

Memo Circular No. 3887 July 02, 2025

**TO:** All Clearing Banks/Institutions

R E : <u>CLARIFICATIONS ON STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF THE NON-ACCEPTANCE OF</u>

<u>CHECKS WITH INVALID DATE FORMAT AND UNNECESSARY SPECIAL</u>

<u>CHARACTERS/SYMBOLS IN THE AMOUNT IN FIGURES</u>

- 1. We wish to reiterate that following the second moratorium issued on June 3, 2024 (*MC No. 3814*) and the subsequent reminder on proper check writing (MC No. 3821 dated July 2, 2024), the implementation date of July 1, 2025 (August 1, 2025 for Manager's/Cashier's Checks), remains firm. Despite prior guidance and public dissemination, we continue to receive numerous inquiries.
- 2. To address recurring concerns, we emphasize the following clarifications:

# 2.1 Date of Issue

- Must follow MM-DD-YYYY format or acceptable variants: M-DD-YYYY, MM-D-YYYY.
- Examples for July 2, 2025:
  - 07-02-2025, 7-02-2025, 07-2-2025
- Checks remain acceptable even if the date is printed above, below, or outside the boxes, with or without dashes.

# Example:



# 2.2 Amount in Figures

- Must be in standard number format: commas to separate thousands, a period before centavos (e.g., 10,500.35).
  - No symbols, underlines, or additional markings before or after the number.
  - Acceptable: 10,000.00
  - Not acceptable: ₱10,000.00, 10,000--, \*\*\*10,000.35\*\*\*, 10,000.00/100

- If the amount is printed slightly outside the designated box, the check remains acceptable. Example:



# 2.3 Amount in Words and Payee

- · No restrictions.
  - Traditional writing styles, including the use of ampersands (&), dashes (-), or the word "only" are acceptable.
  - Centavos may be written as numbers or fractions (e.g., 35/100) without affecting check acceptability.

## 2.4 Post Dated Checks

• PDCs warehoused before July 1, 2025, remain acceptable for clearing on due date, provided they bear the "Warehoused" stamp on the dorsal side.

#### 2.5 Other Reminders

- The policy applies to Checks presented for deposit/clearing.
- Checks not acceptable due to formatting issues may still be presented directly to the Drawee Bank for payment or encashment by the payee or issuer.
- 3. Please be guided accordingly.

EMMANÚEL E. BARCENA

President & CEO