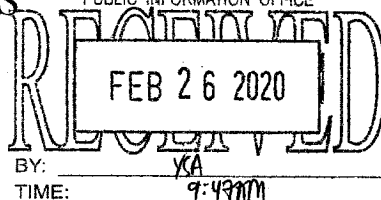




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUPREME COURT
Manila
SECOND DIVISION

SUPREME COURT OF THE PHILIPPINES
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



NOTICE

Sirs/Mesdames:

*Please take notice that the Court, Second Division, issued a Resolution dated **22 January 2020** which reads as follows:*

“G.R. No. 249218 (Erlinda B. Claro, Elsie B. Avenido, and Alfredo L. Bentulan *v.* Julieta O. Del Valle, assisted by her husband, Cyril Del Valle). – The Court resolves to **GRANT** petitioners Erlinda B. Claro, Elsie B. Avenido, and Alfredo L. Bentulan’s (petitioners) motion for extension of thirty (30) days from the expiration of the reglementary period within which to file a petition for review on *certiorari*.

After a judicious study of the case, the Court further resolves to **DENY** the instant petition¹ and **AFFIRM** the June 29, 2018 Decision² and the August 29, 2019 Resolution³ of the Court of Appeals (CA) in CA-G.R. SP No. 10494 for failure of petitioners to sufficiently show that the CA committed any reversible error in affirming the rulings of the court *a quo*.

As correctly ruled by the CA, respondent Julieta O. Del Valle is lawfully entitled to ownership and possession of the subject property by virtue of the certificate of title⁴ in her name.⁵ Likewise, the CA correctly held that petitioners failed to substantiate their defense of ownership for lack of sufficient evidence to prove the purported oral contract of sale.⁶ In this regard, case law provides that a certificate of title, as the best proof of ownership of land, prevails over bare and unsubstantiated allegations of ownership, and must be presumed valid in the absence of contrary evidence.⁷ Moreover, it bears stressing that factual findings of the trial courts, when adopted and confirmed by the CA, are binding and

¹ Rollo, pp. 12-26.

² Id. at 68-76. Penned by Associate Justice Edward B. Contreras with Associate Justices Edgardo L. Delos Santos (now a member of this Court) and Louis P. Acosta, concurring.

³ Id. at 40-41. Penned by Associate Justice Edward B. Contreras with Associate Justices Edgardo L. Delos Santos (now a member of this Court) and Emily R. Alifio-Geluz, concurring.

⁴ Not attached to the rollo.

⁵ See rollo, p. 35.

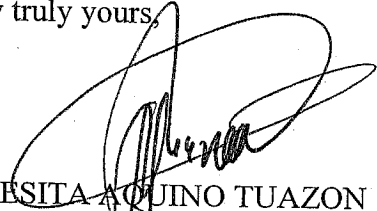
⁶ See id. at 36.

⁷ See *Spouses Cruz v. Heirs of So Hiong*, G.R. No. 228641, November 5, 2018.

conclusive on this Court and will generally not be reviewed on appeal, absent any of the exceptions laid down by jurisprudence,⁸ as in this case.

SO ORDERED. (Reyes, A., Jr. and Hernando, JJ., on official leave. Delos Santos, J., no part due to prior action in the CA, Reyes, J., Jr., J., designated Additional Member per Raffle dated January 6, 2020.)”

Very truly yours,



TERESITA AQUINO TUAZON
Deputy Division Clerk of Court
13 FEB 2020

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HON. PRESIDING JUDGE (reg)
Regional Trial Court, Branch 52
Talibon, 6325 Bohol
(Civil Case No. 0522)

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GR249218. 1/22/2020(130)URES

⁸ See *Insular Investment and Trust Corporation v. Capital One Equities Corporation*, 686 Phil. 819, 830-831 (2012).