



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

**OCA CIRCULAR NO. 224-2018**

**TO :** THE COURT OF APPEALS, SANDIGANBAYAN, COURT OF TAX APPEALS, REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS, SHARI'A DISTRICT COURTS, METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS, SHARI'A CIRCUIT COURTS, THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF STATE PROSECUTOR, PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE INTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES

**SUBJECT :** SUSPENSION OF ATTY. GODOFREDO N. BERNARDINO FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR TWO (2) YEARS

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the Resolution dated 24 July 2018 of the Court *En Banc* in Administrative Case No. 9363, entitled "**Dax Neal La Guardia vs. Atty. Godofredo N. Bernardino,**" to wit:

**WHEREFORE,** premises considered, the Court finds respondent Atty. Godofredo N. Bernardino **GUILTY** of violating CANON 16, Rule 16.01, Rule 16.03, Rule 18.03 and Rule 18.04 of the Code of Professional Responsibility and accordingly, resolves to **SUSPEND** him from the practice of law for **TWO (2) years** with a **STERN WARNING** that a repetition of the same or similar offense shall be dealt with more severely. The Court further **ORDERS** respondent to **RETURN** to complainant Dax Neal La Guardia within thirty (30) days from notice of this Resolution the amount of P130,000.00 with interest of at the rate of twelve percent (12%) *per annum* from February 9, 2012 to June 30, 2013 and six percent (6%) *per annum* from July 1, 2013 until its full satisfaction.

Let copies of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the Bar Confidant, to be appended to respondent's personal record as attorney. Likewise, copies shall be furnished to the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and all courts in the country for their information and guidance.

Per Registry Return Receipt No. 87839, respondent received the copy of the aforesaid Resolution dated 24 July 2018 on 31 August 2018.

29 October 2018

  
**JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ**  
Court Administrator

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