



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

OCA CIRCULAR NO. 313-2023

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 : LIFTING OF THE SUSPENSION FROM THE PRACTICE OF LAW OF ATTY. KARINA GAY M. BALAJADIA-LIGGAYU

In its Resolution dated 02 April 2018 in A.C. No. 11977, titled "*Jose Sioco Cariño v. Atty. Karina Gay M. Balajadia-Liggayu*," the Court (First Division), among others, found respondent guilty of violating CANON 18, Rule 18.04, CANON 16, and Rule 16.01 of the Code of Professional Responsibility and Section 24, Rule 138 of the Rules of Court and **SUSPENDED** her from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year and ordered to return the amount of Eight Hundred Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Two Pesos (₱814,662.00) to complainant Jose Sioco Cariño.

The Office of the Bar Confidant, in its 1st Indorsement dated 18 August 2023, furnished the Office of the Court Administrator a copy of the **Sworn Statement** dated 04 August 2023 filed by Atty. Balajadia-Liggayu.

Pursuant to the guidelines outlined by the Court in its Decision dated 10 January 2023 in A.C. No. 11032, titled "*Re: Order dated 01 October 2015 in Criminal Case No. 15-318727-34, Regional Trial Court (RTC), Branch 49, Manila, against Atty. Severo L. Brillantes*" governing the lifting of the penalty of suspension imposed against members of the Bar, the order of suspension shall be automatically lifted upon submission by the respondent lawyer of such Sworn Statement that he or she has completed the service of suspension¹.

¹ Item 6, OCA Circular No. 84-2023 dated 27 February 2023 (*Requirements on Lifting of the Penalty of Suspension Imposed Against Members of the Bar*)

Accordingly, insofar as the Court's Resolution dated 02 April 2018 in A.C. No. 11977 is concerned, the therein imposed suspension from the practice of law of Atty. Karina Gay M. Balajadia-Liggayu is deemed **LIFTED**.

13 September 2023



JENNY LIND R. ALDECOA-DELORINO

Deputy Court Administrator

and

Officer-in-Charge

Office of the Court Administrator

(Per Memorandum Order No. 107-2023

dated 08 September 2023)