

Republic of the Philippines Supreme Court Manila

THIRD DIVISION

NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

Please take notice that the Court, Third Division, issued a Resolution dated **April 28, 2021**, which reads as follows:

"G.R. No. 254632 (*Lilia S. Manuel v. People of the Philippines*). — The Court resolves to **INFORM** petitioner that she or her authorized representative may claim from the Cash Disbursement and Collection Division of this Court the excess payment of the prescribed legal fees in the amount of P500.00 under O.R. No. 0286971 dated December 22, 2020.

After a careful review of the records of the case, the Court finds the instant Petition for Review to be lacking in merit. The Court finds no reversible error on the part of the Sandiganbayan when it sustained the Decision¹ dated April 26, 2019 of the Regional Trial Court of Echague, Isabela, Branch 24 in Criminal Case No. 24-1587 finding petitioner Lilia S. Manuel guilty beyond reasonable doubt of Malversation of Public Funds under Article 217 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended by Republic Act No. 10951.²

WHEREFORE, the Petition is **DENIED**. The Decision³ dated February 17, 2020 of the Sandiganbayan, First Division in Criminal Case No. SB-19-A/R-0007 is **AFFIRMED** with **MODIFICATION** in that the fine is **REMOVED** and an interest at the rate of 6% per annum is imposed on the award of restitution in the amount of P1,458,438.69, reckoned from the date of finality until fully paid.

³ Penned by Associate Justice Efren N. De la Cruz, with Associate Justices Geraldine Faith A. Econg and Edgardo M. Caldona, concurring; rollo, pp. 29-42.



¹ Rendered by Judge Bonifacio T. Ong (CESO IV); rollo, pp. 47-58.

² AN ACT ADJUSTING THE AMOUNT OR THE VALUE OF PROPERTY AND DAMAGE ON WHICH A PENALTY IS BASED AND THE FINES IMPOSED UNDER THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE REVISED PENAL CODE," AS AMENDED, Approved on August 29, 2017.

By:

SO ORDERED."

By authority of the Court:

MISAEL DOMINGO C. BATTUNG III

Division Clerk of Court

RUMAR D. PASION

Deputy Division Clerk of Court gan 8/1/21

Atty. Edwin Orias Betguen Counsel for Petitioner Teresita Boulevard, Gundaway 3400 Cabarroguis, Quirino

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SANDIGANBAYAN Sandiganbayan Centennial Building COA Compound, Commonwealth Avenue cor. Batasan Road, 1126 Quezon City [Crim. Case No. SB-19-A/R-0007]

The Presiding Judge REGIONAL TRIAL COURT Branch 24 3309 Echague, Isabela (Crim. Case No. 24-1587)

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G.R. No. 254632

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