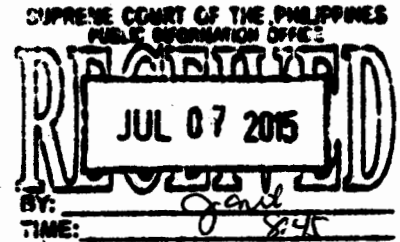




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
SUPREME COURT  
Manila

SECOND DIVISION

NOTICE



Sirs/Mesdames:

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

G.R. No. 200886 – *People of the Philippines, plaintiff-appellee v. Rolando S. Salonga, Sr., accused-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 Macabebe, Pampanga, Branch 55 and the Court of Appeals, correctly found appellant Rolando S. Salonga, Sr. guilty beyond reasonable doubt of the crimes of qualified rape and rape by sexual assault. For the crime of qualified rape (Crim. Case No. 01-2993[M]), he was properly sentenced to suffer the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* without eligibility for parole. However, the amount of damages awarded must be modified. Pursuant to our ruling in *People v. Gambao*,<sup>1</sup> the awards of civil indemnity, moral damages, and exemplary damages must each be increased to ₱100,000.00. In addition, all damages awarded shall earn interest at the rate of 6% *per annum* from date of finality of this Resolution until full payment. As regards the crime of rape by sexual assault (Crim. Case No. 01-2992 [M]), appellant was properly sentenced to suffer the indeterminate penalty of six (6) years and one (1) day of *prision mayor*, as minimum, to seventeen (17) years and four (4) months of *reclusion temporal*, as maximum. The awards of civil indemnity, moral damages, and exemplary damages, at ₱30,000.00 each, are also proper and in line with our ruling in *Pielago v. People*.<sup>2</sup> Moreover, 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 July 8, 2011 Decision of the Court of Appeals in CA-G.R. CR.-H.C. No. 03550 finding appellant Rolando S. Salonga, Sr. guilty beyond reasonable doubt of the crimes of qualified rape in Crim. Case No. 01-2993(M) and sentencing him to suffer the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* without eligibility for parole, and rape by sexual assault in Crim. Case No. 01-2992(M) and sentencing him to suffer the indeterminate penalty of six (6) years and one (1) day of *prision mayor*, as minimum, to seventeen (17) years and four (4) months of *reclusion temporal*, as maximum, is **AFFIRMED** with **MODIFICATIONS**. In Crim. Case No. 01-2993(M) (Qualified Rape), the awards of civil indemnity,

<sup>1</sup>G.R. No. 172707, October 1, 2013, 706 SCRA 508.

<sup>2</sup>G.R. No. 202020, March 13, 2013, 693 SCRA 476.


- more -

*mlg*

moral damages, and exemplary damages, are **INCREASED** to ₱100,000.00 each. All damages awarded in Crim. Cases Nos. 01-2992(M) and 01-2993(M) shall earn interest at the rate of 6% *per annum* from date of finality of this Resolution until full payment. (J. Brion, on leave; J. Perez, designated as Acting Member per S.O. No. 2067 dated June 22, 2015; J. Leonen, on leave under the Court's Wellness Program from June 16-30, 2015; J. Reyes, designated as Acting Member per S.O. No. 2056-C dated June 10, 2015)

**SO ORDERED.**

Very truly yours,

  
MA. LOURDES O. PERFECTO  
Division Clerk of Court *jde*  
713

PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE (reg)  
(ATTY. TERRY JOY P. BARBOZA-JALECO)  
DOJ Agencies Building  
NIA Road corner East Avenue  
Diliman, Quezon City

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (reg)  
134 Amorsolo Street  
1229 Legaspi Village  
Makati City

HON. PRESIDING JUDGE (reg)  
Regional Trial Court, Branch 55  
Macabebe, 2018 Pampanga  
(Crim. Case No. 01-2992-93-M)

ROLANDO S. SALONGA, SR. (reg)  
Accused-Appellant  
c/o The Director  
Bureau of Corrections  
1770 Muntinlupa City

THE DIRECTOR (reg)  
Bureau of Corrections  
1770 Muntinlupa City

COURT OF APPEALS (x)  
Ma. Orosa Street  
Ermita, 1000 Manila  
CA-G.R. CR-HC No. 03550

JUDGMENT DIVISION (x)  
Supreme Court, Manila

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (x)  
LIBRARY SERVICES (x)  
[For uploading pursuant to A.M. No. 12-7-1-SC]

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ATTORNEY (x)  
OFFICE OF THE REPORTER (x)  
Supreme Court, Manila

*Please notify the Court of any change in your address.*  
GR200886. 06/22/15(442)URES