

[MIA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 48, April 10, 1989]

MEASURES TO CONTROL OVER-CROWDING/OVERLOADING AND SCALPING OF TICKETS IN THE INTERISLAND VESSELS

Pursuant to the policy of the government to ensure the riding public of a safe and comfortable sea travel and in order to avoid over-crowding/overloading as well as control/eliminate scalping of tickets in the interisland passenger vessels, the following guidelines are hereby promulgated:

1. The vessel(s) should be berthed about 1 to 1.5 meters (or at a distance as practicability would dictate) away from the quay/pier during embarkation of passengers;
2. Manifests or passenger lists should be prepared and made available before the vessel leaves port;
3. Only [a] person or persons with tickets shall be allowed to board the vessel. Those found to have no tickets shall be assessed one hundred percent (100%) additional fare as penalty;
4. Employees of shipping companies are prohibited from issuing tickets on board except for-the purpose of issuing tickets with the corresponding penalty therefor. Violation hereof is punishable by a fine not exceeding the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) for the purpose of issuing tickets with the corresponding penalty therefor. Violation hereof is punishable by a fine not exceeding the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) for the first offense. Succeeding offenses shall be dealt with more severely;
5. The responsibility of conducting head count on passengers lies with the shipowners/ship officers in line with PCGG Memorandum Circular No. 04-88;
6. Cabin of all ship's officers and crew maybe subjected to inspection to prevent passengers from hiding in these spaces;
7. The members of the MARINA and/or PCG Task Force shall be-accompanied by at least one of the vessel's complement during the monitoring/checking of numbers of passengers on board;
8. Officers and crew members shall always wear uniforms or identification paraphernalia during monitoring/checking to distinguish them from passengers; and
9. Under no circumstances may a vessel carrying more than or in excess of its authorized passenger capacity leave port. Any violation hereof shall