



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

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. **008-A**

**FOR :** **Prosecutor General**  
**All Prosecutors under the OSJPS**  
**All Prosecutors in the ORPs, OPPs, and OCPs**

**SUBJECT :** **Assessment of Pending Criminal Cases for Offenses Cognizable by the Municipal Trial Courts (MTCs), Municipal Trial Courts in Cities (MTCCs), and Metropolitan Trial Courts (MeTCs)**

**DATE :** FEB 13 2023

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In view of the Department's policy direction to only file cases with a reasonable certainty of conviction, i.e. cases supported by prima facie evidence, and in line with the Justice Sector Coordinating Council's efforts to unclog and decongest court dockets, all prosecutors handling criminal cases for offenses cognizable by the Municipal Trial Courts (MTCs), Municipal Trial Courts in Cities (MTCCs), and Metropolitan Trial Courts (MeTCs) are hereby enjoined to carefully assess all their cases and to determine if each has a reasonable certainty of conviction based on the evidence in hand, availability of witnesses, and continued interest of private complainants. If, upon assessment by the handling prosecutor, it is determined that there is no such reasonable certainty of conviction, the said handling prosecutor is ordered to immediately file the proper motion to withdraw information.

This Department Circular shall take immediate effect until modified.

For strict compliance.

**JESUS CRISTIN G. REMULLA**  
Secretary

Copy furnished:

All concerned.

Department of Justice  
CN: 0202302177

