

Bridging Ideas. Connecting People

annual report 2013



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF SINGAPORE



Bridging Ideas. Connecting People



Elgin Bridge is used as a metaphor in the 2013 Annual Report to represent our focus on communication and outreach to members.

Bridges connect people and places and enable the passage of ideas. Bridges open up opportunities for communities to be helped, they reduce isolation and bring society together.

Elgin Bridge, which is a stone's throw from the Law Society's office, is a vehicular and pedestrian bridge across the Singapore River, linking both North and South Bridge Road.

The existing bridge was completed in 1929 and named after Lord Elgin, Governor-General of India (1862-1863). As this was the first bridge spanning the river, the two roads leading to it were accordingly named North Bridge Road and South Bridge Road.

Elgin Bridge is also known as *thih tiau kio* in the Hokkien dialect, meaning "iron suspension bridge".

In 2008, Elgin Bridge was marked for conservation as part of the Urban Redevelopment Authority's expanded conservation programme, reflecting its prominence in Singapore's history and heritage.

our people

Our Mission	5
The Council	6
The Executive Committee	7
Council Report	8
The Secretariat	10
President's Message	11
CEO's Report	15
Treasurer's Report	18
Audit Committee Report	21
Year in Review	22
Statistics	31

pro bono services

Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	35
Community Legal Clinics	44
Criminal Legal Aid Scheme	54

contents

Law Awareness	56
Project Law Help	58

growing our practice

Advocacy	63
Alternative Dispute Resolution	64
Civil Practice	66
Continuing Professional Development	68
Conveyancing Practice	70
Corporate Practice	72
Criminal Practice	73
Family Law Practice	75
Information Technology	77
Insolvency Practice	78
Intellectual Property	80

growing our practice

International Relations	82
Muslim Law Practice	84
NIMA-PIMA	85
Probate Practice	86
Publications	88
Public and International Law	90
Small Law Firms	91
Social and Welfare	92
Solicitors' Accounts Rules	94
Sports	96
Young Lawyers	98

enhancing professional standards

Admissions	103
Anti-Money Laundering	105
Ethics	106
Inquiries into Inadequate Professional Services	107

contents

Report of the Inquiry Panel	108
-----------------------------	-----

serving the community

Compensation Fund	117
Professional Indemnity	118

acknowledgements

123

auditor's report

pages in grey



our people





our mission

To serve our members and the community by sustaining a competent and independent Bar which upholds the rule of law and ensures access to justice.

the council



Seated: ¹Young Chee Foong, ²Kelvin Wong (Treasurer), ³Leo Cheng Suan (Vice-President),
⁴Lok Vi Ming, SC (President), ⁵Thio Shen Yi, SC (Vice-President),
⁶Wong Meng Meng, SC (Immediate Past President), ⁷Lim Seng Siew

Standing: ⁸Anand Nalachandran, ⁹Tan Joon Liang Josephus, ¹⁰Tan Gim Hai Adrian, ¹¹See Chern Yang,
¹²Simran Kaur Toor, ¹³Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel, ¹⁴Tang Bik Kwan Hazel, ¹⁵Lisa Sam Hui Min,
¹⁶Gregory Vijayendran, ¹⁷Kenneth See, ¹⁸Michael S. Chia, ¹⁹Sean Francois La'Brooy, ²⁰Lee Terk Yang

Not in main picture:



Kuah Boon Theng



Moiz Haider Sithawalla

the executive committee



Seated: ¹Leo Cheng Suan, ²Lok Vi Ming, SC, ³Thio Shen Yi, SC

Standing: ⁴Anand Nalachandran, ⁵Kelvin Wong, ⁶Lim Seng Siew

Not in main picture:



Kuah Boon Theng

council report

Outgoing Council Members for 2012

The term of the following Council members ended on 31 December 2012:

Rajan Menon
Koh Theng Jer Christopher
Kang Yixian

Council Members for the Period 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013

Senior Category (not less than 12 years' standing)

Lok Vi Ming, SC (President)
Leo Cheng Suan (Vice-President)
Thio Shen Yi, SC (Vice-President)
Kelvin Wong (Treasurer)
Wong Meng Meng, SC (Immediate Past President)
Young Chee Foong
Lim Seng Siew (Executive Committee Member)
Kuah Boon Theng (Executive Committee Member)
Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel
Tan Gim Hai Adrian
Gregory Vijayendran Ganesamoorthy
Lisa Sam Hui Min
Michael S. Chia

Middle Category (7 to 12 years' standing)

Moiz Haider Sithawalla
Anand Nalachandran (Executive Committee Member)
Sean Francois La'Brooy
Lee Terk Yang
See Chern Yang

Junior Category (less than 7 years' standing)

Tang Bik Kwan Hazel
Tan Joon Liang Josephus
Simran Kaur Toor
Kenneth See (from 18 February 2013)

The following members of Council for 2013 are Statutory Members nominated by the Minister for Law to serve on the Council:

Thio Shen Yi, SC
Kelvin Wong
Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel

The following members of Council for 2013 are Statutory Members nominated by Council to serve on the Council:

Lim Seng Siew
Kuah Boon Theng
Michael S. Chia

Council Meetings

There were 4 ordinary meetings and 1 special meeting of the Council from September 2012 to December 2012. The attendance of members was as follows:

Member	Present	Absent
Wong Meng Meng, SC (President)	5	0
Lok Vi Ming, SC (Vice-President)	4	1
Leo Cheng Suan (Vice-President)	4	1
Kelvin Wong (Treasurer)	1	4
Rajan Menon	3	2
Young Chee Foong	5	0
Lim Seng Siew	4	1
Kuah Boon Theng	5	0
Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel	2	3
Thio Shen Yi, SC	4	1
Lisa Sam Hui Min	3	2
Michael S. Chia	3	2
Moiz Haider Sithawalla	2	3
Koh Theng Jer Christopher	1	4
Anand Nalachandran	4	1
Sean Francois La'Brooy	1	4
Lee Terk Yang	1	4
Ong Pang Yew Shannon	1	4
Tang Bik Kwan Hazel	3	2
Kang Yixian	2	3
Simran Kaur Toor	3	2

There were 8 ordinary meetings and 1 special meeting of the Council from January 2013 to August 2013. The attendance of members was as follows:

Member	Present	Absent
Lok Vi Ming, SC (President)	8	1
Leo Cheng Suan (Vice-President)	8	1
Thio Shen Yi, SC (Vice-President)	6	3
Kelvin Wong (Treasurer)	7	2
Wong Meng Meng, SC (Immediate Past President)	4	5
Young Chee Foong	9	0
Lim Seng Siew	9	0
Kuah Boon Theng	9	0
Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel	2	7
Tan Gim Hai Adrian	8	1
Gregory Vijayendran Ganesamoorthy	8	1
Lisa Sam Hui Min	8	1
Michael S. Chia	6	3
Moiz Haider Sithawalla	4	5
Anand Nalachandran	8	1
Sean Francois La'Brooy	4	5
Lee Terk Yang	2	7
See Chern Yang	6	3
Tang Bik Kwan Hazel	6	3
Tan Joon Liang Josephus	8	1
Simran Kaur Toor	4	5
Kenneth See (from 18 February 2013; not yet appointed to Council in the January and February meetings)	5	2

the secretariat



9 Not in picture

Chief Executive Officer

¹Tan Su-Yin

Compliance

²Kenneth Goh, Director, Department Head

³Kevin Wang, Assistant Director

Conduct

⁴Ambika Rajendram, Director, Department Head

⁵K Gopalan, Director

Representation & Law Reform

⁶Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro, Director,
Department Head

Pro Bono Services

⁷Lim Tanguy Yuteck, Director, Department Head

⁸Nadine Yap, Director

⁹Shahrany Binte Hassan, Director

¹⁰Vimala Chandrarajan Khan, Director

¹¹Babara Seet, Assistant Director

Communications & Membership Interests

¹²Shawn Toh, Director, Department Head

Continuing Professional Development

¹³Jean Wong, Assistant Director, Department Head

Finance

¹⁴Jasmine Liew, Director, Department Head

¹⁵Clifford Hang, Senior Assistant Director

Information Technology

¹⁶Michael Ho, Director, Department Head

Publications

¹⁷Sharmaine Lau, Director, Department Head

president's message

The Family Expands

In my speech at the Opening of the Legal Year 2013, I noted that the number of local lawyers holding practising certificates had exceeded 4,000 for the first time in 2012. This contrasted rather sharply in percentage terms with the 1,579 local lawyers when I joined practice in 1987.

The increase in numbers over the last 26 years was, however, neither uniform nor quite as spectacular as the percentage figures appear to suggest. Although the number of lawyers doubled over the next 10 years to 3,243 in 1997, it was to take another 15 years before the profession would see a net increase of 800 local lawyers in its ranks. In fact, the profession only added a net number of 176 local lawyers in the 10 years between 1997 and 2007.

“

We need now to build on the strong foundations our predecessors laid for us and continue to equip our members with new skills to make sure everyone continues to be relevant in the evolving economy in the years ahead and to make the Law Society and our members even more resilient, not just to survive but to succeed in an increasingly complex society.”

”

This contrasts sharply against the dramatic growth of the profession in the last 2 years. In 2012, a total of 457 local lawyers joined the profession, and in 2013, the number stands at 479 at the time of this Message. The increase in numbers in the last couple of weeks is unprecedented. The local Bar has never been this big and is testament to the popularity of the law course, the high standing of the profession and the robust health of Singapore's economy.

The increase shows no sign of abating. With the second law school at SMU now at full stride, the profession can expect about 450 new entrants to the profession each year, not including graduates from the law courses of 35 approved overseas universities. And of course there is also the third law school coming on stream in a few years.

The legal family has certainly grown. And we are still growing. We need now to build on the strong foundations our predecessors laid for us and continue to equip our members with new skills to make sure everyone continues to be relevant in the evolving economy in the years ahead and to make the Law Society and our members even more resilient, not just to survive but to succeed in an increasingly complex society.

Exciting days lie ahead of us. For sure, fresh challenges await. But challenges need not mean only threats. They can offer opportunities for all of us.

president's message

A Stronger Society Hard at Work

One of the first things my Council and I set about doing upon taking office in January 2013 was to encourage members to join in the activities of the Law Society. We kept open the window for membership in the Society's Committees for an additional 6 weeks until 11 January 2013 and are pleased to note that an estimated 400 members signed up to join a total of 31 Committees this year.

These Committees all contributed significantly to various initiatives and events of the Law Society, including making representations on various legislative reforms, enactments and amendments. A total of 36 public and closed (including Ministry of Law, Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore International Arbitration Centre, etc) representations were made to the various stakeholders in the course of the reporting year. Such participation continues to signal the strong commitment of the Society to the rule of law and strengthens the professional bonds between the Society and the various stakeholders in the legal industry.

Significant projects undertaken by the Law Society with the stakeholders and other important institutions in the community in the course of the year include:

1. Launch of the Pamphlet of Rights with the Attorney-General's Chambers;
2. Law Works Clinics focusing on employment issues in conjunction with NTUC;
3. Know the Law Now! handbook at the launch of Law Week;
4. Launch of the joint "Code of Conduct" between Defence Counsel and Prosecution;
5. Supporting the Community Justice Centre initiative, a new collaboration with the Subordinate Courts, the Ministry of Law, Ministry of Social & Family Development and the Tan Chin Tuan Foundation;
6. Setting up of a 24-hour Appropriate Adult Control Centre to assist with police interviews of persons with suspected intellectual disability, in collaboration with the National Council of Social Service, Ministry of Social & Family Development and the North East Community Development Council;


7. Organising a legal forum for Asatizah on contemporary legal issues and the avenues for legal assistance, together with the Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (MUIS) Academy;
8. Supporting the National Council of Social Service's Workgroup on the Personal Data Protection Act; and
9. Supporting the Singapore Management University School of Law Pro Bono Centre.

The Society meanwhile continues to be involved in a number of important projects with our stakeholders including representation on the sub-committee for the draft new Professional Conduct Rules, support on the working committee with the Subordinate Courts on the Primary Justice Project, the establishment of the International Commercial Court and the setting up of a new Family Court that will usher in a new approach to the resolution of family disputes, to name a few.

The Society remains at the forefront of driving the pro bono initiative, working closely with the Courts, Ministry of Law, the Attorney-General's Chambers, Prisons, the Ministry of Social & Family Development, and the law schools of the universities to expand the scope of as well as customise pro bono activities for the greatest service to the community. On pro bono, the Society is appreciative of the review by the authorities of plans to make pro bono mandatory for every member following our representations. That said, it remains important for members to be informed and challenged to make pro bono a part of their professional DNA and to this end, the Society plans to implement programmes and initiatives that will inspire members to be engaged in pro bono activities voluntarily and compassionately.

In terms of training and equipping of our members, the Society held a total of 60 seminars, conferences, workshops and training sessions. This does not include the advocacy training that the Advocacy Committee of the Society provided for 540 practice trainees this year with the help of 90 trainers, all volunteers from amongst our members. We are particularly proud of and are profoundly grateful for the many volunteers who teach and train at our various training events and programmes.

In January 2013, we organised the 1st Litigation Conference. A total of 6 sessions, 200 participants and 40 local and overseas speakers took part in this inaugural conference.



We were also proud to organise the Society's 4th Biennial Lecture on 13 September 2013. More than 170 members attended the Lecture where guest speakers Mr Christopher Leong, President of the Malaysian Bar Council; and Ms Ambiga Sreenevasan, past President of the Malaysian Bar Council, spoke on "The Role of a Bar Association in Society: The Malaysian Experience".

We were also privileged to host the following delegations who visited our shores over the course of the year. Many of our overseas visitors are often keen to find out about the rule of law, the functions of the Society and our pro bono initiatives. Some of the distinguished visitors to the Society included:

1. President of the Bar Association of Queensland, Mr Roger Traves, SC, and Chief Executive, Mr Daniel L O'Connor on 6 August 2012.
2. The Right Honourable The Lord Igor Judge, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales on 5 September 2012.
3. A delegation from the Shenzhen Lawyers Association on 17 January 2013.
4. Mr Lim Chee Wee, President of the Malaysian Bar Council, Ms Sarojini M Veerasamy, Vice-President of the Brunei Law Society and Mr Dieter Yih, President of the Hong Kong Law Society on 4 January 2013, on the occasion of Singapore's Opening of the Legal Year.
5. President of the International Association of Young Lawyers, Mr Thierry Aballea on 10 April 2013.
6. The Attorney-General of the Union of Myanmar, Dr Tun Shin on 30 April 2013.
7. Members of the Malaysian Bar Council on 17 May 2013.
8. A Secretariat representative from the Law Society of England and Wales on 13 June 2013.
9. Delegates attending the Judicial Governance Programme organised by the Subordinate Courts and Civil Service College on 11 July 2013.
10. The Honourable Robert Shenton French AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia on 19 September 2013.
11. The Solicitor-General of Australia, Mr Justin Gleeson, SC on 26 September 2013.

A Stronger Society At Sports

We did great at Sports this year too. After 7 lean years, we finally broke our neighbour's stranglehold on the Judge's Cup and won the 2013 Bench & Bar Games. And we did it in some style, scoring points in events considered sure wins for our opponents such as netball and hockey. We won the competition by 3 clear points! That was some result.

And to prove that this victory was no flash in the pan, we also won the Inter-Professional Games and the Singapore-Johore Games.

We have certainly set some standards this year for ourselves to maintain next year. But I believe, with a growing Bar, with the inspiration from this year's victories, with the banishment of self doubt as a result, we can continue to do well.

A Stronger Society Through Feedback and Dialogues

Just as important as ensuring that the Law Society continues to run programmes beneficial to the community and to its members is the imperative to ensure that the Society's Council continues to have a good sense of the concerns and the issues which are important to our members. We cannot promise that we will be able to find the solution to every issue of concern but we will certainly listen to and engage our members as best as we can. To this end, my Council and I initiated a series of luncheon meetings at the Subordinate Courts Bar room where, over lunch and fellowship, members would be updated on significant developments in the profession and members' feedback is shared and received. My Council and I also met with the Chairpersons (or their senior representatives) of our Committees over another luncheon series to have a better grasp of some of the working issues confronting our Committees and/or our members in specific practice areas so that we can better assess how the Society may help address these concerns.

I am pleased to note that the feedback and dialogue sessions have yielded significant results; the review of the implementation of the mandatory pro bono proposal being one example. We have also, in response to members' requests, installed wi-fi connectivity at our Bar rooms and will soon be carrying out some work to refresh the Subordinate Courts Bar room.

president's message

These dialogues and informal exchanges will continue, indeed increase, in the coming months as the profession continues to grow in numbers and in the width of practice areas. We welcome feedback from our members, both positive and less positive ones. Constructive feedback always encourages us to review what we have done and to see what we can do better, and constructive feedback need not always be (although preferably so!) complimentary.

A New Family Home?

The increased membership base and the growing slate of membership services and pro bono initiatives have resulted in an enlarged Secretariat team for the Society. This in turn has put further pressure on the limited space that we currently occupy. At the luncheon with members held on 9 May this year, the issue of space constraints was discussed. Although some members who attended the luncheon agreed that a short-term lease to cover the immediate space shortage would be the way to go, many also felt that the solution in the mid- to long-term, given Singapore's space constraints especially in the city centre, would be to buy larger premises – one which would accommodate not just our growing legal family, but which would also cater to members' needs, with more meeting rooms, a members' lounge, a research area and perhaps some recreational space as well.

We are doing what we can to alleviate the immediate impact of the space crunch. Come November 2013, an additional 1,786 square feet of space on the 10th floor of Golden Shoe Carpark Building just next to Raffles Place MRT will house our pro bono team and provide additional rooms to meet with members of the public needing our help on our pro bono schemes. Members should also be able to use some of these facilities for work related to the Society. More importantly, space at our main office at South Bridge Road will shortly thereafter be made available for other membership services.

Further down the road, the idea to have larger premises for the Society and our members is not just a pipe dream. It is possible and a Premises Committee will be set up to study the options available and make recommendations to the Society's Council. There are some important factors in our favour. The Society does not just have a great balance sheet, it has extremely dedicated and sensible members, the vast majority of whom have a deep sense of purpose and commitment to the law and the legal profession. If we could all stay united and continue to pull together in the same direction, we can achieve not just bigger and newer premises for our members, but also a more vibrant, giving and forgiving practice for all.

Lok Vi Ming, SC
President

“ The Society does not just have a great balance sheet, it has extremely dedicated and sensible members, the vast majority of whom have a deep sense of purpose and commitment to the law and the legal profession. ”



ceo's report

A Tribute to Our Volunteers

In my report this year, I would like to pay tribute to all the volunteer lawyers who contribute their time and energy to the work of the Law Society of Singapore.

After almost 2 years at the Law Society, I continue to be impressed and humbled by the unstinting support of our volunteer lawyers.

What has impressed upon me most in my time at the Law Society is the high level of involvement of practitioner lawyers in the work of the Society, which appears for many to be an extension of their practice. The energy invested by our volunteer lawyers in the work of the legal profession is testament to the fact that law is very much a calling to those involved, not merely a day job. This is something not many professions can boast of.

At the date of this report, we have 367 members participating in our 31 Committees. This includes the new Probate Practice Committee which was formed with effect from 1 January 2013.

To our Council members, Committee chairpersons and members, Pro Bono lawyers and all Law Society members who have contributed to the work of the Society in one way or another, we are indebted to you for your generous contributions of resources, know-how and time. The growth and success of the Law Society today would not have been possible without you.

“The Law Society continues to be proud of the fact that we are currently one of the only self-regulating professions in Singapore, made possible by the commitment of lawyers to a cause bigger than themselves.”

The Law Society Exists to Serve You, Our Members

The Law Society continues to be proud of the fact that we are currently one of the only self-regulating professions in Singapore, made possible by the commitment of lawyers to a cause bigger than themselves.

The work of the Law Society will continue to focus on the diverse needs of members. The Society is committed to you, our members, to remain relevant in tandem with the changes to the legal profession.

ceo's report

More than ever before, the Law Society has anchored ourselves close to the ground, to ensure that the feedback provided to the Ministry of Law, the Courts and the various agencies are reflective of the opinions and emotions of members. We have organised more relevant CPD seminars and conferences this year to cater to the continuing professional development objectives of the profession, and have sought to keep these training courses affordable to members.

We want to hear from you, our members, and various forums have been set up to facilitate feedback. This year, we have gained much from interacting with members at our bi-monthly Bar room lunches hosted by Council members, and we look forward to continuing our open culture of communication between the Law Society and all our members.

Key Membership Initiatives

Over 60 seminars and workshops were organised from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, which attracted more than 4,900 attendees including both members and non-members. Major conferences organised during the year included the ADR Conference (October 2012), Litigation Conference (January 2013), National Insolvency Conference (August 2013), the Biennial Lecture (September 2013) and the upcoming Law Asia Conference (October 2013).

During the year, there were 4 lunches hosted by Council members in March, May, August and September 2013 and 2 lunches organised by the Society during the festive periods of Chinese New Year, Hari Raya and Deepavali.

Based on feedback from members, free wireless internet in the Bar rooms at Supreme Court and Subordinate Courts has been installed by the Law Society and made available for members with effect from September 2013, to enable members to work remotely with their laptops, tablets and smart phone devices.

Renovations to the Subordinate Courts Bar room are also being planned for the first quarter of 2014, to make the place a more conducive venue to meet with fellow members of the Bar. Improvements are likely to include printing facilities as suggested by members. Further feedback on the renovations from members are welcome.

More than 26 social and sports events were organised for members this year, and the Law Society has had a good year in the sporting arena, winning the

Inter-Professional Games (October 2012), Bench & Bar Games held in Singapore (April 2013) and the Singapore-Johore Games (September 2013).

Key Legal Initiatives

It has been a busy year for our legal departments, with multiple dialogues held with the Ministry of Law, Supreme Court, Subordinate Courts, Syariah Court, Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority, Intellectual Property Office of Singapore, Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office and other stakeholders. As part of our connectivity with stakeholders, the Law Society provided support for the Collaborative Family Practice launched by the Singapore Mediation Centre and the Primary Justice Project launched by the Subordinate Courts.

The Law Society also launched the following publications during the year: *The Art of Family Lawyering* (2nd Edition) and the *Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook 2013*.

During the reporting period, the Law Society's Council and Committees participated in 36 public and closed consultations, including the following public consultations:

1. Proposed Amendments to the Monetary Authority of Singapore Act;
2. Companies Act Review Steering Committee Recommendations;
3. Bioethics Advisory Committee Consultation on Ethical, Legal and Social Issues in Neuroscience Research;
4. Draft Companies (Amendment) Bill 2013;
5. Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill 2013; and
6. Draft Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2013.

As reported in the prior year, the ad hoc admission regime was liberalised in the prior year to make it slightly easier for Queens' Counsel ("QC") and other foreign senior counsel to be admitted to the Singapore Bar. A total of 6 QC applications were received during the reporting period.

Our Commitment to Pro Bono

The Law Society's Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO") facilitates the work of our volunteer lawyers who selflessly give of their time to serve the less privileged in our community. This spirit of giving back to the community has been ingrained in many lawyers who volunteer through PBSO or via other schemes.

The PBSO continues to cement our commitment to the pro bono effort in Singapore, and looks forward to continuing to serve our community. We have entered into a 3-year rental lease commencing 1 November 2013 for 1,786 square feet of office space on the 10th floor of Golden Shoe Carpark to accommodate the expanded PBSO headcount and support the expanded Criminal Legal Aid Scheme and other PBSO activities.

The Law Society is grateful to the current donors to PBSO. Key donors include the Ministry of Law, the Singapore Academy of Law and other sponsors. The Law Society, through the contributions of our members, is still the primary financial sponsor of PBSO, enabling PBSO to widen our reach of the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme, Community Legal Clinics, Law Awareness projects and other initiatives.

We continue to be in talks with our current as well as new potential sponsors for additional funding for our expanded PBSO initiatives.

A Personal Thank You to Our Secretariat Staff

I am personally grateful to each and every one of the directors and officers of the Secretariat and PBSO for their commitment to the work of the Society. The Secretariat and PBSO have embraced the changes that I have brought on board and have worked cohesively to develop a more corporate mindset in supporting the Council's and Committees' initiatives.

My heartfelt thanks go to all Secretariat and PBSO directors and officers.

Reaching Out, Reaching Up

As the reporting year comes to a close, the Law Society looks forward to moving ahead with the legal sector, and will continue to strive to be "An Advocate for the Profession, An Advocate for the Community".

Tan Su-Yin
Chief Executive Officer

“The Law Society looks forward to moving ahead with the legal sector, and will continue to strive to be “An Advocate for the Profession, An Advocate for the Community”.”



treasurer's report

The financial year ended 31 March 2013 has been a very busy and active year for the Law Society. The year has seen a significant increase in the scope of the activities undertaken by the Society, as well as those of the Pro Bono Services Office. I had mentioned in my report for the previous financial year which ended on 31 March 2012 that there will likely be increased expenditure in this financial year, in the light of inflation and a tight labour market, and indeed these were issues which the Finance Committee had to grapple with throughout this past year. Costs control has to be balanced against enabling the Society to focus on its core activities, serving its members (including providing affordable Continuing Professional Development programmes) and serving the community (through the Pro Bono Services Office).

The Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Council of the Law Society of Singapore. Our principal functions include:

1. Working with the Secretariat to prepare the Society's overall budget for Council's approval;
2. Working with the respective Committees to prepare detailed annual workplan budgets for Council's approval;
3. Developing the financial and investment policies and guidelines for the Society;
4. Reviewing the Society's financial investments and appointment of bankers;
5. Reviewing financial protocols and internal controls of the Society;
6. Ensuring financial accountability to Council, the Society and its members; and
7. Generally aligning the Society's financial resources and procedures with the overall objectives and goals of the Society.

The Finance Committee comprises the Treasurer and 4 other members. The members are Adrian Tan, Gary Pryke, Gregory Vijayendran and Michael S. Chia. We are ably assisted in the discharge of our work by the Chief Executive Officer and Finance Department of the Secretariat. The Finance Committee meets at least once monthly.

This report covers the main highlights of the financial performance of the Society during the financial year ended 31 March 2013 (Current Financial Year).

Income and Expenditure - General Fund

Our General Fund reported an after-tax surplus of \$1.02 million for the Current Financial Year (*cf* an after-tax surplus of \$1.38 million for the financial year ended 31 March 2012 (Previous Financial Year)).

Total income in the Current Financial Year increased by about 7% to \$5.28 million whilst total expenditure increased by about 24% to \$4.24 million.

Income

The main factors which contributed to the 7% increase in income include the following:

1. Subscriptions received from members increased about 4% to \$4.13 million, with an increase in the total number of practising practitioners from 4,230 to 4,434;
2. Net income derived from Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") programmes (excluding advocacy) increased by 22% to \$423,609 (*cf* \$348,107 in the Previous Financial Year), largely due to the higher number of CPD conferences and seminars organised to cater to the increased demand by the profession and to meet the mandatory CPD needs of younger practitioners;
3. Net income derived from advocacy workshops conducted on behalf of the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ("SILE") increased by about 121% to \$215,857 (*cf* \$97,709 in the Previous Financial Year) due to an increased number of students and reduced expenditure;
4. Investment income and income from fixed deposits increased by 16% to \$176,698; and
5. Revenue from advertisements in the Society's directory and classifieds decreased by about 6% to \$146,306.

Expenditure

The 24% increase in expenditure was largely attributable to the following:

1. Increase in personnel expenses from \$2.1 million in the Previous Financial Year to \$2.4 million, due to an increase in Secretariat headcount needed to support the increased activities of the Society (including CPD, Membership Services, and Compliance);

2. Increase in the Society's mandatory contribution to the SILE, from \$432,060 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$449,100, in line with the increase in number of our members;
3. Increase in the Society's contribution to support the activities of Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services, from \$100,000 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$400,000;
4. Increase in the expenditure for Council's activities (including meetings and events) from \$56,488 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$125,230; and
5. Expenditure on regulatory matters increased by 141% to \$298,908.

Income and Expenditure - Compensation Fund

The increase in net overall surplus, from \$345,103 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$1,136,018, can be attributed to the following:

1. Total income increased by 92% to \$1,200,645, due mainly to an amount of \$538,465 being transferred pursuant to paragraph 11(3) of the First Schedule of the Legal Profession Act; and
2. Total expenditure decreased by 77% to \$64,627, as no grants were paid for the Current Financial Year (as compared to 2 grants paid under section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act during the Previous Financial Year).

Income and Expenditure - Pro Bono Learning and Support Services Fund

There was an overall surplus of \$284,322 for the Current Financial Year, compared to a deficit of \$222,860 in the Previous Financial Year. This was due mainly to the following:

1. Increase in income by 101% resulting from an increase in the donations received, including:
 - (a) Ministry of Law – increase of \$599,215
 - (b) The Law Society of Singapore – General Fund – increase of \$300,000
 - (c) TOTE Board – increase of \$31,145
2. Partially offset by an increase of about 40% in expenditure, to \$1.68 million, largely attributable to:

- (a) Increase in personnel costs to \$1,390,594 (*cf* \$995,553 for the Previous Financial Year), representing an increase in headcount of 9 additional staff to support the increased activities of the Pro Bono Services Office; and
- (b) Increase in administrative and project costs to \$286,951 (*cf* \$202,132 for the Previous Financial Year), in line with the increased activities of the Pro Bono Services Office.

Other Funds

1. Other Funds comprise the Sports Meet Fund, Welfare Fund, Library Fund, Jus Curio Fund and Pastoral Care Fund; and
2. Overall, there was a surplus of \$26,127 for the Other Funds (*cf* a deficit of \$1,375 in the Previous Financial Year). This was mainly due to an increase in the surplus for the Jus Curio Fund resulting from the sales of the "Conditions of Sale" publication.

Balance Sheet

The key highlights of the balance sheet of the Society as at 31 March 2013 are as follows:

1. General Fund reserves stood at \$14.2 million, an increase of about 9%, principally from the surplus for the Current Financial Year.
2. General Fund total assets amounted to \$18.8 million, including \$9.1 million being held as fixed deposits, cash at bank and in hand, and \$3.8 million being held as bonds and equity investments;
3. Compensation Fund total assets amounted to \$11.3 million, including \$6.3 million being held as fixed deposits, cash at bank and in hand, and \$4.7 million being held as bonds and equity investments;
4. General Fund total liabilities stood at \$4.6 million, mainly in relation to advance payment of the application fees for the practising certificates for FY2013/2014, which were received prior to 31 March 2013;
5. The Society had no external borrowings;
6. The Society continues to invest in blue-chip securities and bonds which provide a conservative yet steady return to keep up with inflation. The

treasurer's report

average yield derived from bonds is about 3.4% per annum. The net income from investments was \$285,367 (*cf* \$260,223 in the Previous Financial Year). There was a surplus of \$370,834 in the fair value reserve of the Society's investments (representing the increase in the market value as at 31 March 2013 over the historical transacted price. As at 31 March 2013, the Society had invested in the following:

Bonds and Bond Funds

ST Treasury
Merrill Lynch
Capitaland Treasury
Mapletree Treasury
HK Land Treasury Services
Maybank Bhd
Ascott Capital
CapitaCommercial Trust
Overseas Union Enterprise
Hotel Properties Ltd
UOL Group Ltd
Guocoland Ltd
Wing Tai Holdings Ltd
Petra Foods Limited
Morgan Stanley
LMIRT Capital
Neptune Orient Lines Ltd
Franklin Templeton
Fullerton short-term interest fund

Equities

Singapore Post Ltd
ComfortDelgro Corporation
Singapore Telecommunications Ltd
Singapore Press Holdings Ltd
Capitaland Ltd
Parkway Life REIT
SMRT Corporation Ltd
Starhub Ltd
Singapore Airport Terminal Services Ltd
Frasers Centrepoint Ltd
DBS Bank 4.7% NCPS
Ascendas REIT
Suntec REIT
UOB 5.05% NCPS 100
Keppel REIT
Venture Corporation Ltd
UOB Ltd
DBS Group Holdings Ltd
Hyflux preference shares 6%
Sembcorp Industries Ltd

Conclusion

The Law Society's strong financial performance despite the increased activities and costs challenges during the Current Financial Year is in no small part due to the vigilance, controls and efforts of the Society's Chief Executive Officer, Tan Su-Yin, and its Finance Department. I record my sincere appreciation for their sustained hard work throughout an extremely busy year.

I also wish to thank each member of my Finance Committee - Adrian, Gary, Gregory and Michael, for their unwavering support, counsel, guidance and contributions. The Finance Committee needs to be mindful of the financial needs of the Society, and at the same time, exercise prudent financial direction and controls in overseeing the funds of the Society. It is not always an easy balance.

The coming year will be an even busier one, with the projected increase in the activities of the various sub-committees, the expansion and advancement of the Society in the pro bono space, and the organisation of several major conferences in 2013. The Society will also work hard to obtain additional sources of funding to support the myriad of existing and new pro bono initiatives run by the Society's Pro Bono Services Office, and this will be one of the main challenges for the coming year.

Kelvin Wong
Treasurer



audit committee report

Rajan Menon, Chairperson

The members of the Audit Committee are:

Young Chee Foong
Francis Xavier, SC
Adrian Tan

The Audit Committee (the “AC”) had its first meeting 2 September 2013. The meeting reviewed the composition and terms of reference of the AC for consideration by Council and advised on the need to have an internal audit function for the Society.

The Secretariat informed the AC that it had carried out a detailed review of the internal controls and protocols of the Society as part of its on-going review of the operational and financial processes and dealt with some shortcomings with the Finance Committee of the Society.

The Secretariat also informed the AC that:

1. the external auditors, Messers Baker Tilly TFW LLP had issued a clean audit opinion on the financial statements of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2013; and
2. the auditors did not note any internal control issues in the Society’s operations.

