

Republic of the Philippines Supreme Court Office of the Court Administrator Manila

OCA CIRCULAR NO. <u>146-2021</u>

TO

ALL JUDGES, CONCERNED COURT PERSONNEL,

AND COURT USERS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND

LEVEL COURTS

SUBJECT:

COURT OPERATIONS BEGINNING 1 DECEMBER

2021

Upon consultation with Chief Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo, beginning 1 December 2021 and until further notice, the operations of the courts and judicial offices shall continue as provided for in OCA Circular No. 134-2021 dated 5 November 2021, subject to the following modifications:

AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVEL 3 (OR UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE/MODIFIED GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE)

AREAS UNDER ALERT LEVELS 1 & 2

- Maintain a skeleton workforce of at least fifty percent (50%) to at most seventy-five percent (75%) from Monday to Friday
- For Saturday Duty, maintain a skeleton workforce of at least thirty percent (30%) to at most fifty percent (50%)
- For judges without court space or facilities of their own, but already have their own personnel, maintain a skeleton workforce of at least thirty percent (30%) to at most fifty percent (50%)
- Maintain a skeleton workforce of at least seventy-five percent (75%) to at most one hundred percent (100%) from Monday to Friday
- For Saturday Duty, maintain a skeleton workforce of at least fifty percent (50%) to at most seventy-five percent (75%)
- For judges without court space or facilities of their own, but already have their own personnel, maintain a skeleton workforce of at least fifty percent (50%) to at most seventy-five percent (75%)
- Judges may continue to conduct Video Conferencing Hearings in their courtroom pursuant to Section II (B)
 (1) of A.M. No. 20-12-01-SC dated 09 December 2020 (Guidelines on the Conduct of Videoconferencing)
- Night courts are not yet allowed in all Alert Level Classifications and Community Quarantine Classifications.

All protocols under Alert Levels 4 & 5, Granular Lockdown, Enhanced Community Quarantine or Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine, with or without heightened restrictions, stated in OCA Circular No. 134-2021, as well as those under the abovementioned alert levels or community quarantine classifications, not inconsistent herewith, shall remain in full force and effect.

29 November 2021

RAUL BAUTISTA VILLANUEVA

Deputy Court Administrator

and

Officer-in-Charge

Office of the Court Administrator (Per Memorandum Order No. 108-2021 dated 17 November 2021)

MMA/ACJ/FRC/rgt/cir.courtoperations