

Legal Profession (Mandatory Reporting of Specified Pro Bono Services) Rules 2015

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No. S 96

LEGAL PROFESSION ACT (CHAPTER 161)

LEGAL PROFESSION (MANDATORY REPORTING OF SPECIFIED PRO BONO SERVICES) RULES 2015

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 59(1)(aa) of the Legal Profession Act, the Council of the Law Society of Singapore, with the approval of the Chief Justice, hereby makes the following Rules:

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Legal Profession (Mandatory Reporting of Specified Pro Bono Services) Rules 2015 and come into operation on 1 March 2015.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“charitable or community organisation” means any charitable, religious, civic, community, scientific, medical or educational organisation or institution;

“charity” has the same meaning as in section 2(1) of the Charities Act (Cap. 37);

“disadvantaged individual” means an individual who is disadvantaged in obtaining access to justice due to the individual’s financial circumstances, physical or intellectual disability, physical or mental illness, or lack of education;

“practice year” means the period beginning on 1 April in any calendar year and ending on 31 March in the next calendar year;

“relevant body” means —

- (a) any ministry or department of the Government;
- (b) any Organ of State;
- (c) the Academy;
- (d) the Institute;
- (e) the Society;
- (f) any statutory board;
- (g) the Singapore International Arbitration Centre;
- (h) the Singapore Mediation Centre;
- (i) the Singapore International Mediation Centre;
- (j) the Singapore International Mediation Institute; or
- (k) any other body in Singapore the work of which relates to any relevant matter;

“relevant committee” means a body of persons (such as a board of directors or an executive council) that is the governing body, or a committee, of a society or charity, and that deals with the corporate governance, risk management or audit of the society or charity, or any other matter requiring legal expertise;

“relevant law-related service” means providing legal advice or assistance in connection with the application of the law or legal representation in any form of legal dispute, or any other service the provision of which requires legal knowledge, and includes —

- (a) drafting any written law or quasi-law, any agreement, or any other document intended to have legal effect; and
- (b) providing legal education;

“relevant legal assistance scheme” means any of the following schemes:

- (a) the Legal Aid Scheme provided by the Legal Aid Bureau;
- (b) the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme provided by the Society;
- (c) the Association of Criminal Lawyers of Singapore Legal Advice Scheme;
- (d) the Supreme Court Legal Assistance Scheme for Capital Offences;

“relevant matter” means —

- (a) any matter in Singapore relating to —
 - (i) law reform;
 - (ii) law awareness;
 - (iii) the administration of justice;
 - (iv) access to justice;
 - (v) legal education;
 - (vi) the advancement of the legal profession;
 - (vii) professional conduct and discipline, including serving in any of the following:
 - (A) a Review Committee;
 - (B) an Inquiry Committee;
 - (C) a Disciplinary Tribunal;
 - (D) the Inquiry Panel appointed under section 84 of the Act;
 - (E) an appointing committee appointed in accordance with section 36Q of the Act;
 - (F) a complaints committee appointed under section 36S(5) of the Act; or