



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 334-2022

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

SUBJECT : DISBARMENT OF ATTY. SOCRATES R. RIVERA

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Decision dated 3 November 2020 of the Court *En Banc* in A.C. No. 11241, entitled "Professional Services, Inc. vs. Atty. Socrates R. Rivera," to wit:

WHEREFORE, the Court hereby FINDS respondent Socrates R. Rivera GUILTY of violation of the Code of Professional Responsibility and the Lawyer's Oath and is hereby DISBARRED from the practice of law. His name is ordered STRICKEN-OFF the Roll of Attorneys. However, considering that he has already been disbarred in A.C. No. 9114 (*Reyes v. Rivera*), this penalty can no longer be imposed but nevertheless should be considered in the event that he should apply for the lifting of his disbarment. ACCORDINGLY, and IN VIEW OF HIS CONTINUING DISBARMENT, a penalty of FINE in the amount of ₱100,000.00 is imposed upon him.

Further, he is ORDERED TO RETURN the amount of ₱14,358,477.15 to complainant Professional Services, Inc. within ten (10) days from receipt of this Decision, which shall earn legal interest at the rate of six percent (6%) *per annum* from his receipt of this Decision until full payment.

Let a copy of this Decision be furnished to the Office of the Bar Confidant to be entered into the records of respondent Socrates R. Rivera. Copies shall likewise be furnished to the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and the Office of the Court Administrator, which shall circulate the same to all courts in the country for their information and guidance.

In a Resolution dated 19 July 2022, the Court Resolved **CONSIDER** as **SERVED** the resolution dated January 4, 2022 addressed to respondent Atty. Socrates R. Rivera, Rivera Rivera and Associates, No. 25-B Don Alejandro Roces Avenue, Quezon City, which resolution was returned unserved with notation on the letter-envelope "RTS-Moved Out."

06 December 2022



RAUL B. VILLANUEVA
Court Administrator