The AC hopes to meet once more before 31 December 2013.

year in review

September 13

Seminar - Arbitration and the Law Society Arbitration Scheme

September 15

Townhall Session with the Criminal Practice Committee

September 10-14

Pro Bono Week

Networking Session: Corporate Engagement for Non-Profit Organisations



September 1

Dialogue Session for Conveyancing Legal Practitioners and Conveyancing Staff

September 16

Social Event - Gucci Cocktail Event - The Artisan Corner

September 18

Seminar - The Complete ESOP: Taxation of Employee Stock Options



Who Moved My Cheese

September 7
Seminar - "Who Moved My Cheese" - Support for Professional Services in Changing Times



Online Volunteer Portal Communities of Practice Workshop

September 14

Launch of Pro Bono Guide for Law Practices and Online Volunteer Portal Communities of Practice Workshop

September 11, 18, 25

Seminar - Paralegal Certification Course (9th Run)

September 17

Seminar - Subordinate Courts' Briefing on the Single Joint Expert Scheme

September 21

CLAS 101: Tour to Police Heritage Centre

Seminar – The Subordinate Courts' Briefing on Child Development: Are Court Orders Age Appropriate? Child Focused Mediation & Counselling: CFRC One Year On

September 24

Social Event -
One Day Cycling Trip
to Sungai Renggit

October 4 & 5

Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference:
The 5Cs of ADR (Collaboration, Communication,
Consensus, Co-operation and Conclusion)

ADR Conference



October 22

Seminar - Privatisation
of International Law
and its Implications
on the Singapore
Legal Community

October 25

Annual Election
of Council

September 22 - November 17

Inter-Professional Games 2012



Annual General Meeting

October 19

Annual General Meeting

October 2 & 9

Paralegal Certification
Course (9th Run)

year in review

November 9

Seminar - Family Court's
Lawyers and Divorcing
Clients - A Social Science
Perspective

November 9

Annual Dinner &
Dance 2012

Dinner & Dance

November 24

Piala Pala Bowling
Tournament 2012

Piala Pala Bowling Tournament

November 1

Seminar - Anti-Money
Laundering



November 7

Seminar - A Day of
Conveyancing Highlights



DeepaRaya Luncheon

November 16

Social Event - DeepaRaya Luncheon

November 16

Seminar - Annual CPD Day: 2012 -
Developments in a Nutshell for Busy
Practitioners

November 15

Seminar - The Hague
Convention on Civil Aspects of
International Child Abduction
- The UK and Singapore
Perspectives

November 27

Townhall Session on
Community Legal Services

November 25

15th Charity Golf Tournament

January 17

Visit by Shenzhen Lawyers Association

Visit by Shenzhen Lawyers Association



January 24

Seminar - Writing to Win

February

2-3

Law Fraternity
Games 2013



Thank You Dinner

January 19

Launch of "Law Works"



Litigation Conference

January 18

Thank You Dinner for Volunteers
and Launch of the 2nd Edition of
"The Art of Family Lawyering"

January 31-February 1

Litigation Conference: Present Challenges,
Future Prospects

year in review

February 5-7

Seminar - Legal Practice Management Course 2013

Legal Practice Management Course



March 1

Seminar - UK and Singapore Banking, Arbitration and Insurance Review 2012

March 19

Seminar - Psychology and Law of Witness Preparation

March 25, 28, April 23

Seminar - Primers on Professional Ethics and Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules for Practice Trainees



Lunar New Year Festive Luncheon

February 15

Social Event - Lunar New Year Festive Luncheon

March 6

Seminar - What Every Lawyer Needs to Know About Applying for a Practising Certificate Briefing Session

Seminar - Challenging Clients, Challenged Lawyers

February 27

Seminar - What Every Lawyer Needs to Know About Applying for a Practising Certificate Briefing Session



Council Luncheon held at the Subordinate Courts Bar Room

March 21

1st Council Luncheon with Members

April 24

Seminar - Selected Issues in Insolvency - Offshore Funds Litigation and Challenges to Office Holders' Decisions

May 7

Seminar - Demystifying Financial Statements

Seminar on Demystifying Financial Statements



May 8

Seminar - Impact of Global Legal Practice on the Education and Training of Law Graduates

May 16-18

Annual Malaysia/Singapore Bench & Bar Games 2013

Ladies Soccer Team



May 9

2nd Council Luncheon with Members



Book-Keeping for Law Practices

April 30

Seminar - Book-keeping for Law Practices

May 14

Seminar - Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Investment Treaty Arbitration, But were Afraid to Ask

May 10

Seminar - Leveraging E-mail Technology in Your Legal Practice

May 29

Seminar - Code of Corporate Governance 2012 - Practical Issues

May 21

Seminar - Primers on Professional Ethics and Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules for Practice Trainees

year in review

June 8

Social Event – Invitation to a Cooking Clinic by Chef Jeremy Nguee

June 18

Seminar - Primers on Professional Ethics and Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules for Practice Trainees

Seminar on Primers on Professional Ethics



June 5

Seminar - Anti-Money Laundering

June 27

Seminar - Doing Deals!
Seminar Series – What are the Key Factors Involved in Financial Due Diligence?

July 11

Visit by Delegates of the Judicial Governance Programme

Visit by Delegates of the Judicial Governance Programme



July 5

Seminar - Mandatory Ethics Programme (for Newly Qualified Lawyers)

June 7 & 21

Seminar - Legal Secretarial Course

June 20

Seminar - Mandatory Ethics Programme (For Newly-Qualified Lawyers)

June 12

Seminar - Primers on Professional Ethics and Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules for Practice Trainees



Visit by Students of Litigation Internship Programme

July 9

Visit by Students of the Singapore Academy of Law Litigation Internship Programme

July 2

Seminar - Selected Issues in Probate Administration

July 23 & 25

Law Week Legal Clinics

July 27

Mass Call 2013

Mass Call



July 19

Seminar - Leveraging E-mail Technology – The Hard & Soft Skills of E-mails

August 13

3rd Council Luncheon with Members

August 3

Law Cares “Golden Years”



Personal Data Protection Seminar

July 17

Seminar - Personal Data Protection Seminar

July 25

Seminar - Doing Deals! Seminar Series – How is Acquisition Target Valued?

July 20

Law Cares “Golden Years”



The Practice of Law Networking Event

August 1

The Practice of Law Networking Event

year in review

August 14

Seminar - Dispute Resolution Through Arbitration and Launch of Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook 2013

Seminar - Confusion on Trademarks and Passing Off Actions

August 20

National Insolvency Conference 2013

National Insolvency Conference



August 29

Small Law Firms Committee KOPI Talks - 1st Hub Session

Doing Deals! Seminar Series - What are Deal Breakers & How to Succeed in the Deal?



More Than a CLAS Act - A Pro Bono Services Office Networking Evening

August 16

Social Event - More Than a CLAS Act - A Pro Bono Services Office Networking Evening



Small Law Firms Committee KOPI Talks

2013

statistics



As at 31 August 2013

Comparison of Size of Law Practices in the Last Five Years

Year	1 to 5 lawyers	6 to 30 lawyers	> 30 lawyers
2009	685	80	16
2010	679	102	16
2011	708	96	17
2012	702	106	19
2013	710	108	20

Profile of Practitioners

No. of Practitioners in Last Five Years

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of Practitioners	3,697	3,770	3,800	4,334	4,486

Years in Practice Based on Date of Admission

Year	< 7 years	7 to 12 years	> 12 years
2013	1,654	388	2,444

Gender

Year	Male	Female
2013	2,555	1,931

This page is intentionally left blank.



pro bono services



pro bono, learning and support services

Vision and Mission

An important part of the mission of the Law Society of Singapore is to serve the community by facilitating access to justice.

The Law Society of Singapore actively promotes pro bono work to address the legal needs of those who cannot afford legal services. Over the years, it has initiated and implemented numerous pro bono programmes to provide comprehensive pro bono legal assistance for the most disadvantaged in our community as well as for organisations serving the needy.

The Law Society of Singapore Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services

The Law Society of Singapore Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services ("PLSS") is the Law Society's charity which oversees the Law Society's pro bono initiatives.

PLSS was established by the Law Society to:

- (a) implement the Law Society's vision and initiatives as to the provision of pro bono legal services in Singapore;
- (b) coordinate the provision of civil, criminal and community pro bono work between the Law Society and other agencies;
- (c) conduct and coordinate, on an ongoing basis, volunteer recruitment drives for pro bono services, manage and monitor activities of volunteers, and organise and implement training initiatives for volunteers;
- (d) identify pro bono opportunities; and
- (e) oversee all of the Law Society's pro bono initiatives.

Policies adopted by PLSS during the financial year in pursuance of the Charity's objectives have included policies to:

- (a) facilitate the recruitment and mobilization of volunteers for pro bono services through:
 - (i) the presentation of a range of pro bono volunteer opportunities catering to different interests, time commitments and legal/practice expertise; and
 - (ii) the transfer of skills, know-how and a positive

pro bono spirit from senior volunteers to junior volunteers.

- (b) facilitate volunteer networking, the transfer and dissemination of information and ideas among volunteers and the organic development of pro bono initiatives to meet needs/gaps in the legal assistance framework.
- (c) encourage law practices to support their lawyers to volunteer for pro bono work.

The PLSS Management Committee comprises Mrs Arfat Selvam (Chairperson), Mr George Lim, SC, Mr N Sreenivasan, SC, Ms Malathi Das, Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC, Mr Kelvin Wong (Treasurer) and Mr Gregory Vijayendran.

PLSS's IPC status was extended for a period of 3 years with effect from 1 April 2013.

Thank You

PLSS expresses its heartfelt thanks to members and supporters for their unstinting support of the Law Society's pro bono initiatives.

The work of PLSS is supported by donations from members of the legal profession, the public and funding from:

- (a) The Law Society of Singapore's General Fund;
- (b) The Ministry of Law;
- (c) The Singapore Academy of Law;
- (d) The National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre ("NVPC");
- (e) The Community Foundation;
- (f) The Rajah and Tann Foundation; and
- (g) The Tote Board.

In addition, the following law practices have pledged annual donations to support the Law Society's pro bono initiatives:

- (a) Allen & Gledhill LLP
- (b) Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow
- (c) Clifford Chance Pte Ltd
- (d) Drew & Napier LLC
- (e) Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd
- (f) Rajah & Tann LLP
- (g) Rodyk & Davidson LLP
- (h) Straits Law Practice LLC
- (i) Tan Kok Quan Partnership
- (j) TSMP Law Corporation
- (k) WongPartnership LLP

pro bono, learning and support services

The Pro Bono Services Office

The Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO") is the administrative and executive arm of PLSS.

PBSO coordinates and administers all of the Law Society's pro bono initiatives including the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme, the Community Legal Clinics, Project Law Help and Law Awareness programmes.

Review of Activities

The Society's pro bono programmes provide:

- (a) pro bono legal assistance for the most disadvantaged in our community as well as for organisations serving the needy;
- (b) support for lawyers undertaking pro bono work; and
- (c) support for other organisations engaged in access to justice initiatives.

Main Pro Bono and Volunteer Support Programmes

The following table provides an overview of the Law Society's main pro bono and volunteer support programmes (number of beneficiaries attended to/served for the period 1 April 2012–31 March 2013). For more information on these programmes, please visit the Pro Bono Services Office website (<http://probono.lawsociety.org.sg>).

For a full review of the activities for the Community Legal Clinics, Criminal Legal Aid Scheme, Project Law Help, Law Awareness and Scholarship programmes please see the reports of the respective Committee Chairpersons/Director of Pro Bono Services in this annual report.

Legal Clinic Advice for Individuals

Programme Name	Need Met	Remarks
Community Legal Clinics	General legal clinic advice on personal legal issues	4 x per week, alternating at North West and South East Community Development Councils [2,768 registrants, 2,082 attendees]
Civil Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on civil legal proceedings	1 x per week at the Subordinate Courts [168 registrants, 137 attendees]
Criminal Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on criminal legal proceedings	1 x per week at the Subordinate Courts [472 registrants, 322 attendees]
Criminal Legal Remand Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on criminal legal proceedings for persons in remand	1 x per week at the Subordinate Courts Feb 2013 commencement [11 attendees]
Family Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on family legal proceedings	2 x per week at the Subordinate Courts [491 registrants, 335 attendees]
Law Works Clinics	Legal clinics focusing on employment legal issues	1 x month at the NTUC Nov 2012 commencement [60 registrants, 43 attendees]

Legal Representation for Individuals

Ad Hoc Pro Bono Referral Scheme	Civil or criminal legal representation for exceptional cases not covered by formal legal aid schemes	By referral from social service or government agencies only [71 applications, 32 assignments]
Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("CLAS")	Criminal legal representation for applicants in person or referrals from the Community Court	Assignment upon successful application by individual or Court referral [please see CLAS report for no. of cases processed/ assignments]

General Legal Awareness for Individuals

Project Schools	Legal awareness programme for secondary school students on youth centric legal issues	On going
Law Cares	Legal awareness programme for the elderly and their caregivers on end of life legal issues	On going
Law Works	Legal awareness programme for workers on employment issues	On going
Know the Law Now!	Legal awareness publication to inform members of the public on common areas of the law	Free download from PBSO website

Legal Assistance for Non-Profit Organisations

Community Organisation Clinics	General legal, accounting and human resource advice for non-profit organisations	2 x per month at PBSO [26 registrants, 19 attendees]
Project Law Help	Corporate legal assistance for non-profit organisations undertaking community work within Singapore	Assignment of volunteer law practice upon successful application [6 applications, 5 matches]
Joint International Pro Bono Committee	Corporate legal assistance for non-profit organisations undertaking community work outside of Singapore	Assignment of volunteer law practice upon successful application [6 applications, 5 matches]

Volunteer Support

Ad Hoc Pro Bono Assessment Scheme	Assists practitioners who are planning to do ad hoc pro bono work for needy persons by conducting an assessment of the prospective client's suitability for pro bono assistance	Upon request
Mentor/ Specialist Resource Guidance	Matching of junior pro bono lawyers with a mentor/ practice specialist to provide practice guidance	Upon request

pro bono, learning and support services

Volunteer Support		
Paralegal Support for Criminal Trials	Paralegal trial support for pro bono lawyers undertaking criminal legally aided cases	Upon request
Briefings for Law Practices on Pro Bono Opportunities	On site pro bono briefings on volunteer opportunities for law practices	Upon request
Pro Bono Guide for Law Practices	Guide for law practices on providing structured support for lawyers to engage in pro bono, available in hard and soft copy	Free download from PBSO website
Pro Bono Guide for Volunteers	Guide for volunteers on pro bono opportunities in Singapore, available in hard and soft copy	Free download from PBSO website
Pro Bono Networking Sessions	Regular networking sessions to connect new volunteers with pro bono programmes	Quarterly
Pro Bono Research Initiative	Research support for pro bono lawyers undertaking cases involving complex issues of law	Upon request
Pro Bono Week	A week of special events to raise pro bono awareness within the legal profession	Annually

Volunteer Support		
Volunteer Initiative Support Scheme	Assistance for practitioners involved in regular pro bono work for particular group of persons or community in need	Upon request
Volunteer Management Portal	An online portal for volunteers to track the number of pro bono hours they have expended in a year and to register to volunteer for pro bono programmes	Hosted on PBSO website

“PBSO coordinates and administers all of the Law Society’s pro bono initiatives including the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme, the Community Legal Clinics, Project Law Help and Law Awareness programmes.”

Special/Ad Hoc Projects

The following table provides an overview of the Society's special or ad hoc access to justice projects:

Project Name	Need Met	Remarks	Project Name	Need Met	Remarks
Hayes Ability Screening Index validation	To identify and pilot a simple and quickly administered diagnostic tool to identify persons with intellectual disability subject to criminal investigation	<p>PBSO supported an AGC led inter-agency committee examining whether police officers were able to adequately identify accused persons with intellectual or mental impairment during police investigations.</p> <p>PBSO secured funding from the Community Foundation, and, with the Ministry of Social and Family Development ("MSF"), coordinated a successful pilot study on a sample size of 188 accused persons, inmates and probationers, with support for the study coming from the Raffles College of Higher Education, the Singapore Psychological Society, Singapore Prisons and the Subordinate Courts Community Court.</p>	Appropriate Adult Control Centre	To assist communication between a police officer and a person suspected of having intellectual disability by a trained person known as an Appropriate Adult	<p>PBSO has set up a provisional 24 hour Appropriate Adult Control Centre to deploy appropriate adults upon request by the police to assist with police interviews of persons with suspected intellectual disability.</p> <p>In collaboration with the National Council of Social Services, MSF and the North East Community Development Council, PBSO assisted with the mobilisation and training of a pilot batch of more than 100 Appropriate Adult volunteers.</p>

pro bono, learning and support services

Collaborations

The following table provides an overview of PBSO's collaborations/support of other organisations engaged in access to justice initiatives:

Project Name	Need Met	Remarks	Project Name	Need Met	Remarks
Community Justice Centre	The Community Justice Centre seeks to assist litigants in person with the following pro bono services: (a) Information services; (b) Practical support services; (c) Referral services; (d) Lay Assistance Scheme; (e) Legal clinics; and (f) Public outreach services.	The Law Society through PBSO is supporting the Community Justice Centre initiative ("CJC"), a new collaboration with the Subordinate Courts, the Ministry of Law, MCYS and the Tan Chin Tuan Foundation. A duty officer from PBSO is stationed at CJC to take in and process registrations for the Criminal, Family and Civil legal clinics run at the Subordinate Courts.	Singapore Management University ("SMU") School of Law Pro Bono Centre	The work of the SMU Pro Bono Centre includes the facilitation of access to justice via its campus legal clinics for indigents and the sensitization of law students to social justice issues	PBSO is exploring the provision of various forms of support including: (a) the sharing of PBSO materials including the Community Legal Clinic manual and our clinic forms for the use/adaptation by the SMU Pro Bono Centre; (b) the offering of technical assistance including the training/attachment stints of SMU Pro Bono Centre staff/SMU law students on legal clinic administration and procedures; and (c) highlighting to our volunteer practitioner pool legal clinic volunteer opportunities with the SMU Pro Bono Centre.

Outreach Talks and Events

The following table lists outreach talks and events organised or supported by PBSO:

Non-Profit Organisation	Date	Outreach
United Indian Muslims Association (UIMA)	18 September, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Action for AIDS (AfA)	12 October, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Casa Raudha	17 October, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Singapore Amalgamated Services Co-operative Organization (SASCO)	24 October, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Methodist Welfare Services	7 November, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
World Red Swastika Society	28 November, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
HealthServe	28 November, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Lakeside Family Centre	4 December, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Alzheimer's Disease Association (ADA)	4 December, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Lakeside Family Centre - F.i.T. Shelter	13 December, 2012	Presentation on Law Society's pro bono services
Hougang Sheng Hong Family Service Centre	17 December, 2012	Talk on Wills
AWWA Centre for Caregivers	19 January, 2013	Talk on Wills

Non-Profit Organisation	Date	Outreach
Jia Ying Community Services Society	1 February, 2013	Presentation of Services
Dover Park Hospice	1 February, 2013	1) Talk on Wills 2) Talk on release of CPF & bank accounts funds to next of kin
Casa Raudha	23 February, 2013	Talk on Personal Protection Orders & Maintenance
SADeaf	23 February, 2013	Talk on Wills
Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centre - COMNET Elderly Services	2 March, 2013	Talk on Wills & the Mental Capacity Act ("MCA")
Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centre - COMNET Elderly Services	9 March, 2013	Mobile Legal Clinic
Jia Ying Community Services Society - Joy Link Senior Activity Centre	12 March, 2013	Talk on Wills
Life Point (Society of Sheng Hong Welfare Services)	20 April, 2013	Talk on Wills

pro bono, learning and support services

Non-Profit Organisation	Date	Outreach
NTUC (Law Works Collaboration)	3 May, 2013	1st Legal Primer: "My First Job"
SADeaf	23 May, 2013	Talk on Wills
SCORE	13 June, 2013	Presentation of services
Life Point (Society of Sheng Hong Welfare Services)	15 June, 2013	Talk on Wills
The Hub	10 July, 2013	Talk on social enterprises
NTUC (Law Works Collaboration)	12 July, 2013	2nd Legal Primer: "Women at Work"
Lions Befrienders (Mei Ling)	20 July, 2013	Talk on Wills & Mental Capacity Act ("MCA")
Geylang Serai Community Club	25 July, 2013	Talk on Wills
Singapore International Foundation	27 July, 2013	Talk for young social entrepreneurs
Lions Befrienders (Mei Ling)	3 August, 2013	Mobile Legal Clinic
Citi-Tsao Foundation - Financial Education Programme	6 August, 2013	Talk on Wills
Council for 3rd Age (C3A)	9 August, 2013	Talk on Wills
Ang Mo Kio Family Service Centre (Sengkang)	19 August, 2013	Talk on Divorce & Custody

Annual Non-mandatory Pro Bono Hour Survey of Practising Lawyers

To obtain fuller information on the pro bono commitment of members, the Law Society has included since 2010 a non-mandatory section in the "Application Form for Approval to E-file Practising Certificate" to request practitioners to provide information on their pro bono involvement in the preceding year (the "survey").

The following table is a summary of the survey results:

Number of Lawyers Declaring Pro Bono Hours	2009	2010	2011	2012
No. who declared zero pro bono hours	2,530	2,569	2,534	2,471
No. who declared some pro bono hours	1,034	1,168	1,177	1,343
No. who did not declare pro bono hours	0	24	22	193
Total	3,564	3,761	3,733	4,007
No. contributing at least 25 pro bono hours per annum	331	414	431	469
Number of Pro Bono Hours	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total number of pro bono hours declared	35,634	45,094	45,247	53,766
Ave. number of pro bono hours/lawyer	10	12	12	13

Additional Charity Information

Instrument Setting Up the Charity	Pro Bono Learning and Support Services Governing Instrument
Unique Entity Number of the Charity	T07CC2064L
Institution of a Public Character No.	000571
Registered Address	39 South Bridge Road Singapore 058673
Board Constitution – name, occupation, designation in charity and date of appointment	Mrs Arfat Selvam, Advocate and Solicitor, (Chairperson, w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008), Mr George Lim, SC, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008), Mr N Sreenivasan, SC, Advocate and Solicitor, (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008), Ms Malathi Das, Advocate and Solicitor, (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008), Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC, Advocate and Solicitor, (w.e.f. 22 January 2009), Mr Kelvin Wong, Advocate and Solicitor, (Treasurer) (w.e.f. 1 January 2012) and Mr Gregory Vijayendran, Advocate and Solicitor, (w.e.f. 1 January 2013)
Key Position Holder	Lim Tanguy Yuteck, Director of Pro Bono Services (w.e.f. 1 August 2007)
Principal Bankers	UOB Bank, OCBC Bank
Independent Auditor	Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Related Entity Particulars	The Law Society of Singapore (“LSS”). (1) Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC (Vice-President, LSS Council) (2) Mr Kelvin Wong (Treasurer, LSS Council) (3) Mr Gregory Vijayendran (Member, LSS Council)
Principal Funding Sources of the Charity	The Law Society of Singapore’s General Fund, Ministry of Law, Singapore Academy of Law
Reserves Policy	To achieve a reserve that will be able to sustain operations for a 3 year period in the event of a decline in donations.
Conflicts of Interest Policy	The Charity has documented procedures for Board members to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Board at the earliest opportunity. In particular members of the Management Committee sign a conflict of interest policy declaration form upon appointment to the Committee and a conflict of interest disclosure statement in the event of a conflict. In the event that a conflict of interest situation arises there are procedures for the abstention from discussion and decision-making on the matter by the member concerned.

Lim Tanguy Yuteck
Director of Pro Bono Services
Pro Bono Services Office

community legal clinics

The Pro Bono Services Office (“PBSO”) administers the Law Society’s Community Legal Clinics (the “Clinics”) which run 4 nights a week, every week of the year from 2 alternate locations: the North West Community Development Council premises at Woodlands Civic Centre on Mondays and Wednesdays; and the South East Community Development Council premises at Singapore Post Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Clinics dispense basic legal advice for personal matters as opposed to business/corporate matters. Other than applicants who apply directly to PBSO, Clinic applicants also include referrals made by social workers, counsellors and other social service practitioners under a referral protocol developed by PBSO and the National Council of Social Services (“NCSS”).

The referral protocol was developed with the objective of meeting the needs of those who require legal assistance but cannot afford to do so. It sets out procedures and forms to be used to ensure accuracy and effectiveness in referring persons in need of legal assistance. The referral protocol and information of the Clinics has been disseminated to all Family Service Centres (“FSCs”) and NCSS registered Social Service Agencies.

Public demand for the service remains high. From 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013, 2,768 persons have registered for the clinics. Of these, 2,082 received legal advice from our volunteer lawyers.

The average waiting time is 2 to 3 weeks, with peaks in demand met by scheduling more volunteer lawyers to handle increases in caseload per session.


For the profile of clinic applicants, please see **Appendix A**.

For the results of the clinic applicant satisfaction survey, please see **Appendix B**.

A total of 1,145 volunteer lawyers have participated in Community Legal Clinic sessions since their start on 10 September 2007.

The success of the clinics has been made possible by the commitment of the legal profession to pledge a minimum of 25 hours of pro bono work per lawyer per year and the support of the Ministry of Law, the Singapore Academy of Law and the North West and South East Community Development Councils.

Volunteer lawyers continue to range from first year corporate lawyers to Senior Counsel.



PBSO would like to thank in particular volunteer lawyers from the following law practices for supporting the Community Legal Clinics:

Abraham Low LLC
Allen & Gledhill LLP
ATMD Bird & Bird LLP
Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow
Bernard & Rada Law Corp
Braddell Brothers
Central Chambers
Characterist LLC
Clifford Chance
Donaldson & Burkinshaw
Drew & Napier LLC
Glen Koh
Harry Elias Partnership LLP
Heritage Law Corporation
Joseph Tan Jude Benny LLP
Judy Cheng & Co.
Kelvin Chia Partnership
KhattarWong
KSCGP Juris LLP
Lalwani Law Chambers
Lau Teik Soon & Associates
Lawrence Quahe & Woo LLC
Legal Solutions
Legis Point LLC
Lexton Law Corporation
M Pillay LLC
Michael Por Law Corp
Norton Rose
Olswang Asia LLP
Parwani & Co
Patrick Tan LLC
Rajah & Tann LLP
RHT Law Tayler Wessing LLP
Robert Wang & Woo LLP
Rodyk & Davidson LLP
Samuel Seow Law Corporation
Shook Lin & Bok LLP
Stamford Law Corp
Straits Law Practice LLC
Tan Kok Quan Partnership
Tan Oei & Oei LLC
Tan Rajah & Cheah
TSMP Law Corporation
UniLegal LLC
Wendy Han & Co
William Poh & Louis Lim
WongPartnership LLP

“ The success of the clinics has been made possible by the commitment of the legal profession to pledge a minimum of 25 hours of pro bono work per lawyer per year and the support of the Ministry of Law, the Singapore Academy of Law and the North West and South East Community Development Councils. ”

PBSO would also like to thank the National University of Singapore Pro Bono Group and the Singapore Management University Pro Bono Club for their support of the clinics and the volunteer undergraduates who have assisted in clinic registrations and in-clinic sessions as paralegals.

Lim Tanguy Yuteck
Director of Pro Bono Services
Pro Bono Services Office

community legal clinics

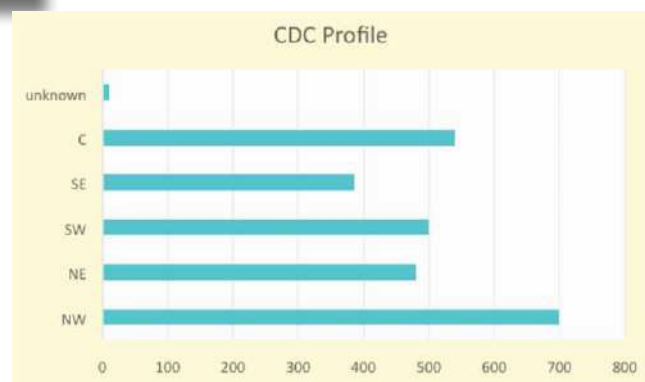
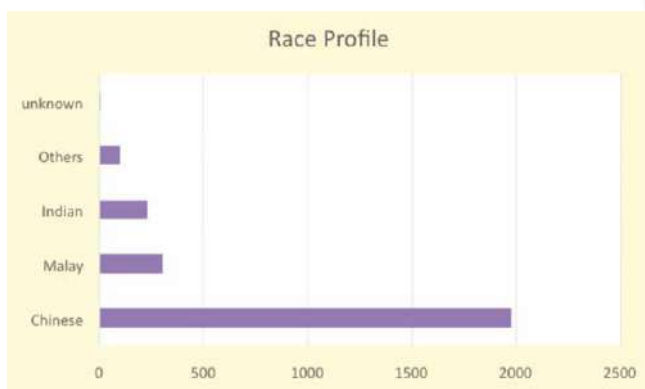
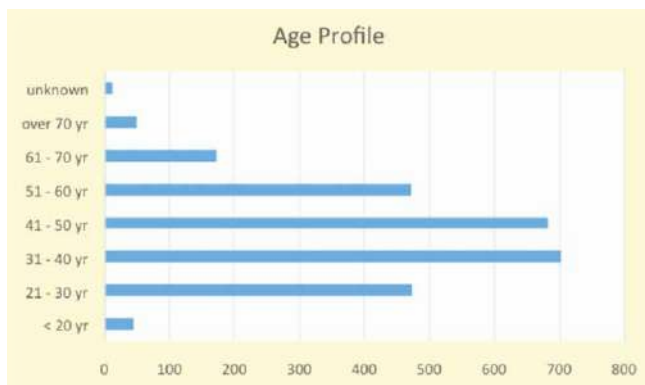
APPENDIX A

Statistics Relating to Profile of Cases and Registered Applicants

Profile of Applicants at the Community Legal Clinics

Client Profile	Total
Age group	
Unknown	11
≤ 20 yr	43
21 - 30 yr	473
31 - 40 yr	702
41 - 50 yr	682
51 - 60 yr	471
61 - 70 yr	171
over 70 yr	49
Education	
Unknown	47
Primary	318
Secondary	911
Tertiary	1331
Occupation	
Unknown	29
Employed	1832
Unemployed	689
Retired	60
Declared personal monthly salary	
Unknown	33
≤ \$1000	1004
\$1001 - \$2000	653
\$2001 - \$5000	842
above \$5000	79
Marital status	
Unknown	127
Single	672
Married	1515
Divorced	241
Widowed	56
Gender	
Unknown	0
Male	1232
Female	1377

Client Profile	Total
Nationality	
Unknown	1
S	2313
PR	291
Ethnicity	
Unknown	1
Chinese	1975
Malay	304
Indian	229
Others	100
Religion	
Unknown	9
Buddhism	705
Taoism	114
Hinduism	123
Islam	356
Christianity	541
Others	79
Nil	664
Language	
English	2084
Mandarin	436
Malay	25
Tamil	4
Dialect	12
Others	1
CDC	
Unknown	10
North West	699
North East	479
South West	499
South East	385
Central	539

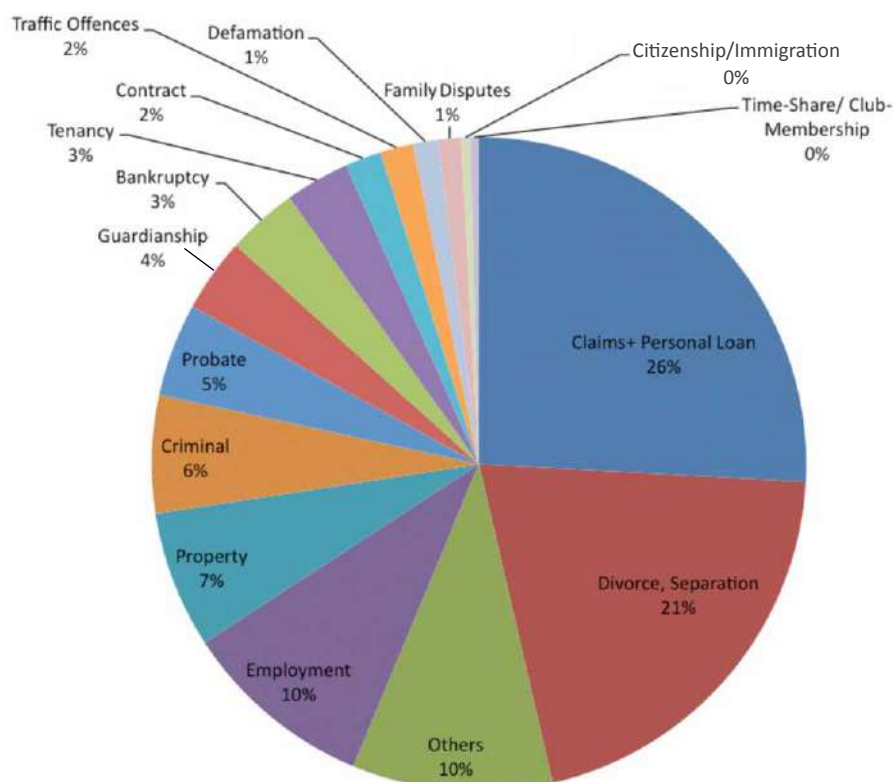


community legal clinics

Profile of Cases at the Community Legal Clinics

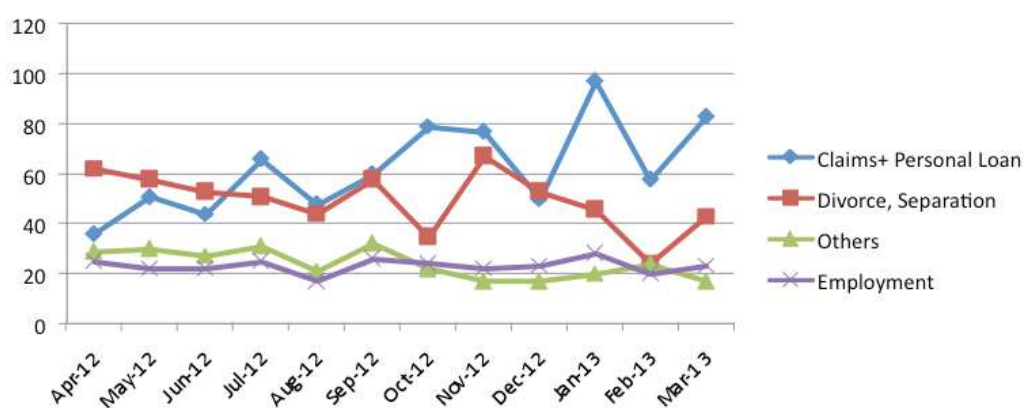
Category	Numbers
Claims + Personal Loan	749
Divorce, Separation	594
Others	287
Employment	276
Property	196
Criminal	169
Probate	133
Guardianship	106
Bankruptcy	101
Tenancy	92
Contract	52
Traffic Offences	47
Defamation	36
Family Disputes	33
Citizenship/Immigration	13
Time-Share/ Club-Membership	12
Total	2896

