



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
**EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**  
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# GOOD NEWS

## April 2014

GOOD NEWS	WHY GOOD NEWS
GOOD GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY	
<p><b>ECC compensates soldiers and policemen performing their duties even when they are not at their assigned posts - Baldoz</b></p>	<p>The Employees' Compensation Commission issued a board resolution providing additional protection to the soldiers and policemen under the Employees' Compensation Program.</p> <p>Labor and Employment Secretary and Chair of the ECC, Rosalinda Dimaplis-Baldoz stated that soldiers and policemen confront not only vigorous but also dangerous duties in keeping the peace, protecting the people and property and enforcing the law.</p> <p>"We recognize the risk of the nature of work of our men in uniform, hence, it is but proper to compensate them in case of death or injury when they are responding to a crime situation albeit they are not in their assigned post," she explained.</p> <p>ECC Executive Secretary Stella Zipagan-Banawis stressed that uniformed personnel are not only tasked to keep the peace and order, they are also required to render assistance in times of calamities. She cited that the Supreme Court, in one of the cases related to ECC, held that soldiers and policemen are technically on duty 24 hours a day by the nature of their functions. They may be asked by their superior officers or by any distressed citizen to assist in maintaining the peace and security of the community.</p> <p>"They are true public servants that deserve to be compensated in case of injuries or death while performing their duty even though they are on leave or off duty" expressed Banawis.</p>
<p><b>ECC healer of broken confidence, says former seaman</b></p>	<p>Rustico Boboyo was a seaman for 17 years until he encountered an accident while he was on board a tanker vessel.</p> <p>Boboyo got his right shoulder fractured and dislocated while pushing a heavy cart loaded with fruits and vegetables on a ramp.</p> <p>After the incident, he became jobless. Depression and hopelessness hit Boboyo.</p> <p>As Boboyo recalled, he said that what happened to him was D-E-A-D or <b>disability ends all dreams</b>.</p> <p>While recovering from his injury, Boboyo learned from a colleague that the Employees' Compensation Commission provides rehabilitation programs for workers who figured in work-related injuries or contracted work-connected sickness.</p> <p>ECC reached out to Boboyo and offered him 12 physical therapy sessions, livelihood program, entrepreneurship seminar and a starter kit package, through its Katulong at Gabay sa Manggagawang may Kapansanan (KaGabay Program).</p>

### GOOD GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Boboyo never hesitated and immediately availed of the said program. He was granted a scholarship at the Center for Small Entrepreneurs and took meat processing class worth P3,000, he also enrolled at start-your-own business and enterprises seminar and received the Kabuhayan DOLE's starter kit worth P5,000, in addition to EC Permanent Partial Disability benefits in the amount of P17,480 that he received as an occupationally disabled worker.

"This is the time to fill up my knowledge with new skills," Boboyo realized.

"Through ECC, D-E-A-D obtained a different meaning. It is now **de**veloped entrepreneurs **al**ways **dr**eaming," Boboyo gladly expressed.

He believed that the role of ECC to the ODWs is to help them bring back their self-esteem and to teach them to bounce back from trials they encountered due to their work-related sickness or injuries.

"Pag naibalik na ang tiwala sa sarili, kailangan lang ng focus at sipag at tyaga sa part ng mga ODWs para makaahong muli sa buhay (After regaining self-confidence, ODWs need focus, hard work and perseverance to recover in life)," he emphasized.

To date, Boboyo is the vice president of the occupationally disabled workers' association which was established on April 19, 2013.

He is now engaged in making dishwashing liquid and native bags made of banana fiber.

"Thank you to ECC, you let me see the light again," Boboyo remarked.

KaGabay Program is a project of ECC that provides a special economic assistance for ODWs who lost employment due to work-related sickness or injury.

DOLE Secretary and Chair of the ECC Board Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz stressed that ECC not only aims to provide compensation benefits to ODWs but also ensuring that they are leading a normal life.

On the other hand, ECC Executive Director Stella Zipagan-Banawis is elated to learn that ODWs perceive ECC as the healer of their shattered confidence.

"We hope that more ODWs will receive ECC's assistance and that no one among them will feel inferior to anyone," Banawis said.



Boboyo and his products in a tiangge for ODWs in front of ECC building.

**GOOD GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**SPES baby, now an ECC employee**

Christopher Gamboa, born in Koronadal City and son of a carpenter and a household helper, grew up dreaming to earn the best education possible with a strong ambition of becoming a professional someday.

He knew that going to college will be very expensive and his parents may have difficulty in sending him to college.

Upon learning of the Special Program of Employment for Students of the Department of Labor and Employment, he did not waste time and immediately applied to be one of the beneficiaries because he knew that SPES would alleviate his financial burden.

Luckily, he was accepted as a SPES beneficiary by the DOLE Provincial Office of South Cotabato in Koronadal City.

Upon joining SPES in 1999, Gamboa exhibited extraordinary performance and his superiors appreciated him, thus, he was always re-hired every summer until 2002.

Finally in 2003, Gamboa earned his degree in Bachelor of Secondary Education major in English at Notre Dame of Marbel University in Koronadal City.

He also earned the tag name SPES baby, a label given to a SPES beneficiary who has availed of the program during the whole duration of college until graduation, receiving a salary coming from a partner employer (60%), which on the part of Gamboa was the provincial government of South Cotabato, and from DOLE (40%).

After college, he pursued his career in education for 8 years and eventually transferred to the Employees' Compensation Commission, which he considers a major breakthrough in his career.

He is presently the Information Officer of the ECC in Regional Extension Unit 12 and has been so for the past 2 years.

This summer, ECC, an attached agency of the DOLE, has screened and hired forty (40) SPES students who are children and family members of occupationally-disabled workers.

Ever since ECC started participating in the implementation of SPES in 2012 in collaboration with the DOLE National Capital Region-Makati, it gradually increased the number of its SPES participants.

From 15 students in 2012, it increased to 25 students in 2013. This summer, ECC has 40 deserving SPES beneficiaries.

Twelve students are assigned in the ECC Central Office while the remaining 28 students were assigned to different government agencies near their place of residence.

ECC plans to continue supporting SPES of DOLE as an income support program for ODWs and to encourage the children and family members of ODWs to pursue their studies and have a better future ahead of them.



*Christopher Gamboa conducts ECP lecture during the Hureda-PMAP Socskargen Chapter- 44th General Membership Meeting Seminar on Statutory Updates of Pag-ibig, PhilHealth, SSS and ECC at Phela Grande Hotel in General Santos City.*

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