



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

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PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

2nd INDORSEMENT

July 28, 2025

Date: AUG 07 2025
By: Jem H

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2025-009 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Sta. Fe, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 2025-009 entitled: “**An Ordinance on Anti-Trafficking in Persons of Sta. Fe, Leyte .**”

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Section 447(a)(1)¹ of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) in consonance with RA No. 10364². 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

Provincial Legal Officer

¹ (a) The sangguniang bayan, as the legislative body of the municipality, shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 of this Code and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the municipality as provided for under Section 22 of this Code, and shall:

(1) Approve ordinances and pass resolutions necessary for an efficient and effective municipal government,

² “Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012”

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST Indorsement
15 July 2025

Province of Leyte
LEGAL OFFICE
Date: 7-15-25

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-009, series of 2025** of the **Municipality of Santa Fe, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance establishing the institutional mechanisms for trafficking in persons, protection and support of trafficked persons, pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 9208, otherwise known as the "Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003", as amended by Republic Act No.10364 or the "Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012", and for other purposes.**

FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Santa Fe

Sangguniang Bayan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: **JUL 15 2025**
By: J. Obenque

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SECRETARY

INDORSEMENT

RESPECTFULLY FORWARDED to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of Leyte, Tacloban City, the herein attachment *Municipal Ordinance No. 2025 – 009 (Series of 2025)* of the Sangguniang Bayan, this Municipality entitled *“An Ordinance Establishing the Institutional Mechanisms for Trafficking in Persons, Protection and Support of Trafficked Persons, Pursuant to the Provisions of Republic Act No. 9208, Otherwise Known as the “Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003”, as Amended by Republic Act No. 10364, or the “Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012” And for Other Purposes”,* duly approved by said August Body on *June 23, 2025*, hereby recommending your appropriate favourable action.


JULIUS XERXES M. OBENQUE
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Copy Furnished:

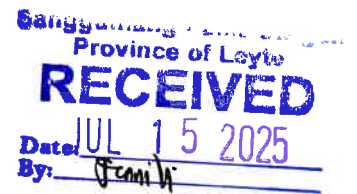
- *The Municipal Mayor*
- *The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSDWO)*
- *The Municipal Treasury*
- *The PNP Station Commander*
- *All in Santa Fe, Leyte*



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Santa Fe

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SECRETARY

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that copies of Municipal Ordinance of the herein attached **“Municipal Ordinance No. 2025 – 009 (Series of 2025)** of the Sangguniang Bayan, this Municipality, entitled **“An Ordinance Establishing the Institutional Mechanisms for Trafficking in Persons, Protection and Support of Trafficked Persons, Pursuant to the Provisions of Republic Act No. 9208, Otherwise Known as the “Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003”, as Amended by Republic Act No. 10364, or the “Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012” And for Other Purposes”** duly approved and/or enacted by said August Body on **June 23, 2025**, has been posted in at least three (3) conspicuous places in the municipality. One copy was posted at the bulletin board at the lobby of the municipal hall, one at the HRMO and one at the Municipal Gymnasium.

ISSUED this 27th day of **June 2025** at Santa Fe, Leyte.


JULIUS XERXES M. OBENQUE
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA FE

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2025 - 009
Series of 2025

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, PROTECTION AND SUPPORT OF TRAFFICKED PERSONS, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9208, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2003," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10364, OR THE "EXPANDED ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2012" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Sponsor: **HON. AGNES ARUTA CHUCA**
Chairperson, Committee on Social Services, Women, Children, and Family

Co-sponsors:

- HON. AMIEL P. ENAGE**
- HON. RODEL L. AJETO**
- HON. ALVIN D. PETILLA**
- HON. GENY R. ESMERO**
- HON. RICARDO D. FAJARDO**
- HON. LARRY S. ARUTA**
- HON. LEAH T. SALCEDA**
- HON. MARILOU L. MILITANTE**
- HON. JERALD LORENZ NARGA**

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
JUL 15 2025
Date: _____
By: Jenni V.

HON. EDUARDO N. TOREROS
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to value the dignity of the human person and guarantees the respect of individual rights. In pursuit of this policy, the State shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures and development of programs that will promote human dignity, protect the people from any threat of violence and exploitation, eliminate trafficking in persons, and mitigate pressures for involuntary mitigation and servitude of persons, not only to support trafficked persons but more importantly to ensure their recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration into the mainstream of society.