Case Profile



CLC Enquiries by Main Categories

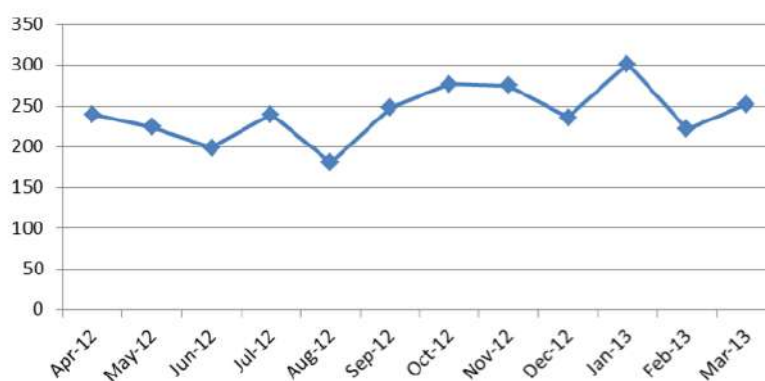
Main Category	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12	Aug 12	Sep 12	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13
Claims + Personal Loan	36	51	44	66	48	60	79	77	50	97	58
Divorce, Separation	62	58	53	51	44	58	35	67	53	46	24
Others	29	30	27	31	21	32	22	17	17	20	24
Employment	25	22	22	25	17	26	26	15	18	30	28



Month by Month CLC Applicants

Month	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12	Aug 12	Sep 12	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12	Jan 13	Feb 13
Applicant Nos.	240	224	199	240	181	248	277	275	236	302	222

Applicants by Month



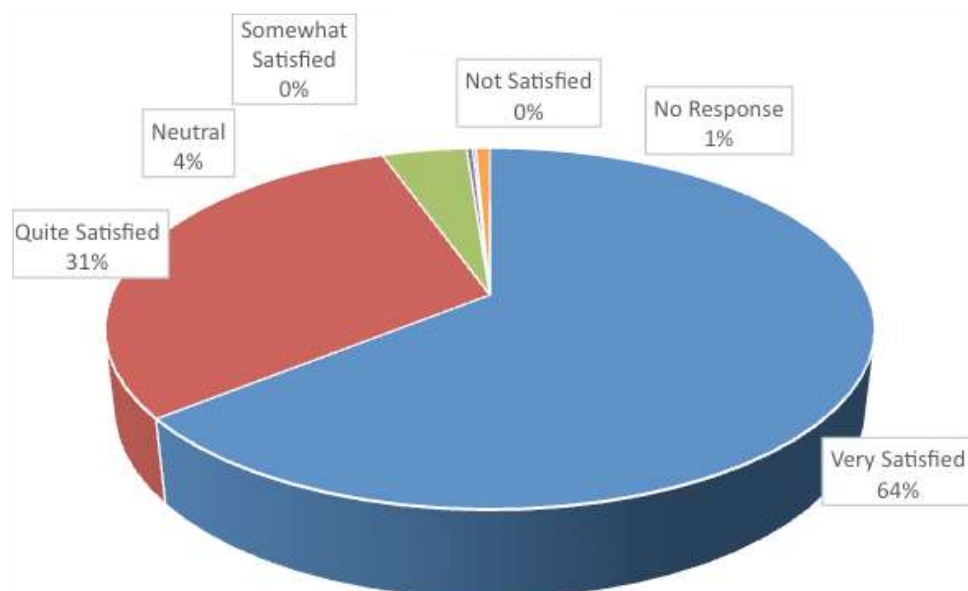
community legal clinics

APPENDIX B

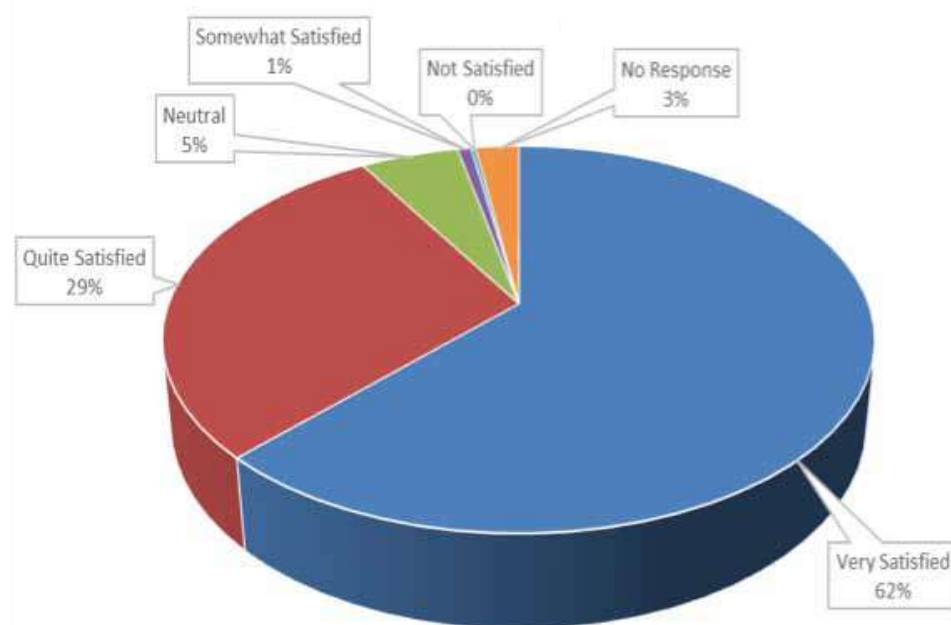
Results of the Community Legal Clinic Satisfaction Survey

i) Legal Clinic Staff

Friendliness

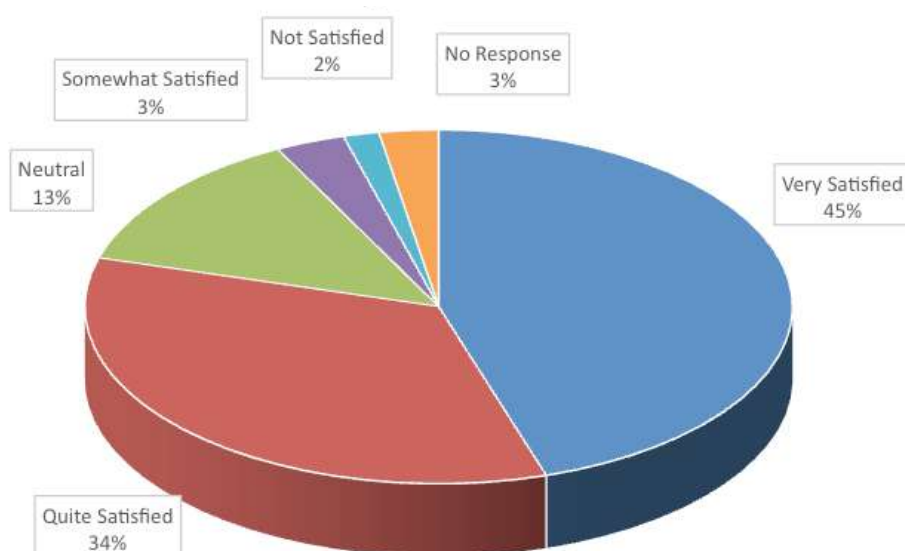


Efficiency

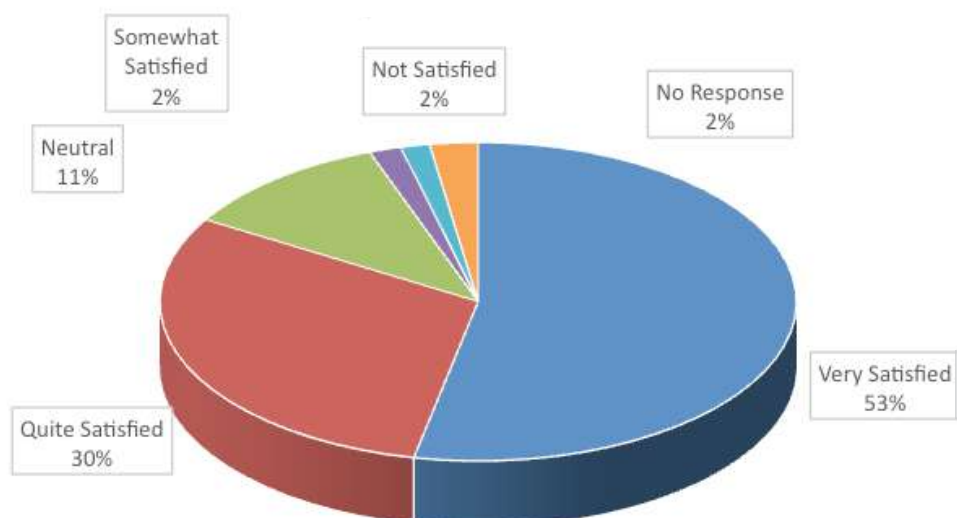


ii) Session with Lawyer

Length of Session



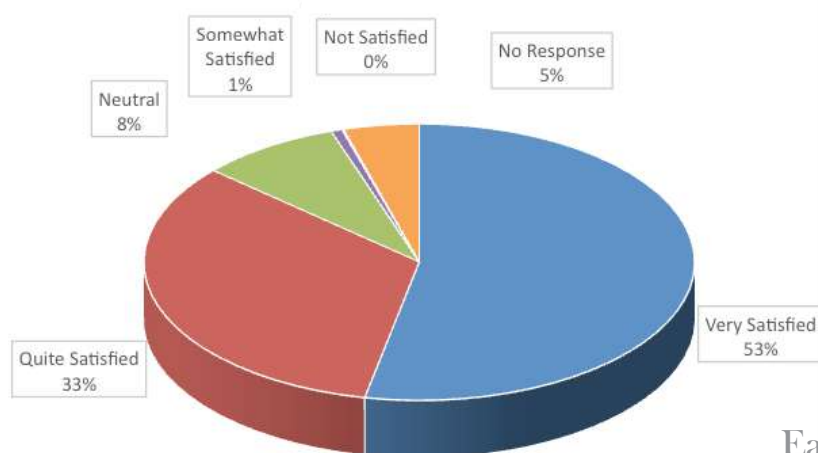
Helpfulness of Advice



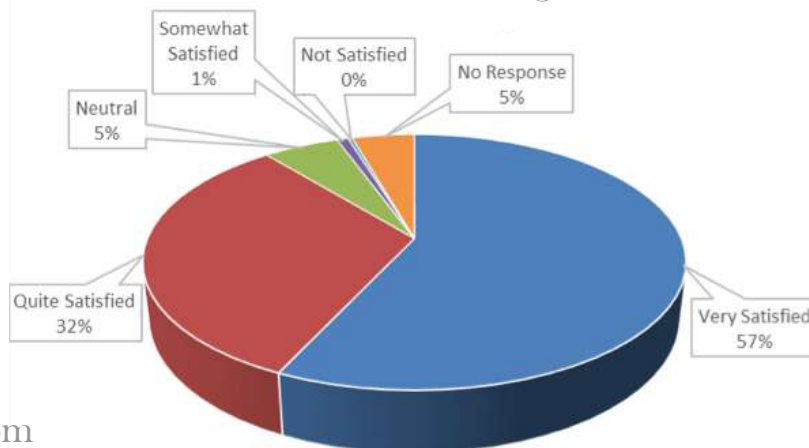
community legal clinics

iii) Venue & Timing

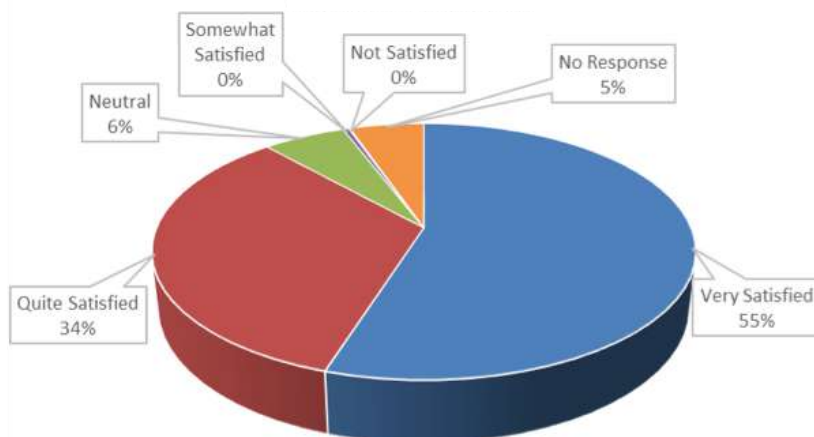
Operation Hours



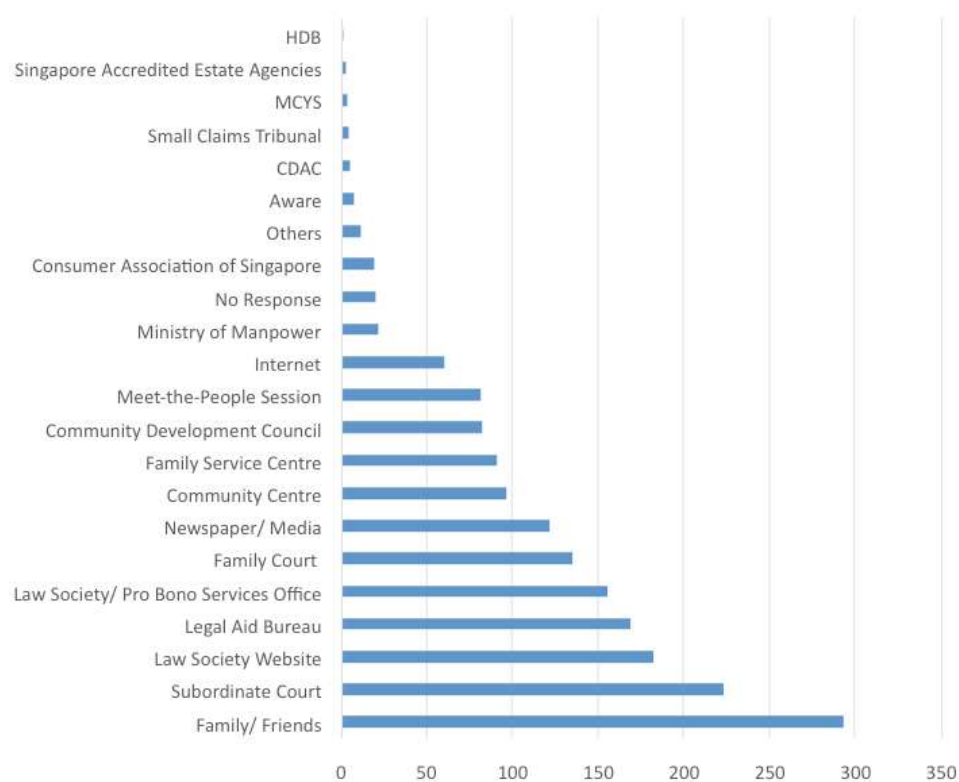
Ease of Finding



Consultation Room

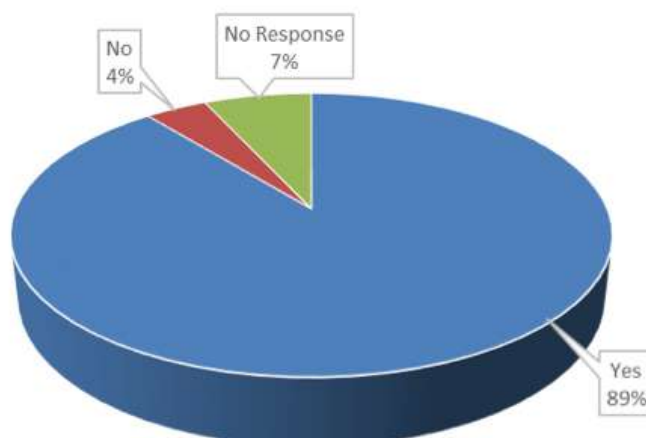


iv) Source of Information



v) Experience at the Community Legal Clinic

Will You Return to Our Clinic



criminal legal aid scheme

Abraham Vergis, Chairperson

1. Applications for CLAS, Community Court and Remand Clinic Cases

From 1 September 2012 to 31 July 2013, a total of 1,304 applications for aid was received under the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("CLAS"). Aid granted for the said period was for a total of 335 applicants.

Since the beginning of 2013, CLAS has also begun extending assistance to specific Community Court and Remand Clinic cases, which have been especially referred to CLAS by the Subordinate Courts as cases meriting legal assistance. In total, legal representation was given to 17 Community Court cases and legal advice rendered in 36 Remand Clinic cases in the period up to 31 July 2013.

The categories of cases that are presently heard in the Community Court cluster are as follows:

- (a) youthful offenders (aged 16 to 18 years);
- (b) those below 21 years accused of theft, violence, sexual crimes, gambling and or drug related charges;
- (c) selected offenders with mental disorders ;
- (d) attempted suicide cases;
- (e) family violence cases;
- (f) abuse and cruelty to animals;
- (g) cases which impact on race relations issues;
- (h) selected cases involving accused persons who are 65 years of age and above;
- (i) selected cases involving accused with chronic addiction problems; and
- (j) shop theft cases.

Remand Clinics are conducted twice a month at Court 17 for the purpose of providing legal advice to specific accused persons who are in remand and unrepresented. CLAS volunteers provide legal advice via video-link from Court 17.

2. Volunteers

Currently, there are 409 CLAS volunteer lawyers who have taken up at least 1 case in the last 3 years. Over the reported period, there were 207 active volunteer lawyers who provided full legal representation in CLAS or Community Court cases and/or legal advice in Remand Clinic cases.

Breakdown of number of cases taken up per volunteer for the period reported:

No. of assignments for the period reported	No. of volunteers
1-3 cases	181
4-6 cases	19
7 cases & above	7

Additionally, in-house lawyers from foreign law firms and legal counsel of corporations volunteer their time to assist CLAS in interviewing applicants applying for legal aid.

Apart from the above, the National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University and overseas law students from various universities and local "A" level students have also been volunteering at the department.

In 2012, CLAS continued to welcome the Singapore Institute of Legal Education's ("SILE") students for the on-the-job training programme. SILE contributed a sum of \$29,000 to the CLAS fund of the Law Society for this purpose.

Additionally, CLAS is also supported by a panel of 11 volunteer psychiatrists and 3 psychologists.

“Currently, there are 409 CLAS volunteer lawyers who have taken up at least 1 case in the last 3 years.”

3. Charity Golf

The Law Society's 15th Annual Charity Golf Tournament continued to be the main fund-raising event for CLAS in 2012. The Tournament held on 25 November 2012 at the Tanah Merah Country Club saw a net sum of \$257,786 raised for CLAS.

The 16th Charity Golf Tournament will be held on 10 November 2013 at the Tanah Merah Country Club.



Charity Golf Tournament 2012

4. Acknowledgements

The CLAS Committee wishes to record its gratitude to all volunteer lawyers, psychiatrists, psychologists, interpreters and CLAS staff for their continued support and generous service.

The Committee also wishes to record its appreciation to the following for their support of CLAS:

- (a) The Honourable The Chief Justice;
- (b) The Ministry of Law;
- (c) The Honourable The Attorney-General;
- (d) The Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court;
- (e) The Subordinate Courts; and
- (f) Singapore Totalisator Board.

Committee Members

Abraham Vergis - Chairperson
(from 25 July 2013–Current)
Vice-Chairperson (from 2010–24 July 2013)
Gopinath Pillai - Chairperson
(from 2006–11 July 2013)
Gokul Haridas - Vice-Chairperson
(from 25 July 2013–Current)
Tan Gim Hai Adrian - Council Representative
A Sangeetha
Benjamin Ma Yue Leong
Derek Kang Yu Hsien
Isaac Lum Wei Yuen
Jackson Eng Boon How
Jayaprakash s/o Thiyagarajan
Josephus Tan Joo Liang
Lin Yuankai
Mahadevan Lukshumayeh
Mahesh Rai s/o Vedprakash Rai
Mark Tan Zhengyi
Niranjana Rita
Rajvant Kaur d/o Jagit Singh
Remya Aravamuthan
Sureshan s/o T Kulaisingham
Teo Eng Thye
Terence Tan Li-Chern

Secretariat Representatives

Lim Tanguy Yuteck
Vimala Chandrarajan Khan

law awareness

Chenthil Kumar Kumarasingam, Chairperson

The mission of the Law Awareness Committee is to coordinate and implement activities to increase public awareness of the law. Various initiatives and programmes have been carried out this year to achieve this, including:

1. Law Works

Law Works is a partnership with the National Trades Union Congress ("NTUC"). Launched on 19 January 2013 by The Honourable The Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, the partnership aims to provide legal information to workers through a series of primers on key issues, a pocket-series of booklets on employment-related topics that workers can refer to and ongoing legal clinics held at NTUC's premises.

2. Project Schools

Initiated by the Law Society of Singapore and sponsored by the Rajah & Tann Foundation, Project Schools is an initiative to create greater awareness of the law, its relevance and application amongst our youth. The stated aims of Project Schools are to engage, enable and empower our youth by creating a greater awareness of the law, highlighting the rights and the obligations of young people under the law, and the consequences of juvenile delinquency.

The programme's syllabus has been specifically designed to facilitate the effective communication of the material by teachers (who are not legally trained). Curriculum development has been undertaken in close collaboration with a group of teachers, specialist practitioners, law undergraduates from the National University of Singapore ("NUS") and Singapore Management University ("SMU"), and the Pro Bono Services Office. Targeted at youth aged 14 years and above, the lessons support and reinforce aspects of learning from the Civics and Moral Education curriculum. Participating schools can choose to integrate the programme into these lessons, or deliver the programme as a standalone activity.

The programme piloted in May 2012 to much positive response from both educators and students. At present, 26 schools involving over 11,000 students have either participated in the Project or confirmed their participation. Discussions are underway with additional schools over their participation in the Project.

3. Law Week 2013

In collaboration with the Singapore Academy of Law's 25th anniversary, a special commemorative publication "Know the Law Now!" was launched.

The Law Society also supported Law Week by organising legal clinics and primers on legal issues.



"Know the Law Now!" booklet



4. The Golden Years Project

The Law Society continued its partnership with the NUS Pro Bono Group, the SMU Pro Bono Club and Lions Befrienders in the Golden Years Project.

The Project, headed by the Freshmen Orientation Camp Committee, kicked off with a training session on 17 July 2013. Freshmen volunteers from NUS and SMU, as well as representatives from Lions Befrienders and the Law Society were in attendance. Volunteers were given insights into the meaningfulness of doing pro bono work, as well as a briefing from Lions Befrienders on how to approach and converse with an elderly person.

The main activities of the Project comprised a legal talk, befriending activities for the elderly and an on-site legal clinic.

5. Law Awareness Talks

The Committee and the Pro Bono Services Office have facilitated numerous legal talks on issues affecting members of the public.

Committee Members

Chenthil Kumar Kumarasingam - Chairperson
Koh Kia Jeng - Vice-Chairperson
Leo Cheng Suan - Council Representative
Abdusalam Arshad Khan
Audrey Ho Swee Lin
Chen Cuiying Janelene
Chris Chua Peck Leng
Chu Hua Yi
Giouw Rong Zhen Jolie
Koh Siew Yen Terri
Lee Shang Wei, Joyce
Lee Ying-Ying Michelle
Lim Pei Ling June
Low Soo Tian Sylvia
Lum Wei Yuen Isaac
Lynn Tok Kwee Hoon
Madhavi Arya
Ng Aik Kai
Niranjan Rita
Ow Sze Mun Cassandra Geraldine
Rahayu Binte Mahzam
Saburabi Nila Ibrahim
Seet Pek Hian Harold
Sujatha Selvakumar
Tan Joon Liang Josephus
Tan May Lian Felicia
Tan Rachel Swee Hua
Teo Hui Ling
Wong Yi
Yasmeen Jamil Marican
Yeo Hui Qin Audris

Secretariat Representatives

Lim Tanguy Yuteck
Shahrany Hassan

project law help

Jeffrey Lim Sui Yin, Chairperson

The Project Law Help Committee's mission is to provide pro bono non-litigation commercial legal advice to charities, non-profit organisations, social enterprises and voluntary welfare organisations.

1. Legal Assistance Made Simple

The Committee has started work with a group of law undergraduates to produce a questionnaire or self-assessment form for organisations in the charity and non-profit sector to refer to and be guided on the types of legal assistance required. The Committee is looking to involve corporate counsel in the next phase and is targeting end year for the completion of the form.

2. Legal Assistance Made Accessible

The Committee has made changes to the qualifying criteria for the Project Law Help scheme ("scheme") to encourage more charities and non-profit organisations participate in the scheme. In addition, assignments taken under PLH will be on a project basis to allow for a more focused engagement.

For the period September 2012 to August 2013, 6 organisations⁽¹⁾ have been matched with volunteer law firms through this scheme. During the same period, more than 35 organisations have received legal advice at the Pro Bono Services Community Organisation Clinic and 24 organisations have benefitted from legal talks.

The Committee is in discussions with the National Council of Social Service ("NCSS") to explore ways to involve the Committee members and volunteer law firms in NCSS events.



The Committee will work with the Law Awareness Committee in their upcoming campaign called "LegaleSE" targeting youths and social enterprises, particularly to assist in producing the legal toolkit for social enterprises.





3. Legal Assistance Made Possible

The Committee will be holding a special event titled “Helping You Help Others” during Pro Bono Week 2013. The event is intended to showcase the pro bono work by volunteer law firms to charities, non-profit organisations and social enterprises, and also serve as a networking platform to encourage more law firms to be involved in helping this sector.

The Committee will work with the Law Awareness Committee in their upcoming campaign called “LegaleSE” targeting youths and social enterprises, particularly to assist in producing the legal toolkit for social enterprises.

4. Legal Education

Talks have started on including legal modules for the Social Services Institute and also with local universities for their social work courses.

- ⁽¹⁾ (1) Handicaps Welfare Association;
(2) Methodist Welfare Services;
(3) National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre;
(4) National Book Development Council of Singapore;
(5) RSVP Singapore; and
(6) Focus on Family.

Committee Members

Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey - Chairperson
Lam Kuet Keng Steven - Vice-Chairperson
Tan Joon Liang Josephus - Council Representative
Assistant Professor Helena Whalen Bridge
Chua Yee Hoong
Chua Yeow Hooi Cyril
Kim Keun Young
Marini Martin Vincent
Ow Sze Mun Cassandra Geraldine
Tan Ming Kirk Richard
Teo Hui Ling
Yap Chin Choo Juliana
Yuen Wei Loon Samuel

Secretariat Representatives

Lim Tanguy Yuteck
Shahrany Hassan

This page is intentionally left blank.



growing our practice



advocacy

Sushil Nair, Chairperson

The Advocacy Committee relies on about 90 active trainers who are instrumental in delivering the Committee's various training programmes successfully. These trainers include several Senior Counsel and also trainers from the Supreme Court and the Attorney-General's Chambers.

The focus remained on training entrants into the Bar. Over 11 Saturdays in July-September 2013, the Committee conducted the Advocacy Skills Workshop for the Part B Preparatory Course leading to the Bar Exams ("Part B Course") students. Since 2002, about 3,700 students (including this year's record number of about 540 students) have benefitted from the hands-on guidance and training from our advocacy trainers.

In collaboration with the Singapore Institute of Legal Education's efforts to streamline the Part B Course advocacy curriculum, senior members of the Advocacy Committee developed online lecture materials for Part B Course students in the areas of Introduction to Advocacy, Oral Advocacy, Written Advocacy, Case Theory, Summary Judgment Applications and Plea-in-Mitigation which were made available both on the SILE Campus as well as the Law Society's Portal for Part B Students. Moving forward, the Committee is looking at making more relevant online material for Part B Students. One good example is the video by Irving Younger on the "Ten Commandments of Cross Examination".

The increasing number of Part B students has fully engaged the efforts of the Committee and trainers. The number of students has increased from 390 in 2010 to 540 this year. The teaching cohort, however, has not increased in tandem and this has put considerable pressure on our existing cohort of teachers, who have met this challenge admirably. The Committee will continue its efforts to recruit new trainers from diverse backgrounds (including from both the Judiciary and the Attorney-General's Chambers) to enhance the pool of trainers who deliver the training programmes, and also focus on developing the current pool of trainers. The Committee is also looking to roll out continuing professional development programmes for litigation practitioners.

The Committee wishes to thank all trainers, the Judiciary and the Attorney-General's Chambers for their continued support of the advocacy programmes and to all who have been instrumental in the delivery of successful programmes to-date.

Committee Members

Sushil Sukumaran Nair - Chairperson
N Sreenivasan, SC - Vice-Chairperson
Gregory Vijayendran - Council Representative
Andre Yeap, SC
Anparasani s/o Kamachi
Blossom Hing
Chelva Retnam Rajah, SC
Chentil Kumar Kumarasingam
Daniel Koh Choon Guan
Gopinath Pillai
Harish Kumar s/o Champaklal
Liow Wang Wu Joseph
Nicholas Thio Syn Wei
Poonam Bai
Samuel Chacko
Sant Singh Tulsi, SC
Siraj Omar

Secretariat Representative

Jean Wong

alternative dispute resolution

Chan Leng Sun, SC, Chairperson

For the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee has been involved in a myriad of activities, ranging from dialogues, consultations, reform projects to continuing education. Its key activities are set out as follows:

1. Consultations

The Committee was consulted on a number of important law reform proposals and projects relating to alternate dispute resolution during the reporting period, including the following:

- (a) Legislative amendments to the International Arbitration Act, the consolidation of the Arbitration Act and International Arbitration Act and the facilitation of the arbitration of trust disputes in Singapore proposed by the Ministry of Law.
- (b) Reforms to the Family Justice System proposed by the Ministry of Law.
- (c) Primary Justice Project proposed by the Subordinate Courts.



The appointments of the arbitrators on the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Panel for a 3-year term from 2013 have been renewed.

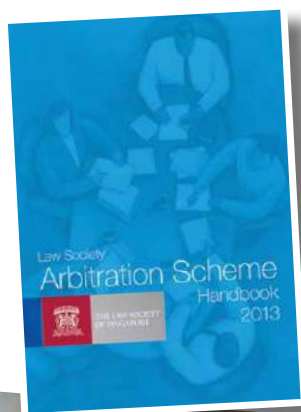


2. Seminars

The ADR Committee held 2 seminars during the reporting period:

- (a) Mediation Advocacy: The Mediation Advocacy seminar was held on 6 to 7 May 2013, and it sought to equip lawyers with a better understanding of the mediation process, help lawyers assess clients' suitability for mediation and effectively prepare for the mediation process.
- (b) Seminar on Dispute Resolution: The seminar on Dispute Resolution was held in conjunction with the launch of the revised edition of the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook on 14 August 2013. Topics included tips on what to expect during arbitration and on using the LSAS Handbook, drafting of arbitration clauses, the presumption of Alternate Dispute Resolution and the referral of disputes to arbitration.

The Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook 2013



Members of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

3. Reprint of the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook

The previous edition of the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook was published in 2011. The ADR Committee and the Law Society worked together to issue a new 2013 version of the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Handbook which was launched on 14 August 2013 to provide members with updated information on the Law Society Arbitration Scheme and the Pro Bono Arbitration Scheme.

4. Renewal of the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Panel of Arbitrators

The appointments of the arbitrators on the Law Society Arbitration Scheme Panel for a 3-year term from 2013 have been renewed.

5. Dialogues

The Chairman and other representatives of the ADR Committee engaged in continuing dialogues with the Subordinate Courts, other Chairpersons and Council representatives of the Law Society to discuss access to justice and consider means by which both the public and lawyers can participate in ADR.

Committee Members

Chan Leng Sun, SC - Chairperson
Teh Kee Wee Lawrence - Co Vice-Chairperson (Arbitration)
Samuel Chacko - Co Vice-Chairperson (Mediation)
See Chern Yang - Council Representative
Bhargavan Sujatha
Cheng Li Huei Glenn
Chew Yee Teck Eric
Hoon Shu Mei Sumathi
Kevin Ong Ching Seong
Nicholas Thio Syn Wei
Rengarajoo s/o Rengasamy Balasamy
Sandosham Paul Rabindranath
Sundareswara Sharma
Tan An Qi Angie
Tang Suen Sim Jacqueline
Wong Jianing Caryn
Yoga Vyjayanthimala

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

civil practice

Jason Lim Chen Thor, Chairperson

During the reporting period, the Civil Practice Committee made a number of notable contributions to the legal profession and the Civil Bar.

1. Litigation Conference

The Committee successfully organised the inaugural Litigation Conference which was held on 31 January 2013 and 1 February 2013. The Conference explored issues arising from present developments and future prospects in litigation practice and featured an interactive discourse on diverse topical issues relating to both domestic and international litigation. An impressive array of speakers and panellists were also lined up to this end. The opening address for day 1 of the conference was delivered by The Honourable The Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, followed by a keynote speech from The Right Honourable The Lord Saville of Newdigate. The Honourable The Attorney-General Steven Chong opened day 2 of the conference. The conference garnered participants from all three categories; junior, middle and senior and was very well-received.

2. Lemon Law Seminar

The Committee is also in the midst of organising a seminar on Lemon Law which came into effect on 1 September 2012. This seminar is anticipated to be held in the fourth quarter of this year.

