

**THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE, VS.
AURELIO ONAROSA, DEFENDANT-APPELLANT.**

G.R. No. L-30256. July 16, 1984

Ponente: RELOVA, J.

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/880d0d28f34a/>

RELOVA, J.:

Considering that accused-appellant Aurelio Onarosa died on January 26, 1984 and the findings of facts and of accused-appellant's guilt by the defunct Court of First Instance of Samar were confirmed by this Court in its decision of February 29, 1984 (which could not produce any legal effect insofar as the accused-appellant's criminal liability is concerned by virtue of his prior death), the Court nevertheless resolved to exercise jurisdiction over the accused's civil liability (*People vs. Sendaydiego*, 81 SCRA 120) since it has been duly established beyond reasonable doubt that said accused-appellant "was the assailant and the one responsible for the death of Juan Balagasay" (Decision, page 11), and the victim's heirs not having reserved the right to file a separate civil action, it would be a superfluity to compel them at this late stage to still litigate or file another suit for indemnity for his death.

ACCORDINGLY, in the interest of justice and in fairness to the heirs of the deceased-victim, Juan Balagasay, the accused-appellant's estate is hereby sentenced to indemnify the heirs of Juan Balagasay in the sum of P30,000.00.

SO ORDERED.

Teehankee, (Chairman), Gutierrez, Jr., and De La Fuente, JJ., concur.

Melencio-Herrera, J., on leave.

Plana, J., concurs. It is utterly absurd to require a civil suit to prove by mere preponderance of evidence what, as here, has already been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.