



# VANESSA G. FERMIL-CERVANTES

## Partner

### Practice Areas

Litigation, Labor and Employment Law, Transactional Law, Immigration Law, Election Law, and Corporate Law

### Licenses

- Philippine Bar License (2012)

## Work Experience

*Litigation.* Vanessa has litigated land, property and contract disputes, collection of debt transactions, injunctions and damages. She also has prosecuted and defended individuals for syndicated estafa, falsification, concubinage, child abuse, among others.

*Transactional Law.* As to her transactional law practice, she has conducted various due diligence review over properties to be acquired or leased by individuals, start-up companies and established local corporations. She has also reviewed, drafted and negotiated contracts on behalf of her clients not only to ensure that they get the best deals out of the agreements but to guarantee that their rights were protected and that the contracts were compliant of the Philippine laws and rules.

*Labor and Employment Law.* Her labor and employment law practice includes advisories to clients on employee disputes and illegal dismissal cases. She also provided assistance in the drafting of employee manuals and employee code of conduct.

Atty. Vanessa mainly handles civil and criminal litigation matters. With over a decade of legal experience, Vanessa has represented and assisted numerous clients in different stages of litigation. She has also facilitated a multitude of legal transactions ranging from real estate due diligence to legal retainerships.

Before setting up FFOA Law Office with her partners, Vanessa began her private practice as associate lawyer in two litigation firms in Davao City where she represented plaintiff and defendant individuals and corporations particularly on land registration and property-related disputes, family law, immigration law and employment law. She has also served as election lawyer for different election candidates in both National and Local elections.

To further broaden her legal practice, Vanessa joined a local electric company as their in-house counsel. She later joined a legal outsourcing company as their commercial attorney, where she reviewed and negotiated commercial contracts and provided legal advisories to recruitment firms on legal compliance and risk assessments, employment regulations, and data privacy laws in the Philippines and other countries in the Asia Pacific Region.

## Education

- Elementary School: Assumption College of Nabunturan (1992-1998)
- High School: Nabunturan National Comprehensive Highschool (1998 - 2002)
- College: University of the Philippines, Manila, Bachelor of Arts in Area Studies (2002 to 2006)
- Law School: Ateneo de Davao University Law School, Juris Doctor (2006-2011)

## Previous Employment

- Augment Legal Offshoring, Inc., Senior Commercial Attorney (2016-2018)
- Carrillo, Ceniza & Carnicer, Esq., Associate Lawyer (2013-2016)
- Davao del Norte Electric Cooperative, In-house Counsel (2012-2013)
- Paderna Dominguez and Tan Law Offices, Junior Associate Lawyer (2012)

## Honors & Awards

- University of the Philippines, Manila, Bachelor of Arts in Area Studies, Dean's Lister (2004 to 2006)

## Speaking Engagements

- Poll Watcher Orientation Seminar (2013)
- DANECO Membership Seminar (2012)

## Publication

- The Global Legal Post, "New Law: The Quiet Revolution" (2016)