



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 44 - 2021

TO: ALL CONCERNED JUDGES AND COURT PERSONNEL


RE: COURT OPERATIONS IN THE FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION AND IN THE PROVINCES OF BULACAN, CAVITE, LAGUNA, AND RIZAL FROM 24 MARCH - 16 APRIL 2021

In keeping with the spirit of the Resolution of the Court *en banc* in A.M. No. 21-03-25-SC, dated 23 March 2021, to "DRASTICALLY REDUCE the Court personnel" in all court levels, and as approved by Chief Justice Diosdado M. Peralta, all courts and offices in the first and second level courts in the National Capital Judicial Region (NCJR) and in the provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Laguna, and Rizal, shall maintain only a skeleton force (which may be less than thirty percent [30%] of the work staff) sufficient to attend to all urgent matters, from 24 March until 16 April 2021.

In addition, the judges in the said areas may conduct fully-remote videoconferencing hearings during the said period, without the prior permission from the Office of the Court Administrator (OCA). The said judges may likewise conduct such fully-remote videoconferencing hearings outside their respective judicial regions, but only in the resolution of bail applications of persons deprived of liberty, and provided they are within the NCJR or the four (4) provinces.

For the guidance of all concerned.

23 March 2021


JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ
Court Administrator