



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 233-2023

- 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. HERNAN R. TABALBA FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW FOR THREE (3) MONTHS AND REVOCATION OF HIS NOTARIAL COMMISSION WITH PROHIBITION FROM BEING COMMISSIONED AS A NOTARY PUBLIC FOR TWO (2) YEARS**

For your information and guidance, quoted hereunder is the dispositive portion of the Resolution dated 17 November 2021 of the Court (Second Division) in A.C. No. 12831, titled "**Dominador M. Agan vs. Atty. Hernan R. Tabalba,**" to wit:

WHEREFORE, the Court NOTES the Notice of Resolution dated September 28, 2017 of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines Board of Governors which resolved to adopt the findings of fact and recommendation of the Investigating Commissioner, with modification, to impose upon respondent the penalty of immediate revocation of his notarial commission, if subsisting, and disqualification from being commissioned as a notary public for a period of two (2) years and suspension from the practice of law for a period of three (3) months; transmitted by letter dated February 17, 2020 of Director Randall C. Tabayoyong, Commission on Bar Discipline, together with the records of the case.

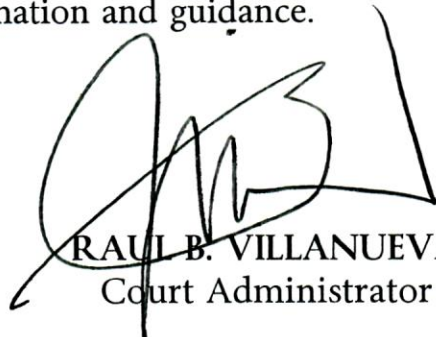
The Court finds respondent Atty. Hernan R. Tabalba GUILTY of violating the 2004 Rules on Notarial Practice. Accordingly, the Court SUSPENDS him from the practice of law for a period of three (3)

months, **REVOKES** his incumbent commission as a notary public, if any, and **PROHIBITS** him from being commissioned as a notary public for a period of two (2) years. He is likewise **STERNLY WARNED** that a repetition of the same or similar acts will be dealt with more severely.

The suspension in the practice of law, revocation of notarial commission, and disqualification from being commissioned as a notary public shall take effect immediately upon receipt of this Resolution by respondent Atty. Hernan R. Tabalba. He 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 Resolution be furnished to the Office of the Bar Confidant to be appended to respondent Atty. Hernan R. Tabalba's personal record, the Office of the Court Administrator, for dissemination to all lower courts, and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines for their information and guidance.

23 June 2023



RAUL B. VILLANUEVA
Court Administrator