



Republic of the Philippines  
**Supreme Court**  
Manila

OFFICE OF THE 2023 BAR CHAIR

**BAR BULLETIN No. 8**  
Series of 2023

FINAL NOTES

Summarized below are the issuances and announcements of the Court as regards this year's Bar Examinations:

BAR BULLETIN NO. 1, SERIES OF (S.) 2023. *Schedule, Coverage, and Other Preliminary Matters Relating to the 2023 Bar Examinations.* On December 8, 2022, the 2023 Bar was announced to be held on September 17, 20, and 24, 2023, covering six (6) subjects and comprising twenty (20) entry-level, essay-type questions formulated by four (4) examiners per Bar subject.

BAR BULLETIN NO. 2, s. 2023. *Application Requirements for the 2023 Bar Examinations.* On December 15, 2022, potential 2023 Bar applicants were apprised of the Application Form, the Application Requirements and Application Schedules based on applicant type, and the Bar Application Fee.

BAR BULLETIN NO. 3, s. 2023. *Updates on Local Testing Centers; Some Bar Application Reminders; Other Matters.* On May 18, 2023, the list of the fourteen (14) tentative locations of local testing centers (LTCs) was announced.

[REVISED] BAR BULLETIN NO. 4, s. 2023. *Final List of Local Testing Centers; Venue Selection Guidelines and Mechanics.* On July 20, 2023, the Office of the 2023 Bar Chair revised Bar Bulletin No. 4 dated July 12, 2023, finalizing the list of LTCs and clarifying the mechanics on the selection of testing sites.

BAR BULLETIN NO. 5, s. 2023. *General Guidelines on the Digitalized Bar Examinations*. On July 15, 2023, Bar applicants were oriented on *Exemplify*, on the sample Bar Examinations, and on the “Best Practices” pertaining to the digital aspect of the Bar Examinations.

BAR BULLETIN NO. 6, s. 2023. *Guidelines and Rules of Conduct for the 2023 Bar Examinations*. On August 15, 2023, the Office of the 2023 Bar Chair collated and mapped out the practical reminders and the most important processes during the Bar Examinations proper: a *barista’s* essentials for the Bar; what and what *not* to bring into the testing sites; attire and decorum; health protocols; venue ingress and egress; time schedule per Bar day; the express ban against *salubongs*, send-offs, and gatherings within the immediate vicinity of LTCs; and the role of the Venue Examinee Supervisors.

BAR BULLETIN NO. 7, s. 2023. *Academic Honesty*. On August 24, 2023, the Office of the 2023 Bar Chair impressed upon all examinees the preservation of one’s integrity and proscribed the commission of dishonest acts constitutive of cheating. The *Honor Code* was published, and its accomplishment, submission, and, necessarily, compliance thereto, was made a mandatory undertaking of all examinees.

The Court, through the Office of the 2023 Bar Chair and the Office of the Bar Confidant, answered the most Frequently-Asked Questions, released video tutorials on BARISTA and the venue selection process, crafted a walkthrough manual on *Exemplify*, and issued a number of Notices relating to the enlistment of local Bar personnel and the refund of Bar fees. Various infographics have also been published as supplement and to encourage examinees to read and understand all Bar Bulletins and issuances.

It is my fervent prayer that the Court has adequately supplied you with all the necessary information and assistance in your endeavor to take the 2023 Bar Examinations.

Regardless of your religious directions, or even in the absence thereof, please believe in your own power and resolve. Take a special moment to truly appreciate yourselves and your efforts. You have read innumerable pages of law readings, endured sleepless nights and years of law school recitation and examinations, made sacrifices, and conquered your self-doubt and challenges to reach this point.

As the culmination of your preparation for a professional license approaches, keep in mind that making it this far is a remarkable feat in itself that you should be proud of. Allow this jubilant spirit to overcome your burdens and doubts. Let it propel you forward and closer to your dreams. Have faith in yourselves and reap the bounties of your hard work and perseverance.

And if you find yourself struggling to continue this journey, remember your “why”. Your “why” is your beginning, your end, your core, and your North Star. Think of the reason why you started in the very first place, and why you held on for so long. See your “why” in your loved ones. And see that the goal is already in clearer sight. Look at, not how much further you need to go, but at how far you have come.

Until you scale this wall and go the distance, do not lose hope. Maybe rest, but do not stop. We want you to succeed. Believe that you will succeed. Believe that you are meant for this. We await the moment that you finally cross the Bar.

Only days remain before the 2023 Bar. May the transcendent Supreme Being, *Bathala*, illuminate your path towards the realization of your full potential.

*You are ready.*

**You can do it.**

September 8, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. P. L. Hernando", written over a horizontal line.

**RAMON PAUL L. HERNANDO**

*Associate Justice, Supreme Court of the Philippines  
Chair, 2023 Bar Examinations*