



**Republic of the Philippines**  
**Supreme Court**  
**Manila**

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 69-2009

TO: ALL JUDGES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS,  
METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL  
TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL  
COURTS, MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS

SUBJECT: PROCEDURE OF PLACING COURT WITNESSES  
UNDER OATH

It has been observed that when a witness is placed under oath, no explanation is given to her/him on the true meaning of the ceremony and the possible consequences of his acts thus, the solemn act of placing the witness under oath becomes an empty formality.

Henceforth, all judges are required to devote a little time during the hearing to explain to the witness/es the value of an oath and to ensure that the witness/es understand the essence of testifying before a court of law.

For strict compliance.

June 4, 2009

  
**JOSE P. PEREZ**  
Court Administrator