



Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila

FIRST DIVISION

NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

Please take notice that the Court, First Division, issued a Resolution dated March 18, 2021 which reads as follows:

“G.R. No. 230623 – (PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, plaintiff-appellee, v. MARK ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ y SALVACION, accused-appellant). – After judicious review of the records of the case, this Court resolves to modify the Decision¹ dated August 24, 2016 of the Court of Appeals (CA) in CA-G.R. CR-HC No. 07380. The CA affirmed with modifications the Joint Decision² dated February 25, 2015 of the Regional Trial Court of Caloocan City, Branch 131 in Criminal Case Nos. C-75284 and C-75316.

The CA, in addition to the award of ₱50,000.00 as civil indemnity and ₱50,000.00 as moral damages, ordered the accused-appellant to pay the private complainant the amount of ₱30,000.00 as exemplary damages. In view of the prevailing jurisprudence,³ this Court finds it proper to increase the amount of the awards of civil indemnity, moral damages, and exemplary damages to ₱75,000.00 each for every count of rape.

WHEREFORE, the appeal is **DISMISSED** for lack of merit. The Decision dated August 24, 2016 of the Court of Appeals in CA-G.R. CR-HC No. 07380 finding accused-appellant Mark Anthony Rodriguez y Salvacion **GUILTY** beyond reasonable doubt of two (2) counts of rape is hereby **AFFIRMED with MODIFICATIONS**. Accused-appellant is ordered to **PAY** private complainant, for each count of rape, ₱75,000.00 as civil indemnity, ₱75,000.00 as moral

- over – two (2) pages ...

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¹ *Rollo*, pp. 2-16; penned by Associate Justice Rodil V. Zalameda (now a Member of this Court), with the concurrence of Associate Justices Sesinando E. Villalon and Pedro B. Corales.

² *CA rollo*, pp. 44-52; penned by Presiding Judge Ma. Teresa E. De Guzman-Alvarez.

³ *People v. Jugueta*, 783 Phil. 806 (2016).

damages, and ₱75,000.00 as exemplary damages. The amount of damages awarded is subject to interest of six percent (6%) *per annum* from the finality of this judgment until fully satisfied.

SO ORDERED.” *Zalameda, J., penned the assailed CA Decision; Delos Santos, J., designated Additional Member per Raffle dated February 17, 2021.*

By authority of the Court:


LIBRADA C. BUENA
Division Clerk of Court *mc/28*

by:

MARIA TERESA B. SIBULO
Deputy Division Clerk of Court
160-A₁

The Solicitor General
134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village
1229 Makati City

Court of Appeals (x)
Manila
(CA-G.R. CR HC No. 07380)

The Hon. Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court, Branch 131
1400 Caloocan City
(Crim. Case Nos. C-75284 & C-75316)

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