

People v. Vallejo: The Precedent for the Admission of DNA Evidence

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SUBJECT(S): REMEDIAL LAW

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While Philippine courts have been slow in adopting modern measures of its U.S. counterparts, factors such as — consistency of DNA test results and the emergence of several scientific laboratories with the proper facilities in the Philippines — signaled the propriety for the Supreme Court to rule upon the admissibility of DNA evidence. Thus, the Court in *People v. Vallejo* set the precedent for the admission of DNA evidence in future proceedings, even without any substantive law prescribing its application.

The Comment's analysis of *Vallejo* includes a legal history of the Court's reception of DNA as evidence — from its non-recognition to its ultimate recognition in *Vallejo*. The Author opines that the Court's interest in DNA evidence, even prior to its ruling in *Vallejo*, portrays the Court's willingness to collaborate with science in the furtherance of justice.