

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING & REGULATORY BOARD
East Avenue, Quezon City

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NUMBER 2021-043

SUBJECT : AMENDMENT TO MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2020-069 re: GUIDELINES IN THE CONDUCT OF ON-LINE HEARING DURING COMMUNITY QUARANTINE

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed Proclamation No. 922 entitled “*Declaring A State Of Public Health Emergency Throughout the Philippines*” on 8 March 2020, upon confirmation of local transmission of COVID-19 in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, in view of the increased number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed Proclamation No. 929 entitled “*Declaring A State of Calamity Throughout the Philippines Due to Corona Virus Disease 2019*” on 16 March 2020;

WHEREAS, on 30 October 2020, the Board issued Memorandum Circular No. 2020-069 prescribing the guidelines in the conduct of online hearing during community quarantine on account of the continued spike of covid-19 cases in Metro Manila prompting the LTFRB Central Office and National Capital Region to adopt the online hearing;

WHEREAS, MC 2020-069 requires the Applicants to submit the Formal Offer of Evidence (FOE) ten (10) days prior to the scheduled hearing;

WHEREAS, it has been observed that some applicants have encountered difficulty in securing documents due to the effect of pandemic which resulted to the reduced capacity of operation of some offices;

WHEREAS, to date, an alarming infection of covid-19 virus have already reached various provinces across the different Regions of the country causing fear to the people, including those who will be transacting business with the LTFRB offices, which carries the risk of exposing the employees to the virus;

WHEREAS, with the detection of new Delta variant of covid-19 virus carrying a mutation that appears to be more transmissible, where the protection of both the transacting public and the employees is already a matter of health concern, the Board deems it necessary to encourage the adoption of online transactions including the conduct of online hearing;

WHEREAS, several RFROs have already expressed their interest to adopt the online hearing of cases, in order to avoid the spread of Covid-19 virus and prevent its transmission;

NOW THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing, the Board hereby allows, and defer to the RFROs the option to adopt the guidelines in the conduct of online hearing of cases in accordance with the applicable provisions of Memorandum Circular No. 2020-069.

Prior to adoption thereof, the RFROs are likewise directed to make the proper reporting to the Board, and appropriate information dissemination to the stakeholders within their respective jurisdiction.

Further, the period within which to submit the Formal Offer of Evidence is now MODIFIED from ten (10) days (per Memorandum Circular No. 2020-069) to five (5) days prior to the scheduled hearing.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately following its publication in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation. Let three (3) copies hereof be filed with the UP Law Center- Office of National Administrative Registrar (ONAR).

SO ORDERED. 05 JUL 2021

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THROUGH TELECONFERENCE
ON 05 JUL 2021.

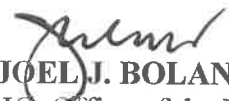



ATTY. MARTIN B. DELGRA III
Chairman




PCol. JOEL C. PERNITO (Ret.)
Board Member

Attested by:


JOEL J. BOLANO
Chief, TD and OIC, Office of the Executive Director
(By virtue of Special Order No. 2021-051 dated 25 March 2021)