



## ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE YEAR 2014

### *Executive Summary*

#### ❖ Clients Assisted and Cases Handled

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • Total No. of Clients Assisted                  | 7,514,325 |
| • Total No. of Cases Handled                     | 783,569   |
| • Average No. of Clients Assisted by Each Lawyer | 4,937     |
| • Average No. of Cases Handled by Each Lawyer    | 523       |

#### ❖ Major Final Output: Free Legal Services to Indigent Clients and Other Qualified Persons

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TARGETS	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
PI Set 1: • Number of cases under management.	783,469	783,584
• Percentage of cases with favorable judgment.	68.99% (253,838/367,934)	72.16% (235,948/326,967)
• Percentage of requests for legal assistance/representation acted upon within three (3) working days from the date of request.	100% (515,500/515,500)	100% (586,209/586,209)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of hearings for which no postponement is sought by the PAO legal representative.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">99.70% (409,268/410,500)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">99.78% (413,577/414,500)</p>
<b>PI Set 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of clients served (Non-Judicial).</li> <li>Number of legal advisories/counseling provided.</li> <li>Percentage of clients who rated the legal services of PAO as satisfactory or better.</li> <li>Percentage of requests for assistance that are acted upon within two (2) hours.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">4,880,843</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,818,581</p> <p style="text-align: center;">99.94% (420,183/420,435)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">100% (1,300,500/1,300,500)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4,893,939</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1,839,419</p> <p style="text-align: center;">99.95% (424,662/424,874)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">100% (1,508,521/1,508,521)</p>

❖ **Total No. of Winning Appealed Criminal Cases** **172**  
*(For Court of Appeals and Supreme Court only)*

- Acquittals from Reclusion Temporal 84
- Acquittals from Reclusion Perpetua 88

❖ **Total No. of Winning Appealed Civil and Special Cases** **388**  
*(For Court of Appeals and Supreme Court only)*

❖ **Acquittals and Other Favorable Dispositions** **149,814**  
*(RTC & MCTC METC)*

Accused Benefited from:

A. Acquittal	12,199
B. Dismissal with Prejudice	38,707
C. Granted Motion to Quash	887
D. Granted Demurrer to Evidence	3,082

E. Provisional Dismissal	35,956
F. Conviction to Lesser Offense	33,290
G. Granted Probation	4,332
H. Won	3,775
I. Granted Lesser Award	999
J. Dismissal based on Compromise Agreement	3,170
K. Criminal Cases for Preliminary Investigation:	
K.1. Case filed in court (Complainant)	6,535
K.2. Dismissed (Respondent)	4,813
L. Pre-trial Releases and Other Favorable Dispositions:	
L.1. Released on Bail (Non-bailable offense)	339
L.2. Released on Recognizance	926
L.3. Diversion Proceedings/Intervention	370
L.4. Suspended Sentence	205
L.5. Maximum Imposable Penalty Served	229

❖ **Special Legal Services** **20,752**  
**(Pursuant to Sec. 14-A of R.A. 9406 and MOAs)**

❖ **Rendition of Quasi-Judicial Services**  
Mediation and Conciliation 450,998  
Investigation (R.A. 9745 or Anti-Torture Law) 63

❖ **Outreach Activities**

1. Inquest Investigation & Custodial Interrogation
  - Total No. of Clients Assisted 138,498
2. Barangay Legal Outreach Activities
  - Total No. of Beneficiaries 148,973

❖ **Nationwide Monthly Jail Visitation of District Offices**

No. of Detainees/Inmates who were:

A. Interviewed and Assisted	253,700
B. Provided Legal Representation in Court	259,151
C. Acquitted:	
C.1. After trial	7,775
C.2. On appeal	1,086
D. Released on:	
D.1. Pardon/Executive Clemency/Probation	3,618
D.2. Motion to Dismiss/Motion to Quash	6,890
D.3. Inquest Assistance/Representation	3,634
D.4. Bail/Recognizance	13,210
D.5. After serving the possible maximum prison term	2,200
D.5. Released on other grounds (i.e. Motion for judicial determination of probable cause, and others)	7,485

❖ **PAO-Central Office Legal & Medical Jail Visitation and Decongestion Program**

