



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

**OCA CIRCULAR NO. 355-2023**

**TO : ALL CONCERNED JUDGES OF THE FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS**

**SUBJECT : LIST OF JUDGES WHO ARE FULLY EXEMPT FROM THE BAN ON THE BEARING, CARRYING, OR TRANSPORTING OF FIREARMS DURING THE ELECTION PERIOD OF THE OCTOBER 30, 2023 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS PURSUANT TO THE RESOLUTION NO. 10918 DATED 17 MAY 2023 OF THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC)**

Pursuant to the following quoted provisions of the Resolution dated 17 May 2023 of the COMELEC (*Re: Rules and Regulations on the Ban on the (1) Bearing, Carrying or Transporting of Firearms or Other Deadly Weapons; and (2) Employment, Availment or Engagement of the Service of Security Personnel or Bodyguards During the Election Period of the October 30, 2023 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections [BSKE]*), judges of the first and second level courts are fully exempt from the ban on the bearing, carrying, or transporting of firearms during the election period of the October 30, 2023 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE), provided that the requirements/conditions enumerated therein are complied with/observed:

**RULE VII  
FULL EXEMPTION GRANTED TO CERTAIN  
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL**

**SECTION 14. *Full exemption.*** - The CBFSC (Committee on the Ban on Firearms and Security Concerns) shall grant full exemption from the ban on the bearing, carrying and transporting of firearms, and to transport or deliver firearms and/or its parts, ammunitions and/or its components, and explosives and/or its components, to the following government officials and personnel:

a. xxx

XXX

g. The Judges of the Regional Trial Courts and Municipal/Metropolitan/Circuit Trial Courts and Shari'ah High/District/Circuit Courts;

XXX

*Provided*, That the above-enumerated persons possess the following whenever they carry firearms or other deadly weapons:

1. Valid, updated and current LTOPF;
2. Valid, updated and current CFR which firearm is allowed under existing laws, rules, and regulations, assessed and evaluated by the PNP;
3. Valid, updated and current PTCFOR for privately owned firearms; and
4. Other applicable/pertinent firearms licenses/registrations/permits/documents.

*Provided further*, that in no instance shall the above-enumerated persons bear, carry, or transport more than two (2) firearms.

Relative thereto, and as requested by the Committee on the Ban on Firearms and Security Concerns of the COMELEC for the issuance of a *Certificate of Full Exemption*, all qualified judges who are covered by the subject full exemption are hereby **DIRECTED** to accomplish, on or before **23 October 2023**, the *MS Forms* in the link and QR Code below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/dWqnV3wFz3>



For compliance of all concerned.

19 October 2023

  
RAU B. VILLANUEVA  
Court Administrator