



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. _____ 168 -2009

To: RTC, Br. 06, Malolos City
RTC, Br. 09, Malolos City
RTC, Br. 17, Malolos City
RTC, Br. 21, Malolos City
RTC, Br. 79, Malolos City
RTC, Br. 80, Malolos City
RTC, Br. 81, Malolos City
MTC, Guiguinto

Subject: Pilot-Testing the Use of Filipino in Trial Court Proceedings

For the information and guidance of the above concerned courts, quoted hereunder is a portion of the Resolution of the Court *En Banc* dated February 17, 2009:

“A.M. No. 05-2-08-SC, Re: Request for a Policy Decision Regarding the Use of “Filipino” in Our Courts of Justice. The Court Resolve, upon the recommendation of the Office of the Court Administrator, to **NOTE** the Letter-Request dated November 4, 2008 of Justice Jose C. dela Rama (ret.).

“The Court likewise Resolved to **NOTE** the Letter dated February 9, 2009 of Justice Ameurfina A. Melencio Herrera, Chancellor, PhilJA, informing the Court that the PhilJA in cooperation with the Marcelo H. Del Pilar College of Law, Bulacan State University, conducted a Seminar-Workshop on the Use of Filipino in Trial Court Proceedings on October 20-21, 2008 at the Bulacan State University Hostel, Malolos City, and that as a result of the successful event and in furtherance of the Constitutional mandate that Filipino is one of the official languages of the Philippines, the PhilJA Academic Council approved at its 118th meeting on January 28, 2009 the proposal of Dena Pacifico A. Agabin, Chair, PhilJA Department on Constitutional Law, to pilot test the use of Filipino in court proceedings.”

Pursuant to the above Resolution, the above listed Trial Courts are hereby designated pilot courts to determine the feasibility of using Filipino in court proceedings, at least in the oral proceedings, and to use Filipino in their sala upon agreement of both parties.

The pilot courts may use existing translation of laws, rules and legal lexicon in the pilot tests.

The designated pilot courts will render a report of the results of the said tests within six months from the date of this Circular.

For strict compliance.

1 December 2009


JOSE P. PEREZ
Court Administrator