

NCRPO raises funds for Taal victims

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The National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) expects to raise at least P2.5 million to help the victims and evacuees of the Taal Volcano eruption in Batangas. NCRPO director Brig. Gen. Debold Sinas said the amount is in line with the move by acting Police National Police chief PLt. Gen. Archie Francisco Gamboa for personnel to voluntarily donate P10 from their pay for those affected by the disaster.



In a briefing yesterday, the NCRPO chief said none of the NCRPO's men are being required to join in the effort. "We just encourage our people," Sinas said. "Whether they give or not, it's just okay." Meanwhile, the official said 514 of his men have been affected by the Taal eruption. To make the donation drive fruitful, Sinas has suggested that NCRPO personnel donate an amount "equivalent to one day of their combat pay and combat incentive pay." This would mean at least P100 from each policeman.

"In support to the OIC's guidelines that all policemen donate P10, the NCRPO will in stead donate one day of their combat pay," Sinas explained. "This is separate from our regular pay. The combat pay is worth P3,000 per month," he added. The NCRPO has about 26,000 men. The P2.5 million estimate may even go higher, as he has asked his fellow ranking officers to donate their entire combat pay for a month. Likewise, the **Quezon City Police District** has also urged its officers to donate another P50 out of their incentive pay from Quezon City Hall, apart from the earmarked P10 donation.

However, Sinas said the donation is purely on a voluntary basis. The collection will be presented to the PNP head quarters next week. The NCRPO official said his men have agreed to give the one-day combat pay donation. "Hope fully we could collect this by Monday or Tuesday, then we will give this amount to the OIC so that this can help in the PNP's relief effort," he added.