

Republic of the Philippines Supreme Court Office of the Court Administrator Manila

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 09-2018

TO:

ALL JUDGES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS

SUBJECT: PLEA BARGAINING IN DRUG CASES PURSUANT TO ESTIPONA V. JUDGE LOBRIGO, G.R. NO. 226679, 15 AUGUST 2017

In view of the issuance of the Entry of Judgment in *Estipona v. Judge Lobrigo*, G.R. No. 226679, 15 August 2017, all concerned are **INFORMED** that the Decision of the Court in the instant case has become final and executory on 7 November 2017.

Accordingly, OCA Circular No. 215-2017, dated 23 October 2017, enjoining judges to refrain from acting on motions and requests for plea bargaining in drug cases until the Court has decided the case of *Estipona v. Judge Lobrigo* with finality, is hereby **REVOKED**.

For your information and guidance.

17 January 2018

OSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