



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

OFFICE OF THE 2027 BAR CHAIRPERSON

BAR BULLETIN NO. 1-2027
September 16, 2026

CONDUCT OF THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS
Modality, Schedule, Coverage, and Syllabus

Pursuant to its constitutional power to promulgate rules concerning admission to the practice of law, and in furtherance of its Strategic Plan for Judicial Innovations 2022–2027, the Court, through the Office of the 2027 Bar Chairperson, issues the present Bulletin in accordance with the 2025 Amendments to Rule 138 of the Rules of Court.

I. Modality and Schedule

The 2027 Bar Examinations will be held on **September 5, 8, and 12, 2027**, at local testing centers throughout the country, and will be administered electronically on a secure assessment platform. Two subjects will be examined each day. The morning sessions run from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; the afternoon sessions, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.¹

II. Coverage and Cut-off Date

Six subjects will be examined.² They are assigned the following days, sessions, and weights:

Day 1: September 5, 2027 (Sunday)		
Morning	Political and Public International Law	15%
Afternoon	Commercial and Taxation Laws	20%

Day 2: September 8, 2027 (Wednesday)		
Morning	Civil Law and Land Titles and Deeds	20%
Afternoon	Labor Law and Social Legislation	10%

¹ RULES OF COURT, Rule 138, as amended, Sec. 8–9.
² *Id.*, Sec. 7, 9, and 10.

Day 3: September 12, 2027 (Sunday)		
Morning	Criminal Law	10%
Afternoon	Remedial Law, Legal and Judicial Ethics, with Practical Exercises	25%

As stated in the Bar syllabus, only laws, rules, and issuances in force, and jurisprudence promulgated, as of **June 30, 2026**, are examinable.³ As to jurisprudence, only the doctrines and dispositions set forth in the main opinion are examinable. Computations, if required, shall involve only basic arithmetic. In Criminal Law, examinees shall not be required to perform numerical computations to determine the specific periods of penalties expressed in years, months, or days.

III. Examination Format, Grading, and Examiners

Each subject will consist of **20 essay problems**. A problem consisting of a single question shall carry a weight of **5%**. Where a problem consists of two questions, their combined weight shall be **5%**. The questions will test what a beginning lawyer is expected to know and be able to do: understand the governing principles, apply them to the facts, and articulate the legal reasoning connecting the two. A weighted general average of **75%** in all subjects is required to pass.⁴

A committee composed of the Bar Chairperson and the Bar Examiners will conduct the examinations. Assigned to each subject are four examiners whose identities shall remain confidential until the official release of the examination results.⁵

IV. Official Sources of Information

The following are the only official online sources of information on the 2027 Bar Examinations:

- Microsite: <https://sc.judiciary.gov.ph/bar-2027>
- Social media: <https://facebook.com/SupremeCourtPhilippines>
<https://instagram.com/supremecourtph>
https://x.com/SCPh_PIO
- Viber Channel: <https://bit.ly/2027BarExamsOfficialViber>

Inquiries may also be directed to the Office of the Bar Confidant (OBC) Helpdesk at (02) 8552 9690.

³ Bar Matter No. 1161, June 8, 2004, Resolution on Reform in the Bar Examinations.
⁴ RULES OF COURT, Rule 138, as amended, Sec. 10.
⁵ *Id.*, Sec. 12.

V. Other Matters

Details relating to the application requirements and procedures, software specifications, venues of local testing centers, and other guidelines in the conduct of the 2027 Bar Examinations shall be provided in subsequent Bar Bulletins and other official issuances.

Where a reproduction of the Bar Bulletins or the Bar syllabus differs from the text posted on the microsite, the posted text controls. Reliance on other sources of information is at the examinee's risk. All concerned are enjoined to promptly report any disinformation or matter that may compromise the integrity of the Bar Examinations to the OBC.

A Personal Message from the 2027 Bar Chairperson

The Bar is an important gate, but it is not the whole road. At the end of the day, know that it is a mere test, the likes of which you have taken multiple times throughout law school. You have done the heavy work and made the hard sacrifices to reach this moment.

Your readiness for admission to the legal profession will be tested by the Bar, but it does not replace years of formation. When you sit in that exam room, recall the recitations that humbled you, the professors who corrected you, and the nights you kept working anyway.

Remember that the Court is far from looking for those who can recall the most laws or rules verbatim, for a computer can do that. We are looking for *human* lawyers who are ethical, competent, worthy of public trust, and can aid the Court in administering meaningful justice.

As you answer each question, remain calm, read carefully, reason plainly, and write what an ethical and competent lawyer would advise. That is all the exam will ask of you. Crucially, trust in your own preparation. Let the years behind you carry you forward. #BaRRR2027


RICARDO R. ROSARIO
Associate Justice
Chairperson, 2027 Bar Examinations

(2027 Bar Syllabus follows)

SYLLABUS FOR THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS

POLITICAL AND PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (15%)

NOTE: Only laws, rules, issuances, and jurisprudence pertinent to the topics below as of **June 30, 2026** are examinable in the 2027 Bar Examinations.

I. BASIC CONCEPTS

A. The Constitution

1. Nature and Concept
2. Self-executing and Non-self-executing Provisions
3. Amendments and Revisions (*See also* RA 6735)

B. The State

1. Elements
2. Sovereignty
3. State Immunity (*See also* PD 1445, Sec. 26)

C. Constitutional Design of Government Powers

1. Separation of Powers
2. Checks and Balances
3. Delegation of Powers

D. Fundamental Powers of the State

1. Police Power
2. Eminent Domain (*See also* RA 10752, as amended by RA 12289)
3. Taxation

E. Declaration of Principles and State Policies

II. NATIONAL TERRITORY AND MARITIME ZONES

A. Scope of National Territory

B. Archipelagic Doctrine and Baselines (U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea [UNCLOS], Arts. 46–50; RA 9522)

C. Archipelagic Sea Lanes (UNCLOS, Arts. 53–54; RA 12065)

D. Maritime Zones (UNCLOS; RA 12064)

III. CITIZENSHIP

A. Who are Filipino Citizens

B. Acquisition of Philippine Citizenship (CA 473, as amended by CA 535; RA 530 and 9139; AM 21-07-22-SC)

C. Natural-born and Naturalized Citizens

D. Loss and Reacquisition of Philippine Citizenship (RA 9225)

E. Dual Citizenship and Dual Allegiance

IV. LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

A. Chambers of Congress; Composition; Qualifications; Term

1. The Senate
2. The House of Representatives
 - a. Legislative Districts and Apportionment
 - b. Party-List System (RA 7941; *Exclude computation of party-list seat allocation*)
3. Legislative Privileges, Inhibitions, and Disqualifications
4. Quorum and Voting Majorities
5. Discipline of Members

B. General (Plenary) Legislative Power

1. Limitations
2. Legislative Process
 - a. Form and Manner of Passage of Bills
 - b. Presidential Veto and Congressional Override

C. Other Powers

1. Power of Appropriation
2. Power of Taxation
3. Power of Legislative Inquiry
4. Question Hour
5. War Powers
6. Power to Act as Board of Canvassers in Presidential Election
7. Power to Call Special Election for President/Vice President
8. Power to Determine President's Inability to Discharge Duties
9. Power to Revoke or Extend Suspension of Privilege of Writ of *Habeas Corpus* or Declaration of Martial Law
10. Power to Concur in Treaties or International Agreements
11. Power to Confirm Certain Presidential Appointments
12. Power of Impeachment
13. Power Relative to Natural Resources
14. Power to Propose Amendments to the Constitution

D. Direct Legislation – Initiative and Referendum (RA 6735)

V. EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

A. Qualifications, Election, and Term of the President and the Vice President

B. Privileges, Inhibitions, and Disqualifications

C. Powers of the President

1. General Executive and Administrative Powers
2. Power of Appointment
 - a. Confirmation by Commission on Appointments
 - b. *Ad Interim* Appointments
 - c. Bypassed Appointments and their Effects
 - d. Scope of Midnight Appointments
 - e. Appointments by an Acting President
 - f. Disciplinary Power (Suspension and Removal)

3. Power of Control and Supervision
 - a. Executive Departments and Offices
 - b. Doctrine of Qualified Political Agency
 - c. Local Government Units
 4. Emergency Powers
 5. Commander-in-Chief Powers
 - a. Calling Out Powers
 - b. Declaration of Martial Law
 - c. Suspension of Privilege of Writ of *Habeas Corpus*
 6. Pardoning Power
 - a. Scope and Limitations
 - b. Forms of Executive Clemency
 7. Diplomatic Powers
 - a. In General
 - b. Contracting or Guaranteeing Foreign Loans
 - c. Treaties and International Agreements
 8. Powers Relative to Appropriation Measures
 9. Veto Powers
 10. Delegated Powers
 11. Residual Powers (EO 292, Book III, Title I, Ch. 7, Sec. 20)
- D. Rules on Succession**

VI. JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

- A. Concept of Judicial Power**
- B. Judicial Review**
 1. Requisites
 2. Political Question Doctrine
 3. Exceptions to Mootness
 4. Operative Fact Doctrine
- C. Judicial Independence and Fiscal Autonomy** (*See RA 12233*)
- D. Appointments to the Judiciary**
 1. Qualifications of Members
 2. Judicial and Bar Council
- E. The Supreme Court**
 1. Composition, Powers, and Functions
 - a. Power to Promulgate Rules
 - b. Administrative Supervision over Lower Courts
 2. Original and Appellate Jurisdiction
 3. *En Banc* and Division Cases

VII. CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS

- A. Common Constitutional Provisions**
- B. Civil Service Commission (CSC), Commission on Elections (COMELEC), and Commission on Audit (COA)**
 1. Composition, Qualifications, and Term of Members
 2. Powers, Functions, and Jurisdiction

VIII. CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

A. Due Process

1. Procedural and Substantive Due Process
2. Judicial and Administrative Due Process
3. Void-for-Vagueness Doctrine

B. Equal Protection

1. Requisites for Valid Classification
2. Standards of Judicial Review
 - a. Rational Basis Test
 - b. Intermediate Scrutiny Test
 - c. Strict Scrutiny Test

C. Right Against Unreasonable Searches and Seizures

1. Requisites of a Valid Warrant
2. Warrantless Arrests and Searches
3. Exclusionary Rule

D. Privacy of Communications and Correspondence

1. Zones of Privacy
2. Exclusionary Rule
3. Data Privacy (RA 10173)
 - a. Personal vs. Sensitive Personal Information
 - b. Processing of Personal Information
 - c. Rights of the Data Subject

E. Freedom of Speech and Expression

1. Prior Restraint and Subsequent Punishment
2. Content-based and Content-neutral Regulations
3. Facial Challenges and Overbreadth Doctrine
4. Protected and Unprotected Speech
5. Tests to Determine Validity of Governmental Regulation
6. State Regulation of Different Types of Media

F. Freedom of Religion

1. Non-establishment and Free Exercise Clauses
2. Benevolent Neutrality and Conscientious Objection
3. Tests to Determine Validity of Governmental Regulation

G. Liberty of Abode and Right to Travel

1. Scope and Limitations
2. Watchlist, Hold Departure Orders, and Precautionary Hold Departure Orders (*See also* AM 18-07-05-SC)

H. Right to Information (*See also* EO 2, s. 2016; RA 6713, Sec. 5(e))

I. Right to Association

J. Non-impairment of Contracts

K. Right to Free Access to Courts and Adequate Legal Assistance

L. Rights of Persons Under Custodial Investigation (*See* RA 7438)

1. Requisites of Valid Waiver
2. Exclusionary Rule

M. Rights of the Accused

N. Rights to Speedy Trial and Speedy Disposition of Cases

O. Right Against Self-Incrimination

P. Right Against Involuntary Servitude

- Q. Right Against Excessive Fines, Cruel and Inhuman Punishment**
- R. Non-imprisonment for Debt**
- S. Right Against Double Jeopardy**
- T. *Ex Post Facto* Laws and Bills of Attainder**
- U. Social Justice and Human Rights**
- V. Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights**
- W. Academic Freedom**

