## **GBV CASE IN REGION X**

The minor victim was living with her grandparents in Northern Mindanao while her mother was working abroad. Sometime in September 2016, after she took a bath and while putting some lotion in her body, the victim's grandfather approached the former and told her that the latter will do something on her and if she told the same to her mother and grandmother, it may be the cause of their death and threatened her that no one else will take care of her when that moment happened. Thereafter, the victim's grandfather caressed her breast and genitalia which malicious act was repeated several times. At times during her stay with her grandparents, her grandfather forcibly took off her towel to caress her breast and worse, inserted the former's finger to the latter's private part. The victim, at times, was even forced to kneel down before her grandfather and forcibly insert the latter's genitalia into her mouth.

It was only in the year 2018 that the victim had courage to confide to her mother the crime that was committed by her own grandfather against her when her mother came back from abroad and they finally transferred to Central Luzon Region. Consequently, her grandfather was charged before the court of competent jurisdiction for the crimes of Acts of Lasciviousness and Rape through Sexual Assault as defined under the Revised Penal Code.

As to date, the case filed before the court is being monitored by the Commission. However, the Commission failed to get in touch with the guardian who assisted the filing of the case but to no avail. The Commission will continue its attempt to communicate with the guardian in order to provide updates pertaining to the case. The case is for monitoring and legal counselling in the region.