

BASIC : LETTER/OPINION DATED JUNE 21, 2010, FROM MR. ESTEBAN VALENCIA, JR. OF POBLACION, COMPOSTELA, CEBU

3rd Indorsement

July 5, 2010

Respectfully returned to Ms. Edna G. Vicoy, OIC-Provincial Director, DILG Cebu Provincial Office, the herein basic communication from Mr. Esteban Valencia of Poblacion, Compostela expressing his view/opinion on a katarungang pambarangay case. Mr. E. Valencia after a lengthy discussion concluded that complainant has no cause of action against the respondents.

Let it be stressed at the start that the main purpose of the Katarungang Pambarangay Law is to effect an amicable settlement of disputes among family and barangay members at the barangay level without judicial recourse and consequently relieve the courts of docket congestion. **The lupon does not decide cases.** It is vested only with conciliation function. It is not a court of law (Gonzales vs. CA, G.R. No. L-59495-97, June 26, 1987). It is not within the ambit of the katarungang pambarangay to determine who has a better right. It may simplify the issues to facilitate the settlement of the dispute. If the parties cannot reach an agreement, the issuance of a certification to file action will necessarily follow.

PEDRO A. NOVAL, JR.
Regional Director