



Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DILG-NAPOLCOM Center, EDSA corner Quezon Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City

<http://www.dilg.gov.ph>

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

No. 2021-053

TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, CITY / MUNICIPAL MAYORS, BARMM MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, DILG REGIONAL/PROVINCIAL/CITY DIRECTORS, CITY/MUNICIPAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICERS, CHIEF, PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), DIRECTORS, POLICE REGIONAL OFFICES, CHIEF, BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF THE SAFETY SEAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR THIS DEPARTMENT AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AS ISSUING AUTHORITIES

DATE : 12 MAY 2021

I. Background

This Department, together with the Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Tourism, and the Department of Health issued Joint Memorandum Circular No. 21-01 s. 2021 (“JMC 21-01”) *Re: Implementing Guidelines of the Safety Seal Certification Program*. A copy of JMC 21-01 is hereto attached and made an integral of this memo circular.

The Safety Seal Certification Program provided in IATF Resolution No. 87 aims to increase compliance by private or public entities with the minimum public health standards set by the government. Moreover, the program seeks to encourage the adoption and use of the Stay Safe.ph digital contract tracing application as well as increase consumer confidence as we safely reopen the economy.

The Safety Seal is a physical manifestation of the compliance of an establishment to the minimum health standards required by government to contain the spread of Covid-19.

II. Issuing Authorities

Under JMC 2001-01, the DILG/PNP and all Local Government Units are designated as **Issuing Authorities** vested with the authority to inspect establishments assigned to it and to issue and/or to revoke the Safety Seal. For purposes of this memorandum, the Bureau of Fire Protection (“**BFP**”) shall join the DILG/PNP in the Inspection and Certification Team.

III. Safety Seal.

The design and security features of the Safety Seal shall be based on the design to be uploaded and disseminated by the Department’s Information Systems and Technology Management Services (“**ISTMS**”). It shall indicate the Issuing Authority, Date of Issuance, Seal Number and must be verifiable with the Issuing Authority.

The Seal maybe issued in printed or digital form and must be displayed conspicuously at all entrance points of the establishment or building according to the prescribed format and dimensions which is hereto attached as Annex “A”. Inspection Teams may immediately award and post the seal in the establishment upon completion of all requirements.

If the seal is to be issued in digital form, the soft copy of the Safety Seal shall be sent to the owner/administrator of the establishment. It shall be the duty of the owner/administrator of the establishment to print the Safety Seal and display it in conspicuous places at the ingress of the building.

Obtaining the Safety Seal shall at be at no cost to the establishment and it shall be valid for six (6) months upon issuance. It shall be renewed not earlier than one (1) month before its expiration.

IV. Assigned Establishments

Pursuant to JMC 21-01, the following are the assigned establishments to be inspected and monitored by the LGUs and the team of DILG/PNP/BFP:

Local Government Unit (City or Municipality)	DILG / PNP / BFP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malls • Wet markets • Other retail stores • Restaurants outside hotels/resorts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City halls, municipal halls, provincial capitols • All other local government units facilities and buildings • Police camps and stations

- Fastfood, eateries, coffeeshops
- Banks, money changers, pawnshops, remittance centers
- Car wash
- Laundry service centers
- Art galleries, libraries, museums, zoo
- Sports centers
- Tutorial, testing, and review centers
- Gyms
- Spas
- Cinemas
- Arcades
- All other private establishments not covered by the other Issuing Agencies
- BFP Offices and Fire Stations
- Provincial/District/City Jails
- Barangay Halls and other barangay facilities
- All other public establishments not covered by other Issuing Agencies

To avoid duplication of assigned establishments, the coverage of the other Issuing Authorities is provided in Section 4 of JMC 21-01.

IV. Creation of DILG Inspection and Certification Teams

For purposes of inspecting the establishments assigned to the DILG, there is hereby established an Inspection and Certification Team in each Local Government Unit in the country to be composed of the following:

1. City Director or C/MLGOO, as **Team Leader**;
2. Chief of Police, PNP; and
3. Fire Marshall, BFP.

The Team shall be responsible for the inspection and issuances of the Safety Seal to public/government establishments as provided in JMC 21-01.

