Abstract: This study was undertaken to determine the pertinence of P.D. 1508 otherwise known as the Katarungang Pambarangay Law as the standard and mode in the administration of justice in a democratic society.

More specifically, the investigation assessed the knowledge, attitudes and practices of Barangay Lupon members in both urban and rural barangays of Laoag City in relation to the implementation of the Katarungang Pambarangay Law in settling disputes. Basic questions answered in this study include: 1. What is the level of knowledge regarding the Katarungang Pambarangay Law do to Lupon Members of the rural and urban barangays have?; 2. (A) What is the nature and extent of attitudes developed as a natural consequence of previous knowledge gained on the Katarungang Pambarangay among said respondents? (B) Is there a relationship between depth of knowledge gained and the prosperity of attitudes developed?; 3. ) A) What are the respondents’ prevalent practices in the administration of justice currently transpiring in the community? (B) Is there a relationship between knowledge and attitudes in combination, and the formation of desirable practices?

Basically, the study was a descriptive survey that utilized the comparative and correlation techniques. Comparative analysis was to described the difference in depth and latitude between the views, reaction, or perspective of two groups of respondents who represented the Lupon Members of the randomly selected urban and rural barangays in Laoag City. The correlational technique was used for testing the hypotheses to verify the theory that knowledge, attitudes, and desirable practices are, in one way or another interrelated in enhancing the administration of the barangay justice system.
Data gathering was facilitated through the survey method that utilized a face-validated questionnaires that were administered to randomly selected respondents. The data were analyzed through appropriate statistical tools namely, descriptive statistics such as frequency counts, proportion, and the t-test of uncorrelated means; and inferential statistics which utilized the Pearson r, regression analysis, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and Multiple Regression Analysis.

The thorough analysis of the data consequently revealed that the Lupon Members of the Katarungang Pambarangay in both urban and rural barangays possess the necessary information relative to the objectives, philosophy, and principles in order for them to administer the functions of the barangay justice system. The level or extent of such knowledge do not differ in both respondents from urban or rural barangays.

The attitudes of respondents towards the establishment of the Katarungang Pambarangay and the existence of the Lupon in the conciliatory process are favorable. The respondents from the urban and rural barangays agree with the nature, need, benefits and advantages the community folks can derive from the said barangay justice system.

While the respondents have some variations in the activities undertaken for the administration of the Katarungang Pambarangay, the said variations did not at all affect their perception as regards the practices done in the system.

Further analysis showed that the knowledge gained by lupon members does not have significant relationship with the development of their attitudes. However it was found that knowledge and significant relationship with practices in the lupon. Similar findings were noted in the significant relationship that existed between attitudes and practices.

Finally, it was very evident that the combined knowledge gained and the attitudes which respondents ‘developed have contributed to the development of desirable practices towards the administration of the barangay justice system.