3. Training Programme for Medical Expert Witnesses

The Committee has continued to work closely with the Singapore Medical Association to design a training curriculum for medical practitioners in order to equip them with the basic legal knowledge and skills required to prepare medical expert reports and give oral expert evidence in proceedings before the Singapore Courts.

4. Dialogues

The Committee engaged in dialogues with both the Supreme Court and the Subordinate Courts.

On 27 February 2013 and 20 June 2013, the Committee met with the Supreme Court to discuss, *inter alia*, the Court's decision to implement a docketing for writs. Under this model, each case commenced in the Supreme Court would be allocated to the docket of a particular Judge who will manage the case until final disposition. The Committee assisted to disseminate details of the docketing model and changes impacting practitioners in this regard to the Bar via eJus News on 2 July 2013.

On 5 February 2013 and 6 June 2013, the Committee was briefed by the Subordinate Courts on the roll-out of eLitigation in the Courts. As requested by the Courts, the Committee assisted to write to and encourage law practices who had not transited to eLitigation to do so.

“The conference garnered participants from all three categories; junior, middle and senior and was very well-received.”

5. Consultations

The Committee continued to participate actively in consultations by relevant stakeholders including the Courts and the Rules of Court Working Party (“ROCWP”) on various matters impacting civil litigation practice.

6. Mobile Teleconferencing Initiative Working Committee (“MTI”)

The Committee is represented on the MTI Working Committee which includes judicial officers from the Subordinate Courts. MTI was designed by the Courts to enable hearings to be conducted via Skype. Representatives of this Committee provided valuable feedback to this end and participated in trial sessions to assist the Courts with this initiative.



Members of the Civil Practice Committee

Committee Members

Jason Lim Chen Thor - Chairperson
Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim
- Vice-Chairperson
Moiz Haider Sithawalla - Council Representative
Ang Hsueh Ling Celeste
Chan Ming Onn David
Christopher Anand s/o Daniel
Dennis Chua Soon Chai
Henry Heng Gwee Nam
Kang Zhi Ni
Kronenburg Edmund Jerome
Lim Tahn Lin Alfred
Lim Tat
Lim Wei Loong Ian
Looi Teck Kheong
Lynn Tok Kwee Hoon
Matthew Saw Seang Kuan
Rengarajoo s/o Rengasamy Balasamy
Teh Kee Wee Lawrence
Vincent Leow
Yeoh Kar Hoe

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

continuing professional development

Daniel Koh, Co-Chairperson, N Sreenivasan, SC, Co-Chairperson

The Law Society's Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") programmes continued to perform well this past year. Over 60 seminars and workshops were organised from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 which attracted more than 4,800 registrations from both members and non-members.

In view of the mandatory CPD scheme which came into effect on 1 April 2012 for young practitioners who were called on or after 2 January 2007, the CPD Committee currently consists of 18 members, of which one-third are members who are young practitioners. The Committee is thus able to develop different programmes targeted at different segments of our membership. At the same time, on-site registration for all CPD programmes was enhanced to allow attendance taking via scanning of NRIC/employment passes (rather than manual sign-in). This new enhancement allows for more effective attendance taking, in line with the Singapore Institute of Legal Education's attendance policy.

1. Highlights of the CPD Calendar

- (a) ADR Conference on 4 and 5 October, jointly organised by the Law Society of Singapore, the Supreme Court, the Subordinate Courts, Singapore Mediation Centre, Singapore Academy of Law and Ministry of Law;
- (b) Litigation Conference organised by the Civil Practice Committee on 31 January and 1 February 2013;
- (c) National Insolvency Conference organised by the Insolvency Practice Committee on 20 August 2013;
- (d) Customised courses for young practitioners in the areas of legal writing, developing commercial acumen, understanding financial statements, valuation and financial due diligence;
- (e) A series of 3 runs of the Mandatory Ethics programme for Newly Qualified Lawyers which have been customized to allow senior practitioners to share their practice experience through case studies and panel discussions;
- (f) A series of 5 runs of Primers on Professional Ethics and 2 runs of Primers on Solicitors' Accounts Rule which have been customized to allow practice trainees to apply basic ethical principles and precepts to various practice-oriented case scenarios which drew more than 450 registrants; and
- (g) More practice-based seminars, particularly in the area of corporate, intellectual property, arbitration, probate, conveyancing, insolvency, and investment treaty arbitration which received excellent support from the practitioners.

2. Upcoming CPD Events

- (a) 26th LawAsia Conference in collaboration with LawAsia from 27-30 October 2013;
- (b) Annual CPD Day on 11 November 2013 will provide practitioners with a general plenary session on latest developments in contract and tort law, as well as specialised tracks, for example, intellectual property, banking, competition law, insolvency, and master class in essential considerations for cross examination of witnesses;
- (c) Criminal Law Conference in collaboration with the Attorney-General's Chambers, Association of Criminal Lawyers of Singapore and Singapore Academy of Law from 16-17 January 2014; and
- (d) Litigation Conference Workshop by the Civil Practice Committee from 6-7 March 2014.

The Committee continues to work with and provides feedback to the Singapore Institute of Legal Education in enhancing the mandatory CPD scheme.

Looking ahead, we will continue to work closely with practice committees of the Law Society to provide programmes of relevance to our members and look at strengthening our collaborations with partners such as the Singapore Institute of Legal Education, the Judiciary, the Attorney-General's Chambers, and the Singapore Academy of Law, among others.

We will also continue to focus on how we can deliver value added and cost effective services to our members to meet the demands of the mandatory CPD scheme over the next few years.



Seminar - Confusion on Trade Marks and Passing Off Actions



Litigation Conference

Committee Members

Daniel Koh Choon Guan - Co-Chairperson
 N Sreenivasan, SC - Co-Chairperson
 Ng Wai King - Vice-Chairperson
 Tan Gim Hai Adrian - Council Representative
 Chu Hua Yi
 Gregory Xu Weicheng
 Koh Swee Yen
 Kuppusamy Gerald Chien-Yi
 Lynette Maureen Boxall
 Madhavi Arya
 Manimaran s/o Arumugam
 Marini Martin Vincent
 Mohamad Rizuan Bin Pathie
 Raeza Khaled Salem Ibrahim
 Ramesh Chandr Tiwary
 Sandrasegara Manoj Pillay
 Tan Tiaw Kheng
 Wong Li Kok

Secretariat Representative

Jean Wong

conveyancing practice

Tan Heng Khim, Chairperson

The Conveyancing Practice Committee is pleased to present its report for the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013. Details of the Committee's key activities and projects for the reporting period are set out as follows:

1. Requests by Members for Committee's Ruling, Direction or Guidance on Conveyancing Practice Issues

During the reporting period a total of 23 references were sent to the Committee for determination. The Committee provided 17 rulings, directions or guidance for references which fell within its purview. Queries relating to the interpretation of clauses in the Law Society of Singapore's Conditions of Sale 2012 and holding of conveyancing client monies formed the majority of the requests for the Committee's determination.

2. Day of Conveyancing Highlights 2012

The Committee successfully organised the "Day of Conveyancing Highlights" seminar on 7 November 2012. This seminar had been developed with the busy conveyancing practitioner in mind and also benefited legal practitioners who wished to keep abreast of developments in this area of practice. The seminar covered key developments in the Residential Property Act, the Housing Developers Rules and Additional Buyer's Stamp Duty and Seller's Stamp Duty, and presented to participants a better understanding of opportunities for risk management in relation to conveyancing practice, as well as an overview and consequences of implementation of the New Conveyancing Regime and the Law Society of Singapore's Conditions of Sale 2012 ("Conditions of Sale 2012").

The Committee hopes to make this seminar an annual event to help conveyancing practitioners keep abreast of changes which may affect their practice. To this end, the Committee plans to hold the "Day of Conveyancing Highlights 2013" in November 2013.

3. Consultations and Dialogues with Relevant Stakeholders

The Committee actively participated in consultations and dialogues with relevant stakeholders, such as the Singapore Land Authority, the Urban Redevelopment Authority and the Ministry of Law on various matters, including:

(a) Conditions for issuance of fresh Sale and Purchase Agreements under the Housing Developers Rules in light of the changes implemented by the Housing Developers (Amendment) Rules 2012; and

(b) Proposed amendments to the recommended stakeholding clauses in Option to Purchase and the Sale and Purchase Agreement.

4. Annotated Guide to the Conditions of Sale 2012

Following the launch of the Conditions of Sale 2012 on 19 January 2012, which was intended to bring the Conditions of Sale up to date with modern conveyancing practice and introduce new provisions in line with the legislative and regulatory amendments as well as to address certain prevailing conveyancing practices to balance the rights and interests of the vendor and purchaser, the Committee has started work on an annotated guide to the Conditions of Sale 2012 and will submit its proposal to the Council.



Members of the Conveyancing Practice Committee

5. Practice Directions and Committee Circulars on Conveyancing Practice Matters

The Committee provided substantial input on the following Council's Practice Directions and issued the following Circulars to provide members guidance on current practice issues:

- (a) Circular 2 of 2012 on Conditions for Issuance of Fresh Sale and Purchase Agreements under the Housing Developers Rules;
- (b) Circular 1 of 2013 on Amendments to Recommended Clauses in Options to Purchase and Sale and Purchase Agreements;
- (c) Circular 2 of 2013 on Claim for Late Completion Interest and Account of Rent;
- (d) Council's Practice Direction 1 of 2013 on Granting Access for E-Lodgement and Registration of Singapore Land Authority Documents Instruments for Conveyancing Transactions; and
- (e) Requests to Conveyancing Practice Committee for Guidance, Direction(s) or Rulings.

6. Miscellaneous

The Committee is also working on a compilation of "Best Practices for Conveyancing Practice" and an update to the current Law Society of Singapore's Conveyancing Practice Directions and Rulings 2009.

Committee Members

Tan Heng Khim - Chairperson
 Ang Keng Lee - Vice-Chairperson
 Lim Seng Siew - Council Representative
 Blossom Yeo
 Cheah Saing Chong
 Chia Hue Siew
 Chew Mei Choo
 Chin Bau Tze Selina
 Chua Lei Kwan Lina Mary
 Derrick Wong
 Moncy Mathew
 Rajan Menon
 Tan Ching Chern
 Teo Eng Thye
 Wee Cheng Imm Hope
 Wong Mei Yoke Wendy Nee Leong

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

corporate practice

Petrus Huang Yen San, Chairperson

During the reporting period, the Corporate Practice Committee provided feedback on a number of consultations from the regulatory authorities; namely the Companies Act Review Steering Committee Recommendations 2012, Companies (Amendment) Bill 2013 and introduction of Open-Ended Investment Companies in Singapore.

1. Code of Corporate Governance Seminar

The Committee organised a seminar to tackle the practical and policy issues arising from the third iteration of the Code of Corporate Governance (the "Code") issued in May 2012. The seminar was held on 29 May 2013 and delivered by Mr Adrian Chan, a member of the Committee. In addition to providing an overview of the Code, the seminar also discussed practical solutions for practitioners tasked with advising their clients on the ramifications and applicability of the Code's provisions in addition to drafting and reviewing Corporate Governance Statements.

2. Personal Data Protection Seminar

On 17 July 2013, the Committee in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Practice Committee organised a seminar on the Personal Data Protection Act ("PDPA") and its effect on operations of businesses. The seminar was widely attended and featured a number of distinguished speakers, including the Personal Data Protection Commission's General Counsel, Mr David Alfred.

3. Dialogues

The Committee holds regular dialogue sessions with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority ("ACRA") to raise issues encountered in corporate practice and to be apprised of the new initiatives and policies rolled-out by ACRA. The Committee also supports ACRA by providing certain data relevant to the work and services extended by ACRA.

On 14 May 2013, the Committee was invited by the Singapore Association of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators ("SAICSA") and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Singapore ("ICPAS") to provide their views on the proposed ACRA corporate service regime.

Committee Members

Petrus Huang Yen San - Chairperson
Farhana Ahmed Sharmeen - Vice-Chairperson
Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel - Council Representative
Chan Pengee Adrian
Chester Toh Eak Siew
Chong Foo Nam Nicholas
Ho Kit San Alice
Koh Keen Chuan Jerry
Loo Khee Sheng
Low Kah Keong
Michael Walter
Nigel Yeoh Lian Chuan
Nithiakala d/o Dory
Priscilla Tan Gopalan
Raymond Tong

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

criminal practice

Wendell Wong, Chairperson

This report is for the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013.

1. The Committee continued to be involved in numerous projects and dialogue sessions with the various key stakeholders in the government agencies. It has been yet another extremely busy but meaningful year of engagement and activity. There have been many significant changes to the criminal justice landscape including changes to the mandatory death penalty.
2. We have been honoured to be able to expand our pool of consultants and volunteers.
3. This year also saw the launch of the Joint “Code of Conduct” (“Code”) between lawyer and prosecutor at the Tripartite Lunch on 27 March 2013 hosted by the Committee at Park Regis Hotel. This Code had been a work of progress for over a year. This was followed by another Tripartite Lunch hosted by the Judiciary on 20 August 2013 to launch the long-awaited (10 years in the making) Subordinate Courts’ Sentencing Practice Book.
4. There were also several events hosted by the Committee to make it a very memorable year.
5. There were Committee meetings at the Law Society’s premises on the following dates:
 - (a) 21 February 2013
 - (b) 28 April 2013
 - (c) 27 June 2013
6. There was a town hall session with the Criminal Bar practitioners on 30 October 2012 to discuss the Joint Code of Conduct.
7. There were meetings/dialogue sessions with the Attorney-General’s Chambers (“AGC”) as follows:
 - (a) 12 September 2012 – Lunch meeting with Attorney-General to discuss the Joint Code of Conduct.*
 - (b) 9 October 2012 – Meeting with Attorney-General to discuss the Joint Code of Conduct.*
 - (c) 25 April 2013 – Dialogue session with AGC.
 - (d) 1 August 2013 – Meeting with AGC on Criminal Case Disclosure Conference matters.
(* denotes same members of the Association of Criminal Lawyers of Singapore participated in the meetings)
8. There were meetings/consultations/dialogue sessions with the Ministry of Law as follows:
 - (a) October 2012 – To discuss the reform of Mandatory Death Penalty Law.
 - (b) 5 October 2012 – To discuss the Revised Legal Profession (Ethics & Professional Responsibility Rules) 2012.
 - (c) 28 February 2013 – Meeting with the Homicide Review Committee.*
 - (d) 25 April 2013 – Meeting with the Homicide Review Committee.*
(* denotes the attendees also included representative from the AGC)
9. There were dialogue sessions with the Subordinate Courts as follows:
 - (a) 30 May 2013 – Quarterly session
 - (b) 13 June 2013 – Discussion on Criminal Case Disclosure Conference
 - (c) 22 August 2013 – Quarterly session
10. There were activities conducted for ELM (Every Lawyer Matters):
 - (a) 26 November 2012 – Kopi Talk: “Mind Your Practice: Stress or Rest” held at Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, attended by members of the Criminal Bar.
 - (b) 22 May 2013 – Talk on pain management held at The Body Clinic, attended by members of the Criminal Bar.
11. Year 2012 ended with a bang when the Committee hosted the 1st Criminal Bar Drinks at Muddy Murphy on 14 December 2012. Members of the Criminal Bar attended.
12. 16 March 2013 saw the Appropriate Adult (“AA”) Recruitment and Briefing at the Singapore Police Force Bedok Division.
13. Committee members attended an Integrated Criminal Case Filing and Management System (“ICMS”) walk through session with the Subordinate Courts on 26 March 2013.
14. There was the most-talked about event of the year – the AGC Cup which was held on 30 March 2013 at Jalan Besar Stadium.
15. 17 May 2013 saw the “Innocence Project” Launch by the National University of Singapore students.
16. From 13 to 19 May 2013, there was an International Bridges of Justice (“IBJ”) training of Myanmar lawyers conducted in Myanmar (attended by IBJ and the Committee, Myanmar AGC, Ministry of Law of Myanmar).

criminal practice

Wendell Wong, Chairperson

17. The Committee participated in the Criminal Justice Conference from 17 to 18 May 2013. Attendees included the National University of Singapore Criminal Justice Club, Singapore Management University Criminal Justice Club, Temasek Polytechnic, the Committee, Criminal Legal Aid Scheme Committee, AGC, Ministry of Law and the Judiciary.

18. There were other consultations held:

- (a) May 2013 – Review of law on homicide and treatment of mentally disabled offenders (attended by Ministry of Law, AGC, the Committee).
- (b) June 2013 – Robbing in the Subordinate Courts (attended by Subordinate Courts, Criminal Bar).
- (c) 16 August 2013 – Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Bill (consultation between Ministry of Finance and Law Society).
- (d) 16 August 2013 – Amendment to Prison Act (Attended by the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Committee).

19. A thank you dinner was held on 12 July 2013 for the former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong. It was a successful event and many members of the Criminal Bar attended.



Thank You Dinner In Honour of the Former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong



Members of the Criminal Practice Committee

Committee Members

Wendell Wong - Chairperson
Gloria James-Civetta - Vice-Chairperson
Anand Nalachandran - Council Representative
A. Sangeetha
Abdul Salim
Amarjit Singh
Amolat Singh
B. Rengarajoo
Cheah Saing Chong
Chia Boon Teck
Derek Kang
Jackson Eng
Lionel Chan
Mark Tan
Nadia Yeo
Nicholas Cheong
Peter Ong
Rajvant Kaur
Ramesh Tiwary
Raphael Louis
Revi Shanker
Shashidran Nathan
Steven Lam
Tania Chin
Terence Tan

Consultants

Justice (Retired) Kan Ting Chiu
Amarjeet Singh, SC
Michael Khoo Kah Lip, SC
Professor Michael Hor Yew Meng
Professor Stanley Yeo Meng Heong
Professor Chan Wing Cheong
Professor S. Chandra Mohan
Professor Mark James Findlay
Professor Mahdev Mohan

Secretariat Representative

Lim Tanguy Yuteck

family law practice

Yap Teong Liang, Chairperson

Between September 2012 to August 2013, the Family Law Practice Committee continued to be at the forefront of a number of important reforms in family law practice and the professional development of family law practitioners in Singapore.

1. The Family Justice System

The Family Justice System is a law reform project spearheaded by the Ministry of Law, which seeks to resolve and adjudicate cases brought before the Family Court through less adversarial rules and processes. Its overriding aim is to establish a problem-solving Court grounded on the therapeutic justice model. The Committee gave its views on various aspects of the proposed system, not limited to the following: the proposed shifting of emphasis towards counselling, mediation and alternative dispute resolution; the development of a complementary profession of family justice practitioners trained in counselling, psychology and mediation; the move to a more inquisitorial system in family justice; the simplification of divorce procedures and processes; the facilitation of quicker and more efficient resolution of practical issues arising in divorces; and the establishment of a framework to leverage on the Family Services Centre and support networks to resolve family disputes.

The Committee studied the reforms proposed and highlighted to the Ministry of Law the pros and cons of each proposed reform and suggested ways to plug the gaps in the proposed system.

2. Consultations

The Committee also dealt with various consultations such as the feasibility of a professional trust scheme for the mentally incapacitated in Singapore, information on the cost and timeline of the deputyship application process as well as the Primary Justice Project discussion memorandum.

“The Family Law Practice Committee continued to be at the forefront of a number of important reforms in family law practice and the professional development of family law practitioners in Singapore.”

family law practice

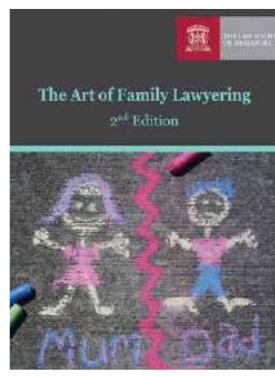
Yap Teong Liang, Chairperson

3. Family Law and Practice Series

As part of its 2013 workplan, the Committee organised a series of family law practice seminars jointly with the Singapore Academy of Law, endeavouring to educate family law practitioners on Mediation Advocacy; Advocacy in Family Law; Parental Child Abduction and Relocation and the Hague Convention; and the Drafting of Pleadings and Affidavits and Ancillary Matters. Senior members of the Bar, Mr Chandra Mohan K. Nair and Mr N Sreenivasan, SC as well as Associate Professor Debbie Ong and District Judges Mr Kevin Ng, Ms Jocelyn Ong and Ms Jen Koh spoke at the seminars. Mr Rajan Chettiar and Mr Yap Teong Liang from the Committee were also speakers at the seminars.

4. Publication of “The Art of Family Lawyering” (2nd Edition)

The 2nd edition of “The Art of Family Lawyering” was published as an e-book on 18 January 2013, which can be purchased from the e-shop on the Law Society’s website. The 2nd edition is currently the most updated version with contributions from experienced family law practitioners and Family Court judges.



“The Art of Family Lawyering” e-book

5. Lunch with Students from the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore

Continuing with the tradition of the Committee, members of the Committee met with students from the Faculty of Law over lunch to share their experiences and to give the students a practical insight of what the practice of family law is like.

6. Dialogues with the Family Court

The Committee continued to have quarterly dialogue sessions with the Family Court to provide feedback on improving and streamlining practice aspects at the Family Court.

Committee Members

Yap Teong Liang - Chairperson
Yeo Khee Chye Raymond - Vice-Chairperson
Lee Terk Yang - Council Representative
Amolat Singh
Anuradha d/o Krishan Chand Sharma
Associate Professor Debbie Ong Siew Ling
Belinda Ang
Cheong Yen Lin Adriene
Chia Chwee Imm Helen
Ellen Lee Geck Hoon
Gloria James-Civetta
Guy Bte Ghazali
Kalpanath Singh Rina
Kamalarajan Malaiyandi Chettiar
Malathi Das
Mirchandani Poonam Lachman
Seet Pek Hian Harold
Seow May Ern Hannah
Tan Hui Qing
Tan Siew Kim
Wong Soo Chih

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

information technology

Bryan Manaf Ghows, Chairperson



Seminar on IT

With the increasing use of technology in the legal profession, the Committee felt that running a series of small interactive seminars on how to use technology would be beneficial. The first seminar held on 10 May 2013 focused on the basics of setting up and using e-mail. The second session held on 19 July 2013 focused on building on the teachings from the first seminar. Participants were guided on how to leverage e-mail as well as the hard and soft skills of using e-mail. Future sessions are likely to touch on how to scan documents and use them in a workflow and how to master Microsoft Word.

Members of the Committee have continued to work with the Singapore Academy of Law ("SAL") in assessing the specifications of the eDiscovery platform, the needs of the profession and the capability of various vendors. The SAL is expected to award the contract for the implementation of the eDiscovery platform before the end of 2013.

The Committee has also been assessing the IT needs of members in the Courts. To that end the Committee has been assessing the need for WIFI connectivity and printing capability in the two Bar rooms.

Committee Members

Bryan Manaf Ghows - Chairperson
Elaine Tan Ee Lian - Vice-Chairperson
Lim Seng Siew - Council Representative
Edmund Jerome Kronenburg
Kuppusamy Gerald Chien-Yi
Lim Kian Kim
Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey
Looi Teck Kheong
Ng Chong Yuan
Peter Heng Teck Wee
Roslina Bte Baba
Wong Siew Hong
Wun Rizwi

Secretariat Representative

Michael Ho

insolvency practice

Andrew Chan Chee Yin, Chairperson

The Insolvency Practice Committee has actively sought to advance the practice of insolvency law during the reporting period, the highlight being the National Insolvency Conference which was held on 20 August 2013.




National Insolvency Conference 2013



Following the success of the inaugural Regional Insolvency Conference in 2012, the Committee organised a national conference this year which brought together many leading professionals from the legal, accounting and banking fields. The topics included debt repayment scheme, impact of insolvency on commercial transactions, remuneration of insolvency practitioners, as well as the role of the Courts and Singapore as a regional hub for restructuring. The conference featured a distinguished line-up of panelists including the Official Assignee Ms Sia Aik Kor. The closing address was delivered by Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy. The emcee for the conference was Chen Jianhao Kennedy, a member of the Committee. The organising committee was chaired by Nish Shetty and comprised Andrew Chan, Balakrishnan Ashok Kumar, Manoj Pillay Sandrasegara and Sushil Sukumaran Nair. The conference was well-received with about 250 participants and garnered good press coverage.

During the reporting period, the Committee represented the Insolvency Bar by taking steps to harmonise the procedures and approaches relating to particular aspects of personal insolvency. This involved writing to the Supreme Court on 6 March 2013 and a subsequent dialogue session on the same on 9 April 2013. At the National Insolvency Conference, Senior Assistant Registrar Connie Ng also shared the positive response of the Supreme Court to the issues raised by the Committee during the dialogue session.



The Committee has been actively engaged in discussions in collaboration with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee to promote the use of the Law Society Arbitration Scheme to resolve disputes in the context of insolvency; namely disputes arising from proofs of debt and creditors' appeal for rejection of proofs of debt. Committee members Nila Ibrahim and Chu Hua Yi continue to lead the efforts towards achieving an efficacious outcome in this endeavour.

In addition to the National Insolvency Conference, the Committee also organised a seminar on 24 April 2013 on "Selected Issues in Insolvency – Offshore Funds Litigation and Challenges to Office Holders" which was delivered by Catherine Newman QC, Paul Girolami QC and Matthew Collings QC. The first part of the seminar involved an examination of *The Liquidators of Fairfield Sentry Limited v Shell Pension Fund* which deals with the submitting of proof in a cross-border liquidation in relation to the Madoff affair. The second part pertained to discussions on making and defeating challenges to decisions of office holders. This was followed by a Singapore perspective on the issues raised, delivered by Andrew Chan. The organising committee consisted of Andrew Chan, Nish Shetty, Chan Kia Pheng and David Chan Ming Onn.

The Committee participated in several important consultation exercises this year such as the Draft Companies (Amendment) Bill 2013 and continues to have a vested interest in communicating the concerns and views of the Committee on insolvency matters to external stakeholders. Many members of the Committee gave their views on various aspects, and among the more active members in this respect were Sim Kwan Kiat and Ho Mingjie Kevin.

The Committee also expects to hold a networking event for lawyers who are insolvency practitioners and accountants in the upcoming months.

Committee Members

Andrew Chan Chee Yin - Chairperson
Nish Kumar Shetty - Vice-Chairperson
Tan Gim Hai Adrian - Council Representative
Adrian Peh Nam Chuan
Balakrishnan Ashok Kumar
Chan Kia Pheng
Chan Ming Onn David
Chen Jianhao Kennedy
Chu Hua Yi
Ho Mingjie Kevin
Lionel Tay Yew Jin
Looi Teck Kheong
Saburabi Nila Ibrahim
Sim Kwan Kiat
Sushil Sukumaran Nair

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

intellectual property

Jo-Ann See, Chairperson



Members of the Intellectual Property Committee

The Intellectual Property Committee (the “IP Committee”) commenced the new term with a flurry of activities.

The IP Committee worked closely with the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (“IPOS”) to give feedback on the amendments to the Patents Rules and attended sessions with IPOS to discuss the implementation of these changes and practices.

The Ministry of Law had set up an IP Steering Committee in 2012 to formulate a Master Plan for Singapore’s development as a Global IP Hub in Asia. The IP Committee was invited to and did submit feedback on the draft report of the IP Steering Committee. Subsequent to the feedback, several members of the IP Committee also participated in a Sharing Session on the IP Hub Master Plan organised by the Ministry of Law.

The IP Committee also organised 2 seminars to update members of the Bar on changes to the intellectual property legal landscape and to educate them on intellectual property practice issues. These seminars were well attended.

1. Seminar on Personal Data Protection

This seminar, held on 17 July 2013, was a joint project between the Corporate Practice Committee and the IP Committee. It sought to provide lawyers with an overview and understanding of the Personal Data Protection Act (the “Act”) which was passed in Parliament on 15 October 2012. The seminar topics included the definition of personal data, the rights and obligations of organisations and consumers, and the effective development of privacy policies in view of the Act.



“ The IP Committee also held regular dialogues with stakeholders such as the Courts and IPOS, contributing towards the development of the intellectual property law regime in Singapore. ”

2. Seminar on Confusion of Trade Marks and Passing Off Actions

This seminar, held on 14 August 2013, explored the role that confusion has played in recent trade mark and passing off actions and considered the role that confusion survey evidence has in proving confusion or the lack thereof.

The IP Committee also held regular dialogues with stakeholders such as the Courts and IPOS, contributing towards the development of the intellectual property law regime in Singapore.

Committee Members

Jo-Ann See – Chairperson
Jonathan Foong – Vice-Chairperson
Kuah Boon Theng – Council Representative
Boo Yee Swan
Catherine Lee Su Yee
Elaine Lew Yee Wen
Elaine Tan Ee Lian
George Hwang
Haq Tasneem Rehena
Lam Chung Nian
Leck Kwang Hwee Andy
Lee Shang Wei, Joyce
Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey
Lynette Maureen Boxall
Max Ng Chee Weng
Moi Sok Ling
Murgiana Haq
Nirmala Ravindran
Priscilla Tan Gopalan
Ravindran s/o Muthucumarasamy
Soh Kar Liang
Tan Kee Leng
Tan Sian Yang Jeremy
Tay Sock Kheng
Teo Kwan Soon Paul
Wun Rizwi
Yew Woon Chooi

Secretariat Representative
Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

international relations

Michael Hwang, SC, Chairperson

During the period of reporting, the Law Society hosted the following:

1. The Right Honourable The Lord Igor Judge, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales on 5 September 2012.
2. A delegation from Shenzhen Lawyers Association on 17 January 2013.
3. President of International Association of Young Lawyers, Mr Thierry Aballea on 10 April 2013.
4. A secretariat representative from the Law Society of England & Wales on 13 June 2013.
5. Delegates attending the Judicial Governance Programme organised by the Subordinate Courts and Civil Service College on 11 July 2013.

The Committee is also in the midst of planning 2 projects. The first is the 4th Biennial Lecture, which is scheduled for 13 September 2013 at the Auditorium of One Marina Boulevard. This year, there will be 2 guest speakers from the Malaysian Bar Council, namely, Christopher Leong, the incumbent President; and Ambiga Sreenevasan, past President and chief organiser of the “March for Justice” in Malaysia in 2007.

The second project is the legal mission to Myanmar which has aroused considerable interest among members of the Law Society. The Secretariat is presently liaising with contacts in Myanmar to plan the programme and to fix a date for this mission.



eBlast - Invitation to a Legal Mission to Myanmar



Visit by President of International Association of Young Lawyers, Mr Thierry Aballea

“The second project is the legal mission to Myanmar which has aroused considerable interest among members of the Law Society.”

Committee Members

Michael Hwang, SC - Chairperson
 Teh Kee Wee Lawrence - Vice-Chairperson
 Thio Shen Yi, SC - Council Representative
 Alexander Bohusch
 Amirul Hairi Bin Mohamed Rawi
 Andrea Geat
 Chia Hue Siew
 Franca Ciambella
 Huang Yen San Petrus
 Kuppusamy Gerald Chien-Yi
 Leng Kimberley
 Lye Huixian
 Michael Walter
 Nguyen Hoang Long
 Nicholas Thio Syn Wei
 Nithiakala d/o Dory
 Paul Robert Rodgers
 Pereire Kenneth George
 Poonaam Bai d/o Ramakrishnan Gnanasekaran
 Sundareswara Sharma
 Supreeta Suman
 Tan An Qi Angie
 Tan Rachel Swee Hua
 Tang Suen Sim Jacqueline
 Trevor George De Silva
 Wong Yi
 Yip Tai Meng Marcus
 Yoga Vyjayanthimala
 Zhang Rui

Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

muslim law practice

Ahmad Nizam Bin Abbas, Chairperson

For the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, the Muslim Law Practice Committee has been involved in several meaningful initiatives and activities as follows:

1. Singapore Council of Women's Organisations' Monthly Legal Clinics

Members of the Committee have been rendering legal advice to members of the public at the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations' legal clinics on a monthly basis.

2. Pro Bono Initiatives at the Syariah Court

The Pro Bono Services Office has been collaborating with the Committee to implement initiatives at the Syariah Court to educate the public on Court proceedings through the distribution of pamphlets, screening of videos and giving of lectures.



Members of the Muslim Law Practice Committee

3. Legal Forum for Asatizah

The Committee and the Law Awareness Committee jointly organised the "Legal Forum for Asatizah" on 31 August 2013 which served to educate Muslim educational providers on Muslim laws in Singapore, the judicial system and the existing criminal and civil legal aid schemes. The "Legal Forum for Asatizah" is a spin-off of the Law Awareness Committee's "Project Schools" run by the Pro Bono Services Office.

4. Dialogues with the Syariah Court

The Committee has also continued its existing practice of holding regular dialogues with the Syariah Court, which aims primarily to enhance the practice of Muslim law in Singapore.

Committee Members

Ahmad Nizam Bin Abbas – Chairperson
Abdul Rahman Bin Mohd Hanipah – Vice-Chairperson
Moiz Haider Sithawalla – Council Representative
Abdusalam Arshad Khan
Amirul Hairi Bin Mohamed Rawi
Ferzana Fareen Haq
Guy Bte Ghazali
Mohamed Rizuan Bin Pathie
Murgiana Haq
Salehah Johari
Siti Aishah Binte Anwar
Yasmeen Jamil Marican
Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

nima-pima

Teo Weng Kie, Chairperson



Members of the NIMA-PIMA Committee

Previously a sub-committee of the Civil Practice Committee, the NIMA-PIMA Committee was reconstituted to a standing committee in 2013 and continues to fervently represent the Bar on matters relating to non-injury and personal injury motor accidents.

During the reporting period, the Committee engaged in dialogues with the Subordinate Courts, Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office, and General Insurance Association of Singapore and provided feedback on a number of important consultations. The Committee also has a vested interest in issues pertaining to workflow and services rendered to accident victims and to this end intends to hold regular dialogue sessions with the Singapore Motor Workshop Association.

The Committee will be organising a seminar on best practices and developments in NIMA-PIMA scheduled to take place on 5 November 2013. The seminar will feature an esteemed panel of lawyers and medical practitioners who will advise primarily on the NIMA-PIMA Protocol and recommended practices in NIMA-PIMA, including cross-examination of medical expert witnesses.

