

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of the Interior and Local Government  
**NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION**  
EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

Memorandum Circular No. 2019-002

**DEFINING THE DUTY AND AUTHORITY OF THE NAPOLCOM TO PRESCRIBE  
MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR UNIFORMS, ARMS, AND EQUIPMENT TO BE  
PROCURED BY THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE**

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**WHEREAS**, one of the more prominent thrusts of the administration of President Rodrigo R. Duterte is to expedite and speed up government transactions;

**WHEREAS**, the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) is fully committed to uphold, observe and comply with this directive from the President;

**WHEREAS**, under Republic Act (R.A.) 6975, as amended by R.A. 8551, the NAPOLCOM is mandated to exercise administrative control and operational supervision over the Philippine National Police (PNP), including the power to "prescribe *minimum standards* for uniforms, arms, and equipment";

**WHEREAS**, it is observed that the NAPOLCOM, apart from prescribing minimum standards is being asked to approve technical specifications for *every* item to be procured by the PNP, not just for uniform, arms and equipment;

**WHEREAS**, the process of formulation and approval of proposed technical specifications has been marked by considerable, significant and constant delays which necessarily translate to substantial losses in government resources;

**WHEREAS**, there is a compelling need to define and delineate the NAPOLCOM's mandate to prescribe minimum standards with that of the PNP's correlative duty to formulate and approve their technical specifications for uniform, arms and equipment for procurement.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Commission, pursuant to its constitutional mandate to administer and control the PNP, **RESOLVES, AS IT DOES HEREBY RESOLVES**, to define the duty and authority of the NAPOLCOM to prescribe minimum standards for uniforms, arms, and equipment to be procured by the Philippine National Police:

**Section 1. Coverage and Scope** – This circular aims to establish guidelines and prescribe rules and procedures for the formulation and approval by the NAPOLCOM of minimum standards for uniform, arms and equipment to be procured by the PNP, as distinguished from the PNP's duty to formulate and approve technical specifications therefor, which necessarily complies and conforms to the minimum standards set by the Commission.

**Section 2. Definition of Terms** – As used in this circular, the following terms shall be understood to mean as follows:

- a. **Minimum Standards** – the minimum performance-based criteria and parameters approved by the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) that

are germane and fit to the intended use, purpose and objective of the item/s to be acquired or procured.

- b. **Technical Specifications** - the detailed description of characteristics, features, functions and related accessories of the item/s set by the end user which should be at least be within the NAPOLCOM-approved minimum standards.
- c. **Uniform** – all types of clothing, apparel, or gear including other accessories and accoutrements worn by PNP personnel while participating in law enforcement and/or other police operational and administrative activities.
- d. **Arms** - sets of weapons, firearms, artilleries or ordnances used in law enforcement activities and/or operations.
- e. **Equipment** - items, articles, working animals or component with all related materials and accessories serving to equip any individual and/or units and sub-units within the PNP which shall be further categorized as expendable, non-expendable and common-used supplies.

e.1. **Common-use supplies** - those goods, materials and equipment that are used in the day-to-day operations of procuring entities in the performance of their functions which are included in the Electronic Catalogue of the PhilGEPS.

e.2. **Expendable equipment** - equipment which are normally consumed in use within one year or converted in the process of manufacture or construction, or those having a life expectancy of more than one year but which shall have decreased substantially in value after being put to use for only one year.

e.3. **Non-expendable equipment** - equipment which are not consumed in use and ordinarily retain their original identity during the period of use, whose serviceable life is more than one year which add to the assets of the GOP.

- f. **PNP Uniform and Equipment Standardization Board (UESB)** – the body chaired by The Director for Research and Development (TDRD), PNP with senior officers from concerned Directorates and offices/units as members including CESPO. It is tasked to thoroughly review, deliberate and evaluate the new standard specifications or addendum/amendments to the existing specifications of all police uniforms and accoutrements, various mission essential equipment and other police items in accordance with the urgent and priority needs of the PNP including those items/equipment for future use.

**Section 3.** In cases where there is still no approved minimum standard issued by the NAPOLCOM for a particular uniform, arm, or equipment the PNP intends to procure, the PNP and the NAPOLCOM, in consultation, cooperation and in collaboration with one another, shall expeditiously formulate and develop the standards for the said uniform, arm or equipment. These standards shall be approved by the Commission En Banc through a Resolution issued for the purpose.


**Section 4.** It shall be the responsibility of the PNP through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) to ensure that the technical specifications of the item/s to be procured comply and conform to the minimum standards. In this connection, the BAC through a resolution shall state that the technical specifications for the item/s to be procured are within the NAPOLCOM-approved minimum standard and are advantageous to the PNP.

Section 5. In the interest of ensuring compliance to the minimum standards set, the NAPOLCOM shall be invited to participate in all UESB proceedings and all stages of pre-procurement by the PNP of uniform, arms or equipment as a resource person, at least three days before the scheduled meeting.

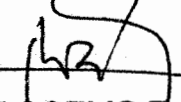
The NAPOLCOM resource person shall immediately render a report to the Vice Chairman and Executive Officer (VCEO), noting therein his comments, findings and recommendations.

Section 6. Effectivity - This circular shall take effect after fifteen days from the filing of a copy hereof at the University of the Philippines Law Center, pursuant to E.O. No. 292, the Revised Administrative Code, as amended.

Adopted this 29th day of JANUARY 2019, at Quezon City, Philippines.

  
**EDUARDO M. AÑO**  
Chairman, NAPOLCOM



  
**ATTY. ROGELIO T. CASURAO**  
Commissioner  
Vice Chairman and Executive Officer

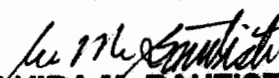
  
**FELIZARDO M. SERAPIO, JR.**  
Commissioner

  
**JOB M. MANGENTE**  
Commissioner

  
**ZENONIDA F. BROSAS**  
Commissioner

**OSCAR D. ALBAYALDE**  
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Attested by:

  
**ELVIRA M. BAUTISTA**  
Acting Chief, Secretariat