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 9208 otherwise known as Anti-Illegal Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 has been signed into law on 26 May 2003 and serves as the national framework to address trafficking in our country.

WHEREAS, Section 16 (j) of Republic Act 9208 mandates local government units to monitor and document cases of trafficking in persons in their areas of jurisdiction, effect the cancellation of licenses of establishments which violates its provisions and ensure effective prosecution of such cases.

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government declared its full support to the worldwide campaign to fight TIP when in Congress passed the amendments to Republic Act No. 9208 under Republic Act No. 10364, also known as the "Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2012" which was formally signed into law by the President on February 6, 2013;

WHEREAS, the Republic Act No. 10364 widened the definition of trafficking in persona and created an Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking and instituted policies to eliminate trafficking in persons, especially women and children, establishing the necessary institutional mechanisms for the protection and support of the trafficked persons providing penalties for its violations and other purposes.

Aruta

J
Amiel

[Signatures]



Republic of the Philippines
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Continuation: Municipal Ordinance No. 2025- 009
Dated: June 23, 2025

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 19 of the Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9208 (as amended) the Local Government Units (LGUs) shall enact ordinances aimed at providing protection and support to trafficked persons and their families.

WHEREAS, trafficking in persons, especially of women and children is a real problem that demands proactive and coordinated response at the international, national, and even local levels;

WHEREAS, the incidences of documented, as well as unreported cases of trafficking and abuse women and children clearly manifest that human trafficking is an alarming issue in Santa Fe, Leyte;

WHEREAS, in line with the objective of the current administration to make Santa Fe, Leyte a safe municipality for all its residents, it is imperative that this concern be directly and effectively address by the Santa Fe, Leyte Council, in order to prevent the municipality from becoming a source transit point or destination of trafficking victims.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED.

Section 1. TITLE – This Ordinance shall be known as “An Ordinance on Anti-Trafficking in Persons of Santa Fe, Leyte”.

Section 2 – DECLARATION OF POLICY – It is hereby declared that Santa Fe, Leyte values dignity of every human persons and guarantees the full respect of individual rights.

Towards this end, the Municipal Government shall give highest priority to enactment of measures and the development of projects, programs, and activities that will promote human dignity, protect the people from any threats of violence and exploitation, eliminate trafficking in persons, and mitigate pressures for involuntary migration and servitude of persons, not only to support trafficked persons but more importantly to ensure their recovery, rehabilitation reintegration into the mainstream of society.

The Municipal Government shall address the problem of trafficking in persons especially women and children at the local level by instituting policies and programs to prevent, protect and rehabilitate trafficked persons.

The Municipal Government shall also take a firmer stance against trafficking in persons by penalizing certain acts or omission that can be considered as violations of this Ordinance.

Section 3 – DEFINITION OF TERMS – the following definition of terms are hereby adopted from Article 2 Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9208 as amended by Republic Act No. 10364:

- a. **Accessories** – whoever has the knowledge of the commission of the crime and without having participated therein, either as principal or accomplice, take part in its commission in any of the following manners:
 - a1. Profiting themselves on assisting the offender to profit by effect of the crime.
 - a2. Concealing or destroying the body of the crime or effects or instruments in order to prevent its discovery.
 - a3. Harboring, concealing, or assisting in the escape of the principal of the crime provided the accessory acts with the abuse of his or her public functions or is known to be habitually guilty of some other crime.
- b. **Child** – refers to a person below eighteen (18) years of age or one who is over 18 but it is unable to fully take care or protect himself or herself from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition.

