



Republic of the Philippines  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

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**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

OCTOBER 11, 2013

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**

NO. 2013-113

**TO :** TO ALL PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY MAYORS, MUNICIPAL MAYORS, DILG REGIONAL DIRECTORS, ARMM GOVERNOR AND OTHER CONCERNED

**SUBJECT :** RE-ISSUANCE OF DILG MC NO. 2005-21 DATED MARCH 4, 2005, ENTITLED, OPERATIONAL AUTONOMY OF LOCAL WATER DISTRICTS

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Considering the entry of new set of Local Chief Executives resulting from May 2013 elections, DILG Memorandum Circular No. 2005-21, dated March 4, 2005, entitled, Operational Autonomy of Local Water Districts, is hereby re-issued, reminding the following directives to all local authorities:

1. Water districts, once formed, are not under the jurisdiction of any political subdivision (Section 6, Presidential Decree No. 198, DILG Memorandum Circular No. 88-15 dated March 1, 1988 and DILG Memorandum Circular No. 97-78 dated April 14, 1997);
2. Water districts are autonomous agencies independent of local governments. It should be best that they are allowed to operate without the least hindrance and interference from the local officials but with maximum support and assistance (Section 6, Presidential Decree No. 198, DILG Memorandum Circular No. 88-15 dated March 1, 1988 and Memorandum Circular No. 97-78 dated April 14, 1997); and
3. While the Local Government Code provides for the legal basis relative to the devolution of powers, functions and attributes granted by law to the Local Water Utilities Administration to local water districts, should they opt to exercise such powers, functions and attributes, there is nothing in the Code that indicates that it has repealed the pertinent provisions of Presidential Decree No. 198, as amended (Section 530 and 534, Local Government Code and DILG Memorandum Circular No. 97-78 dated April 14, 1997).

All concerned DILG Regional Directors are directed to cause the widest and immediate dissemination of this Memorandum Circular within their regional jurisdictions.

**MAR ROXAS**

Secretary



DILG-OSEC OUTGOING 13-02650