

2016-12-022



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Finance  
**BUREAU OF CUSTOMS**  
1099 Manila

**MEMORANDUM**

TO : **ALL DISTRICT COLLECTORS  
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **HANDLING OF BALIKBAYAN BOXES**

DATE : 15 December 2016

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Further to the Memorandum dated 22 November 2016 with the same subject, all concerned are informed that all balikbayan boxes should not be opened, even if alerted, unless in the presence of the consignee or his duly authorized representative.

If the consignee or representative cannot personally attend the inspection, a waiver from the owner of the shipment should be submitted. Except for balikbayan boxes containing items that are possible threats to national security (i.e. explosives, firearms, and illegal drugs), the same will be opened only upon the written approval by the district collector concerned.

For your information and guidance.

  
**NICANOR E. FAELDON**

Commissioner



DEC 16 2016