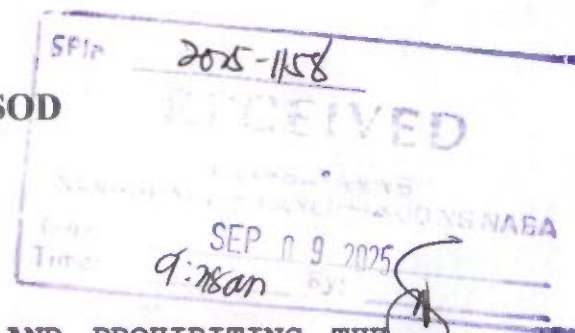




Republic of the Philippines
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD
City Government of Naga

Ordinance No. 2025-XXX



AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF DRONES AND PROHIBITING THE FLYING OR DEPLOYMENT OF ANY UNREGISTERED AND UNAUTHORIZED DRONES IN AREAS DECLARED AS NO-FLY ZONES FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES:-

Author: Melvin Ramon G. Buenafe 

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, empowers local government units to exercise powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for the promotion of the general welfare, particularly in preserving the comfort, convenience, peace, safety, protection, and prosperity of their constituents;

WHEREAS, under Section 458(a)(4)(i) of the same Code, the Sangguniang Panlungsod is expressly authorized to enact ordinances intended to safeguard the health, safety, peace, prosperity, and the protection of the inhabitants of the city;

WHEREAS, the unauthorized and unregulated use of drones may compromise public safety, disrupt peace and order, interfere with disaster response and emergency operations, and pose risks to sensitive government facilities, public gatherings, and critical infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the operation of drones without consent for surveillance, photography, or data gathering may constitute violations of Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012, and other existing laws protecting the right to privacy of individuals;

WHEREAS, Naga City, being a bustling center of commerce, culture, and socio-economic activities, regularly hosts significant public gatherings and events that draw large congregations of people, thereby posing challenges to peace and order as well as public safety and security;

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga in session assembled, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. This Ordinance shall be known as the "**Drone Regulation and Safety Ordinance of the City of Naga.**"

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS.

For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- a) Drone - any unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), remotely piloted aircraft system (RPAS), or any similar device that is capable of flight and is used for any commercial, recreational, or other purposes.
- b) Operator - any person or entity who controls, operates, or uses a drone.

- c) No-Fly Zone - areas within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Naga declared as prohibited for drone operations due to safety, security, privacy, or public welfare reasons.
- d) Registered Drone - a drone that has been duly registered with the authorized local government office or agency.
- e) Authorized Drone - a registered drone that has received a written authorization, permit, or clearance to operate in specified areas including no-fly zones, as allowed under specific conditions.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE. This Ordinance shall apply to all drone operations within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Naga.

SECTION 4. REGISTRATION AND AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS.

- a) All drones operated within the City of Naga shall be registered with the City Government or any designated agency authorized to maintain drone registries.
- b) No person shall operate or deploy any drone unless it is registered and, if applicable, authorized to fly in specific areas, especially near restricted or sensitive zones.
- c) Operators must secure prior written authorization from the City Government before flying drones in or near any declared no-fly zones.

SECTION 5. DECLARATION OF NO-FLY ZONES. The City Government shall have the authority to declare and publish no-fly zones within the city limits, which may include but are not limited to:

- Areas near government buildings and installations, including City Hall, police and fire stations, and court complexes;
- Schools, hospitals, and other sensitive institutions;
- Public gatherings, events, and other areas where safety and security are paramount;
- Critical infrastructure like power plants, waterworks, communication towers, and transportation hubs.
- The City Government shall coordinate with relevant agencies to identify and designate these zones and shall inform the public through appropriate means.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITED ACTS.

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- a) Fly or deploy any drone that is not registered and authorized as prescribed under this Ordinance;
- b) Fly or deploy any drone in declared no-fly zones without written authorization;
- c) Operate a drone in a manner that endangers public safety, invades privacy, or poses security risks;
- d) Use drones to conduct surveillance, photography, or any activity prohibited by law or ordinance within the city jurisdiction without proper consent;
- e) Interfere with or disrupt emergency operations, law enforcement, or other government functions using drones.

SECTION 7. PENALTIES. Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be penalized as follows:

- a) For the first offense, a fine of ~~Four~~ ^{Five} Thousand Pesos (P4,000.00) and confiscation of the drone device;
- b) For the second offense, a fine of ~~Five~~ ^{Five} Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) and confiscation of the drone device;

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- c) For the third and subsequent offenses, a fine of ~~Twenty~~ ^{Five} Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00), confiscation of the drone device, and possible imprisonment of not less than five (5) days but not more than thirty (30) days ^{as the Court may decide.}
- d) Additional penalties may be imposed for violations of other applicable laws such as violating privacy and data protection laws.

SECTION 8. SEIZURE AND CONFISCATION. Drones found to be operating in violation of this Ordinance may be seized by the City Government or its authorized representatives. The operator or owner shall be responsible for all costs associated with the storage and safekeeping of the confiscated drone.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR). The City Mayor, through the appropriate City Office, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Ordinance within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any part or provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 11. REPEALING CLAUSE. All ordinances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Naga.

Enacted:

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WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
City Vice Mayor and
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

MARIA LEONOR G. ROBREDO
City Mayor