Committee Members

Teo Weng Kie - Chairperson
Renuka Chettiar - Vice-Chairperson
Lisa Sam - Council Representative
Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim
Cheah Saing Chong
Constance Margreat Paglar
Edwin Sim
Harjeet Singh
Jayaprakash Thiyagarajan
Nirmala Ravindran
Patrick Yeo
Raphael Louis
Roger Yek
Stephen Chong
Vivienne Sandhu
Willy Tay

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

probate practice

Dr Gopalan Raman, Chairperson

Pursuant to the Council's resolution made on 26 December 2012, the Probate Practice Committee was constituted with effect from 1 January 2013.

Despite being new, the Committee has been actively involved in several consultations, and was asked to provide feedback on the following consultations:

1. The proposed changes to the Wills Registry;
2. The Family Justice System;
3. Information on the cost and timeline of the deputyship application process; and
4. The feasibility of a professional trust scheme for the mentally incapacitated in Singapore.

“ The Committee also engages in dialogues with the Subordinate Courts to discuss various probate practice issues pertinent to the profession. ”

Probate Practice Seminar

The Committee organised a Seminar on Selected Issues in Probate Administration on 2 July 2013 at the Subordinate Courts. The Committee Chairperson, Dr Gopalan Raman, gave a presentation on contentious probate practice matters while District Judge Miranda Yeo highlighted the common problems encountered in non-contentious probate applications in the Subordinate Courts, both working towards educating members of the Bar on important probate practice issues. This was followed by a panel discussion led by District Judge Loo Ngan Chor, District Judge Miranda Yeo and Dr Gopalan Raman.

Apart from consultations and the seminar, the Committee also engages in dialogues with the Subordinate Courts to discuss various probate practice issues pertinent to the profession.



Seminar on Selected
Issues in Probate
Administration



Members of the Probate Practice Committee

Committee Members

Dr Gopalan Raman - Chairperson
 Goh Kok Yeow - Vice-Chairperson
 Gregory Vijayendran - Council Representative
 Daniel Tan Choon Huat
 David Nayar
 Kee Lay Lian
 Leon Kwong Wing
 Navin Joseph Lobo
 Patrick Tan Tse Chia
 Pratap Kishan
 Ramani Muniyandi
 Sim Bock Eng
 Tan-Goh Song Gek Alice
 Yap Lan Hiang Vicky

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

publications

Gregory Vijayendran, Chairperson

The Publications Committee introduced 2 new initiatives during the reporting period. First, in November 2012, the Specialist Witness Directory was launched with more than 10 specialist witnesses taking up advertisements in this inaugural Directory which was published online at the Society's website. It is hoped that this Directory will be a useful and valuable resource for lawyers seeking a specialist opinion or perspective, procuring a specialist report or instructing a specialist in a litigation or arbitration matter. The concept of the Directory will be further refined in the coming year so as to boost the take-up of advertisements by legal specialist service providers.

Second, a new service to assist law practices to disseminate notice of holiday/office closures to third party organisations was introduced in January 2013. For a small fee, law practices can utilize this service where the Society would send out notices of office/holiday closure on behalf of law practices to a pre-determined list of organisations such as the Courts, government ministries and statutory boards.

The publishing contract with LexisNexis to publish the Singapore Law Gazette (the "Law Gazette") was renewed for another 5 years, from October 2012.

The Publications Committee continued to focus on a few specially commissioned thematic issues for the Law Gazette (including Alternative Dispute Resolution in January 2013 and Criminal Law in September 2013).

The Committee published a supplement with the July 2013 issue of the Law Gazette titled "Start as You Mean to Go on" with articles written by both young and senior lawyers who shared tips on "surviving" and thriving in practice. Additional copies were specially printed for the 411 new advocates and solicitors who were called to the Bar at the Mass Call held on 27 July 2013.

For the 6th year running, the Society published its Directory of lawyers and law practices online. The online Directory has consistently been among the top 3 most visited sections of the Society's website. We are grateful to the law practices that have purchased advertisements in the Directory and thank them for their support.



January 2013
Issue of the
Law Gazette



Special Supplement for Young Lawyers

“ This year's Annual Report carries the theme “Bridging Ideas, Connecting People” to reflect the Society's and Council's emphasis on greater communication with members. ”

This year's Annual Report carries the theme "Bridging Ideas, Connecting People" to reflect the Society's and Council's emphasis on greater communication with members.

At the time of writing this report, the Committee is in the midst of putting together the nominations for the Law Gazette Writing Awards which will be inaugurated in the last quarter of this year. A sterling panel of judges comprising a former judge, senior counsel and a law academic will select the best feature article. We hope through these Awards to recognise writers for their contribution to the Law Gazette and also encourage more people to write high quality articles for the publication.



Members of the Publications Committee

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Committee for their ideas, feedback, contributions, hard work and dedication in serving on this Committee and the sub-committees under it. I would also like to record my heartfelt gratitude to our Publications Director, Sharmaine Lau, who finely executed many of the ideas and initiatives proposed by the Committee.

Committee Members

Gregory Vijayendran – Chairperson
Malathi Das – Co Vice-Chairperson
Prakash Pillai – Co Vice-Chairperson
Simran Kaur Toor – Council Representative
Celeste Ang
Chua Sui Tong
Joel Teo
Lye Huixian
Mahadevan Lukshumayeh
Marcus Yip
Mohan Gopalan
Rajan Chettiar
Supreeta Suman
Vincent Leow
Yeo Chuan Tat
Yeoh Lian Chuan

Secretariat Representative

Sharmaine Lau

public and international law

Prakash Pillai, Chairperson



Seminar on Investment Treaty Arbitration

One of the objectives of the Public and International Law Committee is to develop an awareness and understanding of public law, public international law and comparative law.

The Committee aims to create awareness and understanding of these areas not only amongst practitioners but also amongst the various stakeholders connected to legal services and members of the public. To create such awareness, the Committee has organised public lectures, seminars and workshops on various topics.

The Committee organised a seminar “Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Investment Treaty Arbitration But were Afraid to Ask” on 14 May 2013. An increasing number of investor-State disputes have been referred to arbitration. Such disputes involving bilateral or multilateral investment protection treaties have elements of public international law. As Singapore itself has entered into a number of Bilateral Investment Treaties and Investment Guarantee Agreements with other countries, it may be useful for Singapore practitioners to acquire or continue to develop their expertise in this area of investment treaty arbitration. We were privileged to have Professor Gabrielle Kaufmann-Kohler (Professor of Law, University of Geneva) and Professor Albert Jan van den Berg (Professor at Law and the Arbitration Chair, Erasmus University Rotterdam), both renowned experts in investment treaty arbitration, as speakers at the seminar. The session was moderated by John Savage.

Members will be informed if there will be other lectures, seminars or workshops organised by the Committee.



Committee Members

Prakash Pillai - Chairperson
Michael Hwang, SC - Vice-Chairperson
Wong Meng Meng, SC - Council Representative
Choo Wan Ning Emily
Dharishinie d/o Mani
Indulekshmi Rajeswari
Kenneth Lim Tao Chung
Koh Joo Peng Edmund
Lee Wei Yuen Arvin
Marini Martin Vincent
Ng Aik Kai
Paul Tan Beng Hwee
Teo Hui Ling
Wong Li Kok
Yee Mun Howe Gerald

Resource Panel

Dr Jack Tsen-Ta Lee

Secretariat Representative

Kenneth Goh

small law firms

Mark Goh Aik Leng, Chairperson

For the reporting period of 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, the Small Law Firms Committee worked towards not only improving the small law firms' practice standards, but also promoted collaboration amongst small law firm practitioners.

In January 2013, the Committee made available 10 sample precedents to assist small law firm practitioners as part of its initiative to establish a resource database for these practitioners. The 10 sample precedents were an addition to the 18 sample precedents made available earlier in 2011. The precedents included Agreement for Sale of Shares, Novation Agreement, Guarantee for Loans, Shareholder Agreement, Settlement Agreement and other useful precedents. All 28 sample precedents are available at the Society's website under Members' Library > Practice Matters > Small Law Firms.

The Committee has started an "SLF Kopi Talks" initiative to hold regular dialogue sessions with small law firm practitioners to raise topics of interest and to gather feedback. The talks will be organised by 4 hubs based on practice areas or issues, namely, Civil Litigation hub, Corporate Law hub, Criminal Law hub and Family Law hub. The inaugural SLF Kopi Talk was held on 29 August 2013 and the agenda included a talk by the Committee Chairperson, Mark Goh on "You Don't Have to Walk Alone - Sharing of Resources", information on CPD for solicitors, incentive schemes available to small law firms and the Law Society Arbitration Scheme.

The Committee collaborated with the IT Committee to organise seminars on the use of technology in legal practice. To date, 2 IT seminars have been held. The "Seminar on Leveraging E-mail Technology in Your Legal Practice" was held on 10 May 2013, while the "Seminar on Leveraging E-mail Technology - The Hard & Soft Skills of E-mails" was held on 19 July 2013. The purpose of the seminars was to foster and share best practices in the use of technology, enhance communication and client satisfaction, cut costs by leveraging technology, as well as adopting and using technology more efficiently.

The Committee also plans to hold a seminar on small law firms' structures in November 2013. The seminar would cover issues such as compliance and administrative issues on setting up law practices, conversion to various corporate structures available for law practices, tax implications of various corporate structures of law practices and practical insights on choosing an appropriate corporate structure for law practices.



Members of the Small Law Firms Committee

Committee Members

Mark Goh Aik Leng - Chairperson
Parwani Vijai Dharamdas - Vice-Chairperson
Sean Francois La'Brooy - Council Representative
Abdul Aziz Bin Abdul Rashid
Dorothy Chai Li Li
Kelvin Chia Swee Chye
Choo Zheng Xi
Saburabi Nila Ibrahim
Anuradha d/o Krishan Chand Sharma
Lim Joo Toon
Lim Ker Sheon
Serena Geraldine Lim
Wong Soo Chih

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

social and welfare

Chiam Tao Koon, Chairperson

The Social and Welfare Committee (the “SWC”) is responsible for, among other things, organising social activities, fostering camaraderie among Law Society members and reviewing and administering the welfare programmes of the Law Society.

Highlights of the SWC’s work for the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 are as follows:

1. Organising the Annual Law Society Dinner & Dance 2012

The annual Law Society Dinner & Dance 2012, held on 9 November 2012 at the Pan Pacific Hotel, was attended by 500 guests, including the Guest of Honour, former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong. Other attendees included The Honourable The Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, the Honourable Attorney-General Steven Chong, Judge of Appeal Justice Chao Hick Tin, Honourable Judges of the Supreme Court Justice Woo Bih Li, Justice Andrew Ang, Justice Choo Han Teck, Justice Chan Seng Onn, and Judicial Commissioner Vinodh Coomaraswamy.

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was our very own Adrian Tan. Highlights of the night included the appointment of former Chief Justice Chan Sek Keong as an Honorary Member of the Law Society and the conferring of the CC Tan Award for 2012 on Mr Michael Hwang, SC. The CC Tan Award is conferred annually on a member of the Bar who exemplifies the virtues of the legal profession – honesty, fair play and personal integrity. Other awards, including Volunteer of the Year, Contributor of the Year, Pro Bono Ambassador of the Year, Plaque of Appreciation and Friend of the Law Society, were also conferred in recognition of the contributions of our members and non-members.

The night’s revelry included a live band complete with dancers swinging to 1920s music. Lucky recipients

walked away with numerous lucky draw prizes, including travel vouchers worth S\$10,000, luxury hotel stays and a Macbook Pro.

2. Organising the DeepaRaya Luncheon 2012

The DeepaRaya Luncheon 2012, held in conjunction with Annual CPD Day 2012, was held at the Supreme Court on 16 November 2012 and was well attended by more than 180 members.

3. Organising the Lunar New Year Luncheon 2013

The Lunar New Year Luncheon 2013 was held on 15 February 2013 at the Bar Room of the Subordinate Courts, and was attended by more than 70 members. Attendees enjoyed a sumptuous buffet lunch as well as the traditional “lo-hei”.



Dinner and Dance 2012



DeepaRaya Luncheon 2012



Lunar New Year Luncheon 2013

4. Organising the Annual Law Society Dinner & Dance 2013

The annual Law Society Dinner & Dance 2013 will be held on 15 November 2013 at Shangri-La Hotel. The SWC Dinner & Dance Sub-Committee has put in extensive work to prepare for this much anticipated event. Look out for details in next year's report!

5. Administering Applications to the Bar Memorial Scholarship

The SWC reviews applications received for the Bar Memorial Scholarship and makes recommendations to Council in relation to applications received. No new applications have been received to-date.

In addition to the above, the SWC continues to oversee the maintenance of the Bar Rooms of the Supreme Court and the Subordinate Courts.

Committee Members

Chiam Tao Koon - Chairperson
 Genevieve Doris Lai - Vice-Chairperson
 Tan Gim Hai Adrian - Council Representative
 Andrea Geat
 Cai Jianye Edwin
 Foo Xunyu
 Grace Chacko
 Jayaprakash s/o Thiyagarajan
 Khoh Wenqi Grace
 Kuek Ying Ching Chrystle
 Liang Jie Nin
 Lum Wei Yuen Isaac
 Teng Zi Ping Kemmy
 Yeoh Kar Hoe

Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

solicitors' accounts rules

Gary Allen Pryke, Chairperson

In the year under review, the Solicitors' Accounts Rules Committee handled a number of queries on various matters in relation to the Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules.

A client was awarded party and party costs in a litigation matter. The costs were taxed and the taxed costs were received by the law firm representing the client. The law firm rendered a bill to the client and notified the client that they would be deducting the amount billed from the party and party costs. More than 4 years had elapsed and the client had not contacted the law firm

or responded to the notice.

The law firm wanted to know if they could effect payment of their bill from the party and party costs.

The Committee replied to say

that in the absence of any contrary instructions or circumstances the money may be transferred so long as the law firm was satisfied that it had complied with Rule 7(1)(a)(iv) of the Solicitors' Accounts Rules and Council's Practice Direction 2 of 2011.

Another law firm wanted to know if it could utilise a form of internet banking which would allow it to monitor the transaction history and obtain instant updates of monies going into and out of the client account but which does not allow monies to be transferred out of the client account through the internet banking service. The Committee was of the view that Rule 8(4A) of the Solicitors' Accounts Rules only prohibits use of automated teller machine, telephone banking or online banking being used to draw monies from the client account. The law firm should, however, work with the bank to ensure safeguards were in place to ensure that the use of the facility would not run contrary to the Solicitors' Accounts Rules.

A law firm sought Council's directions on whether it could withhold certain sums due on its solicitor and client bill (which was disputed by the client) from monies held by the law firm on behalf of the client. The Committee cautioned the law firm that although Rule 15 of the Solicitors' Accounts Rules provides that the Solicitors' Accounts Rules does not deprive a solicitor of his right to a lien, set-off, counter-claim, charge or otherwise, it is for the Court to determine whether or not a solicitor has such a right or what the extent of that right is, if this is disputed by the client.

In another case, a law firm sought advice on a matter where they had received a cheque in their favour as damages due to their client but their client had no bank account. The Committee advised the law firm to request the insurance company or other third party issuing the payment to either make out a cash cheque or such other mode of payment as would be appropriate for encashment by the client. The law firm was asked to verify with the bank whether such a Cashier's Order or cheque endorsed with the words "non negotiable, account payee only" could still be encashed by the client.

 The Committee is currently working on updating the Law Society's Guide to the Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules. 

In addition, the Committee reviewed and considered the Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) (Amendment) Rules 2011 and the Legal

Profession (Deposit Interest) (Amendment) Rules 2011. These 2 sets of amendment Rules were drafted by the Ministry of Law to provide for consequential amendments following the introduction of the new conveyancing regime. The Committee put up a report to Council with various suggestions on the proposed amendments which was subsequently submitted by Council to the Ministry of Law and thereafter adopted in the amended Rules.

A representative from the Committee participated as a panel speaker in the Law Society's annual mandatory book-keeper's course.

The Committee is currently working on updating the Law Society's Guide to the Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules.



Members of the Solicitors' Accounts Rules Committee

Committee Members

Gary Allen Pryke - Chairperson
Mimi Oh - Vice-Chairperson
Michael S. Chia - Council Representative
Chew Kei-Jin
Low Chai Chong
Patrick Tan Tse Chia
Tang See Chim
Vivienne Lim Hui Bian
Yap Teong Liang

Secretariat Representative

Ambika Rajendram

sports

Laura Liew, Chairperson

The Sports Committee's key objective is to foster good relations and build camaraderie among members of the Bar as well as with other members of the legal fraternity including the Judiciary, legal officers, academia and undergraduates through social interaction at sporting events.

For the past year, the Law Society of Singapore has done very well as it emerged champions in key events such as the Malaysia-Singapore Bench & Bar Games 2013, the 2012 Inter-Professional Games, the 2012 Johore Bar-Law Society of Singapore Games and the 2013 Law Fraternity Games. The full list of events for the past year is set out below.

Events for the Period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013

1. The Annual Singapore-Penang Friendly Soccer Match was held on 1 September 2012 in Singapore with the Law Society as host. Singapore won with a score of 3-1.

2. The Inter-Professional Games played by the Law Society of Singapore, Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants ("ISCA"), Singapore Medical Association ("SMA"), Institution of Engineers Singapore ("IES"), Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers ("SISV"), Singapore Institute of Architects ("SIA") was held from 22 September 2012 to 17 November 2012. The games played were Badminton, Basketball, Bowling, Chess, Golf, Pool, Soccer, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis and Volleyball. The Law Society emerged the champion with ISCA placed second and SMA and IES both placed third. The Law Society also chaired the organising committee.

3. The Johore Bar-Law Society of Singapore Games 2012 was hosted by Johore Bar in Johore on 3 November 2012. The games played were Badminton, Golf and Pool. The Law Society emerged the overall champion.

4. The Piala Pala 2012 Annual 9-Pin Bowling Tournament was held on 24 November 2012 at Superbowl at Hougang. Drew & Napier LLC Team 1 (Raymond Quek, Choe Hoe Keong, Meryl Koh) emerged the champion team while Pinkillers (Alvin Cheng, Eudrina Yeo, Richard Tan) and Team Subcts B (Eddy Tham, Karen Lin, John Ng) came in second and third respectively.

5. The Law Fraternity Games played by the Law Society and students from the National University of Singapore ("NUS") and the Singapore Management University ("SMU") law faculties was held from 1 to 2 February 2013. The games played were Basketball, Badminton, Frisbee, Men's and Ladies' Floorball, Netball, Pool (friendly), Men's and Ladies Soccer (friendly), Squash, Tennis, Touch Rugby and Volleyball. The Law Society emerged the champion with NUS and SMU placed second and third respectively.

6. The Law Society of Singapore's Badminton team played friendly matches with various bodies namely, Philippines Bar Association, Yong An Park Badminton Group, EZ Badminton Group and CDANS Tuesday Badminton Group. The Law Society emerged victorious in 3 out of 4 matches.

7. The Annual Law Fraternity Golf Tournament held in conjunction with the Wee Chong Jin, Knowles and C C Tan Cups took place on 26 April 2013 at Raffles Country Club. Straits Law Practice LLC was the champion of the Law Fraternity Cup while Ong Yu En, Edward Tiong and Lee Ee Yang won the Wee Chong Jin, Knowles Cup and C C Tan Cup respectively.

8. The Lawyers-Doctors Soccer Match was held on 27 April 2013. The doctors won the match with a score of 1-3.

9. The Malaysia-Singapore Bench & Bar Games 2013 was hosted by the Law Society of Singapore from 16 to 18 May 2013. All 18 games (of which 3 were friendly games) were closely contested by Team Malaysia led by the Malaysian Bar Council and Team Singapore led by the Law Society of Singapore. Team Singapore won the Bench & Bar Games 2013.



IPG Championship Presented by Ms Laura Liew to Law Society Representative



Bench & Bar Games



Members of the Sports Committee

Committee Members

Laura Ann Liew Ai Ling - Chairperson
 Eunice Chew - Co Vice-Chairperson
 Hazel Tang - Co Vice-Chairperson
 Lee Terk Yang - Council Representative
 Adrian Wee Heng Yi (from 1 January 2013)
 Aylwin Tan Wee En
 Bala Chandran s/o A Kandiah
 Brown Anthony Pereira
 Cai Jianye Edwin (from 1 January 2013)
 Chan Lai Foong
 Chen Yixin Edith (from 1 January 2013)
 Cheong Mun Wai Stephen (from 1 January 2013)
 Chiam Tao Koon
 Clarence Lee
 Clive Myint Soe (from 1 January 2013)
 Felix Lee
 Foo Xunyu (from 20 May 2013)
 Hui Choon Wai (until 31 December 2012)
 Hussien Bin Abdul Latiff (until 20 May 2013)
 Jacintha Thannimalai
 Jasmin Kaur (from 1 January 2013)
 Kemmy Teng Zi Ping
 Khoh Wenqi Grace (from 1 January 2013)

Leong Kwang Ian
 Lim Siew Kuan
 Liow Wang Wu Joseph
 Lisa Sam Hui Min (until 31 December 2012)
 Mahadevan Lukshumayeh
 Moiz Haider Sithawalla
 Muhamad Imaduddin Bin Abdul Karim
 (from 1 January 2013)
 Ng Sook Zhen (from 1 January 2013)
 Priscilla Tan Gopalan (from 1 January 2013)
 Richard Tan Kheng Swee
 Sharifa Nadia Almendoar (from 1 January 2013)
 Sim Puay Jain Edwin (until 2 July 2013)
 Tan Cheow Hung (from 1 January 2013)
 Tan Ker Wei Alec (from 1 January 2013)
 Tan Xu Teng (from 2 July 2013)
 Teo Jin Huang (from 1 January 2013)
 Valmiki Nair (from 1 January 2013)
 Wong Foong Wee (from 1 January 2013)
 Yeo Hui Qin Audris (from 1 January 2013)
 Yeo Kar Hoe (from 1 January 2013)

Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

young lawyers

Genevieve Doris Lai, Chairperson

The Young Lawyers Committee ("YLC") concentrates its efforts to address the needs and concerns of members in the "Junior Category", i.e. those with less than 7 years of experience in practice, which forms 35% of the membership. In 2011, in order to ensure continuity and sufficient time to achieve its objectives, the YLC implemented a 2-year workplan with the joint themes "Engaging Young Lawyers" and "Raising Awareness of YLC". The YLC extended the said workplan for another year.

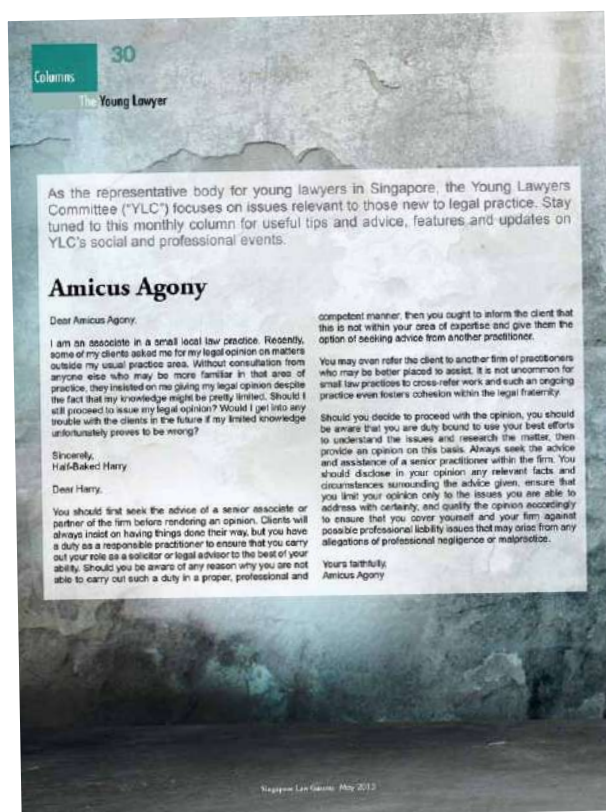
This year, YLC continued its contribution to a monthly column in the Singapore Law Gazette, titled "The Young Lawyer". Each month, our "Amicus Agony" addresses the various concerns raised by young practitioners in relation to the realities of legal practice. In addition, the YLC invited young practitioners to share their experiences outside of legal practice by way of article contributions.

In line with annual tradition, the YLC held the Mass Call Reception on 27 July 2013 at the National University of Singapore University Cultural Centre to welcome and congratulate our newest members to the legal profession. The YLC also sponsored a photo booth for the newly called lawyers to commemorate Mass Call 2013.

The YLC will, as part of its annual programme, continue to host professional networking events. In the spirit of community giving and as part of a YLC charity initiative, the YLC plans to collaborate with the Singapore Association of the Visually Handicapped in a charity event, "Dine in the Dark".

The YLC wishes to extend its thanks to all who have supported our activities.

“In the spirit of community-giving and as part of a YLC charity initiative, the YLC plans to collaborate with the Singapore Association of the Visually Handicapped in a charity event, “Dine in the Dark”.



Amicus Agony Column of the Singapore Law Gazette



Mass Call 2013

Committee Members

Genevieve Doris Lai - Chairperson
 See Chin Yeh Kenneth - Vice-Chairperson
 Simran Kaur Toor - Council Representative
 Cheong Mun Wai Stephen
 Khoh Wenqi Grace
 Koh Joo Peng Edmund
 Lee Ying-Ying Michelle
 Lim Than Lin Alfred
 Loo Huihua
 Madhavi Arya
 Marc Wei An Min
 Ow Sze Mun Cassandra Geraldine
 Pereire Kenneth George
 Vishal Harnal
 Yeo Hui Qin Audris

Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

This page is intentionally left blank.



enhancing professional standards



admissions

Christopher Anand s/o Daniel, Chairperson

This report is in respect of the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013.

1. Admission of Advocates and Solicitors

A total of 503 applicants were admitted as advocates and solicitors of the Supreme Court of Singapore compared to 471 applicants who were admitted during the last reporting period. For the Mass Call on 27 July 2013, 410 applicants were admitted. This is an increase from the 363 applicants admitted in the 28 July 2012 Mass Call.



Mass Call 2013

2. Part-Call Applications

There were 22 applications for part-call for this reporting period.

3. Section 15(1) Legal Profession Act - Ad hoc Admissions of Queen's Counsel

In the present reporting period, the Committee considered 6 applications for the ad hoc admission of Queen's Counsel ("QC") under the provisions of section 15(1) of the Legal Profession Act, all of which were objected to by the Law Society of Singapore. These applications were made under the present provisions, which went through substantive changes recently. The results were as follows (in order of when the substantive decision was made):

- (a) An application for the ad hoc admission of David Joseph QC (OS No. 655/2012/M) was heard and dismissed by the Honourable V K Rajah JA on 1 October 2012.

admissions

Christopher Anand s/o Daniel, Chairperson

- (b) An application for the ad hoc admission of Geraldine Mary Andrews QC (OS No. 589/2012/Q) was heard by the Honourable V K Rajah JA on 24 August 2012, and allowed on 15 November 2012.
- (c) An application for the ad hoc admission of Caplan Jonanthan Michael QC (OS No. 44/2013) was heard by the Honourable V K Rajah JA on 4 March 2013, and dismissed on 5 March 2013.
- (d) An application for the ad hoc admission of Michael Jacob Beloff QC (OS No. 1096/2012/H) was heard by the Honourable Judith Prakash J on 3 May 2013, and allowed on 17 May 2013. The relevant parties (including the Law Society) have appealed and the matter is fixed for hearing by the Court of Appeal in January 2014.
- (e) Another application for the ad hoc admission of Andrews Geraldine Mary QC (OS No. 373/2013) is in the process of being withdrawn, on account that she is taking up a judicial appointment in England.
- (f) An application for the ad hoc admission of Peter Henry, Lord Goldsmith, Privy Counsellor, QC (OS No. 586/2013) is currently on going and no decision has been made by the High Court.

4. Section 78(1) Legal Profession Act - Applications for Employment of Support Staff

To date, the Committee has considered 5 applications made by law practices for consent of the High Court to employ support staff in view of their bankruptcy or suspension from practice, as required under the provisions of section 78(1) of the Legal Profession Act. All the applications were granted by the High Court with conditions and/or undertakings imposed on the applicants.

Committee Members

Christopher Anand s/o Daniel - Chairperson
Matthew Saw Seang Kuan - Vice-Chairperson
Kuah Boon Theng - Council Representative
Chan Hian Young
Govindarajalu Asokan
Ho Kit San Alice
Pillai Pradeep
Nair Suresh Sukumaran
Quek Hui Kee Jasmine
Rajan Sanjiv Kumar
Shashidran Nathan
Tan Teck San Kelvin

Secretariat Representative

Kenneth Goh

anti-money laundering

Low Chai Chong, Chairperson

This report is in respect of the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013.

The Committee assists Council when dealing with external agencies in relation to the Financial Action Task Force's ("FATF") requirements on anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism.



Legal Practice Management Course

FATF is an inter-governmental body which promotes effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering and terrorist financing. FATF also works to identify national-level vulnerabilities.

In May 2013, the Committee assisted Council in gathering information requested by the Ministry of Law for purposes of Singapore's National Risk Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism Assessment exercise. This exercise requires Singapore to take appropriate steps to identify, assess and understand her money-laundering/terrorist financing risks for purposes of a Mutual Evaluation exercise by FATF. The required information was compiled from the results of a questionnaire that was sent by the Law Society to all law practices in May 2013.

The Committee also provides guidance to members on the practice rules on anti-money laundering and it works to raise awareness and knowledge amongst members of their anti-money laundering obligations. For the period under review, talks on anti-money laundering were presented at the Law Society's Legal Practice Management Course and also at an Anti-Money Laundering seminar on 5 June 2013.

Apart from the above, the Committee oversees inspections of law practices, and advises Council on any issues or queries arising from these inspections. In accordance with rule 11I of the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules, Council is empowered to conduct inspections of law practices in order to ascertain whether rules 11D to 11H of the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules are being complied with.



eBlast on AML Questionnaire

Committee Members

Low Chai Chong - Chairperson
Lim Seng Siew - Council Representative
Gary Allen Pryke
Moiz Haider Sithawalla
Tan Kay Kheng
Yashodhara Dhoraisingam

Secretariat Representative

Kenneth Goh

ethics

Ang Cheng Hock, SC, Chairperson

For the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, the Ethics Committee received and responded to 22 requests from practitioners and law practices for guidance on a wide range of professional ethics issues under the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules and the Legal Profession (Publicity) Rules.

The Committee maintains its active contribution in providing views to Council on reforms of ethical rules and enactment of Council's Practice Directions relating to professional ethics. For instance, the Committee provided substantial inputs on the following Council's Practice Directions ("PD") and Guidance Note ("GN"):



Primers on Ethics

1. PD 3/2012 - Payment of Cheques by Defendant Insurer to Plaintiff for Motor Accident Claims;
2. PD 4/2012 - Effecting Service of Originating Process, Court Documents or Other Written Communications on a Client of Another Advocate and Solicitor;
3. PD 2/2013 - Photocopying Charges; and
4. GN 2/2012 - Guidelines for Handling of Clients' Files When a Solicitor Leaves a Law Practice to Practise in Another Law Practice.

Members of the Committee were involved in various continuing professional development courses on ethics for practice trainees and young practitioners. This included the "Primers on Professional Ethics" for practice trainees, which is a series of half-day courses on ethical issues commonly encountered by lawyers who have just started legal practice.

Members of the Committee also participated as speakers in the seminar on "Mandatory Ethics" for young practitioners, which is a new programme designed to expose newly-qualified lawyers (0 to 5

years' Post Qualification Experience) to a range of actual scenarios where lawyers may struggle with identifying what the professional ethics issues are and how to effectively deal with them. The programme seeks to build on the ethics training that a lawyer would have received prior to his admission to the Singapore Bar by cultivating the ability to deal with ethical challenges for which there are no clear dos and don'ts.

The Committee will be publishing articles on common ethical issues encountered by practitioners in the "Ethics in Practice" column of the Singapore Law Gazette for the benefit of members in the later part of 2013.

Through the above initiatives, the Committee hopes to increase the level of ethical awareness in the profession and to continue to be an avenue for all members to seek ethical guidance in the course of their work.

Committee Members

Ang Cheng Hock, SC - Chairperson
Andre Francis Maniam, SC - Vice-Chairperson
Young Chee Foong - Council Representative
Alvin Tan Kheng Ann
Eugene Thuraisingam
Henry Heng Gwee Nam
Kenneth Lim Tao Chung
Leo Cheng Suan
Lim Seng Siew
Max Ng Chee Weng
Melvin See Hsien Huei
Philip Fong Yeng Fatt
Pradeep Pillai
Rajan Menon
Tang Bik Kwan Hazel
Thio Shen Yi, SC

Secretariat Representative

Michelle Woodworth Cordeiro

inquiries into inadequate professional services

This report covers complaints of inadequate professional services against lawyers that were referred to the Council of the Law Society (the “Council”) from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 under section 75B of the Legal Profession Act (the “Act”).

For the relevant period, 82 complaints were received. Of the 82 complaints received, 1 complaint was not referred as the Complainant refused to have his bill taxed in consideration of his complaint of overcharging under section 85(1) of the Act. One complaint for the month of August 2013 is pending Council’s determination. Seventeen complaints are pending further information on better details and particulars on the standards of inadequate professional services complained of. The remaining complaints were referred to Council. Fifteen complaints were dismissed by Council as no information was disclosed that the lawyers complained of had provided professional services not of a quality reasonably expected of an advocate and solicitor under the Act. One complaint is pending a response from the Complainant on whether he consents to have his complaint mediated or would prefer to have the matter referred to an Investigative Tribunal for investigation.

There were also 3 complaints which were amicably resolved between the parties pursuant to the amendment to the Second Schedule of the Act on April 2012 as a result of which the Society would request that the parties attempt to resolve the matter between themselves prior to Council making a determination on the complaint. In this regard, there are 9 complaints pending updates from the parties on whether the matter has been amicably resolved amongst themselves.

