

Reference No. 24CRS02-08-1552

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2024- 25

TO : ALL CITY/MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRARS,
OFFICERS-IN-CHARGE, CONSUL GENERAL,
CONSUL, VICE CONSUL, CIRCUIT
REGISTRARS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

SUBJECT : Disseminating the Note Verbale 042/2024 of the
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

DATE : 07 August 2024

Based on the *Note Verbale 042/2024* issued by the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, all are to afford respect and consideration to the naming convention of the citizens identified with the country of Venezuela with respect to the proper arrangement of surnames of Venezuelan citizens. For reference, attached is the copy of the said *Note Verbale 042/2024*.

For your proper observance and guidance.



CLAIRE DENNIS S. MAPA, Ph D
Undersecretary
National Statistician and Civil Registrar General



CSM/MBC/EP/ACC/SRADA



Embajada de la República Bolivariana
de Venezuela en Filipinas
N° 042/2024

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela presents its compliments to the Honorable Department of Foreign Affairs, Office of Consular Affairs, and has the honor to refer to the civil registration modalities in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

As a legacy of the Spanish civil registry during the times of colonization until the independence of the countries of Latin America, the use of two surnames, one referring to the father, and the second to the mother of the born child, was stipulated in the internal regulations of the Republic of Venezuela and later of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

This tradition and norm was widely accepted and implemented in all Latin American countries until today.

In the case of children born and presented to the registrar by a single parent, the civil authorities stipulate the double use of the surname. Previously, only one surname was used, but the fact of being classified as a "natural" child and not legally recognized by both parents, caused a discriminatory stigma that was eliminated by the Civil Registry Law and Civil Code of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

The Civil Code of Venezuela (1982) stipulates the following:

Article 235° The first surname of the father and mother form, in that order, the surnames of the children. The child conceived and born outside of marriage, whose filiation has been established in relation to both parents, will take their surnames in the same order as the children conceived or born during the marriage.

Article 238° If filiation has only been determined in relation to one of the parents, the child has the right to bear the latter's surname; if the parent has only one surname, the child will have the right to repeat it.

It would be appreciated if the Honorable Department can disseminate this information across all Philippine Embassies and local civil registry offices in order to make them aware of the proper arrangement of surnames for Venezuelan citizens.

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela takes this opportunity to reiterate to the Honorable Department of Foreign Affairs, Office of Consular Affairs, the assurances of its highest esteem and consideration.



To the Honorable
Department of Foreign Affairs
Office of Consular Affairs
Parañaque, Philippines