



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN  
Lingayen  
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**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY**

# CERTIFICATION

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

*THIS IS TO CERTIFY that at the regular session duly constituted of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Province of Pangasinan, held on October 19, 2020 at Lingayen, Pangasinan, the following provincial ordinance was approved:*

Authored by SP Member Rosary Gracia P. Perez-Tababa and co-authored by SP Members Margielou Orange D. Humilde-Verzosa, Sheila Marie S. Perez-Galicia and Jeremy Agerico B. Rosario

**PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 244-2020**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND RAPE CASES RESPONSE MECHANISM AND PROTOCOL IN HANDLING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND RAPE CASES IN THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN**

**WHEREAS**, Article II Section 14 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides, that the state recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure fundamental equality before the law of women and men;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Republic Act (RA) 9710, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Women, is a comprehensive women's human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Filipino women, especially those in the marginalized sectors. Section 12 D, Rule IV of the Rules and Regulations Implementing the Magna Carta of Women provides for the establishment of a VAW desk in every barangay to ensure that violence against women cases are fully addressed in a gender-responsive manner;

**WHEREAS**, Under the Local Government Code or R.A No. 7160, the provision of services to women, children, youth and other sectors is within the auspices of the city and municipality, thus, this referral system is based in the city/municipality;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to R.A No. 11313, otherwise known as the Safe Spaces Act, local government units bear the primary responsibility in ensuring the localization of systems and mechanisms to effectively respond to gender-based violence. This response mechanism shall include the establishment of a hotline to receive and record complaints and incidents as well as act as a referral mechanism for complainants;

**WHEREAS**, R.A No. 10175 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act enjoins local government units to support and participate in the creation of cybercrime prevention programs;



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**WHEREAS**, R.A No. 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 mandates local government units to establish and implement preventive, protective and rehabilitative programs for trafficked persons, and to support initiatives which address trafficking in persons;

**WHEREAS**, R.A No. 9262 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004 provides that the barangay shall have a barangay VAW desk who shall coordinate a one-stop help desk, and that this shall be open to provide 24-hour response;

**WHEREAS**, in compliance with R.A No. 9262, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Health (DOH) and Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), issued a Joint Memorandum-Circular No. 2010-2 requiring all local government units to establish violence against women desk in every barangay;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to improve public safety response services to incidents of violence against women, gender-based violence and rape cases by providing a clear command structure for responsibility and accessibility, and by encouraging and facilitating the prompt deployment of a seamless nationwide communication infrastructure for emergency services;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to adapt modalities of interventions for Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Violence Against Women (VAW) and incidents of Rape as women and girls experience a distinct challenge as COVID-19 exacerbates already existing risks of Violence Against Women, Gender-Based Violence and Rape cases as confinement increase risks of violence, as well as worsened socio-economic situation within the household;

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of a response referral system provides for an intervention that will ease reporting, expedite investigation, and provide instant response and information on VAW, GBV and Rape Cases. It also raises the consciousness of the public in recognizing the dignity of women, ensuring support for victims, bringing perpetrators to justice and making a long-term plan to prevent violence in all forms;

*Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Province of Pangasinan, in regular session assembled:*

**SECTION 1. TITLE** - This Ordinance shall be known and cited as “An Ordinance Establishing a Gender-Based Violence and Rape Cases Response Mechanism and Protocol in Handling Gender Based Violence and Rape Cases in the Province of Pangasinan”.

**SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS.** - For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms and phrases shall apply:

**2.1 Gender-Based Violence (GBV)** – refers to violence targeted towards a particular person because of their gender that causes or likely to cause another’s mental, emotional or psychological distress, and fear of personal safety, sexual harassment acts including unwanted sexual remarks and comments.