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Continuation: Municipal Ordinance No. 2025- 009
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- c. **Council** – shall mean the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking created under Section 6 of R.A. No. 9208 as amended by R.A. No. 10364.
- d. **Debt Bondage** – refers to the pledging by the debtor of his/her personal services or labor or those of a person under his/her control as security or payment for a debt, when the length and nature of services is not clearly defined or when the value of services as reasonably assessed is not applied toward the liquidation of the debt.
- e. **Forced Labor** – refers to the extraction of work or services from any person by means of enticement, violence, intimidation or threat, use of force or coercion, including deprivation of freedom, abuse of authority or moral ascendancy, debt bondage or deception including any work or service extracted from any person under the menace of penalty.
- f. **Involuntary Servitude** – refers to a condition of enforced and compulsory service induced by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern, intended to cause a person to believe if he/she did not enter into or continue in such condition, he/she or another person would suffer serious harm or other forms of abuse or physical restraint or threat of abuse or harm, or coercion including depriving access to travel documents and withholding salaries, or the abuse or threatened abuse of legal process.
- g. **Sexual Exploitation** – refers to participation by a person in prostitution, pornography or the production of pornography in exchange of money profit or any other considerations or where the participation is caused or facilitated by any means of intimidation or threat, use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, debt bondage, abuse of power or of position of legal process taking advantage of vulnerabilities of the person, or giving, or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another, or facilitated by any means as provided in these acts.
- h. **Slavery** – refers to the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right ownership are exercised.
- i. **Trafficking in Persons** – refers to the recruitment, obtaining, hiring, providing, offering, transportation, transfer, maintaining, harboring, or receipt of persons with or without the victims' consent or knowledge within or across national borders by means of threat or use of force, or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or of position, taking advantage of the vulnerability of the person, or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation which includes at the minimum the exploitation or the prostitution of other or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery, servitude or the removal or sale of organs.

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, adoption, or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation or when the adoption is induced by any form of consideration for the purpose of exploitation shall also be considered as Trafficking in Persons even if it does not involve any means set forth in the preceding paragraph pursuant to RA No. 10364.

The use, procuring or offering of a child for the production and trafficking of drugs.

The use, procuring or offering of a child for illegal activities or work which by nature or the circumstances it is carried out is likely to harm their health, safety and morals.

- j. **Pornography** – refers to any representation through publication, exhibition, cinematography, indecent shows, information technology or by whatever means of a person engage in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or any representation of the sexual parts of a person for primarily sexual purposes.
- k. **Prostitution** – refers to an act, transaction, scheme, or design involving the use of person by another, for sexual intercourse or lascivious conduct in exchange for money, profit or any other consideration.
- l. **Recovery and Reintegration Programs for Trafficked Persons** – DWSD comprehensive program that ensures adequate recovery and reintegration services provided to trafficked persons.



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- m. **Victim Processing Center** – a discrete, secure, and dignified space of victims for a stay of at least 3 days to allow immediate/initial processing of the survivor’s reaction after rescue, completion of key post-operation, post-operation support activities and gather victims testimonies to be submitted in legal proceedings against their perpetrators.
- n. **Sex Tourism** – refers to a program organized by travel and tourism- related establishment and individuals which consists of tourism packages or activities, utilizing and offering escort and sexual services as enticements for tourists.
- o. **LCAT –VAWC** – refers to Local Council on Anti-Trafficking.
- p. **GAD** – refers to Gender and Development.
- q. **GFPS** – refers to GAD Focal Point System.
- r. **GPB** – refers to Gender and Development Plan and Budget.
- s. **BCPC** – refers to Barangay Council for the Protection of Children.

Section 4 – SANTA FE, LEYTE LOCAL COUNCIL ON ANTI-TRAFFICKING. The Santa Fe, Leyte LCAT-VAWC shall serve as the primary arm of the Municipality of Santa Fe, Leyte in the implementation of the provisions of this Ordinance.

Its composition shall include:

Chairperson: Municipal Mayor
Vice Chairperson: SB Chairperson of the Committee on Social Services Women, Children, and Family
Members: Representatives of the following office and their alternatives:

- Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator
- Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer
- Municipal Health Officer
- Municipal Public Employment Services Officer (PESO)
- Regional Trial Court Representative
- Liga ng mga Barangay President
- Municipal Local Government Operations Officer (MLGOO)
- Santa Fe PNP Chief
- NGO Representatives of the following Sectors:
 - a. Women
 - b. Youth representative
 - c. Senior Citizens

Section 5 - MUNICIPAL GAD FOCAL PERSON shall be the Action Officer to manage the day-to-day operations of the committee/council. The Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer shall act as the Secretariat.

Section 6 – MEETINGS AND QUORUM – The Santa Fe – VAWC shall meet quarterly in a year. Special meetings may be called upon by the Chairperson or upon the request of the majority of the Committee members.

Section 7 – DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF SANTA FE –VAWC.

- a. Institute policies and programs protecting victims of human trafficking and violence especially women and children;
- b. Undertake information, education, and advocacy campaign against trafficking in persons and VAWC;
- c. Monitor and oversee the strict implementation of RA 9208, RA 9262, RA11930 and other related laws for the protection of women and children and of the IACAT and IACVAWC national plans of action.

