

Item No.: 16

Date: 09 2025 DEC



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

-oOo-

Province of Leyte
Legal Office
Time: 12-2-25
Date: 12-2-25

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

RECEIVED

Date: DEC 03 2025
By: [Signature]

2nd INDORSEMENT
November 24, 2025

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2025-20 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Alangalang, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 2025-20 entitled: **“Barangay Free Legal Assistance Group Ordinance of Alangalang, 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)(xii)¹ 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 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 (xii) Provide for legal assistance to barangay officials who, in the performance of their official duties or on the occasion thereof, have to initiate judicial proceedings or defend themselves against legal action;

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
-000-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

1ST Indorsement
26 November 2025

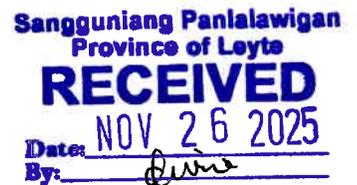
Province of Leyte
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11-27-25

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-20** of the **Municipality of Alangalang, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance institutionalizing a free legal assistance program for barangay officials, members of the Barangay Tanod Brigades and other Barangay Service Unit Workers in the Municipality of Alangalang, establishing for this purpose the barangay free legal assistance group of the Municipality of Alangalang (BAR-FLAG Alangalang) and providing rules therefor.**



FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Alangalang
-oOo-



OFFICE OF THE SB SECRETARY

November 26, 2025

MS. FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
SP Secretary
Provincial Capitol, Palo, Leyte

Ma'am:

Respectfully forward herewith copies of Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-20
"AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING A FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE BARANGAY TANOD BRIGADES AND OTHER BARANGAY SERVICE UNIT WORKERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALANGALANG, ESTABLISHING FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE BARANGAY FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE GROUP OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALANGALANG (BAR-FLAG ALANGALANG) AND PROVIDING RULES THEREFOR." for peruse and favorable action.

Kindly acknowledge receipt hereof.

Thank you and More Power!

Very Truly Yours,

DANI R. DE VEYRA
Mun. Gov't Department Head I
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Alangalang
-oOo-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that Municipal Ordinance No. 2025-20 has been posted for three weeks in the three public conspicuous places within the municipality and will remain posted for the information of the general public.


DANI R. DE VEYRA
Mun. Gov't Department Head I
(Secretary to the Sanggunian)

ATTESTED:


MARIO V. BAGUE
Municipal Vice Mayor



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Alangalang

Province of Leyte
RECEIVED

Date: NOV 26 2025
By: Arvin

Office Of The Sangguniang Bayan

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF ALANGALANG, LEYTE HELD AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL NOVEMBER 5, 2025.

PRESENT:

Vice Mayor Mario V. Bague	- Presiding Officer
SB Member Kenneth Spice M. de Veyra	
SB Member Gina Balderamos	
SB Member Blesilda M. Yu	
SB Member Ketchie Rex A. Barrantes	
SB Member Elmer D. Matobato	
SB Member Atty. Arvin Antoni	
Punong Barangay Sarah T. Apurillo	- LIGA President
SK Chairman Charize Jericho Duane A. Tan	- PPSK President

ABSENT:

SB Member Claire G. Yu	On Official Travel
SB Member Kent Jefflord C. Guillermo	On Official Travel

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 2025-20

SPONSOR: HON. ARVIN V. ANTONI

Co-sponsors: Kenneth Spice M. De veyra

Gina Balderamos
Blesilda M. Yu
Ketchie Rex A. Barrantes
Elmer D. Matobato
Claire G. Yu
Kent Jefflord C. Guillermo
Sarah T. Apurillo
Charize Jericho Duane A. Tan

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING A FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE BARANGAY TANOD BRIGADES AND OTHER BARANGAY SERVICE UNIT WORKERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALANGALANG, ESTABLISHING FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE BARANGAY FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE GROUP OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALANGALANG (BAR-FLAG ALANGALANG) AND PROVIDING RULES THEREFOR

APPROVED ON 3rd AND FINAL READING ON NOVEMBER 5, 2025

On motion of SB Member Hon. Arvin Antoni duly seconded en masse be it.

