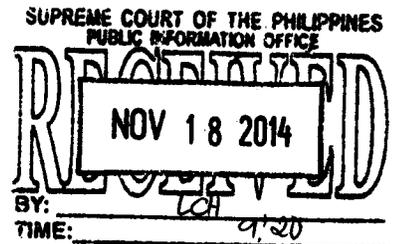




Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila
FIRST DIVISION



NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

*Please take notice that the Court, First Division, issued a Resolution dated **October 8, 2014** which reads as follows:*

G.R. No. 202907 (Arnel Catalan y Boluso and Apolinario Catalan y Boluso v. People of the Philippines).

After a careful perusal of the records, the Court resolves to **DENY** the instant petition and **AFFIRM** the May 8, 2012 Decision¹ and July 30, 2012 Resolution² of the Court of Appeals (CA) in CA-G.R. CR No. 33658 for failure of petitioners Arnel Catalan y Boluso and Apolinario Catalan y Boluso to show that the CA committed any reversible error in affirming their conviction by the Regional Trial Court (RTC) for violation of Section 5(b), Article III of Republic Act No. 7610 and in modifying the award of damages in light of prevailing jurisprudence by reducing the amount of moral damages from ₱50,000.00 to ₱15,000.00, granting civil indemnity in the amount of ₱20,000.00, and directing the payment of a fine of ₱15,000.00 in each of the criminal cases. However, the Court deems it proper to award ₱15,000.00 as exemplary damages to conform with prevailing jurisprudence.

The RTC properly considered the certified true copy of the victim's birth certificate to establish her age and minority, the same having been formally offered in evidence by the prosecution. There was no necessity to present the same for authentication during the testimony of the prosecution witness because such requirement applies only to private documents and not to public documents like Certificates of Live Birth, which are admissible without further proof of their due execution or genuineness.³

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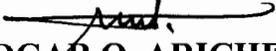
¹ Rollo, pp. 27-55. Penned by Associate Justice Celia C. Librea-Leagogo with Associate Justices Elihu A. Ybañez and Samuel H. Gaerlan, concurring.

² Id. at 57-58-A.

³ See *Heirs of Jose Marcial K.Ochoa v. G&S Transport Corporation*, G.R. Nos. 170071 & 170125, July 16, 2012, 676 SCRA 439, 443-444. See also *Chua v. CA*, G.R. No. 88383, February 19, 1992, 206 SCRA 339.

SO ORDERED.”

Very truly yours,


EDGAR O. ARICHETA
Division Clerk of Court

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(CA-G.R. CR No. 33658)

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Makati City

Hon. Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court, Br. 94
1100 Quezon City
(Crim. Case Nos. Q-99-88470 to 72)

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