V. Creation of LGU Inspection and Certification Teams

For purposes of inspecting the establishments assigned to the LGUs, there shall be an LGU Inspection and Certification Committee to be composed of the following:

1. Head of the City/Municipal Business and Permits and Licensing Office, as **Chairman**;
2. City/Municipal Health Officer;
3. City/Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Officer;

4. Chief of Police, PNP or his duly authorized representative;
5. City/Municipal Public Information Officer;
6. Such other officials as maybe assigned by the local chief executive.

The Committee may create as many Inspection Teams as maybe necessary depending on the number of business establishments in the LGU.

The local chief executive shall issue an Executive Order creating the LGU Certification Committee and providing for its functions as provided under this Memorandum Circular and JMC 21-01.

VI. Checklist

The inspection of establishments, monitoring of compliance, and revocation of the seal shall be pursuant to the provisions of JMC 21-01.

The attached checklist shall be used by the Inspection and Certification Teams in its determination whether an establishment shall be issued the seal.

VII. Certification Procedures

As provided in JMC 21-01, private and public establishments may secure the Safety Seal through any of the following procedures:

1. **By Application.** The establishment shall perform a self-assessment based on the applicable checklist. If favorable, an application is made with the Issuing Authority for an inspection. The PNP shall join the inspection upon request of the LGU especially in inspecting public places.
2. **By Regular Visits.** During regular monitoring, the inspection teams shall determine the eligibility of the establishments on site.
3. **Acting on Complaints.** The Issuing Authorities shall conduct surprise inspections of establishments upon receipt of complaints from the public.

The step-by-step procedure in securing the Safety Seal is provided in Rule III of JMC 21-01.

No Safety Seal shall be awarded to a private establishment without a valid business permit. If violation of minimum health standards is found, the LGU shall have the right under existing laws to order the suspension of operations of said establishment to protect public health until corrective actions have been implemented.

VIII. Duty to Inventory

The Inspection and Certification Team shall keep a record of the establishments it has awarded with the Safety Seal and shall post the Issuing Authority's official website for transparency purposes.

IX. Information Campaign on the Safety Seal

DILG field offices and LGUs shall establish a microsite, or a dedicated section in the agency's official website, which shall contain the following information:

1. Implementing Guidelines of the program;
2. Checklist of eligibility requirements;
3. Contact Details of the Inspection and Certification Teams;
4. List of establishments issued with the Safety Seal;
5. Complaint Hotlines;
6. Request Forms for Reassessment or Reinstatement
7. Such other information as maybe necessary to increase public awareness.

The DILG Public Affairs and Communications Service shall regularly disseminate updates on the program which may include featuring model establishments awarded with the Safety Seal. Each LGU shall likewise come up with information and advocacy campaigns about the program especially designed for building owners/administrators to comply with the minimum public health standards.

X. Complaints Handling

The public is encouraged to report non-compliance with the minimum public health standards and use of the StaySafe.Ph application by public and private establishments. The DILG and LGU Inspection and Certification Teams shall have a hotline to receive complaints.

Complaints may also be made to Public Assistance and Complaints Desk of the Department which shall forward the complaints to the individual complaints desk of each inspection team.

The no-wrong-door policy shall be observed. Thus, complaints received that are not under the receiving agency's jurisdiction shall be referred to the appropriate Issuing Authority or LGU concerned.

XI. Reporting and Periodic Review

The Regional/Provincial Offices of the Department shall compile the biweekly (every 2 weeks) accomplishment reports of the DILG and LGU Inspection and Certification Teams which shall include, but not limited to, the

number and nature of establishments given the Safety Seal and the number and nature of complaints/received.

The Bureau of Local Government Supervision shall collate the reports of the Regional Offices and submit the same to the Office of the Undersecretary for Plans, Public Affairs and Communications and to the Office of the Secretary.

For the information, guidance and compliance of all concerned.


EDUARDO M. AÑO
Secretary



DILG-OSEC 05072021-009



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
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SAFETY SEAL CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

Date _____

Control No. _____

Name of Establishment _____

Nature of Establishment _____

Address _____

Name of Person in Charge: _____

Contact Details: _____

Instruction: (√) Check the appropriate box (Yes/No), if the following requirement is provided:

	REQUIREMENTS	Yes	No	N/A
1	Valid Business Permit/Mayor's Permit			
2	Use of StaySafe.ph or any contact tracing tool integrated with the same. Please specify other contact tracing tool (_____).			
3	Availability of temperature or thermal scanner (e.g. thermo gun) to assess employees, clients, and visitors.			
4	Availability of health declaration sheet for employees and clients.			
5	QR Codes for StaySafe.ph and any other contact tracing tool conspicuously placed for registration of employees and clients.			
6	Availability of isolation area for identified symptomatic employees			
7	BHERTs and other COVID-19 Emergency hotlines are displayed in conspicuous area.			