IX. NATIONAL ECONOMY AND PATRIMONY

- A. Regalian Doctrine**
- B. Ancestral Domain and Ancestral Lands (RA 8371, Ch. I–III)**
- C. Exploration, Development, and Use of Natural Resources**
- D. Acquisition, Ownership, and Transfer of Public and Private Lands**
- E. Public Utilities (*See also* RA 11659)**
 - 1. Requisites and Limitations on Franchises
 - 2. Public Trust Doctrine
- F. Nationality and Citizenship Requirements**

X. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

- A. General Principles**
- B. Administrative Agencies**
- C. Powers of Administrative Agencies**
 - 1. Quasi-legislative or Rulemaking Power
 - a. Kinds of Administrative Rules and Regulations
 - b. Requisites for Validity
 - 2. Quasi-judicial or Adjudicatory Power
 - a. Administrative Due Process
 - b. Administrative Appeal and Review
 - c. Administrative *Res Judicata*
 - 3. Investigative, Factfinding, Licensing, and Rate-fixing Powers
- D. Judicial Review of Administrative Action**
 - 1. Doctrine of Primary Jurisdiction
 - 2. Doctrine of Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies
 - 3. Doctrine of Finality of Administrative Action

XI. LAW ON PUBLIC OFFICERS

- A. General Principles**
- B. Public Office**
 - 1. Modes of Acquiring Title to Public Office
 - 2. Modes and Kinds of Appointment
 - 3. Eligibility and Qualification Requirements
 - 4. Disabilities and Inhibitions of Public Officers
 - 5. Powers and Duties of Public Officers

6. Rights of Public Officers
7. Immunity of Public Officers
8. *De Facto* and *De Jure* Officers
9. Termination of Official Relation
- C. The Civil Service**
 1. Scope
 2. Appointments to the Civil Service
 3. Personnel Actions
- D. Accountability of Public Officers (RA 6713)**
 1. Forms of Accountability
 2. Discipline
 - a. Grounds
 - b. Jurisdiction
 - c. Dismissal, Preventive Suspension, Reinstatement
 3. Impeachment
 4. The Ombudsman and the Special Prosecutor (RA 6770)
 - a. Functions
 - b. Administrative Jurisdiction
 - c. Criminal Jurisdiction
 - d. Judicial Review
 5. The Sandiganbayan (PD 1606, as amended)

XII. ELECTION LAW

(BP 881, as amended, and COMELEC Resolutions [CR])

A. Suffrage

1. Voter Qualification and Disqualification (*See also* RA 8189, Secs. 9 and 11)
2. Voter Registration, Deactivation, and Reactivation
3. Inclusion and Exclusion Proceedings
4. Local and Overseas Absentee Voting (RA 7166, Sec. 12; RA 9189, as amended by RA 10590; RA 10380)
5. Voting of Persons Deprived of Liberty (CR 9371)

B. Candidacy

1. Qualifications and Disqualification of Candidates
2. Certificates of Candidacy
 - a. Filing and its Effects
 - b. Material Misrepresentation
 - c. Withdrawal
 - d. Duties of the COMELEC
3. Substitution of Candidates
4. Nuisance Candidates

C. Political Parties and the Party-List System of Representation (RA 7941 in relation to CR 9366 and 10878)

1. Registration; Grounds for Cancellation of Registration
2. Qualifications, Nomination, and Substitution of Party-List Nominees and Representatives

D. Campaign

1. Premature Campaigning
2. Prohibited Contributions
3. Lawful and Prohibited Election Propaganda (RA 9006, as amended by RA 11207)
4. Limitations on Expenses; Statement of Contributions and Expenditures; Effect of Non-Filing (RA 7166, Secs. 13–14)

E. Remedies and Jurisdiction

1. Petition to Deny Due Course or Cancel Certificate of Candidacy
2. Petition to Deny Due Course or Cancel Certificate of Nomination of Party-List Nominees (CR 9366, Rule 5)
3. Petition for Disqualification
4. Failure of Election; Call for Special Election
5. Pre-proclamation Controversies
6. Election Protest
7. *Quo Warranto*
8. Recall

F. Electoral Tribunals

G. Power to Prosecute Election Offenses (BP 881, Sec. 265, as amended by RA 9369; *Exclude penal provisions*)

XIII. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

(RA 7160, as amended by RA 9009 and 11683)

A. Principles of Local Autonomy

B. Requisites for Creation, Conversion, Division, Merger, and Abolition (*See also* RA 11964, Secs. 4(d) and 7(e))

C. Autonomous Regions; Relation to the National Government

1. Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (RA 11054, Arts. I–V)

D. Powers and Administration of Local Government Units (LGU)

1. Powers
 - a. General Welfare Clause
 - b. Police Power
 - c. Eminent Domain
 - d. Taxation
 - e. Reclassification of Lands
 - f. Closure and Opening of Roads
 - g. Local Legislation
 - h. Corporate Powers
2. *Ultra Vires* Acts
3. Liability of LGUs
4. Settlement of Boundary Disputes
5. Vacancies and Succession of Local Officials
6. Recall (*See also* RA 9244)
7. Term Limits (*See also* RA 12232)

E. Local Elective and Appointive Officials

XIV. PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW

A. Sources of International Law

1. Primary Sources
 - a. International Conventions
 - b. International Custom
 - c. General Principles of Law
2. Subsidiary Sources
 - a. Judicial Decisions
 - b. Teachings of the Most Highly Qualified Publicists

B. Other International Instruments

1. United Nations Declarations
2. Security Council Resolutions
3. Acts of Organs of International Organizations

C. Subjects of International Law

D. Relationship Between International and Domestic Law

1. Doctrine of Incorporation and Transformation

E. Jurisdiction of States

1. Bases
 - a. Territoriality Principle
 - b. Nationality Principle
 - c. Protective Principle
 - d. Universality Principle
 - e. Passive Personality Principle
2. Exceptions
 - a. Act of State Doctrine
 - b. Diplomatic and Consular Law
 - c. International Organizations and their Officers

F. General Principles of Treaty Law

G. State Responsibility

H. Treatment of Aliens

I. Extradition (AM 22-03-29-SC)

J. International Human Rights Law

1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
3. International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

K. International Humanitarian Law

1. Categories of Armed Conflict
 - a. International Armed Conflict
 - i. Wars of National Liberation
 - b. Non-International Armed Conflict
2. Fundamental Principles
 - a. Humanity
 - b. Distinction
 - c. Proportionality
 - d. Military Necessity
3. War Crimes, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity
4. International Criminal Court

L. Law of the Sea

1. Freedom of Navigation
2. Maritime Delimitation and Territorial Disputes
3. Dispute Settlement under UNCLOS
 - a. International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
 - b. Annex VII Arbitration

M. International Environmental Law

1. Stockholm Declaration (1972)
 - a. Principle 21
2. Rio Declaration (1992)
 - a. Sustainable Development
 - b. Precautionary Principle
 - c. Polluter Pays Principle
 - d. Common but Differentiated Responsibilities
 - e. Intergenerational Equity
 - f. No-Harm Principle

N. International Dispute Resolution

1. Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes
2. International Court of Justice
3. Permanent Court of Arbitration

**END OF SYLLABUS FOR
POLITICAL AND PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW**

SYLLABUS FOR THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS

COMMERCIAL AND TAXATION LAWS (20%)

NOTE: Only laws, rules, issuances, and jurisprudence pertinent to the topics below as of **June 30, 2026** are examinable in the 2027 Bar Examinations.

I. BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

A. Corporations (RA 11232)

1. General Principles

- a. Definition
- b. Classes of Corporations
- c. Nationality of Corporations
 - i. Control Test
 - ii. Grandfather Rule

2. Corporate Personality

- a. Doctrine of Separate Juridical Personality
- b. Doctrine of Piercing the Corporate Veil

3. Incorporation and Organization

- a. Incorporators; Number and Qualifications
- b. Promoters
 - i. Liability of Promoter
 - ii. Liability of Corporation for Promoter Contract
- c. Corporate Term
- d. Articles of Incorporation
- e. Corporate Name and Limitations on its Use
- f. Registration, Incorporation, and Commencement of Corporate Existence
 - i. *De Facto* Corporation
 - ii. Corporation by Estoppel
- g. Bylaws
- h. Effects of Nonuse of Corporate Charter

4. Capital Structure, Shares, and Capital Affairs

- a. Subscription Requirements
- b. Subscription Contract
- c. Pre-incorporation Subscription Agreements
- d. Consideration for Stocks
- e. Classification of Shares
- f. Doctrine of Equality of Shares
- g. Certificate of Stock
- h. Watered Stocks
 - i. Liability of Directors
- i. Trust Fund Doctrine
- j. Payment of Balance of Subscription

- k. Sale of Delinquent Shares
 - l. Transfer of Shares
- 5. **Corporate Powers**
- 6. **Directors and Trustees**
 - a. Repository of Corporate Powers
 - b. Tenure, Qualifications, and Disqualifications
 - c. Independent Directors
 - d. Election, Removal, and Filling of Vacancies
 - e. Compensation
 - f. Disloyalty
 - g. Business Judgment Rule
 - h. Liabilities and Responsibilities
 - i. Special Fact Doctrine
 - j. Self-dealing by Directors with the Corporation
 - k. Dealings Between Corporations with Interlocking Directors
- 7. **Stockholders and Members**
 - a. Rights of a Stockholder
 - b. Participation in Management; Voting Requirements
 - c. Meetings
 - d. Stockholder Suits
 - e. Corporate Books and Records
- 8. **Merger, Consolidation, and Acquisition**
 - a. Concept
 - i. Asset-only and Business Enterprise Transfers
 - b. Review (RA 10667)
 - i. Compulsory Notification
 - ii. Prohibited Mergers and Acquisitions; Exemptions
 - c. Effects
- 9. **Special Corporations**
 - a. Close Corporations
 - b. Educational Corporations
 - c. Religious Corporations
 - d. One Person Corporations
- 10. **Dissolution and Liquidation**
- 11. **Foreign Corporations** (*See also* RA 7042, as amended by RA 8179 and 11647)
 - a. “Doing Business” in the Philippines
 - b. Suability and Capacity to Sue
 - c. Foreign Investments
 - i. Definition
 - ii. Registration
 - iii. Nationalized Activities and the Negative List

B. Partnerships

- 1. **General Principles**
 - a. Definition and Separate Juridical Personality
 - b. Rules to Determine Existence of a Partnership
 - c. Partnership by Estoppel
 - d. Kinds of Partnerships

2. **Rights and Obligations**
 - a. Property Rights of Partners
 - b. Obligations of Partnership
 - c. Obligations of Partners Among Themselves
 - d. Obligations of Partners to Third Persons
3. **Dissolution and Winding Up**

II. INSURANCE LAW

(PD 612, as amended by RA 10607)

- A. General Principles
- B. Insurable Interest
- C. Concealment
- D. Representation
- E. Policy
- F. Warranties
- G. Premium
- H. Loss; Notice and Proof
- I. Double Insurance and Overinsurance
- J. Reinsurance
- K. Rescission of Insurance Contracts

III. TRANSPORTATION LAW

- A. **Common Carriers**
 1. Common Carrier vs. Private Carrier
 2. Extraordinary Diligence
 3. Defenses Available to a Common Carrier
- B. **Vigilance Over Goods**
 1. Under the Civil Code
 2. Under the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act
 3. Under the Montreal Convention
- C. **Safety of Passengers**
 1. Under the Civil Code
 2. Under the Montreal Convention

