

## PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

THEME: "BUILD, BUILD, BUILD PMA!"

Member World Medical Association (WMA)

Co-Founder Confederation of Medical Association in Asia and Oceania (CMAAO)

Medical Association of Southeast Asian Nations (MASEAN)

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## MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO: 2018 -08-22-020

TO ALL PMA BOARD OF GOVERNORS, PRESIDENTS OF COMPONENT

SOCIETIES, SPECIALTY DIVISIONS, SUB-SPECIALTY AND AFFILIATE

**SOCIETIES** 

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PHILIPPINE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND SUBJECT:

**DOCTORS** 

DATE **AUGUST 22, 2018** 

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PGH AND DOCTORS

The Philippine Medical Association stands in full support of the Philippine General Hospital and its doctors in condemning the unreasonable and excessive demeanor of Mr. Ramon Tulfo. His words and bullying tactics do not speak well of a media practitioner and the way he describes the PGH Hospital only reveals that he is totally unaware of the present predicaments of government hospitals in the country. He lost the opportunity instead to advocate for the indefatigable doctors and nurses attending to unending list of patients coming every minute from every corner of the country. He could have just observed and noted or at least inquired objectively why there were patients in the corridors or on the floors (word used was "palengke") and he would have realized that the sheer volume of patients is just so overwhelming that the situation needs more help from the government. This way he could have helped the doctors, the nurses and most importantly, the patients by asking the government to do something about it. He maintains that he was upset that his patient was not attended to and thus he reacted. Being upset is understandable, but acting out in a bullying manner because one is upset is another. We could give it to him that he does not understand the triage system in addressing the queuing of patients in the emergency room, but it does not mean that one doctor leaves another patient just to attend to his patient, for what does it profit his patient and lives if another life is lost on the other end.

BENJAMIN M. ALABAN, MD

Secretary General

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President