Republic of the Philippines

REGIONAL TRIAL COURT

11th Judicial Region

Branch 57

Mabini, Compostela Valley

The People of the Philippines, Plaintiff,

CRIM. CASE NO.435-2019

-for-

-versus-

VIOLATION OF SECTION 5, ARTICLE II OF R.A. 9165

ORDER

Accused, Paul Carnejo Tolentino through counsel, Atty. Mitos Shiela P. Evangelista filed a Motion to allow accused to Plea Bargain pursuant to Administrative Matter No. 18-03-16-SC (Adoption of the Plea Bargaining Framework in Drugs Cases) and OCA Circular No. 90-2018.

The prosecution, through Prosecutor Rucel C. Cayetano interposed its objection to said plea bargaining proposal.

Meanwhile, accused through counsel, was able to submit the requisite court clearances secured from the different courts of Davao del Norte and Compostela Valley Provinces as well as a Certification from Davao Penal Colony (DAPECOL) that he was not previously charged nor convicted for violation of any of the provision of R.A. 9165.

With the submission of court clearances and Certification from Davao Penal Colony (DAPECOL), this court is convinced that accused, Paul Carnejo Tolentino is not a repeat offender of pertinent drugs laws particularly R.A. 9165 and hence, may be given the opportunity to avail of plea bargaining pursuant to Administrative Matter No. 18-03-16-SC (Adoption of the Plea Bargaining Framework in Drugs Cases) and OCA Circular No. 90-2018.

Consequently, this court, exercising its discretion **APPROVES** the plea bargaining proposal of accused, Paul Carnejo Tolentino to plead guilty to the lesser offense of Violation of Section 12 of R.A. 9165.

The Court **APPROVES** the said plea bargaining proposal over and above the objection of the prosecution through Prosecutor Rucel C. Cayetano, who is proscribed by DOJ Dept. Circular No. 027 dated June 26, 2018 to give consent to such plea bargaining proposal.

Accused shall accordingly be **RE-ARRAIGNED** and **SENTENCED** on June 27, 2019 at 8:30 in the morning at Provincial Capitol Compound, Brgy. Cabidianan, Nabunturan, Compostela Valley Province.

SO ORDERED.

Given this 25th day of JUNE 2019 at Mabini, Compostela Valley Province, Philippines.

CELESTIAL V. ARANDA-GONZALES

Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

Pros. Rucel C. Cayetano
Office of the Provincial Prosecutor
Nabunturan, Comval Province

Atty. Mitos Shiela P. Evangelista Counsel for the Accused PAO, Mabini, Comval Province

Paul Carnejo Tolentino (Accused) PRC, Mankilam, Tagum City, Davao del Norte

PDEA Regional Office XI Camp Capt. Domingo E. Leonor, San Pedro Street, Davao City

CVAG/cmsd