IV. BANKING LAW

- A. **General Banking Principles (RA 8791)**
 1. Definition and Classification of Banks
 2. Banks, Quasi-banks, and Trust Entities Distinguished
 3. Diligence Required of Banks
 4. Nature of Bank Deposits
 5. Prohibited Transactions by Bank Directors, Officers, and Employees
- B. **Secrecy of Bank Deposits (RA 1405; RA 6426, as amended by PD 1035, 1246, and 1453)**

1. Purpose
2. Prohibited Acts
3. Coverage and Exceptions
4. Garnishment of Deposits, Including Foreign Deposits
- C. Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (RA 7653, as amended by RA 11211)**
 1. Powers and Functions of the Monetary Board
 2. Banks in Distress
 - a. Conservatorship
 - b. Closure
 - c. Receivership
 - d. Liquidation
- D. Deposit Insurance (RA 3591, as amended mainly by RA 11840)**
 1. Definition of Insured Deposit
 2. Deposit Insurance Coverage
 3. Splitting of Deposits
- E. Anti-Money Laundering (RA 9160, as amended by RA 9194, 10167, 10365, 10927, 11521, 11930, and 12312)**
 1. Covered Persons and Their Obligations
 2. Covered Transactions; Suspicious Transactions
 3. Safe Harbor Provision
 4. Money Laundering
 - a. How Committed
 - b. Predicate Offenses (Unlawful Activities) (*See also* RA 11930, Sec. 9(c), and RA 12312, Sec. 8)
 5. Authority to Inquire, Freeze, and Forfeit

V. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
(RA 8293, as amended by RA 9150, 9502, and 10372)

A. Patents

1. Patentable vs. Non-Patentable Inventions
2. Ownership of Patents
3. Rights and Limitations of Patent Owner
4. Patent Infringement
5. Assignment and Transmission of Rights
6. Licensing
7. Remedies of the True and Actual Inventor
8. Cancellation of Patents

B. Trademarks, Service Marks, and Trade Names

1. Marks, Collective Marks, and Trade Names Distinguished
2. Registrable and Non-Registrable Marks
3. Well-known Marks
4. Ownership, Registration, and Duration
5. Rights Conferred by Registration
6. Likelihood of Confusion (Dominancy Test)
7. Trademark Infringement
8. Unfair Competition
9. Cancellation of Registration

C. Copyright

1. Copyrightable and Non-Copyrightable Works
2. Ownership of Copyright
3. Economic and Moral Rights
4. Limitations on Copyright
 - a. Fair Use
 - b. Other Statutory Limitations
5. Copyright Infringement
6. Transfer, Assignment, and Licensing

VI. SPECIAL COMMERCIAL LAWS

A. Securities Regulation (RA 8799)

1. Securities
 - a. Definition; Howey Test
 - b. Classes of Securities
2. Registration of Securities
 - a. Exempt Securities and Exempt Transactions

B. Financial Rehabilitation and Insolvency (RA 10142)

1. General Principles
2. Corporate Rehabilitation
 - a. Commencement Order and Stay Order
 - b. Rehabilitation Receiver and Rehabilitation Plan
 - c. Cram Down Effect
3. Liquidation
4. Suspension of Payments

C. Electronic Commerce and Digital Trade

1. Electronic Commerce Act (RA 8792)
 - a. Electronic Documents, Data Messages, and Signatures
 - b. Lawful Access and Confidentiality
2. Internet Transactions Act (RA 11967)
 - a. Digital Platforms, Online Consumers and Merchants
 - b. Extraterritorial Application

D. Competition Law (RA 10667)

1. Anticompetitive Agreements
 - a. *Per Se* and Not *Per Se* Violations
 - b. Determining Anticompetitive Agreement or Conduct
2. Abuse of Dominant Position
3. Determining the Relevant Market
4. Determining Control and Market Dominance

E. Public Services (CA 146, as amended by RA 11659)

1. Public Service as Public Utility
2. Critical Infrastructure
3. Suspensive and Prohibitory Powers of the President
4. Foreign Government or State-Owned Enterprise Investments
5. Reciprocity

VII. TAXATION LAW

A. General Principles

1. Concept, Nature, Purpose, and Basis of Taxation
2. Inherent and Constitutional Limitations
3. Requisites of a Valid Tax
4. Doctrines in Taxation
 - a. Lifeblood Doctrine
 - b. Construction and Interpretation of Tax Laws and Tax Exemptions
 - c. Prohibition on Compensation and Set-off
 - d. Double Taxation
 - e. Escape from Taxation
 - i. Shifting of Tax Burden
 - ii. Tax Avoidance and Tax Evasion
 - f. Compromise and Tax Amnesty
 - g. Taxpayer's Suit
5. Authority of Congress, Secretary of Finance, and Commissioner of Internal Revenue (CIR)

B. National Taxation (National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended mainly by RA 10963, 11534, 11976, 12066, and 12214)

1. Income Tax

- a. General Principles
 - i. Criteria in Imposing Income Tax
 - ii. Kinds of Taxpayers
- b. Income
 - i. Definition
 - ii. Realization and Recognition
 - iii. Taxability
 - iv. Sources
 - (a) Compensation Income
 - (b) Professional Income
 - (c) Income from Business
 1. Active vs. Passive Income
 - (d) Income from Dealings in Property
 1. Capital vs. Ordinary Asset
- c. Situs of Income Taxation
- d. Gross Income vs. Net Income vs. Taxable Income
 - i. Tax Deductions vs. Tax Credits
 - ii. Optional Standard Deduction
- e. Withholding Taxes
 - i. Rationale
 - ii. Final vs. Creditable Withholding Tax
 - iii. Duties of Withholding Agents

2. Value-Added Tax (VAT)

- a. Persons and Transactions Subject to VAT
- b. Impact and Incidence of Tax
- c. Destination Principle and Cross-Border Doctrine
- d. Transactions Deemed Sale Subject to VAT

- e. Zero-Rated Transactions
 - f. VAT Exempt Persons and Transactions
 - g. Input and Output VAT
 - h. Tax Refund and Tax Credit
 - i. VAT on Digital Services (RA 12023)
- 3. **Estate Tax**
 - a. Basic Principles and Concepts only
- 4. **Donor's Tax**
 - a. Basic Principles and Concepts only
- C. **Local Taxation** (RA 7160, as amended)
 - 1. **Fundamental Principles**
 - 2. **Taxing Powers of Local Government Units (LGUs)**
 - 3. **Validity of Local Tax Ordinance**
 - 4. **Assessment and Collection of Local Taxes**
 - a. Remedies of LGUs
 - b. Prescriptive Period
 - c. Injunction
 - 5. **Taxpayer Remedies in Local Taxation**
 - a. Protest
 - b. Refund or Credit
 - c. Court Action
 - 6. **Real Property Taxation**
 - a. Fundamental Principles
 - b. Exemptions
 - c. Appraisal and Assessment (*See also* RA 12001)
 - d. Collection
 - e. Taxpayer Remedies in Real Property Taxation
 - i. Against Assessment
 - (a) Payment Under Protest; Exceptions
 - (b) Compromise of Assessment
 - ii. Against Valuation of Property
 - (a) Appeal to Local Board of Assessment Appeals
 - (b) Appeal to Central Board of Assessment Appeals
 - (c) Effect of Payment of Taxes
 - 7. **Other Selected Local Taxes**
 - a. Professional Tax
 - b. Local Business Tax
 - c. Community Tax
- D. **Tax Remedies**
 - 1. **General Concepts**
 - a. Tax Deficiency vs. Tax Delinquency
 - 2. **Assessment Process**
 - a. Procedural Due Process in Tax Assessments
 - b. Requisites of a Valid Assessment
 - c. Burden of Proof in Tax Assessments
 - d. Letter of Authority
 - e. Submission of Supporting Documents by Taxpayer

- f. Notice of Discrepancy
 - g. Preliminary Assessment Notice
 - h. Formal Letter of Demand; Final Assessment Notice
 - i. Prescriptive Period for Assessment
 - i. False vs. Fraudulent vs. Non-filed Return
 - ii. Suspension and Waiver of Prescriptive Period
- 3. **Collection Process**
 - a. Requisites
 - b. Prescriptive Period for Collection
- 4. **Civil Penalties**
 - a. Deficiency Interest and Delinquency Interest
 - b. Surcharge
 - c. Compromise Penalty
- 5. **Taxpayer Remedies**
 - a. Protesting an Assessment
 - i. Period to File Protest
 - ii. Effect of Failure to File Protest
 - b. Submission of Supporting Documents by Taxpayer
 - c. Decision of CIR on Protest
 - i. Period to Act Upon or Decide
 - ii. Remedies from CIR's Denial or Failure to Act
 - iii. Effect of Failure to Appeal
 - d. Compromise and Abatement of Taxes
 - i. Compromise of Criminal Violations; Effect of Payment on Criminal Liability
 - e. Recovery of Tax Erroneously or Illegally Collected
 - i. Grounds, Requisites, and Period for Filing a Claim for Refund or Tax Credit Certificate
 - ii. Administrative vs. Judicial Claim for Refund
 - iii. Proper Party to File Claim for Refund or Tax Credit
- 6. **Government Remedies**
 - a. Administrative Remedies
 - i. Tax Lien
 - ii. Dstraint (Actual and Constructive) and Levy
 - iii. Forfeiture of Real Property
 - iv. Suspension of Business Operation
 - b. Judicial Remedies
 - i. Civil Action
 - ii. Criminal Action
- 7. **Judicial Remedies**
 - a. Jurisdiction of the Court of Tax Appeals (CTA)
 - i. Exclusive Original and Appellate Jurisdiction Over Civil Cases
 - ii. Exclusive Original and Appellate Jurisdiction Over Criminal Cases
 - iii. *Certiorari* Jurisdiction in Aid of Appellate Jurisdiction in Local Tax Cases

- b. Procedure
 - i. Action for Collection of Taxes
 - (a) National Taxes
 - (b) Local Taxes
 - ii. Civil Cases
 - (a) Who May Appeal, Mode of Appeal, Period to Appeal, and Effect of Appeal
 - (b) Power of the CTA to Suspend Collection of Taxes
 - (c) Nonavailability of Injunction to Restrain Tax Collection
 - iii. Criminal Cases
 - (a) Institution and Prosecution of Criminal Action
 - (b) Institution of Civil Action in Criminal Action
 - (c) Period to Appeal
 - iv. Appeal to the CTA *En Banc*
 - v. Petition for Review on *Certiorari* to SC

**END OF SYLLABUS FOR
COMMERCIAL AND TAXATION LAWS**

SYLLABUS FOR THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS

CIVIL LAW AND LAND TITLES AND DEEDS (20%)

NOTE: Only laws, rules, issuances, and jurisprudence pertinent to the topics below as of **June 30, 2026** are examinable in the 2027 Bar Examinations.