- **Total No. of Program Beneficiaries** **9,007**
- No. of Beneficiaries of Legal Assistance 1,722
- No. of Beneficiaries of Medical Assistance 3,954
- No. of Beneficiaries of Dental Assistance 740
- No. of Beneficiaries of Optical Assistance 1,864
- Total No. of Inmates Released 727  
(from various jails in Metro Manila and nearby provinces visited by the PAO-Central Office and followed up by the field offices)

❖ **Legal/Inquest Proceedings Assistance**

On their scheduled duties, the public attorneys and staff of the PAO-Central Office have alternately been providing legal counselling and inquest proceedings assistance even during night time, weekends and holidays since October 2009. For this purpose, the PAO hotline, *929-9436 (local 106 or 107 during office hours and local 159 beyond office hours)*, is open to the public *24/7*.

In September 2010, the coverage of this program was expanded to serve people covered by the regional and the district offices of the PAO nationwide. Since then, the said offices have been rendering *legal assistance* (e.g. legal advice, attending to the legal needs of suspects in the police stations within the territorial jurisdiction of the concerned PAO regional/district offices) up to *10:00 P.M.* everyday (including weekends and holidays). Further, the assigned PAO inquest public attorneys and staff therein *remain on call*, even beyond *10:00 P.M.*, to attend to inquest calls in police stations nationwide.

- Clients Served 31,732

❖ **Training Sessions and Seminars Attended** **137**

- Training Participants *Lawyers* **551**  
*Support Personnel* **24**

❖ **Case Load**

Out of **179,123 terminated criminal cases**, there were **132,681** or about **74.07% favorable dispositions** obtained by the Public Attorneys from representing indigent clients.

- Total No. of Criminal Cases Handled 428,627
- Total No. of Cases Terminated 179,123

- Terminated Cases Favorable to Clients 132,681
- Total Percentage of Winning Criminal Cases 74.07%

Out of **27,810 terminated civil cases**, there were **19,809** or about **71.23% favorable dispositions** obtained by the Public Attorneys from representing indigent clients.

- Total No. of Civil Cases Handled 47,237
- Total No. of Cases Terminated 27,810
- Terminated Cases Favorable to Clients 19,809
- Total Percentage of Winning Civil Cases 71.23%

Out of **48,927 terminated labor cases**, there were **33,290** or about **68.04% favorable dispositions** obtained by the Public Attorneys from representing indigent clients.

- Total No. of Labor Cases Handled 81,695
- Total No. of Cases Terminated 48,927
- Terminated Cases Favorable to Clients 33,290
- Total Percentage of Winning Labor Cases 68.04%

Out of **6,858 terminated administrative cases proper**, there were **4,944** or about **72.09% favorable dispositions** obtained by the Public Attorneys from representing indigent clients.

- Total No. of Administrative Cases Proper Handled 11,985
- Total No. of Cases Terminated 6,858
- Terminated Cases Favorable to Clients 4,944
- Total Percentage of Winning Administrative Cases 72.09%

With respect to cases involving violation of **Republic Act 9262 (Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act)**, out of **45,354 terminated cases**, there were **33,131** or about **73.05% favorable dispositions** obtained by the Public Attorneys from representing women clients.

- Total No. of Cases Involving Women Victims of Violation of R.A. 9262 74,388
- Total No. of Cases Terminated 45,354
- Terminated Cases Favorable to Women Client Victims of Violation of R.A. 9262 33,131
- Total Percentage of Winning Cases in Favor of Women 73.05%

On the other hand, with respect to cases involving **Children in Conflict with the Law** pursuant to R.A. 9344, out of **18,895 terminated cases**, there were **12,093** or about **64.00% favorable**

**dispositions** obtained by the Public Attorneys from representing CICLs.

- Total No. of Cases Involving Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL) 34,965
- Total No. of Cases Terminated 18,895
- Terminated Cases Favorable to CICL 12,093
- Total Percentage of Winning Cases in Favor of CICL 64.00%

❖ Total No. of Clients Assisted by the PAO-National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC) Sub-Station Located in Banawe, Quezon City 12,655

❖ Total No. of Research Work and Legal Opinions that Served Queries from the Public that were Directly Addressed or otherwise referred to the PAO 3,069

❖ **Library Services**

- No. of Legal Books and Reference Materials Distributed to Regional and District Offices 364
- *Lex Libris* Subscription for the Central Office to Facilitate Research Work

❖ **PAO Equipment**

For the period covering January to December 2014, the following office equipment were procured for distribution to various PAO regional and district offices as well as the Central Office, to wit:

