



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

**OCA CIRCULAR NO. 346-2023**

**TO : ALL FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS**

**SUBJECT: INVENTORY OF SENIOR CITIZENS WHO ARE PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY**

In the interest of efficient administration of justice and in celebration of "Linggo ng Katandaang Pilipino" (Elderly Filipino Week) on the first week of October, and for the well-being of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) who are senior citizens, upon the initiative of the Committee on Gender Responsiveness in the Judiciary, all First and Second Level Courts are hereby **DIRECTED** to conduct an inventory of their pending cases which involve PDLs who are senior citizens, or those who are 60 years old and above, or are turning 60 years old by 31 December 2023. The purpose of the inventory is to determine if they have cases which are covered by the Guidelines for Decongesting Holding Jails by Enforcing the Rights of the Accused Persons to Bail and to Speedy Trial (Guidelines) as prescribed in the Resolution of the Court *en banc* in A.M. No. 12-11-2-SC dated 18 March 2014 particularly Sections 5 and 10 thereof.

Additionally, all First and Second Level Courts are directed to comply with the said Guidelines without unnecessary delay, using their sound discretion, specifically the cases involving senior citizen PDLs, who have been detained for a period, at least, equal to the minimum of the imposable penalty for the offense charged, and if warranted, to release such PDLs.

Lastly, all First and Second Level Courts shall submit a report on the inventory by accomplishing the form, accessible through the following link or QR Code, on or before 31 October 2023. The report shall include the number of pending cases with senior citizen PDLs who have already served the minimum sentence and who were released pursuant to this Circular.

Re: *Inventory of Senior Citizens who are Persons Deprived of Liberty*

<https://forms.office.com/r/WysRRiiWkc>



For the strict compliance of all concerned.

09 October 2023



RAUL B. VILLANUEVA  
Court Administrator