I. EFFECT AND APPLICATION OF LAWS

- A. When Laws Take Effect
- B. Ignorance of the Law
- C. Retroactivity of Laws
- D. Mandatory and Prohibitory Laws
- E. Waiver
- F. Repeal and Nullification of Laws; Operative Fact Doctrine
- G. Judicial Decisions
- H. Legal Periods (EO 292, Book I, Ch. VIII, Sec. 31)
- I. Territoriality of Penal Laws
- J. Conflict of Laws
 - 1. Jurisdiction; *Forum Non Conveniens*
 - 2. Choice of Law
 - a. *Lex Nationalis vs. Lex Domicilii*
 - b. *Lex Rei Sitae*
 - c. *Lex Contractus*
 - d. *Lex Loci Celebrationis*
 - e. *Lex Loci Delicti*
 - f. *Lex Loci Solutionis*
 - g. *Lex Fori*
 - h. Doctrine of *Renvoi*
 - i. Doctrine of Processual Presumption

II. PERSONS

- A. Juridical Capacity
 - 1. Natural Persons
 - 2. Juridical Persons
 - a. The State and its Political Subdivisions
 - b. Corporations (RA 11232, Secs. 2, 4, and 18)
 - c. Cooperatives (RA 6938, as amended by RA 9520, Arts. 3, 4, 9, and 16)
- B. Capacity to Act
 - 1. Presumption of Capacity to Act
 - 2. Acquisition (RA 6809)
 - 3. Restrictions
 - a. Further Restrictions for Minors (RA 11596)

III. FAMILY RELATIONS

(EO 209, as amended)

A. Marriage (Const., Art. II, Sec. 12, and Art. XV)

1. General Principles
 - a. State Policy on Marriage
 - b. Essential and Formal Requisites of Marriage; Effects of Absence, Defect, or Irregularity
 - c. Rights and Obligations Between Husband and Wife
2. Validity of Marriages Celebrated Abroad
3. Mixed Marriages and Foreign Divorce
4. Void and Voidable Marriages
5. Legal Separation
6. Property Relations between the Spouses
 - a. Antenuptial Agreements or Marriage Settlements
 - b. Donation *Propter Nuptias*
 - c. Property Regimes

B. Family Relations

1. General Concepts
2. Paternity, Filiation, and Legitimacy (RA 9255 and 9858)
 - a. Concepts
 - b. Marital (Legitimate) and Nonmarital (Illegitimate) Children
 - i. Proof of Filiation
 - ii. Rights
 - iii. Action to Impugn Legitimacy
 - c. Legitimated Children
 - i. Rights
 - ii. Grounds to Impugn Legitimacy
3. Adoption and Care of Children
 - a. Domestic Administrative Adoption (RA 11642)
 - i. Who may Adopt
 - ii. Who may be Adopted
 - iii. Process
 - iv. Effects
 - v. Rescission
 - b. Intercountry Adoption (RA 8043, as amended by RA 11642)
 - c. Foundlings (RA 11767)
 - i. Citizenship
 - ii. Registration
 - iii. Adoption
 - iv. Recovery of Legal Custody and Restoration of Parental Authority
 - v. Safe Haven
4. Support
5. Family Home
6. Parental Authority

IV. CIVIL REGISTER

A. Required Entries

B. Cancellation and Correction of Entries (Rules of Court, Rule 108, Secs. 1–3; RA 9048, as amended by RA 10172)

1. Rectification of Simulated Birth Record (RA 11222)
2. Prohibition on Collateral Attack on Personal Status through Correction of Entries

V. PROPERTY, OWNERSHIP, AND ITS MODIFICATIONS

A. Classification of Property

1. According to Nature
 - a. Immovable Property
 - b. Movable Property
2. According to Ownership
 - a. Property of Public Dominion
 - i. Water Resources
 - (a) Ownership (PD 1067, Arts. 5–8)
 - (b) Use (PD 1067, Arts. 13–16)
 - b. Patrimonial Property
 - c. Property of Private Ownership

B. Ownership

C. Right of Accession

D. Quieting of Title

E. Co-Ownership (*See also* RA 4726, as amended by RA 7899)

F. Possession

G. Actions to Recover Property

1. *Accion Interdictal*
2. *Accion Publiciana*
3. *Accion Reivindicatoria*

H. Usufruct

I. Easements

1. General Provisions
2. Selected Legal Easements
 - a. Relating to Waters
 - b. Right of Way
 - c. Party Wall
 - d. Light and View
3. Voluntary Easements

J. Nuisance

K. Modes of Acquiring Ownership

1. Occupation
2. Tradition
3. Donation
4. Prescription

VI. LAND TITLES AND DEEDS

(PD 1529, as amended by RA 6732 and 11573)

- A. Regalian Doctrine** (Const., Art. XII, Sec. 2)
- B. Nationality Restrictions on Land Ownership** (Const., Art. XII, Secs. 7–8)
- C. Torrens System**
 - 1. Decree of Registration
 - 2. Review of Decree of Registration
 - 3. Innocent Purchaser for Value; Rights
- D. Original Registration**
- E. Judicial Confirmation of Imperfect Title** (CA 141, Sec. 48, as amended by RA 11573)
- F. Certificate of Title**
- G. Subsequent Registration**
 - 1. Voluntary Dealings
 - 2. Involuntary Dealings
 - a. Adverse Claims and Notice of *Lis Pendens*
- H. Non-registrable Properties** (Civil Code, Art. 420)
- I. Dealings with Unregistered Lands**
- J. Assurance Fund**
 - 1. Nature
 - 2. Conditions for Compensation
 - 3. Respondents in Action to Claim
 - 4. Limitation of Action
- K. Reconstitution of Title** (RA 26 and 6732)

VII. SUCCESSION

- A. General Provisions**
- B. Testamentary Succession**
 - 1. Wills
 - 2. Institution and Substitution of Heirs
 - 3. Conditional Testamentary Dispositions and Dispositions with a Term
 - 4. Legitime
 - 5. Disinheritance
 - 6. Legacies and Devises
- C. Legal or Intestate Succession**
 - 1. General Provisions; Relationship; Right of Representation
 - 2. Order of Intestate Succession
- D. Provisions Common to Testate and Intestate Succession**
 - 1. Right of Accretion
 - 2. Capacity to Succeed by Will or by Intestacy
 - 3. Acceptance and Repudiation of the Inheritance
 - 4. Collation
 - 5. Partition and Distribution of the Estate

VIII. OBLIGATIONS AND CONTRACTS

A. Obligations

1. General Provisions
 - a. Definition and Essential Elements
 - b. Sources of Obligation
2. Nature and Effects of Obligations
 - a. Breaches of Obligations; Remedies
 - b. Fortuitous Event
3. Civil Obligations
 - a. Pure
 - b. Conditional; Kinds of Conditions
 - c. With a Period
 - d. Alternative
 - e. Joint and Solidary
 - f. Divisible and Indivisible
 - g. Obligations with a Penal Clause
4. Natural Obligations
5. Extinguishment
 - a. Payment or Performance
 - b. Loss of the Thing Due
 - c. Condonation
 - d. Confusion
 - e. Compensation
 - f. Novation
 - i. Express and Implied Novation
 - ii. *Expromisión* vs. *Delegación*
 - iii. Legal and Conventional Subrogation
6. Estoppel
7. Trusts

B. Contracts

1. General Provisions
 - a. Definition
 - b. Fundamental Principles
 - i. Autonomy
 - ii. Mutuality
 - iii. Relativity
 - iv. Consensuality
 - v. Obligatory Force
 - c. Real vs. Consensual Contracts
2. Essential Requisites
3. Form of Contracts
4. Reformation of Instruments
5. Interpretation of Contracts
6. Defective Contracts
 - a. Rescissible Contracts
 - b. Voidable Contracts
 - c. Unenforceable Contracts
 - d. Void and Inexistent Contracts

IX. SPECIAL CONTRACTS

A. Sales

1. Nature and Form
 - a. Contract of Sale vs. Contract to Sell
 - b. Option Contract
 - c. Right of First Refusal
 - d. Earnest Money
2. Capacity to Buy or Sell
3. Effects of Loss of Thing Sold
4. Obligations of the Vendor and of the Vendee
5. Remedies of the Parties
6. Double Sale
7. Installment Sales
 - a. Personal Property
 - b. Real Property (RA 6552)
 - i. Transactions Covered
 - ii. Computation of Installment Payments
 - iii. Rights Given to the Buyer on Installment
 - iv. Requisites for Valid Cancellation; Effect of Failure to Comply
8. Conventional and Legal Redemption
9. Equitable Mortgage

B. Lease

1. General Provisions
2. Rights and Obligations of the Lessor and of the Lessee
3. Sublease and Assignment

C. Agency

1. Nature, Form, and Kinds
2. Obligations of the Agent and of the Principal
3. Extinguishment

D. Credit Transactions

1. Loan
 - a. *Commodatum*
 - b. *Mutuum*
 - i. Interest
2. Deposit
 - a. Definition and Kinds
 - b. Obligations of the Depositary and of the Depositor
3. Guaranty and Suretyship
 - a. Nature and Extent
 - b. Effects
 - c. Extinguishment
 - d. Legal and Judicial Bonds
4. Real Estate Mortgage
 - a. Requisites and Characteristics
 - b. Foreclosure (Rules of Court, Rule 68; Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118; RA 8791, Sec. 47)
 - i. Judicial vs. Extrajudicial Foreclosure

- ii. Deficiency Judgment; Recovery of Deficiency
 - iii. Right of Redemption vs. Equity of Redemption
- 5. Personal Property Security (RA 11057)
 - a. Creation, Perfection, and Priority of Security Interest
 - b. Registration of Notice of Security Interest
 - c. Enforcement of Security Interest

X. QUASI-CONTRACTS

A. Definition

B. Kinds

- 1. *Negotiorum Gestio*
- 2. *Solutio Indebiti*
 - a. Distinguished from *Accion In Rem Verso*
 - b. Mistake of Law as Basis for *Solutio Indebiti*
 - c. Effect of Good Faith of the Payee

C. Other Quasi-contracts

XI. TORTS AND QUASI-DELICTS

A. Principles

- 1. Concept and Elements of Quasi-Delict
- 2. *Culpa aquiliana* vs. *Culpa contractual* vs. *Culpa criminal*
- 3. Human Relations
 - a. Abuse of Rights
 - b. Acts Contrary to Law
 - c. Acts Contrary to Morals, Good Customs, or Public Policy
 - d. Unjust Enrichment
 - e. Tortious Interference
- 4. Liability Despite Absence of Fault or Negligence

B. Classification of Torts

- 1. Intentional
- 2. Negligent
- 3. Strict Liability

C. The Tortfeasor

- 1. Direct Tortfeasor
- 2. Persons Made Responsible for Others
 - a. In General
 - i. Quasi-delicts
 - ii. Indirect Liability for Intentional Acts
 - iii. Presumption of Negligence on Persons Indirectly Responsible
 - iv. Nature of Liability
 - b. Specific Instances of Vicarious Liability
- 3. Joint Tortfeasors

D. Negligence

- 1. Standard of Care

2. Presumptions of Negligence
3. *Res Ipsa Loquitur*
4. Contributory Negligence
- E. Proximate Cause**
 1. Concept
 - a. Natural and Probable Consequences
 - b. Foreseeability
 - c. Distinguished from
 - i. Immediate Cause
 - ii. Intervening Cause
 - iii. Remote Cause
 - iv. Concurrent Cause
 2. Cause vs. Condition
 3. Efficient Intervening Cause
 4. Last Clear Chance
- F. Defenses and Other Grounds Affecting Liability**
 1. Due Diligence
 2. Plaintiff's Negligence as Immediate and Proximate Cause
 3. Accident or Fortuitous Event
 4. *Damnum Absque Injuria*
 5. Assumption of Risk
 6. Acts of Public Officers
 7. Prescription
 8. Waiver
 9. Double Recovery
- G. Medical Negligence and Malpractice**

XII. DAMAGES

- A. General Considerations**
- B. Actual and Compensatory Damages**
 1. Concept
 2. Duty of Injured Party to Mitigate Damages
 3. Damages in Case of Death
 4. Attorney's Fees and Expenses of Litigation
- C. Other Kinds of Damages**
 1. Moral Damages
 2. Nominal Damages
 3. Temperate or Moderate Damages
 4. Liquidated Damages
 5. Exemplary or Corrective Damages

**END OF SYLLABUS FOR
CIVIL LAW AND LAND TITLES AND DEEDS**

SYLLABUS FOR THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS

LABOR LAW AND SOCIAL LEGISLATION (10%)

NOTE: Only laws, rules, issuances, and jurisprudence pertinent to the topics below as of **June 30, 2026** are examinable in the 2027 Bar Examinations. These topics are mainly based on PD 442 or the Labor Code of the Philippines, as amended, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). Department Orders (DO), Circulars (DC), and Advisories (DA) pertain to the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

I. BASIC PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS

A. Sources of Philippine Labor Law

1. 1987 Constitution, Labor Code, and Civil Code
2. Ratified International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions
3. DOLE Issuances