* Chairs	388 units
* Tables	12 units
* Monitor	1 unit
* Printers	34 units
* Air conditioners	53 units
* Fax Machines	20 units
* Metal Detectors	3 units
* Floor Polishers	3 units

* Steel Filing Cabinets	10 units
* Keyboard	1 unit
* Shelves	2 units
* Water Dispenser	15 units
* Cameras	2 units
* Microphones	4 units
* Microscope	1 unit

### *The Office of the Chief Public Attorney*

- ❖ The Office of the Chief Public Attorney received and answered **90,217 communications** from January to December 2014;
- ❖ The Office of the Chief Public Attorney served **19,895 clients** during this period;
- ❖ The Chief Public Attorney served as a **resource person** in the following events:
  - **Guest of Honor and Speaker**, Meeting (Theme: Violence Against Women and Children) of the Inner Wheel Club of the Philippines (IWCP) Turquoise of Quezon City, held on December 1, 2014, Rotary Center, Roces Ave. cor. Mother Ignacia St., Quezon City;
  - **Speaker**, 2014 International Forum on Legal Aid, sponsored by the Legal Aid Foundation of Taiwan, held on October 25 to 27, 2014, in Taipei, Taiwan;
  - **Resource Speaker**, Pambansang Kongreso sa Salin, held on August 7, 2014, University of the Philippines-Iloilo City;
  - **Speaker**, International Conference on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, held on June 24-26, 2014, Johannesburg, South Africa;
  - **Keynote Speaker**, Philippine Private School Health Officers' Association's (PSHOA) Convention, held on April 10, 2014, Bayanihan Hall of the Unilab Laboratories, Pioneer St., Mandaluyong City;
  - **Guest of Honor/Speaker**, Bataan Peninsula State University 2013 Commencement Exercises, held on April 2, 2014, Bataan People's Center, City of Balanga, Bataan;
  - **Guest of Honor/Speaker**, Regular General Membership Meeting of the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilpinas (KBP), held on March 19, 2014, The Residences, Esperanza St., Makati City;

- ***Guest of Honor/Speaker***, Public Installation of Elected and Appointed Officers of Hamtic Lodge No. 76, held on March 8, 2014, Masonic Center of Antique, Bantayan (Brgy. 2), San Jose, Antique;
  - ***Resource Person***, Seminar on Katarungang Pambarangay, held on February 22, 2014, Calocan City; and
  - ***Resource Person***, Seminar on the Perks of Being a Public Attorney, held on February 18, 2014, Museo de La Salle, De La Salle University-Dasmariñas, Cavite City;
- ❖ The Chief Public Attorney personally handled and/or led the following ***cases*** and/or rendered legal assistance to the following individuals, to wit:

**A.**

The seventy-one (71) civil cases filed by the PAO against Sulpicio Lines, Inc. (SLI) on behalf of the victims of the M/V Princess of the Stars maritime tragedy. These cases are currently undergoing trial at the Regional Trial Court – Branch 49, Manila.

Sixty-four (64) civil cases filed by the PAO for the abovementioned tragedy undergoing trial at the Regional Trial Court – Branch 16, Cebu City.

The criminal case for Reckless Imprudence in the same tragedy currently pending at the Regional Trial Court – Branch 5, Manila;

**B.**

The cases of Bonita Baran that are currently undergoing trial. The PAO is presently assisting and coordinating closely with the trial prosecutors in the following criminal cases:

- i. *Criminal Case No. Q-12-178028* entitled, “*People of the Philippines versus Analiza Catahan-Marzan y Tarroza alias ‘Analiza Marzan’ and Reynold Marzan y Tan*”, for Serious Illegal Detention pending before Regional Trial Court- Branch No. 77 of Quezon City;
- ii. *Criminal Case No. 159544-45* also entitled “*People of the Philippines versus Analiza Catahan-Marzan y Tarroza alias ‘Analiza Marzan’ and Reynold Marzan y Tan*”, for Attempted Homicide pending before Metropolitan Trial Court- Branch No. 40 of Quezon City; and



- iii. *Criminal Case No. 159537-43* for Serious Physical Injuries with the same title and also pending before Metropolitan Trial Court- Branch No. 40 of Quezon City.

C.

