

## **Serving the Public Interest by Promoting the Cause of Effective and Efficient Administration of Justice in the country as Atty. Dario's Personal Advocacy**

*"The law profession is a branch of the administration of justice and not a mere money-getting trade." [Canons of Professional Ethics]*

*"In the Philippines, where the stability of courts and of all departments of government rests upon the approval of the people, it is peculiarly essential that the system for establishing and dispensing justice be developed to a high point of efficiency and so maintained that the public shall have absolute confidence in the integrity and impartiality of its administration. The future of the Republic, to a great extent, depends upon our maintenance of justice pure and unsullied. It cannot be so maintained unless the conduct and the motives of the members of our profession are such as to merit the approval of all just men. [Ibid]*

The above precepts governing the profession have led Atty. Dario to pursue his personal advocacy to serve the public interest in his own small way by promoting the cause of efficient and effective administration of justice in the country.

Atty. Dario thus has on-going pro-bono work involving simple government employees with a consumer rights-related cause of action against a well-known giant retailer; for Filipino OFW's who are victims of human trafficking by unscrupulous foreign and local manpower recruitment groups; the FLRF which, as noted earlier, was founded in the 1970's and which promotes the advancement of the social and economic status of small farmers; and for non-government organizations with environment-related causes.

During his two-year term for the period 2005-2007 as a Director of the Chapter for the four major Metro Manila cities of Pasay, Las Piñas, Parañaque and Muntinlupa, of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines ["IBP"], the national organization of lawyers officially recognized and supervised by the Philippine Supreme Court, he was active in the screening of and the recommendation of prospective applicants or candidates to be **Judges** in the first and second level **courts** over these Cities which the Chapter has jurisdiction.

As such Chapter Director and also as a founding and an incumbent trustee of the Muntinlupa Bar Association, the local working arm of the IBP for the City of Muntinlupa, he assisted in organizing and holding continuing legal education lectures for fellow lawyer-practitioners, as well as dialogues between and among the Chapter, **Judges** and **Prosecutors**, serving in these major Metro Manila cities of Pasay, Las Piñas, Parañaque and Muntinlupa, to help initiate and implement reforms in the administration of justice and the criminal justice system. He was active also in the Chapter's **Legal Aid program** for indigent clients and in extending donations in the form of law books and resource materials to law schools and concerned government offices.