1. Mediations Conducted from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013

For the relevant period, 23 mediations were conducted. Twelve mediations were successful whilst 4 could not be amicably resolved through mediation. Six mediations are currently underway. In the event that the complaint cannot be resolved through mediation, it is automatically referred to an Investigative Tribunal for investigation. One appointment of mediator was withdrawn as the parties amicably resolved the complaints amongst themselves after Council determined that the complaint be referred for investigation under the Legal Professional (Inadequate Professional Services Complaint Inquiry) Rules.

2. Investigative Tribunals Conducted from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013

Twelve of the complaints referred to Investigative Tribunals were from Complainants who did not wish to have their complaints mediated. The remaining referrals to the Investigative Tribunals arose due to attempts at resolving the complaint through mediation being unsuccessful.

Four of the complaints were dismissed and Council determined that fees be refunded or compensation be paid for 6 other complaints. Of these 6 complaints, Council determined that the conduct of one of the solicitors complained of be referred to the Inquiry Panel for investigation pursuant to section 85(2) of the Act. In addition, 6 Investigative Tribunals are currently on-going.

report of the inquiry panel

Philip Jeyaretnam, SC, Chairperson

This Report covers the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013.

Pursuant to section 84 of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161, 2012 Revised Edition) (the "Act"), The Honourable The Chief Justice has appointed the following persons to be the members of the Inquiry Panel for a term of 2 years.

Advocates & Solicitors

The following appointees' term will expire on 30 November 2013:

Mr Philip Jeyaretnam, SC - Chairman, Inquiry Panel

1	Mr Grimberg Joseph, SC
2	Mr Michael Khoo Kah Lip, SC
3	Ms Engelin Teh Guek Ngor, SC
4	Mr Andre Yeap Poh Leong, SC
5	Mr Vinodh Coomaraswamy, SC
6	Mr Nehal Harpreet Singh, SC
7	Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC
8	Mr Cavinder Bull, SC
9	Mr George Lim Teong Jin, SC
10	Mr Francis Xavier, SC
11	Mr N. Sreenivasan, SC
12	Mr Pathmanaban Selvadurai
13	Ms Juliet Ang
14	Ms Oh Buong Yu May
15	Mr Chua Keng Loy
16	Ms Huang Lui
17	Mr Lee Han Yang
18	Mr Chim Hou Yan
19	Ms Lim Yen Lan
20	Mr Woo Tchi Chu
21	Mr Chan Chee Pew
22	Mrs Murgiana Haq
23	Mr Tan Jin Hwee
24	Mr Abdul Rashid Bin Abdul Gani
25	Mr Sim Yong Chan
26	Mr Wee Chow Sing Patrick
27	Mr Prabhakaran Nair
28	Mdm Helen Tan Cheng Hoong
29	Mr Tan Denis
30	Mr Chandra Mohan K Nair
31	Mr Madan Assomull
32	Mr Peter Chong Siong Siang
33	Mr Prem Kumar Gurbani
34	Mr Govindarajulu Asokan
35	Ms Kay Swee Tuan
36	Mdm Ho Puck Chin Caroline
37	Mr Kim Seah Teck Kim
38	Mr Bernard Doray
39	Mr Leng Siew Wei Aloysius

40	Ms Woon Lai Keng (Julie)
41	Mr Quek Mong Hua
42	Mr Han Kee Fong
43	Mr Loo Dip Seng
44	Mdm Leong Sut San Mary
45	Mr Steven Seah Seow Kang
46	Mr Raymond Chan
47	Mr Tan Keok Heng George
48	Ms Choo Chok Ann Anne
49	Mrs Gina Lee-Wan
50	Mr Tay Keow Ming
51	Mr Lee Han Tiong
52	Mr Yang Yung Chong
53	Mr John Ng Lee Chye
54	Mr Cheong Tuck Meng
55	Ms See Siew Heok Jo-Ann
56	Mr Lee Kuen Yip
57	Mr Lim Chen Thor Jason
58	Mr Gill Dedar Singh
59	Mr Chua Lee Ming
60	Mdm Susan Mary De Silva
61	Mdm Cheah Swee Gim
62	Ms Amarjit Kour d/o Balwant Singh
63	Mr Alban Kang Choon Hwee
64	Mr Muthu Arusu Murugayair
65	Mr Tan Kheng Ann Alvin
66	Mr Tan Jee Ming
67	Mr David Yeow
68	Mr Selva Kumara Naidu
69	Mr Tay Seong Chee Simon
70	Mr Cheah Kok Lim
71	Mdm Ittogi Jane
72	Mr Herman Jeremiah
73	Ms Yip Wai Ping Annabelle
74	Mr Jimmy Chun-Hung Oei
75	Mr Goh Kok Yeow
76	Mr Sundareswara Sharma
77	Ms Chen Wen Woan Angela
78	Mdm Sheena Rohini Jacob
79	Mr Lim Tat
80	Mr Chan Ngok Seng Shaun (passed away)
81	Mr Kok Hei Mun Jonathan
82	Mr Tan Lay Tiong Anthony
83	Mr Patrick Ang Peng Koon
84	Mr Chong Yee Leong
85	Mdm Elaine Beh Pur-Lin
86	Mr Nair Sushil Sukumaran
87	Mr Tan Kay Kheng
88	Mr Tiwary Ramesh Chandr
89	Mr Abdur Raheem Bin Mohd Iqbal
90	Mr Chui Kan Yuen
91	Mr Patel Cyrus Jonathan
92	Ms Tan Hwee Eng Blossom
93	Mr Yeo Chuan Seng Victor
94	Mdm Zahara Binte Bakar
95	Mr Surenthiraraj Saunthararajah



96	Mdm Teo Kwee Yee (Claudia)	152	Ms Lam Shiao Ning
97	Mr Bernie Neo Ho Guan	153	Mr Yeo Khee Chye Raymond
98	Mr Haresh Kamdar	154	Mr Khor Guan Yu Gerald
99	Ms Lisa Theng Siew Lian	155	Mr Marican Abdul Rahim
100	Ms Marian Ho Wui Mee	156	Mr Michael Low Wan Kwong
101	Mr Tan Lay Pheng	157	Ms Subashini d/o Narayanasamy
102	Mr Yeong Wai Cheong	158	Mrs Yvonne Janet Schelkis-Sweeney
103	Mr Chan Wai Mun	159	Mr Siraj Omar
104	Mr Goh Siong Pheck Francis	160	Ms Dawn Tan Ly-Ru
105	Mr Lim Ghim Siew Henry	161	Mr Khaira Akramjeet Singh
106	Mr Foo Maw Shen	162	Mr Stanley Bay Thiam Hock
107	Mr Chandra Mohan Rethnam	163	Mdm Tan Li Hua Michelle
108	Mr Chooi Yue Wai Kenny	164	Mr Ng Kim Beng
109	Mr Kok Chee Wai	165	Ms Wendy Leong Marnyi
110	Mr Yeo Soo Mong	166	Mr Ang Wen Bo Andrew
111	Ms Chan Shu Fung Elaine	167	Mr Gan Kian Koon Gerry
112	Mr Tan Gim Hai Adrian	168	Ms Jayne Wong Lok Sim
113	Mr Lee Wei Yung	169	Mr Derek Tan Jet Wah
114	Mr Amolat Singh	170	Mr Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim
115	Mr Gregory Vijayendran Ganesamoorthy	171	Mr Lem Jit Min Andy
116	Mr Liow Wang Wu Joseph	172	Mr Chen Chee Yen
117	Mr Anparasan s/o Kamachi	173	Mr Samuel Seow Theng Beng
118	Mr Parwani Vijai Dharamdas	174	Mr Tan Chuan Yong
119	Mr Soh Kar Liang	175	Mr Yuen Pei Lur Perry
120	Mr Leck Kwang Hwee Andy	176	Mr Jeeva Arul Joethy
121	Mr Wai Chee Leong Ronnie	177	Ms Kalpana Sadanandan
122	Mr Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim	178	Mr Moiz Haider Sithawalla
123	Mr Daniel Koh Choon Guan	179	Mr Ng Ser Chiang
124	Mr Sandrasegara Manoj Pillay	180	Mr Andrew Ho Yew Cheng
125	Mr Andrew Wu Chih Wei	181	Mr Christopher Chong Chi Chuin
126	Mrs Stefanie Yuen Thio	182	Mr Ho Han Ming
127	Ms Tan Siew Wei Cheryl	183	Mr Kendall Tan Chuan Bing
128	Ms Christine Sekhon	184	Ms Lau Yee Wan Sharon
129	Mdm Wong Su-Hsien Audrey	185	Mdm Lee Su Yee
130	Mdm Yeow Tin Tin Margaret	186	Mr Low Yew Shen
131	Mr Rajesh Sreenivasan	187	Mr Patrick Tan Tse Chia
132	Mr Renganathan Nandakumar	188	Ms Wilma Cheng Yuen Man
133	Mr Zaminder Singh Gill	189	Mr Ong Sing Huat
134	Mr Christopher Anand s/o Daniel	190	Mr Chia Peng Kiat Kenneth
135	Mr Tan Teck San Kelvin	191	Ms Bernette Colleen Meyer
136	Ms Kwok Kay Fun Kaylee	192	Mr Chan Wei Meng
137	Mr Lawrence Tan Aik Leng	193	Mr Eugene Singarajah Thuraisingam
138	Ms Tay Lorraine Anne	194	Mr Howard Cheam Heng Haw
139	Mr Thomas John	195	Ms Phang Sui Choon (Michelle)
140	Ms Frances Angeline Shanti d/o Thanarajoo	196	Ms Wong Wei Ling
141	Ms Ho Kim Foong	197	Mr Yee Weng Wai Bernard
142	Ms Leow Tze Hoon Christabel	198	Mr Thiruchelvan Sivagnasundram
143	Mr Philip Fong Yeng Fatt	199	Mr Desmond Tan Yen Hau
144	Mr Cosmas Stephen Gomez	200	Mr Quek Siang Yew Terence
145	Mr Nandakumar Ponniya	201	Mr Raymond Lam Kuo Wei
146	Mr Lim U Wei Ralph Howard	202	Mr Sim Chong
147	Mr Bernard Chiu Hsu-Hwee	203	Mdm Yasmin Binte Abdullah
148	Mr Gong Chin Nam	204	Ms Sofia Pohan
149	Mr K Muralitherapany	205	Ms Goh Gin Nee
150	Mr Ajinderpal Singh	206	Mr Ho Ying Ming
151	Mr Leon Kwong Wing	207	Mr Lim Meng Ern Kevin

report of the inquiry panel

Philip Jeyaretnam, SC, Chairperson

208 Mr Rhys Goh Hien Kang (Wu XianJiang)
 209 Ms Seet Siok Lin Noelle
 210 Ms Yeoh Yu Li Karen
 211 Mr Yuen Djia Chiang Jonathan
 212 Mdm Cheng Su Yin Judy
 213 Mr Edmund Eng Zixuan
 214 Ms Chandradas Usha Ranee
 215 Mr Dennis Chua Soon Chai
 216 Mr Felix Lee Shih Yang
 217 Mr Teo Guan Kee
 218 Ms Lim Chen Chen
 219 Mr Mark Jerome Seah Wei Hsien
 220 Mr Nigel Desmond Pereira
 221 Ms Rajan Menon Smitha
 222 Ms Tan Sue-Lynn
 223 Ms Tay Hong Ling Mabel
 224 Mr Arvind Daas Naaidu
 225 Ms Kohe Noor Bte Mahmoodul Hasan
 226 Mr Vignesh Napoleon


The following appointees' term will expire on 17 August 2015:

1 Mr Yip Tai Meng Marcus
 2 Mr Chandrayogan Yogarajah
 3 Mr Goh Soon Chye Gavin
 4 Mr Yeo Kian Wee Andy
 5 Mr Suresh Divyanathan
 6 Mr Low Gin Inn Leon
 7 Mr Sunit Chhabra
 8 Mr Bernard Tan Kim Swee
 9 Mr Lin Yu Xuan Terence
 10 Mr Mohamed Gul
 11 Mr Tan Boon Wah
 12 Mr Wong Kin Kit Winston
 13 Mr Choo Chih Chien Benjamin
 14 Mr Daryl Ong Hock Chye
 15 Mr Mark Cheng Wai Yuen
 16 Ms Sim Jek Sok, Disa
 17 Mr Teo Ke-Wei Ian
 18 Mr Yusfiyanto Bin Yatiman
 19 Mr Kangatharan Kandavellu
 20 Mr Koh See Khiang
 21 Ms Lim Hon Yi
 22 Mr Tan Wei Shyan
 23 Mr Tan Hsuan Boon
 24 Mr Tan Wen Cheng Adrian
 25 Mr Chia Voon Jiet
 26 Mr Gaw Ying Charn Benjamin
 27 Mr Chan Ching Chern Daniel
 28 Ms Corinne Taylor Lai Sze Huei
 29 Mr Ho Chung Wei (Dayne)
 30 Mr Joseph Lee Sien Liang
 31 Mr Leong Sheng Shun Kenneth
 32 Mr Navin Joseph Lobo
 33 Mr Richard Tan Kheng Swee

34 Mr Lim Arthur Edwin
 35 Mr Tan Saey Chong Gadriel
 36 Mr Ramasamy s/o Karuppan Chettiar
 37 Mr Neighbour Roy Grenville
 38 Ms Ellen Lee Geck Hoon
 39 Ms Selvam Arfat Nee Arfat Beebee Binte Noor Mohamed Abdul Latiff
 40 Ms Salehah Bte Johari
 41 Mr N K Rajarh
 42 Mr Goh Kok Leong
 43 Mr Ling Daw Hoang Philip
 44 Ms Loh Wai Mooi
 45 Ms Ting Hi Keng
 46 Ms Jennifer Leong Pek Lin
 47 Ms Winnifred Gomez
 48 Ms Grace Kwek Joo Lee
 49 Mr Ricquier William John Munden

The following appointees' term expired on 17 August 2013:

1 Mr Bernard Tan Kim Swee
 2 Mr Chan Ching Chern Daniel
 3 Mr Chia Voon Jiet
 4 Mr Choo Chih Chien Benjamin
 5 Ms Corinne Taylor Lai Sze Huei
 6 Mr Daryl Ong Hock Chye
 7 Mr Gaw Ying Charn Benjamin
 8 Mr Glenn David Foo Chuen-Shao
 9 Mr Gopal Sreenevasan
 10 Mr Ho Chung Wei (Dayne)
 11 Ms Ho Yee Tien Delphine
 12 Mr Joseph Lee Sien Liang
 13 Mr Kangatharan Kandavellu
 14 Mr Koh See Khiang
 15 Mr Lau Kok Gim Nathan
 16 Mr Lee Khuan Meng Alan
 17 Mr Leong Sheng Shun Kenneth
 18 Mr Lim Arthur Edwin
 19 Ms Lim Hon Yi
 20 Mr Lim Sheng Yong Nicholas
 21 Mr Lin Yu Xuan Terence
 22 Mr Low Gin Inn Leon
 23 Mr Mark Cheng Wai Yuen
 24 Mr Mohamed Gul
 25 Mr Navin Joseph Lobo
 26 Mr Owyong Eu Gene
 27 Ms Pak Waltan
 28 Ms Quak Fi Ling
 29 Mr Richard Tan Kheng Swee
 30 Ms Sim Jek Sok, Disa
 31 Mr Chandrayogan Yogarajah
 32 Mr Goh Soon Chye Gavin
 33 Mr Loo Tien Chee Edwin
 34 Mr Sean Francois La'Brooy
 35 Mr Sunit Chhabra



36 Mr Suresh Divyanathan
 37 Mr Tan Wei Shyan
 38 Mr Tan Boon Wah
 39 Mr Tan Hsuan Boon
 40 Mr Tan Saey Chong Gadriel
 41 Mr Tan Wen Cheng Adrian
 42 Mr Teo Ke-Wei Ian
 43 Mr Terence Yeo Choon Meng
 44 Mr Tung Yang Thong Issac
 45 Mr William Zhang Heling
 46 Mr Wong Kin Kit Winston
 47 Mr Yeo Kian Wee Andy
 48 Mr Yip Tai Meng Marcus
 49 Mr Yusfiyanto Bin Yatiman

Lay Persons

The following appointees' term will expire on 14 December 2013:

1 Mr Ashvinkumar s/o Kantilal
 2 Mrs Belinda Charles
 3 Dr Caleb Michael George
 4 Mrs Chew Kwee Tiang
 5 Mr Chng Beng Guan
 6 Mr Chris Liew Peng Fook
 7 Dr Goh Chong Chia
 8 Mr Goh Ngan Hong
 9 Mr Ho Siong Hin
 10 Dr Hong Ga Sze
 11 Mr Jamshid Medora
 12 Mr Ting Kang Chung, John
 13 Dr Khoo Chong Yew
 14 Mr Kwan Yew Huat
 15 Mr Lai Hock Meng
 16 Mr Lee Kut Cheung
 17 Mr Lim Hon Chee Eric
 18 Dr Lim Lan Yuan
 19 Mr Loi Hwee Yong
 20 Mrs Lysia Kee
 21 A/Prof Dr Mahesh Choolani
 22 Mr Michael Wong C K
 23 Mr Mirza Iskander Namazie
 24 Dr Ng Kheng Siang
 25 Mrs Noor Quek
 26 Mr Ong Ser Huan
 27 Mr Ong Tze Boon
 28 Mr Seah Choo Meng
 29 Mr Sit Kok Seng
 30 Mr Tan Seng Chuan
 31 Dr Tan Tiong Tee Clarence
 32 Mdm Teo Meng Hua
 33 Dr Teoh Hoon Cheow
 34 Mr Theodore Chan Eng Chye
 35 Mr Tjio Kay Loe

36 Mr Willy Shee
 37 Mr Yeo Boon Hon
 38 Mrs Yeo Chin Nam
 39 Ms Yim Kam May
 40 Ms Yvonne Goh

The following appointees' term will expire on 19 February 2014:

1 Ms Anju Patwardhan
 2 Practice Assoc Prof Austin Pullé
 3 Mr Chan Hwee Seng
 4 Prof Chiew Sing Ping
 5 Asst Prof Daniel Puchniak
 6 Asst Prof David Tan
 7 Assoc Prof Henry Gao
 8 Associate Professor Ho Yew Kee
 9 Practice Assoc Prof Ian MacDuff
 10 Er. Dr Indrayogan Yogarajah
 11 Mr John Lim Geok Peng
 12 Ms Julia Tay Swan Choo
 13 Ms Kuan Li Li
 14 Mr Lee Boon Teck
 15 Mr Lim Boon Cheng
 16 Mr Lim Kim Cheong
 17 Er. Lim Peng Hong
 18 Mr Lim Thien Su Gerald
 19 Mr Han Liang Siew, Louis
 20 Mr Neo Lian Sun Nehemiah
 21 Ms Ong Bee Yen
 22 Mr Ooi Hoe Yang (Danny)
 23 Mr R Dhinakaran
 24 Mr Rohan Kamis
 25 Practice Assoc Prof Stephen Bull
 26 Mr Tan Chor Sen (Christopher)
 27 Mr Tan How Chuan (Sam)
 28 Mr Tan See Chee
 29 Dr Tan Teng Hooi
 30 Ms Tay Hwee Ling
 31 Prof Thio Li-ann
 32 Mr Thomas Sit Kwok Wing
 33 Er. Tong Chi Wai
 34 Asst Prof Umakanth Varottil
 35 Assoc Prof Wang Jiangyu
 36 Mr Yong Cho Choon James
 37 Mr Yong Wee Loon

Legal Officers

1 Mr Adam Nakhoda
 2 Mr Alvin Koh Meng Sing
 3 Ms Amy Tung Chew Ming
 4 Mr Anandan s/o Bala
 5 Mr Andy Sim Yock Ann
 6 Ms April Phang Suet Fern

report of the inquiry panel

Philip Jeyaretnam, SC, Chairperson

7	Ms Asanthi Shiyara Mendis	63	Ms Kan Shuk Weng
8	Mr Benjamin Yim Geok Choon	64	Ms Karen Loh Pei Hsien
9	Ms Beverly Wee Ying Ling	65	Ms Kathryn Low Lye Fong
10	Mr Bryan Chew Chee Wan	66	Mr Kenneth Yap Yew Choh
11	Ms Carrie Chan Su-Lin	67	Mr Kessler Soh Boon Leng
12	Mr Chan Wang Ho	68	Mr Kevin Ng Choong Yeong
13	Mr Chay Yuen Fatt	69	Mr Kow Keng Siong
14	Ms Cheng Pei Feng	70	Mr Lau Wing Yum
15	Mr Chia Wee Kiat	71	Ms Laura Lau Chin Yui
16	Ms Ching Sann	72	Mr Lee Cheow Han
17	Ms Chong Chin Chin	73	Mr Lee Chuan Huei
18	Mr Christopher Goh Eng Chiang	74	Mr Lee Jwee Nguan
19	Mr Christopher Ong Siu Jin	75	Ms Lee Lit Cheng
20	Mr Christopher Tan Pheng Wee	76	Mr Lee Sing Lit
21	Ms Cornie Ng Teng Teng	77	Ms Lee Yean-Lin
22	Mr Daniel Koh Poh Leong	78	Mrs Lee-Khoo Poh Choo
23	Ms Danielle Yeow Ping Lin	79	Mr Leonard Goh Choon Hian
24	Ms Daphne Hong Fan Sin	80	Mr Leong Kwang Ian
25	Mr Daren Tang Heng Shim	81	Mr Leong Wing Tuck
26	Mr David Chew Siong Tai	82	Mr Liew Thiam Leng
27	Mr David Khoo Kim Leng	83	Ms Lim Hui Min
28	Mr David Lee Yeow Wee	84	Ms Lim Jen Hui
29	Mr David Lim Hock Choon	85	Mrs Lim Su Ching
30	Mr David Lim Jit Hee	86	Mr Lim Yew Jin
31	Mr Earnest Lau Chee Chong	87	Mr Louis Agnelo D'Souza
32	Mr Eddy Tham Tong Kong	88	Mr Low Wee Ping
33	Mr Edwin San Ong Kyar	89	Mr Luke Tan Loke Yong
34	Ms Elena Yeo Ju-Lan	90	Ms Lynette Yap Beng Lyn
35	Mr Eugene Teo Weng Kuan	91	Mr Marcus Song Ee Pin
36	Mr Francis Ng Yong Kiat	92	Mr Mark Anand Jayaratnam
37	Mr Francis Tseng Cheng Kuang	93	Mr Mark Tay Swee Keng
38	Mr Gilbert Low Teik Seang	94	Mr Marvin Bay Boon Teck
39	Ms Gillian Koh Tan	95	Mr Mathew Joseph
40	Mr Gnanasihamani Kannan	96	Ms May Loh Bee Bee
41	Ms Hamidah Bte Ibrahim	97	Ms May Lucia Mesenas
42	Mr Han Ming Kuang	98	Ms Melinda Moosa
43	Mr Hay Hung Chun	99	Ms Miranda Yeo Eng Joo
44	Ms Hee Mee Lin	100	Mr Muhammad Hidhir Bin Abdul Majid
45	Ms Hema Subramanian	101	Mr Ng Cheng Thiam
46	Mr Hui Choon Kuen	102	Mr Ng Peng Hong
47	Mr Imran Bin Abdul Hamid	103	Ms Nor'ashikin Bte Samdin
48	Mr Ivan Chua Boon Chwee	104	Mr Ong Chin Heng
49	Mr James Elisha Lee Han Leong	105	Ms Ong Chin Rhu
50	Mr James Leong Kui Yiu	106	Mr Ow Yong Tuck Leong
51	Ms Janet Wang Lan Jee	107	Mr P. Siva Shanmugam
52	Ms Jasbendar Kaur	108	Mr Paul Chia Kim Huat
53	Mr Jason Tan Theng Kok	109	Mr Peter Koy Su Hua
54	Ms Jasvender Kaur	110	Mr Phang Hsiao Chung
55	Ms Jeanne Lee Ming En	111	Mr Phua Wee Chuan
56	Mr Jeffrey Sim Mong Heng	112	Ms Ravneet Kaur
57	Ms Jill Tan Li Ching	113	Mrs Regina Ow-Chang Yee Lin
58	Ms Jocelyn Ong	114	Mr Reynard Cheok Yu-Liang
59	Mr John Ng	115	Mr Ronald Gwee Tiong Kee
60	Mrs Joyce Chao Suling	116	Ms Salina Bte Ishak
61	Ms Joyce Low Wei Lin	117	Mrs Shahla Iqbal
62	Ms Kamalambigai Ponnampalam	118	Ms Shahrinah Bte Abdol Salam



119	Mr Shaiffudin Bin Saruwan
120	Ms Sharon Lim Hui Mien
121	Ms Sharon Ong Su Min
122	Ms Shobha Gopalakrishnan Nair
123	Mr Soh Kee Bun
124	Mr Soh Tze Bian
125	Mr Sowaran Singh
126	Mr Sunari Bin Kateni
127	Ms Suriakumari d/o Sidambaram
128	Mr Tan Boon Heng
129	Mr Tan Jen Tse
130	Mr Tan Ken Hwee
131	Mr Tan Kiat Pheng
132	Ms Tan May Tee
133	Ms Tan Peck Cheng
134	Ms Teh Hwee Hwee
135	Mr Terence Chua Seng Leng
136	Mr Terence Ong
137	Ms Toh Hwee Lian
138	Ms Toh Wee San
139	Mr Toh Yung Cheong
140	Mr Victor Yeo Khee Eng
141	Mrs Wendy Chang Mun Lin
142	Ms Wendy Yap Peng Hoon
143	Mr Winston Cheng Howe Ming
144	Ms Wong Choon Ning
145	Mr Wong Kok Weng
146	Ms Wong Li Tein
147	Ms Wong Peck
148	Ms Wong Pui Kay
149	Ms Woon Seow Chen

Active Review Committees Between 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013

As at 1 September 2012, there were 10 cases pending from the previous review year and 104 Review Committees were appointed for each case referred during this review year. The Review Committee either directs dismissal of a complaint with reasons or refers the same to the Chairperson of the Inquiry Panel for further investigation.

Out of a total of 114 cases, the results are as follows:

- (a) 45 cases were dismissed completely;
- (b) 54 cases were fully recommended for further investigation by an Inquiry Committee;
- (c) 11 cases contained both a direction for dismissal for some complaints and a recommendation for further investigation for the rest by an Inquiry Committee; and
- (d) 4 cases are still pending as at 31 August 2013.

Active Inquiry Committees Between 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013

As at 1 September 2012, there were 21 cases pending from the previous review year. To date, 61 Inquiry Committees have been constituted to look into the complaints which have been referred by the Review Committees during this review year and 1 Inquiry Committee was re-appointed from previous year's pending cases. Fifty-six Inquiry Committees have completed their investigations and the results are as follows:

- (a) 33 cases were dismissed;
- (b) 12 cases were recommended for warnings, reprimand or imposition of penalties;
- (c) 4 cases were referred for formal investigation by the Disciplinary Tribunal; and
- (d) 7 cases where the Inquiry Committees had recommended partial dismissals. As such, parts of these cases were either recommended for warnings, reprimand or imposition of penalties on the Respondents, or to be referred to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

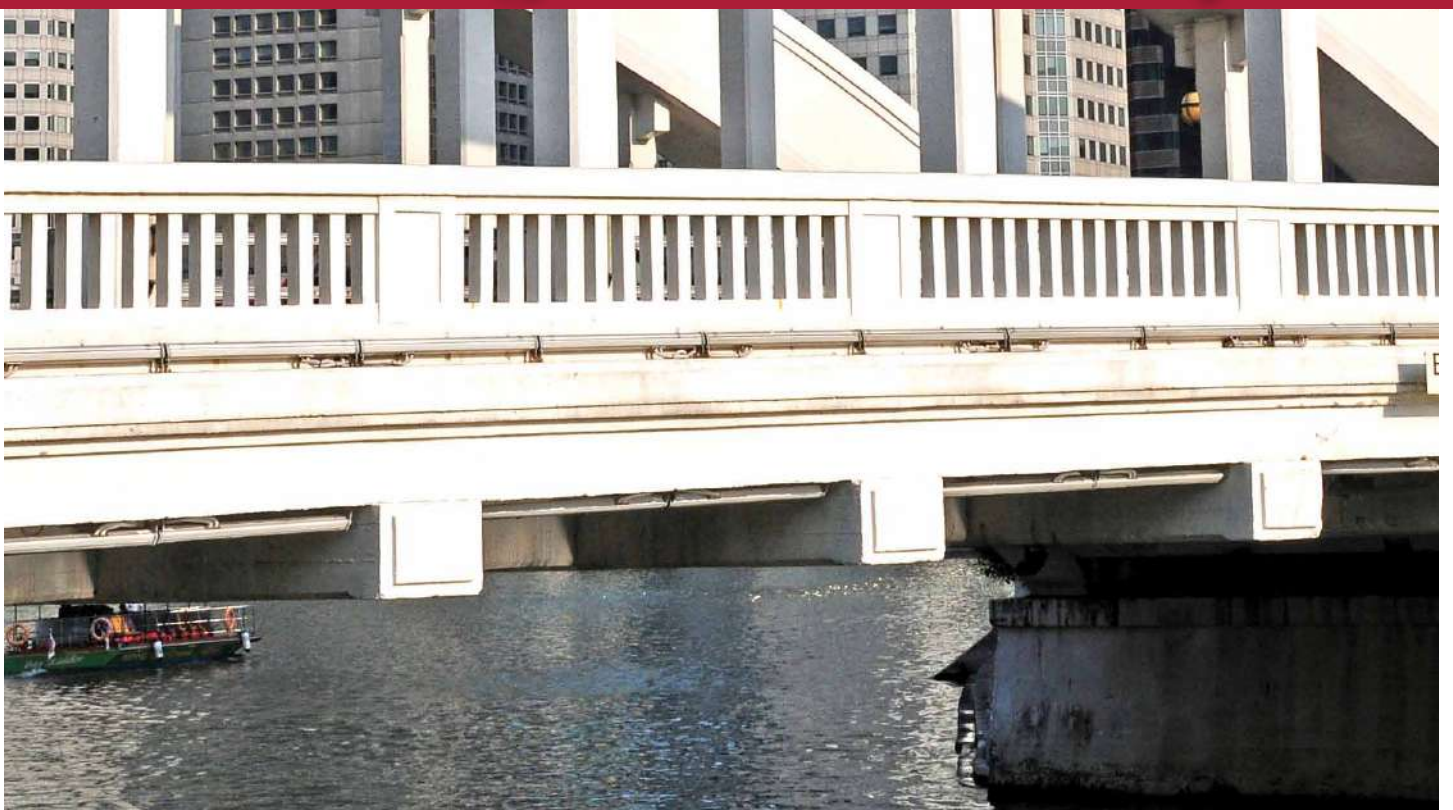
Extensions of time were granted in several cases because of the unavailability of either the Complainant or the Respondent and the difficulty in fixing dates suitable to all parties. In some cases, extensions were granted due to the complexity of the cases. Twenty-seven cases are pending as at 31 August 2013.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Inquiry Panel for their valuable time and hard work put into handling the cases assigned to them. It is the willingness of members to take on these duties that ensures the integrity of the practising profession and upholds its independence.

This page is intentionally left blank.



serving the community



compensation fund

Peter Chong Siong Siang, Chairperson

The Council administers the discretionary Compensation Fund (the "Fund") that can make grants to reduce or mitigate loss suffered by any person in consequence of dishonesty of a lawyer in connection with his/her practice in Singapore or any trust in Singapore of which the lawyer is a trustee. Such grants may also be made to compensate for loss as a result of the dishonesty of an employee of a law practice in the course of his/her employment. The Fund is administered under the terms of section 75 of the Legal Profession Act and the Legal Profession (Compensation Fund) Rules.

Every practising member of the Law Society contributes an annual sum of \$100 per year to the Fund when he/she renews his/her full-time practising certificate. Those applying for Practising Certificates after 1 October contribute a sum of \$50 to the Fund.



Members of the Compensation Fund Committee

“Such grants may also be made to compensate for loss as a result of the dishonesty of an employee of a law practice in the course of his/her employment.”

For the period under review from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013, 3 applications arising from the dishonesty of Zulkifli Bin Amin were considered by the Committee. These are still pending as the claimants have not replied to our request for supporting information.

The Committee further considered 5 applications for claims under the Fund caused by the dishonesty of Mustaffa Bin Abu Bakar. Two of these applications were fresh applications. The Council approved 2 applications arising from the dishonesty of Mustaffa Bin Abu Bakar on the recommendation of the Committee. The amounts of the approved grants were \$16,800 and \$80,700 respectively. The total sum of the approved grants amounts to \$97,500.00. One of the applications was rejected as the applicant had no locus standi to file the application. Two of the applications are pending further information to be provided by the applicants. One of these applications is for a claim of over \$400,000.

The Committee also received an application that allegedly arose from the dishonesty of another solicitor. The application was rejected as it was misconceived and did not arise from dishonesty of the lawyer concerned.

A total sum of \$97,500.00 was approved as a grant from the Fund for the period under review.

Committee Members

Peter Chong Siong Siang - Chairperson
Tan Kay Kheng - Vice-Chairperson
Anand Nalachandran - Council Representative
Abdul Rashid
Aziz Tyebally
Lek Siang Peng
Lim Huay Ching
Lisa Sam Hui Min
Tan Jee Ming

Secretariat Representative

Ambika Rajendram

professional indemnity

Lok Vi Ming, SC, Chairperson

Members may recollect that as a result of an intensive tender exercise conducted in 2011, the Committee secured a hefty 17.5% discount in premiums for policy year 2011. Lockton Companies (Singapore) Pte Ltd ("Lockton") was re-appointed the Scheme's appointed insurance broker. It was agreed with the Scheme Insurers that the Scheme policy should be subject to a 3-year self rating mechanism commencing from 1 April 2011.


The Scheme policy for the policy period 2013 was renewed on 1 April 2013 based on the 3-year self-rating mechanism. After applying the loss ratios according to the self-rating formula, the renewal premium rate was to increase by 3.94%. The Committee requested Lockton to negotiate a moderation in the rate increase despite the agreement on the self-rating formula. The Broker did their best to negotiate renewal as expiry, but this was not possible in view of the worsening claims experience of 2011/2012 policy year.

