

**[ BI Operations Order No. SBM-2015-007, March 20, 2015 ]**

**REVISED GUIDELINES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VISAS UNDER SECTION 47(A)(2), COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 613, AS AMENDED**

*Adopted: 20 March 2015  
Date Filed: 20 March 2015*

**WHEREAS**, Commonwealth Act (CA) No. 613, as amended, Section 47(a)(2) authorizes the President, when the public interest so warrants, *"(t)o admit as non-immigrants, aliens not otherwise provided for by this Act, who are coming for a temporary period only, under such conditions as he may prescribe"*;

**WHEREAS**, the President has authorized the Department of Justice (DOJ) to issue such visas under Section 47(a)(2) which may or may not be subject to payment of applicable immigration fees;

**WHEREAS**, in view of the confusion on the requirements and obligations of Section 47(a)(2) visa holders at the point of departure in terms of compliance with immigration clearances and the corresponding payment of fees therefor, Operations Order No. SBM-2014-055 was issued on 04 November 2014 prescribing the implementation guidelines of visas under CA. No. 613, as amended, Section 47(a)(2);

**WHEREAS**, on 29 January 2014, Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) Director General Lilia B. De Lima, requested for the Bureau of Immigration (BI)'s endorsement to the DOJ for an exemption from the coverage of Operations Order No. SBM-2014-055, citing Presidential Decree No. 66, as amended, and Article 76, Book VI of Executive Order No. 226 (1987 Omnibus Investment Code) provides: *"x x x Foreign nationals who have been issued multiple entry special visas under this provision, as well as their respective spouses and dependents, shall be exempt from obtaining alien certificates and all types of clearances required by any government department or agency. x xx"*;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the rule-making authority of the Commissioner of Immigration under Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended, the following revised guidelines are hereby prescribed:

**Section 1. PEZA-endorsed Section 47(a)(2) Visas.** - Holders, of PEZA-endorsed Special Non-immigrant Visas under Section 47(a)(2), CA. No. 613, as amended, as well as their respective spouses and dependents, shall be exempt from obtaining alien certificates and all types of BI clearances including the payment of Emigration Clearance Certificate (ECC) and Special Return Certificate (SRC) fees.