

Republic of the Philippines DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

JAN 25 2021

MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO

All DENR Lawyers

DENR Central Office, Regional and Field Offices, Bureaus and

Attached Agencies

SUBJECT

DEPUTATION OF LAWYERS AS SPECIAL COUNSEL BY

THE OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL (OSG)

This refers to the Letter dated 21 October 2019 of Solicitor General Jose C. Calida of the Office of the Solicitor General (OSG) on the revocation of deputation of one of the special counsels of the DENR, in view of said counsel's actions and/or omissions which did not serve the best interest of the government.

In the interest of the service, and pursuant to Republic Act 6713, otherwise known as the "Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees", which mandates all public officials and employees to be at all times accountable to the people, to discharge their duties with utmost responsibility, integrity, competence, and loyalty, to act with patriotism and justice, to lead modest lives, and to uphold public interest over personal interest, as accountable public servants, all DENR Lawyers are hereby sternly advised to strictly observe and faithfully comply with the terms and conditions prescribed in their respective deputations issued by the OSG as Special Counsels for the Department, otherwise, said deputation shall be revoked.

The deputized counsels shall strictly comply with the following terms and conditions, subject to the specific authority, terms and conditions of their respective deputations:

- 1. They shall be directly under the supervision and control of the Solicitor General;
- 2. They shall submit to the Solicitor, General, for review, approval and signature, all important pleadings and motions pertaining to all cases he/she is tasked to handle, including motions to withdraw appeal, as well as compromise agreements;
- 3. They shall consult the Solicitor General on all questions, legal and factual, whenever the necessity arises before taking any specific action on the matter;
- 4. They shall submit to the Solicitor General a report on the status of cases handled by him/her, if any, including copies of important orders issued or decision rendered therein;
- 5. Only notices of orders, resolutions, and decisions served on the Solicitor General will bind the Government, the entity, or agency and/or official represented; and

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6. The OSG shall not pay compensation to the deputized lawyers by reason of the deputation.

Moreover, this Office reminds the lawyers of the Department to zealously defend the cases assigned to better serve the Republic's interest in attaining environmental justice.

For your information and strict compliance.

ROY A. CIMATU Secretary



Copy furnished:

Atty. Jose C. Calida Solicitor General Office of the Solicitor General #134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village Makati City, Philippines