



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

CIRCULAR NO. 26-2000

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

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF NATIONAL PRISONERS TO THE BUREAU
OF CORRECTIONS IN MUNTINLUPA CITY

Reports have been received by this Office that notwithstanding the issuance of Circular No. 4-93-A dated 20 April 1992, some judges still do not issue mittimus for the transfer of national prisoners to the New Bilibid Prison of the Bureau of Corrections in Muntinlupa City. Transfer of national prisoners could not be effected without the necessary court mittimus or commitment order to national prisons.

For this purpose, prisoners detained at or confined in provincial, city and municipal jails and sentenced by lower courts to prison terms exceeding three (3) years, whether or not they have appealed, are considered national prisoners.*

In view thereof, and in order to decongest provincial, city and municipal jails, all trial judges concerned are hereby directed to issue the corresponding mittimus or commitment orders of national prisoners immediately after their conviction so that they may be remitted or transferred to the New Bilibid Prison of the Bureau of Corrections in Muntinlupa City.

23 March 2000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "ALFREDO L. BENIPAYO", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

ALFREDO L. BENIPAYO
Court Administrator

* Under Presidential Decree No. 29, prisoners sentenced to not more than one (1) year are classified as municipal prisoners; those sentenced to one (1) year and one (1) day to not more than three (3) years are classified as city/provincial prisoners; and those sentenced to more than three (3) years and one (1) day and above are classified as national prisoners.