



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 225-2022

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 : DISBARMENT OF ATTY. BENIGNO C. VILLARENTE, JR.

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Decision dated 15 September 2020 of the Court *En Banc* in A.C. No. 8866, titled "**Catherine V. Villarente vs. Atty. Benigno Villarente, Jr.**," to wit:

WHEREFORE, the Court finds and declares respondent Atty. Benigno C. Villarente, Jr. **GUILTY** of gross immorality in violation of Rule 1.01 and Rule 7.03 of the Code of Professional Responsibility for which he is **DISBARRED** from the practice of law effective upon receipt of this Decision. His name is **ORDERED** stricken off from the Roll of Attorneys.

Let a copy of this Decision be attached to Atty. Benigno C. Villarente, Jr.'s personal record in the Office of the Bar Confidant.

Furnish a copy of this Decision to the Integrated Bar of the Philippines for its information and guidance; and the Office of the Court Administrator for dissemination to all courts of the Philippines.

In a Resolution dated 15 March 2022, the Court *En Banc* **DENIED WITH FINALITY** the respondent's Motion for

Reconsideration there being no substantial matters to warrant the reversal of the questioned Decision dated 15 September 2020.

31 August 2022



RAUL B. VILLANUEVA
Court Administrator

MMA/CJ/FRC/rci/dis_villarente,jr.doc