

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 66, May 04, 1999]

FURTHER AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 23 DATED DECEMBER 17, 1992, AS AMENDED BY ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 159 DATED NOVEMBER 25, 1994, PRESCRIBING FOR THE RULES AND PROCEDURES ON THE INVESTIGATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISCIPLINARY CASES AGAINST ELECTIVE LOCAL OFFICIALS OF PROVINCES, HIGHLY URBANIZED CITIES, INDEPENDENT COMPONENT CITIES, COMPONENT CITIES AND CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES IN METROPOLITAN MANILA

I, JOSEPH E. ESTRADA, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. Section 2, Rule I of Administrative Order No. 23, as amended, is hereby further amended, to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. *Disciplining Authority.* — The President, who may act through the Executive Secretary, shall be the Disciplining Authority for all administrative complaints against elective local officials covered therein."

SECTION 2. Section 3 of Rule 1 of Administrative Order No. 23, as amended, is hereby further amended, to read as follows:

"SECTION 3. *Investigating Authority.* — The Secretary of the Interior and Local Government is hereby designated as the Investigating Authority. As such, he is authorized to investigate complaints filed against elective officials covered herein and act appropriately thereon as hereinafter provided. He may, thereafter, constitute an Investigating Committee in the Department of Interior and Local Government for the conduct of investigation.

"The preceding paragraph notwithstanding, the Disciplining Authority may, in the interest of the service, constitute a Special Investigating Committee in lieu of the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government. Nothing herein provided, however, shall prevent the President from assuming jurisdiction at any stage of the proceedings over cases to be preliminarily investigated by the Department of Interior and Local Government. In such event, the same shall immediately be forwarded to the Special Investigating Committee after it may have been constituted by the Disciplining Authority."

SECTION 3. Section 4 of Rule 3 of Administrative Order No. 23, as amended, is hereby repealed.