

[MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 86, May 11, 2021]

ENSURING COMPLIANCE OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES WITH HEALTH PROTOCOLS APPLICABLE TO THEIR WORKPLACES DURING THE STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the government must lead by example in the observance of health protocols issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) and relevant agencies, which are applicable to workplaces;

WHEREAS, the IATF Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines, as amended (Omnibus Guidelines), provides rules applicable to workplaces under every form of community quarantine, including government offices;

WHEREAS, the Civil Service Commission (CSC), the Department of Health, and the Department of Labor and employment issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 (s.2020), providing for the Occupational and Health Standards (OSH) for the Public Sector, which requires heads of government agencies to provide a workplace that is free from hazardous conditions, ensure compliance with the OSH, and create a Safety and Health Committee, among others;

WHEREAS, the CSC issued Memorandum Circular No. 10 (s.2020), as amended by Memorandum Circular No. 18 (s.2020), providing for the Revised Interim Guidelines for Alternative Work Arrangements and support Mechanisms for workers in the Government During the Period of State of National Emergency Due to COVID-19 Pandemic;

WHEREAS, there is a need to monitor compliance with health protocols in the workplaces of all government agencies and instrumentalities, to mitigate and suppress the spread of COVID-19 in the said areas while ensuring the continuous delivery of public services;

NOW, THEREFORE, the following are hereby ordered:

Section 1. Role of Heads of Agencies and their Safety and Health Committees. The heads of all government agencies and instrumentalities of the executive branch, including government -owned or-controlled corporations (GOCCs), shall empower and mobilize their respective Safety and Health Committees to strictly enforce and monitor compliance with all health protocols in their respective workplaces. Accountability for ensuring observance of such protocols shall rest jointly with such heads of agencies and the Committees.

Section 2. Role of Employees' Associations. To further strengthen the observance of health protocols in the workplace, agencies and instrumentalities of