



Republika ng Pilipinas  
**KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN**  
*Department of Justice*  
*Manila*

ELC-DC-10B16-015

10 February 2016

**006**

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

**TO : ALL CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : REVISED DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY ON AUTOMATIC REVIEW OF DISMISSED CASES INVOLVING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165 (COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002)**

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In the interest of the service and pursuant to the provisions of existing laws, the following guidelines shall be observed and implemented in the resolution of dismissed cases involving Republic Act. No. 9165, which have been elevated to the Office of the Secretary of Justice on Automatic Review:

1. Prosecutor General Claro A. Arellano is hereby authorized to resolve, sign, or approve Resolutions in behalf of the undersigned **for all pending automatic review cases, which have been elevated to the Office of the Secretary of Justice on or before 31 December 2015.** This includes cases that were previously raffled off to the former Undersecretaries of the Department.
2. To address the present backlog in automatic review cases, the Prosecutor General is hereby authorized to designate prosecutors as reviewers to resolve all pending cases on automatic review, which have been elevated to the Office of the Secretary of Justice on or before 31 December 2015.
3. To ensure equal distribution of the assignments, all prosecutors earlier designated pursuant to Department Order No. 431 dated 17 June 2013 are hereby instructed to turn-over all pending cases for automatic review to the NPS Docket Section for re-raffling of the cases to the prosecutors designated by the Prosecutor General pursuant to this Department Order.
4. All dismissed cases subject of automatic review, which have been elevated by the investigating prosecutor for review from **1 January 2016 onwards,** shall be forwarded by the NPS Docket Section to the Office of the Secretary for raffling and assignment to all incumbent Undersecretaries, who are hereby

shall be forwarded by the NPS Docket Section to the Office of the Secretary for raffling and assignment to all incumbent Undersecretaries, who are hereby authorized to resolve, sign, and approve Resolutions covering the foregoing automatic review cases. The automatic review shall be completed within thirty (30) days from receipt of the case records.

5. Despite the above-mentioned guidelines issued in the preceding paragraph, the Undersecretaries and/or the Prosecutor General shall have the authority to review, revise, reverse, and/or modify the draft resolution submitted by the reviewing Prosecutor.
6. The Docket Section and all related personnel are enjoined to maintain any and all information related to the assignment of the cases to the reviewing prosecutors or the Undersecretaries strictly confidential.
7. Nothing in this Department Circular shall diminish the authority of the Secretary of Justice to directly act on all petitions for review, automatic review, or appeals.

In view of the foregoing, Department Circular No. 66 dated 31 August 2010, is hereby repealed and abandoned in so far as the assignment of cases to the Undersecretaries according to territorial jurisdiction.

This Department Circular supersedes all issuances inconsistent herewith, takes effect immediately, and shall remain in force until further orders.

  
**EMMANUEL L. CAPARAS**  
*Secretary*   
Department of Justice  
CN : 0201602104  


Copy furnished:

All concerned

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
**RECORDED**  
19 FEB 2016  
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RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION

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