

OCA CIRCULAR NO. <u>143-2021</u>

- APPEALS, SANDIGANBAYAN, THE COURT OF TO : TAX APPEALS. **REGIONAL TRIAL** OF COURT **SHARI'A** DISTRICT COURTS, COURTS. COURTS. MUNICIPAL TRIAL METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT 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. ROBERTO B. ARCA FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR ONE (1) YEAR AND REVOCATION OF HIS NOTARIAL COMMISSION WITH PROHIBITION FROM BEING COMMISSIONED AS A NOTARY PUBLIC FOR TWO (2) YEARS

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Decision dated 28 November 2019 of the Court (First Division) in A.C. No. 10540, titled "Spouses Elmer and Mila Soriano vs. Atty. Gervacio B. Ortiz, Jr. and Atty. Roberto B. Arca," to wit:

WHEREFORE, with respect to respondent Atty. Gervacio B. Ortiz, Jr., Court resolves to DISMISS the complaint against him for insufficiency of evidence. With respect to respondent Atty. Roberto B, Arca, however, the Court finds him GUILTY of breach of the 2004 Rules on Notarial Practice and the Code of Professional Responsibility. Accordingly, the Court SUSPENDS him from the practice of law for one (1) year; REVOKES his incumbent commission, if any; and PROHIBITS him from being commissioned as a notary public for two (2) years, effective immediately. He is also WARNED that a repetition of the same or similar act in the future shall be dealt with more severely.

Let all the courts, through the Office of the Court Administrator, as well as the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and the Office of the Bar Confidant, be notified of this Decision and be it entered into respondent Roberto B. Arca's personal record. In a Resolution dated 15 July 2020, the Court (Special First Division) DENIED WITH FINALITY the respondent's Motion for Reconsideration there being no substantial matters to warrant the reversal of the questioned Decision dated 28 November 2019.

24 November 2021

VUL BAUT LLANUEVA Deputy Court Administrator

and Officer-In-Charge Office of the Court Administrator (Per Memorandum Order No. 108-2021) Dated 17 November 2021)

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