



IMMIGRATION MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2025- 004

PRESCRIBING THE INCREASE IN THE EXPRESS LANE FEE

WHEREAS, in 1988, Bureau of Immigration (BI) Commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago established the collection of the Express Lane Fee (ELF) amounting to Two Hundred and Fifty Pesos (P250.00);

WHEREAS, in 2000, a 100% increase in fees and charges was implemented as approved by then Department of Justice Secretary Serafin R. Cuevas;

WHEREAS, for the past 25 years, the BI has maintained the ELF at Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00). However, due to inflation and the declining purchasing power of the peso, the existing rate no longer reflects current economic conditions;

WHEREAS, an increase in the ELF is necessary to align with present-day financial realities and to sustain the quality of service expected by the transacting public;

WHEREAS, over the last 25 years, the Bureau has significantly modernized its operations—introducing digital transformation, online application systems, enhanced security protocols, and upgraded infrastructure across field offices and sub-ports;

WHEREAS, on 21 March 2025, the Commissioner issued a letter directive for the constitution of the Revision of Fees Committee (RFC) to review the current Express Lane Fees;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the recommendation made on 14 April 2025 by the BI Division Chiefs to increase the ELF to One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00);

WHEREAS, on 14 April 2025, the RFC recommended the adoption of the proposal concerning the proposed increase in the ELF;

WHEREAS, on 21 April 2025, the RFC posted the said recommendation to increase the ELF on the Bureau's office premises and official website, in compliance with DOF-DBM-NEDA Joint Circular No. 1-2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the rule-making authority of the Commissioner of Immigration under Commonwealth Act No. 613, as amended, the **Express Lane Fee is hereby increased from Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) to One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00).**

This circular shall take effect after 15 days upon its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Furnish a copy of this Circular to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR), U.P. Law Center, Diliman, Quezon City.

16 JUN 2025

SIGNATURE REDACTED

JOEL ANTHONY M. VIADO
Commissioner

Approved by:

SIGNATURE REDACTED

JESUS CRISPIN C. REMULLA
Secretary of Justice