B. State Labor Policies (1987 Constitution)

1. Social Justice (Art. II)
2. Labor as Primary Social Economic Force (Art. II)
3. Full Protection to Labor (Art. XIII)
4. Security of Tenure (Art. XIII)
5. Equal Employment Opportunities (Art. XIII)
6. Self-organization and Collective Bargaining (Art. XIII)
7. Construction of Labor Legislation (Civil Code, Art. 1702)

II. RECRUITMENT AND PLACEMENT

A. Definition of Recruitment and Placement

B. Local Employment

1. Worker
 - a. Employment of Nonresident Aliens (DO 248, as amended by DO 248-A, s. 2025 and 248-B, s. 2026)
2. Employment Office or Agency
 - a. Public Employment Offices
 - b. Private Employment Entities
 - i. Employment Agency vs. Recruitment Entity
 - ii. License or Authority Requirement
 - (a) Non-transferability
 - (b) Suspension or Cancellation

C. Overseas Employment (RA 8042, as amended by RA 10022)

1. Migrant Worker or Overseas Filipino Worker
2. Private Employers and Recruitment Agents
 - a. Employment Agency vs. Recruitment Entity

- b. Liability of Local Recruiter and Foreign Employer
 - i. Solidary Liability
 - ii. Imputed Knowledge
 - c. Entities Prohibited from Overseas Recruitment
 - d. License or Authority Requirement
 - i. Non-transferability
 - ii. Suspension or Cancellation
 - e. Ban on Direct Hiring
 - D. Regulation of Recruitment and Placement**
 - 1. Prohibited Practices
 - 2. Illegal Recruitment
 - a. Elements and Types
 - b. Distinguished from Estafa
 - 3. Regulatory Authorities and their Powers and Functions
 - a. Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
 - b. Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) (RA 11641)

III. EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP

- A. Employer-Employee Relationship**
 - 1. Definition (DO 147, s. 2015, Sec. 3)
 - 2. Determination of Employer-Employee Relationship
 - a. Fourfold Test
 - b. Economic Dependence Test
 - 3. Employee vs. Independent Contractor
 - 4. Burden of Proof
 - 5. Piercing the Corporate Veil
- B. Contracting or Subcontracting** (DO 174, s. 2017; DC 01, s. 2017; EO 51, s. 2018)
 - 1. Trilateral Relationship
 - 2. Permissible Contracting or Subcontracting; Non-Coverage
 - 3. Registration of Contractors
 - 4. Rights of Contractor's or Subcontractor's Employees
 - 5. Solidary Liability
 - 6. Labor-only Contracting
 - 7. Other Illicit Forms of Employment Arrangements
 - 8. Effect of Termination of Employment
 - 9. Retaliatory Measures
- C. Kinds of Employment**
 - 1. Regular
 - 2. Casual
 - 3. Project (DO 19, s. 1993)
 - 4. Fixed-Term
 - 5. Seasonal
 - 6. Probationary
- D. Related Employment Concepts**
 - 1. Floating Status (*See also* DO 215, s. 2020)
 - 2. Employment Subject to a Suspensive Condition

IV. LABOR STANDARDS

A. Conditions of Employment

1. Hours of Work
 - a. Normal Hours of Work
 - b. Night Shift Differential
2. Flexible Work Arrangements (DA 02, s. 2009)
3. Bunkhouse Rule
4. Personal Comfort Doctrine
5. Overtime Work
 - a. Compressed Work Week (DA 02, s. 2004)
 - b. Built-in Overtime
6. Non-compensable Hours; When Compensable
 - a. Meal Break
 - b. Power Interruptions or Brownouts
 - c. Idle, Travel, Commuting, and Waiting Time
7. Rest Periods
8. Service Charge (RA 11360; DO 242, s. 2024)

B. Wages (*See also* RA 6727 and 8188)

1. Definition, Components, and Exclusions
 - a. Wage vs. Salary
 - b. Bonus, 13th Month Pay
 - c. Holiday Pay
2. Principles
 - a. No Work, No Pay; Fair Day's Wage for a Fair Day's Work
 - b. Equal Pay for Equal Work; Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value
 - c. Non-diminution of Benefits
3. Minimum Wage (*See also* RA 9178 and 9504)
 - a. Payment by Hours Worked
 - b. Payment by Results
4. Payment of Wages
5. Prohibitions Regarding Wages
6. Wage Determination
 - a. Wage Order
 - b. Wage Distortion

C. Leaves

1. Service Incentive Leave
2. Expanded Maternity Leave (RA 11210)
3. Paternity Leave (RA 8187)
4. Solo Parent Leave (RA 8972, as amended by RA 11861)
5. Leave under the Anti-VAWC Act of 2004 (RA 9262)
6. Special Leave Benefits for Women due to Gynecological Disorders (RA 9710; DO 112, s. 2011)

D. Telecommuting (RA 11165; DO 237, s. 2022)

1. Definition
2. Telecommuting Program
3. Fair Treatment

- E. Enterprise-Based Education and Training (EBET) (RA 12063)**
 - 1. General EBET Program
 - 2. Apprenticeship
 - 3. Upskilling
- F. Working Conditions for Particular Groups of Workers**
 - 1. Women Workers (*See also* RA 7192, 7877, and 9710; RA 7600, as amended by RA 10028; RA 11313)
 - a. Prohibited Acts
 - b. Facilities for Women
 - c. Women in Night Clubs and Similar Establishments
 - 2. Minors (*See also* RA 7610, as amended by RA 9231; DC 2, s. 2017, as amended by DC 2, s. 2018; DO 149, s. 2016, as amended by DO 149-A, s. 2017; Advisory No. 01, s. 2008)
 - a. Minimum Employable Age; Exceptions
 - b. Hours of Work
 - c. Prohibited Work
 - 3. Night Workers (RA 10151; DO 119, s. 2012)
 - 4. *Kasambahay* (RA 10361)
 - 5. Caregivers (RA 11965; DO 254, s. 2025)
 - 6. Industrial Homeworkers (*See also* DO 5, s. 1992)
 - 7. Persons with Disability (RA 7277, as amended by RA 10524)
- G. Safety, Health, and Dignity in the Work Environment**
 - 1. Occupational Safety and Health Standards (RA 11058; DO 252, s. 2025; *See also* DO 178 and 184, s. 2017)
 - 2. Violence and Harassment (RA 7877 and 11313; DO 230, s. 2021; ILO Convention No. 190)
 - 3. Mental Health Policy (Labor Advisory No. 19, s. 2023)
 - 4. Anti-Discrimination Policies
 - a. Age (RA 10911, Secs. 4–6; DO 170, s. 2017)
 - b. Sex, Gender, or Marital Status (RA 6725 and 9710; DO 251, s. 2025)
 - c. Pregnancy (RA 10354, Sec. 23(c))
 - d. Solo Parenthood (RA 8972, Sec. 7, as amended)
 - e. Illness and HIV Status (DO 73, s. 2005; DA 05, s. 2010; RA 11166, Sec. 49)
 - f. Disability (RA 7277, Title III, Ch. 1)
 - g. Mental Health (RA 11036, Secs. 25 and 35)
 - h. Indigenous Peoples (RA 8371, Secs. 23–24)
- H. Management Prerogative**
 - 1. Occupational Qualifications
 - 2. Productivity Standards
 - 3. Change in Working Hours
 - 4. Transfer of Employees
 - 5. Discipline of Employees
 - 6. Grant of Bonuses and Other Benefits
 - 7. Clearance Procedures
 - 8. Post-employment Restrictions; Elements of Validity
 - 9. Limitations on Management Prerogative

V. LABOR RELATIONS

A. Right to Self-organization

1. Coverage
 - a. Government Employees
2. Eligibility for Membership
3. Doctrine of Necessary Implication
4. Commingling or Mixed Membership
5. Labor Organizations
 - a. Labor Organization; Legitimate Labor Organization
 - b. Union; Workers' Association; Legitimate Workers' Association
 - c. National Union or Federation; Trade Union Center
 - d. Company Union
6. Union Registration and Chartering

B. Bargaining Unit

1. Determination of Constituency
2. Employees Outside the Bargaining Unit

C. Bargaining Representative

1. Sole and Exclusive Bargaining Agent (*See also* Labor Advisory No. 07, s. 2026)
2. Certification Election
 - a. Bystander Rule
3. Consent Election

D. Rights, Terms, and Conditions of Union Membership

1. Admission and Discipline of Members
2. Officers; Qualifications, Election, Term, and Compensation
3. Major Policy Matters
4. Check-off, Assessments, and Agency Fees
5. Union Funds
6. Attorney's Fees
7. Mandatory Activities
8. Union Information
9. Enforcement and Remedies

E. Collective Bargaining

1. Duty to Bargain
2. Procedure
 - a. Freedom Period
3. Collective Bargaining Agreement
 - a. Mandatory Provisions
 - b. Economic and Noneconomic Terms and Conditions
 - c. Union Security Clauses

F. Unfair Labor Practice

1. Definition and Concept
2. By Employers
3. By Labor Organizations

G. Peaceful Concerted Activities

1. Strike, Picketing, and Lockout

VI. SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

A. Termination or Suspension by Employer

1. General Concept
2. Just Causes (DO 147, s. 2015)
3. Authorized Causes (DO 147, s. 2015)
4. Due Process Requirements (DO 147, s. 2015)
5. Preventive Suspension
6. Constructive Dismissal vs. Demotion
7. Termination of Migrant Worker Contract (RA 8042, Sec. 10, as amended by RA 10022)

B. Termination by Employee

1. Resignation vs. Constructive Dismissal
2. Unilateral Termination
3. Abandonment

C. Illegal Dismissal

1. Definition
2. Reliefs
 - a. Reinstatement
 - b. Backwages
 - c. Damages and Attorney's Fees
 - d. Separation Pay
 - e. Financial Assistance
 - f. Indemnity
 - g. Liability of Corporate Officers; Exceptions

D. Retirement (*See also* RA 7641, 8558, 10757, and 10789; Labor Advisory on Retirement Pay, October 24, 1996)

E. Final Pay and Certificate of Employment (*See also* Labor Advisory No. 06, s. 2020)

VII. SOCIAL LEGISLATION

A. Social Security (RA 11199)

1. Coverage; Exclusions; Dependents; Beneficiaries; Benefits

B. Government Service Insurance (RA 8291)

1. Coverage; Exclusions; Dependents; Beneficiaries; Benefits

C. Limited Portability Scheme (RA 7699)

D. Disability and Death Benefits

1. In General
2. Seafarers (RA 12021, Secs. 22, 28–29, 32, 57, and its IRR; 2010 POEA Standard Employment Contract [2026 *DMW-SEC*, *effective after the cut-off, is excluded*])

VIII. LABOR ADJUDICATION

A. Labor Agencies

1. National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC)
 - a. Regional Arbitration Branches (Labor Arbiters)

- i. Jurisdiction in Local Employment Cases
 - ii. Jurisdiction in Overseas Employment Cases (RA 8042, as amended by RA 10022)
 - b. Commission Proper (*See also* RA 9347)
- 2. DOLE
 - a. Regional Directors
 - i. Jurisdiction
 - ii. Recovery and Adjudicatory Power
 - b. DOLE Secretary
 - i. Appellate Jurisdiction
 - ii. Visitorial and Enforcement Powers (DO 238, s. 2023)
 - iii. Assumption of Jurisdiction or Certification of Disputes in Industries of National Interest
 - iv. Power to Suspend Effects of Termination (EO 51, s. 2018)
 - c. National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB) (EO 126, s. 1987, as amended by EO 251, s. 1987)
 - i. Conciliation-Mediation; Preventive Mediation
 - d. Voluntary Arbitrators
 - i. Jurisdiction in Labor Relations Cases (DO 255, s. 2025, Rule III)
 - ii. Jurisdiction in Seafarer Cases (RA 12021, Ch. XI; DO 247, s. 2025)
 - e. Bureau of Labor Relations

B. Procedure and Remedies

- 1. General Principles
 - a. Burden of Proof
 - b. Quantum of Evidence
 - c. Technical Rules Not Binding
- 2. Single-Entry Approach (DO 249, s. 2025)
 - a. Mandatory Conciliation-Mediation (RA 10396)
- 3. NLRC Procedure (2025 NLRC Rules of Procedure)
 - a. Appeal from the RAB to the NLRC Proper (Rule VI)
 - i. Perfection
 - ii. Reinstatement or Execution Pending Appeal (Rule XI)
 - b. Injunction (Rule X)
 - c. Petition for Extraordinary Remedy (Rule XII)
 - i. Grounds
 - ii. Effect of Injunction
- 4. Petition for *Certiorari* to CA against Rulings of the DOLE Secretary and NLRC Proper
- 5. Petition for Review to CA against Rulings of Voluntary Arbitrators
- 6. Petition for Review on *Certiorari* to SC

END OF SYLLABUS FOR LABOR LAW AND SOCIAL LEGISLATION

SYLLABUS FOR THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS

CRIMINAL LAW (10%)

NOTE: Only laws, rules, issuances, and jurisprudence pertinent to the topics below as of **June 30, 2026** are examinable in the 2027 Bar Examinations.

I. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF CRIMINAL LAW

A. *Nullum Crimen, Nulla Poena Sine Lege*

B. Construction and Application of Penal Laws

1. *Pro Reo* Principle
2. Effects of Repeal or Amendment
3. Retroactive Effect of Penal Laws
4. Suppletory Application of the Revised Penal Code

C. *Malum In Se* and *Malum Prohibitum*

D. Cardinal Principles of Criminal Law

1. Generality
2. Territoriality
3. Prospectivity

E. Constitutional Limitations on the Power to Enact Penal Laws

1. Equal Protection
2. Due Process
3. Bill of Attainder
4. *Ex Post Facto* Law
5. Excessive Fines; Cruel, Degrading, or Inhuman Punishment

II. THE REVISED PENAL CODE – BOOK ONE

A. Felonies

1. Felony and Crime, Defined and Distinguished
2. *Dolo* and *Culpa*
3. Gravity
4. Stages of Execution
 - a. Preparatory and Overt Acts
 - b. Subjective Phase and Objective Phase
 - c. Attempted, Frustrated, and Consummated Stages
 - d. Spontaneous Desistance
5. Plurality of Crimes
 - a. Absorption Principle
 - b. Single Impulse Rule
 - c. Compound Complex Crime
 - d. Complex Crime Proper
 - e. Special Complex Crime or Composite Crime
 - f. Continuous/Continued Crime (*Delito Continuado*) vs. Continuing/Transitory Crime

B. Criminal Liability

1. *Actus Reus* and *Mens Rea*
2. Intent and Motive
3. Criminal Causation
 - a. Proximate Cause
 - b. Efficient Intervening Cause
4. *Aberratio Ictus*; *Error In Personae*; *Praeter Intentionem*
5. Impossible Crime
6. Duty of Courts When Act is Non-punishable or Penalty is Excessive
7. Participation in Acts Giving Rise to Criminal Liability
 - a. Principals, Accomplices, and Accessories
 - b. Conspiracy and Proposal
 - i. As a Mode of Incurring Criminal Liability
 - ii. As a Criminal Act
8. Circumstances Affecting Criminal Liability
 - a. Justifying Circumstances
 - b. Exempting Circumstances (*See also* RA 9208, Sec. 17, as amended; RA 9262, Sec. 26; RA 9344, Sec. 6, as amended by RA 10630)
 - c. Mitigating Circumstances
 - d. Aggravating Circumstances (*See also* RA 9165, Sec. 25; RA 10175, Sec. 6; RA 10591, Sec. 29)
 - e. Alternative Circumstances
 - f. Absolutory Causes
9. Repetition of Crimes
 - a. Recidivism
 - b. Quasi-recidivism
 - c. *Reiteración* or Habituality
 - d. Multi-recidivism or Habitual Delinquency

C. Penalties

1. Classification
2. Principal and Accessory Penalties
3. Duration and Effects
4. Application and Graduation
5. Determination of Imposable Penalty
 - a. Indeterminate Sentence Law (Act 4103, as amended)
 - b. Prohibition on Death Penalty Imposition (RA 9346)
6. Subsidiary Penalty
7. Execution and Service
 - a. Community Service (*See also* AM 20-06-14-SC)
 - b. Successive Service of Sentence
 - c. Threefold Rule
 - d. Probation (PD 968, as amended by RA 10707)
 - e. Credit for Preventive Imprisonment

D. Extinction of Criminal Liability

1. Total Extinction
 - a. Death of Convict
 - b. Service of Sentence

- c. Amnesty
 - d. Absolute Pardon
 - e. Prescription
 - i. Prescription of Crimes
 - ii. Prescription under Special Laws (Act 3326)
 - iii. Prescription of Penalties
 - f. Marriage between Offender and Offended Party
- 2. Partial Extinction
 - a. Conditional Pardon
 - b. Commutation of Sentence
 - c. Good Conduct Time Allowance (RA 10592)
 - d. Parole
- E. Civil Liability *Ex Delicto***
 - 1. Primary and Subsidiary Liability
 - 2. Restitution, Reparation, and Indemnification
 - 3. Civil Liability of Persons Exempt from Criminal Liability
 - 4. Apportionment of Civil Liability
 - 5. Preference in Payment of Civil Liability
 - 6. Extinction and Survival of Civil Liability

III. THE REVISED PENAL CODE – BOOK TWO

- A. Title I** – Crimes Against National Security and the Law of Nations
- B. Title II** – Crimes Against the Fundamental Laws of the State
- C. Title III** – Crimes Against Public Order
 - 1. All *except* Arts. 146–147 and 160
- D. Title IV** – Crimes Against Public Interest
 - 1. All *except* Arts. 161–162, 164–165, 173–176, and 185–187
- E. Title V** – Crimes Relative to Opium and Other Prohibited Drugs
 - 1. *Repealed. See instead Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002* (RA 9165, Art. II, as amended by RA 10640; *See also* AM 18-03-16-SC)
- F. Title VI** – Crimes Against Public Morals
 - 1. *Excluded from coverage. See instead special laws on illegal gambling* (PD 1602, as amended by RA 9287)
- G. Title VII** – Crimes Committed by Public Officers
 - 1. All *except* Arts. 205–208, 226–234, 236–238, and 242–245
- H. Title VIII** – Crimes Against Persons
 - 1. All *except* Arts. 260–261
- I. Title IX** – Crimes Against Personal Liberty and Security
 - 1. All *except* Arts. 290–292
- J. Title X** – Crimes Against Property
 - 1. All *except* Arts. 312–314 and 328–331
- K. Title XI** – Crimes Against Chastity
- L. Title XII** – Crimes Against the Civil Status of Persons
- M. Title XIII** – Crimes Against Honor
- N. Title XIV** – Quasi-offenses

IV. SPECIAL PENAL LAWS

- A. Access Devices Regulation Act** (RA 8484, Secs. 3, 9–14, and 17, as amended by RA 11449)
- B. New Anti-Carnapping Act of 2016** (RA 10883, Secs. 2–4)
- C. Anti-Fencing Law of 1979** (PD 1612)
- D. Anti-Financial Account Scamming Act** (RA 12010, Secs. 3–5 and 16–21)
- E. Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act** (RA 3019, as amended by BP 195 and RA 10910)
- F. Anti-Hazing Act** (RA 8049, as amended by RA 11053)
- G. Anti-Hospital Deposit Law** (BP 702, as amended by RA 10932)
- H. Anti-Money Laundering Act** (RA 9160, as amended by RA 9194, 10167, 10365, 10927, 11521, 11930, and 12312)
- I. Anti-Online Sexual Abuse or Exploitation of Children and Anti-Child Sexual Abuse or Exploitation Materials Act** (RA 11930, Secs. 3–14 and 25)
- J. Anti-Photo and Video Voyeurism Act** (RA 9995)
- K. Anti-Piracy and Anti-Highway Robbery Law** (PD 532)
- L. Anti-Plunder Act** (RA 7080, as amended by RA 7659)
- M. Anti-Sexual Harassment Act** (RA 7877)
- N. Anti-Terrorism Act** (RA 11479)
- O. Anti-Torture Act** (RA 9745, Secs. 3–8 and 13–16)
- P. Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act** (RA 9208, Secs. 3–6 and 10–12, as amended by RA 10364, 11862, and 12312)
- Q. Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act** (RA 9262, Secs. 3–6 and 24–27)
- R. Anti-Wire Tapping Act** (RA 4200)
- S. Arson Law** (PD 1613)
- T. Bouncing Checks Law** (BP 22; AC 12-2000 and 13-2001)
- U. Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees** (RA 6713, Secs. 4, 7–9, and 11)
- V. Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act** (RA 10591, Secs. 3 and 28–41)
- W. Crimes Against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide, and Other Crimes Against Humanity** (RA 9851, Ch. III)
- X. Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012** (RA 10175, Ch. II)
- Y. Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act** (RA 9344, Titles I, IV, and VII, as amended by RA 10630)
- Z. Obstruction of Justice** (PD 1829)
- AA. Safe Spaces Act** (RA 11313, Secs. 11–16 and 36)
- BB. Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act** (RA 7610, as amended by RA 9231 and 11648)
- CC. Swindling by Syndicate** (PD 1689)
- DD. Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act** (RA 10168, Secs. 4–14)

END OF SYLLABUS FOR CRIMINAL LAW

SYLLABUS FOR THE 2027 BAR EXAMINATIONS

REMEDIAL LAW, LEGAL AND JUDICIAL ETHICS, WITH PRACTICAL EXERCISES (25%)

NOTE: Only laws, rules, issuances, and jurisprudence pertinent to the topics below as of **June 30, 2026** are examinable in the 2027 Bar Examinations. These topics are primarily based on the Rules of Court, as amended by AM 19-10-20-SC, AM 19-08-15-SC, and other issuances of the Supreme Court.

I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- A. Concept and Nature of Remedial Law
- B. Rulemaking Power of the Supreme Court
- C. Construction of Procedural Rules
- D. Applicability of Procedural Laws to Pending Actions
- E. Suppletory Application of the Rules of Court in Administrative Bodies
- F. Classification of Philippine Courts
- G. Hierarchy of Courts
- H. Doctrine of Judicial Stability (Non-Interference)

II. JURISDICTION

A. Concept

- 1. Classifications
 - a. Original and Appellate
 - b. General and Special
 - c. Exclusive and Concurrent
- 2. Distinguished from Exercise of Jurisdiction
- 3. Distinguished from Venue
- 4. Adherence of Jurisdiction
- 5. Residual Jurisdiction
- 6. Primary Jurisdiction
- 7. How Jurisdiction is Determined and Conferred

B. Subject Matter Jurisdiction

- 1. Effect of Waiver or Compromise
- 2. Effect of Estoppel
- 3. Error of Jurisdiction vs. Error of Judgment

C. Acquired Jurisdiction

- 1. Over the Parties
- 2. Over the Issues
- 3. Over the *Res* or Property in Litigation

D. Jurisdiction of Philippine Courts

1. Supreme Court (Const., Art. VIII)
2. Statutory Collegiate Courts
 - a. Court of Appeals (BP 129, as amended by RA 7902)
 - b. Sandiganbayan (PD 1606, as amended by RA 10660)
 - c. Court of Tax Appeals (RA 1125, as amended by RA 9282)
3. Second-level Courts
 - a. Regional Trial Courts (BP 129, as amended by RA 7691 and 11576)
 - i. Family Courts (RA 8369)
 - b. Shari'ah District Courts (PD 1083; RA 11054)
4. First-level Courts
 - a. Metropolitan Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts in Cities, Municipal Trial Courts, and Municipal Circuit Trial Courts (BP 129, as amended by RA 7691 and 11576; Expedited Procedures [AM 08-8-7-SC])
 - b. Shari'ah Circuit Courts (PD 1083; RA 11054)
5. Selected Specially Designated Courts
 - a. Special Commercial Courts
 - b. Special Cybercrime Courts
 - c. Special Agrarian Courts

