

BLR AND PSITC CONDUCTS ONE-DAY ORIENTATION FOR SECURITY GUARDS AND SECURITY PERSONNEL



“The private security sector is peculiar. That your job is important in ensuring workplace stability requires that you, being workers as well, should be assured of decent work.”

Labor Undersecretary Claro A. Arellano, in his opening remarks during the one-day basic orientation for security guards and security personnel, recognized the peculiar nature of their job while at the same time emphasized the need to safeguard their rights as workers as well through learning sessions and programs that equip them with basic knowledge beneficial to their profession. With this objective in mind, the Bureau of Labor Relations, through the initiative of the Private Security Industry Tripartite Council (PSITC), organized a one-day basic orientation on 10 October 2019 for around 200 security guards and security personnel at the Labor Governance Learning Center in DOLE Building, Intramuros, Manila.

The orientation covered topics on licensing, occupational safety and health, and DOLE livelihood programs pertinent to the private security industry. Police Major Dario F. Calatrava Jr. from the Philippine National Police Supervisory Office for Security and Investigation Agencies (PNP-SOSIA) presented the licensing requirements for establishing security agencies and for applying for license to own and possess firearms, as well as the ethical standards for security guards. Meanwhile, Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC) Director Maria Teresita Cucueco and Ms. Eva Capio of the Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns (BWSC) discussed, respectively, the occupational safety and health standards in the private security industry and the DOLE livelihood programs that the security guards and their families or relatives may avail of.

In addition to questions regarding the PNP-SOSIA policy on dealing with security agencies with expired license and on the use of fraudulent identification cards, the participants also raised the need to harmonize the PNP-SOSIA directive as regards

the proper attire of security guards in connection with the OSH policies of DOLE, particularly the wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE). The possible overlap between the OSH training for safety officers and the training that PNP-SOSIA requires of security guards was also brought up.

Recognizing the efforts of DOLE in organizing the orientation, Mr. Michael Datuin, one of the PSITC members, addressed at the same time the participants by commending their participation in the event and enjoining them to continuously support and participate in similar activities that DOLE may conduct in the future. *“This is a forum. This is where we are supposed to join together, raise our hands, and say our comments. Because if they do not understand, they cannot help us.”*

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