



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 21-2021

TO: ALL CONCERNED JUSTICES, JUDGES, COURT PERSONNEL, AND COURT USERS

RE: EXTENSION OF PHYSICAL CLOSURE OF COURTS

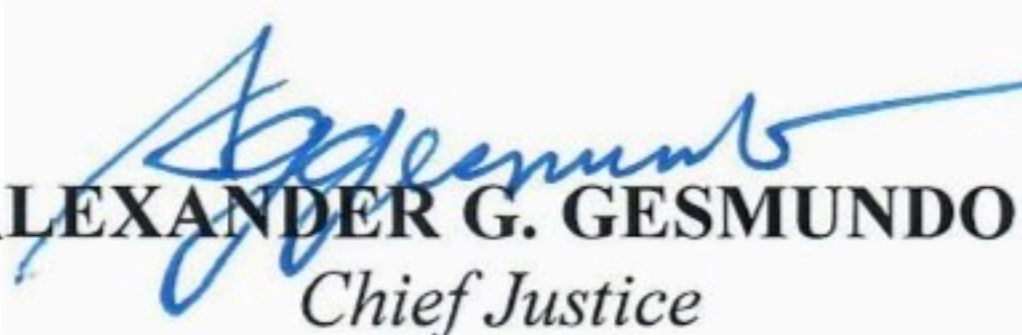
Considering the unabated rise of Covid-19 cases, the requests of the judges and court personnel, and upon the concurrence of the members of the Court en banc, ALL the courts and judicial offices in the National Capital Judicial Region and the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal (NCJR+) shall remain physically closed until 18 April 2021. They may be reached through their hotlines and email addresses as posted in the Supreme Court website.

The courts in these areas shall continue to operate through videoconferencing as far as practicable. Judges may conduct fully remote videoconferencing hearings on pending cases and other matters, whether urgent or not, regardless of their physical location and without prior permission from the Office of the Court Administrator.

The time for filing and service of pleadings and motions during this period is **SUSPENDED** and shall resume seven (7) calendar days counted from the first day of physical reopening of the relevant court.

The essential judicial offices shall maintain the necessary skeleton staff to attend to all **URGENT** matters.

10 April 2021


ALEXANDER G. GESMUNDO
Chief Justice