

National Office

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13 September 2022

NATIONAL OFFICE MEMORANDUM NO. 60 Series of 2022

TO: National Office Directors, Executives and Staff

Regional Scout Directors, Executives and Staff Council Scout Executives and Officers-In-Charge

Regional and Local Council Safe from Harm Coordinators

Commissioner Staff at all Ranks and Levels Parents, Guardians and other Stakeholders

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL SAFE FROM HARM EMAIL ADDRESS

Pursuant to the National Executive Board Resolution No. 09 Series of 2020, passed during
its 5th Regular Meeting held last 28 February 2020, which officially adopted the World Safe
from Harm Policy that aims to facilitate the development and implementation of the necessary
policies and procedures at the National level and to create a safe environment for all children
and young people in Scouting. It also strives to ensure that appropriate support mechanisms
are in place within NSOs to facilitate proper promotion and development of National Safe from Harm
policies and strategies.

- 2. The Safety and Risk Management Committee of the NEB, which covers the oversight function on the implementation of the Safe from Harm initiatives in the programs, projects and activities of the BSP, has taken another step to help ensure that all concerns and issues are attended to with urgency while taking due respect to privacy of individuals through its official safe from harm email address.
- 3. In line with its thrust to fulfill its primary responsibility to make sure that all Scouts and Leaders are safe from all forms of harm and abuse, the BSP has created an official email account at safefromharm@scouts.org.ph that will take immediate actions on reports, complaints, issues and concerns related to any or alleged violations of the Safe from Harm Policy during the conduct of any Scouting events and activities.
- 4. According to the World Safe from Harm Policy, the term "Harm" refers to any detrimental effect on person's physical, emotional or psychological well-being and integrity, while the term "Abuse" is used to describe a range of ways in which maltreatment can be inflicted on children and young people. These may include but are not limited to: Physical, Psychological and Emotional Abuse such as Bullying, Neglect, Sexual Abuse or Exploitation, Hazing, Corporal Punishment and alike.
- 5. All reports, complaints, issues and concerns related to safe from harm policy will be subjected to **verification** and **validation** to and from the concerned Local Council and will be treated with **utmost confidentiality** and will also require signing of Non-Disclosure Agreement from all concerned parties pursuant to applicable laws, particularly the Republic Act (R.A.) 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and the Republic Act (R.A.) 11313 or the Safe Spaces Act, respectively.

- 6. Should you have queries, you may refer them directly to **Mr. Yasser F. Sarona**, Program and Adult Resources Development Executive and Safe from Harm Focal Person at yaz@scouts.org.ph or via (02) 8527-8317 loc. 524.
- 7. The National Office, BSP, enjoins everyone to take active part in helping to create a safe environment and safe spaces for our Scouts and Leaders and see to it that our programs, projects and activities are free from all forms of harm and abuse at all times.

8. For information, guidance, compliance and widest dissemination of all concerned.

DIOSDADO M. SAN ANTONIO

OIC – Secretary General

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