



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
Region XI  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF DIGOS CITY**  
Digos City



**Division Advisory No. 036 s.2020**  
March 6, 2020

**Invitation from ERASTO FILMS Regarding the Women-Centric Film Entitled "Verdict"**

1. DECS Order No. 28, s. 2001 authorizes this Department/Division to disseminate information on suggested competitive events, scholarship and training opportunities for our teachers, students and pupils. These are issued as ADVISORIES, purely for field information. Participation is on the basis of personal judgement, time and resources.
2. Attached are copies of the DepED Region XI Advisory No. 021 dated February 26, 2020 and the letter from the ERASMO FILMS regarding an interactive women-centric film entitled "Verdict" which is recommended by the Philippine Commission on Women (PWC) as a Gender and Development activity (GAD).
3. Teacher-participants should observe "**No disruption of Classes**" per DepED Order Number 9, s. 2005 entitled: "Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-On-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith", and no **DepED funds** be utilized for the said purpose.
4. Details of the said activity are found in the enclosure.
5. For information and dissemination.

  
**CRISTY C. EPE**  
Schools Division Superintendent

DepEd Schools Division of Digos City,  
RECORDS SECTION  
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References: DepEd Regional Advisory  
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:  
Governance HRD ERASMO FILMS  
March 6, 2020



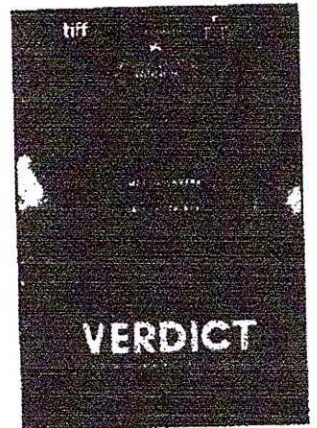
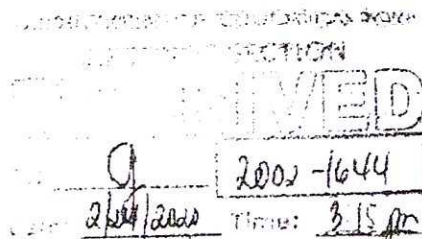
**Pelikulove**  
erasto  
FILMS



*The challenge to Women's Month today is how to really make a difference in bringing awareness of a problem to strength and rightful action!*

February 21, 2020

**Ms. Evelyn R. Fetalvero**  
Office of the Regional Director  
Department of Education  
Regional Office XI  
Jacinto Extension, Corner F. Torres,  
Bajada, Davao City,  
8000 Davao del Sur



Dear Ma'am/Sir,

Peace and a blessed New Year from all of us at ERASTO FILMS!

Just last November, we were able to secure rights to distribute "Verdict" an internationally-acclaimed film and the Philippines' entry to the Oscars, which almost perfectly depicts the grueling journey of a wife's legal battle against her abusive husband.

Launched in time for the Campaign to End Violence Against Women (VAW) last year, we were able to screen in 20 government agencies with an inspiring discussion crafted from the sharing of our campaign head, Ann Angala, on how she survived and finally freed herself from domestic violence after 18 years and five children (*please see attached article*).

**ERASTO FILMS** is a company whose mission is to make advocacy cinema accessible to everyone.

We believe "Verdict" is the perfect follow-up to "Boses" which we produced and have been distributing locally and worldwide for 11 years now not only in film festivals but in thousands of government agencies, schools, LGU's, NGO's, and communities with a discussion on Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) — an issue that is cultural and is deeply rooted in childhood.

Based on real events, "Verdict" (2019) takes us to the "lion's den", so gripping, one cannot take one's eyes off the screen. Written and directed by Raymund Ribay Gutierrez, it stars *Max Eigenmann, Best Actress at Asia Pacific Screen Awards and the late Kristoffer King, Best Performance for Final Role at the Singapore International Film Festival Silver Screen Awards*. Produced by globally-recognized director **Brillante Mendoza's Center Stage Productions**, "Verdict" is **recommended by the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) as a Gender and Development activity (GAD)** (*please see attached*).

We would like to offer your office an interactive women-centric film seminar that takes off from the screening of the film to a practical discussion on the laws on domestic violence vis-a-vis what is happening in reality, to contextualize the gap between statistics of abuse in one out of four women, to a mere 11,000 actual filing of cases. The discussion is meant to counter the fear and lack of support for the reporting and filing of cases to equipping women on how to see the red flags in relationships as a preventive measure to win VAW legal cases.

We believe this is a pressing cultural issue as it is a legal issue and that to achieve a VAW-Free Philippines, we must first be able to show perspectives and engage in dialogues in order to change mindsets for the better and thus, gain real community support for rightful action and true emancipation.





## 18-DAY CAMPAIGN TO END VAW RECOMMENDED FILMS FOR 2019

The Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) recognizes film as a powerful medium in raising awareness on Violence Against Women (VAW) and inspiring action against it. It also serves as catalyst for discourses/dialogues on VAW, highlighting the experiences and plight of the VAW-victim survivors. Thus, the PCW recommends the following films that tackle the issue of VAW for film showing by agencies, partners, and stakeholders as part of their activities during the 18-Day Campaign to End VAW from November 25 to December 12, 2019.

As part of the selection process, producers and distributors accomplished a form setting out the context of the film in relation to VAW. All films were reviewed by the PCW, to ensure that these abide with the criteria and that the production house/company understands the terms and conditions for the screening.

Since the film showing activity should complement the overall advocacy on VAW, organizers and film producers are strongly advised to process insights and reflections conveyed by the film right after the film showing. Copyright to the recommended films remain with the producers and they remain independent from the PCW.

### 1. **Verdict (R13 / CEB Graded A)**

Joy and her six-year-old daughter Angel live in Manila, with her husband, Dante, a small-time criminal. As so often in the past, Dante comes home drunk at night and beats Joy brutally. This time, he also hurts Angel. Joy grabs her daughter and flees to the local police post to finally get him sent to jail. Justice, Joy learns, takes time at best and is impossible to get at worst.

**Director:** Raymund Ribay Gutierrez

**Production house/company:**

Brillante Mendoza's Center Stage Productions

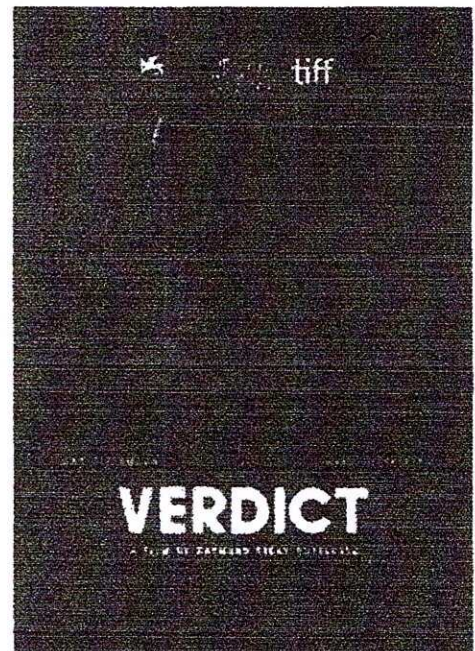
**Contact person and details:**

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#### Disclaimer:

The PCW only recommends the films to agencies and stakeholders. The decision on what film to use in their activities remains with the agency, and shall be based on their own selection and screening process, and in accordance with applicable rules on procurement and security. The PCW shall not be a party to the contract between the agency/organization and

