



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 127-2019

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

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF ATTY. RIZAL P. BALBIN FROM
THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR TWO (2) YEARS

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Decision dated 4 December 2018 of the Court *En Banc* in Administrative Case No. 7088, entitled "Herminio Harry L. Roque, Jr. vs. Atty. Rizal P. Balbin," to wit:

WHEREFORE, respondent Atty. Rizal P. Balbin is found guilty of violating Canon 8, Canon 11, Canon 12, Rule 12.03, Rule 12.04, Canon 19, and Rule 19.01 of the Code of Professional Responsibility. Accordingly, he is hereby **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law for a period of two (2) years, effective immediately upon receipt of this Decision. He is **STERNLY WARNED** that a repetition of the same or similar acts will be dealt with more severely.

Further, he is **DIRECTED** to report to this Court the date of his receipt of this Decision to enable it to determine when his suspension from the practice of law shall take effect.

Let copies of this Decision be furnished to: (1) the Office of the Bar Confidant to be appended to respondent's personal record as an attorney; (2) the Integrated Bar of the Philippines for its information and guidance; and (3) the Office of the Court Administrator for circulation to all courts in the country.

22 July 2019


JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ
Court Administrator