



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
INSURANCE COMMISSION
1071 United Nations Avenue
Manila



INSURANCE MEMORANDUM
CIRCULAR NO. 2020 - 01

AMENDMENTS TO INSURANCE MEMORANDUM
CIRCULAR NO. 2016-01 ON THE RULES OF
PROCEDURE FOR SMALL CLAIMS CASES IN
THE INSURANCE COMMISSION

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 437, 438 and 439 of the Insurance Code of the Philippines, as amended by Republic Act No. 10607, and Section 55 of Republic Act No. 9829, otherwise known as the Pre-Need Code of the Philippines, the following amendments to Sections 2, 4, 5, and 7 of Insurance Memorandum Circular (IMC) No. 2016-01 on the *Rules of Procedure for Small Claims Cases in the Insurance Commission* are hereby adopted and promulgated, to wit:

SEC. 1. Section 2 of IMC No. 2016-01 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. *Scope.* These Rules shall govern hearings of such claims and complaints in actions before the Insurance Commission where the amount being claimed or sued upon does not exceed **FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 400,000.00)** in any single claim, exclusive of interest, costs, and attorney's fees. Except as to the amount of actual damages, legal interest, attorney's fees and costs, which include filing fees and litigation expenses, no other form of damages shall be recoverable."

SEC. 2. Section 4 of IMC No. 2016-01 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. *Commencement of Small Claims Action.* A small claims action under these Rules may be commenced by any of the following, to wit:

x x x

b. x x x

x x x

iv. The amount of the claim which should not exceed **FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 400,000.00)** exclusive of interest, costs, and attorney's fees;

x x x"

SEC. 3. Section 5 of IMC No. 2016-01 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 5. *Joinder of Claims.* Complainants may join in a single statement of claim one or more separate small claims against a respondent provided that the total amount claimed, exclusive of interest and costs, does not exceed **FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 400,000.00).**”

SEC. 4. Section 7 of IMC No. 2016-01 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. *Payment of Filing Fees.* Unless the complainant is allowed to litigate as an indigent, the basis in determining the filing fee is the principal amount claimed, exclusive of interest and attorney’s fees. The filing fees shall be as follows:

Principal Amount Claimed	Filing Fees
Does not exceed PHP 100,000.00	PHP 1,000.00
Exceeds PHP 100,000.00, but does not exceed PHP 200,000.00	PHP 2,000.00
Exceeds PHP 200,000.00, but does not exceed PHP 300,000.00	PHP 3,000.00
Exceeds PHP 300,000.00, but does not exceed PHP 400,000.00	PHP 4,000.00

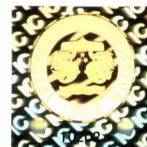
x x x”

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* If any provisions of this Insurance Memorandum Circular or any part hereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* This Insurance Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

City of Manila; 21 February 2020.

DENNIS B. FUNA
Insurance Commissioner





Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Office of the Court Administrator
Manila

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 45-2019

**TO : ALL JUDGES AND CLERKS OF COURT OF
THE FIRST LEVEL COURTS**

**SUBJECT : AMENDMENTS TO SECTIONS 2 AND 8
OF A.M. NO. 08-8-7-SC OR THE
REVISED RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR
SMALL CLAIMS CASES**

In accordance with the 26 February 2019 Resolution in A.M. No. 08-8-7-SC or *The Revised Rules of Procedure for Small Claims Cases*, the Court *En Banc* **RESOLVED** to **AMEND** Sections 2 and 8 of the Revised Rules of Procedure for Small Claims Cases, the full text of which is reproduced as follows:

Section 2. Scope. - These Rules shall govern procedure in actions before the Metropolitan Trial Courts (MeTCs), Municipal Trial Courts in Cities (MTCCs), Municipal Trial Courts (MTCs) and Municipal Circuit Trial Courts (MCTCs) for payment of money where the value of the claim does not exceed **the jurisdictional amount of these courts under Republic Act No. (R.A.) 7691 (Four Hundred Thousand Pesos [P400,000.00] for the MeTCs and Three Hundred Thousand Pesos [P300,000.00] for the MTCCs, MTCs, and MCTCs)**, exclusive of interest and costs.

x x x x

Section 8. Joinder of Claims. Plaintiff may join in a single statement of claim one or more separate small claims against a defendant provided that the total amount claimed, exclusive of interest and costs, **does not exceed the jurisdictional amount of the concerned court under R.A. 7691 (Four Hundred Thousand Pesos [P400,000.00] for the MeTCs and Three Hundred Thousand Pesos [P300,000.00] for the**

MTCCs, MTCs, and MCTCs). (Amendments in bold)

The appropriate Small Claims Forms are likewise amended to reflect the increased threshold amount of P400,000.00 for the MeTCs.

The amendments to Sections 2 and 8 of the *Revised Rules of Procedure for Small Claims Cases* were published in the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* and *Manila Bulletin* on 15 March 2019, and the same will take effect on 1 April 2019.

Strict compliance is enjoined.

21 March 2019


JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ
Court Administrator