Santa Fe



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- d. Implement the program and activities as stated in the national plan of action; and
- e. Submit a comprehensive report on the programs undertaken to the Regional IACAT VAWC and/or National IAC as may be required.

Section 8 – ANTI- TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS DATABASE – The Local Government Unit of Santa Fe, Leyte through the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) shall monitor and document cases of trafficking in persons within its territorial jurisdiction.

The MSWDO, in coordination with the Municipal Planning and Development Office and the Santa Fe Gender and Development Council, is hereby tasked to ensure the harmonization and standardization of databases including minimum data requirements, definitions, reporting formats, data collection systems, and data verification systems. Such databases shall have, at the minimum, the following information:

- a. The number of cases of Trafficked Persons sorted according to status of cases including the number of cases being investigated, submitted for prosecution, dropped, and filed and/or pending before the courts and the number of convictions and acquittals;
- b. The demographic profile/information on each case (sex and age disaggregated).

Section 9. REPORTORIAL DUTY – The Santa Fe-VAWC, through the Municipal Mayor, shall submit to the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) Chair a report including highlights of major achievement, best practices, etc. on or before February 15 of every year, with respect to the preceding year's programs and data on trafficking – related cases.

Section 10. PROVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO VICTIM AND SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING – The Municipal Government of Santa Fe shall provide financial assistance for victims/survivors of Trafficked Persons and other forms of sexual exploitation. These assistance shall be used for medical, hospital, legal, and educational needs of the victims/survivors. It can also be used for counseling and social intervention. The MSWDO shall oversee assessment and recommendation of assistance of the victims/survivors of the Trafficked Persons and other forms of sexual exploitation.

Section 11. INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON ANTI-TRAFFICKING – The Municipality of Santa Fe, Leyte shall establish a Migrant Advisory and information Network (MAIN) Desk.

- a. A Migrant Advisory and information Network (MAIN) desk shall be established in Santa Fe, Leyte Municipal Hall. Barangays are hereby encouraged to put their own MAIN Desks as part of their programs on Anti-Trafficking to undertake information dissemination campaign on trafficking in persons.
- b. The LGU shall produce and publish information education and communication materials about trafficking in persons such as but shall not be limited to primers, flyers, brochures, posters, stickers, television/radio/print advertisements, and websites which shall be made available in bus and jeepney terminals, and other similar places where acts of trafficking may be committed and/or facilitated.
- c. In addition, the LGU of Santa Fe, Leyte shall conduct information dissemination activities at the barangay level and coordinate such activities with GAD Focal Point System, and DILG as provided under Section 16 of R.A. No. 9208, as amended by R.A. No. 10364.

Section 12. INSTITUTION OF THE WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING – in order to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights and July 30 of every year having been declared as “World Day Against Trafficking” activities in observance thereof shall be undertaken in the municipality under the auspices of the LCAT-VAWC.



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Section 13. DEVELOPMENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY AND BARANGAY TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS PREVENTION PLAN – To insure the increased protection of the constituency especially women and children against trafficking a Trafficking In Persons Prevention Plan (TIPPP) shall be formulated and approved at the Barangay and Municipal level.

Section 14. CONDUCT OF INTENSIVE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN TO SCHOOLS ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION PREVENTION – In addition to the intensified advocacy program of the LGU of Santa Fe, Leyte on Trafficked In Persons, the LCAT-VAWC shall undertake the conduct of advocacy campaigns through various media and forum in all schools of Santa Fe, Leyte. It shall undertake in consultation with the Santa Fe Education Unit and the Department of education Schools Division Office the formulation of age-appropriate and gender sensitive modules, learning materials and production of advocacy materials in various media.

Section 15. CANCELLATION OF LICENSES OF ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES - The Office of the Mayor through the Business Permits and Licensing Office shall after due notice and hearing, effect of cancellation of business permits and licenses of establishments on the following grounds:

- a. Upon lawful order of the court;
- b. Upon issuance of permanent closure order by the Department of Labor and Employment for violation of R.A. No. 9231 (An Act Providing the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Affording Stronger Protection for the Working Child) in relation to R.A. No. 10364.
- c. When the establishment or its owner or any of its staff violates the provisions of R.A. No. 10364.

