

NHA, FOI COMPLIANT

The National Housing Authority (NHA) is now ready to accept and process Freedom of Information (FOI) requests coming from the public, media, private institutions, academe, non-government organizations, various associations, people's group, as well as, from other government agencies and bureaus.

According to NHA Assistant General Manager and Chairperson of the NHA People's FOI Committee, the authority has submitted its compliance to the directive of President Rodrigo R. Duterte as provided for under Executive Order No. 2, ahead of the November 25, 2016 deadline.

EO No. 2 titled "Operationalizing in the Executive Branch the People's Constitutional Right to Information and the State Policies to Full Public Disclosure and Transparency in the Public Service and Providing Guidelines Therefor" directed every government agency to prepare its own People's FOI Manual within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from effectivity of the Order.

In accordance to said directive, NHA General Manager Marcelino P. Escalada, Jr. instructed AGM Kampitan to take the lead role and be responsible for the preparation of the NHA People's FOI Manual.

In conformity, AGM Kampitan immediately convene and created the NHA Committee on People's Freedom of Information approved by GM Escalada by virtue of Office Order No. 2911.

AGM Kampitan said the NHA PFOI Manual will provide an update on NHA's existing policies, records, documents, projects and programs. It may also serve as reference material or source of information for other government agencies, private institutions, non-government organizations, community associations, and by anyone who has particular concern and inquiry.

He said, "NHA PFOI Manual guarantees that citizen's right to access information and that freedom of information are afforded and recognized".

"NHA is now FOI compliant. We will provide the public access to information and assist them with their queries and concerns the best possible way we can," AGM Kampitan added.

Likewise, Ms. Jinky Joy Dela Cruz Ledesma, Executive Assistant for Secretary Martin Andanar of the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) lauded the NHA saying, "so far from all the agency manual that we have read and seen, the NHA PFOI manual is the most comprehensive."

With the implementation of FOI at NHA, the Committee shall spearhead the conduct of series of orientation sessions nationwide under the supervision of Vice Chairperson Ivanswenda V. Marquez for designated Public Assistant Desk Officers/FOI Officers on the procedures, timelines, process flow, functions, duties, responsibilities and accountabilities that encompasses said performance.