8	Availability of handwashing stations with soap, sanitizers, and hand drying equipment or supplies for employees and clients/visitors in strategic locations in the establishment.			
9	Installed physical barriers in enclosed areas to maintain social distancing (blocking off chairs, markers, stickers on the floor for spacing).			
10	Availability of personnel-in-charge for monitoring and maintaining social distancing, and ensuring the compliance of clients/visitors/employees to health protocols and areas in the establishment where people gather (e.g. queue).			
11	Availability of windows for adequate air exchange in enclosed (indoor) areas as cited in DOLE Department Order No. 224-21 or the Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19.			
12	Compliance to the disinfection protocol in accordance with DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020—157 and 0157-A or the "Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in Various Settings as an Infection Prevention and Control Measure Against COVID019.			
13	Conducts regular (at least twice a week) cleaning and disinfection in the establishment in compliance to the Cleaning and Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces in the Context of COVID-19 by the World Health Organization.			
14	Personnel, employees, clients and visitors always wear facemasks and face shields especially in enclosed places.			
15	Presence of designated Safety Officer with the following functions: a) coordinate with the appropriate bodies for support and referral to community-based isolation facilities for confirmed cases with mild symptoms, and to health facilities for severe and critical care; b) undertake contact tracing or coordinate the conduct thereof; and c) monitor status of employees quarantined or isolated; and d) implement return to work policies.			
16	Availability of storage facility for proper collection, treatment, and disposal of used facemasks and other infectious wastes			

DEFECTS / DEFICIENCIES NOTED DURING INSPECTION:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

Signature Over Printed Name of Representative

Prepared by:

Safety Seal Inspector

Date and Time _____

OFFICIAL SAFETY SEAL DESIGN

SIZE, AND COLOR PALETTE



Safety Seal number: _____
Issued on: _____
Valid until: _____
Signature: _____

Color Palette:



#480272
RGB: 72.2.114
CMYK: 90.99.7.1



#5CC9CA
RGB: 92.201.202
CMYK: 62.0.27.0



#87D751
RGB: 135.215.81
CMYK: 57.0.100.0



#FFFFFF
RGB: 255.255.255
CMYK: 57.0.100.0

Size: A4



DOLE-DOH-DILG-DOT-DTI
JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 21-01
Series of 2021

IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES OF THE
SAFETY SEAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Section 15 Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, the presence of new variants of SARS-CoV-2 which originated from the United Kingdom and South Africa (501.V2) has been confirmed in the Philippines and are believed to be one of the major factors affecting the surge in cases of COVID-19 in the country;

WHEREAS, to contain the spread of COVID-19 and prevent future surges, there is a need to enforce strict and continual compliance with the Minimum Public Health Standards (MPHS) especially in business establishments and major public places;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) adopted StaySafe.ph as the official digital contact tracing application of the government and the institution of a Safety Seal Certification Program to ensure compliance with MPHS and directed the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Tourism (DOT), and the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to issue the necessary joint memorandum circular to detail requirements to secure a Safety Seal which shall include the adoption of the StaySafe.ph application and generation of its QR Code to be displayed in all entrances;

NOW THEREFORE, the following guidelines are hereby promulgated to guide establishments, local governments, and other implementing agencies on the grant of and retention of the Safety Seal certification.

RULE I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Objective. The Safety Seal Certification Program aims to:

- a) assure the consumers and the public in general of establishments' compliance with the minimum public health standards set by the government;
- b) encourage the adoption of the StaySafe.ph digital contact tracing application to strengthen the contact tracing initiative of the government and effectively contain the spread of COVID-19; and
- c) safely reopen the economy.

Section 2. Scope. These guidelines shall apply to all private business establishments, selected public places, and government offices. Separate guidelines may be issued to cover other government offices and public transportation units.

