

Press Release
Department of Labor and Employment
Bureau of Working Conditions
29 November 2019

BWC LEADS THE DOLE IN MM SHAKE DRILL

The DOLE took part in the fourth quarter nationwide simultaneous earthquake drill on Thursday, 14 November 2019. The simulation is meant to test the response capabilities and preparedness of the DOLE Emergency Response Team since an earthquake might occur anytime.

The drill started at 9:00 AM and was participated by officials and employees of the DOLE Central Office. The Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC) and the DOLE's Administrative Service led the DOLE's senior officials and employees in executing the "dock, cover and hold technique" during the simulated 7.2 magnitude earthquake. During the simulation, employees were evacuated from the office by the DOLE's designated safety officers.

The evacuation and rescue operations were planned according to the projected impact of 7.2 magnitude earthquake, including the possible collapse of the DOLE Building that may result to injuries because of falling debris.

BWC's Dr. Marco Antonio S. Valeros, Drill Incident Commander, assessed the overall conduct of the drill as successful because the employees evacuated the DOLE Building at 6 minutes and 58 seconds, 2 seconds early to its 7 minutes target. The success if the drill may be attributed to the embodied culture of safety and health among the DOLE employees and officials.

Incidentally, the drill is the fourth for the year. It aims to boost disaster awareness and preparedness across the country.

-MASV-