05 May 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – CENTRAL OFFICE, REGIONAL FIELD OFFICES (RFOs), BUREAUS, ATTACHED AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS, LOCALLY-FUNDED AND FOREIGN ASSISTED PROJECTS

FROM : THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

SUBJECT : REPORTING OF UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THE DA TRADEMARK, LOGO, NAME, AND OTHER PARAPHERNALIA AND CORPORATE BRANDING MATERIALS

Everyone is enjoined to report any suspicious and malicious use of the Department's corporate branding materials, especially its name, trademark, and logo in social media sites and other platforms.

We have monitored and documented some active accounts imitating DA and posting propaganda messages such acts violate applicable laws, including Article 177 of the Revised Penal Code, which reads: "Article 177. Usurpation of authority or official functions. - Any person who shall knowingly and falsely represent himself to be an officer, agent or representative of any department or agency of the Philippine Government or of any foreign government, or who, under pretense of official position, shall perform any act pertaining to any person in authority or public officer of the Philippine Government, or any agency thereof, without being lawfully entitled to do so, shall suffer the penalty of prision correccional in its minimum and medium periods."

For social media pages, please report such misuse directly to Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, among other platforms. If possible, schedule a time to do it at once in your respective offices. For instance, the Office of the Strategic Communications has lodged a formal request with Facebook to block some pages posing as that of DA. For queries and concerns on the matter, you may contact said office at (02) 8929-8183 or local numbers 2847 to 2849.

For your guidance.

USEC. ROLDAN G. GORGONIO

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