The Broker advised the Committee that the renewal rate would have been significantly higher if not for the fact that claims reserves for certain matters amounting to about S\$4million for the policy year 2011/2012 had not crystallised by end December 2012, the period taken to determine the loss ratio. Had this amount been crystallised, then, in accordance with the self-rating mechanism, the premium rate would have increased to 12.5%. The Broker also advised that in the absence of the self-rating mechanism, the renewal premium rate would have been even higher, about 25% or more.

“The discount for PrimeLaw certified law practices is now increased from 2% subject to a cap of \$1,000 to 3% with no cap.”

Members may recollect that premiums under the self-rating formula can only be increased or reduced at a maximum cap of 12.5%. This self-rating formula is based on the loss experience of the Scheme and premiums collected, thereby protecting the Scheme from premium increase due to external factors.

Despite the adverse claims experience, the premium increase for 2013 was moderated to 3.5% through the efforts of the Broker and the personal intervention of the Chairperson of the Committee who met up with the lead Scheme insurer. Out of goodwill, the lead Scheme insurer agreed to depart from the agreed contractual terms to moderate the premium increase to 3.5%. This is not the first time that the Scheme insurers have out of good faith agreed to depart



from the strict contractual terms to accord better terms to the Society. For instance, the actual premium reduction for the policy year 2012/2013 was 1.76%, but the Scheme insurers improved the reduction to 2%.

Members may recall that under the improved terms of the Scheme implemented since 2011, the insurers provide a Risk Management Fund of 2% over and above the existing Education Fund of 0.5%. The discount for PrimeLaw certified law practices is now increased from 2% subject to a cap of \$1,000 to 3% with no cap.

The Committee also worked with the Broker to expand on the policy wordings to provide for coverage to include foreign lawyers as Insured under the Scheme in specified instances to cover their practice in a Singapore law practice. Coverage to provide for related law practices was also incorporated into the Scheme policy.

Separately, the Committee worked with the Brokers to send out a notice to members advising that they have a consistent practice of issuing a Letter of Engagement or Warrant to Act when they are retained to act in a matter and to include in the Letter of Engagement or Warrant to Act a provision that all disputes having the potential for civil remedies must be referred for mediation before any civil proceedings can be commenced in Court. This would ensure that any potential claims can be resolved in a cost effective way so that there is less impact on the Scheme and less likelihood of adverse publicity.

Committee Members

Lok Vi Ming, SC - Chairperson
Francis Xavier, SC - Vice-Chairperson
Anparasani s/o Kamachi
Edric Pan Xing Zheng
Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim
Mohamed Ibrahim s/o Mohamed Yakub
Ong Lee Woei
Pateloo Eruthiyanathan Ashokan

Secretariat Representative

Ambika Rajendram

This page is intentionally left blank.



acknowledgements




acknowledgements

The Law Society is grateful for the support of the following law practices and organisations whose partners, directors, associates, legal officers and legal counsel have contributed their time and effort to carry out the work of the Law Society:

A C Fergusson Law Corporation	Clifford Law LLP
Achievers LLC	Colin Ng & Partners LLP
A C Cheong & Co	Consilium Law Corporation
A H Sultan & Associates	Cornerstone Law LLP
A Rajandran	Credit Suisse
AbrahamLow LLC	David Lim & Partners LLP
Adobe Systems Pte Ltd	David Nayar and Vardan
Advocatus Law LLP	De Souza Lim & Goh LLP
Aequitas Law LLP	Dennis Chua & Co
Alain A Johns Partnership	DennisMathiew
Allagarsamy & Co	Derrick Wong & Lim BC LLP
Allen & Gledhill LLP	Dhillon & Partners
Allen & Overy LLP	DLA Piper
Amarick Gill & Co	Dodwell & Co LLC
Amica Law LLC	Donaldson & Burkinshaw
Amolat & Partners	Dora Boon & Co
Ang & Partners	Dorothy Chai Law Practice
Anthony Law Corporation	Drew & Napier LLC
Ari Goh & Partners	East Asia Law Corporation
Atkins Law Corporation	Eldan Law LLP
ATMD Bird & Bird LLP	Ella Cheong Law Corporation
B Rengarajoo & Associates	Engelin Teh Practice LLC
B.C. Beazer Asia Pte Ltd	Essex LLC
Baker & Mckenzie.Wong & Leow LLC	Eugene Thuraisingam
Beacon Law Coprporation	Exodus Law Corporation
Belinda Ang Tang & Partners	Foo & Quek
Bizibody Technology Pte Ltd	Foo Kwok LLC
Braddell Brothers LLP	Francis Khoo & Lim
Brown Pereira & Co	G N Tang & Co
Business Software Alliance Inc	Gabriel Law Corporation
C K Teo & Co	Gateway Law Corporation
C Paglar & Co	Gavan Law Practice LLC
Cavenagh Law LLP	George Hwang LLC
Characterist LLC	Glen Koh
Chia Wong LLP	Global Law Alliance LLC
Chia-Thomas Law Chambers LLC	Gloria James-Civetta & Co
Chin Patrick & Co	Gomez & Vasu LLC
Chong Chia & Lim LLC	Grace Chacko Law Practice
Chris Chua & Associates	Grays LLC
Christina Goh & Co	Harjeet Singh & Co
Christopher Bridges	Harold Seet & Indra Raj
CitiLegal LLC	Harry Elias Partnership LLP
Clasis LLP	Heng Leong & Srinivasan
Clifford Chance Pte Ltd	Herbert Smith Freehills LLP

acknowledgements

Heritage Law Corporation	Looi Teck Kheong
Hilborne Law LLC	Low Yeap Toh & Goon
Ho Wong & Partners	Luke Lee & Co
Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee	Luther LLP
hslegal LLP	M & A Law Corporation
Hudson	M Rama Law Corporation
I.R.B Law LLP	Mahmood Gaznavi & Partners
Infinitus Law Corporation	Mallal & Namazie
Integer Knowledge Pte Ltd	Mani & Partners
Island Law LLC	Marican & Associates
Ismail Hamid & Co	Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore
J P Dendroff & Co	Mark Goh & Co
J S Yeh & Co	Martin & Partners
Jacob Mansur & Pillai	Mathew Chew & Chelliah
James Masih & Company	Michael Hwang Chambers
Jay Associates	Michael Khoo & Partners
Jeanny Ng	Michael Por Law Corporation
Jenny Lai & Co	Mirchandani & Partners
Jeya & Associates	Moey & Yuen
Jimmy Yap & Co	Mok & Tan
JLim & Chew Law Corporation	MPillay LLC
Joo Toon LLC	Murthy & Co
Joseph Tan Jude Benny LLP	Muzammil & Company
Josephine Tay & Co	Myintsoe & Selvaraj
Joyce A Tan & Partners	Nabarro LLP
Justin Phua Tan & Partners	Nanyang Law LLC
K L Tan & Associates	National University of Singapore
K S Loo & Co	Ng Chong & Hue LLC
Kalco Law LLC	Norton Rose Fulbright (Asia) LLP
Kannan SG	Oliver Quek & Associates
Karuppan Chettiar & Partners	Olswang Asia LLP
KC Tng Law Practice	Ong & Co LLC
Kelvin Chia Partnership	OTP Law Corporation
KhattarWong LLP	Pacific Law Corporation
Kishan LLC	Parwani & Co
Krishnan Sivanandam & Co	Patrick Tan LLC
KSCGP Juris LLP	Peter Low LLC
LS Lim Law Practice	Peter Ong & Raymond Tan
Lalwani Law Chambers	Premier Law LLC
Lam W S & Co	Prestige Legal LLP
Lau & Gur	Providence Law Asia LLC
Lau Teik Soon & Associates	Quahe Woo & Palmer LLC
Laurence Goh Eng Yau & Co	R S Balan & Co
Lawrence Chua & Partners	Raj Kumar & Rama
Lee & Lee	Rajah & Tann LLP
Lee Bon Leong & Co	Rajah Retnam & Co
Lee T H & Partners	Rajan Chettiar & Co
Legal Clinic LLC	Ramdas & Wong
Legal Solutions LLC	Ramesh Tiwary
Legis Point LLC	Ravindran Associates
Lexcompass LLC	Raymond Lim & Co
Lexton Law Corporation	Raymond Yeo
Lim Hin Chye & Co	RHTLaw Taylor Wessing LLP
Lim Hua Yong LLP	Riverbed Technology
Lim Soo Peng & Co LLP	Robert Wang & Woo LLP
Lisa Sam & Company	Robin Law Corporation



Rodgers & Co Solicitors (Asia) Pte Ltd
 Rodyk & Davidson LLP
 Rupert Seah & Co
 S T Chelvan & Company
 Sadari Musari & Partners
 Samuel Seow Law Corporation
 Sankar Ow & Partners LLP
 Seah Ong & Partners LLP
 Sealmint Ltd
 Selvam LLC
 Serene Chan & Co
 Shook Lin & Bok LLP
 Sim & Co
 Stamford Law Corporation
 Sterling Law Corporation
 Straits Law Practice LLC
 Summit Law Corporation
 Sureshan LLC
 Surian & Partners
 T L Yap & Associates
 T U Naidu & Co
 Tan Kok Quan Partnership
 Tan Lee & Partners
 Tan Lu Seng & Co
 Tan Oei & Oei LLC
 Tan Peng Chin LLC
 Tan Rajah & Cheah
 Tan See Swan & Co
 TanJinHwee LLC
 Temple Counsel LLP
 Teo Keng Siang & Partners
 Thanga & Co
 Thiru & Co
 Thomson Legal LLP
 Timothy Ng LLC
 Tito Isaac & Co LLC
 Toh Tan LLP
 TSMP Law Corporation
 UniLegal LLC
 United Legal Alliance LLC
 Via Law Corporation
 Vijay & Co
 Wee Swee Teow & Co
 Wee Tay & Lim LLP
 Wendy Han & Co
 William Poh & Louis Lim
 Winchester Law LLC
 Wong & Leow LLC
 Wong & Yian LLC
 Wong Alliance LLP
 WongPartnership LLP
 Yeo & Associates
 Yeo-Leong & Peh LLC
 Yuen Law LLC

The Law Society would also like to thank the following for their support of the work of the Society:

Supreme Court of Singapore
 Subordinate Courts
 Syariah Court
 Attorney-General's Chambers
 Singapore Academy of Law
 Singapore Institute of Legal Education
 Ministry of Law
 Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth
 Ministry of Social and Family Development
 Ministry of Home Affairs
 Other Government Ministries and Statutory Boards

This page is intentionally left blank.



auditor's report



financial statements

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013



**BAKER TILLY
TFW**

Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

An independent member of Baker Tilly International

CONTENTS

Statement of the Council	1
Independent Auditor's Report	2
Balance Sheet	4
Statement of Comprehensive Income	6
Statement of Changes in Accumulated Funds and Fair Value Reserve	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	11

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE


STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL

In the opinion of the Council, the financial statements set out on pages 4 to 38 are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Law Society of Singapore at 31 March 2013 and of the results, net changes in accumulated funds and fair value reserve and cash flows for the financial year then ended.

On behalf of the Council



MR LOK VI MING, SENIOR COUNSEL
President



MR KELVIN WONG
Treasurer

5 September 2013



**BAKER TILLY
TFW**

Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

An independent member of Baker Tilly International

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Law Society of Singapore ("the Society") as set out on pages 4 to 38, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2013, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in accumulated funds and fair value reserve and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31 March 2013 and of the results, changes in accumulated funds and fair value reserve and cash flows of the Society for the financial year ended on that date.



**BAKER TILLY
TFW**

Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

An independent member of Baker Tilly International

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE (cont'd)**

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In respect of the Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (the "Pro Bono"), during the course of our audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that during the financial year ended 31 March 2013:

- (i) the use of the donation monies was not in accordance with the objectives of the Pro-Bono as required under regulation 16 of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations; and.
- (ii) the Society has not complied with the requirements of regulation 15 (Fund-raising expenses) of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations.

Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Public Accountants and
Chartered Accountants
Singapore

5 September 2013

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

**BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2013**

Note	General Fund		Other Funds		Learning & Support Services		Compensation Fund		Monies held in Trust		Total	
	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	(Restated)						(Restated)				(Restated)	
ASSETS												
Non-current assets												
Property, plant and equipment	2	5,672,696	5,782,228	-	-	94,204	85,290	-	-	-	5,766,900	5,867,518
Available-for-sale financial assets	3	3,400,460	2,303,572	-	-	-	-	4,294,095	3,014,433	-	7,694,555	6,124,756
		9,073,156	8,085,800	-	-	94,204	85,290	4,294,095	3,014,433	-	13,461,455	12,155,601
Current assets												
Available-for-sale financial assets	3	363,095	541,183	-	-	-	-	454,464	757,553	-	817,559	1,298,736
Inventories	4	-	-	33,331	39,944	-	-	-	-	-	33,331	39,944
Receivables	5	123,309	80,948	2,350	5,332	525,344	1,334	-	-	-	651,003	87,614
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	6	9,090,551	8,114,888	234,148	230,194	411,388	657,171	6,345,721	6,239,753	5,376,407	21,458,215	17,033,168
		9,576,955	8,737,019	269,829	275,470	936,732	658,505	6,800,185	6,997,306	5,376,407	22,960,108	18,459,462
InterFund – amount due from/(to)	24	173,294	408,322	(40,062)	(24,241)	(381,571)	(376,152)	248,339	(7,929)	-	-	-
Total assets		18,823,405	17,231,141	229,767	251,229	649,365	367,643	11,342,619	10,003,810	5,376,407	36,421,563	29,644,985
											28,341,355	

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

**BALANCE SHEET (cont'd)
As at 31 March 2013**

Note	General Fund		Other Funds		Support Services		Compensation Fund		Monies held in Trust		Total	
	2013 \$	2012 \$ (Restated)	2013 \$	2012 \$	2013 \$	2012 \$	2013 \$ (Restated)	2012 \$	2013 \$	2012 \$ (Restated)	2013 \$	2012 \$ (Restated)
LIABILITIES												
Current liabilities												
Fees received in advance	3,513,937	3,529,934	–	35,927	10,000	–	373,200	371,300	–	–	3,897,137	3,107,609
Grant received from Ministry of Law	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Payables	885,404	486,993	17,309	28,971	12,852	25,452	150	15,150	–	–	915,715	556,566
Monies held in trust	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5,376,407	1,791,162	5,376,407	1,791,162
Income tax payable	176,378	156,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	176,378	156,000
Total liabilities	4,575,719	4,172,927	17,309	64,898	22,852	25,452	373,350	386,450	5,376,407	1,791,162	10,365,637	6,440,889
Net assets	14,247,686	13,058,214	212,458	186,331	626,513	342,191	10,969,269	9,617,360	–	–	26,055,926	21,765,116
Represented by:												
Accumulated Funds	14,088,294	13,067,845	212,458	186,331	626,513	342,191	10,757,827	9,621,809	–	–	25,685,092	23,218,176
Fair value reserve	159,392	(9,631)	–	–	–	–	211,442	(4,449)	–	–	370,834	(14,080)
	14,247,686	13,058,214	212,458	186,331	626,513	342,191	10,969,269	9,617,360	–	–	26,055,926	21,765,116

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the financial year ended 31 March 2013

	Note	General (Note 8)	Other Funds (Notes 11 to 15)	Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (Note 10)	Compensation Fund (Note 9)	Total
		2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Income						
Subscriptions, Levy and Compensation Fund dues		4,134,479	3,961,859	–	439,950	4,574,429
Investment income and interest from fixed deposits and current bank accounts		176,698	152,898	73	184,927	340,761
Income from operating activities		974,150	841,249	83,802	552,465	1,918,251
		5,285,327	4,956,006	84,085	1,200,645	6,640,871
Expenditure						
Expenditure from operating activities		3,094,092	2,759,609	57,958	64,627	4,894,222
Donations / Grants / Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono Services Office		851,500	534,660	–	–	851,500
Disciplinary Proceedings costs		298,908	124,029	–	–	298,908
		4,244,500	3,418,298	57,958	64,627	4,982,295
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year before tax		1,040,827	1,537,708	284,322	1,136,018	2,487,294
Tax expense	17	(20,378)	(153,365)	–	–	(20,378)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		1,020,449	1,384,343	284,322	1,136,018	2,466,916
Other comprehensive income						
Fair value (loss)/gain		169,023	(30,957)	–	215,891	(66,231)
Total comprehensive income for the year		1,189,472	1,353,386	284,322	1,351,909	2,851,830

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUNDS AND FAIR VALUE RESERVE

For the financial year ended 31 March 2013

	Note	As at 1 April \$	Income \$	Expenditure \$	Tax expense \$	Net Change \$	As at 31 March \$
31 March 2013							
<i>Accumulated funds</i>							
General Fund	8	13,067,845	5,285,327	4,244,500	20,378	1,020,449	14,088,294
Compensation Fund	9	9,621,809	1,200,645	64,627	–	1,136,018	10,757,827
Pro Bono Learning & Support Services	10	342,191	1,961,867	1,677,545	–	284,322	626,513
<i>Other funds</i>							
Jus Curio Fund	11	65,511	41,201	1,200	–	40,001	105,512
Library Fund	12	47,851	276	–	–	276	48,127
Pastoral Care Fund	13	330	–	2,520	–	(2,520)	(2,190)
Sports Meet Fund	14	(5,184)	42,608	54,038	–	(11,430)	(16,614)
Welfare Fund	15	77,823	–	200	–	(200)	77,623
		23,218,176	8,531,924	6,044,630	20,378	2,466,916	25,685,092
Fair value reserve							
		(14,080)	384,914	–	–	384,914	370,834
		23,204,096	8,916,838	6,044,630	20,378	2,851,830	26,055,926
31 March 2012							
<i>Accumulated funds</i>							
General Fund	8	11,683,502	4,956,006	3,418,298	153,365	1,384,343	13,067,845
Compensation Fund	9	9,276,706	623,919	278,816	–	345,103	9,621,809
Pro Bono Learning & Support Services	10	565,051	974,825	1,197,685	–	(222,860)	342,191
<i>Other funds</i>							
Jus Curio Fund	11	41,368	25,108	965	–	24,143	65,511
Library Fund	12	47,504	347	–	–	347	47,851
Pastoral Care Fund	13	1,410	–	1,080	–	(1,080)	330
Sports Meet Fund	14	19,401	60,666	85,251	–	(24,585)	(5,184)
Welfare Fund	15	78,023	–	200	–	(200)	77,823
		21,712,965	6,640,871	4,982,295	153,365	1,505,211	23,218,176
Fair value reserve							
		52,151	–	66,231	–	(66,231)	(14,080)
		21,765,116	6,640,871	5,048,526	153,365	1,438,980	23,204,096

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the financial year ended 31 March 2013

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$ (Restated)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Surplus for the year before tax		2,487,294	1,658,576
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation of grant from Ministry of Law		–	(40,000)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	2	253,031	309,881
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets		14,499	8,304
Interest income		(103,172)	(80,538)
Investment income		(285,367)	(260,223)
Operating surplus before working capital changes		2,366,285	1,596,000
Fixed deposits and bank balances held in trust		3,585,245	(1,208,768)
Inventories		6,613	(2,208)
Receivables		(563,389)	26,593
Fees received in advance		(40,024)	829,552
Payables		(3,226,096)	1,336,634
Cash from operations		2,128,634	2,577,803
Tax refund received		–	2,635
Net cash from operating activities		2,128,634	2,580,438
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets		1,265,001	863,226
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	2	(152,413)	(146,554)
Interest income		103,172	80,538
Investment income		285,367	260,223
Addition of available-for-sales financial assets		(2,789,959)	(1,135,223)
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,288,832)	(77,790)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		839,802	2,502,648
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		15,242,006	12,739,358
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year		16,081,808	15,242,006
Cash and cash equivalents comprise:			
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances (Note 6)		21,458,215	17,033,168
Less: Monies held in trust (Note 6)		(5,376,407)	(1,791,162)
		16,081,808	15,242,006

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the financial year ended 31 March 2013

	General fund	Other funds	Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services Office	Compensation fund	Monies held in trust	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities						
Surplus/(deficit) for the year before tax	1,040,827	26,127	284,322	1,136,018	–	2,487,294
Adjustments for:						
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	6,558	–	–	7,941	–	14,499
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	224,022	–	29,009	–	–	253,031
Interest income	(51,475)	(283)	(3,328)	(48,086)	–	(103,172)
Investment income	(125,223)	–	–	(160,144)	–	(285,367)
Operating surplus before working capital changes	1,094,709	25,844	310,003	935,729	–	2,366,285
Fixed deposit and bank balance held in trust	–	–	–	–	3,585,245	3,585,245
Inventories	–	6,613	–	–	–	6,613
Receivables	(42,361)	2,982	(524,010)	–	–	(563,389)
Fees received in advance	(15,997)	(35,927)	10,000	1,900	–	(40,024)
Payables	398,411	(11,662)	(12,600)	(15,000)	(3,585,245)	(3,226,096)
Interfund – amount due from/(to)	235,028	15,821	5,419	(256,268)	–	–
Cash from/(used in) operations	1,669,790	3,671	(211,188)	666,361	–	2,128,634
Income tax paid	–	–	–	–	–	–
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	1,669,790	3,671	(211,188)	666,361	–	2,128,634
Cash flows from investing activities						
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	528,375	–	–	736,626	–	1,265,001
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(114,490)	–	(37,923)	–	–	(152,413)
Interest income	51,475	283	3,328	48,086	–	103,172
Investment income	125,223	–	–	160,144	–	285,367
Addition of available-for-sale financial assets	(1,284,710)	–	–	(1,505,249)	–	(2,789,959)
Net cash from/(used) in investing activities	(694,127)	283	(34,595)	(560,393)	–	(1,288,832)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	975,663	3,954	(245,783)	105,968	–	839,802
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	8,114,888	230,194	657,171	6,239,753	–	15,242,006
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	9,090,551	234,148	411,388	6,345,721	–	16,081,808

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the financial year ended 31 March 2012

	General fund	Other funds	Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services Office	Compensation fund	Monies held in trust	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities						
Surplus/(deficit) for the year before tax	1,537,708	(1,375)	(222,860)	345,103	–	1,658,576
Adjustments for:						(Restated)
Amortisation of grant from Ministry of Law	–	–	(40,000)	–	–	(40,000)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	252,612	–	57,269	–	–	309,881
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	2,830	–	–	5,474	–	8,304
Interest income	(40,229)	(73)	(2,863)	(37,373)	–	(80,538)
Investment income	(112,669)	–	–	(147,554)	–	(260,223)
Operating surplus/(deficit) before working capital changes	1,640,252	(1,448)	(208,454)	165,650	–	1,596,000
Fixed deposit and bank balance held in trust	–	–	–	–	(1,208,768)	(1,208,768)
Inventories	–	(2,208)	–	–	–	(2,208)
Receivables	(49,193)	1,890	73,666	230	–	26,593
Fees received in advance	720,024	35,927	–	73,601	–	829,552
Payables	75,287	21,641	15,938	15,000	1,208,768	1,336,634
Interfund – amount due from/(to)	(5,827)	2,422	48,192	(44,787)	–	–
Cash from/(used in) operations	2,380,543	58,224	(70,658)	209,694	–	2,577,803
Tax refund received	2,635	–	–	–	–	2,635
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	2,383,178	58,224	(70,658)	209,694	–	2,580,438
Cash flows from investing activities						
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	366,976	–	–	496,250	–	863,226
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(40,448)	–	(106,106)	–	–	(146,554)
Interest income	40,229	73	2,863	37,373	–	80,538
Investment income	112,669	–	–	147,554	–	260,223
Addition of available-for-sale financial assets	(482,189)	–	–	(653,034)	–	(1,135,223)
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(2,763)	73	(103,243)	28,143	–	(77,790)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	2,380,415	58,297	(173,901)	237,837	–	2,502,648
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	5,734,473	171,897	831,072	6,001,916	–	12,739,358
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	8,114,888	230,194	657,171	6,239,753	–	15,242,006

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the financial year ended 31 March 2013

These notes form an integral part of and should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements.

1. Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements, expressed in Singapore dollars, which is the Society's functional currency, have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards ("FRS"). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except as disclosed in the accounting policies below.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with FRS requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the financial year. These estimates and assumptions are assessed on an on-going basis and are based on experience and relevant factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In the process of applying the Society's accounting policies described below, management has made the following judgments that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

- (i) The Society classifies certain assets as available-for-sale financial assets and recognises changes in their fair value in equity. When the fair value declines, management exercises judgment based on the observable data relating to possible events that may have caused the decline in value to determine whether the decline in value is an impairment that should be recognised in profit or loss. The carrying amount of the Society's available for sale financial assets at 31 March 2013 was \$8,512,114 (2012: \$6,616,741).
- (ii) The Society depreciates its property, plant and equipment based on a straight line basis over their useful lives. The carrying amount of the Society's property, plant and equipment at 31 March 2013 was \$5,766,900 (2012: \$5,867,518). Changes in the level of usage and market uses could impact the useful lives and residual values of these assets and hence future depreciation charges could be revised.
- (iii) The Society has exposure to income tax. Significant judgment is involved in determining the Society's provision for income tax. There are certain transactions and computations for which the ultimate tax determination is uncertain during the ordinary course of business. The Society recognises liabilities for expected tax issues based on estimates of whether additional taxes will be due. Where the final tax outcome of these matters is different from the amounts that were initially recognised, such differences will impact the income tax in the period in which such determination is made. At the balance sheet date, the income tax payable was \$176,378 (2012: \$156,000).

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, trade and other current receivables and payables and provisions approximate their respective fair values due to the relatively short-term maturity of these financial instruments.

In the current financial year, the Society has adopted all the new and revised FRS and Interpretations of FRS ("INT FRS") that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current financial year. The adoption of these new/revised FRSs has no material effect on the financial results and position of the Society.

1. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(a) Basis of preparation (cont'd)

New standards, amendments to standards and interpretations that have been issued at the balance sheet date but are not yet effective for the financial year ended 31 March 2013 have not been applied in preparing these financial statements. None of these are expected to have a significant effect on the financial statements of the Society.

(b) Property, plant and equipment

The cost of property, plant and equipment initially recognised includes its purchase price and any cost that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Dismantlement, removal or restoration costs are included as part of the cost of property, plant and equipment if the obligation for dismantlement, removal or restoration is incurred as a consequence of acquiring or using the asset.

On disposal of a property, plant and equipment, the difference between the net disposal proceeds and its carrying amount is taken to profit or loss.

Property, plant and equipment are shown at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment loss. Depreciation is calculated on the straight line method so as to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives. The rates of depreciation used are:

		<u>Year</u>
Leasehold Building	-	50
Renovations	-	5 to 10
Computer equipment	-	3-5
Office equipment	-	5
Furniture and fittings	-	10
Air-conditioners	-	3
Library books	-	5

The residual values, estimated useful lives and depreciation method of property, plant and equipment are reviewed, and adjusted as appropriate, at each balance sheet date. The effects of any revision are recognised in profit or loss when the changes arise.

Fully depreciated assets are retained in the financial statements until they are no longer in use.

(c) Income recognition

Subscriptions from members and contributions are recognised as income on a straight-line over the subscription period. Revenue from sale of goods on credit is recognised when goods are delivered and in respect of cash sales, when goods are taken and paid for over the counter. Interest income is recognised on a time proportion over the period of the deposit placed with financial institutions.

(d) Inventories

Inventories comprising publication, gifts and souvenir items held for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value with cost being determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

1. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(e) Financial assets

Classification

The Society classifies its financial assets in the following categories: loans and receivables and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the assets were acquired. The Council determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition and re-evaluates this designation at end of each reporting period.

(i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise when the Society provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor with no intention of trading the receivable. They are included in current assets, except those maturing more than 12 months after the balance sheet date. These are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in "Receivables" and "Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances" in the balance sheet.

The loans and receivables are measured at initial recognition at fair value, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

An allowance for impairment of loans and receivables is recognised when there is objective evidence that the Society will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. The amount of the allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The carry amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account, and the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss. When a trade receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for the trade receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited in profit or loss.

(ii) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the assets within 12 months after the balance sheet date.

Recognition and derecognition

Purchase and sales of investments are recognised on trade-date - the date on which the Society commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Society has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Initial measurement

Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs which are recognised at fair value.

Subsequent measurement

Available-for-sale financial assets are subsequently carried at fair value.

Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of investments classified as available for sale are recognised in the fair value reserve. When investments classified as available for sale are sold or impaired, the accumulated fair value adjustments in the fair value reserve are included in profit or loss.

1. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(e) Financial assets (cont'd)

Determination of fair value

The fair values of quoted financial assets are based on current bid prices. If the market for a financial asset is not active, the Society establishes fair value by using valuation techniques. These included the use of recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, and option pricing models refined to reflect the issuer's specific circumstances.

Impairment

The Society assesses at each balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity investments classified as available for sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the investment below its cost is considered in determining whether the investments are impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss, measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit or loss, is removed from the fair value reserve within fund and recognised in profit or loss. Impairment losses recognised in profit or loss on equity investments are not reversed through profit or loss, until the equity investments are disposed of.

(f) Taxation

Income tax on profit and loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in profit or loss except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly to equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using rates enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred income tax is provided using the liability method, on all temporary differences at the balance sheet date arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on currently enacted or substantively enacted tax rates at the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax are charged or credited to equity if the tax relates to items that are credited or charged in the same or a different period, directly to equity.

(g) Employee's benefits

(i) Defined contribution plans

The Society contributes to the Central Provident Fund ("CPF"), a defined contribution plan regulated and managed by the Singapore Government. The Society's contributions to CPF are charged to the statement of comprehensive income in the period which the related service is performed.

1. Significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(g) Employee's benefits (cont'd)

(ii) Employee leave entitlement

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognised when they accrue to employees. A provision is made for the estimated liability for leave as a result of services rendered by employees up to the balance sheet date.

(h) Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment at each balance sheet date or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss or treated as a revaluation decrease for assets carried at revalued amount to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount held in the revaluation surplus for that same asset.

Reversal of impairment losses recognised in prior years is recorded when there is an indication that the impairment losses recognised for the asset no longer exist or have decreased. The reversal is recorded in profit or loss or as a revaluation increase. However, the increased carrying amount of an asset due to a reversal of an impairment loss is recognised to the extent it does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of amortisation or depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognised for that asset in prior years.

(i) Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are included in payables and accruals. Financial liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet when, and only when, the Society becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value plus directly attributable transactions costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is extinguished. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised and through amortisation process.

(j) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Society has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, and it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. Where the Company expects a provision to be reimbursed, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain.

(k) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and bank balances comprise cash on hand, deposits with financial institutions which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

2. Property, plant and equipment

2013

	Leasehold building \$	Renovations \$	Computer equipment \$	Office equipment \$	Furniture and fittings \$	Air- conditioners \$	Library books \$	Total \$
Cost								
Balance as at 1 April	7,776,606	1,941,253	644,368	102,073	158,139	132,180	132,866	10,887,485
Additions	—	—	86,854	62,359	3,200	—	—	152,413
Balance as at 31 March 13	7,776,606	1,941,253	731,222	164,432	161,339	132,180	132,866	11,039,898
Accumulated Depreciation								
Balance as at 1 April	2,125,605	1,930,437	511,956	93,839	93,934	131,330	132,866	5,019,967
Charge for the year	155,532	6,863	61,795	15,275	12,716	850	—	253,031
Balance as at 31 March 13	2,281,137	1,937,300	573,751	109,114	106,650	132,180	132,866	5,272,998
Net Carrying Value								
Balance as at 31 March 13	5,495,469	3,953	157,471	55,318	54,689	—	—	5,766,900
Comprises :-								
<i>General Fund</i>	5,495,469	3,324	81,598	37,616	54,689	—	—	5,672,696
<i>Pro Bono Services</i>	—	629	75,873	17,702	—	—	—	94,204
Balance as at 31 March 13	5,495,469	3,953	157,471	55,318	54,689	—	—	5,766,900

2012

Cost								
Balance as at 1 April	7,776,606	1,940,204	505,603	95,583	158,139	132,180	132,866	10,741,181
Additions	—	1,049	138,765	6,740	—	—	—	146,554
Written off	—	—	—	(250)	—	—	—	(250)
Balance as at 31 March 12	7,776,606	1,941,253	644,368	102,073	158,139	132,180	132,866	10,887,485
Accumulated Depreciation								
Balance as at 1 April	1,970,073	1,892,355	417,321	86,498	81,443	129,780	132,866	4,710,336
Charge for the year	155,532	38,082	94,635	7,591	12,491	1,550	—	309,881
Written off	—	—	—	(250)	—	—	—	(250)
Balance as at 31 March 12	2,125,605	1,930,437	511,956	93,839	93,934	131,330	132,866	5,019,967
Net Carrying Value								
Balance as at 31 March 12	5,651,001	10,816	132,412	8,234	64,205	850	—	5,867,518
Comprises :-								
<i>General Fund</i>	5,651,001	9,977	47,961	8,234	64,205	850	—	5,782,228
<i>Pro Bono Services</i>	—	839	84,451	—	—	—	—	85,290
Balance as at 31 March 12	5,651,001	10,816	132,412	8,234	64,205	850	—	5,867,518

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Depreciation is charged as follows:-		
General Fund (Note 8e)	224,022	252,612
Pro Bono Services Office (Note 10)		
- Office Fund	18,791	31,382
- CLAS	10,218	25,887
	253,031	309,881

3. Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets comprise:

	2013 \$	2012 \$ (Restated)	2011 \$ (Restated)
Interest bearing securities: -			
Balance at the beginning of financial year	4,577,555	4,375,236	4,615,742
Additions during the year	2,773,000	1,012,500	750,000
Disposals during the year	(1,258,300)	(792,030)	(1,013,600)
Fair value gain/ (loss)	77,638	(18,151)	23,094
	6,169,893	4,577,555	4,375,236
Accrued interest	63,720	46,761	38,298
Equity instruments (quoted): -			
Balance at the beginning of financial year	1,992,425	2,005,745	783,160
Additions during the year	–	114,260	1,216,640
Disposal during the year	(21,200)	(79,500)	–
Fair value gain/ (loss)	307,276	(48,080)	5,945
	2,278,501	1,992,425	2,005,745
	8,512,114	6,616,741	6,419,279

The available-for-sale financial assets is analysed as follows:

	2013 \$	2012 \$ (Restated)	2011 \$ (Restated)
<u>Non-current</u>			
General Fund	3,400,460	2,303,572	2,640,601
Compensation Fund	4,294,095	3,014,433	3,484,155
	7,694,555	5,318,005	6,124,756
<u>Current</u>			
General Fund	363,095	541,183	122,728
Compensation Fund	454,464	757,553	171,795
	817,559	1,298,736	294,523
	8,512,114	6,616,741	6,419,279

As at 31 March 2013, interest bearing securities earn interest at fixed rates from 3.04% to 6% (2012: 2.4% to 6%) per annum and the maturity dates of certain securities are due within 1 to 6 years (2012: within 1 to 3 years), the balance include perpetual bonds.

