



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
**BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY**  
**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

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## MEMORANDUM

TO : Regional Directors of the Jail Bureau

ATTN : Provincial Jail Administrator  
Jail Wardens  
BJMPRO and Jail COVID-19 Task Force

SUBJECT : **BJMP COVID-19 ADVISORY #16: CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE COMMITMENT OF PDL IN JAIL FROM THE PNP DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECQ**

DATE : APR 09 2020

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### I. REFERENCES:

1. Memorandum dated March 14, 2020 re: BJMP COVID 19 Advisory #1: Commitment of PDL from PNP and Other Agencies' Lock Up Cells or Detention Cells;
2. Memorandum dated March 15, 2020 signed by JSSUPT BABY NOEL P MONTALVO, TLPE, Co- Chairperson of BJMP National COVID- 19 Task force re: Suspension of Commitment of PDL in BJMP Jail Facilities by LEAs in Relation to COVID-19 Pandemic;
3. Memorandum dated March 14, 2020 re: BJMP COVID-19 Advisory #2: Provision of Initial Screening Area in Jail Facility;
4. Presidential Proclamation No. 929 *Declaring a State of Calamity Throughout the Philippines due to Corona Virus Disease 2019* dated March 16, 2020
5. Presidential Proclamation No. 922 *Declaring a State of Public Health Emergency Throughout the Philippines* dated March 8, 2020; and
6. Supreme Court Administrative Circular No. 33 – 2020 re: Online Filing of Complaint or Information and Posting of Bail Due to the Rising Cases of COVID-19 Infection dated March 31, 2020.

### II. ISSUES, CONCERNS AND IMPLICATIONS:

7. Despite several issuances pertaining to commitment of PDL during the implementation of lockdown in BJMP jails, confusion among personnel in the field is still present particularly as to acceptance of PDL from the PNP.

8. Supplemental directive is necessary in order to clearly set out the instructions that the BJMP National COVID-19 Task Force seeks to implement.

### III. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

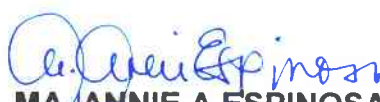
9. The Regional Directors, as well as wardens, are directed to coordinate with their counterparts in other Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) such as but not limited to PNP, NBI, PDEA to request for the suspension of transfer of PDL from their lock-up cells to BJMP Jails during the period of jail lockdown. For this purpose, exhaustive explanation of the necessity to suspend the transfer and commitment of PDL to the BJMP as our way of preventing the spread of COVID-19 in jails should be made.

10. However, if the said transfer of PDL is necessary, compulsory, or obligatory despite diligent efforts, considering the issuance of commitment order by the proper authority (presiding/ executive judges of the courts where the case is pending) wardens shall accept the PDL into custody but strict observance of the recommended actions in BJMP COVID-19 Advisory #2 such as designation of space before the entrance of the facility as Initial Screening Area, wearing of face masks, provision of gloves/ hand sanitizers/ proper hand washing, and disinfection of the tables and chairs after every use by the newly committed PDL must be complied.

11. Finally, newly committed PDL should be quarantined for fourteen (14) days in a separate cell as there are asymptomatic persons infected with COVID-19 but those who exhibits signs and symptoms of said illness should be detained separately.

12. Be guided accordingly by these advisory and other issuances pertinent thereto.

**BY AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF, BJMP:**



**MA. ANNIE A ESPINOSA**  
Jail Senior Superintendent  
Director for Operations  
Co-Chairperson,  
BJMP National COVID-19 Task Force