



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 75-2023

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. WINSTON B. HIPE FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR ONE (1) MONTH AND REVOCATION OF HIS NOTARIAL COMMISSION AND DISQUALIFICATION FROM REAPPOINTMENT AS NOTARY PUBLIC FOR ONE (1) YEAR

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Decision dated 14 March 2022 of the Court (Second Division) in A.C. No. 12443, titled "**Bernaldo E. Valdez vs. Atty. Winston B. Hipe**," to wit:

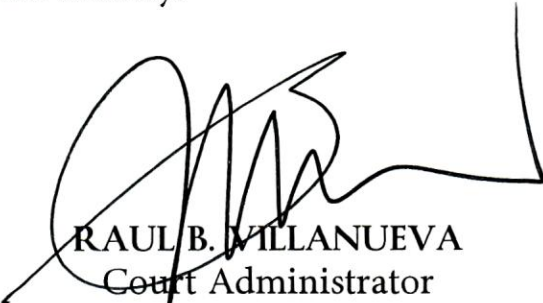
WHEREFORE, the Court finds respondent Atty. Winston B. Hipe (respondent) **GUILTY** of violating the 2004 Rules of Notarial Practice. Accordingly, he is **SUSPENDED** from the practice of law for a period of one (1) month, effective upon receipt of this Decision. Moreover, his notarial commission, if any, is hereby **IMMEDIATELY REVOKED**, and he is **DISQUALIFIED** from being commissioned as a notary public for a period of one (1) year. He is **STERNLY WARNED** that a repetition of the same offense or similar acts in the future shall be dealt with more severely.

Respondent is **DIRECTED** to immediately file a Manifestation to the Court that his suspension has started, copy furnished all courts and quasi-judicial bodies where he has entered his appearance as counsel.

Let copies of this Decision be furnished to: (1) the Office of the Bar Confidant to be appended to

respondent's personal record as an attorney; (2) the Integrated Bar of the Philippines for its information and guidance; and (3) the Office of the Court Administrator for circulation to all courts in the country.

20 February 2023



RAUL B. MILLANUEVA
Court Administrator