4. Inventories

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Publications, gifts and souvenirs (Note 11)	33,331	39,944

5. Receivables

	General Fund \$	Compensation Fund \$	Pro Bono Learning & Support Services \$	Other Funds \$	2013 \$	2012 \$
Sundry receivables	80,193	—	524,344	1,240	605,777	48,091
Sundry deposits	37,959	—	—	604	38,563	24,930
Prepayments	5,157	—	1,000	506	6,663	14,593
	123,309	—	525,344	2,350	651,003	87,614

6. Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances

	← As at 31 March 2013 →			← As at 31 March 2012 →			
	Fixed deposits \$	Bank and cash balances \$	Total \$	Fixed deposits \$	Bank and cash balances \$	Total \$ (Restated)	2011 Total \$ (Restated)
General Fund	4,178,289	4,912,262	9,090,551	6,797,176	1,317,712	8,114,888	5,734,473
Compensation Fund	5,480,169	865,552	6,345,721	5,186,973	1,052,780	6,239,753	6,001,916
	9,658,458	5,777,814	15,436,272	11,984,149	2,370,492	14,354,641	11,736,389
<u>Other Funds:</u>							
Jus Curio Fund	40,355	73,589	113,944	40,073	32,368	72,441	31,478
Library Fund	37,954	10,000	47,954	37,679	10,000	47,679	47,332
Pastoral Care Fund	—	(2,190)	(2,190)	—	330	330	1,410
Sports Meet Fund	—	(3,183)	(3,183)	—	31,921	31,921	13,654
Welfare fund	—	77,623	77,623	—	77,823	77,823	78,023
	78,309	155,839	234,148	77,752	152,442	230,194	171,897
<u>Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services: -</u>							
Office Fund	101,235	40,200	141,435	180,609	18,081	198,690	286,605
Law Awareness Fund	—	11,521	11,521	70,379	33,850	104,229	85,874
Criminal Legal Aid Fund	101,073	115,511	216,584	200,817	124,676	325,493	429,823
Bar Memorial Fund	15,138	26,710	41,848	15,019	13,740	28,759	28,770
	217,446	193,942	411,388	466,824	190,347	657,171	831,072
	9,954,213	6,127,595	16,081,808	12,528,725	2,713,281	15,242,006	12,739,358
Monies held in Trust (Note 16)	1,885,985	3,490,422	5,376,407	1,216,858	574,304	1,791,162	2,999,930
Total	11,840,198	9,618,017	21,458,215	13,745,583	3,287,585	17,033,168	15,739,288

The fixed deposit interest rates as at 31 March 2013 are fixed and ranged between 0.25% to 1.38% (2012: 0.3125% to 1.08%) per annum and fixed deposits mature within 1 to 10 months after year-end (2012: within 1 to 11 months).

7. Payables

	General Fund \$	Compensation Fund \$	Pro Bono Learning & Support Services \$	Other Funds \$	2013 \$	2012 \$
Sundry payables	765,306	150	12,852	4,493	782,801	391,459
Accrued expenses	120,098	–	–	12,816	132,914	165,107
	885,404	150	12,852	17,309	915,715	556,566

8. General Fund

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
INCOME			
Subscriptions from members	8a	4,134,479	3,961,859
Interest on fixed deposits / bank interest earned	8b	51,475	40,229
Investment income		125,223	112,669
Surplus from self financing projects	8c	635,977	448,312
Sundry income	8d	338,173	392,937
		5,285,327	4,956,006
LESS EXPENDITURE			
Administrative	8e	569,773	606,511
Personnel	8f	2,399,089	2,096,610
Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono Services Office	8g	851,500	534,660
Meetings, events and other			
Council expenses	8h	125,323	59,051
Council budgets for special projects/expenditure	8i	(93)	(2,563)
Regulatory matters	8j	298,908	124,029
		4,244,500	3,418,298
Surplus for the year		1,040,827	1,537,708
Less: Tax expense	17	(20,378)	(153,365)
Surplus after tax		1,020,449	1,384,343
Balance brought forward		13,067,845	11,683,502
Balance carried forward		14,088,294	13,067,845

8. General Fund (cont'd)

	2013 \$	2012 \$
[Note 8a]		
Analysis of Subscriptions from members		
Subscriptions from Non Practitioners	46,229	46,409
Subscriptions from Practitioners	4,088,250	3,915,450
	4,134,479	3,961,859
[Note 8b]		
Analysis of Interest on fixed deposits		
Interest received on fixed deposits	51,475	40,229
[Note 8c]		
Analysis of Surplus/(Deficit) from self financing projects		
<u>Annual Dinner</u>		
Income	74,943	76,659
Expenditure	(78,432)	(74,163)
(Deficit)/surplus	(3,489)	2,496
<u>Continuing Professional Development Programmes</u>		
Income	379,475	384,675
Expenditure	(91,235)	(84,536)
Surplus	288,240	300,139
<u>International conference on eCommerce & Communication</u>		
Income	32,105	–
Expenditure	(23,944)	–
Surplus	8,161	–
<u>Advocacy</u>		
Income	430,100	404,752
Expenditure	(214,243)	(307,043)
Surplus	215,857	97,709
<u>Criminal Law Conference</u>		
Income	–	141,644
Expenditure	–	(93,676)
Surplus	–	47,968
<u>Regional Insolvency Conference 2012</u>		
Income	32,201	–
Expenditure	(11,817)	–
Surplus	20,384	–
<u>ADR Conference 2012</u>		
Income	88,103	–
Expenditure	(67,892)	–
Surplus	20,211	–
<u>Litigation conference 2012</u>		
Income	163,181	–
Expenditure	(76,568)	–
Surplus	86,613	–
Total surplus	635,977	448,312

8. General Fund (cont'd)

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
[Note 8d]		
Analysis of Sundry income		
Advertising – online directory	75,975	79,393
Classifieds advertising	70,331	75,474
Contribution from Santa Clara University	–	11,940
Fee waivers of PLC Advocacy trainers	47,360	80,365
Grant from Ministry of Law	18,750	56,250
Other income	125,757	89,515
	338,173	392,937

[Note 8e]**Analysis of Administrative expenses**

Advertising	13,581	9,403
Audit fee		
- to external auditors	15,000	15,000
Bank charges	2,462	1,725
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	224,022	252,612
Miscellaneous	2,974	2,707
Newspapers, periodicals & binding services	961	1,896
Insurance	4,657	7,828
Pantry supplies	2,424	1,816
Photocopier metered charges & paper costs	14,348	8,001
Photocopier rental fees	67,992	67,992
Postage & courier charges	14,025	14,304
Printing and stationery	19,576	15,393
Professional fees	6,700	8,204
Repairs and maintenance -		
High Court bar room	7,061	6,656
Premises at 39 South Bridge Road	98,456	97,264
Secretariat equipment and website	21,792	22,304
Subordinate Courts bar room	21,846	22,285
Retrieval charges for archived documents	1,180	527
Storage charges for archived documents	16,280	16,086
Telephone, facsimile & email broadcast charges	14,436	34,508
	569,773	606,511

8. General Fund (cont'd)

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
[Note 8f]		
Analysis of Personnel Expenses*		
Central Provident Fund and Skills development levy contributions	296,263	226,414
Temporary staff and employment agency fees	25,270	22,275
Salaries (including temporary staff), bonuses & related expenses	2,007,362	1,794,909
Staff allowances	2,138	3,253
Staff fringe benefits	12,083	8,101
Staff resources	8,232	11,839
Staff medical fees & group hospital insurance	29,522	20,975
Staff training fees	18,219	8,844
	2,399,089	2,096,610
* Personnel expenses	2,855,886	2,517,816
Less: allocation of common costs		
- Pro Bono Services Office	(258,280)	(201,688)
- Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS)	(140,440)	(166,372)
- Compensation Fund	(58,077)	(53,146)
	2,399,089	2,096,610
[Note 8g]		
Analysis of Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono Services Office		
Book prizes	2,400	2,600
Contributions to the Singapore Institute of Legal Education	449,100	432,060
Contributions to the Pro Bono Services office (Note 10)	400,000	100,000
	851,500	534,660
[Note 8h]		
Analysis of Meetings, events and other Council expenses		
Annual General Meeting	5,161	1,310
Membership fees for international bar associations	5,091	3,132
Committee meetings	8,201	6,271
Council and committee work/activities	92,376	22,654
Foreign travel/conferences	14,494	25,684
	125,323	59,051
[Note 8i]		
Analysis of Council budgets for special projects/expenditure		
Biennial Lecture	–	(2,469)
Law Society Arbitration Scheme	(93)	(94)
	(93)	(2,563)
[Note 8j]		
Analysis of costs relating to regulatory matters		
Expenses	380,216	245,844
Less costs recovered	(87,328)	(123,759)
Add expenses relating to inquiry panel	6,020	1,944
	298,908	124,029

9. Compensation Fund

A Fund established to make grants for the purpose of relieving or mitigating loss for any person that has sustained loss in consequence of dishonesty on the part of any solicitor or any clerk or servant of a solicitor in connection with that solicitor's practice in Singapore.

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Contributions received	439,950	420,000
Interest on fixed deposits	48,086	37,373
Investment income	160,144	147,554
Penalty under Section 50(2) of the Legal Profession Act	14,000	4,500
Unclaimed monies transferred under the Legal Profession Act First Schedule Part II Section 11(3)	538,465	14,492
	1,200,645	623,919
LESS EXPENSES		
Grants under Section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act	–	205,300
Investigation expenses under Rule 12 of the Legal Profession Act	6,441	20,350
Expenses relating to establishment, maintenance, administration and application of funds	58,077	53,146
Bank charges	109	20
	64,627	278,816
Surplus for the year	1,136,018	345,103
Balance brought forward	9,621,809	9,276,706
Balance carried forward	10,757,827	9,621,809

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services

Pro Bono Services Office

With the support of the Ministry of Law and the Singapore Academy of Law, the Law Society established the Pro Bono Services Office. The Pro Bono Services Office coordinates and administers all pro bono initiatives of the Law Society, including the CLAS Fund, Pro Bono Office Fund, Law Awareness, Project Law Help and Bar Memorial Scholarship Fund. The purpose of the Pro Bono Services Office is to implement the Law Society's vision and initiatives as to the provision of pro bono legal services in Singapore.

The Law Society of Singapore Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services is registered under the Charities Act (Charities Registration Number : 2064) and has been conferred the status of an approved Institution of a Public Character. It is exempt from tax and its donors are granted tax deductions for the donations made to the Pro Bono Services office. The amount of tax-deductible receipts for donations collected for the financial year ended 31 March 2013 amounted to \$970,948 (2012: \$547,187).

	Office Fund \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness \$	BMSF \$	2013 Total-Pro Bono Services Office \$	2012 Total-Pro Bono Services Office \$
INCOME						
Contribution from Law Society (Note 8g)	400,000	—	—	—	400,000	100,000
Contribution from Ministry of Law :						
- amortisation of grant for establishing office (Note 18)	—	—	—	—	—	40,000
- operating cost	824,215	—	—	—	824,215	225,000
Contribution from Singapore Academy of Law	100,000	—	—	—	100,000	100,000
Contribution/donations received from others	25,342	158,245	89,000	13,000	285,587	165,308
Interest on fixed deposit	1,493	1,337	379	119	3,328	2,863
Gross proceeds from Charity Golf Tournament	—	303,348	—	—	303,348	311,654
NVPC grant	39,839	—	—	—	39,839	30,000
Other income	—	—	5,550	—	5,550	—
	1,390,889	462,930	94,929	13,119	1,961,867	974,825
LESS EXPENDITURE						
Advertisements	—	—	—	—	—	1,038
Ad Hoc Pro Bono Scheme	121	—	—	—	121	—
Bank charges	99	69	30	30	228	232
Charity Golf tournament	—	45,871	—	—	45,871	53,651
Community Legal Clinics	258	—	—	—	258	783
Central Provident Fund & Skills Development Levy	64,840	31,627	—	—	96,467	67,081
Corporate and administrative support service	258,280	140,440	—	—	398,720	368,060
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	18,791	10,218	—	—	29,009	57,269
Disbursement charged by volunteer lawyers	—	23,233	—	—	23,233	10,420
HASI Project/ISD visits	19,321	—	—	—	19,321	(267)
Law awareness projects	—	—	108,821	—	108,821	29,675
Meeting expenses	656	—	126	—	782	641
Miscellaneous	1,300	161	—	—	1,461	1,337
NVPC initiative	—	—	—	—	—	14,194
Other activities	9,256	—	—	—	9,256	228
Pantry supplies	2,011	413	—	—	2,424	1,482
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	12,763	4,142	—	—	16,905	15,539
Printing and stationery and postages	7,283	2,603	—	—	9,886	7,143
Repair and maintenance	8,174	4,445	—	—	12,619	3,688
Salaries & bonuses	516,725	284,599	54,548	—	855,872	535,293
Staff allowance and transport	7,401	8,069	436	—	15,906	12,815
Staff medical and Group Hospital Insurance	5,886	5,228	—	—	11,114	7,008
Staff training/training Video /resource library	5,772	3,922	—	—	9,694	4,035
Staff welfare	1,661	1,160	—	—	2,821	1,263
Storage	—	—	—	—	—	324
Telephone and facsimile charges	3,337	3,419	—	—	6,756	4,753
	943,935	569,619	163,961	30	1,677,545	1,197,685
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	446,954	(106,689)	(69,032)	13,089	284,322	(222,860)
Balance brought forward	129,676	83,867	99,889	28,759	342,191	565,051
Balance carried forward	576,630	(22,822)	30,857	41,848	626,513	342,191

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (cont'd)

Pro Bono Services Office (cont'd)

Employees' Remuneration Bands

The number of employees in Pro Bono Office whose remuneration exceeded \$100,000 in the year were as follows:

<i>Number of employee in bands:</i>	2012/2013	2011/2012
\$100,000 to \$200,000	2	1

Policy on reserves

It is the objective of Pro Bono office to achieve a reserve that would be able to sustain operations for a three year period in the event of a decline in donations.

While this is the objective, the current balance brought forward will cover only less than half year of operations.

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (cont'd)**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2013**

	Note	Office Fund	CLAS	Law Awarenes	Scholarships	Total 2013	Total 2012
ASSETS		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Non-current assets							
Property, plant and equipment	2	94,204	–	–	–	94,204	85,290
Current Assets							
Receivables	5	525,344	–	–	–	525,344	1,334
Cash and bank balances	6	141,435	216,584	11,521	41,848	411,388	657,171
		666,779	216,584	11,521	41,848	936,732	658,505
InterFund – amount due to/(from)		(174,355)	(228,021)	20,805	–	(381,571)	(376,152)
Total Assets		586,628	(11,437)	32,326	41,848	649,365	367,643
LIABILITIES							
Current liabilities							
Monies Received in Advance		–	10,000	–	–	10,000	–
Payables	7	9,998	1,385	1,469	–	12,852	25,452
Total Liabilities		9,998	11,385	1,469	–	22,852	25,452
Net Assets		576,630	(22,822)	30,857	41,848	626,513	342,191
Represented by: Accumulated Funds		576,630	(22,822)	30,857	41,848	626,513	342,191

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (cont'd)***Office Fund***

An Office to coordinate and manage all pro bono initiatives of the Law Society (including the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme, Law Awareness initiative, Project Law Help and the community legal clinics).

	2013 \$	2012 \$
INCOME		
Contribution from Law Society (Note 8g)	400,000	100,000
Contribution from Ministry of Law :		
- amortisation of grant for establishment of office (Note 18)	–	40,000
- operating cost	824,215	225,000
Contribution from Singapore Academy of Law	100,000	100,000
Donation received/contributions from others	25,342	18,890
Interest on fixed deposit	1,493	875
National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre (NVPC) grant received*	39,839	30,000
	1,390,889	514,765
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Advertisements	–	1,038
Ad Hoc Pro Bono Referral Scheme	121	–
Bank charges	99	106
Community Legal clinics	258	783
Corporate and administrative support service	258,280	201,688
Central Provident Fund and Skill Development Levy	64,840	35,855
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	18,791	31,382
HASI Project/ISD visits	19,321	–
Meeting expenses	656	141
Miscellaneous	1,300	1,288
NVPC initiative*	–	14,194
Other activities	9,256	228
Pantry supplies	2,011	1,387
Photocopier rental, metered charges & paper costs	12,763	10,223
Printing and stationery and postages	7,283	1,348
Repair & maintenance	8,174	2,021
Salaries & bonuses	516,725	294,232
Staff allowance & transport	7,401	4,608
Staff medical fees & Group Hospital Insurance	5,886	3,138
Staff training	5,772	2,109
Staff welfare	1,661	677
Storage rental	–	324
Telephone and facsimile charges	3,337	2,289
	943,935	609,059
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	446,954	(94,294)
Balance brought forward	129,676	223,970
Balance carried forward	576,630	129,676

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (cont'd)

Office Fund (cont'd)

	2013 \$	2012 \$
* NVPC INCOME		
Grant received	39,839	30,000
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Video production	–	7,490
“Heroes” microsite & comic notebook	–	383
Pro Bono Guide book	–	6,321
	–	14,194
Net	39,839	15,806
Capital expenditure during the year	–	89,289
Prepayment for software warranty as at 31 March	–	1,334
	–	90,623

Law Awareness Fund

A public education initiative aimed at raising awareness of the law by conducting public education seminars, forums and exhibitions, and publication of legal information.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
INCOME		
Donation received	89,000	48,010
Interest on fixed deposit	379	613
Other income	5,550	–
	94,929	48,623
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	30	45
Law awareness project – Law Cares	4,138	23,986
Law awareness project – Project Schools	104,581	5,689
Law Works	102	–
Meeting expenses	126	500
Printing and stationery and postages	–	4,147
Staff allowance	436	241
Staff salaries & related expense	54,548	–
	163,961	34,608
(Deficit)/surplus	(69,032)	14,015
Balance brought forward	99,889	85,874
Balance carried forward	30,857	99,889

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (cont'd)***Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (CLAS)***

A scheme providing legal representation to impecunious persons on non-capital criminal charges.

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Contributions received	158,245	98,408
Interest on fixed deposit	1,337	1,356
Proceeds from Charity Golf Tournament*	303,348	311,654
	462,930	411,418
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	69	51
Charity Golf Tournament*	45,871	53,651
Corporate and administrative support service	140,440	166,372
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	31,627	31,226
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	10,218	25,887
Disbursement charged by volunteer lawyers	23,233	10,420
HASI Project/ISD visits	–	(267)
Miscellaneous	161	49
Pantry supplies	413	95
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper cost	4,142	5,316
Printing and stationery and postages	2,603	1,648
Repair & maintenance	4,445	1,667
Salaries and bonuses	284,599	241,061
Staff allowance and transport	8,069	7,966
Staff medical & Group Hospital Insurance	5,228	3,870
Staff training/training video/resource library	3,922	1,926
Staff welfare	1,160	586
Telephone and facsimile charges	3,419	2,464
	569,619	553,988
Deficit for the year	(106,689)	(142,570)
Balance brought forward	83,867	226,437
Balance carried forward	(22,822)	83,867
Net proceeds from Charity Golf Tournament*		
INCOME		
Outright donations received	191,531	131,215
Entrance fees from participants	109,200	176,700
Advertisements in the souvenir programme	2,617	3,739
	303,348	311,654
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Green Fees, buggy fees etc	30,570	36,142
Breakfasts, lunches etc	9,222	11,370
Printing of souvenir magazine	2,480	2,138
Gifts, trophies & prizes	1,014	1,205
Staff transport claims & delivery charges	825	1,036
Banner for the event	880	880
Photography	880	880
	45,871	53,651
Surplus	257,477	258,003

10. Pro Bono, Learning & Support Services (cont'd)***Bar Memorial Scholarship Fund (BMSF)***

A Fund established to award to any candidate who has obtained admission or who is taking any full time course of study in any institute of higher learning in Singapore. Other considerations being equal, preference will be given to an undergraduate pursuing a degree in law in the National University of Singapore.

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Donation received from others	13,000	–
Interest on fixed deposits	119	19
	13,119	19
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	30	30
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	13,089	(11)
Balance brought forward	28,759	28,770
Balance carried forward	41,848	28,759

InterFund – amount due from/(to)

	← As at 31 March 2013 →			← As at 31 March 2012 →		
	Amount due from \$	Amount (due to) \$	Total \$	Amount due from \$	Amount (due to) \$	Total \$
Office fund	911,725	(1,086,080)	(174,355)	134,033	(264,514)	(130,481)
CLAS	102,848	(330,869)	(228,021)	619	(241,950)	(241,331)
Law Awareness	82,906	(62,101)	20,805	–	(4,340)	(4,340)
Total	1,097,479	(1,479,050)	(381,571)	134,652	(510,804)	(376,152)

Relate to transactions/transfers between the different funds of the Society.

11. Jus Curio Fund

A Fund established to maintain the operation of Jus Curio Shop. Jus Curio Shop offers an eclectic range of stocks from corporate merchandise to various publications.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
INCOME		
Sale of Publications	29,282	23,174
Sale of Gifts and Souvenirs	24,716	16,048
Sale of Consignment Items	10,757	7,762
	<u>64,755</u>	<u>46,984</u>
LESS COST OF SALES		
Opening inventories	39,944	37,736
Purchases and related costs	17,223	24,157
Closing inventories (Note 4)	(33,331)	(39,944)
	<u>23,836</u>	<u>21,949</u>
 Gross Surplus	 40,919	 25,035
Interest from fixed deposit	282	73
	<u>41,201</u>	<u>25,108</u>
 LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	534	365
Miscellaneous	310	264
Repair and maintenance	356	336
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>965</u>
 Surplus for the year	 40,001	 24,143
 Balance brought forward	 65,511	 41,368
 Balance carried forward	 <u>105,512</u>	 <u>65,511</u>

12. Library Fund

A Fund for the establishment of a library and the acquisition or rental of offices to house the library.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Interest from fixed deposit	276	347
Balance brought forward	47,851	47,504
Balance carried forward	<u>48,127</u>	<u>47,851</u>

13. Pastoral Care Fund

A Fund established to promote pastoral care programs for practitioners.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Practice Consult fee expenses	2,520	1,080
Balance brought forward	330	1,410
Balance carried forward	(2,190)	330

14. Sports Meet Fund

A Fund established to promote good relations and social intercourse among members and between members, professional bodies of the legal profession in other countries and other persons, by means of sporting events.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
INCOME		
Inter Professional Games Refund	629	–
Other Golf Competition fees recovered	1,029	–
Singapore / Malaysia Law Games [@]	40,950	60,666
	42,608	60,666
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	58	45
Miscellaneous	777	150
Inter-Professional Games	3,500	–
Other Golf Competition expenses	–	582
Other games	4,098	5,663
Singapore / Malaysia Law Games [@]	45,605	78,811
	54,038	85,251
Deficit for the year	(11,430)	(24,585)
Balance brought forward	(5,184)	19,401
Balance carried forward	(16,614)	(5,184)

SINGAPORE / MALAYSIA LAW GAMES [@]

INCOME		
Contributions / sponsorships received	40,950	51,400
Dinner and dance costs recovered	–	9,266
	40,950	60,666
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Games' Day Expenses	(28)	11,495
Dinner and dance	5,063	29,450
Refreshments and receptions	–	9,010
Souvenirs and plaques	5,244	8,648
Transport and travelling	2,861	6,468
Hotel accommodation	18,935	–
Training	13,530	13,740
	45,605	78,811
Deficit	(4,655)	(18,145)

15. Welfare Fund

A Fund established to afford pecuniary and other assistance to members or former members and to the wives, widows, children and other dependants, whether of members, former members or deceased members who are in need of any such assistance.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Miscellaneous expenses	200	200
Balance brought forward	77,823	78,023
Balance carried forward	77,623	77,823

16. Monies held in trust

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Pursuant to section 74 of the Legal Professional Act ("Section 74 money")	4,916,107	1,498,050
Education Fund under compulsory professional indemnity scheme	449,455	282,294
Pursuant to section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act	10,845	10,818
	5,376,407	1,791,162

Section 74 money comprises the following accounts:	As at 1 April 12 \$	Additions \$	Expenses/ Transfers \$	Net change \$	As at 31 March 13 \$
C H Lim & Company *	86,787	—	86,787	(86,787)	—
Edmund Nathan & Co	27,020	—	27,020	(27,020)	—
Cheong Hoh & Associates	236,180	—	236,180	(236,180)	—
Ng Thin Wah & Partners	77,391	—	77,391	(77,391)	—
Kumar & Kumar	64,940	—	64,940	(64,940)	—
Goh & Co *	2,759	—	2,759	(2,759)	—
Junaini & Co	(8)	8	—	8	—
M Dass & Co	9,334	—	9,334	(9,334)	—
Gourdeep Singh & Partners *	205	—	205	(205)	—
Pillai & Pillai	31,137	—	31,137	(31,137)	—
Jyah & Jas	68	—	68	(68)	—
Bafana & Co	677	—	677	(677)	—
S Asogan & Co *	20,732	—	20,732	(20,732)	—
Teo Choo Hong & Co *	12,797	—	12,797	(12,797)	—
Jeffrey Soh & Co	80,835	10	—	10	80,845
Edwin Tay & Co	565	—	—	—	565
S Uthuman Ghani & Co *	6,302	—	—	—	6,302
David Rasif & Partners	348,775	4,087,644	39,148	4,048,496	4,397,271
Guofu *	20,925	12	—	12	20,937
Chor Pee & Partners *	73,356	10	602	(592)	72,764
CH Chua & Co *	25,650	—	—	—	25,650
David Khong & Associates	3,363	—	—	—	3,363
G K Emmanuel *	1,633	—	135	(135)	1,498
Chida Peri & Co	17,947	—	—	—	17,947
Varghese & Co	725	—	725	(725)	—
Ng Cher Yeow	2,549	1	—	1	2,550
Sadique Marican & Z M Amin	13,718	—	—	—	13,718
Boey Ng & Wan	260,514	1,792	—	1,792	262,306
Mustaffa & Co	854	—	420	(420)	434
TH Tan Raymond & Co	64,356	—	60,366	(60,366)	3,990
CM Chiong & Co	5,964	—	—	—	5,964
Christopher Yap & Co	—	28	25	3	3
	1,498,050	4,089,505	671,448	3,418,057	4,916,107

* Intervention of solicitor's practice upon death of sole practitioner.

17. Income tax expense and deferred tax liabilities

Tax expense

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Income tax		
– current year tax	–	140,000
– underprovision in prior year	20,378	13,365
	20,378	153,365

The income tax expense on the results of the financial year varies from the amount of income tax determined by applying the Singapore statutory rate of income tax to surplus before taxation due to the following factors:

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Surplus before tax	2,487,294	1,658,576
Tax at statutory tax rate of 17%	422,840	281,958
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	48,326	81,456
Enhanced tax allowance	(80,207)	(56,377)
Income not subject to taxation	(193,123)	(65,824)
Tax exemption	(3,231)	(25,925)
Income subject to lower tax rate	(5,847)	(4,894)
Utilisation of approved donations to Pro Bono	(170,000)	(80,661)
Underprovision in prior year	20,378	13,365
Others	(18,758)	10,267
	20,378	153,365

18. Grant received from Ministry of Law

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Balance brought forward	–	40,000
Amortisation (Note 10)	–	(40,000)
Balance carried forward	–	–

The grant was received from the Ministry of Law for the purchase of equipment and renovations in setting up of the office for Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services and was amortised over a period of 5 years in tandem with the depreciation of the assets acquired.

19. General information

The Society was established in 1967 and took on the name of The Law Society of Singapore in 1970. The Society is managed by a body of persons called the Council of the Society which consists of 15 elected members, as well as 3 members nominated to serve by the Minister for Law. The Council may also nominate 3 further members to serve, if it so decides in the course of the year. Elections to the Council are held every year and all lawyers who hold practising certificates vote at the elections. The members of the Council elect from amongst themselves a President, two Vice Presidents and the Treasurer of The Law Society. The purposes of The Law Society and the powers of the Council are described in the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161).

The principal place of activities is at 39 South Bridge Road, Singapore.

20. Financial instruments

a) Categories of financial instruments

The following table sets out the financial instruments as at the balance sheet date: -

	2013 \$	2012 \$(Restated)
<i>Financial assets</i>		
Receivables	644,340	73,021
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	21,458,215	17,033,168
Loans and receivables	22,102,555	17,106,189
Available-for-sales financial instruments		
Interest bearing securities	6,233,613	4,624,316
Equity instruments	2,278,501	1,992,425
	8,512,114	6,616,741
<i>Financial liabilities</i>		
Payables	915,715	556,566
Monies held in trust	5,376,407	1,791,162
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	6,292,122	2,347,728

b) Financial risk management

The Society's activities expose it to minimal financial risk due to the nature of its activities and the overall risk management is determined and carried out by the Council of the Society.

(i) Foreign exchange risk

As the Society's transactions are all carried out in Singapore dollars, it is not exposed to any foreign exchange risk.

(ii) Interest rate risk

The Society's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates although it has significant interest-bearing deposits with financial institutions as the interest rates of these deposits are fixed. The Society has no interest-bearing liabilities.

(iii) Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Society.

The Society does not have any significant concentrations of credit risk exposure. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying values of each class of financial assets recognised in the balance sheet and comprised mainly of deposits placed with financial institutions.

Financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired

Sundry debtors that are neither past due nor impaired are creditworthy debtors with good payment record with the Society. Fixed deposits and bank balances that are neither past due nor impaired are placed with reputable financial institutions with high credit ratings and no history of default.

Financial assets that are past due and impaired

There are no financial assets that are past due and impaired.

20. Financial instruments (cont'd)

b) Financial risk management (cont'd)

(iv) Market price risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Society's financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than interest or exchange rates). The Society is exposed to changes in equity price arising from its investment in quoted equity instruments. These equity instruments are quoted on SGX-ST in Singapore and are classified as available-for-sale financial assets.

As at 31 March 2013, the Society's investment in equity instruments amounted to \$2,278,501 (2012: \$1,992,425). A 10% increase/decrease in the underlying equity prices at the reporting date would increase/decrease by equity of \$227,850 (2012: \$199,243).

(v) Liquidity and cash flow risk

The Council of the Society exercises prudent liquidity and cash flow risk management policies and aims at maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and cash flows at all times.

The financial liabilities of the Society as presented in the balance sheet are due within twelve months from the balance sheet date and approximate the contractual undiscounted payments.

c) Fair values

The Society classifies fair value measurement using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurement.

The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

Level 1 – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2- inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).

Level 3 – inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data.

The Society's available-for-sale financial assets are traded in an active market and are based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. The current market price used is the current bid price. These investments are included in the level 1 hierarchy.

The carrying amounts of the other financial assets and financial liabilities recorded in the financial statements approximate their respective fair values due to the relatively short-term maturity of these financial instruments.

21. Funds/reserves management policy

The Society's objectives when managing its funds are to safeguard and to maintain adequate working capital to continue as going concern and to develop its principal activities over the longer term.

22. Lease commitments

The Society has an operating lease commitment in respect of its office copier. Commitments in relation to the non-cancellable operating lease contracted for but not recognised as liabilities are payable as follows:

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Not later than one financial year	73,200	73,200
Later than one financial year but not later than five financial years	338,880	128,100
	412,080	201,300

23. Fee paid to Council Members

No fee is paid to any member of the Council.

24. InterFund – amount due from/(to)

	← As at 31 March 2013 →			← As at 31 March 2012 →		
	Amount due from \$	Amount due to \$	Total \$	Amount due from \$	Amount due to \$	Total \$
General Fund	2,055,847	(1,882,553)	173,294	508,322	(100,000)	408,322
Other Funds	2,177	(42,239)	(40,062)	–	(24,241)	(24,241)
Pro Bono Learning & Support Services	1,097,479	(1,479,050)	(381,571)	134,652	(510,804)	(376,152)
	3,155,503	(3,403,842)	(248,339)	642,974	(635,045)	7,929
Compensation Fund	1,077,016	(828,677)	248,339	–	(7,929)	(7,929)
Total	4,232,519	(4,232,519)	–	642,974	(642,974)	–

Relate to transactions/transfers between the different funds of the Society.

25. Comparative figures

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year's financial statements to enhance comparability with the current year's financial statements.

The reclassifications are as follows:

	Before reclassifications \$	After reclassifications \$
Balance sheet		
2012		
Available-for-sale financial assets		
- Non-current portion	7,698,267	5,318,005
- Current portion	—	1,298,736
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	15,951,642	17,033,168
2011		
Available-for-sale financial assets		
- Non-current portion	7,004,278	6,124,756
- Current portion	—	294,523
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	15,154,289	15,739,288

26. Authorisation of financial statements

The financial statements of The Law Society of Singapore for the financial year ended 31 March 2013 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Council dated 5 September 2013.

an advocate for the profession
an advocate for the community



The Law Society of Singapore

39 South Bridge Road Singapore 058673

T: +65 6538 2500 F: +65 6533 5700

www.lawsociety.org.sg

