


THE ROLE OF CVOs IN COUNTERING TERRORISM AND INSURGENCY IN THE PHILIPPINES

**Peace, Security and
Human Rights Concerns**

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SEQUENCE OF PRESENTATION



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1. Legal Basis Of The Organization Of Civilian Volunteer Organization (CVO)




- 1) **EO 546** mandates the PNP to take an active support role to the AFP in the suppression of insurgency
- 2) **NAPOLCOM Memo Circular No. 2008-013** "Prescribing Guidelines and Procedures Governing the Deputation of Brgy Tanods as members of Police Auxiliary Units
- 3) **LOI 02/09 (MAPAGPALAYA)** defines the creation of Brgy Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATS) as the main operators of Brgy Peacekeeping
- 4) **LOI 40/08 "DAMAYAN"** and its Supplemental Guidelines refer to the activation of POLICE AUXILIARY UNITS (PAUs) in conflict areas
- 5) **DILG Memo Circular No 2009-145** "Directing the LGUs to support the BPATs and PAUs"

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2. Difference of CVO from Brgy Tanod, Tanod Bayan, Bantay Dagat, Civilian Emergency Force (SULU)




All the above-mentioned civilian organizations are force multipliers of the PNP in the maintenance of peace and order in their respective area.




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3. Purpose of the Organization of the CVO



The PNP recognizes the role of the Barangay Tanods, Bantay Bayan, **Civilian Volunteer Organizations**, Barangay Auxiliaries, Non-Government Organizations and other People's Organization that can be utilized as Force Multipliers in the maintenance of peace and order in their respective locality.

These organizations are also valuable partners in the development of the community.



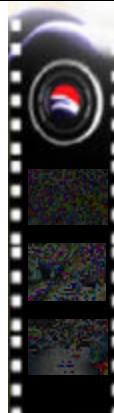
Source: LOI 22/09 "BAYANIHAN" (Brgy Peacekeeping Operations)

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BARANGAY PEACEKEEPING ACTION TEAMS (BPATs)

Are organized to serve as the main operators of Barangay Peacekeeping in their respective localities.

They shall serve as the primary force multipliers of the police in controlling, suppressing and preventing crime and criminality at the Barangay level




BPATs MAJOR COMPONENTS

Law Enforcement – will perform beat patrol operations, anti-illegal drug operations, traffic direction and control, street crime prevention, control and suppression, and public information and assistance. It is composed of Barangay tanods, traffic aides, security guards, members of Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils and anti-crime groups.



BPATs MAJOR COMPONENTS

United Front Against Crime – is responsible in communication and anti-crime advocacy support, including intelligence gathering. It is composed of non-government organizations, sectoral groups, council of elders, homeowners associations, radio groups and gun clubs. It shall form the formidable shield of the community against crime through information dissemination, mobilization and program advocacy activities.



BPATs MAJOR COMPONENTS



Disaster Control – will assist in rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations during calamities and emergencies. It is composed of Barangay tanods, non-government organizations and volunteer groups.

• **Case Tracking and Monitoring** – will monitor the present status and current developments of cases filed against arrested suspects. It is composed of non-government organizations, volunteer groups and the academe.


4. CVO Management

The LCEs, as Chairmen of POCs, and in relation to their sworn duty to implement and exercise supervision over the BPATs/PAUs.

Sources:

- DILG Memo Circular No. 2009-145
- RA 7160 - Local Government Code. Sec. 16. General Welfare


5. Funding Of The CVO



The LCEs shall allocate funds for the administrative and operational requirements of BPATs/PAUs.

Source: DILG Memo Circular No. 2009-145


6. Assessment of the Performance of CVO



The LCEs thru the POCs are responsible for the assessment of the performance of CVOs

7. Why are there No Women members of the CVO


- CVO/PAUs and other force multipliers of the PNP do **not limit** themselves to men only
- Women can become members of CVO/PAUs



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8. CVO are supposedly not allowed to carry firearms why in some provinces (in Mindanao, for example) CVO are being armed

- Generally, CVOs (Brgy Tanods BPATs, etc.) are un-armed.
- However, in conflict areas in Mindanao, such as Basulta, CVOs are known as Civilian Emergency Forces (CEFs) who grouped themselves together in defense of their locality against lawless elements such as ASG, LMGs, and other threat groups, and they are armed.
- These CEFs by virtue of LOI DAMAYAN and its supplemental guidelines will be recruited to become PAU members..



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9. Allegation that CVOs are being used as Private Armies

- It is along this line that PAUs in conflict areas are being organized to avert the contention that CVOs are being utilized as PAGs. LOI 40/08 "DAMAYAN" and its Supplemental Guidelines were purposely issued to organize, train, equip and employ police auxiliaries in conflict areas. Relatedly to develop these civilian emergency forces into an effective and more potent PAUs to support PNP.
- The PNP issued different LOIs purposely to neutralize/disband partisan armed groups (PAGS) (ex. LOI 26/04 SPECIAL TASK FORCE ABRA)

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10. Allegation that below 18 years old are being recruited

The PNP adheres to the following RAs and does not recruit minors

- RA 7610
 - "Special Protection of Children against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act"
 - Enacted in June 1992, declares children as "zones of peace".
- RA 7658
 - An Act Prohibiting the employment of Children below 15 years of age in Public and Private Undertakings.

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End of Presentation

Thank You and Good Day

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