

# **Dasmariñas City Hall of Justice**

A Thesis Presented to the Faculty of Architecture Department De La Salle University – Dasmarinas Dasmarinas, Cavite

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#### ABSTRACT

The proposed Dasmariñas City Hall of Justice was designed in response to the inadequate, congested and unfit spaces observed in the existing judicial offices in the city of Dasmariñas. The architectural proposal aims to have a breakthrough on the judicial branch of the city by allotting spaces that will satisfy the needs of its users with the feeling of comfortability, accessibility and security.

Dasmariñas is what we can say as an emerging city as observed in the past years after its cityhood proclamation. As the city's population increases, it was observed that the crime rate of the city also increases which makes the city to be the front runner in terms of crime rate. Having observed this problem, its judicial branch, who manages to take charge in dealing with the interpretation of the law through case hearings, was observed to be left behind. The increasing number of caseloads of the city causes its judicial offices to have piles of files and evidences for review. Those piles of documents makes its existing offices congested leaving the work place to be stressful making its users to prolong their work. Last 2013, according to the city government, an expansion in the judicial branch of the city passed the Congress making 2 lower courts to be 5 to accompany the backlog in terms of solving the cases filed in the city. Having this expansion, the city has to propose a structure that would cater its courts to accommodate the cases in the city.

The project proposal would create an iconic edifice that will serve as a city's symbol in the field of good governance. The architectural approach is in a form of LUMINA (illumination) where all aspects affecting architecture would be exhibited through enlightenment. The proposal also aims to promote a sense of supremacy through designing a structure which possesses a character anchored to the objectives of the government. The form character would be in Neo-classical in accordance to the provisions of the Supreme Court. The facility would house the judicial offices of the city having offices like Regional Trial Courts, Municipal Trial Courts, Office of the Clerk of Court, City Prosecutor's Office and Public Attorney's Office which are based



from the city's existing judicial offices. Although the judicial branch of the city government is considered to be small, it should not also be treated small by giving it less priority. These offices function as interpreters of the law which is essential in promoting balance in the city.

This architectural research also desires to help the city of Dasmariñas to excel in providing excellent service to its community, in coming up with a probable solution to the problem of the judicial branch that is in line with their developmental goals; to promote the growth and development in the city of Dasmariñas and to ensure every resident the enjoyment of a satisfactory quality of life through the development of a well-balanced physical environment where economic, social and cultural activities are freely and fully pursued.

Overall, this project suggests a possible solution to the current situation of the judicial branch of the city through having a carefully designed plan of Hall of Justice that would provide maximum comfort and security to its users. Another solution is creating a green building making the government as a prime mover in implementing eco-friendly structures without sacrificing the comfortability and security of its users. This project would also like to open possibilities in introducing new trends in the field of government centers through applying useful utility systems which may improve the mode of work and functions of the facility.

\* Since 1977 \*



"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up." James 4:10

"You don't need to be the first just to prove yourself that you are the best. Being on top gives you no reason to improve yourself. Stay second or at the center, in that position, you will strive more to reach the highest which will give you more rooms for improvement." -Jeremy M. Cresencio, 2014

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To the people who have strive and fought hard to commit a systematic judicial system in the City of Dasmariñas,

to the citizens who believes that justice is the solution of all pain and struggles and

to the zealous who genuinely works for the betterment of the local government and justice sector.





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