



NATIONAL CITIZENS' MOVEMENT FOR FREE ELECTIONS (NAMFREL)

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May 11, 2013

**The Honorable
Chairman Sixto B. Brillantes Jr.
COMELEC, Manila**

Dear Chairman Brillantes,

In line with our commitment to provide the COMELEC with feedback on the field situation in the lead up to the election on Monday, May 13, we would like to share with you the observations coming from our 33 provincial and 10 NCR city chapters on the **Final Testing and Sealing (FTS)** of the PCOS machines. Since the final day of the FTS is today, May 11, the reports from the field are still coming in.

Attached in two separate matrices are:

- A. **Positive Points in the FTS Observation by NAMFREL Volunteers;** and
- B. **Areas for Improvement of the PCOS Machines (from Observation of FTS by NAMFREL Volunteers)**

It appears that the primary areas of concern are:

1. **Malfunctioning of the PCOS machines.** Some are found to be defective and did not even initialize, so they had to use their contingency machines. Other machines are still for replacement. This problem was found in the following areas: Parañaque, Siargao Islands, Albay, Romblon, Cotabato, Nueva Ecija, San Juan, Iloilo and Manila.
2. **Late arrival of machines and other election materials.** The late arrival of the machines and other materials like the ballot boxes caused delays in the final testing and sealing in the following areas: Rizal, Leyte, Albay, Zamboanga City, Valenzuela, and Sulu.
3. **Sealing of the machines** because the materials used for it were *missing*. Some BEIs had to improvise a different seal, even to the point of using a scotch tape. The following provinces/cities encountered this problem: Siquijor, Makati, Batanes, Cotabato and Quezon City.

Our terminal report will include inputs that are still coming in.

We are looking forward to your comments. We also would like to inform that our chapters expect us to share their reports to the wider public at the soonest possible time.

Sincerely yours,


CORAZON S. DE LA PAZ-BERNARDO
National Chairperson