



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 121 – 2020

TO : ALL JUDGES OF THE FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS

RE : COMMITMENT ORDERS TO THE JAIL FACILITIES OF THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY

Pursuant to the letter-request of Secretary Eduardo M. Año, Department of Interior and Local Government, to the Court Administrator “that the issuance of commitment orders (to the facilities of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology [BJMP]) be temporarily suspended x x x to prevent the further contamination (of Covid-19) among PDLs (Persons Deprived of Liberty) in all jail units nationwide,” and in view of the undertaking of Police General Archie Francisco F. Gamboa, Chief, Philippine National Police (PNP), that the PNP can in the meantime accommodate newly arrested PDLs, all judges shall issue commitment orders for newly arrested PDLs, from date until 31 August 2020, to the local PNP units, unless the local BJMP jail units are already able to admit newly arrested PDLs during this period.

This period may be extended in a subsequent circular of the Office of the Court Administrator, if found to be warranted.

For the guidance and compliance of all judges.

Makati City, 21 July 2020.

(original signed)
JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ
Court Administrator