



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
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**COMMISSION ADVISORY ON THE COVERAGE OF EMPLOYEES'
COMPENSATION LAW TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES
OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) AND TO THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
POLICE (PNP)**

CIRCULAR No. 06-709

TO: ALL GSIS REGIONAL OFFICE AREA MANAGERS


The following advisory is hereby issued in response to numerous complaints from the members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) due to non-acceptance of their EC claims solely on the ground of absence of GSIS Policy Numbers.

Despite the exclusion of the members of the AFP and the PNP from the coverage of Republic Act No. 8291 otherwise known as "The Government Service Insurance Act of 1997," they are still covered by P.D. 626, as amended. Article 168 of P.D. 626, as amended, partly reads:

"Art. 168. Compulsory Coverage. Coverage in the State Insurance Fund shall be compulsory upon all employers and their employees not over sixty (60) years of age xxx"

Under Article 167 (g) of P.D. 626, as amended, the term "employee" includes "members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines." The PNP is deemed covered on the ground that at the time of the effectivity of P.D. 626 on January 1, 1975, the defunct Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police (PC-INP), the predecessor of PNP, was one of the major services of the AFP. Moreover, under Rule 4 of Rules of Procedures for the Filing and Disposition of the Employees' Compensation Claims (Annex "F" of P.D. 626, as amended), GSIS Policy Number is not included as one of the requirements in the filing of EC claims. Thus, in all cases, no EC claim from the AFP and the PNP should be rejected on the basis alone of absence of GSIS Policy Numbers.

For immediate implementation.
Done in the City of Makati, this 24th day of July, 2009.


EVELYN P. FLORENDO-TABLANG, CESO IV
OIC- Executive Director and Concurrent Commissioner