Section 3. Definition of Terms

- a) *Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Disease (IATF)* – an inter-agency task force created under Executive Order No. 168 S. 2014 tasked to establish preparedness and ensure efficient government response to assess, monitor, contain, control, and prevent the spread of any potential epidemic in the Philippines
- b) *Issuing Authority* – the government agency or instrumentality vested under these guidelines with the authority to issue the certification and award the Safety Seal
- c) *Minimum Public Health Standards* - refers to current guidelines set by the DOH and other sector-specific guidelines issued by national government agencies as authorized by the IATF, to aid all sectors in all settings to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI)
- d) *Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions (NPI)* - refer to public health measures that do not involve vaccines, medications, or other pharmaceutical interventions, which individuals and communities can carry out in order to reduce transmission rates, contact rates, and the duration of infectiousness of individuals in the population to mitigate COVID-19
- e) *Safety Seal Certification Program* - a certification scheme affirming that an establishment or public transportation unit has been inspected by the government and was found compliant with minimum public health standards, is using or its contact tracing is integrated with StaySafe.ph and the establishment or public transportation unit possesses the requisite business permits or franchise
- f) *StaySafe.ph* - the official digital contact tracing application of the government that is linked with COVID-19 testing laboratories in the Philippines

RULE II THE SAFETY SEAL

Section 1. The Safety Seal. The Safety Seal affirms that an establishment has been found compliant with the minimum public health standards set by the government, including the adoption or integration with the StaySafe.ph in contact tracing application. The seal shall be displayed conspicuously at all entrance points according to prescribed dimensions. Obtaining the Safety Seal shall be at no cost to the establishment.

Section 2. Validity. The Safety Seal shall be valid for six (6) months from the date of issuance, except for those issued to tourism enterprises which shall be valid for one (1) year. The Safety Seal shall be renewable subject to continued compliance with the eligibility requirements set forth herein.

Section 3. Security Measures. The Safety Seal shall indicate the Issuing Authority, Date of Issuance, and Safety Seal Number and must be verifiable with the Issuing Authority. Other security measures may also be introduced. Issuing Authorities shall keep a record of establishments issued with the Safety Seal. The Safety Seal may be issued in printed or digital form. The digital Safety Seal may be sent by Issuing Authorities through electronic mail or downloaded in their respective microsites.



Section 4. Issuing Authorities. The following agencies shall be the Issuing Authorities of the Safety Seal:

Issuing Authority	Establishments
Department of Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Tourism Enterprises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation Establishments (Hotels, Resorts, Apartment Hotels, and other Accredited Accommodation Establishments) • Travel and Tour Services • Meetings, Incentives, Conferences & Events (MICE) Venues/Facilities • Restaurants inside Hotels/Resorts
Department of Labor and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturing • Construction sites • Utilities (Electric, Water, Gas, Air conditioning Supply, Sewerage, Waste Management) • Information and Communication companies (Private Publication, News, Movie Production, TV and Radio Companies) • Warehouses
Department of Trade and Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groceries, supermarkets, membership shopping clubs • Convenience stores • Construction supply/ hardware stores • Logistics Service Providers (outlets) • Barbershops and Salons • Service and Repair Shops
Local Government Unit (City or Municipality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malls • Wet markets • Other retail stores • Restaurants outside Hotels/Resorts • Fast food, Eateries, Coffeeshops, etc. • Banks, money changers, pawnshops, remittance centers • Car wash • Laundry service centers • Art galleries, libraries, museums, zoo • Sports centers • Tutorial, Testing, and Review Centers • Gyms • Spas • Cinemas • Arcades • All other private establishments
Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)/Philippine National Police (PNP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Halls, Municipal Halls, Provincial Capitols • All other Local Government Unit facilities and buildings • Police Camps and Stations • Bureau of Fire Protection Offices and Fire Stations • Provincial/District/City Jails • Barangay halls and other barangay facilities • All other public establishments not covered by the other Issuing Agencies

RULE III
ELIGIBILITY AND CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Section 1. Eligibility. The following are the eligibility requirements to qualify for the Safety Seal certification:

