

**[MTRCB Memorandum Circular No. 02-2015,
January 05, 2015]**

**REVISED RULES GOVERNING THE MONITORING DUTIES OF THE
BOARD AND ITS DEPUTIES**

*Adopted: 05 January 2015
Date Filed: 14 January 2015*

WHEREAS, Section 13 of P.D. 1986 empowers the Board and its duly authorized deputies to inspect all the public exhibitions of any motion picture or publicity material in cinemas, theaters and other public establishment to ensure that all relevant rules and regulations in the public exhibition of motion pictures or publicity materials, including trailers and still photos, are duly observed;

WHEREAS, to effectively carry out the aforesaid mandate, the Board is empowered to appoint deputies to assist in overseeing the implementation of laws and rules relating to the public exhibition of motion pictures, television programs, and publicity materials falling within the jurisdiction of the Board.

WHEREAS, the prerogative of the management of cinemas, theaters and other public establishments to regulate the public exhibition of motion pictures in their premises according to their sound business practices are always subject to the provisions P.D. 1986;

WHEREAS, there is a need to clarify certain rules of conduct of the management of cinemas or theaters vis-à-vis the exercise by the Board of its monitoring duties specially in cases of special screenings, screenings with food bundle, and screening with no paying patrons.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board hereby resolves, as follows:

A. POWER TO INSPECT

Section 1. The power of the Board under Section 13 of P.D. 1986 to inspect the public exhibition of any motion picture in all cinemas in the Philippines is not subject to any restriction. Save for the limitations imposed by the Board, any form of hindrance or obstruction preventing the Board or any deputy of the Board from performing his/her monitoring duties is a violation of P.D. 1986. As used in this Circular, the term "**Board**" refers to the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Board Members, Executive Director and the regular officers and staff of the MTRCB.

Section 2. The Board and its organic personnel. Pursuant to the Board's power to inspect all public exhibitions of motions pictures, and in the light of its authority to exercise such powers and functions as may be necessary or incidental to the fulfillment of its mandate, the incumbent Members of the Board, including its

Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Executive Director and organic personnel, together with their respective companions, are not subject to any kind of restriction. Their respective identification cards shall be honored at all times in any cinema as they discharge their mandated duties under Section 13 of P.D. No. 1986.

Section 3. Deputies of the Board. Owing to the privileged nature of their appointment and consistent with the Board's mandate to assist in the upliftment and development of the film industry, the deputies of the Board, including Local Regulatory Council (LRC) members or volunteers are not allowed admission as such to cinemas exhibiting motion pictures officially certified as entries to the annual Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) during the declared MMFF festival period; nor are they allowed admission to such cinemas exhibiting film premieres or special screenings; as well as in selected specialty cinemas with limited seating capacity, namely: Eastwood Ultra Cinema 7, Shang Premier Theater, Director's Club (SM Mall of Asia, SM Aura, SM BF Homes and SM Megamall), Recliner Seats of Trinoma Cinema, Gateway Cineplex 10, Cinema 3 of Century Mall, and 4DX Cinema of Bonifacio High Street (without prejudice to such other cinemas or theaters that may be designated by the Board, as well as the Board's prerogative to lift or amend such designation as circumstances warrant).

Section 4. For purposes of inspection, all cinemas must be able to present, upon demand, the permits to exhibit of each and every publicity material exhibited in their premises, such as those for movie trailers, posters, and other similar materials, in addition to the permit to exhibit of the main feature motion picture.

B. CINEMA SCREENINGS WITH FOOD BUNDLE

Section 1. Any form of hindrance or obstruction preventing the Board or any deputy of the Board, including LRC members or volunteers, from performing his/her monitoring duties is a violation of P.D. 1986. The Board, thus, reiterates that it is unlawful for any cinema to demand an admission fee, regardless of the amount, from the Board or any deputy of the Board, including LRC members or volunteers, or to compel them to purchase any food or non-food product as a precondition to admission to any cinema screening.

Section 2. The cinema management is not obliged to provide the Board or any deputy of the Board with food bundles whenever they are admitted to cinema screenings with food bundles, unless these food bundles are separately paid for.

C. FILM PREMIERES OR SPECIAL SCREENINGS

Section 1. In keeping with the power of the Board to inspect all public exhibitions of motion pictures, and in the light of its authority to exercise such powers and functions as may be necessary or incidental to the fulfillment of its mandate, the incumbent Members of the Board, including its Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Executive Director and organic personnel, together with their respective companions, have the unrestricted authority to inspect cinemas exhibiting film premieres or special cinema screenings.

Section 2. The restriction on admission to cinemas exhibiting film premieres or special cinema screenings applies only to deputies of the Board and their companions, as well as to LRC members or volunteers. The term "**film premiere**" is