

GMA to public: Report abuse of gov't vehicles

President Arroyo called on the public yesterday to report unauthorized use of government vehicles.

In Administrative Order No. 239, Mrs. Arroyo said the public can send the information via text messages, letters or telegrams.

The public can text the type of vehicle, plate number, place and time where the government vehicle was spotted to the following mobile phone numbers: 0919898462; 0919898462; 09178398462; 09178982462, and 09179885462.

Picture messages sent through MMS are also encouraged as it would provide even more incriminating evidence to support the complaints.

Letters of complaints can be mailed to the Presidential Action Center, Arlegui Street, San Miguel, Manila.

Vehicles used for official purposes must display the trip on the windshield or any conspicuous place.

Vehicles of government intelligence and investigative agencies are exempted from the requirement.

AO 239 provides that the use of government vehicles for purposes other than official business is prohibited.

"All government agencies and offices shall limit

the use of government vehicles to essential activities and shall review their travel program and schedules to minimize unnecessary trips," read the AO.

Absolutely prohibited is the use of government vehicles for private social functions.

The use of government vehicles by the spouses, children, relatives and friends of officials, even if they are in the company of these officials, is strictly prohibited.

When government vehicles are not in use these must be kept in a garage designated by the bureau or office.

During weekends and holidays, security guards on duty are in charge of keeping the keys of government vehicles.

If ever the vehicles are spotted elsewhere, they would be held liable, along with those caught using the vehicles.

- Marvin Sy