



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

**OCA CIRCULAR NO. 252-2022**

**TO : ALL FIRST AND SECOND LEVEL COURTS**

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR THE 2022-2023 SEARCH FOR HERSTORY GENDER AWARD OF DISTINCTION AWARDEES**

Acting on the request dated 19 September 2022 from the Secretariat of the Committee on Gender Responsiveness in the Judiciary (CGRJ) chaired by Honorable Associate Justice Amy C. Lazaro-Javier, quoted hereunder are the “*Guidelines for the 2022-2023 Search for HerStory Gender Award of Distinction Awardees*,” as an offshoot of the project launch of the *HerStory Gender Award of Distinction* during the Women’s Month in March 2022, thus:

**“HerStory Gender Award of Distinction”  
2022-2023 Search for Inspirational Women in the Judiciary**

During the celebration of Women’s Month in March 2022, the Committee on Gender Responsiveness in the Judiciary (CGRJ) Project “HerStory Gender Award of Distinction” (**the Project**) was formally launched. The Project is a search for inspirational stories of female Judges who have faced challenges in their professional and/or personal lives and surpassed them, using these very difficulties as their motivation to continue and fight on. The stories will be a recognition of these strong women, with the intention of inspiring and motivating others, whatever their gender identification may be and whatever profession or calling they may follow, to rise above adversity and conquer!

Guidelines for the 2022-2023 Search for HerStory Gender Award of Distinction Awardees:

1. The Search is open to all incumbent women judges of the Philippine Judiciary.
2. To join, one may either apply or be nominated by a judge, court personnel, or any court-based organization.
3. An applicant must submit:
  - a. a letter of intent to join the search;
  - b. a 5-page, short bond, double spaced narrative on the challenge/s she encountered or continues to encounter in her personal and/or professional life, how she has dealt with it, and how it has made her stronger and more determined to do better;
  - c. her professional resumé;
  - d. two photographs of herself, one at work and the other outside work; and

- e. a signed consent form to allow publication of her story and photographs if selected by the CGRJ.
4. A nominee must submit:
  - a. a letter of acceptance of the nomination;
  - b. a 5-page, short bond, double spaced narrative on the challenge/s she encountered or continues to encounter in her personal and/or professional life, how she has dealt with it, and how it has made her stronger and more determined to do better;
  - c. her professional resumé;
  - d. two photographs of herself, one at work and the other outside work; and
  - e. a signed consent form to allow publication of her story and photographs if selected by the CGRJ.
5. The challenges may refer to discrimination or harassment suffered by reason of gender identity, physical disabilities, educational opportunities, abuse, single parenting, economic difficulties, bias due to religion or ethnicity, and other similar barriers.
6. During the Search period, the CGRJ will select, at least, one (1) inspiring story per month which will be featured in the Gender Corner page in the Supreme Court website plus on social media accounts through the Public Information Office. All the monthly featured stories will automatically be the finalists in the Search.
7. In March 2023, the CGRJ will select the top 3 among the finalists and bestow the Gender Award of Distinction on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placers as "*The Inspirational Women of 2022.*" Each of the finalists will receive a plaque of recognition and a gift, while the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners shall receive a plaque of recognition and a cash incentive award as follows:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place – Php 75,000.00
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Php50,000.00
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Php25,000.00
8. The CGRJ will treat all submissions confidentially, but each applicant and nominee must sign a consent form that if their story is selected, they consent to its publication.
9. All applications or nominations may be sent to [sc.cgrj.secretariat@gmail.com](mailto:sc.cgrj.secretariat@gmail.com).

For your information, guidance, and strict observance.

27 September 2022



**RAUL B. VILLANUEVA**  
Court Administrator