



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 138-2021

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

SUBJECT : SUSPENSION OF ATTY. CIPRIANO P. LUPEBA FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR ONE (1) MONTH

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Resolution dated 11 September 2019 of the Court (First Division) in A.C. No. 7674, titled "**Ruth E. Fernandez v. Atty. Cipriano P. Lupeba,**" to wit:

The Court **RESOLVES** to **ADOPT** and **APPROVE** the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendation of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) Commission on Bar Discipline in its Report and Recommendation¹ dated September 24, 2014, as adopted and approved by the IBP Board of Governors with modification, as shown in its Notice of Resolution No. XXII-2017-13182² dated April 20, 2017. Accordingly, the Court finds respondent Atty. Cipriano P. Lupeba (respondent) **GUILTY** of negligence under Rule 18.03, Canon 18 of the Code of Professional Responsibility, and is thus, meted with the penalty of **SUSPENSION** from the practice of law for one (1) month, with a **STERN WARNING** that a repetition of the same or similar infraction will be dealt with more severely.

The suspension in the practice of law shall take effect immediately upon receipt of this Resolution by respondent. He is **DIRECTED** to immediately file a Manifestation to the Court that his suspension has started, copy furnished all courts and quasi-judicial bodies where he has entered his appearance as counsel.

¹ *Rollo*, pp. 196-200. Signed by Commissioner Eldrid C. Antiquiera

² *Id.* at 184-185. Signed by National Secretary Patricia-Ann T. Prodigalidad.

Let copies of this Resolution be furnished to the: (a) Office of the Bar Confidant to be appended to respondent's personal record as an attorney; (b) IBP for its information and guidance; and (c) Office of the Court Administrator for circulation to all courts in the country.

12 November 2021


JOSE MIDAS P. MARQUEZ
Court Administrator

 MMA/RCJ/FRC/rain/sus_lupeba.doc