KENNETH SPICE M. DE VEYRA
SB Member

GINA BALDERAMOS
SB Member

BLESILDA M. YU
SB Member

KETCHIE REX A. BARRANTES
SB Member

ELMER D. MATOBATO
SB Member

ATTY. ARVIN ANTONI
SB Member

SARAH T. APURILLO
SB Member
LIGA President

CHARLZE JERICHO DUANE A. TAN
SB Member
PPSK President

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November 5, 2025

KENNETH SPICE M. DE VEYRA
SB Member

GINA BALDERAMOS
SB Member

BLESILDA M. YU
SB Member

KETCHIE REX A. BARRANTES
SB Member

EMER D. MATORATO
SB Member

WHEREAS, Constitutionally-enshrined in Sections 9, 10, & 11, Article II, of the **1987 CONSTITUTION** are the State Policies which, *inter alia*, promote social justice in all phases of national development and a just and dynamic social order, as well, that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all; which value the dignity of every human person and which guarantee full respect for human rights;

WHEREAS, emanating from these immediately preceding Constitutionally-enshrined State Policies are, in turn, the Legislative/Congressional objectives and intendments behind **RA 9999**, otherwise known as the **FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2010** where it was declared the policy of the State to guarantee the rights of every individual, particularly those who cannot afford the services of a legal counsel and significantly, furthermore, guarantee **free legal assistance to the poor and ensure that every person who cannot afford the services of counsel is provided with competent and independent counsel preferably of his/her own choice, if upon determination, it appears that the party cannot afford the services of a counsel, and that the services of a counsel are necessary to secure the ends of justice and protect the rights of the party.**

WHEREAS, furthermore, emanating from these afore-cited Constitutionally-enshrined State Policies are, in turn, the Legislative/Congressional objectives and intendments behind **RA 12177**, the **ACT PROVIDING FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL FACING ANY CHARGE ARISING FROM INCIDENTS RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR** or, *for brevity*, **THE FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL ACT OF 2025**, where it was declared the policy of the State to protect the dignity and rights of its citizens, including those responsible for upholding the Constitution, defending the sovereignty and territory of the country against all enemies, enforcing the laws of the land, preventing crimes and maintaining peace and order and that, to this end, the State shall as far as practicable provide **free legal assistance to military and uniformed personnel in criminal, civil, or administrative proceedings arising from service-related incidents;**

WHEREAS, finally, and in the local government setting, emanating from the aforementioned Constitutionally-enshrined State Policies is the delegated local legislative prerogative embodied in **Section 447 (a) (1) (xii) of RA 7160**, otherwise known as **THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991** that expressly mandates the **Sangguniang Bayan**, as the legislative body of the Municipality, to approve ordinances necessary for the efficient and effective municipal government, and in this connection, enact ordinances intended to **provide for legal assistance to barangay officials who, in the performance of their official duties or on the occasion thereof, have to initiate judicial proceedings or defend themselves against legal action;**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, by the Sangguniang Bayan, Municipality of Alangalang, Province of Leyte, in Regular Session assembled:

Section 1. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of Alangalang, consistent with the principle that *those who have less in life shall have more in law*, to provide free legal assistance and representation to all barangay officials, members of the barangay tanod brigades and barangay service unit workers in the Municipality who, in the performance of their official duties or on the occasion thereof, have to initiate judicial

ATTY. ARVIN ANTONI
SB Member

SARAH T. APURULLO
SB Member

CHARLZE JEREMO DUANE A. TAN
SB Member

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November 5, 2025

proceedings or defend themselves against legal action. Henceforth, and in recognition of their valuable support and contribution to local governance and in the delivery of basic social services as equal partners of the Municipal Government, free legal assistance and representation shall be made available to them in all proceedings arising from service-related incidents, in order to secure the ends of justice and protect their rights, subject to reasonable and practical limitations as hereinafter set forth.