1. Compliance with registration or accreditation requirements (e.g., Mayor's permit, DTI/SEC registration, or DOT accreditation);
2. Use of StaySafe.ph or any contact tracing tool integrated with the same;
3. Enforcement of the Minimum Public Health Standards (MPHS), including the following, as applicable:
 - a) Putting up of Screening or Triage area at different points-of-entry where:
 - i. employees submit health declaration and/or symptoms are assessed
 - ii. non-contact temperature check is performed to all employees, customers, and any individuals who enter the premises
 - iii. customers and other individuals who enter the premises are asked to register with StaySafe.ph
 - iv. as applicable, an isolation area shall be installed for symptomatic employees and once identified as a suspect COVID-19 case shall be reported to the Barangay Health and Emergency Response Team (BHERT) immediately for proper observance of COVID-19 protocols
 - b) Availability of handwashing stations, soap and sanitizers, and hand drying equipment or supplies (e.g., single use paper towel) to employees and clients/visitors which are placed in strategic locations in the establishment
 - c) Observance of physical distancing or spacing through installation of physical barriers in enclosed areas where physical distancing may be compromised, i.e., blocking off of chairs, use of markers or stickers on the floor for spacing
 - d) Ensure adequate air exchange in enclosed (indoor) areas as cited in DOLE Department Order No. 224-21 or the Guidelines on Ventilation for Workplaces and Public Transport to Prevent and Control the Spread of COVID-19
 - e) Disinfection protocol in accordance with DOH Department Memorandum No. 2020-0157 and 0157-A or the "Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in Various Settings as an Infection Prevention and Control Measure Against COVID-19 and Cleaning and Disinfection of Environmental Surfaces in the Context of COVID-19 by the World Health Organization (WHO)
 - i. Regular sanitization of chairs, desks, tables, counters, pens, doorknobs, equipment, devices, workstations, comfort rooms, and other high-touch surfaces
 - f) Wearing of facemasks, face shields, especially in enclosed places and wearing of other protective outer garments as warranted
 - g) Establishment of a referral system for medical and psychosocial services
 - h) Designation of Safety Officer who shall:
 - i. coordinate with the appropriate bodies for support and referral to community-based isolation facilities for confirmed cases with mild symptoms, and to health facilities for severe and critical care; and
 - ii. undertake contact tracing or coordinate the conduct thereof; and
 - iii. monitor status of employees quarantined or isolated; and
 - iv. implement return to work policies.
 - i) Facility for proper storage, collection, treatment, and disposal of used facemasks and other infectious waste

Section 2. Checklists. The Issuing Authorities shall develop checklists that will enumerate the eligibility requirements in an easy-to-understand format.

Section 3. Safety Seal Certification Microsite. Issuing Authorities may establish a microsite, a dedicated page in the agency's official website, which shall contain the following information:

- a) Implementing Guidelines of the Safety Seal Certification Program
- b) Checklist for the Type of Establishments Covered by the Issuing Authority
- c) Contact Details of Inspection Units
- d) Downloadable Safety Seal Toolkit
- e) List of All Establishments Issued with Safety Seal, including status (Active, Revoked, Reinstated)
- f) Complaint Hotlines
- g) Request Form for Reassessment or Reinstatement of Safety Seal

Section 4. Certification Procedures

a) By Application

1. The owner or authorized representative of the business establishment shall download from the website or secure from the office of Issuing Authority the appropriate checklist and perform self-assessment.
2. If self-assessment is favorable, the owner or authorized representative of the business establishment shall then contact the Issuing Authority to schedule an inspection.
3. The Issuing Authority shall validate the status or validity of government-issued permits and/or accreditation.
4. If found to be with valid government-issued permits, registration, and/or accreditation, the Issuing Authority may proceed with the inspection.
5. The Issuing Authority shall inspect compliance of the business establishment. The Philippine National Police (PNP) shall join the inspections upon the request of the Issuing Authority especially in inspecting places open to the public.
6. After the inspection, the inspector/inspection team shall inform the owner or authorized representative of the result of inspection and next steps.
 - i. If the business establishment is compliant, the owner or authorized representative shall be informed on how the Safety Seal sticker will be provided.
 - ii. If the business establishment is found lacking in any of the eligibility criteria, the owner or authorized representative shall be advised to correct the deficiencies and apply for reassessment.

b) By Visit (From Regular Monitoring)

1. During regular monitoring, the inspection team shall also check whether the business establishment is eligible to the Safety Seal Certification
2. Upon determination of compliance with Safety Seal certification, the inspection team shall inform the owner or authorized representative of the establishment's eligibility and how the Safety Seal sticker will be obtained
3. If deficiency/ies is/are found, the owner or authorized representative shall be advised to correct the deficiencies and apply for reassessment.