The proceedings arising from this Section shall be summary in nature.

Upon receipt of the Order of the Court (Sec.15.a) order of the DOLE (Sec.15.b) or information or report that an establishment or its personnel had violated any provisions of R.A. No. 10364 the Office of the Municipal Mayor or through the Head of the BPLO, shall send a Show Cause Order to the registered owner of the concerned establishment requiring the latter to submit evidence why the cancellation of the business is not an appropriate remedy.

The concerned business establishment shall have a period of three (3) days to submit countervailing evidence upon receipt of the order. No motion or request for extension shall be entertained, and such motion shall be taken as a waiver on the part of the establishment to contest the findings and recommendations of the Office of the Mayor. Upon receipt of the reply, the Office of the Mayor shall forthwith resolve the issue within the period of not more than ten (10) days.

The Order cancelling the business permit shall take effect immediately upon signing of the Mayor. No motion for reconsideration shall be entertained.

Section 16. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS APPLYING FOR A BUSINESS LICENSE – In addition to the usual requirements for the issuance of the business license specific business establishment listed below shall undergo an orientation on Anti-Trafficking in Persons prior to the issuance of business permit.

- a. Bars, nightclubs, videoke, bars, KTV bars, Philippine recruitment agency and other similar establishments providing adult entertainment applying for new business licenses or applying for renewal shall sign an undertaking that they shall not employ minors and women who are victims of trafficking. Moreover, they shall require their applicants to submit Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) authenticated birth certificates and at least one government-issued

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- identification card (ID) aside from usual application documents. These establishments shall be required to keep copies of PSA authenticated birth certificates and IDs of all employees as proof of age of majority. In the event that the PSA certificates NO Record of Birth other secondary evidences of proof of birth such as Baptismal certificate, school ID should be kept as proof of age of majority.
- b. The owner, proprietor or manager of boarding houses, pension houses, dormitories and similar establishment applying for business permits and/or licenses or applying for renewal thereof, shall sign a written undertaking that they shall not engage in any acts, which promote trafficking such as, but not limited to, allowing to use their premises to traffickers and their victims. The owner, manager or proprietor of such establishment shall have the mandatory duty to report suspected cases of trafficking to the LCAT-VAWC Office.
 - c. The owner, proprietor or manager of internet cafes, computer rental shop, computer gaming shops or enters, and similar establishment applying for business permits and/or licenses or applying for renewal thereof, shall sign a written undertaking that they shall not allow any form of sexual exploitation as defined in the Expanded Acts such as, but not limited to, the participation of any person in pornography or the production of pornography to take place within its premises nor allow the transmittal/distribution/uploading thereof.

Section 17. PENALTIES – The willful refusal to sign the aforementioned undertaking as required above shall sufficient ground for the non-issuance of the business permit or renewal thereof. The subsequent failure of the business establishment to secure the birth certificate of applicants, the submission of falsified birth certificates or the failure to keep employees' birth certificates as required in the record of the employment shall be a ground for the suspension of the operation of the business establishments, or even the cancellation of its business permit.

The owner, president, partner, or manager or any other officer of business establishments who violated the provisions of RA No. 10364 shall not be issued a new business license to operate any similar establishment under a different name within Santa Fe, Leyte.

Section 18. APPROPRIATION – An annual amount of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100, 000. 00) shall be allocated for the expenses for the implementation of this Ordinance. The Annual Budget of the LCAT-VAWC for purposes of implementing this Ordinance shall be drawn from the Office of the Mayor to be included in the Gender and Development (GAD) fund of the LGU.

The Annual Appropriation of the Office of the Mayor shall not limit other department or offices from including in their proposed annual budget, programs, projects, and activities on Anti-Trafficking.

Section 19. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS – The LCAT-VAWC shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the smooth implementation of this Ordinance. Provided that, provisions stated herein which are executory in nature, shall be in full effect.

Section 20. REPEALING CLAUSE – All ordinances, resolutions, executive issuances, or rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby deemed repealed, amend, or modified accordingly.

Section 21. APPLICABILITY CLAUSE – The provisions of existing ordinances, resolutions, or executive orders dealing with related subject matter such as protection against child labor and exploitation, anti-violence against women and children, and the like which are not contradictory with this Ordinance are hereby adopted as an integral part of this Ordinance.

