



Supreme Court of the Philippines
MANDATORY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION OFFICE
“Ignorantia Legis Neminem Excusat”

MCLE Governing Board

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19 September 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: All MCLE Accredited Providers

Subject: Inclusion of the Topics Trafficking in Persons and Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in the MCLE Program

Anchored on the Judiciary's efforts to continuously enhance access to justice and in line with the Strategic Plan for Judicial Innovations 2022-2027, the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Governing Board received on 07 July 2023 a Memorandum from Acting Chief Justice Marvic M. V. F. Leonen, stating, among others, that the Philippine Judicial Academy (PhilJA) Research Group should coordinate with the Committee on Mandatory Continuing Legal Education on the inclusion of a subject on trafficking in persons and online sexual abuse and exploitation in the prescribed curriculum for members of the legal profession.

PhilJA, through a 16 August 2023 letter from Atty. Melissa R. Dimson-Bautista, Attorney IV, Research, Publications and Linkages Office, submitted its recommendation to the Board that the MCLE include the topics trafficking in persons and online sexual abuse and exploitation in its prescribed curriculum to ensure that members of the legal profession will become aware and updated on the subjects.

The Board, during its 17 August 2023 meeting, acted favorably to endorse to you, as accredited MCLE Providers, the directive to include the topics **“Trafficking in Persons”** and **“Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation”** in the MCLE programs, for your consideration. The subject area for these topics may possibly be under Updates in Substantive and Procedural Law and Jurisprudence (USPLJ) or MCLE Prescribed Subjects.

Thank you and we hope you can seriously consider this directive as our support to the Judiciary.

Very truly yours,


Dean SEDFREY M. CANDELARIA
Chairperson