E. Barangay Conciliation (RA 7160, Secs. 408–412)

III. CIVIL PROCEDURE

A. Classification of Actions

1. Ordinary and Special
2. Personal and Real
3. *In Rem*, *In Personam*, and *Quasi In Rem*

B. Cause of Action (Rule 2)

C. Parties to Civil Actions (Rule 3)

D. Venue (Rule 4)

E. Pleadings

1. Kinds (Rule 6)
2. Parts and Contents (Rule 7)
3. Allegations (Rule 8)
4. Affirmative Defenses (Rule 8, Sec. 12)
5. Effect of Failure to Plead (Rule 9, Secs. 1 and 2)
6. Default (Rule 9, Sec. 3)
7. Amended and Supplemental Pleadings (Rule 10)
8. Filing of Responsive Pleadings (Rule 11)
9. Bill of Particulars (Rule 12)
10. Filing and Service (Rules 13 and 13-A, as amended; AM 10-3-7-SC, 11-9-4-SC, 25-01-13-SC, and 25-09-16-SC)

F. Summons (Rule 14)

1. Issuance
 - a. By Whom Issued

- b. Purpose in Relation to Actions *In Personam*, *In Rem*, and *Quasi In Rem*
 - 2. Contents
 - 3. Service
 - a. By Whom Effected
 - b. Modes
 - i. Personal
 - ii. Substituted
 - iii. Extraterritorial
 - (a) Guidelines on Service under the Hague Service Convention (AO 101-2024)
 - iv. Upon Specific Persons and Entities
 - (a) Entity without Juridical Personality
 - (b) Prisoners
 - (c) Minor or Incompetent Persons
 - (d) Spouses
 - (e) Domestic Private Juridical Entity
 - (f) Foreign Private Juridical Entity
 - (g) Public Corporations
 - (h) Defendant Whose Identity or Location are Unknown
 - (i) Residents Temporarily Out of the Philippines
 - c. Alias Summons
 - d. Duty of Counsel of Record
 - e. Return
 - f. Proof
 - 4. Voluntary Appearance
- G. Motions** (Rule 15)
 - 1. Distinguished from Pleadings
 - 2. Litigious and Non-litigious Motions
 - 3. Prohibited Motions
 - 4. Omnibus Motion
- H. Dismissal** (Rule 17)
 - 1. Dismissal upon Notice by Plaintiff; Two-dismissal Rule
 - 2. Dismissal upon Motion by Plaintiff; Effect on Counterclaim
 - 3. Dismissal Due to Fault of Plaintiff
 - 4. Dismissal with Prejudice vs. without Prejudice
- I. Pre-trial** (Rule 18; AM 03-1-09-SC)
 - 1. Court-Annexed Mediation (*See also* AM 24-02-06-SC)
 - 2. Judicial Dispute Resolution
- J. Intervention** (Rule 19)
- K. Calendar of Cases** (Rule 20)
- L. Subpoena** (Rule 21)
- M. Computation of Time** (Rule 22)
- N. Modes of Discovery** (Rules 23–29)
- O. Trial** (Rule 30)
- P. Consolidation or Severance** (Rule 31)
- Q. Demurrer to Evidence** (Rule 33)

1. Effect of Denial, Grant, and Reversal on Appeal
- R. Judgments and Final Orders**
 1. Judgment on the Pleadings (Rule 34)
 2. Summary Judgments (Rule 35)
 3. How Rendered (Rule 36)
- S. Post-judgment Remedies**
 1. New Trial or Reconsideration (Rule 37)
 - a. Remedy Against Denial
 - b. Fresh Period Rule
 2. Relief from Judgment (Rule 38)
 3. Annulment of Judgment (Rule 47)
 4. Collateral Attack on Judgments
 5. Appeal and Review
 - a. Coverage
 - i. Subjects of Appeal and Review
 - ii. Matters Not Appealable
 - b. Periods for Filing
 - c. Perfection of Appeal
 - d. Issues Cognizable
 - e. Modes
 - i. Appeal from MTC to RTC (Rule 40)
 - ii. Appeal from RTC (Rule 41)
 - iii. Petition for Review from RTC to CA (Rule 42)
 - iv. Appeal from Quasi-judicial Agencies to CA (Rule 43)
 - v. Appeal by *Certiorari* to SC (Rule 45)
- T. Execution, Satisfaction, and Effect of Judgments (Rule 39)**
 1. Immutability of Final Judgments; Exceptions
 2. Execution as a Matter of Right vs. Matter of Discretion
 3. When Execution Shall Issue
 4. How a Judgment is Executed
 - a. By Motion or Independent Action
 - b. Execution of Judgments for Money, for Specific Act, and of Special Judgments
 - c. Requisites Before Demolition Order is Issued
 - d. Effect of Levy on Third Persons
 5. Properties Exempt from Execution
 6. Proceedings Where Property is Claimed by Third Persons
 7. Effect of Judgments or Final Orders
 - a. Judgments *In Rem* and *Quasi In Rem*
 - b. *Res Judicata*
 - i. Bar by Prior Judgment
 - ii. Conclusiveness of Judgment
 - c. Foreign Judgments

IV. PROVISIONAL REMEDIES

A. Nature and Purpose

- B. Preliminary Attachment** (Rule 57)
 - 1. Grounds for Issuance
 - 2. Issuance of the Writ
 - 3. Dissolution of Attachment
- C. Preliminary Injunction** (Rule 58)
 - 1. Preliminary Injunction vs. Temporary Restraining Order vs. *Status Quo Ante* Order
 - 2. Kinds and Requisites
- D. Receivership** (Rule 59)
- E. Replevin** (Rule 60)
- F. Support *Pendente Lite*** (Rule 61)
- G. Provisional Deposit** (Rule 135, Secs. 5(g) and 6; *Guerrero Estate Dev. Corp. v. Leviste & Guerrero Realty Corp.*, G.R. No. 253428)

V. SPECIAL CIVIL ACTIONS

- A. Concept**
- B. Interpleader** (Rule 62)
- C. Declaratory Relief and Similar Remedies** (Rule 63)
- D. Review of Commission on Elections and Commission on Audit Judgments and Final Orders or Resolutions** (Rule 64)
- E. *Certiorari*, Prohibition, and *Mandamus*** (Rule 65)
- F. *Quo Warranto*** (Rule 66)
- G. Expropriation** (Rule 67; RA 10752, as amended by RA 12289)
 - 1. Stages of Expropriation
 - 2. Immediate Possession of Expropriated Land
 - 3. Just Compensation
- H. Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage** (Rule 68; RA 8791, Sec. 47)
 - 1. Judicial Foreclosure
 - 2. Extrajudicial Foreclosure (Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118; AM 99-10-05-0, as amended)
- I. Partition** (Rule 69)
- J. Forcible Entry and Unlawful Detainer** (Rule 70)
- K. Contempt** (Rule 71)
 - 1. Direct vs. Indirect Contempt

VI. SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS AND WRITS

- A. Settlement of Estate of Deceased Persons**
 - 1. Venue and Process (Rule 73)
 - 2. Extrajudicial Settlement (Rule 74)
 - 3. Judicial Settlement
 - a. Summary Settlement (Rule 74)
 - b. Testate – Probate Proceedings
 - i. Allowance or Disallowance of Will (Rules 76–77)
 - ii. Letters Testamentary (Rules 78–79)
 - c. Intestate – Letters of Administration (Rules 78–79)

- d. Claims Against Estate (Rule 86)
 - e. Actions Involving Executors and Administrators (Rule 87)
 - f. Payment of Debts of the Estate (Rule 88)
 - g. Sales, Mortgages, and Other Encumbrances of Estate Property (Rule 89)
 - h. Distribution and Partition of the Estate (Rule 90)
- B. Escheat** (Rule 91)
- C. Guardianship** (Rules 92–97; *See also* AM 03-02-05-SC)
- D. Habeas Corpus** (Rule 102; *See also* AM 03-04-04-SC)
- E. Amparo** (AM 07-9-12-SC)
- F. Habeas Data** (AM 08-1-16-SC)
- G. Change of Name** (Rule 103)
- H. Cancellation or Correction of Civil Registry Entries** (Rule 108)
- I. Clerical Error** (RA 9048, as amended by RA 10172)
- J. Environmental Cases** (AM 09-6-8-SC)
 - 1. Temporary Environmental Protection Order (TEPO)
 - 2. Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP)
 - 3. Writ of *Kalikasan*
 - 4. Writ of Continuing *Mandamus*

VII. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

- A. Criminal Jurisdiction**
 - 1. Concept
 - 2. Requisites
- B. Prosecution of Offenses** (Rule 110)
 - 1. Institution of Criminal Action; Effect on Prescriptive Period
 - 2. Venue
 - 3. Who May Prosecute; Crimes that Cannot be Prosecuted *De Oficio*
 - 4. Intervention of Private Offended Party
 - 5. Control of Prosecution
 - 6. Complaint or Information
 - a. Definition
 - b. Sufficiency
 - i. Names of the Accused and the Offended Party
 - ii. Designation of the Offense; Qualifying and Aggravating Circumstances
 - iii. Cause of the Accusation
 - iv. Place and Date of Commission of the Offense
 - c. Duplicity of the Offense
 - d. Amendment and Substitution
- C. Prosecution of Civil Action** (Rule 111)
 - 1. Implied Institution of Civil Action *Ex Delicto*
 - 2. Independent Civil Actions
 - 3. Reservation, Suspension, and Waiver
 - a. In BP 22 Cases

4. Civil Liability *Ex Delicto*
 - a. When Accused is Acquitted
 - b. When Accused Dies
5. Prejudicial Question
- D. Preliminary Investigation** (Rule 112, partly repealed by AM 24-02-09-SC; Department of Justice [DOJ] DC 15 and 28, s. 2024)
 1. Nature and Purpose
 2. Who May Conduct (RA 10071)
 3. When Not Required
 4. Determination by the Prosecutor
 - a. Nature
 - b. Judicial Non-interference
 - c. Quantum of Evidence: *Prima Facie* Evidence with Reasonable Certainty of Conviction
 5. Remedies from Investigator's Action
 - a. Motion to Reopen or for Reinvestigation
 - b. Appeal (*See also* DOJ DC 70 and 70-A, s. 2000, and DC 27, s. 2022)
 6. Inquest
 7. Effect of Absence of Preliminary Investigation
 8. Withdrawal of Information
- E. Arrest** (Rule 113)
 1. Arrest by Virtue of a Warrant; Requisites for Issuance
 2. Warrantless Arrest, When Lawful
 3. Method of Arrest
 4. Use of Body-Worn Cameras (AM 21-06-08-SC)
 5. Waiver of Objections to Irregularity
- F. Bail** (Rule 114)
 1. Bail as a Matter of Right vs. Matter of Discretion
 2. Where Filed
 3. Application for Bail in Capital Offenses
 4. Guidelines in Fixing Amount
 5. Bail-Negating Circumstances
 6. Remedy When Denied
 7. Cancellation and Forfeiture
 8. Recognizance (RA 10389)
- G. Rights of Accused** (Rule 115)
 1. Rights of Accused at Trial
 2. Custodial Investigation Rights (RA 7438)
- H. Arraignment and Plea** (Rule 116)
 1. Purpose of Arraignment
 2. Searching Inquiry
 3. Guilty Plea
 - a. Lesser Offense
 - b. Capital Offense
 - c. Noncapital Offense
 4. Improvident Plea
 5. Bill of Particulars
 6. Suspension of Arraignment

- I. Motion to Quash (Rule 117)**
 - 1. Grounds
 - 2. Double Jeopardy
 - 3. Provisional Dismissal
- J. Pre-trial (Rule 118)**
 - 1. Pre-trial Agreement
 - 2. Nonappearance at Pre-trial Conference
 - 3. Pre-trial Order
 - 4. Cases for Mediation on the Civil Aspect
- K. Trial (Rule 119)**
 - 1. Trial *In Absentia*
 - 2. Remedy When Accused is Not Brought to Trial Within the Time Limit
 - 3. Conditional Examination of Prosecution or Defense Witness
 - 4. Discharge of Accused to be State Witness (*See also* RA 6981)
 - 5. Demurrer to Evidence
 - 6. Reopening of Proceedings
 - 7. Continuous Trial (AM 15-06-10-SC)
- L. Judgment (Rule 120)**
 - 1. Requisites of a Valid Judgment
 - 2. Variance Between Allegation and Proof
 - 3. Promulgation of Judgment
 - a. Nonappearance of Accused
- M. New Trial or Reconsideration (Rule 121)**
- N. Appeal (Rule 122)**
- O. Search and Seizure (Rule 126)**
 - 1. Search and Seizure by Virtue of a Warrant
 - a. Search Warrant
 - i. Nature
 - ii. Requisites for Issuance
 - iii. Probable Cause
 - iv. Motion to Quash Warrant or Suppress Evidence
 - v. Cybercrime Warrants (AM 17-11-03-SC)
 - vi. Search Warrants in State Detention Facilities
 - b. Execution of Search Warrant
 - 2. Warrantless Search
 - a. Search Incident to a Lawful Arrest
 - b. Plain View Doctrine
 - c. Search of a Moving Vehicle
 - d. Consented Warrantless Search
 - e. Customs Search
 - f. Stop and Frisk
 - g. Exigent and Emergency Circumstances
 - h. Checkpoint Searches
 - i. Airport and Seaport Security Searches
 - j. Searches of Public Transportation
 - 3. Use of Body-Worn Cameras (AM 21-06-08-SC)
 - 4. Effect of Illegal Search and Seizure
- P. Provisional Remedies in Criminal Cases (Rule 127)**

VIII. EVIDENCE

A. General Provisions and Principles (Rule 128)

1. Definition of Evidence
2. Liberal Construction of the Rules on Evidence
3. Uniformity of Evidentiary Rules
4. Proof vs. Evidence
5. *Factum Probans* vs. *Factum Probandum*

B. Judicial Notice and Judicial Admissions (Rule 129)

C. Admissibility

1. Requisites (Rule 128, Secs. 3–4)
 - a. Relevance; Collateral Matters
 - b. Competency
2. Multiple Admissibility
3. Conditional Admissibility
4. Curative Admissibility

D. Weight and Sufficiency (Rule 133)

1. Standards
 - a. Proof Beyond Reasonable Doubt
 - b. Preponderance of Evidence
 - c. Substantial Evidence
 - d. Clear and Convincing Evidence
2. Direct and Circumstantial Evidence
3. Competent and Credible Evidence
4. Positive and Negative Evidence
5. Weight of Electronic Documents (AM 01-7-01-SC, Rule 7)

E. Kinds (Rule 130)

1. Object or Real Evidence
 - a. Requisites for Admissibility
 - b. Categories of Object Evidence
 - c. Chain of Custody
 - d. Rule on DNA Evidence (AM 06-11-5-SC)
2. Documentary Evidence
 - a. Original Documents
 - b. Secondary Evidence
 - c. Parol Evidence
 - d. Interpretation of Documents
 - e. Electronic Evidence (AM 01-7-01-SC)
3. Testimonial Evidence
 - a. Who may be Witnesses (*See also* AM 00-4-07-SC)
 - b. Disqualification of Witnesses
 - c. Testimonial Privilege
 - d. Admissions and Confessions
 - e. Previous Conduct as Evidence
 - f. Hearsay Rule; Exceptions
 - i. Business Records made by Electronic, Optical, or Similar Means (AM 01-7-01-SC, Rule 8)
 - g. Opinion Rule
 - h. Character Evidence

F. Burden of Proof and Presumptions (Rule 131)

1. Burden of Proof vs. Burden of Evidence
2. Conclusive Presumptions
3. Disputable Presumptions
4. Presumptions in Civil Actions and Proceedings
5. Presumption Against Accused in Criminal Cases

G. Presentation of Evidence (Rule 132)

1. Examination of a Witness
 - a. Rights and Obligations of a Witness
 - b. Child Witness (AM 00-4-07-SC)
 - c. Judicial Affidavit Rule (AM 12-8-8-SC)
2. Authentication and Proof of Documents
 - a. Meaning of Authentication
 - b. Classes of Documents
 - c. Authentication of Private Writings
 - d. Public Documents as Evidence
 - e. Proof of Official Record
3. Offer and Objection
 - a. When Evidence Offered
 - b. Objection to Evidence
 - c. Tender of Excluded Evidence

H. Taking of Evidence under the Hague Evidence Convention (AM 25-02-17-SC)

1. Scope and Definitions
2. Use, Effect, and Admissibility of Evidence Taken Abroad
3. Privileges

IX. LEGAL AND JUDICIAL ETHICS

NOTE: The topics below are mainly based on the Code of Professional Responsibility and Accountability (CPRA) (AM 22-09-01-SC) and the 2025 Code of Judicial Conduct and Accountability (CJCA) (AM 25-04-04-SC).

A. Legal Ethics (CPRA)

1. Practice of Law

- a. Definition and Nature (Canon III, Sec. 1)
- b. A Privilege, Not a Right
- c. Supervision and Control of the Legal Profession (Const., Art. VIII, Sec. 5(5))

2. Admission to the Bar (Rule 138, as amended by AM 24-10-05-SC)

- a. Legal Education (*See also* RA 7662)
- b. Citizenship
- c. Good Moral Character
- d. Bar Examinations
- e. Revised Lawyer's Oath
- f. Signing in the Roll of Attorneys

3. Continuing Requirements for Membership in the Bar

- a. Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)
- b. Membership Dues
- c. Professional Tax (RA 7160, Sec. 139)
- d. Unified Legal Aid Service (AM 22-11-01-SC)

4. Limited Legal Practice or Representation

- a. Members of the Bar
 - i. Senators and Members of the House of Representatives (Const., Art. VI, Sec. 14)
 - ii. *Sanggunian* Members (RA 7160, Sec. 90(b))
 - iii. Retired Judges and Justices (RA 910, as amended by RA 9946)
 - iv. Other Government Officials and Employees
 - (a) With Permission from Head of Agency (CSC Reso. No. 2500358, Sec. 138)
 - (b) After Separation from Public Office (RA 6713, Sec. 7(b), last par.)
- b. Nonmembers of the Bar
 - i. Law Student Practitioners (Rule 138-A, Secs. 1–5, as amended by AM 19-03-24-SC)
 - ii. Parties and their Agents in Certain Proceedings
 - (a) Cadastral (PD 1529, Sec. 37)
 - (b) Labor (Labor Code, Art. 228)
 - (c) Agrarian Reform (RA 6657, Sec. 50, as amended by RA 9700, Sec. 18)
 - (d) *Katarungang Pambarangay* (RA 7160, Sec. 415)
 - (e) Cases under Expedited Procedure (AM 08-8-7-SC, Rule IV, Secs. 17–18)
 - (f) Arbitration (RA 9285, Secs. 22 and 33)

5. Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Practice of Law

- a. President, Vice President, Cabinet Members, their Deputies and Assistants (Const., Art. VII, Sec. 13)
- b. Members of the Constitutional Commissions (Const., Art. IX-A, Sec. 2)
- c. Ombudsman and Deputies (Const., Art. XI, Sec. 8)
- d. Justices, Judges, and Court Employees (CJCA, Canon IV, Secs. 16 and 19; 2025 Code of Conduct and Accountability for Court Officials and Personnel, AM 25-06-11-SC, Canon II, Secs. 8–9)
- e. Governors and Mayors (RA 7160, Sec. 90(a))
- f. Other Government Officials and Employees (RA 6713, Sec. 7(b)(2))
- g. Delinquent Lawyers due to MCLE Noncompliance (BM 850, October 2, 2001, Rules 12–13)
- h. Suspended Lawyers
- i. Foreign Lawyers

6. Privileges of a Lawyer

7. **Unauthorized Practice of Law**
 - a. Penalties
 8. **Duties and Responsibilities of Lawyers (CPRA)**
 - a. Preamble; General Provisions
 - b. Independence (Canon I)
 - c. Propriety (Canon II)
 - i. Responsible Use of Social Media
 - d. Fidelity (Canon III)
 - i. Interest in Object of Litigation or Transaction
(*See also* Civil Code, Art. 1491(5))
 - ii. Legal Aid (*See also* AM 22-11-01-SC)
 - e. Competence and Diligence (Canon IV)
 - f. Equality (Canon V)
 9. **Discipline and Disbarment of Lawyers (Canon VI)**
 - a. Nature of Bar Discipline Proceedings
 - i. Nonpenal; Public Welfare Measure
 - ii. Not Subject to Desistance or Compromise
 - iii. Confidential
 - b. Institution of Bar Discipline Proceedings
 - c. Charges and Sanctions
 - d. Preventive Suspension
 - e. Burden of Proof and Quantum of Evidence
 - f. Executory Nature of Decision or Resolution
 - g. Resumption of Practice of Law after Suspension
 - h. Clemency
 10. **Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools** (Governance Framework on the Use of Human-Centered Augmented Intelligence in the Judiciary [AM 25-11-28-SC]; Principles for the Ethical and Responsible Development, Deployment, and Use of Artificial Intelligence in the Government [DICT-CSC Joint Memorandum Circular No. 003, s. 2026])
 - a. Scope and Definitions
 - b. General Principles
 11. **Notarial Practice** (AM 02-8-13-SC, as amended)
 - a. Qualifications and Term
 - b. Powers and Limitations
 - c. Notarial Register
 - d. Jurisdiction and Place of Notarization
 - e. Competent Evidence of Identity
 - f. Sanctions
 - g. Electronic Notarization (AM 24-10-14-SC)
- B. Judicial Ethics (CJCA)**
1. **Standards of Ethical Conduct of Judges and Justices**
 - a. Preamble; General Provisions
 - b. Independence (Canon I)
 - c. Fidelity (Canon II)
 - d. Impartiality (Canon III)
 - i. Mandatory vs. Voluntary Inhibition (*See also* Rule 137)

- e. Propriety (Canon IV)
 - i. Teaching (AM 13-05-05-SC)
 - ii. Purchase of Property in Litigation (*See also* Civil Code, Art. 1491(5))
 - iii. Rules on the Use of Social Media
- f. Equality (Canon V)
- g. Competence and Diligence (Canon VI)
 - i. Use of Artificial Intelligence (Secs. 5–6; *See also* AM 25-11-28-SC)
- 2. Accountability of Members of the Judiciary**
 - a. Judicial Accountability and Disciplinary Proceedings (Canon VII)
 - b. Discipline and Dismissal of Judges of Lower Courts (Const., Art. VIII, Secs. 6 and 11)
 - c. Impeachment of Members of the Supreme Court (Const., Art. XI, Sec. 2)

X. PRACTICAL EXERCISES

1. Demand Letter
2. Special Power of Attorney
3. Contract of Sale or Lease
4. Deed of Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate
5. Judicial Affidavit
6. Verification and Certification Against Forum Shopping
7. Petition for Issuance of Writ of *Habeas Corpus*
8. Complaint for Forcible Entry or Unlawful Detainer
9. Motion for Authority to Litigate as Indigent
10. Motion to Participate Through Videoconferencing (AM 24-11-02-SC, Sec. 5)

END OF SYLLABUS FOR REMEDIAL LAW, LEGAL AND JUDICIAL ETHICS, WITH PRACTICAL EXERCISES