

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 8-2003, January 22, 2003

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TO:

ALL OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, SANDIGANBAYAN, COURT OF TAX APPEALS, REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS, SHARI'A DISTRICT COURTS, METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS AND SHARI'A CIRCUIT COURTS

SUBJECT:

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES IN THE SINGING OF THE SUPREME COURT AND THE JUDICIARY HYMNS IN ALL OFFICIAL PROGRAMS OF THE JUDICIARY

WHEREAS, hymns manifest the ideals of a country or an institution, and are among the most solemn of the various forms of expressions of love for it. They are thus effective means of promoting or strengthening unity and solidarity among the citizens of a country or the stakeholders of any institution, and of developing their principled pride as such.

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court Hymn and the Judiciary Hymn put in words and in music what the Supreme Court and the Judiciary represent, as well as the sacramental role they play in our democratic society in upholding the rule of law and dispensing justice. The singing of these hymns by the Justices, judges and other court officials and employees is their act of solemn dedication to the ideals and goals of these institutions, their expression of gratitude for the rare privilege of public service through these institutions, and their prayer for strengthening the bond of unity and solidarity among them as public servants.

WHEREAS, to attain the said noble objective, Administrative Circular No. 53-2002 was issued on November 4, 2002 by the Honorable Chief Justice.

WHEREAS, there is a need to effectively implement the said circular in order to ensure compliance thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, the following rules are hereby prescribed for observance by all concerned:

- During the flag-raising ceremony every Monday morning or more specifically, immediately after the pledge of allegiance (panunumpa sa watawat), the Judiciary Hymn must be sung;
- Likewise, at any and all programs, seminars, workshops, conventions, gathering, training and all other events sponsored by all courts below the Supreme Court, the Judiciary Hymn must be sung; The hymn must be printed on a piece of paper or must be embodied in the printed program for the occasion and the same be distributed to all participants; and
- The concerned officials or employees must dutifully memorize and wholeheartedly sing the said hymn.

Officials of the above mentioned courts shall ensure the active and full participation of the audience in the singing of the Judiciary Hymn during such ceremony or program.

For strict compliance.

22 January 2003.

PRESBITERO J. VELASCO, JR.

Court Administrator

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