Condemnation Statement on the crime bombing of the Cathedral of our Lady of Mt. Carmel in Jolo, Sulu on 27th January 2019

Darul Ifta’ of Region 9 and Palawan conemns in the strongest termst he bombing of Jolo Cathedral which are against all human and Islamic norms.

This is grounded in the Noble Laws of Islam which forbid all forms of attacks on innocenets. Islam the religion of tolerance holds the human soul in high esteem, and considers the attack against innocent human beings a grave sin, this is backed by the Qur’anic verse which reads: *“Whoever kills a human being, it shall be as if he has killed all manking, and whoever saves the life of one, it shall be as if he had saved the life fo all mankind’ (Qur’an 5:32).* All Muslims and other faiths alike ought to be united against all those who terrorize the innocents and those who permit the killings.

Islam has declared the spilling of blood and the destruction of house of worship as absolute prohibitions. It further reaffirmed that these terror acts ran counter to the teachings of the divine religions as well as ethical and human values, stressed the necessity of tracking down the perpetrators of these acts in the light of the results of investigations and bringing them to justice to inflict on them the penalty they deserve.

In this respect, we expressed our condolences and sympathy with the people and local government and the families of the victims in these mournful and tragic circumstances. May the almighty Allah save us from the wrongdoing people and make us not a trial for those who practice oppression.

Alhag Abdulbaki Aboubakr
Grand Mufti
Darul IFta’ of Region IX & Palawan