



PHILIPPINE CLEARING HOUSE CORPORATION

Memo Circular No. 3894

July 29, 2025

T O : All Clearing Banks/Institutions

R E : CLARIFICATION ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF CHECKS WITH SPECIAL CHARACTERS IN THE AMOUNT IN FIGURES

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1. Further to Memo Circular (MC) No. 3893, allowing the acceptance of Checks with special characters in the Amount in Figures, we would like to issue the following clarifications:

1.1. Re-Clearing of Previously Returned Items

Checks that were previously returned solely due to the presence of unnecessary special characters or symbols in the Amount in Figures may now be re-cleared, provided there are no other technical defects that would disqualify them from representment.

1.2. Formats Not Acceptable for Clearing

To ensure clarity in determining the check amount, entries in the Amount in Figures that do not include commas to separate thousands, millions, etc. (e.g., 10000 or 10000000.00) remain **not acceptable** for clearing. All other formats may be accepted as long as the Amount in Figures is consistent with the Amount in Words.

2. We emphasize that there is no change in the prescribed manner of writing information on checks, as outlined in our previous issuances.

While checks with Amount in Figures that deviate from the standard format may now be accepted for clearing, we reiterate the responsibility of participant banks to educate their clients on the proper writing of check details—especially the Date of Issue and Amount in Figures.

3. As for the Return Reason 'E', it shall remain in use for checks with improperly formatted Dates of Issue and/or ambiguous Amounts in Figures (e.g., missing comma), which impede quick and accurate determination of the amount.
4. Please be guided accordingly.

EMMANUEL E. BARCENA
President & CEO