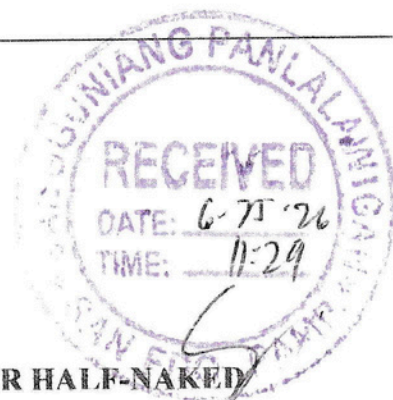




Republic of the Philippines
Province of Pampanga
MUNICIPALITY OF STO. TOMAS
OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN



MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 132
Series of 2026

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED
IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF STO. TOMAS, PAMPANGA**

Sponsored by:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER, DANGEROUS DRUGS, SAFETY AND SECURITY

Chairman: Coun. Marvin N. Pineda
Vice Chairman: Coun. Nicolas S. David
Members: Coun. Manny M. Naguit
LnB President Karen Z. Pineda
PPSK President Jun C. Bibangco

WHEREAS, the Local Government Unit of Sto. Tomas is mandated to promote public decency, moral standards, and the general welfare of its constituents;

WHEREAS, appearing topless or half-naked in public places may be deemed offensive to community standards and may undermine public order and decorum;

WHEREAS, there is a need to regulate public behavior in order to maintain respect, dignity, and a wholesome environment in the Municipality;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of Sto. Tomas, Pampanga, in session duly assembled, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE

This Ordinance shall be known as the **“Public Decency and Proper Attire Ordinance of Sto. Tomas, Pampanga.”**

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

For purposes of this Ordinance:

- a. **Topless** – The state of not wearing any clothing covering the upper part of the body, particularly the chest area.
- b. **Half-Naked** – The state of wearing clothing that exposes private parts of the body or is insufficient to maintain public decency, including but not limited to undergarments worn as outerwear.
- c. **Public Places** – Any area open and accessible to the general public, including but not limited to streets, parks, plazas, public markets, terminals, government buildings, and similar areas.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITED ACTS

It shall be unlawful for any person to:

- a. Appear topless or half-naked in any public place;
- b. Wear clothing in public that exposes private parts of the body in a manner deemed indecent or offensive to public morals.

SECTION 4. EXEMPTIONS

The following shall be exempted from this Ordinance:

- a. Infants and young children below seven (7) years of age;
- b. Participants in cultural presentations, performances, or sports activities where such attire is customary, provided prior authorization is secured;
- c. Persons within private properties not visible to the public;
- d. Emergency situations where clothing is compromised beyond control.
- e. Construction workers and other laborers whose work requires the removal of upper garments for safety, comfort, or the efficient performance of their duties.

SECTION 5. PENALTIES

A. Any person found violating this Ordinance shall be penalized as follows:

- **First Offense** – Fine of Five Hundred Pesos (PhP500.00) or community service of not less than four (4) hours;
- **Second Offense** – Fine of One Thousand Pesos (PhP1,000.00) or community service of not less than eight (8) hours;
- **Third and Subsequent Offenses** – Fine of Two Thousand Pesos (PhP2,000.00) or imprisonment of not more than three (3) days, or both, at the discretion of the court.

B. FOR MINORS

Any minor found violating Section 3 of this Ordinance shall be referred to the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) for appropriate intervention, counseling, or community-based rehabilitation programs. Parents or guardians shall likewise be notified.

SECTION 6. IMPLEMENTING OFFICES

This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Municipal Police Station, Barangay Officials, Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer, and other authorized personnel of the Municipality of Sto. Tomas and shall be primarily responsible for the crafting of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), 30 days from its approval.

SECTION 7. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

The Municipal Government shall undertake an information campaign to inform the public of this Ordinance and promote proper attire in public places.

SECTION 8. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE

If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE

All ordinances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVITY

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication in a newspaper of general circulation or posting in conspicuous places within the Municipality.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing **Municipal Ordinance No. 132-2026**, otherwise known as **“AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE ACT OF BEING TOPLESS OR HALF-NAKED IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF STO. TOMAS, PAMPANGA”** was enacted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Sto. Tomas during its regular session held on June 8, 2026.


CRISTINA Y. TORRES
Secretary to the Sanggunian

Concurred by:

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS


Hon. MARK LOUIE T. ARCEO


Hon. PINKY P. PANGAN


Hon. MERIAM B. GARCIA


Hon. AILEEN A. HIZON


Hon. ARA CZARINA P. RONQUILLO


Hon. MARVIN N. PINEDA


Hon. NICOLAS S. DAVID


Hon. MANNY M. NAGUIT


Hon. KAREN Z. PINEDA (LnB Pres)


Hon. JUN C. BIBANGCO (PPSK PRES)

Attested by:


HON. GLORIA P. RONQUILLO
Municipal Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

Approved by:


HON. JOHNNY A. SAMBO
Municipal Mayor

Date Approved: JUN 24 2026