

[OP MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 180, August 13, 2009]

AFFIRMING THE PRINTING JURISDICTION OF THE NATIONAL PRINTING OFFICE

WHEREAS, Section 6 of Executive Order (EO) No. 285, issued on July 25, 1987, created the National Printing Office (NPO) out of the merger of the Government Printing Office and the relevant printing units of the Philippine Information Agency (PIA);

WHEREAS, the same Executive Order mandated that the NPO shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the following: (a) printing, binding and distribution of all standard and accountable forms of national, provincial, city and municipal governments including government corporations; (b) printing of official ballots; (c) printing of public documents such as the Official Gazette, General Appropriations Act, Philippine Reports, and development information materials of the PIA;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 378 was issued on October 25, 2004, amending Section 6 of EO 285 by removing the exclusive jurisdiction of the NPO over the printing service requirements of government agencies and instrumentalities under conditions provided therein, except in the printing of election paraphernalia which it could share with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas upon the discretion of the Commission on Elections, consistent with pertinent provisions of law;

WHEREAS, with respect to accountable forms with money value and other specialized accountable forms of the requisitioning office or agency, Memorandum Order No. 38, series 1998, prescribed specific guidelines in the contracting by the NPO of the printing services of accredited private security printers in order to effectively monitor and safeguard the quality and integrity of such accountable forms;

WHEREAS, election laws prescribe that official ballots and other accountable election forms shall be printed exclusively by the National Printing Office and/or the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas under proper security measures which the Commission shall provide;

WHEREAS, the General Appropriations Act requires government agencies and instrumentalities to secure the prior waiver of the NPO in engaging private printers for the printing of accountable forms;

WHEREAS, there is a need to consolidate the related provisions of laws and issuances in order to clarify the jurisdiction of the National Printing Office, as well as the procedures in the printing of government accountable forms, in order to efficiently and effectively accomplish the delivery of the public services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby order: