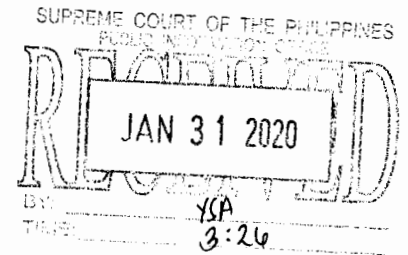




Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila



MEMORANDUM ORDER NO. 09-2020

In view of the declaration of the World Health Organization (WHO) that the novel coronavirus (*2019-nCoV*) outbreak is already a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and the Department of Health's announcement that there is a confirmed case of the *2019-nCoV* in the Philippines, the undersigned hereby encourages all court personnel to observe proper hand and respiratory hygiene, and safe food practices pursuant to the WHO's standard recommendations for the general public to reduce exposure to and transmission of the *2019-nCoV*.

Court personnel are likewise encouraged to wear masks inside court rooms, halls of justice, and judiciary buildings in the interest of everyone's health. They may refer to WHO's Advice on the proper use of masks in the context of the *2019-nCoV* outbreak.

City of Manila, 31 January 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diosdado M. Peralta".

DIOSDADO M. PERALTA
Chief Justice of the Philippines