

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila
Nineteenth Congress
Third Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-second day of July, two thousand twenty-four.

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12048]

AN ACT CREATING FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF ORMOC, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(I) AND SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Four (4) additional branches of the Regional Trial Court (RTC) and four (4) additional branches of the Municipal Trial Court in Cities (MTCC) in the Eighth Judicial Region are hereby created and stationed in the City of Ormoc, Province of Leyte.

The Supreme Court shall assign the respective branch numbers for the newly created branches of the RTC and MTCC.

SEC. 2. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, in coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Justice, shall immediately include in the Court's program the operationalization of the additional branches of the RTC and MTCC in the City of Ormoc, Province of Leyte. The Supreme Court shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act and, if warranted, the realignment of seats of existing branches and their territorial jurisdiction.

SEC. 3. The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act, including appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits, and emoluments for judges and court personnel, court operations under maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), and provisions for Halls of Justice or courtrooms to accommodate judges and court staff, as well as funds necessary for the implementation of automatically created prosecutor positions pursuant to Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10071 or the "Prosecution Service Act of 2010" and appointment of public attorneys pursuant to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9406 or the Act reorganizing and strengthening the Public Attorney's Office (PAO), resulting from the creation of these courts, including appropriations for personnel services such as salaries, benefits, and emoluments for prosecutors and public attorneys, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The funds necessary for the operation of the courts herein created shall be appropriated and released only upon the actual organization of the court and the appointment of its personnel.

SEC. 4. The RTC in the City of Ormoc will have seven (7) branches. The staffing pattern of each branch shall be as follows:

No. of Positions	Position Title	Salary Grade
1	Regional Trial Court Judge	29
1	Clerk of Court V	24
1	Court Legal Researcher II	15
1	Interpreter III	12
4	Court Stenographer III	12
1	Sheriff IV	12
2	Clerk III	6
1	Process Server	5
1	Utility Worker I	1
13	Personnel	

The staff complement of the Office of the Clerk of Court (OCC) shall be composed of twenty-four (24) personnel, unless the same is modified as may be determined by the Supreme Court.

In addition, there shall be appointed the corresponding number of prosecutor/s and public attorney/s and their support staff based on the ratio outlined in Republic Act No. 10071 and Republic Act No. 9406, respectively.

SEC. 5. The MTCC in the City of Ormoc will have three (3) branches. The staffing pattern of each branch shall be as follows:

No. of Positions	Position Title	Salary Grade
1	City Trial Court Judge	28
1	Clerk of Court III	22
1	Court Legal Researcher I	12
1	Interpreter II	10
3	Court Stenographer II	10
1	Sheriff III	10
1	Clerk IV	8
1	Clerk III	6
1	Process Server	5
1	Utility Worker I	1
12	Personnel	

The staff complement of the new MTCC OCC shall be composed of eleven (11) personnel, unless the same is modified as may be determined by the Supreme Court.

In addition, there shall be appointed the corresponding number of prosecutor/s and public attorney/s and their support staff based on the ratio outlined in Republic Act No. 10071 and Republic Act No. 9406, respectively.

SEC. 6. Section 14(j) and Section 29 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, otherwise known as "The Judiciary Reorganization Act of 1980", as amended, and all other laws, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,



FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO
President of the Senate



FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Speaker of the House of Representatives

This Act, which originated in the House of Representatives, was passed by the House of Representatives on August 9, 2023, amended by the Senate of the Philippines on May 13, 2024, and which amendments were concurred in by the House of Representatives on July 30, 2024.

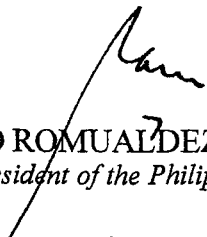


RENATO N. BANTUG JR.
Secretary of the Senate



REGINALD S. VELASCO
Secretary General House of Representatives

Approved: **OCT 26 2024**



FERDINAND ROMUALDEZ MARCOS JR.
President of the Philippines



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