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LEGAL PROFESSION ACT (CHAPTER 161)

LEGAL PROFESSION (LAW PRACTICE ENTITIES) (AMENDMENT) RULES 2018

In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 136, 150, 166, 184 and 184B of the Legal Profession Act, the Minister for Law makes the following Rules:

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules are the Legal Profession (Law Practice Entities) (Amendment) Rules 2018 and come into operation on 1 August 2018.

Amendment of rule 2

2. Rule 2(1) of the Legal Profession (Law Practice Entities) Rules 2015 (G.N. No. S 699/2015) (called in these Rules the principal Rules) is amended —

- (*a*) by inserting, immediately after the definitions of "conveyancing account", "conveyancing (CPF) account" and "conveyancing money", the following definition:
 - ""equity holding director", in relation to a law corporation or a foreign law practice constituted as a corporation, means a director of the law corporation or foreign law practice who holds equity interests in the law corporation or foreign law practice (as the case may be);";
- (b) by deleting the words "separate licensed foreign law practices (each being a sole proprietorship or a partnership)" in the definition of "foreign group practice" and substituting the words "licensed foreign law practices"; and

(c) by deleting the words "separate law firms" in the definition of "Singapore group practice" and substituting the words "Singapore law practices".

Amendment of rule 11

3. Rule 11 of the principal Rules is amended by deleting the words "telephone and fax numbers" in paragraph (d) and substituting the words "telephone number".

Amendment of rule 19

4. Rule 19 of the principal Rules is amended by deleting the words "telephone and fax numbers" in paragraph (d) and substituting the words "telephone number".

Amendment of rule 31

5. Rule 31 of the principal Rules is amended by deleting the words "telephone and fax numbers" in paragraph (d) and substituting the words "telephone number".

Amendment of rule 40

6. Rule 40 of the principal Rules is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words "law firms" in paragraphs (1) and (2)(a) and (b) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practices"; and
- (b) by deleting paragraph (3).

Amendment of rule 41

- 7. Rule 41 of the principal Rules is amended
 - (a) by deleting the words "sole proprietors and partners" in paragraphs (1), (9) and (16) and substituting in each case the words "sole proprietors, partners and directors";
 - (b) by deleting the words "law firms" wherever they appear in paragraphs (1), (5)(*a*), (9), (12), (14) and (16) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practices"; and

(c) by deleting the words "law firm" wherever they appear in paragraphs (1)(b), (5), (8), (10) and (12) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practice".

Amendment of rule 42

8. Rule 42 of the principal Rules is amended —

- (*a*) by deleting the words "law firms" in paragraph (1) and substituting the words "Singapore law practices"; and
- (b) by deleting the words "law firm" wherever they appear in paragraphs (2) and (3) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practice".

Amendment of rule 43

9. Rule 43 of the principal Rules is amended by deleting the words "law firm" in paragraphs (3) and (4) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practice".

Amendment of rule 44

10. Rule 44 of the principal Rules is amended —

(a) by deleting paragraph (1) and substituting the following paragraph:

"(1) A Singapore group practice may be managed by a person (called in this rule and rules 45 and 46 the manager) who —

- (*a*) need not be any Singapore law practice in the Singapore group practice; and
- (b) need not be a sole proprietor, partner or director of any Singapore law practice in the Singapore group practice.";
- (b) by deleting the words "law firms" in paragraph (2) and substituting the words "Singapore law practices"; and
- (c) by deleting the words "law firm" in the definition of "management services" in paragraph (3) and substituting the words "Singapore law practice".

Amendment of rule 45

- 11. Rule 45 of the principal Rules is amended
 - (a) by deleting the words "law firms" in paragraphs (1), (2) and(3) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practices"; and
 - (b) by deleting the words "law firm" in paragraph (3) and substituting the words "Singapore law practice".

Amendment of rule 46

12. Rule 46 of the principal Rules is amended —

- (*a*) by deleting the words "law firm" wherever they appear in paragraphs (1) and (2) and substituting in each case the words "Singapore law practice"; and
- (b) by deleting the words "manager of and other law firms in the Singapore group practice, and their respective estates" in paragraph (1)(b) and substituting the words "manager (if any) of and other Singapore law practices in the Singapore group practice, and the estates of the manager (if any) and of every sole proprietor or partner of any other Singapore law practice (being a law firm) in the Singapore group practice".

Amendment of rule 47

13. Rule 47 of the principal Rules is amended by deleting the words "another law firm" and substituting the words "another Singapore law practice".

Amendment of rule 51

14. Rule 51(2) of the principal Rules is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words "directors of such corporation" in sub-paragraph (c) and substituting the words "equity holding directors of the foreign law practice"; and
- (b) by deleting the words "directors of such law corporation" in sub-paragraph (e) and substituting the words "equity holding directors of the law corporation".