ORDINANCE NO. 2010-051

AN ORDINANCE EXEMPTING INDIGENTS FROM THE PAYMENT OF FILING AND CERTAIN FEES BEING COLLECTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CIVIL REGISTRAR:-

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

When Republic Act No. 9048 otherwise known as Gunigundo Law took effect on April 22, 2001, many were relieved that the correction of clerical or typographical error and change of first name or nickname in the birth records of concerned individual would become less costly and much easier. Indeed, the said law had helped a lot those individuals whose entries in the Civil Registry Books are actually not of their own making.

Nonetheless, indigent individuals are totally unable or still find great difficulty in taking corrective actions due to the prohibitive costs of the filing and other fees. If the record involves the individuals' children (birth records required in school), the latter are actually the ones suffering and are prejudiced by the inability of the parents to pay the required fees. In fact, some of these individuals often approach government officials for help in defraying the cost of such fees. They should therefore be unburdened of such difficulties. Hence, this ordinance.

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. Definition of Term. - An indigent shall refer not only to a destitute, needy and poor individual, but also to a person (a) whose gross monthly income and that of his immediate family living with him do not exceed the minimum wage of an employee in the City of Naga pursuant to the applicable wage rate in an establishment with the greatest number of workers as prescribed by the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board and (b) who do not own real property with a fair market value as stated in the current tax declaration of more than seventy five thousand (Php75,000.00) pesos.

SECTION 2. Exemption from payment of Filing and Other Fees. Indigent residents who are registered voters of the City of Naga are hereby exempted from the payment of filing and other fees being collected by the Office of the City Civil Registrar. Such exemption shall include: (a) fees for filing of petitions for correction of first name and/or correction of entries, (b) fees for marriage license and

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-051 Series 2 0 1 0

Page - t w o -

solemnization, and (c) fees for late registration of birth, marriage and death.

SECTION 3. Submission of Compliance Requirements. The availing individual shall submit to the Local Civil Registrar's Office a Certification issued by the City Social Welfare and Development Officer attesting that he is a resident of the City and that he is a destitute, needy and poor pursuant to the above qualification requirements. In the alternative, the availing individual may submit to the Local Civil Registrar's Office (a) a Certification issued by the concerned Punong Barangay attesting that the availing person is a resident of the barangay and an indigent based on the above income requirement, and (b) a City Assessor's Certification attesting to the above property requirement. Said certifications shall be issued free of charge. In case of doubt, the City Civil Registrar may further require the submission of an Income Tax Return or Certificate as non-tax filer from BIR and a Provincial Assessor's Certification.

For purposes of the CSWDO Certification, the applicant shall submit himself for an interview at the CSWDO to determine his eligibility through the filling up of Intake Sheet. If initially found eligible, he may still be required to submit the documents referred to above. Upon verification of the authenticity of the above requirements, the required Certificate of Indigency shall be issued to the applicant.

Provided, that if the applicant is a Sanggawadan beneficiary holding a Privilege Card issued pursuant to Ordinance No. 2008-092, the above requirement shall not be required of him. He is automatically considered an indigent within the meaning and contemplation of this ordinance.

- **SECTION 4. Applicability.** This ordinance shall apply even to pending applications which have not yet been fully paid.
- **SECTION 5. Penalty Clause.** Any misrepresentation concerning the income and property requirements provided in Section 1 hereof that is done for the purpose of availing of the benefit under this ordinance and upon proof thereof shall be punished as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-051 Series 2 0 1 0

Page three-

- (a) For the first offense an administrative fine equivalent to the amount of fees being charged by the Local Civil Registrar's Office;
- (b) For the second offense a fine of Php1,000.00 or imprisonment of not less than thirty (30) days but not more than sixty (60) days, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court, in addition to the above administrative fine; and
- (c) For the third offense a fine of Php2,000.00 or imprisonment of not less than sixty (60) days but not more than ninety (90) days, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court, in addition to the above administrative fine.
- **SECTION 6. Repealing Clause.** Any provision of ordinance, rules and regulations and/or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby modified, amended, and/or repealed accordingly.
- **SECTION 7. Effectivity.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval and after publication in a newspaper of local circulation.

ENACTED: October 19, 2010.

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 $\ensuremath{\mathbf{WE}}$ $\ensuremath{\mathbf{HEREBY}}$ $\ensuremath{\mathbf{CERTIFY}}$ to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DELA TORRE

Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.

City Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

JOHN G. BONGAT City Mayor