



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 51-2023

TO : ALL JUDGES, CLERKS OF COURT, AND ACTING CLERKS OF COURT/ OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE OF THE FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS

SUBJECT : UTILIZATION OF VIDEOCONFERENCING FOR PARTICIPANTS OF IN-COURT PROCEEDINGS APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE SUPREME COURT

Per the instructions of the Chief Justice to prioritize the safety and well-being of all Supreme Court (the "Court") officials and employees attending in-court proceedings, and to ensure their appearance in court trials, all first and second level courts are mandated to conduct videoconferencing whenever the Court is a party to a case, and/or a Court official or employee is a participant in an in-court proceeding and is appearing on behalf of the Court. These proceedings shall follow the guidelines in *Administrative Matter No. 20-12-01-SC (Re: Proposed Guidelines on the Conduct of Videoconferencing)* and shall be considered as falling under the circumstances declared by the Court as sufficient to justify the conduct of videoconferencing, pursuant to Item I(3)(b)(x) of the cited Administrative Matter. The videoconferencing shall be *motu proprio* ordered, in accordance with Item II (1) of the same Administrative Matter.

For guidance and compliance.

09 February 2023



RAUL B. VILLANUEVA
Court Administrator