



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
INSURANCE COMMISSION
1071 United Nations Avenue
Manila



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

**COMMISSIONER FUNA CALLS FOR THE EXPEDITIOUS SETTLEMENT OF
INSURANCE PROCEEDS OF NUEVA EJICA BUS CRASH VICTIMS**

Insurance Commissioner Dennis B. Funa called on Passenger Accident Management and Insurance Agency (PAMI) to expedite the release of the insurance proceeds due to the families of the victims of the vehicular accident in Nueva Ecija involving Leomarick Trans Bus.

Based on initial reports, the bus was traveling from Isabela province to Candon, Ilocos Sur when the accident happened this morning leaving 24 individuals dead.

Commissioner Dennis B. Funa said, "We already coordinated with PAMI requiring it to expedite the release of the insurance proceeds to the families of the victims of the bus accident and to render assistance to the victims and their families in relation to the processing of insurance claims."

"We will also require them to submit a written report on the status of the payment of insurance claims, particularly the number of claimants paid with the corresponding amount of claims actually paid," Commissioner Funa added.

Based on the initial information given to the IC, PAMI will meet with the operator of Leomarick Trans Bus in Nueva Ecija tomorrow to discuss the details for the release of the insurance proceeds.

PAMI manifested that it will comply with the directives of Insurance Commissioner Funa and assured him that it is ready to release the full amount of insurance proceeds to the beneficiaries of the victims of the accident upon submission of complete documentary requirements.

Under the Passenger Personal Accident Insurance Program or PPAIP, it is mandatory upon operators of public utility vehicles to procure insurance coverage for their passengers, including the driver. Under the PPAIP, the mandatory insurance provides for accidental death benefits and bodily injury benefits on top of the Compulsory Third Party Liability (CTPL) insurance.

The insurance coverage under the PPAIP is an "all risk no fault" which means that insurance companies shall cover all authorized public utility vehicles even if the proximate cause is the mechanical failure of the insured vehicle, negligence or fault of the driver or other vehicles, mechanical failure or "Acts of Gods".

Under the Enhanced PPAIP, the maximum amount of death benefit is in the amount of P200,000.00 per passenger (from the previous amount of P150,000.00 per passenger) while the amount of benefits for bodily injuries are based on a schedule of benefits depending on the injury sustained.

The mandatory insurance coverage under the PPAIP also provides benefits for the bus driver and conductor, such as burial assistance worth P15,000.00 for each of them, one-time educational assistance covering one child for each worth P10,000.00, and subsidy for casket in the amount of P10,000.00 each.

Under the current PPAIP, the LTFRB entered into a 3-year Memorandum of Agreement with two insurance consortia managed by two (2) management companies— SCCI Management and Insurance Agency Corporation (SCCI) and Passenger Accident Management and Insurance Agency, Inc. (PAMI).

PAMI's lead insurer is UCPB General Insurance Company while SCCI's lead insurance is Alliedbanker's Insurance Corporation.



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