



VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Visca, Baybay City, Leyte 6521-A

Philippines

Tel: +63 53 335 2600; Fax: +63 53 335 2601

e-mail: opvisca@mozcom.com; website: www.vsu-visca.edu.ph

Office of the President

03 August 2009

MEMORANDUM NO. 166
Series of 2009

T O: Dr. Maria Belen Buzon

R E: Final Notice to Vacate the Housing Unit You are Currently Occupying

As per letter of this office dated 22 June 2009, you were formally informed to vacate the VSU housing unit you are currently occupying not later than 31 July 2009. The said letter was a follow-up to the letter of the Chairman of the VSU Employees Housing Commission, giving you until 28 February 2009 to vacate the said housing unit, which you appealed for consideration.

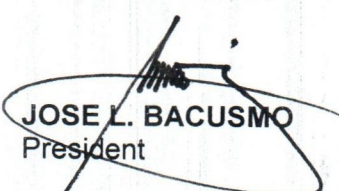
On 12 July 2009, you wrote again to this office for consideration with the request to review your case as different compared to the other VSU staff based on the merit you cited as a health worker, among others. In view of the said letter, please be informed of the following:

- **Contrary to your claim**, the VSU administration has never been selective in considering what is best in the interest of the university. The decision to let you vacate the VSU housing unit you are currently occupying is a simple implementation of what is provided for in the VSU Housing Policy that states ***"VSU faculty and staff who own housing unit within the prescribed 8-km radius are not entitled to a housing unit inside the campus."*** In fact, the former chairman of the Housing Committee, among many others, voluntarily gave up his cottage and transferred to his own housing unit located few kilometers from VSU Campus.
- **Your being a health worker does not exempt you from the VSU housing policy** as already explained to you by the VSU Employees Housing Commission, through a letter of its Chairman dated 23 July 2009 (see Attachment A). In addition, records of your 12 years of service in the university have shown that you have not been on duty outside office hours or during Saturday, Sundays, and Holidays nor you have been on "on call basis" thus, you are just performing your duties and responsibilities in the university from 8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M, Monday to Friday, similar to the other VSU staff.
- **Your request to exclude tooth extraction from among the services** you are performing in the VSU Dental Clinic in exchange of vacating the housing unit you are currently occupying is definitely not granted. You are hired to perform dental services to the VSU community including tooth extraction. Taking this out from your responsibilities is tantamount to closing the Dental Clinic itself.

In view of the foregoing and as your last consideration, you are given an extension to vacate the said housing unit **not later than 15 August 2009**.

With this Memorandum, I am directing the Director for Administration, the Director of the General Services, and the Head of the Supply and Property Management Office to effectively implement this Memorandum and to assist you in vacating from the said housing unit by providing you needed vehicle to transport your things from VSU to you family house in Baybay.

For your strict compliance.


JOSE L. BACUSMO
President

cc: Dr. L. B. Cano - Director for Administration
Engr. N. M. Israel - Director for General Services
Engr. A. P. Tulin - Head of SPMO
Security Office
OVPAF
File - Secretary of the VSU Employees Housing Committee

ATTACHMENT A -



VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

February 23, 2009

Dr. Ma Belen Buzon -
University Hospital
VSU, Visca, Baybay, Leyte

*For
recd 2/24/09*

Dear Dr. Buzon:

This is response to your letter dated February 13, 2009 regarding your arguments on what is being stipulated in RA 7305 re: Housing Benefits for Public Health Workers.

Please take note (specifically the one underlined) that Section 7.7.1 stipulates "*All Public Health Workers who are on tour of duty and who because of unavoidable circumstances are forced to stay in the hospital, sanitarium or health infirmary premises, shall be entitled to free living quarters within the hospitals, sanitarium or health infirmary*".

It is very clear in said provision who are entitled to free living quarters (not housing unit) within the hospitals, sanitarium or health infirmary and they are public health workers who are on tour of duty and who because of unavoidable circumstances are forced to stay in the hospital, sanitarium or health premises. Such condition does not apply to your case. You were awarded a housing unit by the administration as **an employee of the university** and **not because of RA 7305**, therefore you have to abide by the rules and regulations provided in the **University's Staff Housing Guidelines** more than any other laws you have cited.

In the same Section, under item **a**, it states that "For those required to live in the premises of the facility, physical arrangements shall be made to provide them with adequate quarters or housing for free. This decision shall be made by the head of the health unit in accordance with the demands of service and is not based on the preference of the health worker. Health workers who prefer not to stay in the premises but whose duties require them to stay shall be provided with quarters. Health workers who prefer to stay in the premises but whose duties do not really require them to stay shall not be entitled to this".

Please be informed that based on the Approved Minutes of the VSU Employees Housing Commission's Meeting dated August 22, 2008, regarding your letter dated July 21, 2008, to be given consideration and be exempted from the policy re: VSU staff with houses within 8 kilometer radius from the university for reasons of "Exigency of Service" with some cases cited, it was clearly explained by the Head of the Health Unit to quote "Dr. Palomar asked for Dr. Yu's opinion regarding the case of Dr. Buzon. Dr. Yu explained that as far as he is concerned, emergency cases cited by Dr. Buzon can be


taken cared of by medical doctors. He added that as far as he could remember, Dr. Buzon has not been in 24 hours duty thus she could not claim for an on call Exigency of the Service status". In the same Minutes of the VSU Employees Housing Commission's Meeting, when the Head of the Health Unit was asked what is being practiced by other institutions regarding the implementation of Magna Carta, Dr Yu said to quote "In other institutions, usually only the Chief of Hospitals is given a housing unit. Other staff on call because of the exigency of the service are provided only with quarters". Thus, you are given the option to be accommodated in the cottage (medical personnel quarters) if there is really a need for you to stay in the campus in cases of emergency situation as stated in our letter dated February 10, 2009.

In view of the above, we regret to inform you again that you are only given until February 28, 2009 to vacate the housing unit you are now occupying. Please be informed also that aside from the other reason stated in our previous letter why you have to vacate the place, there are many qualified staff who really need housing accommodation in the campus.

I hope everything is clear and understood now.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


MANUEL K. PALOMAR

Chairman, VSU Employees Housing Commission

cc: Dr. JL Bacusmo, President - *Palomar 2/24/09*
Dr. RC Guarte, VP for Administration & Finance - *Palomar 2/24/09*
Dr. Elwin Jay V. Yu, Head, VSU Hospital - *Palomar 2/24/09*
File - Secretary, VSU Employees Housing Commission