

*[Signature]*

**HONORABLE BERNARDINO G. TACOY**  
Municipal Mayor

15 NOV 2024

