



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

**OCA CIRCULAR NO. 204-2020**

**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 : LIFTING OF THE ORDER OF DISQUALIFICATION FROM BEING COMMISSIONED AS NOTARY PUBLIC OF ATTY. EDGAR O. PALAY**

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the Resolution dated 1 July 2020 of the Court (Special Third Division) in A.C. No. 10150, titled "Gina E. Andaya vs. Atty. Edgar O. Palay," to wit:

The Court NOTES respondent's Submission of Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) Certification dated October 21, 2019, issued by IBP Palawan Chapter, in compliance with Resolution dated July 3, 2019.

The Court further NOTES the Report and Recommendation dated January 21, 2020 of the Office of the Bar Confidant (OBC), stating that in a Decision dated September 21, 2016, the Court suspended respondent from the practice of law for six (6) months; revoked his notarial commission; and disqualified him from being commissioned as notary public for two (2) years. He was also sternly warned that more severe penalties will be imposed for any further breach of the Canons in the Code of Professional Responsibility.

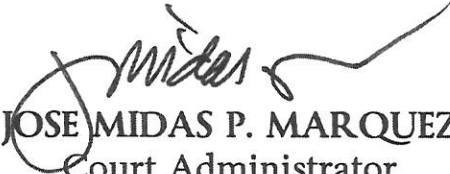
In the Resolution dated December 13, 2019, the Court lifted the order of suspension and allowed him to resume his practice of law.

In the Resolution dated July 3, 2019, the Court, among others, held in abeyance the lifting of the order of disqualification from being commissioned as notary public of the respondent pending submission of the required certification from the IBP Puerto Princesa Chapter affirming that he has not been commissioned as notary public since 2014 up to the present.

In compliance with the said resolution, respondent submitted a certification from IBP Palawan Chapter.

ACCORDINGLY, the Court upon recommendation of the OBC, resolves to LIFT the order of disqualification from being commissioned as a notary public imposed on Atty. Palay.

22 December 2020

  
JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ  
Court Administrator

  
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