Ms. Filipina Cudia, in her Petition-in-Intervention filed with the Supreme Court on March 25, 2014. The said petition was filed on behalf of her son, Cadet First Class Aldrin Jeff P. Cudia to join and reinforce the earlier Petition filed by Mr. Renato Cudia with the High Court.

The said Petition-in-Intervention sought: (a) to challenge the Philippine Military Academy's (PMA) decision to dismiss Cadet Cudia from the PMA and deprive him of his right to be a part of the March 16, 2014 graduation rites thereat, for having been rendered with grave abuse of discretion amounting to lack or excess of jurisdiction; (b) to command the PMA to confer upon Cadet Cudia his rights and benefits as a lawfully-entitled graduate of the Academy.

The Consolidated Comment dated June 17, 2014, filed by the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), the PMA Honor Committee of 2014 (HC) and the PMA Cadet Review and Appeals Board (CRAB), through the Office of the Solicitor General was countered by the Reply of Ms.Cudia, as assisted by PAO.

The said Reply was later adopted by the petitioners Renato Cudia and Atty. Berteni Cataluna Causing (via a *Manifestation with Motion for Leave to Adopt Reply of Intervenor to the Office of the Solicitor General*, dated August 18, 2014).

Meanwhile, on July 21, 2014, Ms. Cudia filed a *Manifestation with Motion to Submit Case for Early Resolution*; followed by a *Manifestation with Second Motion to Submit Case for Early Resolution* filed on September 30, 2014; and lastly, a *Third Motion to Submit Case for Early Resolution and Reiteration of Manifestation in Lieu of Memorandum* filed on December 11, 2014. The first two (2) manifestations with motions were duly noted by the Supreme Court.

- ❖ The Chief Public Attorney received the following prestigious **awards & fellowship**, to wit:
- **Outstanding San Rafaelño 2014**, given during the 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D' San Rafaelños in celebration of Araw ng San Rafael on December 30, 2014 at San Rafael Civic & Sports Complex, Poblacion, San Rafael, Bulacan;
  - **The Gintong Palad Public Service Award**, given by the Movie Writers Welfare Foundation and the Rotary Club of Intramuros, Manila on November 29, 2014 at the Ilustrado Restaurant in Intramuros, Manila;
  - **Special Award for an Individual in the Government Service**, conferred during the 16<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption (VACC) on August 20, 2014 at NBI Gym, Taft Avenue, Manila;
  - **FAMAS Excellence Award in Criminal Justice**, (conferred also to the PAO Jail Visitation Team) from the Filipino Academy of Movie Arts and Sciences (FAMAS), on July 13, 2014 at Solaire Entertainment City, Parañaque City;
  - **The 2014 Gawad Justice Felix Angelo Bautista** (for the Prosecution Pillar), given by the Philippine College of Criminology Alumni Association, Inc., during the 2nd Gawad Justice Felix Angelo Bautista on May 20, 2014 at the Ballroom of the Century Park Hotel, Manila;
  - **Recognition**, given by the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) Law School-Rockwell, headed by Dean Sedfrey Candelaria and by the Ateneo Law Alumni Association, during the Testimonial Luncheon and Recognition that was held for its graduates and alumni who are currently employed at the PAO. Thirty (30) Atenean lawyers, including the current Chief Public Attorney who is an alumna of the ADMU Law School, were given such honor on February 21, 2014 at ADMU Law School; and
  - **Certificate of Merit**, during the Parangal sa Mag-aaral of the University of the Philippines-Diliman, Quezon City, which recognized outstanding students in the second semester, 2012-2013 and in the first semester, 2013-2014, Chief Persida V. Rueda-Acosta, Ph.D student thereat, received the said recognition for having an average of 1.00. Chief Acosta is a Civil Service Commission/Presidential Lingkod Bayan Scholar, per E.O. 508 of former President Corazon C. Aquino. The Parangal was held on February 19, 2014 at the UP Film Center.

## ***THE PAO LEGAL AND FORENSIC TEAM***

### **❖ Assistance to the Orellano Sisters**

The father of three (3) minors who sought legal and forensic assistance from the PAO-Central Office on May 2, 2014, in behalf of his daughters who were allegedly raped by their cousin. In connection thereto, one (1) count of Attempted Rape and five (5) counts of Rape were filed against the said relative on June 2, 2014 in Pangasinan.

