

REVISED GUIDELINES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VISAS UNDER SECTION 47(A)(2), COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 613, AS AMENDED

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/a109ea3546de/>

Adopted: 20 March 2015

Date Filed: 20 March 2015

WHEREAS, Commonwealth Act (CA) No. 613, as amended, Section 47(a)(2) authorizes the President, when the public interest so warrants, "(t)o admit as non-immigrants, aliens not otherwise provided for by this Act, who are coming for a temporary period only, under such conditions as he may prescribe";

WHEREAS, the President has authorized the Department of Justice (DOJ) to issue such visas under Section 47(a)(2) which may or may not be subject to payment of applicable immigration fees;

WHEREAS, in view of the confusion on the requirements and obligations of Section 47(a)(2) visa holders at the point of departure in terms of compliance with immigration clearances and the corresponding payment of fees therefor, Operations Order No. SBM-2014-055 was issued on 04 November 2014 prescribing the implementation guidelines of visas under CA. No. 613, as amended, Section 47(a)(2);

WHEREAS, on 29 January 2014, Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Director General Lilia B. De Lima, requested for the Bureau of Immigration (BI)'s endorsement to the DOJ for an exemption from the coverage of Operations Order No. SBM-2014-055, citing Presidential Decree No. 66, as amended, and Article 76, Book VI of Executive Order No. 226 (1987 Omnibus Investment Code) provides: "x x x Foreign nationals who have been issued multiple entry special visas under this provision, as well as their respective spouses and dependents, shall be exempt from obtaining alien certificates and all types of clearances required by any government department or agency. x xx";

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the rule-making authority of the Commissioner of Immigration under Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended, the following revised guidelines are hereby prescribed:

Section 1. PEZA-endorsed Section 47(a)(2) Visas. - Holders, of PEZA- endorsed Special Non-immigrant Visas under Section 47(a)(2), CA. No. 613, as amended, as well as their respective spouses and dependents, shall be exempt from obtaining alien certificates and all types of BI clearances including the payment of Emigration Clearance Certificate (ECC) and Special Return Certificate (SRC) fees.

Section 2. Other Section 47(a)(2) Visas. - All other visas issued under Section 47(a)(2), C.A. No. 613, as amended, shall not be exempt from securing alien certificate and other BI clearance as well as from payment of immigration fees unless specifically indicated in the Indorsement issued by the DOJ, i.e., "free from payment visa and immigration fees".

Such fee-exempt visas shall clearly indicate the word "EXEMPT" in the implementation thereof.

Section 3. Fee-Required Section 47(a)(2) Visas. - Visas issued under Section 47(a)(2), C.A. No. 613, as amended, shall be subject to payment of regular immigration fees and clearance requirements absent any contrary indication specified in the Indorsement issued by the DOJ.

Such fee-required visas shall clearly indicate the directive "To secure ECC/SRC upon departure" in the implementation thereof.

Section 4. Supersession Clause. - Operations Order No. SBM-2014-055 is hereby repealed and all other issuances inconsistent herewith are amended or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity. - This Operations Order shall take effect immediately.

Furnished a copy of this Order to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), U.P. Law Center, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City.

20 March 2015

(SGD) SIEGFRED B. MISON
Commissioner

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.