

## Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION ECC Building, 355 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, City of Makati

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## OCTOBER 2012 GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS	WHY GOOD NEWS	
GOOD GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY		
ECC and DOLE-CAR conduct advocacy seminar in Baguio City	Emelita Ferrer, Chief LEO, DOLE-CAR, delivered the welcome remarks in behalf of the Regional Director during the conduct of DOLE-CAR advocacy seminar in Baguio City. Atty. Villasoto provided the participants with a brief background of the Employees' Compensation Program. Dr. Bañaga gave lectures on the Principles of Accident Prevention, the KAGABAY Program, and the ECC Quick Response Team Program. Alice Borres discussed the aspect of compensation. In the afternoon, Emmanuel D. Barcellano, LEO II, DOLE-CAR, provided the participants with updates on the programs and projects of DOLE-CAR. He also discussed the manner of resolving labor disputes among the	
	employees and the employers. Several companies, such as Benguet Mines, SM Group of Companies, Hedcor Inc., and Texas Instruments expressed their intentions of inviting representatives from the ECC for purposes of conducting exclusive ECP seminar with their establishments. The ECC Team was composed of the following: Atty. Jonathan Villasoto, Atty. Arturo Abat, Dr. Raymond C. Bañaga, Ms. Alicia S. Borres, Mr. Edward Razon, Mr. Danilo Mandeoya, Mr. Rommel Punla and Mr. Gene Quimpo. More than 150 human resource officers, union representatives and 16 media practitioners attended the said event.	

Regional Extension Units: ECC Region X, 3/F Gonzalo Go Bldg., Corrales Avenue, Cagayan de Oro City

ECC CAR, Cabinet Hills, Baguio City

ECC Region VII, 2/F, GMC Plaza, MJ Cuenco Avenue corner Legaspi St., Cebu City ECC Region IX, Right Wing, 3/F QNS Bldg., Veterans Avenue., Ext. Tumaga, Zamboanga City ECC Reaion XII, 102 Acepal Buildina. Mabini Extension, Koronadal City



ECC OIC-Deputy Executive Director Atty. Jonathan T. Villasoto listens as one of the participants posed a question during an open forum during the Advocacy Seminar conducted at Citylight Hotel in Baguio City on October 25, 2012.



Live TV guesting/interview of Atty. Jonathan T. Villasoto after a successful Advocacy Seminar conducted in the Region at ABS-CBN Baguio City during the "Boses ng Bayan" segment anchored by Mr Dobie de Guzman. on October 25, 2012.

ECC lifts suspension of EC survivorship pension in the public sector

Live TV guesting/interview at ABS-CBN-Baguio "Boses ng Bayan" segment

> The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) has recently ruled that EC survivorship pension in the public sector may be granted even beyond the five year guaranteed period subject to the qualifications prescribed by law.

> On July 27, 2012, the ECC issued Board Resolution No. 12-07-16 directing the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) to lift the suspension of payment of EC survivorship pension in the public sector beyond the five year guaranteed period.

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	Since 2006, the GSIS has been implementing its policy of limiting to five years the payment of survivorship pension unde PD 626, as amended, due to depletion of fund. However, the EC pointed out that with the GSIS report on the improvement in th status of the GSIS-managed State Insurance Fund (SIF), th payment of EC survivorship pension beyond five years should b reinstated as a policy. GSIS records reveal that there were 1,101 survivorship pensioners in the public sector whose benefits have been suspended. However, the GSIS will still verify if all of them are stil qualified to receive the EC death benefits as provided by th Employees' Compensation Law. Currently, the GSIS has a total of 2,045 pensioners who ar actively receiving disability benefits and survivorship pension under the Employees' Compensation Program.
ECC awards benefits to call center agent	The Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) recently granted temporary total disability (TTD) benefits due to Voca Cord Nodules to Marie Angeline Rodriguez, a customer service representative at IBM Business Services, Inc., Quezon City.
	Sometime in April 2008, Rodriguez was diagnosed with Chronic Laryngitis, Vocal Cord Nodules. Her ailment was evaluated not work-connected by the Social Security System (SSS on the ground that Vocal Cord Nodules is not included in the list o occupational diseases and the risk of developing the same was increased by her smoking habits.
	In granting the claim, the ECC gave credence to a medical report which states that "vocal cord nodules are common among patients who speak professionally especially younger women They have now been common among call center employees' who need to speak for several hours confined in cold-air conditioned rooms." Considering that Rodriguez's nature of work as a call center agent entails speaking on the phone for several hours, her working conditions made her susceptible to vocal cord nodules.
	The ECC granted Rodriguez EC TTD benefits for 90 days plus reimbursement of medical expenses incurred in the treatment of her Vocal Cord Nodules.

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ECC intensifies awareness drive on the EC Program The ECC conducted 11 seminars in October 2012 which benefited a total of 2918 companies with 616 HR managers, supervisors, administrative officers, safety managers in Metro Manila, Baguio City, Ilollo City, Zamboanga City, and Batangas City.

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