



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
 Provincial Capitol
 Tacloban City

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Sangguniang Panlalawigan
 Province of Leyte

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MAY 29 2026

Date: _____
 By:

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

2nd INDORSEMENT
 March 3, 2026

Item No.: 14
 Date: 02 2026 JUN
 PROVINCE OF LEYTE
 LEGAL OFFICE
RELEASED
 BY: Time: 9:26
 Date: 5-29-26

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 9 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Merida, Leyte.

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

- Ordinance No. 9 entitled: “**Building and Occupancy Permit Penalty Amnesty Ordinance of Merida, Leyte.**”

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office opines that the subject Ordinance is, in general, within the legislative authority of the Sangguniang Bayan under Sections 447(a)(3)¹ of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160) pursuant to PD 1096². 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 (3) Subject to the provisions of Book II of this Code, grant franchises, enact ordinances authorizing the issuance of permits or licenses, or enact ordinances levying taxes, fees and charges upon such conditions and for such purposes intended to promote the general welfare of the inhabitants of the municipality,

² National Building Code of the Philippines

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


1ST INDORSEMENT
06 February 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE

RECEIVED

By: *[Signature]*
Date: 2.9.26 Time: 9:00

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 09, series of 2025 of the Municipality of Merida, Leyte**, entitled: **An Ordinance granting amnesty on penalties for unpermitted constructions or late applications of building and occupancy permits in the Municipality of Merida, Leyte.**


FLORINDA JILLS. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sanggunian



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: FEB 05 2026

By: *J. Amillo*

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

02 FEBRUARY 2025

THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN OF LEYTE
CAPITOL BUILDING
PALO LEYTE

DEAR HONORABLE MEMBERS;

I have the honor to submit to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte copies of **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 09, SERIES OF 2025 - "AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AMNESTY ON PENALTIES FOR UNPERMITTED CONSTRUCTIONS OR LATE APPLICATIONS OF BUILDING AND OCCUPANCY PERMITS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, LEYTE"** enacted by the 19th Council of this Municipality, for review and consideration.

Hoping everything is in order.

Thank you.

Respectfully,


JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: FEB 05 2026
By: *Jenny Ar*

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 09TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (19TH COUNCIL), MERIDA, LEYTE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 AT THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING SESSION HALL.

PRESENT:

HON. RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO	, Municipal Vice Mayor, Presiding Officer
HON. BENJAMIN A. TRAVERO, JR.	, Municipal Councilor, Assistant Floor Leader
HON. JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ	, Municipal Councilor
HON. CHENIL C. CALDERON	, Municipal Councilor
HON. MELQUIADES D. GUIO-GUIO	, Municipal Councilor
HON. BRENDA T. ADOLFO	, Municipal Councilor, Presiding Pro-tempore
HON. OLIVER R. LIMOSNERO	, Municipal Councilor
HON. RONILLO O. LABANG	, Mun. LnB President (Ex-Officio)
	(O.B. - with DILG Officials in Barangay Puerto Bello)
HON. ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ	, Mun. SK Fed. President (Ex-Officio)

ABSENT:

HON. ATTY. CHRISTIAN Q. SALTA, EnP	, Municipal Councilor, (Forced Leave)
HON. ROGEN G. WENCESLAO	, Municipal Councilor (Forced Leave)

-RESOLUTION NO. 19-25-053-

A RESOLUTION APPROVING MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 09, SERIES OF 2025 "AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AMNESTY ON PENALTIES FOR UNPERMITTED CONSTRUCTIONS OR LATE APPLICATIONS OF BUILDING AND OCCUPANCY PERMITS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, LEYTE."

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Merida is committed to ensuring the safety and legality of all buildings and structures in accordance with Presidential Decree No. 1096, otherwise known as the National Building Code of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Municipal Government of Merida recognizes that significant numbers or property owners and builders have failed to comply with the required building and constraints, or procedural difficulties;

WHEREAS, to encourage owners of unpermitted structures to comply with the National Building Code and Local Ordinances, it is necessary to adopt incentivizing measures without undermining safety standards and the integrity of National Laws;

WHEREAS, under Section 447(a)(3) of the Local Government Code of 1991 (RA7160), the Sangguniang Bayan is empowered to enact Ordinances imposing penalties for violations of building regulations and may also provide for administrative remedies, including amnesties, within the limits prescribed by law;

WHEREAS, the imposition of penalties and surcharges may further discourage property owners from legalizing their structures and complying with existing regulations;

WHEREAS, the Municipality aims to encourage voluntary compliance, regularize building structures, ensure public safety, and update building records;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (19TH COUNCIL) OF MERIDA, LEYTE, IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, THAT:

-MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 09-
Series of 2025

SECTION 1. TITLE - This Ordinance shall be known as the "Building and Occupancy Permit Penalty Amnesty Ordinance of Merida, Leyte."

