

SC ADMINISTRATIVE CIRCULAR NO. 11-93, June 30, 1993

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TO

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ALL EXECUTIVE JUDGES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS

SUBJECT

:

SUPERVISION OVER NOTARIES PUBLIC

Our attention has been called to the practice of some notaries public performing their duties along sidewalks, and worse, without a formal office. This practice degrades the dignity of the legal profession hence must be enjoined. Law is a profession, not a mere money-making trade, and lawyers are officers of the court.

Executive Judges, who are now charged with the appointment and supervision of notaries public (Secs. 232 and 248 of Act No. 2657, as amended by E.O. No. 41, dated 11 May 1945), are hereby directed to monitor closely the activities of notaries public with the end in view of ensuring the integrity and effectiveness of their office, conformably with Canon 2 of the Canons of Professional Responsibility which provides: "A lawyer shall make his legal services available in an efficient and convenient manner compatible with the independence, integrity and effectiveness of the profession"

The Executive Judges concerned may impose appropriate administrative sanctions against erring notaries public, including but not limited to the suspension, withdrawal or cancellation of their commissions.

June 30, 1993.

(Sgd.) ANDRES R. NARVASA

Chief Justice

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