

# THE PRACTICE OF LAW

"the practice of law means any activity, in or out of court, which requires the application of the law, legal procedure, knowledge, training, and experience."



# **HOW TO BECOME A LICENSED LAWYER?**

1. OBTAIN A
BACHELOR'S
DEGREE

2. OBTAIN A
JURIS
DOCTOR
DEGREE

3. TAKE AND PASS THE BAR EXAMINATION

# RESOURCES FOR FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCES

# RESOURCE PERSON #1



### **ATTY. ROBERTO EUGENIO T. CADIZ**

- Graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy from the University of the Philippines
- Graduated with an LLB from the University of the Philippines College of Law
- The focal commissioner for Business and Human Rights; Environment; International Humanitarian Law; Peace; and Sustainable Development Goals at the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) of the Republic of the Philippines

# **WORK BACKGROUND**

- Atty. Cadiz has been practicing law for 30 years. He always had a natural inclination to law.
- Prior to working for the CHR, he worked as a freelance lawyer. He worked with a range of cases and did not have a specialty.
- Currently, his office handles matters relating to human rights violations.

# A DAY IN A LIFE

- As a commissioner, lots of meetings with his team, discussing bills relating to human rights with the congress, preparing speeches for when he faces the media and for diplomatic matters.
- As a freelance lawyer, he would work on cases, do some research and prepare evidence for court cases, and meet with clients.

### **CHALLENGES IN THE FIELD**

- They receive threats from the current government administration (budget cuts, physical threats, etc.).
- He overcomes these by standing his ground and standing by what is right by the law.
- Due to the pandemic, he and his office undergone many changes and adjustments.
- Most new lawyers go through a "starvation period".

### WHAT KEEPS HIM MOTIVATED

- He finds it fulfilling that he gets to do what he loves and what he is passionate about. He also likes how he is able to help those less fortunate achieve justice that they rightfully deserve.
- He also has a sense of duty and commitment to his current position in the CHR.

# **ADVICE**

- Have discipline
- Do hard work
- Have faith

# RESOURCE PERSON #2



### **ATTY. VIRGILIO R.DE LOS REYES**

- Graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in BS Business Administration from the University of the Philippines
- Graduated with an LLB from the University of the Philippines College of Law
- Graduated with an MA in International Affairs at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy of Tufts University.
- Served as Secretary of Agrarian Reform under the administration of President Benigno Aquino III
- Dean of the De La Salle University
   College of Law (teaching constitutional law)

# **WORK BACKGROUND**

- Atty. De Los Reyes has been practicing law for more than 30 years. He confirmed that he wanted to practice law when he had talks and lectures from Ka Pepe Diokno.
- Prior to being the Dean for DLSU's College of Law, he was a secretary for the Department of Agrarian Reform.
- Currently, he is a Dean who teaches constitutional law.

# A DAY IN THE LIFE

- As a law professor and school administrator, he would prepare for his classes in the morning. The afternoon is used for doing administrative work such as looking through syllabi, talking to the other educators in the department, and speaking to students. He teaches in the evening since most of his students are on the evening program.
- The teaching style in almost all law schools is based on very heavy interaction between students and the professor.

### **CHALLENGES IN THE FIELD**

- It is a challenge for him to relate to his students.
- You can't teach law just theoretically.
- It is a challenge for him to get used to teaching through online platforms.
- As a practicing lawyer, a risk that they have is they take responsibility for their client.
- The job is high-stress.

# WHAT KEEPS HIM MOTIVATED

- He is able to form the hearts and minds of the future generations of lawyers.
- He has faith that his students will turn out to be who they will be.

# **ADVICE**

- Have empathy
- Be diligent
- Be creative
- Know your "why" for it will serve as your North Star.

# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

