



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT
GENERAL SOLANO STREET, SAN MIGUEL, MANILA

CIRCULAR LETTER

No.: 2021 - 6
March 31, 2021

TO : **ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES/STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND OTHER NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INCLUDING CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS/OFFICES**

SUBJECT : **RECOGNITION, USE, AND ONLINE RELEASE OF DIGITAL SPECIAL ALLOTMENT RELEASE ORDERS (SAROs)**

1.0 BACKGROUND

In pursuit of the mandated use of electronic documents and signatures to transact government business and/or perform governmental functions in accordance with Section 37 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) No. 8792 (Electronic Commerce Act of 2000) and as a response to the alternative work arrangements in the bureaucracy brought about by the state of public health emergency, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has instituted Department Order No. 16, s. 2020, on the Recognition and Use of Digital Documents in the DBM, which mandates the standardized recognition and application of digital forms of communication and documentation for government operations. Consequently, the use of digital signatures was also officially recognized in DBM Department Order No. 17, s. 2020.

In line with the foregoing, and in accordance with State of the Nation Address (SONA) Directive 2020-007¹ directing the DBM to streamline government processes and undertake transactions online for ease of doing business, the DBM transitions to the adoption of digital SAROs signed by the DBM Secretary with the use of the Philippine National Public Key Infrastructure (PNPKI) offered by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), and released through the DBM SARO Viewer Application (SARO Viewer).

¹ Making Government Transactions Available Online dated August 5, 2020

