

**Good News**  
**Department of Labor and Employment**  
**Bureau of Working Conditions**  
**30 August 2020**

**BWC conducts back-to-back webinars on FWA and JMC 20-04-A**



Notwithstanding the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC) was able to host back-to-back webinars through Zoom videoconference and Facebook Live video stream. This is part of the Bureau's advocacy on information awareness to keep the public, especially the clientele of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), abreast on relevant DOLE policy issuance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first episode of the BWC Webinar Series was held on 24 August 2020 entitled *DOLE Issuances: Preserving Employment Thru Adoption of Flexible Work Arrangements*. The objective of this webinar is to assist employers resume their business operations while preserving employment of their workers through the adoption of a single type or a combination of flexible work arrangements.

Ms. Queen Therese Espinas, Sr. Labor and Employment Officer of the BWC-Policy and Program Development Division, presented the different types of flexible work arrangements which an employer and their workers may adopt and key considerations they have to look into prior to implementing their desired work scheme. She also discussed the implication of flexible work arrangements on workers' compensation, reportorial requirements of DOLE, and how to resolve disputes relating thereto.

Subsequently, on 28 August 2020, the BWC hosted its second episode entitled *BWC Webinar Series: Orientation on DTI-DOLE Joint Memorandum Circular No. 20-04A*. The target audience of this webinar are safety officers of private establishments who are tasked in ensuring workplace safety and health compliance of their workplace pursuant to Republic Act No. 11058 or simply known as the Occupational Safety and Health Law.

Assistant Secretary Ma. Teresita Cucueco provided an in-depth discussion of the DTI and DOLE Supplemental Guidelines on Workplace Prevention and Control of COVID-

19. For clarity and uniform interpretation of the policy, ASec Cucueco also discussed in length some contentious points of the Supplemental Guidelines such as on the use of face mask and face shield, provision of shuttle service, installation of isolation room, and COVID-19 testing of workers.

In closing, ASec Cucueco encourages her audience to share their knowledge on the Supplemental Guidelines among their colleagues and. "Let us continue to support and help each other and beat COVID," she said.

At this time of pandemic, where inaccurate information is prevalent, the BWC urges the public to always fact check their source, especially those derived from social media, and inquire with competent authority when necessary.

You may replay the above webinars through the office Facebook page of the BWC at <https://www.facebook.com/BWC1949>.

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