### **❖ Legal and Forensic Assistance to the Families of the Two (2) Jesus Is Lord (JIL) Preachers Who were Allegedly Raped and Murdered by Policemen**

The legal and forensic assistance extended to the victims' families led to the arrest and detention of the policemen who allegedly raped and killed the two female preachers. The Warrant for their Arrest was issued last January 15, 2014.

The criminal case for Rape and Murder is currently undergoing trial in RTC of Batangas. Likewise, the administrative case for Grave Misconduct filed against them before the National Police Commission Region 4 is also undergoing trial for presentation of evidence.

## ***OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS***

### **❖ Agreement on Mutual Assistance for Citizens of the Philippines and Taiwan**

The Public Attorney's Office (PAO) and the Legal Aid Foundation (LAF), R.O.C., Taiwan, signed an Agreement on Mutual Assistance for Citizens of Both Countries, on October 27, 2014, the last day of the International Forum on Legal Aid in Taipei, Taiwan.

The said Agreement was signed by Chief Acosta for the PAO, and Chairperson Lin Chun-Jung for LAF, to safeguard the basic right of citizens to receive legal assistance and facilitate sharing and exchange between the PAO and LAF.

The beneficiaries of the Agreement are Filipinos in Taiwan, and Taiwanese in the Philippines, who are seeking legal

assistance and are qualified for the legal services of the said organizations.

❖ **5<sup>TH</sup> MCLE Accredited National Convention for Public Attorneys**

The PAO conducted the 5th MCLE-Accredited National Convention for Public Attorneys that was held from October 13 to 17, 2014 at the Manila Hotel.

The PAO, being an MCLE provider since 2002, was able to grant free MCLE-accredited courses for its public attorneys nationwide. Free MCLE-accredited courses were also offered to public attorneys during the past four (4) MCLE-accredited conventions of the PAO, which were held in 2003, 2006, 2009, and 2011.

❖ **2014 Anti-Red Tape Act (ARTA) Breakthrough Agency Award from the Civil Service Commission (CSC)**

The Public Attorney's Office received the 2014 Anti-Red Tape Act (ARTA) Breakthrough Agency Award from the Civil Service Commission (CSC), on October 22, 2014 at the Luxent Hotel, Timog Avenue, Quezon City.

The PAO-Central Office and the PAO-Cagayan De Oro District Office were featured in the book, *Breakthrough – Game Changers in Public Frontline Service Delivery*, published by the Civil Service Commission, and was launched also during the aforesaid CSC event.

The *PAO-Central Office* is featured as one of the *Game Changers in Government* while *PAO-Cagayan De Oro*, one of the ten frontline offices which the CSC calls the *Ten Paragons of Excellence*.

❖ **Excellent Performance of the Public Attorney's Office Recognized by the Civil Service Commission With Seal of Excellence and Cash Prize**

For their EXCELLENT performance in providing service to the public and adherence to the requirements of Republic Act No. 9485 or the Anti-Red Tape Act (ARTA), the PAO-Central Office, PAO-Malabon and PAO-Las Piñas District Offices were awarded with the Citizen's Satisfaction Center Seal of Excellence plus a cash prize of P100,000.00 each by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) on June 29, 2014.



By Merck Maggudayao, Manila Standard Today, February 27, 2014

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The **PAO**, Land Bank of the Philippines, and the LTO registered the most number of Excellent and Good grades while the Department of Environment and Natural Resources had the most number of offices with Acceptable grades. (Emphasis supplied)

Xxx

Xxx

Xxx

67 offices fail report card survey.”

❖ **PAO-Tagbilaran District Office, Granted With the CSC’s Citizen’s Satisfaction Center Seal of Excellence Plus a Cash Prize**

PAO-Tagbilaran District Office was awarded with the Citizen’s Satisfaction Center Seal of Excellence plus a cash prize of P100,000.00 by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) on January 17, 2014 at the CSC Regional Office No. 7, Sudlon, Lahug, Cebu City.

PAO-Tagbilaran District Office was honored for having obtained an EXCELLENT rating of 91.84 from the CSC, in connection with the latter’s Report Card Survey (RCS) relative to the observance of the Anti-Red Tape Act (ARTA) of 2007. The said district office was also able to pass the two-phased validation process conducted by the CSC-Central Office. The monetary award is to be used in purchasing office equipment, materials and services that will further improve PAO’s delivery of its frontline services.