**RULE IV
COMPLAINTS HANDLING**

Section 1. Complaints Handling. The public may report non-compliance with the minimum public health standards and the use of the Stay Safe application by establishments and businesses granted the Safety Seal with the following:

Issuing Authority	Complaint Hotline/s
DTI	DTI Direct (1-384)
DOT	feedback@tourism.gov.ph or DOT Hotline (1-386)
DOLE	1349
DILG	Public Assistance and Complaints Center Telephone: (892) 50343 (892) 51144 Globe: (0927) 422 6300 Smart: (0931) 384 9272
City/Municipality	Public Assistance and Complaints Desk (PACD)

Section 2. No Wrong Door Policy. A no-wrong-door policy shall be observed. Complaints received that are not under the receiving agency’s jurisdiction shall be referred to the appropriate Issuing Authority and City/Municipality concerned.

**RULE V
RENEWAL, REVOCATION REINSTATEMENT**

Section 1. Renewal. The Safety Seal may be renewed not earlier than one (1) month before its expiration. To renew:

1. Establishments shall contact the Issuing Authority to schedule inspection.
2. The Issuing Authority shall inspect the establishment to verify continued compliance with the eligibility requirements.
3. If the establishment is found to be fully compliant, the Issuing Authority shall issue a new Safety Seal.
4. If the establishment is found to have deficiencies, the owner or authorized representative shall be advised to correct the deficiencies within and apply for reassessment.

Section 2. Revocation

1. The Safety Seal may be revoked *motu proprio* by the Issuing Authority or through a valid complaint. The complaint must state:
 1. name and location of the establishment,
 2. particular public health standard violated or a substantial description thereof;
 3. name and contact number of complainant/s;
 4. supporting proof (e.g., photos)
2. Upon receipt or referral of a valid complaint, the Issuing Authority shall conduct a surprise inspection on the complained establishment. The Issuing Authority may also conduct a surprise inspection, *motu proprio*, for the purpose of revoking the Safety Seal when:
 1. a clustering of COVID-19 cases has been reported in an establishment
 2. willful violation of any of the minimum public health standards
3. Should the business establishment granted with the Safety Seal be found non-compliant with any of the minimum public health standards and the use of the Stay Safe application:
 1. A Notice to Explain (NTE) shall be issued by the Issuing Authority
 2. The NTE should be answered within forty-eight (48) hours and submitted to the Issuing Authority. Alternatively, the business establishment may opt to comply within the same period and attach proof of compliance with the NTE.
 3. Should the explanation be found lacking or should the business establishment fail to comply, the Safety Seal shall be recalled by the Issuing Authority

Revocation of the Safety Seal Certification shall not automatically result in the suspension of operations.

In case the violation pertains to any of the minimum public health standards, the business establishment shall be given another forty-eight (48) hours from the time the Safety Seal is revoked to implement corrective actions. If after this period the establishment still fails to correct the deficiency, suspension of operations may be ordered by the City/Municipality until corrective actions have been implemented.

Section 3. Reinstatement. Establishments with revoked Safety Seal may have the same reinstated in accordance with the following:

1. Submission to the Issuing Authority of a request for reinstatement complete with proof of full compliance with the minimum public health standards and the installation of the Stay Safe digital contact tracing application.
2. Conduct of an inspection by the Issuing Authority to verify compliance.

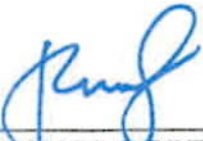
Reinstated Safety Seal shall be valid for six (6) months or one (1) year, in the case of tourism enterprises, from the date of reinstatement.

**RULE VI
FINAL PROVISIONS**

Section 1. Separability Clause. If any clause, provision, paragraph or part thereof shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate or impair any other part hereof but such judgement shall be merely confined to the clause, provision, paragraph or part directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment has been rendered.


Section 2. Effectivity. These Guidelines shall take effect immediately upon publication in the Official Gazette or in any major daily newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines and upon filing with the Office of the National Administrative Registrar (ONAR) and will remain in effect until the state of public health emergency is lifted, subject to changes as may be instructed/issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases.

Issued this 23rd day of April, 2021.



RAMON M. LOPEZ
Secretary
Department of Trade and Industry






SILVESTRE H. BELLO III
Secretary
Department of Labor and Employment



BERNABETTE ROMULO-PUYAT
Secretary
Department of Tourism





FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III
Secretary
Department of Health

Digitally signed by
Duque Francisco
Tiongson III



EDUARDO M. AÑO
Secretary
Department of the Interior and Local Government

