



**PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
(PAMBANSANG SAMAHAN NG MGA NARS NG PILIPINAS, INC.)  
Member, INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

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**PNA POSITION STATEMENT ON THE CEBU NURSE INCIDENT**  
**November 18, 2017**

The PNA is outraged by the assault of a colleague working in a district hospital in Cebu and denounces in the strongest terms all forms of workplace violence against nurses.

We understand that if one's act by mere fault or negligence can make him/her liable for damages for injury caused thereby, with more reason should abusive acts such as the one shown in the video where the man accompanying the patient assaulted our Nurse colleague inside the Hospital.

We, Nurses, commit each day to safe patient care, risking even our own health. We work each minute most of the time underpaid, worst as volunteers without pay in dire work conditions, and yet fulfill our sworn duty to serve patients. We respect the rights of patients and understand that they have unique concerns but not at the expense of the dignity of nurses and our safety.

Assuming our Nurses commit mistakes, rebukes and reprimands are the very sort of behavior that we would expect from patient and/or patient's relatives who are dissatisfied with our performance. But clearly, the patient and her relative as shown in the video has overstepped the bounds of what can be considered reasonableness of their actions. We, Nurses, are trained to meet with acquiescence harsh words, insults and indignities from patients and/or patient's relative but in this Cebu case no reasonable person could be expected to endure it. Said act/s against our Nurse was extremely outrageous as to be tortious.

The PNA National takes this as a serious offense against all of us, Nurses. We thank PNA Cebu Chapter for their immediate response and for taking the initial steps in reaching out to our colleague. We will meet the Nurse involved the soonest and look at our legal options to protect the right of our said member.

  
**RUTH THELMA P. TINGDA, MM, MAN, RN**  
PNA National President