

### **THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE – APRIL, 2008**

We, the people of the Municipality of Jolo, bound by the common ideals of peace under the spirit of democracy, seeking for the establishment and perpetuity of a true and genuine peace in this municipality that is our home and place of work, do hereby submit and commit ourselves to the implementation and enforcement of the following Declaration and Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)

#### **DECLARATION**

1. The area of THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE shall cover the entire Municipality of Jolo, and extend to all its adjacent Barangays within one (1) kilometer radius to include the maritime areas in neighboring municipalities contiguous to Jolo.
2. The carrying of firearms, explosives, or other forms of deadly weapons, whether openly displayed or concealed, by any resident or visitor, or by any Government official, security detail, soldier, or policeman not on official duty shall be prohibited in THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE. Depositing of such items in an authorized station created for such purpose shall be made possible and strictly enforced.
3. The open display of licensed firearms, by any resident or visitor, or by any Government official, employee, security detail, soldier, or policeman not on official duty shall be strictly prohibited in THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE.
4. The presence of authorized Government officials, employees, security detail, soldiers, or policemen in full combat uniform, bearing firearms and other forms of equipment shall be strictly minimized in THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE. This shall include any and all forms of vehicles: military, police, civilian government, private, or public utility vehicles authorized to carry arms, be fortified with arms, or with authorized armed individuals on board. Re-routing of such personnel and vehicular traffic for passage purposes shall be made possible and strictly enforced.
5. To allow for the orderly flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic within THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE, all traffic and public safety ordinances shall be strictly implemented. Public utility vehicle terminals shall be relocated to strategic areas to decongest the main streets of Jolo, drivers' education on traffic rules and regulations shall be enjoined, and ambulant or sidewalk vendors shall be relocated to a designated area.
6. To prevent vices from disrupting the aspirations of THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE, no form of illegal gambling shall be allowed in Jolo. Likewise, the campaign against illegal drugs and other forms of criminality shall be heightened. To help the Jolo Municipal Government in this endeavor, the people of Jolo shall be empowered to participate actively by developing an information and communication network aimed at immediate police response and action.
7. Because environmental degradation can cause problems for THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE, the Jolo Municipal Government, in coordination with the concerned citizenry, shall pursue the effective implementation of a comprehensive Solid Waste Management Program for Jolo.
8. The Jolo Municipal Government shall be the lead unit in the enforcement of THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE Declaration, and in the implementation of its IRR. It shall be supported by the Jolo Internal Defense Force (JIDF) comprising of AFP and PNP (PNP MG) units, Coast Guard and by other Government and civic organizations, and individuals committed to the pursuits of this Declaration.
9. Finally, for instances calling for the facilitation and mediation of conflicts that exist or may arise within THE JOLO ZONE OF PEACE, there shall be created a Council of Elders as advocate of peace, aimed at expediting the peaceful settlement of disputes, especially between clans and families, before they are brought to the Judiciary.