

[ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 239, September 15, 2008]

PROHIBITING THE USE OF GOVERNMENT VEHICLES FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN OFFICIAL BUSINESS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, pursuant to Republic Act No. 7638, it is a declared policy of the State to ensure a continuous, adequate, reliable and economic supply of energy through the judicious conservation, renewal and efficient utilization of energy, to keep pace with the country's growth and economic development;

WHEREAS, the present Administration adheres to the principle that public office is a public trust and inherent in this principle is the judicious and responsible stewardship in the utilization of the government's resources;

WHEREAS, the continuous rise in the prices of oil in the world market calls for the government to exert efforts to promote the judicious use of our energy resources through intensified conservation effort and efficient utilization thereof; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to strengthen the government's effort against the use of government vehicles for purposes other than official business in line with the government's energy saving and anti-graft and corruption campaigns.

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

SECTION 1. All government agencies and offices are prohibited from using government vehicles for purposes other than official business: *Provided*, That in every case, the trip ticket authorizing the use of the vehicle shall be displayed on the windshield or in another conspicuous place on the vehicle: *Provided, further*, That vehicles used by intelligence and investigative agencies of the government shall not be covered by the foregoing proviso.

The use of government vehicles on Sundays, legal holidays, or out of the regular office hours or outside the route of the officials or employees authorized to use them, or by any person other than such officials or employees, shall unless properly authorized, be *prima facie* evidence of violation of this Section in the administrative proceeding against the officials or employees responsible of such violation.

All government agencies and offices shall limit the use of government vehicles to essential activities and shall review their travel program and schedules to minimize unnecessary trips.

SECTION 2. The use of government vehicles for private social functions such as receptions, balls, theatres, and for other personal purposes is absolutely prohibited.