

| | | ASSA 2017 RECOGNITION AWARD |
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| CATEGORY | : | Customer Service |
| ORGANIZATION | : | Employees' Compensation Commission (ECC) |
| CONTACT PERSON | : | Stella Zipagan-Banawis Executive Director |
| NAME OF PROJECT | : | ECC Policy Response to Work-Related Disasters/ Calamities |
| WHY SHOULD IT BE RECOGNIZED | : | Calamities, whether natural or manmade is becoming a new normal in the Philippines. Recently, super typhoons and other natural disasters battered the country. These and the continuing armed conflict caused by separatist movements or terrorism make it imperative for ECC to be innovative in responding to the need for employees' compensation and services for work-related contingencies resulting disasters/calamities. |
| SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT | : | <p>The ECC by virtue of its mandate to formulate policies and guidelines for the effective implementation of the Employees' Compensation Program (ECP) has consciously looked into the provision of innovative EC benefits to workers who become victims of work-related contingencies resulting from disasters/calamities. Thus, for the past years it has issued the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grant of three-month advance EC pension for EC pensioners whose areas were affected by the disasters/calamities and declared under the state of calamity by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). Separate Board Resolutions were issued to respond to different calamities, particularly Typhoon Yolanda, Earthquake in Bohol and Cebu, Zamboanga Siege and Typhoon Agaton. <p>The ECC finds the need to provide immediate financial assistance to EC pensioners in the event that their areas are declared under the state of calamity by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and</p> |

Management Council. The grant of three month advance EC pension provides a relief to pensioners affected by the calamity.

2. Prescribing a facilitative processing of the EC benefits by dispensing several requirements in filing EC claims for uniformed personnel and or their qualified beneficiaries who suffered from injuries, sickness, or death in the performance of their duties, as well as victims of other disasters. This facilitative process was done for the uniformed personnel victims of the Zamboanga Siege, Mamasapano Incident, the Battle of the Islamic City of Marawi and the Kentex and HTI incidents.

To honor their gallantry in the performance of their sworn duties, the ECC recognized the need to effect a facilitative processing of the EC benefits for the uniformed personnel and/or their qualified beneficiaries who were wounded or killed in action by directing the ECC administering agencies to immediately process and release the corresponding EC benefits upon receipt of the names of the wounded and the names of the immediate families of the casualties from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) and dispense several requirements in filing the EC claim. Similarly, the processing of EC claims of the victims of the fire incidents in the Kentex and HTI companies were facilitated.

Aside from the immediate processing of EC disability or death with funeral benefits, the ECC also conducted a quick response program to the workers affected by these incidents where they were provided with psycho-social counselling and bag of groceries as token. The EC also provides physical restoration services such as physical and/or occupational therapy, free prosthesis, and/or skills/entrepreneurial training for them to go back to the economic mainstream of society.