



**Republic of the Philippines
CITY COUNCIL
City of Manila**

REGULAR SESSION NO. 32

13TH CITY COUNCIL

**Begun and held in the City Council on Thursday,
the tenth day of July, Two Thousand Twenty-Five**

ORDINANCE NO. 9144

**AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE CITY HALL CLOCK TOWER AS THE
OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPING DEVICE IN THE CITY OF MANILA, AS PROVIDED UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10535 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE STANDARD
TIME (PST) ACT OF 2013" AND THENCEFORTH REQUIRING THE
SYNCHRONIZATION OF TIME BY ALL PRIVATE OFFICES, ESTABLISHMENTS,
INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS WITHIN MANILA"**

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10535, otherwise known as "The Philippine Standard Time (PST) Act of 2013", was signed into law on 15 May 2013 by former President Benigno Simeon Aquino III, requiring all national and local offices of the government and media networks to display the Philippine Standard Time on their official timepieces and devices.

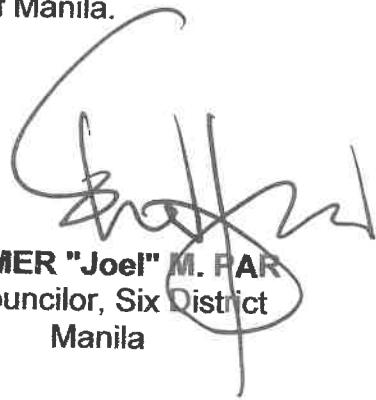
This law designates the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) as the agency solely responsible for maintaining and disseminating the official time utilizing a synchronized timekeeping system to be used and displayed by all government offices and media outlets throughout the country.

In the Capital City of Manila, the City Hall Clock Tower is recognized as one of its most important landmarks and acclaimed as the highest clock tower in the country standing at a height of almost 100 feet first constructed during the American colonial period in the 1930's by the pre-eminent Filipino architect, Antonio Toledo.

It has undergone several renovations over the years that included the upgrading of the clocks to modern digital technology and aligning the same with the official time maintained by PAGASA.

Considering Manila's status as the premier major business and government hub, accurate timekeeping is crucial for its efficient operations. Synchronized clocks lead to better coordination, streamlined workflows and increased productivity. It likewise enhances safety and improves security by ensuring coordinated responses during emergencies, ensuring timely action and accurate recordkeeping.

This Ordinance not only recognizes the significant role of the Clock Tower. It also seeks to emphasize the importance of punctuality and time management that will redound towards increased productivity and efficiency in the City of Manila.



ELMER "Joel" M. FAR
Councilor, Six District
Manila

Be it ordained by the City Council of Manila, in session assembled, *THAT*:

SECTION 1. Title. – This Ordinance shall be known as "SYNCHRONIZED TIME IN MANILA ORDINANCE".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – As a matter of State Policy, the Constitution expressly mandates the promotion of a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. – For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms shall be construed and defined as follows:

- a) **"Timepiece and Device"** - shall refer to a device specifically designed for accurately measuring and displaying time and generally connotes a higher quality or complex instrument or mechanism;
- b) **"Philippine Standard Time"** - also known as Philippine Time, is the official name given to the single time zone used in the Philippines and more particularly referred to as UTC+08:00 (Coordinated Universal Time)
- c) **"Synchronization of Time"** - shall refer to the process of coordinating the time on multiple devices or systems to ensure they are aligned and accurately display the same exact time;
- d) **"Offices"** - are spaces dedicated to administrative, professional or clerical work;
- e) **"Establishments"** - encompasses any place of business or work which could be a store, mall, restaurant, factory, shop, etc.;
- f) **"Institutions"** - are organizations which have specific purposes, often public or private such as government, educational, healthcare, religious and others;
- g) **"Organizations"** - may refer to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and people's organizations (POs) such as transport sectoral groups, senior citizens, women, and others.

SEC. 4. Display of Philippine Standard Time. – For the purpose of complying with Republic Act No. 10535 otherwise known as the "Philippine Standard Time (PST) Act of 2013", the City Government of Manila hereby designates the City Hall Clock Tower as the only official time device in Manila to be used as sole reference in synchronizing the times of all private and public offices, establishments, institutions and organizations to the Philippine Standard Time as determined by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA).

SEC. 5. Monitoring and Implementation. – To ensure the implementation of this Ordinance, the following measures shall be maintained and implemented:

- a) The Office of the City Administrator shall monitor and enforce compliance among all offices, including satellite offices of the Local Government of Manila;

- b) The Department of Education (DepEd) - Manila shall monitor and enforce synchronization of time among all schools within the City of Manila;
- c) The Manila Barangay Bureau (MBB), in coordination with the Liga ng mga Barangay, shall monitor and enforce synchronization of time among all barangays who shall then likewise enforce the same among private offices, establishments, institutions and organizations;
- d) The Bureau of Permits shall monitor and enforce the compliance of this Ordinance on the businesses and other private entities;
- e) All such establishments, offices, institutions and organizations within the City of Manila shall periodically coordinate and harmonize their timepieces and devices at the start of every month with the City Hall Clock Tower;

SEC. 6. Informational Campaign. – All offices, departments, and agencies of Manila City Hall, together with the Sangguniang Barangays and Kabataan shall conduct informational campaign about the value of time and the need to respect the time of others for the residents and non-residents of Manila in order for the people to realize the imperative of synchronizing their time.

SEC. 7. Penalties. – Owners, managers or responsible officers of offices, establishments, institutions and organizations who fail to calibrate and synchronize their time devices shall, upon hearing and due proceedings, be penalized as follows:

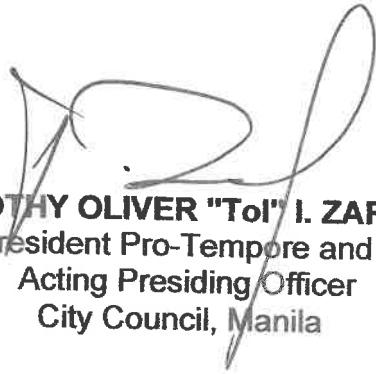
- a) **First Offense** - Issuance of citation ticket;
- b) **Second Offense** - A fine of One Thousand Pesos (PhP1,000.00);
- c) **Third Offense** – A fine of Two Thousand Pesos (PhP2,000.00); and
- d) **Fourth and Subsequent Offense** – A fine of Five Thousand Pesos (PhP5,000.00) and One (1) Month suspension of Permit;

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Ordinance is held or declared invalid then the other provisions not affected thereto shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. Effectivity Clause. – This Ordinance, upon its approval, shall take effect immediately after publication and in accordance with the law.

This Ordinance was finally enacted by the City Council of Manila on October 28, 2025.

PRESIDED BY:


TIMOTHY OLIVER "Tol" I. ZARCAL
President Pro-Tempore and
Acting Presiding Officer
City Council, Manila

ATTESTED:


ATTY. HANS ROGER S. LUNA
City Government Department Head III
(Secretary to the City Council)

APPROVED BY HIS HONOR, THE MAYOR, ON

NOV 14 2025


FRANCISCO "ISKO MORENO" DOMAGOSO
Mayor
City of Manila

ATTESTED:


MANUEL M. ZARCAL
Secretary to the Mayor