

## OCA CIRCULAR NO. <u>69-2023</u>

- TO THE COURT OF APPEALS, SANDIGANBAYAN, : COURT OF TAX APPEALS, REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS. SHARI'AH DISTRICT COURTS. METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS. MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS, SHARI'AH CIRCUIT COURTS, THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF STATE PROSECUTOR. THE PUBLIC **ATTORNEY'S** OFFICE AND **INTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES**
- SUBJECT : SUSPENSION OF ATTY. BRIAN B. PELLAZAR FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR ONE (1) YEAR

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Resolution dated 02 December 2021 of the Court (First Division) in A.C. No. 10739, titled "Eduardo G. Oncena vs. Atty. Brian B. Pellazar," to wit:

WHEREFORE, respondent Atty. Brian B. Pellazar is found GUILTY of violating Rule 16.01 of Canon 16, and Rules 18.03 and 18.04 of Canon 18 of the Code of Professional Responsibility. Accordingly, he is hereby SUSPENDED from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year, effective upon his receipt of this Resolution, with a STERN WARNING that a repetition of the same or similar acts will be dealt with more severely.

Furthermore, Atty. Brian B. Pellazar is ORDERED to return to the heirs of Eduardo Oncena the amount of P60,000.00 that he received, with legal interest at the rate of six percent (6%) *per annum* from the date of demand on February 1, 2014<sup>36</sup> until full payment. He is DIRECTED to submit to this Court proof of payment within ten (10) days thereof. Failure to comply with the foregoing directive will warrant the imposition of a more severe penalty.

Let a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the Bar Confidant to be attached to respondent's personal record in this Court as an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> See Rollo, p. 4; pp. 13-14.

attorney. Further, let copies of this Resolution be furnished the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and the Office of the Court Administrator, which is directed to circulate them to all the courts in the country for their information and guidance.

20 February 2023

AUL B. ALANUEVA Court Administrator

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