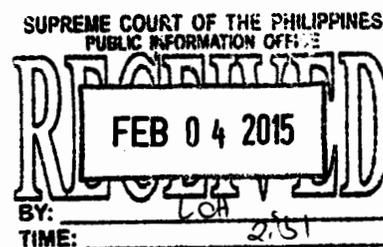




Republic of the Philippines
Supreme Court
Manila
FIRST DIVISION



NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

*Please take notice that the Court, First Division, issued a Resolution dated **December 10, 2014** which reads as follows:*

G.R. No. 214594 (Baitulon S. Abdulsatar v. People of the Philippines).- The petitioner's motion for an extension of thirty (30) days within which to file a petition for review on certiorari is **GRANTED**, counted from the expiration of the reglementary period, and the petitioner's counsel is hereby **DIRECTED** to **COMPLY** within five (5) days from notice hereof with A.M. No. 07-6-5-SC dated July 10, 2007 re: statement of contact details (*e.g.*, telephone number, fax number, cellular phone number or e-mail address) of parties or their counsels in all papers and pleadings filed with the Supreme Court.

After a careful perusal of the records, the Court resolves to **DENY** the instant petition and **AFFIRM** the September 26, 2013 Decision¹ and August 19, 2014 Resolution² of the Court of Appeals (CA) in CA-G.R. SP No. 122095 for failure of Baitulon S. Abdulsatar (petitioner) to show any reversible error committed by the CA in setting aside the Orders dated June 22, 2011 and June 30, 2011 of the Regional Trial Court of Las Piñas City, Branch 254, which dropped her name as accused in Criminal Case Nos. 10-0708 and 10-0318.

As correctly pointed out by the CA, the peremptory dismissal of the case against petitioner was too unwarranted considering that the prosecution had yet to present evidence.³ The trial judge should have

- over – two (2) pages

¹ *Rollo*, pp. 34-43. Penned by Associate Justice Edwin D. Sorongon with Associate Justices Hakim S. Abdulwahid and Marlene Gonzales-Sison, concurring.

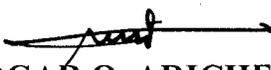
² *Id.* at 45-46.

³ *Id.* at 42.

proceeded with caution in dropping petitioner from the case on the ground of lack of probable cause considering the preliminary nature of the evidence before it. This Court agrees with the observation of the appellate court that it is implausible for petitioner, the owner and president of the recruitment agency that hired the alleged victims of human trafficking, to have no knowledge or participation in the illegal recruitment by her employees of said victims. The fact that there was no direct testimony indicating that petitioner contracted with the victims does not absolutely support a finding of lack of probable cause against petitioner considering that conspiracy has been alleged. Conspiracy need not be directly proved,⁴ as it may be inferred from proof of facts and circumstances showing unity of purpose and unity in the execution of an unlawful objective. The allegation of conspiracy against petitioner is better left ventilated before the trial court where she can adduce evidence to prove or disprove its presence.⁵

SO ORDERED.” BERSAMIN, J., on official leave; **REYES, J.**, designated acting member per S.O. No. 1892 dated November 28, 2014. **PEREZ, J.**, on official leave; **CARPIO, J.**, designated acting member per S.O. No. 1899 dated December 3, 2014.

Very truly yours,


EDGAR O. ARICHETA
Division Clerk of Court
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Judgment Division (x)
Supreme Court

Court of Appeals (x)
Manila
(CA-G.R. SP No. 122095)

The Solicitor General (x)
Makati City

The Hon. Presiding Judge
Regional Trial Court, Br. 254
Las Piñas City 1740
(Crim. Case Nos. 10-0708 & 10-0318)

Public Information Office (x)
Library Services (x)
Supreme Court
(For uploading pursuant to A.M.
No. 12-7-1-SC)

SR

⁴ See *People v. Sandiganbayan* (Special Division), 556 Phil. 596 (2007).

⁵ *People v. Henry T. Go*, G.R. No. 168539, March 25, 2014; citation omitted.