Karla L



Republic of the Philippines
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MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA FE

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

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Section 22. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE – If for any reason, any section or provisions of this Ordinance is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

Section 23. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE – This ordinance shall take effect after three (3) consecutive weeks by way of posting copies at the bulletin board of the municipal building and in at least three (3) conspicuous places within the municipality of Santa Fe, Leyte.

ENACTED this 23rd day of June 2025 during the 23rd Regular Session of the Sangguniang Bayan at the Legislative Building, 4th floor, Santa Fe, Leyte.

Let copies of this Ordinance be furnished to the Office of the Municipal Mayor Hon. Amparo H. Monteza; to the Office of the Municipal Social Welfare and Development of this LGU and to all other concerned for their guidance and appropriate action.

This ordinance is approved unanimously.


HON. AMIEL P. ENAGE
SB Member

HON. RICARDO D. FAJARDO
SB Member


HON. RODEL L. AJETO
SB Member


HON. LARRY S. ARUTA
SB Member


HON. ALVIN D. PETILLA
SB Member


HON. LEAH T. SALCEDA
SB Member



HON. GENY R. ESMERO
SB Member


HON. MARILOU L. MILITANTE
ABC President

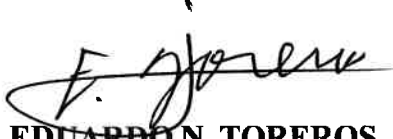

HON. AGNES A. CHUCA
SB Member


HON. JERALD LORENZ NARGA
SK Federation President

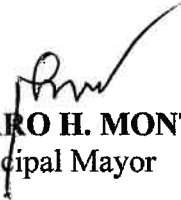
I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing Ordinance.


JULIUS XERES M. OBENQUE
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED BY:


HON. EDUARDO N. TOREROS
Municipal Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


HON. AMPARO H. MONTEZA
Municipal Mayor
Date: _____

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2 **MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES, WOMEN,**
3 **CHILDREN, AND FAMILY HELD AT NEW CONFERENCE HALL, DATED JANUARY 17, 2025.**

4 **I. Call to Order:**

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6 The Public Hearing of Committee on Social Services, Women, Children, and Family was called
7 to order at exactly 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon by Hon. Agnes A. Chuca, as the Committee
8 Chairperson.

9 **II. Opening Prayer**

- 10 • Audio

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12 **III. Roll Call/Acknowledgement of participants.**

13
14 **Secretariat-** Public Hearing on Committee on Social Services, Women, Children, and Family
15 dated January 17, 2025.

16 **PRESENT:**

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18	1. HON. AGNES A. CHUCA	COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON
19	2. HON. ALVIN D. PETILLA	COMMITTEE MEMBER
20		
21	3. HON. AMIEL P. ENAGE	COMMITTEE MEMBER
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23	4. HON. RODEL L. AJETO	COMMITTEE MEMBER
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25	5. HON. GENY P. ESMERO	SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER
26	6. HON. LEAH T. SALCEDA	SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER
27	7. HON. RICARDO D. FAJARDO	SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER
28	8. HON. MARLOU L. MILITANTE	SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER
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30	7. HON. RENATO G. TOLEDO	PUNONG BARANGAY
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32	8. HON. MARLOU L. MILITANTE	PUNONG BARANGGAY
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34	9. HON. ROMEO B. PALAMOS	PUNONG BARANGGAY
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36	10. HON. CHARLITO LAGO	PUNONG BARANGGAY
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38	11. HON. PANFILO V. OGAY JR.	PUNONG BARANGGAY
39		
40	12. HON. CARMELITA E. CAIRO	PUNONG BARANGGAY
41		
42	13. HON. YOLANDA V. PETILLA	PUNONG BARANGGAY
43		
44	14. HON. DUNHILL JAY C. TAN	PUNONG BARANGGAY
45		
46	15. HON. NORMA M. CALCETA	PUNONG BARANGGAY
47		
48	16. PCPL MARIDEL R. SALCEDA	PNP
49		
50	17. MR. FRANCIS LOUIS E. BEDUA	MSWDO
51		
52	18. MS. NORA S. CAMPANER	WOMEN PRESIDENT
53		
54	19. MS. VIOLETA M. MILAR	PWD-PRESIDENT
55		
56	20. MS. INES B. SALVORO	SFESSCA PRESIDENT

57 (**Note:** Refer to the attached Attendance for other invited resource persons).