SECTION 2. COVERAGE - This Ordinance shall apply to all property owners within the territorial jurisdiction of Merida, Leyte, who have:

- a. Constructed buildings, houses, structures, or improvements without a building and/or occupancy permit; or

OVER-

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- b. Applied for building and/or occupancy permit after the commencement or completion of construction; or
- c. Have pending or unfiled applications due to unpaid penalties.
- d. New building construction during the building and occupancy penalty amnesty effective period

SECTION 3. AMNESTY GRANT – All penalties, surcharges, or fines incurred from March 21, 1977 (Effectivity of PD1096 or The Building Code of the Philippines) up to the effectivity of this Ordinance, due to non-compliance with the building and/or occupancy permit provisions, shall amnesty period defined under this Ordinance.

SECTION 4. AMNESTY PERIOD – The amnesty shall be valid for a period of Two (2) years from the date of publication or posting of this Ordinance in conspicuous places within the Municipality. The period may be extended upon recommendation of the Municipal Engineer and approval of the Sangguniang Bayan.

SECTION 5. REQUIREMENTS FOR AVAILMENT – To avail of the amnesty, the applicant must:

- a. Submit a complete set of building and/or occupancy permit application documents and attachments as required by the Office of the Municipal Engineer;
- b. Settle the regular building and/or occupancy permit fees excluding any penalties;
- c. Submit a duly notarized affidavit of undertaking and other needed documents to comply with safety and zoning regulations;
- d. Comply with the requirements of fire safety regulations of the Bureau of Fire Protection.

SECTION 6. ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES – The Municipal Treasurer and the Municipal Building Official shall issue a Joint Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) within 30 days from the effectivity of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE – If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. REPEALING CLAUSE – All Ordinances, Resolutions, and Issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

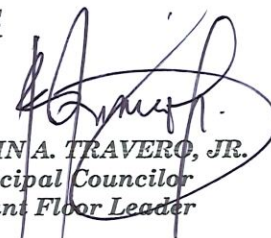
SECTION 9. EFFECTIVITY – This Ordinance shall take effect after compliance with the posting and publication requirements under the Local Government Code.

ENACTED, BY THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN (19TH COUNCIL) OF MERIDA, LEYTE THIS 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025, ON ITS REGULAR SESSION.

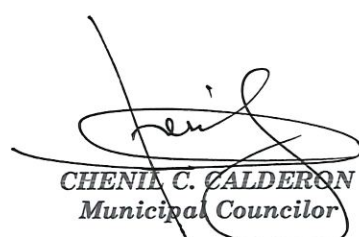
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS

ATTY. CHRISTIAN Q. SALTA, EnP
Municipal Councilor
Majority Floor Leader
(Forced Leave)


BENJAMIN A. TRAVERO, JR.
Municipal Councilor
Assistant Floor Leader

JESUS ANTONIO R. MARTINEZ
Municipal Councilor


CHENIA C. CALDERON
Municipal Councilor


MEZQUIAS D. GUIO-GUIO
Municipal Councilor


BRENDA T. ADOLFO
Municipal Councilor
Presiding Pro-tempore

ROGEN G. WENCESLAO
Municipal Councilor
(Forced Leave)


OLIVER R. LIMOSNERO
Municipal Councilor



(CONTINUATION OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 09, SERIES OF 2025 DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 //PAGE 03)

RONILLO O. LABANG
Ex-Officio (LnB President)
(O.B. - with DILG Officials in
Barangay Puerto Bello)


ASHLEY NOREEN J. DIAZ
Ex-Officio (Mun. SK Fed. President)

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR ON November 07 2025.

APPROVED BY:


ENGR. ROLANDO M. VILLASEÑICIO
Municipal Mayor

CERTIFIED BY:


RODRIGO M. WENCESLAO
Municipal Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

ATTESTED BY:


JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that **MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 09, SERIES OF 2025 – “AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AMNESTY ON PENALTIES FOR UNPERMITTED CONSTRUCTIONS OR LATE APPLICATIONS OF BUILDING AND OCCUPANCY PERMITS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MERIDA, LEYTE”** had been posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the locality within three (3) consecutive weeks from **NOVEMBER 11, 2025** to **DECEMBER 02, 2025**.

THIS CERTIFICATION has been issued in compliance to Section 511 (1), Title One, book IV of RA 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.

DONE AND ISSUED this 02ND day of FEBRUARY 2026 at Merida, Leyte, Philippines.


JOSELITO T. DELOS ANGELES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan