*Cielo Krisel Lagman-Luistro*
City Mayor

**EXECUTIVE ORDER 41-A SERIES 2022**

**AN EXECUTIVE ORDER PROVIDING THE GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF CHRISTMAS STREET CAROLLING IN THE CITY OF TABACO**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines as a predominantly Christian country is known to have the longest Christmas season in the world. Along with it, comes the traditions and festivities that are observed during the season, to which Filipinos are devoted;

**WHEREAS**, in 2020, with the effects brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Christmas traditions that Filipinos used to observe were trimmed down to the barest minimum, to ensure compliance with the government's health standards and protocols;

**WHEREAS**, the reopening of the country to the New Normal, the continuance of the observance of the Yuletide traditions is expected to rise, such as the holding of big family gatherings, Simbang Gabi, Paskuhan, and most especially the Christmas Caroling;

**WHEREAS**, Christmas caroling is considered an opportunity for people to admire the twinkling lights, and festive decorations adorning each house, put smiles on the faces of the people being serenaded, and the singers as well, pose, on the other hand, dangers and accidents to children which the government has yet to craft a law regulating the same;

**WHEREAS**, while the approval of Presidential Decree 1563 regulating the commission of mendicancy in children, singing carols for Christmas presents may not fall into such a category, as it is part of the ancient tradition of celebrating the Yuletide Season for over a thousand years now;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the power vested upon me by section 455, b, 2, ii of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, I, **CIELO KRISEL LAGMAN-LUISTRO**, City Mayor of Tabaco, do **PROVIDE THE GUIDELINES ON THE CONDUCT OF CHRISTMAS STREET CAROLLING IN THE CITY OF TABACO** and **ORDER** the following:

**SECTION 1. GENERAL GUIDELINES.**

1. LGUs shall continue to enforce minimum public health standards within their respective jurisdiction, particularly to children aged 11 years old and below, and ensure that those who will participate in the caroling and were vaccinated.

2. To ensure the safety of carolers ages 17 and below, the City Traffic Management Teams, Barangay Public Safety Officers, and Barangay Tanods shall be deployed to conduct roving activities, for proper traffic management and safe road passage.

3. Safekeeping of stray dogs/harmful animals, road clearing, and removal of illegally parked vehicles that may cause accidents and/or unwanted incidents must be observed.

4. Barangays shall assign and organize their communities' activities for children to ensure their safety. Gift-giving activities or medical missions at activity centers may be organized by the public to ensure a safe Christmas experience for the children. It should be strictly conducted in safe areas within their barangays or communities and not along roads and main thoroughfares.

5. Children while engaged in caroling should be supervised by their parents or guardians. Ensure that children are chaperoned. Children, even teens are NOT encouraged to go out Christmas caroling alone.

6. To avoid disturbance within the community, caroling shall preferably be conducted during the past-dinner time but before bedtime, not later than 9:00 pm for children and not beyond 10:00 pm for adults.

**SECTION 2. EFFECTIVITY and REPEALING CLAUSE.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately. All local orders, directives, and issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with this executive order are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

**ISSUED** this 28th day of November 2022, in Tabaco City, Albay.

**CIELO KRISEL LAGMAN-LUISTRO**
City Mayor