

**ORDINANCE NO. 2006-050**

**AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING EVERY SEPTEMBER 18 OF THE YEAR AS LIBERATION DAY OF THE CITY OF NAGA, PRESCRIBING ACTIVITIES IN COMMEMORATION THEREOF, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR:-**

Author: Hon. Julian C. Lavadia, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

**WHEREAS**, based on the intensive researches undertaken by Bikol historian Dr. Danilo M. Genora and was written in his book, *"From Epic to History: a Brief Introduction to Bikol History"*, particularly in Chapter 13, pages 127-130, wrote in part:

*"September 18 was the feast day of the Our Lady of Peñafrancia and a large crowd gathered at the shrine to hear the morning mass . . . When the cathedral clock struck 12 midnight the first shot of revolt was fired. This continued until early in the morning. The rebels inflicted heavy casualties on the Spaniards. The Spaniards and some Filipino families numbering about 400 sought refuge in the San Francisco church apparently prepared to undertake their last defense.*

*"At about 2 p.m. of the day (September 19) the Spanish representatives met with the leaders of the rebels headed by Corporal Angeles (to discuss the terms of surrender).*

*"The successful revolt in Nueva Caceres which brought the proud Spanish government to its end signaled the end of Spanish rule in the whole region."*

**WHEREAS**, again in his book, "NAGA: The Birth and Rebirth of a City," particularly pages 90-92, Dr. Gerona again described the revolt as he did in his previous book.

**WHEREAS**, another prominent historian, Dr. Domingo Abella, in his book "The Bikol Annals" noted on page 196 that the Spaniards in Nueva Caceres:

*"were caught in the whirlpool of native armed rebellion which burst as midnight, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Nucleus of the uprising was the native contingent of the Guardia Civil under the leadership of Corporals Elias Angeles and Felix Plazo. At dawn, September 18<sup>th</sup>, the fighting was ended. The insurgents were in complete control of the city the streets of which were strewn with Spanish dead, combatants and non-combatants, men, women and children.*

*"Before that day was half over, the last Spanish provincial governor of Ambos Camarines, Don vicente Zaidin, who was among the beleaguered Spaniards at San Francisco church, had signed capitulation terms. Further resistance would have wiped out the Spaniards to the last man.*

*"On that day the Gold and Red of Castile came down and the Red, White and Blue of the Revolution went up for the **first time***

- e. To enhance the regional and urban identity for Nagueños as a freedom-loving people;
- f. To make permanent the celebration of this memorable day in the City of Naga.

**SECTION 4.** To pursue the objectives as provided in Section 3 hereof, a committee under the Council for Culture and the Arts, which shall be known as the "Liberation Day Committee" is hereby formed to undertake the following functions:

- a. study the historical basis, significance of the September 18, 1898 event;
- b. formulate programs on a year to year basis, plan out activities, organize them and sustain them as an annual activity;
- c. enlist the participation of the schools within the city – private or public – in the said activities;
- d. undertake promotions and any other activities to promote and perpetuate the significance of September 18 in the City of Naga;

**SECTION 5. Funding Requirement** – The amount of FIFTY THOUSAND (P50,000.00) PESOS out of the appropriation for "Paurogon, Kulturang Bikolnon" under the Annual Budget is hereby set aside to defray the cost of commemorating said event.

**SECTION 6. – Effectivity** - This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

**ENACTED:** October 2, 2006.

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**WE HEREBY CERTIFY** to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

**(Sgd) GIL A. DE LA TORRE**  
Board Secretary IV  
& Secretary-Designate

**(Sgd) GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.**  
City Vice Mayor &  
Presiding Officer

**APPROVED:**

**(Sgd) JESSE M. ROBREDO**  
City Mayor