Section 2. Title and Scope. - This Ordinance shall be known as the Barangay Free Legal Assistance Group Ordinance of the Municipality of Alangalang (for brevity, BAR FLAG ORDINANCE). The benefits of the free legal assistance program instituted under this Ordinance shall be exclusive in favor of all barangay officials, holding elective and appointive positions, members of the Barangay Tanod Brigades and other Barangay Service Unit Workers such as, but not limited to, the Barangay Service Point Officers (BSPO), Barangay Nutrition Scholars (BNS), Barangay Day Care Workers (BDCW), Barangay Health Worker (BHW), Barangay Human Rights Action Officers (BHRAO), *Lupon Tagapamayapa* Members and Barangay Aides. Free legal assistance and representation shall extend to and shall cover all judicial proceedings and legal actions which the aforementioned barangay officials, tanods and service unit workers, in the performance of their official duties or on the occasion thereof may initiate or defend themselves against. The program and the benefits thereof shall not be availing in administrative and other cases where the Municipal Government of Alangalang or its representative duly authorized for the purpose is the adverse party.

Section 3. There is hereby established a Free Legal Assistance Unit, attached for program and policy coordination, to the Office of the Municipal Mayor of Alangalang. It shall be composed of at least three (3) legal practitioners who are members in good standing of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Leyte Chapter, and all of whom shall have volunteered to render *pro bono* legal services under this program. The volunteers-members of the Free Legal Assistance Unit shall not derive any monetary compensation from the legal services rendered; provided, however, that all legal fees and expenses to be incurred, necessarily connected with and/or occasioned by such legal services and representation shall be for the account of the Municipal Government of Alangalang, the same to be taken from the Barangay Free Legal Assistance Group Fund.

Section 4. The Barangay Free Legal Assistance Group Fund (BAR-FLAG Fund) shall be administered by the Office of the Municipal Mayor, against which shall be chargeable any and all legal fees and expenses to be incurred, necessarily connected with and/or occasioned by this program. Adequate provisions therefor shall be included in the Annual Budget of the Municipality of Alangalang. The Office of the Municipal Mayor shall thereafter submit a quarterly disclosure of any and all availments under this program and disbursements as well under the BAR-FLAG Fund, for the requisite review by the Sangguniang Bayan.

Section 5. The Offices of the Municipal Mayor and Vice Mayor of Alangalang shall coordinate with the Integrated Bar of the Philippines-Leyte Chapter and shall formulate the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the efficient and

KENNETH SANCHEZ M. DE VEYRA
SB Member

CINABALDERAMOS
SB Member

BLESILDA M. YU
SB Member

KETCHIE REX A. BARRANTES
SB Member

ALMER D. MATOBATO
SB Member

ATTY. ARVIN ANTONI
SB Member

SARAH T. APURILLO
SB Member

CHARLZE JERICO DUANE A. TAN
SB Member

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November 5, 2025

effective implementation of any and all provisions of this Ordinance, which implementing rules and regulations shall be promulgated by way of Executive Order issued by the Municipal Mayor, to be effective and enforceable only after due ratification by the Sangguniang Bayan.

Section 6. Sufficient budgetary allocation, in an amount to be determined by the Local Chief Executive, shall be provided in the Annual Budget to be appropriated out of any funds under the General Fund of the Municipal Government, not otherwise appropriated, in order to support the program instituted by virtue of this Ordinance.

Section 7. The provisions of any and all ordinances, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. If for any reason, any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue in full force and effect

Section 8. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

ENACTED, November 05, 2025

APPROVED by her Mayor this November 24, 2025

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above-mentioned Ordinance.


DANI R. DE VEYRA
Secretary to the Sanggunian
Municipal Gov't. Department Head I

KENNETH SPIRIT M. DE VEYRA
SB Member

GINA BALDERAMOS
SB Member

BLESILDA M. YU
SB Member

KETCHIE REX A. BARRANTES
SB Member

ELMER D. MATOBATO
SB Member


ATTY. ARVIN ANTONI
SB Member


SARAH T. APURILLO
SB Member


CHARLEZE JECHICO DUANE A. TAN
SB Member

ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED
TO BE DULY ENACTED:


MARIO Y. BAGUE
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer


KENNETH SPICE M. DE VEYRA
SB MEMBER

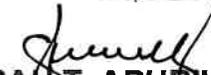

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SB MEMBER


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SB MEMBER


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SB MEMBER


ATTY. ARVIN ANTONI
SB MEMBER


SARAH T. APURILLO
SB MEMBER
LIGA President


CHARLZE JERICH O DUANE A. TAN
SB MEMBER
PPSK President

APPROVED:


LOVELL ANNE M. YU -CASTRO
Municipal Mayor

VOTING:
YES -8
NO -0