- 58 • Roll call was made and declared the presence of a quorum.

59 **IV. Welcome Message by the Author, Hon. Agnes Aruta Chuca - Committee**
60 **Chairperson, Committee on Social Services, Women, Children, and Family**

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2 Maupay na kulop ha atun ngatanan, damo nga salamat han iyo pag attender hine
3 amon patawag yana. Nagkaada hin pitad an Sangguniang Bayan ha panguna han atun
4 Municipal Vice-Mayor Eduardo N. Toreros, pinaagi han akon sponsorship hine na comitiba
5 pati na gihapon an iba pa na mga Sangguniang Bayan Members. Para matagan hin
6 importansiya an atun mga kababayen-an ngan kabataan dinhi ha Santa Fe labi na adton
7 may mga ekspersyensiya hin pan aabuso ha pamilya ngan sosyodad.
8

9 **V. Public Hearing proper**

- 10 • Hon. Agnes A. Chuca presented the following ordinances:

11
12 ● **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING REPUBLIC ACT 9262 ENTITLED “AN ACT**
13 **DEFINING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN, PROVIDING**
14 **FOR PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR VICTIMS, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES**
15 **THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION**
16 **IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA FE, PROVINCE OF LEYTE.**
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19 **SB Agnes A. Chuca** - Ine na ordinansa National ine. Ig a-adopt natun ine dinhi ha
20 Santa Fe.
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22 **Section 1. SHORT TITLE** - This Ordinance shall be known as the “**Anti-Violence**
23 **Against Women and their Children**”.

24 **Section 2 – DECLARATION OF POLICY** - It is hereby declared that State values the
25 dignity of women and children and guarantees full respect for human rights. The
26 State also recognizes the need to protect the family and its members particularly
27 women and children from violence and threats to their personal safety and security.
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29 **Section 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS.**

- 30 ● Hon. Agnes A. Chuca read/discuss from letter (a) to (h).

31 **Section 4. CONSTRUCTION** - *(read)*.

32 **Section 5. ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN** - *(read)*.

33 **Section 6. PENALTIES** - *(read)*.

34 **Section 7. VENUE** - *(read)*.

- 35 ● Hon. Charlito L. Lago (Punong Barangay of Barangay Zone 1) - Ma contradict
36 ito..usa la it venue it Regional Trial Court la...Waray Municipal Court it nakapot
37 hit Family Court puro ito Regional Trial Court.....

38 **Section 8. PROTECTION ORDERS** - *(read)*.

39 **Section 9. WHO MAY FILE PETITION FOR PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

40 **Section 10. WHERE TO APPLY FOR A PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

41 **Section 11. HOW TO APPLY FOR A PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

42 **Section 12. ENFORCEABILITY OF PROTECTION ORDERS.** *(read)*

43 **Section 13. LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF PETITIONERS FOR PROTECTION**
44 **ORDER.** *(read)*

45 **Section 14. BARANGAY PROTECTION ORDER (BPO); WHO MAY ISSUE AND HOW.**
46 *(read)*

47 **Section 15. TEMPORARY PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

48 **Section 16. PERMANENT PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

49 **Section 17. NOTICE OF SANCTION IN PROTECTION ORDERS.** *(read)*

50 **Section 18. MANDATORY PERIOD FOR ACTING ON APPLICATIONS FOR**
51 **PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

52 **Section 19. LEGAL SEPARATION CASES.** *(read)*

53 **Section 20. PRIORITY OF APPLICATION FOR A PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

