



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 325-2022

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 : SUSPENSION OF ATTY. ESTRELLA O. LAYSA FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR THREE (3) YEARS

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Decision dated 30 June 2020 of the Court *En Banc* in A.C. No. 7936, titled "**Patricia Maglaya Ollada vs. Atty. Estrella O. Laysa,**" to wit:

WHEREFORE, the Court finds respondent Atty. Estrella O. Laysa **GUILTY** of violating Rule 16.01, Canon 16 and Rule 18.03, Canon 18 of the Code of Professional Responsibility; and for her non-payment of Integrated Bar of the Philippines membership dues since 2004 and noncompliance with the second to fifth Mandatory Continuing Legal Education compliance period. Thus, the Court imposes upon her the penalty of **THREE-YEAR SUSPENSION** from the practice of law to take effect immediately, subject to her compliance with the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirements, her payment of Integrated Bar of the Philippines dues, and the update of her Integrated Bar of the Philippines registration.

Respondent Atty. Estrella O. Laysa is likewise **ORDERED** to immediately pay a fine of ₱5,000.00 for her failure to pay her Integrated Bar of the Philippines dues, and for her noncompliance with the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education requirements.

Further, respondent Atty. Estrella O. Laysa is **ORDERED** to return within ten (10) days from notice of this Decision the amount of ₱30,000.00 to complainant

Patricia Maglaya Ollada with interest at the legal rate of 12% *per annum* from her date of receipt on January 8, 2007 until June 30, 2013 and 6% *per annum* from July 1, 2013 until full payment. Respondent Atty. Estrella O. Laysa is directed to submit to the Court proof of payment within ten (10) days thereof.

Let copies of this Decision be furnished the Office of the Bar Confidant to be appended to respondent Atty. Estrella O. Laysa's personal record as an attorney, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, the Department of Justice, and all courts in the country, for their information and guidance.

21 November 2022



RAUL B. VILLANUEVA
Court Administrator