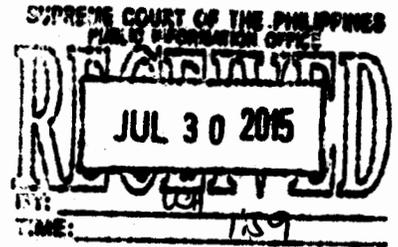




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
SUPREME COURT  
Manila

SECOND DIVISION

NOTICE



Sirs/Mesdames:

Please take notice that the Court, Second Division, issued a Resolution dated **22 July 2015** which reads as follows:

*<sup>#</sup>GR. No. 200517 – People of the Philippines, plaintiff-appellee vs. Rannie Mercado y Malabanan, defendant-appellant.*

After a careful review of the records of the case, the Court finds the appeal to be lacking in merit. We adopt the findings of facts of the trial court as affirmed by the Court of Appeals. Both the Regional Trial Court of Tanauan City, Batangas, and the Court of Appeals, correctly found appellant, Rannie Mercado y Malabanan, guilty beyond reasonable doubt of the crime of murder in Crim. Case No. P-630 and accordingly sentenced him to suffer the penalty of *reclusion perpetua*. Moreover, appellant is not eligible for parole pursuant to Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9346, An Act Prohibiting the Imposition of Death Penalty in the Philippines. In addition, the awards of civil indemnity and moral damages must each be increased to ₱75,000.00, and exemplary damages to ₱30,000.00, in line with prevailing jurisprudence. Furthermore, all damages awarded shall earn interest at the rate of 6% *per annum* from date of finality of this Resolution until full payment.

**WHEREFORE**, we **ADOPT** the findings of facts of the trial court as affirmed by the Court of Appeals. The assailed March 8, 2011 Decision of the Court of Appeals in CA-GR. CR.-H.C. No. 04105 finding appellant Rannie Mercado y Malabanan guilty beyond reasonable doubt of the crime of murder in Crim. Case No. P-630, and sentencing him to suffer the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* is **AFFIRMED** with **MODIFICATIONS** that appellant is without eligibility for parole; the awards of civil indemnity and moral damages are **INCREASED** to ₱75,000.00 each; and the award of exemplary damages is **INCREASED** to ₱30,000.00. All damages awarded shall earn interest at the rate of 6% *per annum* from date of finality of this Resolution until full payment.

**SO ORDERED.**<sup>#</sup>

Very truly yours,

*MA. LOURDES C. PERFECTO*  
MA. LOURDES C. PERFECTO  
Division Clerk of Court *by 7/22*

- PAGE 2 -

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HON. PRESIDING JUDGE (reg)  
Regional Trial Court, Branch 83  
Tanauan City, Batangas  
(Crim. Case No. P-630)

RANNIE MERCADO Y MALABANAN (reg)  
Accused-Appellant  
c/o The Director  
Bureau of Corrections  
1770 Muntinlupa City

THE DIRECTOR (reg)  
Bureau of Corrections  
1770 Muntinlupa City

HON. PRESIDING JUDGE (reg)  
Regional Trial Court, Branch 83  
Tanauan City, Batangas  
Crim. Case No. P-630

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*Please notify the Court of any change in your address.*  
GR200517. 07/22/15(343)URES *mlg of 1108*