



PHILIPPINE CLEARING HOUSE CORPORATION

Memo Circular No. 3885

June 25, 2025

T O : All Clearing Banks/Institutions

R E : 1. STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF NON-ACCEPTANCE OF CHECKS WITH INVALID DATE FORMAT AND UNNECESSARY SPECIAL CHARACTERS/ SYMBOLS IN THE AMOUNT IN FIGURES

2. MORATORIUM EXTENSION FOR MANAGER'S CHECKS

1. We reiterate PCHC's earlier directive that beginning **Tuesday, July 01, 2025**, all Checks presented for clearing must strictly comply with the following formatting rules:

1.1 The '**Date of Issue**' must be expressed in the **MM-DD-YYYY** format or its acceptable variants as provided in **Memo Circular No. 3821**; and

1.2 The '**Amount in Figures**' must be free from **unnecessary special characters, symbols, or marks** that may hinder proper clearing and validation.

2. As prescribed in MC Nos. 3814 and 3857, any check found to be check non-compliant shall be returned using **Return Reason Code "E"**, with the following details:

Return Reason Code	Description	Usage	Tran Code	Re-clearing R-Allowed N-Not Allowed
E	Use of non-prescribed Date Format or Writing of Symbols or Marks in Amount in Figures	To return Regular Clearing Item where the issue date format does not conform to the standard MM-DD-YYYY or its acceptable variants, or use of inappropriate partition symbols to separate date characters, or inclusion of unnecessary symbols in the Amount in Figures to deter alteration.	24	N

3. We emphasize that these rules have been the subject of previous moratoriums, providing ample time for clearing participants to inform and transition their clients to the required formats. As such, **strict enforcement will proceed as scheduled for Regular Checks effective July 1, 2025.**
4. **However, in response to requests for additional lead time for internal adjustment, the effectivity of this directive for Manager's Checks is hereby extended by one (1) month, with full implementation set on August 1, 2025.**
5. We also wish to reiterate that Checks presented before July 1, 2025 that do not follow the prescribed Date of Issue and/or Amount in Figures format as outlined in MC No. 3821 dated July 2, 2024 will remain temporarily accepted under the moratorium but will lose re-clearing eligibility after June 30, 2025.
6. Please be guided accordingly.


EMMANUEL E. BARCENA
President & CEO