



Client Bulletin No. 34 (Updates on COVID-19 related PH Issuances):
GCQ over Metro Manila Extended until September 30, 2020

This is a briefing on the issuances as of September 1, 2020 on the following matters in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- A. [General Community Quarantine \(GCQ\) over Metro Manila Extended until September 30, 2020](#)
- B. [Online Filing and Payment with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines \(IPOPHL\) are Mandatory from September 1, 2020](#)

A. General Community Quarantine (GCQ) over Metro Manila Extended until September 30, 2020

1. The period of General Community Quarantine (GCQ) in Metro Manila, which was effective until August 31, 2020,¹ has been extended until September 30, 2020.² The President announced on August 31 the extension of the GCQ period.³

Batangas, Bulacan, Tacloban City, and Bacolod City are also under GCQ for the same period.

The table below sets out the types of community quarantine imposed on various areas of the country pursuant to the August 31, 2020 announcement of the President.⁴

Type of Community Quarantine Imposed	Period	Areas Covered
Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ)	September 1 – 30, 2020	Iligan City
GCQ	September 1 – 30, 2020	Metro Manila, Batangas, Bulacan, Tacloban City and Bacolod City
Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ)	September 1 – 30, 2020	All other areas in the Philippines not mentioned above

¹ See our Client Bulletin No. 33 dated August 19, 2020 at <https://syciplawresources.com/2020/08/20/syciplaw-bulletin-33-metro-manila-is-back-under-gcq-starting-august-19-2020/>.

² IATF Resolution No. 67 dated August 31, 2020; <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2020/08aug/20200831-IATF-RESOLUTION-NO-67.pdf>; last visited September 1, 2020 at 12:43 PM.

³ Duterte keeps Metro Manila under GCQ until Sept. 30 dated August 31, 2020; <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1329495/duterte-metro-manila-remains-under-gcq>; last visited September 1, 2020 at 12:41 PM.

⁴ Duterte keeps Metro Manila under GCQ until Sept. 30 dated August 31, 2020; <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1329495/duterte-metro-manila-remains-under-gcq>; last visited September 1, 2020 at 12:41 PM.

2. For the MECQ, GCQ and MGCQ guidelines, as well as the list of establishments allowed to operate and their corresponding operational capacities, please refer to the relevant issuances of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) and of the Department of Trade and Industry.⁵

For more information about the IATF guidelines, please contact your account partner.

B. Online Filing and Payment with the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOP HL) are Mandatory from September 1, 2020

1. The IPOP HL has issued *Memorandum Circular No. 2020-036*⁶ to inform the public of the full capability of the Intellectual Property Portal in accepting online filing and payments. In this regard, the IPOP HL requires all filings, submissions, and payments be done online through IPOP HL's online portal starting September 1, 2020. Only those payments in the amount of at least PhP100,000 per transaction shall be accepted at the IPOP HL Main Office.
2. The circular notes that the number of clients or visitors allowed to enter the receiving area of the IPOP HL shall be restricted to a maximum of 75 per day. The IPOP HL receiving and cashiering counters will be open only from Mondays to Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
3. The circular further provides that "with the full transition of the IPOP HL from the manual/physical system to online transactions, the extended deadlines stated in previous Memorandum Circulars⁷ shall no longer be further extended."

For more information about IPOP HL issuances, please contact:

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For more information regarding the issuances discussed above, please contact your account partner or sshg@syciplaw.com or info@syciplaw.com.

⁵ See our Client Bulletin No. 26 dated July 21, 2020 at <https://syciplawresources.com/2020/07/21/syciplaw-bulletin-25-gcq-over-metro-manila-is-further-extended-until-july-31-2020/>.

⁶ IPOP HL Memorandum Circular No. 2020-036; <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1glqr90BlxgVHH1w3-hMqAwtrpnkHrRTM/view>; last visited on September 1, 2020 at 2:15 PM.

⁷ See our Client Bulletin No. 32 dated August 14, 2020 at <https://syciplawresources.com/2020/08/18/syciplaw-bulletin-32-recent-ipophl-and-bir-issuances/>.

Other COVID-19 related bulletins

The links to our earlier bulletins can be found at the SyCipLaw information hub, <https://syciplawresources.com/>.

Please note that there are other COVID-19 related government issuances that are not covered by our bulletins. For more information about other regulations, please contact your account partner or sshg@syciplaw.com or info@syciplaw.com.

This bulletin contains a summary of the legal issuances discussed above. It was prepared by SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan (SyCipLaw) to update its clients about recent legal developments.

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Please check the official version of the issuances discussed in this bulletin. There may be other relevant legal issuances not mentioned in this bulletin, or there may be amendments or supplements to the legal issuances discussed here which are published after the circulation of this bulletin.

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