54 **Section 21. VIOLATION OF BARANGAY PROTECTION ORDER.** *(read)*

55 **Section 22. APPLICABILITY OF PROTECTION ORDER TO CRIMINAL CASES.** *(read)*

56 **Section 23. BOND TO KEEP THE PEACE.** *(read)*
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2 **Section 24. PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD - (read)**
3 **Section 25. PUBLIC CRIME. (read)**
4 **Section 26. BATTERED WOMAN SYNDROME AS A DEFENSE. (read)**
5 **Section 27. PROHIBITED DEFENSE. (read)**
6 **Section 28. CUSTODY OF CHILDREN. (read)**
7 **Section 29. DUTIES OF PROSECUTORS/COURT PERSONNEL. (read)**
8 **Section 30. DUTIES OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND LAW ENFORCERS. (read)**
9 **Section 31. HEALTHCARE PROVIDER RESPONSE TO ABUSE. (read)**
10 **Section 32. DUTIES OF OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND BLGUS. (read)**
11 **Section 33. PERSONS INTERVENING EXEMPT FROM LIABILITY. (read)**
12 **Section 34. RIGHTS OF VICTIMS. (read)**
13 **Section 35. DAMAGES. (read)**
14 **Section 36. HOLD DEPARTURE ORDER. (read)**
15 **Section 37. EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF DOCKET FEE AND OTHER EXPENSES.**
16 **(read)**
17 **Section 38. INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR**
18 **CHILDREN (IAC-VAWC). (read)**
19 **Section 39. MANDATORY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR VICTIMS. (read)**
20 **Section 40. COUNSELING AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDER. (read)**
21 **Section 41. TRAINING OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE**
22 **AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN CASES. (read)**
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26 **Section 42. ENTITLED TO LEAVE. (read)**
27 **Section 43. CONFIDENTIALITY. (read)**
28 **Section 44. FUNDING. (read)**
29 **Section 45 - SUPPLEMENTARY APPLICATION. (read)**
30 **Section 46. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. (read)**
31 **Section 47. REPEALING CLAUSE. (read)**
32 **Section 48. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. (read)**
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35 **SB Agnes A. Chuca** - Dinhi nagtatapos an discussion hine na atun ordinansa yana.
36 Damo na Salamat.
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39 **“AN ORDINANCE DEFINING AND PROHIBITING GENDER BASED SEXUAL**
40 **HARASSMENT IN STREETS, PUBLIC PLACES, ONLINE WORKPLACES,**
41 **EDUCATIONAL OR TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, PROVIDING PROTECTIVE**
42 **MEASURES PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREOF”.**
43

- 44 • Hon. Agnes A. Chuca - Started the discussion explaining every provisions.
45

46 **OPEN FORUM:**
47

- 48 > **PCPL Maridel R. Salceda** - RA 7877 amo ito hiya hit Sexual Harassment it RA
49 11313 amo ito it Safe Spaces Act or Bawal Bastos Law. Kun ha Public Places hiya
50 natatabo amo ito hiya it RA 11313 kun mga private places mga workplace mga
51 training institutions amo ito it Anti-Sexual Harassment.
52
53 > **Hon. Charlito L. Lago (Punong Barangay of Barangay Zone I)** - suggested to
54 include in the definition of terms **“Perpetrator** -refers to a person who has
55 committed a crime or an offense. It is often used in legal contexts to identify who
56 is responsible for a particular illegal act”.
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3 ➤ **PCPL Maridel R. Salceda** - Corrected on Section 10 - Specific Acts and Penalties
4 for Gender-Based Sexual Harassment in Streetys and Public Spaces. "2nd offense
5 Arresto Menor" should be changed to "imprisonment of 6 to 10 days" and "in 3rd
6 offense -Arresto Menor" should be changed to "imprisonment of 11 to 30 days"
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8 **SB Agnes A. Chuca** - waray na mga pakiana, corrections han atun ordinansa. Dinhi
9 nagtatapos ine na atun discussion hine na ordinance. Damo nga Salamat.
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11 **"AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR**
12 **TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, PROTECTION AND SUPPORT OF TRAFFICKED PERSONS,**
13 **PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9208, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS**
14 **THE "ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2003," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC**
15 **ACT NO. 10364, OR THE "EXPANDED ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2012"**
16 **AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "**
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- 18
19 • Hon. Agnes A. Chuca - Started the discussion explaining every provisions.
20

21 **OPEN FORUM:**
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- 23 ● Hon. Agnes A. Chuca corrected on Section 1 - Short Title should be "Anti-
24 Trafficking in Persons of Santa Fe, Leyte".
25 ● Section 4 - Santa Fe, Leyte Council on Anti-Trafficking, "Municipal Trial Court"
26 should be changed to "Regional Trial Court"
27 ● Hon. Dunhill Jay Tan (Punong Barangay of Barangay Tibak) - NGO
28 Representatives includes: Women and Youth representative.
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32 **SB Agnes A. Chuca** - Damo nga Salamat han iyo pag tambong hine na atun Public
33 Hearing yana na adlaw.
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36 **I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing.**
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42 **HON. AGNES ARUTA CHUCA**

43 Chairperson, Committee on Social Services, Women, Children, and Family
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